

## **FIROOZEH KASHANI-SABET**

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University of Pennsylvania  
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### **ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT:**

*Walter H. Annenberg Professor of History*, University of Pennsylvania, July 2016 - present  
*Robert I. Williams Term Professor of History*, University of Pennsylvania, August 2011 – June 2016  
*Professor of History*, University of Pennsylvania, July 2011 – present  
*Associate Professor of History*, University of Pennsylvania, (Tenured) July 2006 – June 2011  
*Director*, Middle East Center, University of Pennsylvania, July 2006 – June 2019  
*Assistant Professor of History*, University of Pennsylvania, July 1999 – 2006  
*Visiting Fellow*, Yale University, Jan. - Dec., 1998  
*Lecturer*, Yale University, Fall 1997  
*Part-time Lecturer*, Princeton University, Spring 1996

### **EDUCATION:**

*Ph.D., M. Phil., M.A.*, Dept. of History, Yale University, May 1997  
- Qualifying Exams Completed in January 1994  
- Passed with Distinction in all Fields

*B.A.*, University of North Carolina -- Chapel Hill, International Studies and French, May 1989  
- Morehead Scholar  
- B.A. with Distinction  
- Departmental Honors in French; Departmental Honors in International Studies, 1989

### **PUBLICATIONS:**

#### **Books:**

- *Frontier Fictions: Shaping the Iranian Nation*, Princeton Univ. Press, 1999  
(Translated into Persian by Kitabsara Press, Tehran, Iran, Spring 2010. Translated into Turkish in 2018). Princeton paperback edition issued in 2011.
- *Conceiving Citizens: Women and the Politics of Motherhood in Iran* (Oxford University Press, 2011)  
*Winner*, 2012 Book Prize from the Journal of Middle East Women's Studies
- *Martyrdom Street* (A Novel), Syracuse University Press, May 2010
- *Gender in Judaism and Islam: Common Lives, Uncommon Heritage*, co-edited by F. Kashani-Sabet and Beth Wenger (December 2014)

#### In Progress:

- "Heroes to Hostages: America and Iran at Historical Crossroads, 1800-1979," (Under contract to Oxford University Press, forthcoming)
- "Tales of Trespassing: Borderland Histories of Iran, Iraq, and the Persian Gulf (Under contract to Cambridge University Press, forthcoming).

#### **Academic Articles:**

- "The Anti-Aryan Moment: Decolonization, Diplomacy, and Race in Late Pahlavi Iran," forthcoming.
- "Pandering in the Persian Gulf: Arabia, Iran, and Anglo-American Relations, 1900-1971," in *American-Iranian Dialogues*, edited by Matthew Shannon, Bloomsbury, Fall 2021 [referred]
- "Before ISIS: What Early America Thought of Islam," *Sociology of Islam*, 8.1, pp. 17-52 [refereed]
- "Colorblind or Blinded by Color: Race, Ethnicity, and Identity in Iran," in *Sites of Pluralism: Community Politics in the Middle East*, ed. by Firat Oruç, Oxford University Press, Spring 2019, pp. 153-180 [refereed]
- Partial Arabic translation – CIRS Summary: (2020) Published under auspices of Georgetown University—Qatar: Center for International and Regional Studies
- "Dressing Up (or Down): Veils, Hats and Consumer Fashions in Interwar Iran," in *Anti-Veiling Campaigns in the Muslim World: Gender, Modernism and the Politics of Dress*, edited by Stephanie Cronin (Routledge, 2014): pp. 149-162 [by invitation]
- "Portals of Persepolis: Nationalism in the Diplomacy of US-Iranian Relations, 1856-1911," in *Rethinking Iranian Nationalism and Modernity*, edited by K. Aghaie and A. Marashi, University of Texas Press, 2014: pp. 137-160 [refereed]
- "Baluchistan: Nature, Empire and Ethnicity in Anglo-Iranian Relations," *The Journal of the Middle East and Africa*, (October 2013): 187-204 [refereed]
- "Freedom Springs Eternal," Roundtable on the Iranian Revolution & Arab Spring, *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, February 2012 [Refereed – by invitation]
- "American Crosses, Persian Crescents: Religion and the Diplomacy of US-Iranian Relations, 1834-1911," special issue of *Iranian Studies* (2011) [refereed journal]
- "Stepping out of the Womb: Women and the Politics of Reproduction (Fissell Forum)," *Journal of Women's History* (Fall 2010), pp. 195-199 [refereed journal]
- "The Haves and the Have Nots: A History of Disability in Modern Iran," *Iranian Studies*, April, 2010, 167 — 195 [refereed journal]
- "The Politics of Reproduction: Maternalism and Women's Hygiene in Iran, 1896-1941," *International Journal of Middle East Studies (IJMES)*, February 2006, 1–29. Nominated by IJMES for the Berkshire Article Prize. [refereed journal]
- "Who is Fatima? Gender, Culture, and Representation in Islam," *Journal of Middle Eastern Women's Studies*, Spring 2005, 1-24. [refereed journal]
- "Patriotic Womanhood: The Culture of Feminism in Modern Iran," *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, May 2005, 29-46. [refereed journal]
- "Cultures of Iranianness: The Evolving Polemic of Iranian Nationalism," in *Iran and the Surrounding World*, edited by Nikki Keddie and Rudi Matthee, Univ. of Washington Press, 2002, pp. 162-181 [Refereed – by invitation]
- "Hallmarks of Humanism: Hygiene and Love of Homeland in Qajar Iran," *American Historical Review*, October 2000, pp. 1171-1203 [refereed journal]
- "City of the Dead: The Frontier Polemics of Quarantines in the Ottoman Empire and Iran," *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East*, December 1999, pp. 51-58 [refereed journal]
- "Jughrafiya-yi Vatan," *Guftugu* (Tehran, Iran), 1999 [translation of original article in English]
- "Picturing the Homeland: Nationalism and the Geographic Discipline in Iran," *Journal of Historical Geography*, October 1998, pp. 413-430 [refereed journal]
- "Fragile Frontiers: The Diminishing Domains of Qajar Iran," *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, May 1997, pp. 205-234 [refereed journal]
- "The Frontier Phenomenon: Perceptions of the Land in Iranian Nationalism," *Critique: Journal for Critical Studies of the Middle East*, Spring 1997, 19-38 [refereed]
- "The Swinging Pendulum: Linguistic Controversy in Post-Colonial Algeria," *Middle Eastern Studies*, October 1996, pp. 264-280 [refereed]

**Articles in Progress:**

- Catalog essay for YARAT Centre Exhibition, “Fragile Frontiers – Visions on Iran’s (In)Visible Borders,”  
<https://www.yarat.az/index.php?lang=en&page=12&yrtMaincatID=12&yrtSubcatID=0&yrtEventID=2170>
- “Vagabond Routes: Sailing the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea,” co-authored with Mehmet Darakcioglu, forthcoming in “Twin Seas: The Persian Gulf and The Red Sea, Compared” volume ed. Eric Tagliacozzo, forthcoming

### Op-Ed Piece:

“Iran, Syria Turn Wary Eye toward Borders: Historic Links to Iraq Drive National Interests,” *Newsday*, April 13, 2003

### Online Opinion Pieces:

- “Reviving or Revising the JCPOA?: Time for a New Iran Framework,” CERL, Penn Law:  
<https://archive.law.upenn.edu/live/news/11000-reviving-or-revising-the-jcpoa-time-for-a-new-iran/news/cerl-news>
- “Iran’s Isolation Continues: A Stranger Among (Feuding) Friends,” London School of Economics Middle East Centre Blog: <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/mec/2020/09/30/irans-isolation-continues-a-stranger-among-feuding-friends/>.
- “Narrative on Iran Defective at its Core,” Lobelog.com, May 10, 2018
- “Rethinking the Arab/Persian Binary and the Modern Middle East” — Posted on Gulf/2000, 19 May 2015. Originally written in 2014.
- “Election Blues: Iran’s Mixed Legacy of Constitutional Rule.” Posted on Gulf/2000 15 June 2009.
- “The Beckoning,” Posted on Gulf/2000: 21 June 2009.
- “What Now? Lessons on How to Engage Iran,” *New Horizons* (July 6, 2009). Published in Penn Alumni Magazine (2010).

### Book Reviews:

- Review of David Yaghoubian, *Ethnicity, Identity, and the Development of Nationalism in Iran*, *Bustan: The Middle East Book Review*, Vol. 7, No. 2 (2016), pp. 169-171.
- Review of Arash Khazeni, *Tribes and Empires on the Margins of Nineteenth-Century Iran*, *Reviews of Middle East Studies* (2013)
- Review of Nikki Keddie, *Women in the Middle East: Past and Present*, *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, (February 2011)
- Review of Camron Amin, *The Making of the Modern Iranian Woman: Gender, State Policy, and Popular Culture, 1865-1946*, *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, 2006
- Review of Sarah Shields, *Mosul before Iraq: Like Bees Making Five-Sided Cells*, *American Historical Review*, (April 2004)
- Review of Nasrin Rahimieh, *Missing Persons: Discovering Voices in Iranian Cultural History*, *Middle East Journal*, (Summer 2002)
- Review of A. Najmabadi, *Story of the Daughters of Quchan*, in *Iranian Studies*, (Spring 2002)

### Creative Work (Fiction and Poetry):

- “A Sestina in 1979,” *World Literature Today*, February 2021
- “Ghosts of Guilan”— an intergenerational novel about two Iranian families (work in progress)
- “The Sandcastle,” in *Women of the Diaspora*, edited by P. Karim, University of Arkansas Press, 2006
- “Martyrdom Street,” in *A World Between: Poems, Stories, and Essays by Iranian-Americans*, (M. Khorrani & P. Karim, Editors), New York, 1999

## **ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE:**

*Director*, The Middle East Center (MEC), University of Pennsylvania, 2006-2019

- Received competitive funding from the US Department of Education to maintain PENN's MEC status as a National Resource Center (NRC), 2010-2014; 2014-2018; 2018-2022
- Received competitive funding from the US Department of Education for graduate and undergraduate Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships (FLAS), 2010-2014; 2014-2018; & 2018-2022
- Oversaw implementation of numerous programs related to Middle East Studies
- Launched the Modern Middle Eastern Studies Undergraduate Major/Minor program at Penn

*Advisor*, Modern Middle Eastern Studies Major/Minor, Univ. of Pennsylvania, 2007- 2019

*Elected Member*, Board of Directors, Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA), 2016-2018

*Member*, Editorial Board, *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, 2017-2019

*Member*, MESA Taskforce on Civil and Human Rights, 2017-2018

*Member*, School of Arts & Sciences, Faculty Senate, 2014-2015

*Member*, School of Arts & Sciences, Dean's Council on Diversity, 2013-2015

*Member*, School of Arts & Sciences Committee on Academic Freedom and Responsibility, Univ. of Pennsylvania, 2011-2013

*Editorial Board*, Reviews of Middle East Studies, 2013-2019

*Member*, Program Committee – International Society of Iranian Studies, 2011, 2015

*Elected Member*, Middle East Studies Assoc. Nominating Committee, Spring 2010

*Founder*, SSRC Islam in the Public Sphere -- Artist-in-Residence Program, Middle East Center, Univ. of Pennsylvania, 2010-2011

*Co-Founder*, Women and Islamic Law Seminar, Univ. of Pennsylvania, 2004-2010

*Member*, Alice Paul Center Executive Committee, Univ. of Pennsylvania

*Co-Organizer*, Conference on Gender in Judaism and Islam, March 2010

*Organizer*, "Symposium on Ottoman-Iranian Relations," April 2008, Univ. of Pennsylvania

*Co-Organizer*, "Commemorating the Constitution, 1906-2006: State-Building and Global Responses to Iranian Constitutionalism." *Co-sponsored by the University of Oxford*, Spring 2006.

*Organizer*, "Borders, Battles and Cultural Bonds." *Co-sponsored by the Gulf/ 2000 Project at Columbia University*, October 2005

*Member*, Departmental Graduate Committee [includes admissions], 2000-2002; 2004-2008; 2017-2019.

*Organizer*, Annenberg Speaker Series, History Department, Univ. of Pennsylvania, 2001-2002

*Member*, Study Abroad Committee, Univ. of Pennsylvania, 2001-2002

*Sophomore Advisor*, Univ. of Pennsylvania, 2004-2005

*Freshman Advisor*, Univ. of Pennsylvania, 1999-2000; 2001-2002

*Reviewer*, International Journal of Middle East Studies

*Reviewer*, American Historical Review

*Book Reviewer*, Middle East Journal

*Book Reviewer*, MESA Bulletin

*Reviewer*, Iranian Studies

*Manuscript Reviewer*, Johns Hopkins University Press

*Manuscript Reviewer*, University of California Press

*Manuscript Reviewer*, Oxford University Press

*Manuscript Reviewer*, University of Edinburgh Press

*Manuscript Reviewer*, Cambridge University Press

*Manuscript Reviewer*, Harvard University Press

*Manuscript Reviewer*, Columbia University Press

*Manuscript Reviewer*, Duke University Press

*Editorial Board*, Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Asian History

*Editorial Advisory Board*, Global Middle East Series, Cambridge University Press

*Associate Editor*, Iranian and Shia Studies, Review of Middle East Studies

## PRESENTATIONS:

- Co-Organizer, “Iran and Global Decolonization Symposium,” UPENN and UCLA online, May 2021
- “America’s Vietnam in Iran” – UCLA Pahlavi Workshop, Online, March 2021
- “(Il)Legal Borders: Narratives of Banning and Belonging in the Persian Gulf, 1900-1971.” Perry World House, University of Pennsylvania, 3 February 2021.
- “From Culture Wars to a World War: The Allied Occupation of Iran and its Aftermath,” MESA 2020, Online.
- "Frontiers, Borderlands, and (Il)Legal Passages: Narratives of Banning and Belonging," Yarat Centre, Baku, Azerbaijan, 27 November 2019
- “Bodies as Battlegrounds,” Panel Discussion, Conference on Gender & International Affairs, The Fletcher School, Tufts University, 16 November 2019
- “Understanding Iran, Present and Past,” Community College of Philadelphia, April 2, 2019
- “The Middle East: A History of Displacement,” Penn Undergraduates for Refugee Empowerment (PURE), November 14, 2018
- “The State of Statelessness in the Middle East: Minority and Migrant Experiences,” Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, Univ. of Pennsylvania, 26 September 2018
- “Middle East Studies in an Age of Turmoil,” History Undergraduate Advisory Board Talk, University of Pennsylvania, April 17, 2018.
- “The Arab/Persian Binary: Histories of Culture and Conflict in the Persian Gulf,” Annual Gulf Lecture, London School of Economics, March 15, 2018
- “From Culture Wars to a World War: The Allied Occupation of Iran and its Aftermath,” Princeton University, January 18, 2018
- “The Migrant Shia: Pilgrims of the Sultan and the Shah,” Columbia University Ottoman and Turkish Studies Seminar, December 8, 2017
- “Plumbing the Past: Histories of Culture and Conflict in the Persian Gulf,” Annenberg Seminar, University of Pennsylvania, September 5, 2017
- “From Culture Wars to a World War: The Allied Occupation of Iran and its Aftermath,” Yale University, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017
- “From Heroes to Hostages: A History of US-Iranian Relations,” Community College of Philadelphia, November 9, 2016
- “Color Blind or Blinded by Color? Race, Ethnicity, and Identity in Iran,” Georgetown – Qatar, September 2016
- “Divinity and Diplomacy: Women, Islam and US-Iranian Relations,” World Affairs Council, Philadelphia, May 4, 2016
- “A Contradiction in Terms? Women and Mass Movements in Iran,” Camden County College, NJ, April 21, 2016
- “From Heroes to Hostages: A Look at U.S. Iranian Relations,” Salisbury Forum, CT, April 15, 2016
- “Passages through the Persian Gulf: Ethnicity, Identity, and Imperial Politics,” Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ, April 4, 2016
- “Before ISIS: What Early America Thought of Islam,” After Hours Conversations, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ, November 23, 2015
- “Iran Nuclear Deal: Where Will the Chips Fall?” panel participant, Univ. of Pennsylvania, October 22, 2015
- “Passing through the Persian Gulf: Histories of Commerce and Consumption,” Princeton University October 19, 2015
- “Iran’s Nuclear Chess: After the Deal,” panel participant, Center for Ethics and the Rule of Law, Penn Law School, September 2015
- “Post-World War I Settlements: The Rise of the Arab Middle East”-- Symposium on Centennial of First World War, Univ. of Pennsylvania, May 2015
- “Five Women, Five Books: Iranian-American Writers Panel,” Kelly Writer’s House, March 2014
- “U.S. – Iranian Relations in Historical Perspective,” Brown University, December 2013
- Workshop on Young Iranian Studies Scholars, NYU, May 2013
- Iran par ses frontières, « La délimitation des frontières, » Ceri-Sciences Po, Paris, June 2012
- “Martyrdom Street”– Brown University, May 2012

- “Women and Mass Movements in Iran,” Montclair State University, March 2012
- “Being Sexual in Iran: A Sometimes Contradictory History,” MIT, March 2012
- “From Mahomet to the Moslem Sunrise: America Expressions of Islam,” Cornell University, February 2012
- Czechoslovak Samizdat and its Legacy Symposium – “Perspectives on Iran,” November 2011
- “Post-Orientalism,” A Panel Discussion, Columbia University, September 2011
- A Public Lecture on *Conceiving Citizens*, Barnes and Noble, NYC, July 2011
- “Disrupted Lives: Plagues and Politics along the Ottoman-Iranian Boundary,” NYU, January 2011
- A Reading from *Martyrdom Street*, Association of Iranian-American Writers, Columbia University, NYC, November 2010
- “US and Iran,” A Talk at the History Institute for Teachers, Foreign Policy Research Institute, Rutgers, NJ, September 2010
- A Reading from *Martyrdom Street*, Philadelphia, PA, September 2010
- A Reading from *Martyrdom Street*, Barnes and Noble, NYC, July 2010
- A Reading from *Martyrdom Street*, Persian Arts Festival, NYC, June 2010
- “Unearthing the East: American Oriental Studies and Archaeology in the Ottoman Empire,” March 2010
- “From Cairo to Tehran: A Tale of Two Cities,” Rutgers University, February 2010
- “Iran After the Elections,” Conference at Columbia University, December 2009
- Chair, MESA Panel, “New Directions in the History of Women in Nineteenth-Century Iran,” November 2009
- “Remembering the Coup: Lessons on How the US Can Engage Iran,” Columbia University, August 2009
- Discussant, “Iranian Historiography Panel,” Gulf 2000 Conference, Sharjah, UAE, March 2009
- “Why Frontiers Matter in Modern Iranian History,” Rutgers University, Iran Today Conference, February 2009
- “The Making of the ‘Great Satan’: A History of US-Iranian Relations,” Harvard Club, NYC, October 2008
- “The Legacy of Fereydu Adamiyatt: A Retrospective on his Bahrein Islands,” Columbia University, Middle East Institute, Panel on “Fereydu Adamiyatt (1919-2008): Reflections on Modern Iranian Historiography,” May 2, 2008
- “Divinity and Diplomacy: The Role of Religion in Iranian-American Relations, 1834-1906,” April 2008, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Missionary Conference
- “American Crosses, Persian Crescents: Religion and the Diplomacy of US-Iranian Relations, 1834-1979” Columbia University, February 2008
- “The Haves and the Have Nots: A History of Disability in Iran,” CUNY Graduate Center, Fall 2007
- “The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly,” Symposium on Disability History, Fall 2006
- Discussant, “American Missionaries and National Cultures in the Middle East,” AHA Conference Panel, Philadelphia, PA, January 2006
- Discussant, “Cultural Flux and International Ramifications of Boundary Disputes,” Persian Gulf Borders Conference Panel, Philadelphia, PA, October 2005
- “The Politics of Reproduction: Maternalism and Women’s Hygiene in Iran, 1896-1941,” Dept. of History and Sociology of Science, Univ. of Pennsylvania, December 2004
- Chair, “Culture and Consumption” Panel, Middle East Studies Association Conference, November 2004
- “Inside the Looking Glass: An Overview of U.S. – Iranian Relations, 1893-1979,” Fall 2004, Univ. of Pennsylvania
- “Giving Birth: Women, Nursing, and Sexual Hygiene in Iran.” Paper presented at the Biennial Conference of Iranian Studies, Bethesda, MD, May 2002
- “The Humanist’s Gaze: Hygiene and Modernity in Iran.” Paper presented at Columbia University, April 2001.

- “Patriotic Womanhood: The Culture of Feminism in Modern Iran.” Paper presented at the Biennial Conference of Iranian Studies, May 2000
- “Geography and the National Landscape in Iran.” Paper presented at Yale University, February 2000
- “Confining Pestilence: The Frontier Polemics of Quarantining in the Ottoman Empire and Iran.” Paper Presented at Oxford University, June 1998
- “In Sickness and in Health: Public Hygiene and Patriotism in Qajar Iran,” *Middle East Studies Association Conference (MESA)*, November 1997
- “Digging Down Deep: The Cultural Politics of Iranian Oil, 1941-1953,” *American Historical Association Conference*, January 1997
- “Delicate Delineations: Land, Geography, and Nationalism in Qajar Iran,” *MESA Conference*, November 1996
- “Charting the Globe: The Emergence of Geographic Societies in Europe,” *Conference on International Organizations*, Spring 1996

### **HONORS AND GRANTS:**

- Wolf Humanities Center Faculty Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 2021-2022
- US Department of Education, Title VI NRC and FLAS Awards, 2010-2014; 2014-2018, 2018-2022
- Institute for Advanced Study, School of Social Science, Fellowship, Princeton, 2015-2016
- Social Science Research Council, Academia and the Public Sphere Grant, 2010-2011
- Provost’s Interdisciplinary Seminar Fund, Univ. of Pennsylvania, 2006
- Provost’s Interdisciplinary Seminar Fund, Univ. of Pennsylvania, 2005
- University Research Foundation Award, Univ. of Pennsylvania, 2005
- Provost’s Interdisciplinary Seminar Fund, Univ. of Pennsylvania, 2004
- Fellowship of the Working Group Modernity and Islam at the Wissenschaftskolleg Zu Berlin, 1998-99 (Declined with regret)
- Bradley Foundation Fellowship, Summer 1997
- Mellon Dissertation Writing Fellowship, 1996-7
- Mellon Summer Research Grant, 1995
- Bradley Foundation Fellowship, 1995
- Smith Richardson Foundation Grant, 1994-95
- Yale Center for International and Area Studies Fellowship, 1994-5
- Enders Fellowship, 1992-3
- Yale University Fellowship, 1991-93
- Frank Porter Graham Chancellor's Award, UNC – Chapel Hill, 1989

**LANGUAGES:** *Persian*, Fluent (Native); *French*, (Fluent); *Arabic* (Advanced Intermediate); *Ottoman Turkish* (Advanced Reading Knowledge, printed and script); *German* (Advanced Intermediate); *Italian* (Advanced Intermediate); *Spanish* (Advanced); *Modern Turkish*, (Functionally Proficient); *Russian* (Elementary Reading Knowledge).