

A note on dates, translations, and transliterations

The presentation of dates, translations, and transliterations in this book is influenced by several considerations. To begin with, the Iranian solar calendar's initiation on the 21st of March, which distinguishes it from the Gregorian calendar, could potentially perplex non-Iranian readers. As a solution, I have used Iranian dates sparingly and instead opted to incorporate corresponding Gregorian dates obtained through a calendar calculation platform. I utilized time.ir, a platform that generates the calendar based on computations provided by the Calendar Centre at the Geophysics Institute of the University of Tehran.

To enhance comprehensibility for a wider audience, I deliberately minimized intricate transliterations and diacritical marks. Rather, I focused on presenting words in their familiar Persian pronunciation. This approach is consistently applied to technical terms commonly utilized within the realm of conservation in Iran. For example, I substituted the widely recognized Persian pronunciation 'miras' for the term 'heritage' in Farsi, eschewing the Arabic pronunciation 'mirath'. Similarly, the term 'maremmat', prevalent among conservation professionals and academics in Iran, is employed for the concept of 'conservation'. Likewise, 'hefazat' is used interchangeably with 'preservation'.

When it came to formal titles, I stayed true to the official version of their translation and transliteration. This means that names of publications and organizations subject to transliteration by relevant authorities or editors maintain their original transliteration and translation. For instance, the journal *Athar* retains its established transliteration, rather

than adopting the Farsi-pronounced *Asar*. Also, the term 'Awqaf', which employs the officially recognized Arabic pronunciation instead of the common Persian pronunciation 'Owqaf', exemplifies this approach.

I must also highlight that throughout the text, when introducing a non-English term for the first time, I enclose it in brackets alongside its English equivalent. Subsequently, I rely on the English translation to ensure clarity and to avoid overwhelming readers, particularly those unacquainted with Farsi. When citing non-English publications, I transliterate the original title, followed by enclosing the English translation within brackets. This approach reduces the necessity for an extensive glossary within this section. Nevertheless, I furnish a concise compilation of frequently employed non-English terms in the book.