



International Symposium on
Loess, soils and climate change in southern Eurasia
Gorgan, Northern Iran
15 – 19 October 2014 incl. 3 days of excursion

and
Post-excursion to the Basin of Persepolis, Zagros Mountains
21 – 23 October 2014

2nd circular

Preliminary program

- Tue, 14.10. Transfer from Tehran to Gorgan by plane or via Alborz-Mountains by bus
18:00 to 20:00 p.m. registration and ice breaker, Gorgan University
- Wed., 15.10. 9:00, Registration
10:00, **Opening ceremony**
11:30, **Key-note 1:** *Eurasian loess correlations: between myth and reality*, Slobodan Markovics
12:15, **Key-note 2:** N.N. *Title to be announced*
13:00 to 14:30, Lunch break
14:30 to 18:30, Session 1: Loess and the climate record in Southern Eurasia (incl. coffee break)
18:30-20:30 Cultural Ceremony
20:30 Dinner
- Thu., 16.10. 8:00 to 12:00, Session 2: Potential and degradation of loess soils (incl. coffee break)
12:00 to 12:45, **Key-note 3:** *Progress in dating Aeolian deposits*, Ashok Singhvi
12:45 to 14:00, Lunch break
14:00 to 18:00, Session 3: Methods in loess research (incl. coffee break)
18:00, **Closing ceremony**
- Fr., 17.10. 7:00 to 18:30, **Excursion 1, Loess and paleosols at the mountain front**
Loess sections at Toshan and Neka; Soils under forest (Shast-e kholar), Gohar Tappeh
- Sa., 18.10. **Excursion 2, From forest to steppe, loess and problems of land-use along a climatic gradient. Day 1**, departure at 7:00
Lower Gorgan plain, dunes and lakes near Incheh Boroon, geologic structure of loess plateau, loess section at Agh Band, piping and overgrazing in loess plateau, traditional diner at Gonbad-e Kavus tower, overnight stay in Gonbad-e Kavus

- Su., 19.10. **Excursion 2, day 2:** Soil erosion in upper reaches of Gorgan River, panoramic view from Khaled Nabi, dam siltation, Alexanderwall, modern soils from loess, loess-palaeosol sequence at Mobarakabad
18:30, return to Gorgan.
- Mo., 20.10. Return to Tehran / home
Or **1-day Sightseeing** at Caspian Sea and transfer to Sari
- Tue., 21.10. **Post-excursion Basin of Persepolis, please book separately**
Post-excursion Basin of Persepolis, day 1: Flight from Sari to Shiraz; sightseeing Shiraz
- Wed., 22.10. **Post-excursion Basin of Persepolis, day 2:** Upper Marvdasht plain; sections at Pol-e Garragh, Saadatabad, Shahrak; afternoon: Visit of Persepolis terrace. Evening: Social event.
- Thu., 23.10.: **Post-excursion Basin of Persepolis, day 3:** Lower Marvdasht Plain; dune formation, salinization, sand ramps, salt lakes
Return at 18:00, drop off at Shiraz airport possible
- Fri., 24.10. Return flights or stop-over in Isfahan

Call for abstracts

We are now inviting submission of abstracts for individual papers and posters to be presented during the symposium. We kindly ask you to submit abstracts of oral or poster presentations before **20 June 2014** by upload to the conference website (<http://www.islsce.com>) using the template. Please indicate, for which session your submission is intended. Notice of acceptance will be announced by **20 July 2014** through Email. The accepted abstracts will be published in the book of symposium including a CD.

Registration

Registration for the symposium and excursions is open until **15 August 2014**. Please register at <http://www.islsce.com> as soon as possible, since places are limited.

For fees and payment information please refer to the homepage, which also provides further information regarding the venue, visa regulations, accommodation and travel (<http://www.islsce.com>).

We are looking forward to seeing you in Gorgan! The organizing committee

Farhad Khormali (Dep. of Soil Science, Gorgan University of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Iran)

Martin Kehl (Institute of Geography, University of Cologne, Germany)

Eva Lehdorff (INRES-Soil Science, University of Bonn, Germany)

Manfred Frechen (Leibniz Institute of Applied Geophysics, Hanover, Germany)

For further questions please contact: fkhormali@gau.ac.ir; kehl@uni-koeln.de.

The symposium is co-organized by the Soil Science Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

