**PERSIAN READING LIST**

Before starting to study Persian at Oxford, students are advised to read at least some of the books on the following list (those indicated with an asterisk * are particularly recommended).

**PERSIAN LANGUAGE**

*Course books*


Students are also recommended to use the following grammar books for reference:

The two Brookshaw and Shabani Jadidi coursebooks form the basis of the first-year Persian language course at Oxford and should be bought by all students. They are available from Blackwell’s bookshop (where a discount on the coursebook should be available for students). All new students should familiarize themselves with the Persian alphabet – recognition and writing – before coming up. There is an on-line Persian course – *Easy Persian* – which devotes ten lessons to the alphabet and gives recording of the sounds of the Persian alphabet and guidance on writing: [http://www.easypersian.com/](http://www.easypersian.com/).

*Dictionaries*

*Haim, S, Farhang Moaser Persian-English Dictionary, new impression edited by F. Azarmehr (Farhang Moaser, 2001)*

Aryanpur-Kashani is the recommended combined Persian-English/English-Persian dictionary. Bateni and Haim are the recommended one-volume modern Persian dictionaries. They are not required for the first year of study, but will be needed thereafter.

*Phrasebook*


*History of the Persian language*


**PERSIAN LITERATURE**

*Medieval Persian Literature*

*Brookshaw, D P, Hafiz and His Contemporaries: poetry, performance, and patronage in fourteenth-century Iran* (paperback; Bloomsbury, 2020)
Translations of Medieval Persian Poetry
Rumi, Swallowing the Sun, trans. F D Lewis (Oneworld, 2008)

Modern Persian Literature
* Ghanoonparvar, M-R, Prophets of Doom: Literature as a Socio-Political Phenomenon in Modern Iran (University Press of America, 1984)
*Milani, F, Veils and Words: The Emerging Voices of Iranian Women Writers (I B Tauris, 1992)

Translations of Modern Persian Literature

HISTORY, CULTURE AND RELIGION
History and Art
Canby, S.R., Persian Painting (British Museum, 1993)
*Katouzian, H., Iran: Politics, History and Literature (Routledge, 2013)

Modern History
*Amanat, A, Iran: A Modern History (Yale UP, 2017)
Keddie, N, Modern Iran: Roots and Results of the Revolution, 2nd revised edition (Yale UP, 1987)

Religion

Iranian Mythology and Fable

Travel Writing and Memoir
O'Donnell, T, Garden of the Brave in War: Recollections of Iran (Mage, 2003)

Current Affairs
Brumberg, D, and F Farhi (eds.), Power and Change in Iran: Politics of Contention and Conciliation (Indiana University Press, 2016)