



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the Mary Martin films of
Turanian Herder-Farmers, 1974-1978

Human Studies Film Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	Human Studies Film Archives
Title:	Mary Martin films of Turanian Herder-Farmers
Date:	1974-1978
Identifier:	HSFA.1988.14
Creator:	Martin, Mary Spooner, Brian (Project director)
Extent:	12 Film reels (6 hours; color silent; 4,145 feet; S8 mm)
Language:	No linguistic content; Not applicable .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Received from Mary Martin in 1988.

Provenance

Previously titled "Turanian Herder-Farmers 1974-1978."

Preferred Citation

Mary Martin films of Turanian Herder-Farmers, Human Studies Film Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Restrictions

The collection is open for research. Please contact the archives for information on availability of access copies of audiovisual recordings. Original audiovisual material in the Human Studies Film Archives may not be played.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Biographical / Historical

Filmmaker and anthropologist Mary Martin Conducted fieldwork in northeastern Iran in conjunction with the University of Pennsylvania Turan Program from 1974 through 1978. She is currently Coordinator of the Middle East Center, University of Pennsylvania.

Scope and Contents

Full film record of life among Turanian pastoralists in northeastern Iran. Documentation focuses on scenes revealing the gendered division of labor: herding and milking of goats by men, processing milk into *kashk* (tart) by women, and men engaged in the collection of firewood. Other domestic and agricultural activities

shown are plowing and irrigation of fields, harvesting and drying of barley, animal slaughter, spinning goat hair, making grape molasses, and drying tobacco. Footage also includes ceremonial activities associated with Persian new year and pilgrimages to Islamic shrines.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or Anthropology Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

Bibliography

Martin, Mary. "Pastoralism: Milk and Firewood in the Ecology of Turan." *Expedition* 22:4 (Summer 1980).

Martin, Mary. "Making a Living in Turan: Animals, Land, and Wages." *Expedition* 22:4 (Summer 1980).

Local Numbers

HSFA 1988.14.1

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Agriculture
- Cooking
- Domestic animals
- Nawrūz (Festival)
- Rites and ceremonies

Types of Materials:

- silent films

Places:

- Iran
- Middle East