

# **The Early Arrival of Print in Safavid Iran: New Light on the First Armenian Printing Press in New Julfa, Isfahan (1636-1650, 1686-1693)**

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Armenian History  
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**MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2014  
12:00PM  
306 ROYCE HALL**

\*Light lunch will be served.\*  
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Sebouh Aslanian's talk explores the little-known history of Armenian print culture in Isfahan during the course of the seventeenth century. The talk will examine the history of Julfan print against the larger backdrop of print culture history both in Euroamerica as well as within the Islamic world. It will emphasize how, even in landlocked Julfa, the future viability of an Armenian press in seventeenth-century Iran was shaped by Julfa's access to port cities and especially to the mercantile patronage of their port-Armenian communities that also sustained other Armenian printing presses during the early modern period. The talk will conclude by exploring some possible reasons for why unlike Perso-Arabic print, which became part of the globalization of print culture during the nineteenth century, the Armenian print trajectory was already under swing at the dawn of the early modern period.