The Author’s Voice

The Institute for Advanced Study, in partnership with Gorgias Press, is launching a new online lecture program. The series of free to access quarterly talks, led by Gorgias Press authors, will showcase the latest research across history, linguistics, and religious studies.

Sasanian Iran: A Personal View

Michael R. Jackson Bonner
Canadian writer, political adviser and independent historian of Iran

September 16, 2021
12:00 PM Eastern Time
(US and Canada)

I will discuss how I came to write The Last Empire of Iran and why. My main motivation was to portray the Sasanian state as the great world power that it was, and to situate it properly between Rome and the nomad powers of Inner Asia. The talk will address the classicising and Perso-Arabic historiographical traditions, but special emphasis will be given to Armenian and Syriac sources also. Discussion will cover some of the key themes of the book, including: the origins of the Sasanian state; the wider context of Eurasian history; interactions between Iran and the world of the steppe; and, finally, historiographical problems and the use of sources.

Please register in advance for this meeting at: https://bit.ly/3sm3T4t