

Sunday, 6th September, 2015

The Journey to Rasht



Several CHS members assembled in the foyer early in the afternoon for the journey to Rasht. The charming Hamid Marjaee, (on left) travelled with us as a translator. His services were to be much in demand for television interviews at Rasht and Anzali.

Also shown are John Sansome, (CHS Treasurer), Elizabeth (Liz) Webster, (ex-ICS and CHS Chairman), Brenda Dalton, (ICS Chairman), Margareta Lindahl (Swedish Caspian Horse Association) and Tessa Clarke, (Stud Manager, West Kingston Stallion Centre, UK). *Photo RS*

By mid-afternoon, we could finally board our luxury coach for Rasht. *Photo RS*



The coach was thoughtfully shaded from the sun and supplied with ice-cold water to drink. *Photo RS*



We left the crowded streets of Tehran, passing through outlying areas before hitting the motorway north. *Photos JS*



Our mid-way stop was at a restaurant with an aircraft on its roof – the rest of the plane stuck out at the back! *Photo BD*



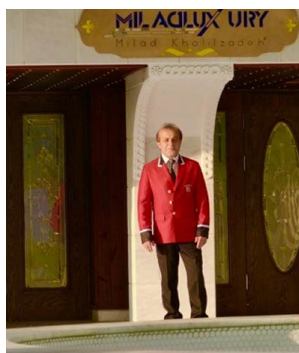
Three young Iranians, who came with us to Rasht to help with organisation and translation, line up outside the restaurant with Tessa Clarke (UK), Tina Staples and Malena Laylin (US) and Margareta Lindahl (Sweden). *Photo EW*



Sunset fell as we drew near to the tunnel through the mountains.

At last we reached the streets of Rasht and approached our hotel.

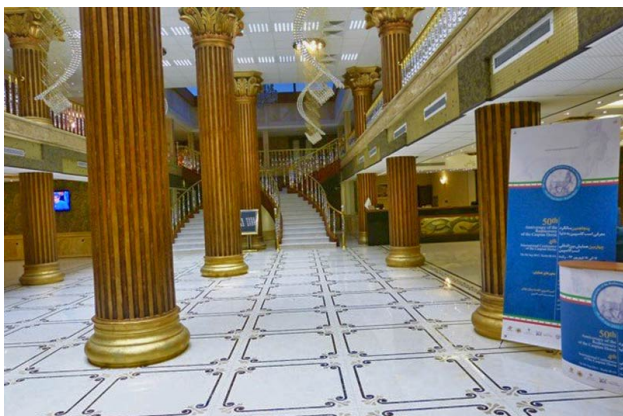
Photos JS



The Kadus Grand Hotel at Rasht, (photographed next morning) was another four- star luxury hotel which looked after us in great comfort.

The hotel 's staff were endlessly friendly and obliging.

Photos JS



The Reception area was filled with posters welcoming their international guests to the 50th Anniversary and Caspian Conference. *Photos JS*



A very appropriate frieze lit up the area behind the Grand Staircase. *Photo BD*

Fariba attempts to explain to Liz Webster why the promised transport from the airport to our Tehran hotel had failed to turn up! *Photo RS*



It had been a long day – the first of many....