

Center for International Studies – Albuquerque International Association present

“IRAN: Understanding Ahmadinejad and His Politics”

Dr. Bahman Baktiari

Sunday, August 29th, 2010, 3:00pm – 5:00pm

UNM Continuing Education Conference Center

1634 University Blvd. NE (at the intersection with Indian School Rd); plenty of free parking

Will be followed immediately by the AIA Members’ Fall Season opening reception “Middle Eastern Mezze”

To the outside world, the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, presents himself as a strong power ready for confrontation. Back home, however, the image is different. His presidency is under siege, scared by the outbreak of youthful defiance, and determined opposition by influential politicians. This internal weakness may itself be driving Ahmadinejad’s increasing belligerence and radicalism. But more importantly, it is also debatable whether he will be able to complete his presidency, and if so, at what cost to the political system of the Islamic Republic.

Dr. Bahman Baktiari is Director of the Middle East Center at the University of Utah. He received his Ph.D. from the Woodrow Wilson Department of Government and Foreign Affairs at the University of Virginia. Before coming to University of Utah in 2009, he was the Director of the School of Policy and International Affairs at University of Maine. Prior to this, he served as Director of Research for William S. Cohen Center for International Policy and Commerce. He is the author of numerous works on Iran and the Middle East. His book-length study, "Iranian Society 30 Years after the Revolution: A Surprising Picture," was published as a special issue of The Middle East Journal in the spring of 2009. Dr. Baktiari is a highly respected commentator on events in Iran. His opinion pieces have appeared in leading national publications and he has been interviewed on the Jim Lehrer News Hour, CNN International, The Voice of America and Radio Free Europe. During the 1999-2001 academic year, Dr. Baktiari was a Visiting Professor of Political Science at the American University in Cairo.

Cost/lecture: \$15 – Members, \$20 – Non-Members. Students with a proper ID – free of charge. Please address the check to AIA and mail it to AIA, PO Box 92995, Albuquerque, NM 87199. Please mail checks by August 25, 2010

Season package: \$50/series of four lectures – members, \$70/series– non-members (package MUST be purchased by August 25, 2010)

Please check www.abqinternational.org for the full calendar of events, changes and updates.

On becoming an AIA member within 2 weeks after a lecture, \$5 will be deducted from your membership fee.

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