

News from EP2A (Diary final post)

Its Tuesday morning April 26th, the last qso was made at 09:45 and it's time to start packing gear and antennas. Planned time to leave for Tehran (14:00) comes in a blink of an eye and by that time we just accomplish to take down and pack antennas. The rest of the gear and bags we finish packing only at 18:00, no time for rest and we leave right away.



Pictures: Yard with sun shed where we rest. Protection against moving cables in the antenna field – snakes.

Its 420km drive ahead to the airport and in some places the road is traffic heavy, so it's a bit nervous because we still have to deal with the customs in airport. However, everything goes smooth and we manage to save up some time. EP2LMA has planned farewell dinner and asks what we would like – fast food or traditional Iran kitchen. The answer is unequivocal and we head for a traditional food restaurant. Sumptuous served table and sincere people wait as there.



EP2A Ceremonial dinner



US7UX speech

We arrive at airport 3 hours before departure and the custom formalities are completed without delays. We say goodbye to our friends and head for the plane – first stop Kiev, Ukraine. There we have one hour to board next plane to Riga, Latvia. Not much time to buy presents for wives. ☹



Iranian rose

In Riga airport we are welcomed by our friends and family. The excitement of reunion and talks make us forget to take homecoming pictures at airport. Expedition is complete, we

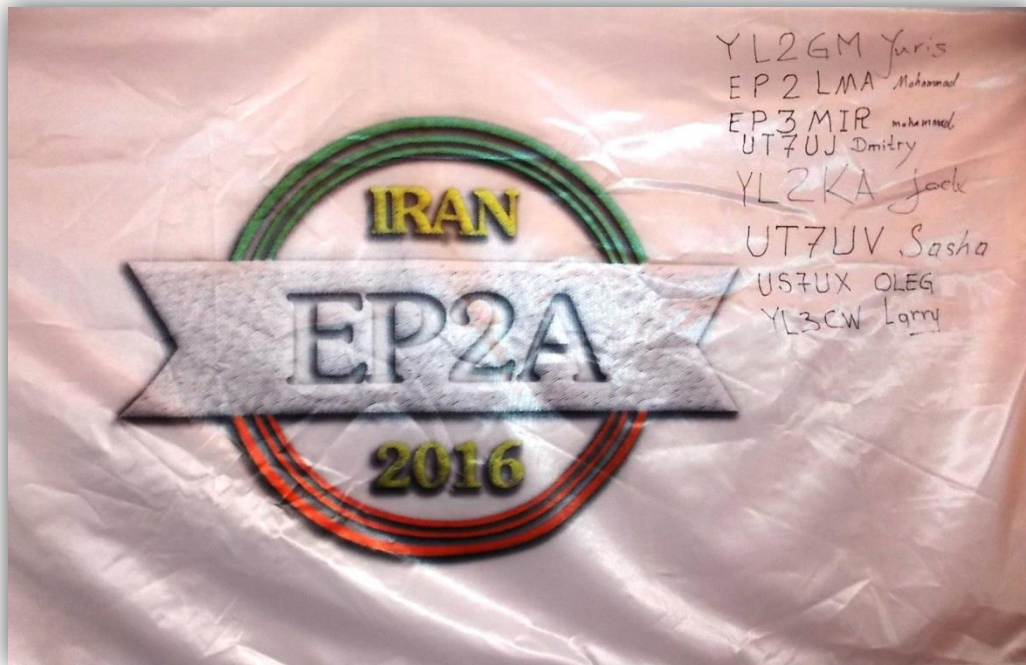
are exhausted. However, the satisfaction for accomplishments is good. During expedition we made new friends not just in Iran, but all around the World. With this expedition we set new and friendly bounds between our countries and people.



EP2LMA & EP3MIR



EP2A (from left Oleg US7UX, Dmitry UT7UJ, Alex UT7UV, Yuris YL2GM, Valery YL3CW, Mohammad EP3MIR, Jack YL2KA and Mohammad EP2LMA)



EP2A flag with signatures

I want to thank:

- All radio amateurs for support and following this expedition;
- My team: Valery YL3CW, Jack YL2KA, Dmitry UT7UJ, Oleg US7UX and Sasha UT7UV. Thanks for endurance and friendship;
- Mohammad EP2LMA, Mohammad EP3MIR. Thank you for your work and input during the preparation and the course of whole expedition. You are very sincere friends;
- Iranian radio amateurs who welcomed and visited us;
- Iran CRA department and government structures that issued us the license and made this expedition possible;
- Our sponsors and supporters for your trust and confidence in us;
- To Latvian and Ukrainian radio amateurs for your activity;
- To home support team: YL2GM Jr., YL2VW, K7GEX, YL2SM, YL2GN;
- To our wives and families for support and patience.