



University
of Victoria

Graduate Studies

Notice of the Final Oral Examination
for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

of

ATRI HATEF NAIEMI

MA (University of Victoria, 2014)

MA (University of Tehran, 2010)

BA (University of Qazvin, 2006)

**“A Dialogue between Friends and Foes:
Transcultural Interactions in Ilkhanid Capital Cities (1256-1335 AD)”**

Department of Art History and Visual Studies

Friday August 23, 2019

9:00 A.M.

Clearihue Building

Room B017

Supervisory Committee:

Dr. Marcus Milwright, Department of Art History and Visual Studies, University of Victoria (Supervisor)

Dr. Evanthia Baboula, Department of Art History and Visual Studies, UVic (Member)

Dr. Brendan Burke, Department of Greek and Roman Studies, UVic (Non-Unit Member)

Dr. Tsung-Cheng Lin, Department of Pacific and Asian Studies, UVic (Non-Unit Member)

External Examiner:

Dr. Margaret S. Graves, Art History, Indiana University

Chair of Oral Examination:

Dr. Gary MacGillivray, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, UVic

Abstract

The period following the Mongol conquest of vast areas of Eurasia in the thirteenth century, the so-called *Pax Mongolica*, witnessed the emergence of a new visual language in Persian art and architecture. Various Islamic and non-Islamic visual traditions that permeated the whole body of the arts of thirteenth- and fourteenth-century Iran played a pivotal role in the formation of the hybrid style characterizing the art and architecture of the Ilkhanid period (1256-1335 AD). Along with the reconstruction of the cities that had been extensively destroyed during the Mongol attack on Iran, the Ilkhans (Mongol rulers) founded a number of new settlements. Both literary and archaeological evidence testifies that the foundation and development of urban centers was one of the primary objectives of the Ilkhans throughout their rule over Iran. Putting emphasis on Ilkhanid urban architecture, this project focuses on two major cities in the northwest of Iran (Ghazaniyya and Sultaniyya) in order to show how the architectural and urban features of the cities were determined through the complex interaction of local and global forces. Furthermore, this research challenges the fact that the hybrid character of Ilkhanid art and architecture is often examined in relation to the visual and conceptual traditions of settled societies while the cultural conventions of the steppe people of Central Asia (the Mongols) are given less credit. This study discovers the dialogues between sedentary forms and meanings and nomadic traditions, and how those were manifested in Ilkhanid architecture and urban planning.