

California State University, Fresno  
Middle East Studies Lecture, Performance & Film Series

مفاهيم حماسی: شاهنامه و جهان غرب

**Epic Implications:  
Iran's National Poem and the West**

A lecture by

**Dr. Mahmoud Omidasalar**

*Shāhnāme* or *The Book of Kings* is Iran's national epic. In its present form it was versified from a prose original in the 10<sup>th</sup> Century A.D. by Iran's national poet, Ferdowsi. *Shāhnāme* is the ethnic history of the Iranians the way they have imagined it over their long history. Its narrative has profoundly affected the development of Iranian nationalism and identity for a thousand years. Dr. Omidasalar's lecture explores the tension between Iran and the West in the context of the *Shāhnāme* and considers the cultural and political implications of the epic with respect to the role that Iran demands for herself in the regional and international arenas.

**Alice Peters Auditorium, Peters Business Building 191**

**February 21, 2013, 6:00pm**

Sponsors:

National Endowment for the Humanities

Roshan Cultural Heritage Institute

Parsa Foundation

Middle East Studies Program, CSU Fresno

Persian Language & Culture Studies, CSU Fresno

For more information please contact [phooshmandrad@csufresno.edu](mailto:phooshmandrad@csufresno.edu)