



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**DR. FIROUZ NADERI FROM NASA AMONG GUESTS AND DIGNITARIES
OF TIRGAN 2013**

Dr. Firouz Naderi, the director for the Solar System Exploration Directorate at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, has confirmed that he will be among the guests and dignitaries at Tirgan 2013.

Festival Dates: Thursday July 18, 2011 to Sunday July 21, 2013

Location: Various venues in Harbourfront Centre, Toronto

Toronto, July 1, 2013 – Tirgan Festival is honoured to have Dr. Firouz Naderi among the guests and dignitaries of Tirgan Festival.

Dr. Naderi is the director for the Solar System Exploration Directorate at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Formerly, he was the associate director for Project Formulation and Strategy (2005-2011) providing oversight of new business acquisition and strategic planning at JPL. Prior to that, he was the head of the Mars Exploration Program (2000-2005) a span of time that included the successful launch of Mars Odyssey, landing of the Mars Exploration Rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, and the development of the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter. Before Mars, he managed the Origins Program (1996-2000) an ambitious, technology-rich plan to search for Earth-like planets in other planetary systems.

“The support of internationally recognized successful Iranian figures such as Dr. Firouz Naderi is an indication of the growth of the festival and certainly means a lot to all of us volunteers.” said Behrouz Amouzgar, the Public Relations Director of Tirgan.

About Tirgan:

Tirgan Festival, the world's largest festival celebrating Iranian arts and culture, takes place biennially at the Harbourfront Centre of Toronto, Canada. In 2013, Tirgan will offer a selection of over 70 features showcasing renowned performers in an array of artistic disciplines including: music, dance, theatre, cinema, literature and the visual arts in addition to workshops, organized activities, galleries, delicious food, and a traditional bazaar, all of which will capture the heart and imagination of both young and old alike. Having attracted over 120,000 visitors in 2011, upwards of 150,000 visitors will be expected to attend this year's Tirgan Festival. To find out more about Tirgan, please visit www.tirgan.ca.

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