

## **Afsaneh Najmabadi Acceptance Speech**

First, I want to thank Azadeh for nominating me and the WWQI site for this award and Belle Cheves and Maggie Hale for writing letters of support.

Second, I want to emphasize that this project is not mine alone; a large number of people, in Iran and here, have worked hard to make it possible. This award belongs to all of them.

The idea of Women's Worlds in Qajar Iran came about in order to deal with challenge of the inaccessibility of sources for writing histories that are inclusive of women. These sources, such as photographs, marriage certificates, inheritance documents, etc., are kept by families and not deposited at national archives. What WWQI does is to go to people's houses and digitize such documents and process them into the documents you see on site.

It has been a successful project in that we receive emails from students and scholars indicating how much they use WWQI in their work.