

# The Cyrus Cylinder: Ancient Rights, Modern Liberties



Discovered in 1879, the Cyrus Cylinder is an ancient written declaration of religious freedom of the newly conquered people by Cyrus the Great (660 B.C.E. - 530 C.E.) after the conquest of Babylon in the sixth century BCE under the Achaemenid Empire. Referred by some as “the first charter of human rights,” the Cylinder is one of the most iconic artifacts about ancient rights to have survived from ancient Persia. In this educational event, we explore the history of the Cylinder in the context of ancient history and we will discuss possible influences of the Cylinder on modern liberties and contemporary conceptions of human rights.

#### Speakers:

Guillermo Algaze (University of California, San Diego)  
Anthony Edwards (University of California, San Diego)  
Ali Gheissari (University of San Diego)  
Afshin Marashi (University of Oklahoma)

#### Moderator:

Babak Rahimi (University of California, San Diego)

**Persian Music and Refreshments**  
**Limited Seating**

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Department of Literature, UCSD;

**Saturday, September 28, 2013**

**5:30 - 8:00 pm**

**University of California,  
San Diego | The Great Hall**

**9500 Gilman Dr.**

**La Jolla, CA 92093**

**Parking:**

**Pangea Parking Structure**

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