





# Daily News

3rd issue, 27 May 2002

A Workshop on  
Homological Methods in Commutative Algebra

Tehran Today:

			
High: 86 Low: 68	High: 31/88 Low: 19/67	Max: 29/84 Min: 18/64	Max: Min:
Weather.com	CNN.com	BBC.co.uk	Actual



.... Even in break time.



Not yet enough material for the next issue..

## News:

- The technical manager came 30 minutes late, so nobody was there to set up the equipment.
- Another one for the technical manager. The left-hand side projector was still out of focus.
- Avramov discovered that one can write directly on one of the projectors (the out of focus one)!
- The lectures will be held in the IPM's Main building from now on. We ask the organizer to leave the Niavaran Farhangsara's door open. It's a great place to spend some time in.
- We lost one of our fixed news items. Christensen's luggage was found today! We *apologize* if we wrote too much about it.
- It is reported that our friend who didn't go to any of the lectures yesterday, came to one of them today! One for our good influence!
- A ladybug caused a delay during Asadolahi's lecture! The poor creature was trapped between the transparent sheet and the projector.

## Announcement:

- ❖ Nassehpour Ensemble **concert today at 6:00PM**. It is a tripartite concert:
  1. Tonbak solo recital by Peyman Nassehpour
  2. Tar and tonbak by Parham Nassehpour and Peyman Nassehpour
  3. Santoor and tonbak by Pooyan Nassehpour and Peyman Nassehpour



*The traditional Persian music arrived to us through an oral tradition, is expressive music. It is expression of feelings, emotions, and "movements of heart" Sometimes not measured, sometimes very rhythmic, it makes alternate a meditative character, even nostalgia of the absolute and an exciting joyful mood.*



Your comments and suggestions are welcome and appreciated. Please give your comment to the workshop office.

# *The Art of Improvisation*

## **Concert of Persian Art Music**

**By**

**Nassehpour Ensemble at IPM**

- 1. Tonbak solo recital by Peyman Nasehpour**
- 2. Tar and tonbak by Parham Nassehpour and Peyman Nasehpour**
- 3. Santoor and tonbak by Pooyan Nassehpour and Peyman Nasehpour**

### **A brief about the instruments:**

**Tar:** The tar is the Persian stringed instrument similar to guitar and it appeared in its present form in the middle of the eighteenth century. The body is a double-bowl shape carved from mulberry wood, with a thin membrane of stretched lambskin covering the top. The long fingerboard has twenty-six to twenty-eight movable gut frets, and there are three double courses of strings. Its range is about two and one-half octaves, and is played with a small brass plectrum. Now it has six strings while in the past had five.

**Santoor:** The santoor is a three-octave wooden-hammered dulcimer with seventy-two strings, which are arranged on adjustable tuning pegs in eighteen quadruple sets, nine (bronze) in the low register, and nine (steel) in the middle register. The santoor can be made from various kinds of wood (walnut, rosewood, betel palm, etc.) depending on the desired sound quality. The front and the back of the instrument are connected by sound posts whose positions play an important role in the sound quality of the instrument. Although the santoor is very old, it was neither depicted in miniatures, nor presented in any other medium until the nineteenth century. The secret of making the trapezoid-shape sound box lies in the quality and age of the wood, as well as in the arrangement of the sound posts which connect the table of the instrument to its back. Santoor is played in India, Iraq, Egypt and some other countries.

**Tonbak:** The most popular percussion instrument in Persian music today is a goblet drum known as the Tonbak. The Tonbak is a large wooden instrument with a goatskin head. Unlike other goblet drums, this drum has a much more squared-off shape and produces lower-pitched and softer tones due to its size and skin being put on with less tension. Other names for this drum are Donbak, Tombak, Dombak, Tompak and Zarb. Maybe the name Zarb has its origins in the Arabic word darb, meaning to strike, as mentioned above. The other names have a more interesting origin. The two main strokes played on this drum are known as Ton, for a bass tone played in the center of the drum head, and Bak, for a treble tone played on or near the rim. Combining the terms results in the name Ton-Bak. It is highly likely that the American name Dumbek is derived from one of the Persian names.





## The Stone Garden Of Jamshidieh

*Built originally in the early 1970's, and officially named "The Stone Garden of Jamshidieh" this unique place is known to locals as Park-e Jamshidieh and that's what we are going to call it here. Jamshidieh Park is a textbook example of a traditional Persian garden but with an additional twist - it's built on a sharp mountain slope! The park is a fantastically designed maze of stone walkways built on the southern slope of the Alborz mountain range on the northern edge of Tehran.*

*There are several thematic restaurants and snack shops located strategically throughout the park almost as rewards to be reached as you climb along the stone pathways. Each restaurant serves foods that are native to a certain province or region of the country (Kurdistan, Azerbaijan, etc.)*

*A trip from the entrance gate to the end of the park (which keeps growing up the mountainside as new construction continues!) actually means a leisurely and scenic climb and a fantastic workout for the visitor. However, the real reward lies at the top - a breathtaking view of Tehran skyline!*

*At night and especially in the summer time, thousands of Tehranis from all walks of life crowd the park late into the night to make up for Tehran's hot and smuggy days. In the dark of the night, the playful youth of Tehran use the dark and lush cover of the trees and the endless turns and twists of these stone pathways to hide from the prohibitive Islamic social code that forbids them from meeting at all.*

*Park-e Jamshidieh is a must see for anyone who visits Iran and we think that every city in the world should build a garden like this!*









