

FATEMEH KESHAVARZ-KARAMUSTAFA

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae (February 9, 2022)



School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures
1220C Jimenez Hall

University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742

Tel: 301-405-1805 ♦ Email: fkf@umd.edu

EDUCATION

- 1985 **Ph.D.** The School of Oriental & African Studies, London University and University College, London University.
Major: Near Eastern Literary & Archival Studies.
Dissertation: University of London **Dunne & Wilson Award** for the Ph.D. **MA** in Library, Archive, and Information Studies, London University.
- 1976 **B. A.** in Persian Language and Literature, Shiraz University, Iran.

LANGUAGES

Persian (native tongue) - **English** (Fluency in all major skills) - **Turkish** (Fluency in all major skills) - **Arabic** (Excellent reading and writing abilities) - **Italian** (Intermediate speaking and reading) - **Armenian** (moderate speaking and reading abilities) - **French** (reading ability)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2012- Roshan Chair in Persian Studies, Professor of Persian Language and Literature, School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, University of Maryland, College Park
- 2006-12 Professor of Persian and Comparative Literature, Department of Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures, Washington University, St. Louis
- 1997-2006 Associate Professor of Persian and Comparative Literature, Department of Asian and Near Eastern Languages and Literatures, Washington University, St. Louis.

ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

At University of Maryland College Park:

- 2014-2021 Director, School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, University of Maryland, College Park
- 2012- Director, Roshan Institute for Persian Studies, University of Maryland, College Park.

At Washington University in St. Louis:

- 2004-2011 Chair, Department of Asian & Near Eastern Languages & Literatures

- 2003-2005 University Faculty Senate.
- 2000-2004 Director, Graduate program in Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies.
- 2000-2004 Chair, Mentoring Task Force, Association of Women Faculty (AWF).
- 1997-2000 Director, Center for the Study of Islamic Societies and Civilizations.
- 1998-99 President, Association of Women Faculty (AWF)

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Unsilencing the Sacred Self: Human-Divine Cocreation in Medieval Persian Poetry. Solicited by the American Academy of Religion (AAR). New York: Columbia University Press, scheduled to appear in 2023.

Lyrics of Life: Sa'di on Love, Cosmopolitanism, and Care of the Self. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2015.

Jasmine and Stars: Reading more than Lolita in Tehran. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, January 2007. Paperback (Spring 2009).

Recite in the Name of the Red Rose: Poetics of Sacred Making in Twentieth Century Iran. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2006. Choice Magazine Award, 2007

Reading Mystical Lyric: The Case of Jalal al-Din Rumi. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1998. Choice Magazine Award, 1999.

A Descriptive and Analytical Study of Persian Manuscripts in the Library of the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine. London: The Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 1986. Dunne and Wilson Award

Talashi dar aghaz (collection of poems). Shiraz: Shiraz University Press, 1976.

Edited Volume

Mystical landscapes in Pre-modern Persian Literature. Ed. Fatemeh Keshavarz & Ahmet Karamustafa. Under review at Edinburgh University Press.

Articles & Book Chapters

“The Gender of Poetry” in *Women Poets Digital Compendium*, an integrative compendium of classical and contemporary women poets. U. of Toronto & Encyclopedia Iranica. Ed. M. Tavakoli Targhi. Forthcoming July 1, 2022

“The Global Language of Companionship: Rumi, the Bridge Builder” in *The Global Middle East*, ed. Asef Bayat & Linda Herrera. (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2021), 49-59.

“Hafez, the Earthly Sky-walker: Building our Space in a Shifting Universe,” *Sufi Journal*,” Washington, DC & London (Fall 2019).

“Taste and See: a Religion and Literature Dialogue,” in collaboration with Peter S. Hawkins. *Religion and Literature*, University of Notre Dame, Indiana (Summer 2015)

“Faith in the Academy: a Visit to ‘Where the Fearful Things are’,” *Religion and Literature*, University of Notre Dame, Indiana, issue 44.3 (autumn 2012)

“Sewn Together with the Thread of the Sun: Religion and Literature as a Discipline,” *Religion and Literature*, University of Notre Dame, Indiana, 41.2 (Summer 2009): 37- 44.

“Sa’di’s Earthly Vision of Sainthood in the *Bustān* and the *Gulistān*.” In *Tale of God’s Friends: Islamic Hagiography in Translation*. Ed. John Renard. (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2008), 92-99.

Life as a Stream and the Psychology of “Moment” in Hafiz’verse: Application of the Blending Theory. Keshavarz, F., & Ghassemzadeh, H. *Journal of Pragmatics* (2008), 40, 1781-1798.

"Flight of the Birds: the Poetic Animating the Spiritual in 'Attars *Mantiq al-tayr*," in *Intimations of Immortality*. Ed. Leonard Lewisohn (London: I.B. Tauris, 2006)107-129.

"Taming of the Unruly King: Nizami's Shirin as Lover and Educator," in *Women in Iran from the Rise of Islam to 1800*. Ed. Guiti Nashat and Lois Beck (University of Illinois Press, 2003), 186-205. Winner, Choice Magazine Award, 2004.

"Pregnant With God: the Poetic Art of Mothering the Sacred in Rumi's *Fihī ma fih*." *Journal of Comparative Study of South Asia and the Middle East*, Vol. XXII, No. 1-2, 2003, pp. 90-99.

"The Call to Prayer from the Cypress Tree: Modernity and Redefining the Spiritual in Persian Poetry," *Religion and Literature*, University of Notre Dame, Indiana, 29.1 (1997): 17-42.

"Much Have I Roamed through the Worlds Far Quarters: In Search of Sa'di's Self-image," *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 26 (1994): 465-475.

"Convention and Innovation in the *Divan-i Shams*," *The Turkish Studies Association Bulletin* 17 (1993): 92-98.

"Horoscope of Iskandar Sultan," *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain & Ireland* 2 (1984): 197-208.

"Horoscope of a Persian Prince," *Illustrated London News* (Christmas Issue, 40), 1981.

Translations

“Shades of Bewilderment,” ten *ghazals* of ‘Attar translated from Persian in *Intimations of Immortality*. Ed. Leonard Lewisohn, London: School of Oriental and African Studies, forthcoming.

"O, the Sky That Turns above Our Head: A *ghazal* by Jalal al-Din Rumi," 208-09; "The Treatise on Journeying" by Majd ad-Din Baghdadi, 301-311; "The Seventh *Qiblah*: Poems in praise of Imam Riza," by Rahi Mu'yyiri, 98-102; "Excerpts from A Sufi Lexicon" by Sayyid Sajjadi, 317-22. Translated from Persian in *Views From the House of Islam*. Ed. John Renard. Berkeley: University of California Press; 1998.

Book Reviews

Hamid Dabashi, *Persian Literary Humanism* (Harvard Univ. Press, 2012). *Journal of Religion and Literature*. University of Notre Dame, Indiana, 2014.

Cyrus Ali Zargar, *Sufi Aesthetics: Beauty, Love, and the Human Form in the Writings of Ibn 'Arabi and 'Iraqi*. *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, 2014.

Nima Naghibi, *Re-thinking Global Sisterhood: Western Feminism and Iran*. *Middle East Journal*, spring 2008.

Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak, *Recasting Persian Poetry: Scenarios of Poetic Modernity in Iran*. *International Journal of Middle East Studies*. 30, no.2 (1998): 311-313.

GRANTS AND HONORS (selected)

- 2010 The Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award.
- 2008 The Peabody Award for the episode called "The ecstatic faith of Rumi" in *Speaking of Faith*, produced by the American Public Media and broadcasted on NPR.
- 2008 The Hershel Walker Peace & Justice Award by *People's Weekly*.
- 2004 Sisterhood is Global Award granted by the Institute for Women and Gender Studies, University of Missouri in St. Louis.
- 2002 Appreciation Award for Continued Support of St. Louis Community Colleges granted by Meramec Community College.
- 2001 Faculty Mentoring Award.
- 2000 Association of Women Faculty Appreciation Award.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses Taught

Advanced Persian II. Pers.
 Topics in Classical Persian Literature and Culture.
 Topics in Modern Persian Literature and Culture
 Introduction to Persian Literature in Translation.
 Literary Constructions of Modernity in Iran

Modern Near Eastern Literature
 Women Writers of Near and Far East (team-taught)
 Lyrics of Mystical Love, East and West
 Speaking for the Other: Orientalism and Literature
 [Theories of] Translation.

INVITED LECTURES (Selected)

- 2019 "My Poor Heart Sometimes Whirls Sometimes Runs: Meet Sa'di, the Comedian."
 University of Pennsylvania, October 2019.
- 2018 "Long after we are gone, the World Will Still Be": Khayyam's Notion of the World Writ Large. Keynote address, Khayyam Day, University of Oklahoma, April 2018
- 2016 **Six lectures** addressing the broad topic of "*Unsilencing the Sacred Self: Human-Divine Cocreation in Medieval Persian Poetry*" each through the works of a number of pre-modern Persian poets. Solicited by the American Academy of Religion, presented at Notre Dame, North Western, Elmhurst, and University of Chicago, and the AAR annual meeting October 24- November 20.
- 2015 Plenary Address, annual meeting Association of Departments of English & Association of Departments of Foreign in Washington D.C. June 2015.
- 2015 Co-organizer of seminar titled "Permutations of Desire in Persian Literature." Paper title: "Intratextual Laughter: Humorous Permutations of Desire in Sa'di's Traji'band" presented at American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA), Seattle, March 26-29, 2015.
- 2015 Chair of the Panel at Montreal MLA Conference on August 6, 2014. "Reinterpreting Love and Desire in Medieval Persian Literature: Case Studies of 'Attâr, 'Erâqi, and Gorgâni" Modern Language Association
- 2014 Panel discussant "Iranian Literature, Modern and Postmodern," Tenth Biennial Iranian Studies Conference, August 6-9, Montreal, Canada.
- 2014 UD Mercy, Celebrate Spirit Event on Wednesday, September 10, 2014.
- 2014 Participated in Johns Hopkins University *Shahnameh Roundtable* on Persian Art and Literature on April 28, 2014.
- 2014 "Journeys of Practice." Panel presentation at Muslim Studies Program at Michigan State University, spring conference on March 20 and 21, 2014.
- 2007-2012
 Spoke on tens of radio and TV shows, and visited 54 campuses nationally and internationally. Presentations related to my book *Jasmine and Stars: Reading more than Lolita in Tehran* ranged from discussions of Persian/ Middle Eastern literatures, to politics of gender and its reflection in American media. Campuses include Harvard, Duke, MIT, UCLA, Princeton,

Chicago, Pomona, and the UNC Chapel Hill. Also addressed The United Nation's General Assembly on "The Significance of Cultural Education for World Peace."

2010-2012

Notre Dame University: four consecutive workshops funded by a grant from the Mellon Foundation. Focused on the areas of convergence between Religion and Literature.
Deliverables: A syllabus archive and guidelines for a Ph.D. minor in this area.

2011 Leading the five-day workshop on Persian Literature and Music, Cornish School of Music, Seattle, July 5-9.

2011 "Sa'di on Care of the Self." Columbia/NYU speaker series in Persian Studies, Nov.3rd.

2011 Selected Allman Fellow for a two-day visit to Hockaday High School culminating in the delivery of an Assembly presentation titled "The Significance of Cultural Education for World Peace," Dec. 8-9.

2004 "Recite in the Name of the Red Rose: Poetic Sacred Making in Twentieth Century Iran" University of Chicago, October 15.

2002 "Flight of the Birds: the Poetic Animating the Spiritual in 'Attar's *Mantiq al-tayr*." Conference on 'Attar. London School of Oriental and African Studies, November 16.

2002 "Has the Time not Come for this Window to Open?: The Feminine, the Natural, and the Spiritual in Poetry of Forough Farrokhzad." Illinois State University, International and Global Studies Seminar Series, March 6.

2001 "The Future of Women of Color at Work and at Home." Keynote Address, Women of the Color Conference, Washington University.

2001 "Shirin as the Lover and Educator in the Khusraw va Shirin of Nizami." March 19, Persian Circle, Emory University.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2014 "Reinterpreting Love and Desire in Medieval Persian Literature: Case Studies of 'Attâr, 'Erâqi, and Gorgâni" Modern Language Association. Chair of the panel.

2012 Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association. Paper titled "Men, Women, and God: Sa'di's Vision of Love and Beauty in his Ghazals and the Gulistan."

2011 "How Sweetly with a Kiss is the Speech Interrupted: the Dynamism of Silence in Rumi's Poetry." Ibn 'Arabi and Rumi Conference. Ibn 'Arabi Society, New York, Nov. 5-7.

2008 Celebrating Rumi's 800th Birthday, University of Maryland, September 28, paper titled "Unsilencing the Self: Moments of Munajat in Rumi's Masnavi."

- 2005 "Poetic Imagination of Jalal al-Din Rumi," University of Toronto, February 5. Paper titled "The Poetic Art of Mothering the Sacred."

CONFERENCES & PANELS ORGANIZED

- 2007 "Poetic Mastery of Jalal al-Din Rumi" Conference commemorating the 800th Birthday of Rumi sponsored by the British Museum and the Persian Heritage Foundation, London, September 20-22.
- 2000 "Middle Eastern Literatures and the World: Literary Encounters" Joint Literary Workshop with the Program on Comparative Literature, Washington University, October 6-8.
- 2011 "Always Arriving," Washington University, a Poetry and Dance Theater. In Collaboration with choreographer and dancer, Dr. Alice Bloch.
- 2007 "The Watching Heart," Washington University, UNC Chapel Hill, a Poetry and Dance Theater. In Collaboration with choreographer and dancer, Dr. Alice Bloch.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Association of Teachers of Persian
 American Association of Departments of Foreign Languages
 American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages
 Middle East Studies Association
 Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain & Ireland
 International Society for Iranian Studies

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Referee, Professor Sunil Sharma's promotion to full professor, Department of Modern Languages and Comparative Literature. Spring 2015

Referee, *Middle Eastern Literatures*, as a peer reviewer for the submission: "A load of tripe" Rūmī's Dismissal of His Own Poetry Reconsidered. Spring 2015

Reader for the book manuscript *Transgress and the Limit: Theory in Conversation with 'Attar* evaluated for Edinburgh University Press. December 2014.

Referee, Professor Jawaid Mujaddedi's promotion to full professor, Department of Religion, Rutgers University, 2013

Chair, Task Force for Computerization of Persian Teaching, American Association of Teachers of Persian, 2000

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Over 40 public presentations in the semester following the 9/11 tragedy to help build bridges, and ease the sense of public panic.