Alireza Korangy [korangy@virginia.edu] received his Ph.D from the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, Harvard University, MA. His field of research is classical Persian and Arabic philology with a special emphasis on poetics, rhetoric, and linguistics. He has also done extensive research on the contemporary linguistics of Iran and its corresponding folkloric traditions (Sorani Kurdish, Kurmanji Kurdish, Gilaki, Lori, Baluchi, etc). His upcoming book will discuss the development of ghazal poetry in Iran, which studies the extensive influences of the pre-Islamic Arabic poetry and classical Arabic poetry on the birth of ghazal poetry. His next book - in feverish progress - will discuss martyrdom in Iran. He is currently assistant professor (tenure-track) in the Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Languages and Cultures [MESALC], University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA where he teaches classical Persian literature, Iranian languages, and other courses on the Middle East and Near East. Previously, he taught at the University of Colorado at Boulder.