International Hall of the 31st TIBF at a Glance
International Affairs Committee of the 31st Tehran International Book Fair at a Glance
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In this edition of Tehran International Book Fair (TIBF), Serbia is the guest of honor and Tunis is the guest city of honor. Directors of foreign Book Fairs, foreign embassies in Iran, foreign cultural institutes, representatives from international book fairs will attend the fair. Moreover, special meetings for discussion among the scholars are held.

The programs are as follows:

1. Serbia, the Guest of Honor

As the guest of honor in the 31st Tehran Book Fair, Serbia has a stand in an area of 140 square meters. Over 30 Serbian officials, writers, poets, publishers, journalists and the music band Balkanopolis participate at the event.

More than 20 meetings are held and plans for more cooperation among the universities and cultural centers of the two countries are on the agenda. Over 300 titles of books on a variety of subjects such as literature, history, tourism and so on are put on public display at Serbian stand.

The program, “The Night of Serbia” is one of the other programs consisted of lecture, musical performance and the screening of a Serbian feature film.

2. Tunis, the Guest City of Honor

The 31st TIBF hosts the representatives of Tunisian literati and publishing industry at their stand in an area of 70 square meters. Over 20 Tunisian officials, writers, poets, publishers will attend various cultural and artistic programs.
3. World Book Market

World Book Market is the other program which is aimed to introduce Iranian publishing industry with the participation of different cultural institutes and centers, publishers literary agencies, independent local and international institutes, writers, translators, illustrators.

Based on this program, 3 Iranian literary agencies and a number of their foreign counterparts discuss the possible grounds for interaction in the international book market. The program also introduces the Grant Plan and the Top Plan which has been initiated to support the translation of Persian books into other languages.

To accomplish the tasks, International Affairs Committee of the 31st Tehran Book Fair has provided a brochure introducing the Iranian works which have the potential to be translated into other languages and showcased at international book fairs.

Participants in this section are:
- Iranian publishers and literary agencies who managed to sell the right of their book(s) to foreign publishers
- Iranian and non-Iranian publishers and literary agencies who plan to sell the right of their book(s) to Iranian or foreign publishers
- Non-Iranian publishers who have translated and published Iranian books into other languages

4. Representatives of other countries

Representatives of countries, embassies in Tehran, friendship associations, holy Shrines of Iraq all attend this hall in an area of 2000 square meters.

The guests of honor: Serbia (this year’s guest of honor), Italy
(last year’s guest of honor), China (next year’s guest of honor)

5. Directors of Book Fairs and Writers

In the 31st Tehran Book Fair, the International Affairs Committee has invited the directors of top international book fairs to visit Tehran’s event. As well as sharing the experience of holding different international book fairs, their attendance in Tehran Book Fair can enrich the section, particularly through organizing special sessions.

On the other hand, the ground is provided to introduce Tehran international Book Fair (TIBF), Iran’s Cultural Fairs Institute (ICFI) and the Iranian publishing industry in an appropriate way. Holding seminars and delivering lectures are among the other programs to be held with special guests in attendance. In this program foreign guests from Germany, Italy, China, Hungary, Bangladesh, Armenia, Algeria, Tunisia, Azerbaijan, Spain, Serbia, Syria, Iraq, Mexico, Russia and Bosnia are participating.

6. Scholarships given by Tehran International Book Fair

Scholarships of Tehran International Book Fair are aimed to promote the translation and publication of Iranian books into other languages; booming Iranian books and literature in the international markets; strengthening the scientific aspect of Tehran Book Fair by inviting special guests and international figures of publishing industry; purchasing and selling copyrights of books and boosting relations between Iranian publishers and their counterparts throughout the world.

The scholarships are given this year to guests from
Bangladesh, Algeria, Azerbaijan, China, Italy, Armenia, and Germany.

7. Hall of Dialogue, Meetings and Roundtables

In this edition of Tehran book fair, more than 30 special meetings will be held with foreign guests and Iranian scholars in attendance at the Hall of Nations. Each day of the book fair has been named after the name of one of the participating countries. The attendance of foreign guests provides an opportunity for exchanging views and interaction with their Iranian counterparts.

8. Iranian Students of Foreign Languages Voluntarily Participate

One of the other activities scheduled for this edition is the voluntary participation of Iranian students of foreign languages from the universities of Tehran, Alameh Tabatabai, Shahid Beheshti, Al-Zahra, Tarbiat Moddaress and Azad (Open). This method is applied in several international book fairs to handle the task of communication and other related activities.
Foreign Literary International Institute and Personalities

Participating in the 31st TIBF
Tahmina Begum is a Bangladeshi Associate Professor of Persian language in the Dept. of Persian Language & Literature, University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh. In addition to Persian language, she has skills in Bengali, English, Hindi and Urdu. Among her works are:

- An account of Ferdowsi’s life and contents of Shahnameh, Persian Journal of Dhaka University, Department of Persian Language and Literature
- An account Khaghani Shervani’s life, works and thoughts, Persian Journal of Dhaka University, Department of Persian Language and Literature
As a translator and Director of the CCBF Shanghai International Visiting Publishers Programme, Ballester is fluent in written and spoken English and Chinese languages with intermediate skills in Arabic.

Among her literary translations is:

- *Song Qingling, the Story of her Childhood*. Bilingual version published by Chinese Welfare Institute Publishing House (August 2016)

Some of her responsibility are as follows:

- Director and curator of the CCBF Authors Festival (public reading festival)
- Member of the Chen Bochui International Children’s Literature Award working committee
- Consultant for the Golden Pinwheel Young Illustrators Competition and the CCBF Conference programme
Georg Assatoryan was born on Aug. 23, 1955 in Gyumri, Armenia. He is graduated from the Faculty of Literature and Humanities of the State University of Yerevan in the field of Persian language translation.

He has the experience of collaboration with newspapers and scientific-cultural magazines as well as radio and TV networks in his career. It is noteworthy that some of his translations have been introduced into textbooks of Armenian schools at various levels. Presently, he is working on Ferdowsi’s Shahname, the Iranian National Epic.

Some of his translations are as follows:

- *Stories from Kalila and Dimna*, 2007
- *Iranian Folk Stories*, 2010
- *Like all Afternoons* (A collection of short stories), Zoya Pirzad, 2014
- *One Day Left to the Easter* (A collection of short stories), Zoya Pirzad, 2015
- *The horsefly*, Ali Abedi, 2017
Maurizio Ferraris is full Professor of Philosophy at the University of Turin.

He wrote more than fifty books that have been translated into several languages. The books that have appeared in English are: *History of Hermeneutics* (Humanities Press, 1996); *A Taste for the Secret* (with Jacques Derrida – Blackwell, 2001); *Documentality or Why it is Necessary to Leave Traces* (Fordham UP, 2012); *Goodbye Kant!* (SUNY UP, 2013); *Where Are You? An Ontology of the Cell Phone* (Fordham UP, 2014); *Manifesto of New Realism* (SUNY UP, 2014); *Introduction to New Realism* (Bloomsbury, 2014); *Positive Realism* (Zer0 Books, 2015).

Maurizio Ferraris has worked in the field of aesthetics, hermeneutics, and social ontology, attaching his name to the theory of Documentality and contemporary New Realism. New Realism, sharing significant similarities with Speculative Realism and Object Oriented Ontology, has been the subject of several debates and national and international conferences and has called for a series of publications that involve the concept of reality as a paradigm even in non-philosophical areas.
Laslo Blašković was born in Novi Sad in 1966. He graduated in Yugoslav literature and has worked as an editor, cultural researcher, and cultural manager in Novi Sad and Belgrade. He has published many poetry collections, novels, essays, and short story collections. All his works, particularly the novel The Madonna’s Jewels have been translated into many foreign languages, including Hungarian, Bulgarian, Slovakian, Slovenian, Ukrainian, Polish, German, French and English.

His most important works are: *The Lives of Dice Rollers*, *Morning Distance*, *Poets’ Wives*, *Wedding March*, *Still Life with a Clock*, *The Madonna’s Jewels*, *Adam’s Apple*, *Hunchback Tournament*, *Story of Exhaustion*, and *Death Mask: Picaresque Novel*.

He has won many prestigious awards:


Laslo Blašković has been director of the National Library of Serbia since 2015.
Dragan Stanić was born in 1956 in Trstenik. He works as a professor of theory of literature and creative writing at the Faculty of Philosophy since 2004. He obtained his PhD in 2003 at the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade. He published the many poetry books:


His novel is: *Andeli umiru* (1998).

He also has written radio plays.
Muhammad Abdus Sabur Khan is a Bangladeshi Associate Professor of Persian language in the Dept. of Persian Language & Literature, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. In addition to Persian language, he has skills in Bengali (first language), Arabic, Urdu, and English (Excellent in Reading, Writing, Listening, and Speaking). Among his works are:

- **Origin and development of Modern Persian Short Stories**, Bangla academy research journal
- **Human writes in Shaikh Sa’di’s Poetries**, Shahitto Potrika, Dept. of Bengali, University of Dhaka
- **Buzurge Alavi and his novel “Chashmhayash” (In Persian Language)**, Dhaka University Journal of Persian and Urdu
- **Contribution of Mohammad Ali Jamalzade to Persian Short Stories**, Nibanghamala (Collection of Research Articles) Vol. XIII, entre for Advanced Research in Humanitics Dhaka University
A teacher for creative writing and literary coach for professional writers and for people who enjoy writing as a means of creative and personal enrichment, Beate Schaefer holds workshops at university levels for topics like literary translation and professional work in publishing houses and their editorial departments.

She is fluent in English speaking and writing with general knowledge of French and Dutch, as well as basic skills in Italian and Spanish.
Emir Suljagić

*Bosnia*

Writer

Born in May 21, 1975 Serbia, Emir Suljagić is the author of *Postcards from the Grave*. He was 17 years old when his family fled the ethnic cleansing of the Drina valley in 1992 and took refuge in Srebrenica. He taught himself English and became an interpreter for the UN forces stationed in the town.

After the war, he attended the University of Sarajevo, where he studied political science. Since 1996, Suljagić has worked as a reporter for the magazine Dani. Between 2002 and 2004 he reported on the proceedings of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague for Dani and for the Institute for War and Peace Reporting. On the Bosnia and Herzegovina general election 2014 he was candidate to the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina as the Bosniak member.

Responsibilities:

- Minister of Education, Science and Youth of Sarajevo Canton (2011-2012)
- Deputy Minister of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina (2015)
Born on Dec. 17, 1965 in Sarajevo, Damir Uzunovic is a Bosnian writer. He studied civil engineering. Together with Goran Samardzic, he also founded the publishing house “Buybook”. He publishes poetry and prose in English, French, Turkish and Slovenian.

Uzunovic lives and works in Sarajevo.

Some of his works are

- *Chestnut*, story collection (Dani, 1996)
- *The Ship with Talisman*, a collection of poetry (Veselin Masleša, 1992)
- *The Magician*, poetry collection (Svjetlost, 1995)
- *People and Birds*, poetry collection (Space Production, 2005)
Alexey Ahmatov

Russia

Poet and Literary Critic

Born on Feb. 8, 1966 in Saint Petersburg (former Leningrad), Alexey Ahmatov is a poet and literary critic. He is a member of the Russian Associan of Writers, a board member of the Poetry Dept. in Russian Associan of Writers, head of the Young Petersburg Society, the chief editor of *Young Petersburg Society* Magazine, and a translator of works by the Iranian poets.

Alexey Ahmatov has won many prizes.
Roman Kruglov

Russia

Poet, Literary Critic, and Art Researcher

Born on Feb. 27, 1988 in Saint Petersburg (former Leningrad), Roman Kruglov is a poet, literary critic, and art researcher with four poem books and many critical and literary articles. He is a member of the Russian Association of Writers, professor of literature in the Art Studies faculty of Governmental University of Culture and Art in Saint Petersburg. He is also a translator of Persian poems into Russian.

Roman Kruglov has won many prizes including the Young Petersburg Society Award.
Nurman Shahmardan was born in 1989 in Georgia. Graduated from the Technical University of Republic of Azerbaijan, he started a publishing career in 2010. In 2013, he founded the Parlaq İmzalar Publishing House.

During a short time, this publishing house has managed to gain an appropriate place by presenting high quality books to its readers.
Mansour M’Henni

Tunisia

Professor, Researcher, Writer, Translator

Holding a Ph.D. from the University Paris III, he began his professional career as a teacher. He then worked as a secondary teacher and then as a lecturer in French and Francophone language, literature and civilization at the university. Later he became the first director of Moknine’s Higher Institute of Applied Languages in Business and Tourism.

Since 1975, he has collaborated in several newspapers and media. He became director of Canal 21 and, on August 31, 2007, was appointed CEO of the new Tunisian Radio Establishment1. On June 26, 2009, he became CEO of the New Printing, Press and Publishing Company, which owns, among others, La Presse de Tunisie, a position he holds until January 21, 2011.

He is an Officer of the Order of Cultural Merit and Knight of the Order of Educational Merit. In October 2009, he was awarded journalism personality of the year by the Italy-Tunisia Academy for Development and Culture in the Mediterranean.
Born in Nov.18, 1970, Vodneva Oxana graduated from the Orientology Faculty, Governmental University of Saint Petersburg in 1997. Between 1998 and 2005, she was a librarian in the Russian Academy of Science.

Since 2005, she has worked in the Institute of Manuscripts in the Russian Academy of Science.

Now she is the vise president of this institute.
Manager of Atfalona (Our Children) Publishing House, Firas Aldjahmani is an Algerian publisher mostly active in the area of children’s and young adults’ books. He has published many books translated from French, Persian, Arabic, and Amazighi Language.

Aldjahmani has published eleven Iranian children’s books as well as two books by Mussa Bidaj.
Tijana Colak Antic

Serbia

Acting Director, The Ethnographic Museum in Belgrade

Educated from the Faculty of Philosophy, Department for Ethnology, Tijana Colak Antic, has worked with visitors, organized workshops, theater performances and exhibitions as part of her career. She has also trained interns and designed souvenirs for the Ethnographic Museum in Belgrade.

Some of her responsibilities have been as follows:

- **Head of Communication and Education Department of the Ethnographic Museum** (2008-2014)
- **Member of the Museum Standards Working Group of the Serbian Museum Association** (2007)
- **Member of the Administrative Board of the Ethnographic Museum in Belgrade** (2002-2003)
- **Head of Communication and Education Department, the Ethnographic Museum** (2001-2002)
- **Member of the Work Team for the organization of the Centenary of the Ethnographic Museum in Belgrade** (2000-2001)
Milan Terzic was born in Podgorica on November 5, 1960. He obtained his doctoral degree in 2004.

He has worked in the Archives of Josip Broz Tito and the Office of the President of the Republic that are today part of the Archives of Yugoslavia. He has also worked in the Military History Institute, and the new Institute for Strategic Researches of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Serbia at the position of Head of the Department for Military History.

He is the member of the commission for defending doctoral dissertations from the field of history at the Faculty of Philosophy. During his research work he published three monographs, two books of collected papers and 72 scientific papers. He has a title of scientific advisor.

By the decision of the Government of the Republic of Serbia Dr. Milan Terzic was appointed Director of the Archives of Yugoslavia.
Muharem Bazdulj (1977) is one of the leading writers emerged from the Balkans after the disintegration of Yugoslavia. He published 15 books, mostly novels and collections of short stories. The most recent ones are *Mali prozor* (Zagreb, 2016) and *Lutka od marcipana* (Belgrade, 2016). *Lutka od Marcipana* was shortlisted for NIN prize for best novel, the most prestigious literary prize in Serbia. His essays and short stories appeared in 20 languages. Three of his books were published in English: *The Second Book*, *Byron and the Beauty*, and *Transit Comet Eclipse* (Dalkey Archive Press, 2018). Upon original publication, *The Second Book* won a leading literary prize for best book of short stories in Bosnia. *Byron and the Beauty* was selected by Eileen Battersby in Irish Times among 40 best books published in English in 2016. Apart from being a writer and journalist, Bazdulj is a distinguished translator from English.
Dr Aleksandar Jerkov (Belgrade, 1960) teaches Contemporary Serbian Literature at the Faculty of Philology, University of Belgrade. He taught at many universities in Serbia, and other countries. Over the years he was involved with publishers as an editor in chief of a number of journals and book series in leading publishing houses of Serbia and former Yugoslavia. The latest project in which he was involved was Serbian edition of General encyclopedia. He has been writing criticism of contemporary Serbian fiction for more than thirty years. For the books *From Modernism to Postmodernism* and *New Textuality* he was awarded the Book-of-the-year Award. Among his other works there are also few well known anthologies that he has edited, the most important one being Anthology of Serbian Postmodern Fiction that has strongly influenced the perception of contemporary Serbian fiction. Currently he works on a comprehensive study about the contemporary Serbian novel.
Srđan Srdić was born in Kikinda, Serbia, in 1977. He graduated from the Department of World Literature and Theory of Literature, Faculty of Philology, University of Belgrade, where he also earned a doctorate degree. He is one of the founders of the publishing house Partizanska knjiga. He works as a librarian, editor, publisher, literary critic, and creative writing and reading teacher.


He has received the following literary awards: Ulaznica (2007), Laza Lazarević (2009), Biljana Jovanović (2012), Edo Budiša (2012), as well as a scholarship from the Borislav Pekić Fund (2010). Srđan Srdić’s texts and books have been translated into English, German, Ukrainian, Macedonian, Romanian, Slovenian, Albanian and Hungarian. He lives in Kikinda.
Bora Babić is the director general and editor-in-chief at Akademska knjiga Publishing house. Her career started in Novi Sad at Matica Srpska, the oldest cultural institution in Serbia. She was also the director at Izdavačka knjižarnica Zorana Stojanovića. After a very successful career in these two institutions, Ms Babić founded a publishing house Akademska knjiga in 2006. Nowadays Akademska knjiga publishes the most prestigious works of Serbian and authors worldwide in the field of social sciences and humanities and natural sciences. Due to the quality of published books, Akademska knjiga has become a respected publishing house in Serbia and the region.

Bora Babić has established a very successful cooperation with renowned publishing houses worldwide such as: Harvard University Press, Oxford University Press, Princeton University Press, Yale University Press, Verso (Great Britain), Group Planeta, Mondadori (Italia), Éditions Gallimard (France), Éditions du Seuil (France), P.O.L (France), Suhrkamp Verlag (Germany), Reclam Verlag (Germany), Verlag C.H.Beck (Germany) etc. Akademska knjiga received the award “Kapetan Miša Anastasijević” for successful entrepreneurship in 2013 in Novi Sad.

Akademska knjiga, its authors and translators have received many awards in the last decade for very successful work in the field of publishing. Bora Babić is one of the founders of the Association of Publishers and Booksellers of Serbia.
Vojislav Karanović was born on 1 January 1961 in Subotica. He received a degree in Yugoslav and general literature from the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad. He works as culture editor at Radio Television of Serbia. He writes poetry, radio plays and essays. Some of his poems have been translated into several languages. He lives in Belgrade.


For his poetry he has received the awards: “Branko Ćopić”, “Branko Miljković”, “Meša Selimović”, “Vladislav Petković Dis”, “Đura Jakšić”, “Vasko Popa”, “Golden Sunflower”, “Zmaj’s Award”, “Seal of the Town of Sremski Karlovci” and “Lenka’s Ring”
Born in 1966, Muamer Spahić is a Bosnian publisher. In 1991, he received his B.Sc. in economics. He is the founder and chief editor of the publishing house in Zenica founded in 1998. This publishing house selects the best and most famous local and foreign books for printing. Among the activities of this publishing house is the creation of a society for book lovers that organizes poetry nights, book launching, book fairs and forums related to books. This society is also organizing the programmes ‘Time of Memories’ and ‘It is the Book Time’ as well as a festival for short stories.

Spahić has been the head of the Bosnian Association of Publishers since 2017.
Asma Moikel

Qatar

University Professor and Literary critic

She has received her PhD from Ain Shams University. She teaches at the Qatar University. Some of her works are as follows:

- *The Phoenix Biography* (2016)
- *The Open Horizon* (2013)
- *Authenticity and Westernization in the Arabic Novel* (2011)
- *The Thoughts of a Woman who does not know Love* (2009)

She has also attended numerous seminars and conferences and guided many MSc and PhD theses.
Ibrahim has obtained his PhD from Baghdad University. He has been working in various universities as a faculty member or invited lecturer.

He is one of the researchers working for the Encyclopedia of Arab History. Ibrahim has authored more than 20 books some of which are as follows:

- *Education and Cultural Contexts*
- *Arab Narrative and Historical Imagination*
- *Feminine Narration*
- *Narration, Recognition and Identity*
- *An Encyclopedia on Narratology* (Nine Volumes)
- *Match and difference* (Three Volumes)
Youbook Agency

China

Literary & film Agency around Asian Area

Youbook Agency was founded by Meredith Che. She started to work in publishing system since 2009, as editor and right manager in publishing company. In 2012, she founded the Youbook Agency, China which is a professional literary & film Agency around Asian Area.

Youbook Agency is the first independent literary agency deeply rooted in china mainland. It is also the unique agency combined literary agent, film agent, and star management.

Recently, their business map has expanded to Film rights licensing, STAR Entertainment books, and International Author Agent.
This edition of the TIBF, in addition to Serbia as the Country Guest of Honor, hosts Tunis as the Special Guest City with a delegation of 20 persons from Tunisian authorities, poets, publishers, and writers. The delegation members are

- Amal Hashanah (head of the delegation, deputy of the Tunisian Minister of Culture)
- Nazar bin Saad (general manager of the book bureau)
- Mohammad Saleh Maalej (Tunisian Publishers’ Association)
- Hanideh Hafsah, Mansour M’henni, Mohammad Saad Barghal (writers)
- Al-mouldadi Amer, Majdi bin Issa (poets)
- Foad Hanshiri (calligrapher)
- Najla Ghamou (journalist)
- Razieh Erghi (stand clerk)
- Yamineh Marvani (stand clerk to the ministry section)
- Samireh bin Badr (the deputy’s companion)
- Hajar Zahzah (general manager’s companion)
- Mohammad Saleh al-Rasa’, Al-Monsef al-Shabi, Samir al-Masoudi, and Hafiz bu Jamil (publishers)
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