

## UNC-Chapel Hill Persian Studies Program Presents

### Revisiting Discourses of Love, Sex, and Desire in Modern Iran and Diaspora

#### A Symposium in a Series of Panels

#### Panel I: Love and Desire Across borders in Modern Iran and Diaspora

**September 5, 2020**

**5pm-6:30pm EST**

**Zoom Webinar**

Organizer remarks, Dr. Yaghoobi, UNC-Chapel Hill

Panel Chair and Discussant: Rustin Zarkar, UNC Middle East and Islamic Studies Librarian

Leila Zonouzi, PhD Candidate in Global Studies, University of California at Santa Barbara  
Title: **“Integration in Diaspora: A Study of Interracial Partnerships in Iranian Diasporic Literature”**

James Barry, Research Fellow at Deakin University in Australia  
Title: **“Intermarriage and Ethnic Boundaries in Iran”**

Ehsan Sheikhalharam, PhD Candidate/Teaching Fellow, Department of Religious Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Title: **“Crumbling of Spatial Boundaries and the Collapse of the Intimate Domain in Farhadi’s Cinema”**

**Please fill out the registration form by clicking on the link below. Registrants will be provided with a Zoom webinar link in advance of each panel.**

<http://go.unc.edu/Iran>

Organizer: Dr. Claudia Yaghoobi, Ph. D – Roshan Institute Associate Professor in Persian Studies, for information about the symposium contact Dr. Yaghoobi at [Yaghoobi@email.unc.edu](mailto:Yaghoobi@email.unc.edu)

For more information, visit <https://claudiayaghoobi.com/symposium-revisiting-discourses-of-love-sex-and-desire-in-modern-iran-and-diaspora/>

#### **Co-Sponsors:**

The American Institute of Iranian Studies, UNC Persian Studies Program, Duke-UNC Consortium, the Center for the Study of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, the Department of Asian Studies, Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences, Associate Dean of Global Affairs, the Department of English and Comparative Literature, the Department of History, the Department of Religious Studies, the Department of Women and Gender Studies, The Department of Geography, The Institute for the Arts and Humanities, Iranian Cultural Society of North Carolina, The Library Collections’ Horner-Jarrahi Speaker Series, The Countering Hate Initiative

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#### Panel II – Embodied Bodies, Non-normativity, and Power Dynamics in Modern Iranian Literature and Film

**September 12, 2020  
12pm-1:30pm EST  
Zoom Webinar**

Organizer remarks, Dr. Yaghoobi, UNC-Chapel Hill

Panel Chair and Discussant: Dr. Ellen McLarney, Duke University

Dominic Parviz Brookshaw, Associate Professor of Persian Literature, University of Oxford  
Title: **“Shirin’s Equal, Leyli’s Rival: Allusion, Embodiment, and Archetypal Stand-off in the Poetry of Forugh Farrokhzad”**

Alexander Jabbari, Farzaneh Family Assistant Professor of Persian Language and Literature, University of Oklahoma  
Title: **“Race Against Time: Racial Temporality and Sexuality in Modern Iran”**

Mostafa Abedinifard, Assistant Professor without Review of Persian Literary Culture and Civilization, University of British Columbia  
Title: **“Negotiating (Un)Desirability: Non-Normative Bodies and the Patriarchal Economy of Power in Modern Iranian Fiction and Film”**

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**Horner-Jarrahi Keynote Speaker**

**September 19, 2020**

**12pm-1:15pm EST**

**Zoom Webinar**

Introductions by Dr. Claudia Yaghoobi

Janet Afary (and Roger Friedland), Mellichamp Chair in Global Religion and Modernity, and Professor of Religious Studies, the University of California, Santa Barbara

**Title: The Growing Popularity of Non-Standard Marriages and Unions in Iran and South West Asia/North Africa (SWANA)**

This keynote speech was made possible thanks to the Horner Jarrahi Persian Studies Speaker Series Endowment at the University Libraries.

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#### Panel III – Religio-Political Dimensions of Desire in Modern Iran

**September 26, 2020**

**12pm-1:30pm EST**

**Zoom Webinar**

Organizer remarks, Dr. Yaghoobi

Panel Chair and Discussant, Dr. Didem Havlioglu, Duke and UNC-Chapel Hill

Maryam Zehtabi Sabeti Moqaddam, PhD Candidate in Comparative Literature, University of Massachusetts–Amherst

Title: **“Girls for Sale: The Politics of Child Marriage in Iran”**

Nasim Basiri, PhD Student in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Oregon State University

Title: **“The Politics of Love in Iran: Implications of “Religious Hypocrisy of Clerics” in the Form of Temporary Marriages”**

Mahdi Tourage, Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Social Justice and Peace Studies, King’s University College, London, Ontario

Title: **The Supreme Leader and I: Erotic Desire in Iranian Female Poets Reading their Poems for the Supreme Leader of Iran**

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#### Roundtable: Love, Laws, and Changes

**October 3, 2020  
12pm-1:30pm EST  
Zoom Webinar**

Moderator: Dr. Claudia Yaghoobi, UNC-Chapel Hill

Nayereh Tohidi, Professor and former chair of the Gender & Women Studies Department and currently, the founding director of the Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies at California State University, Northridge

Title: **“The Trajectory of Change and Continuity in the Past 40 Years in Attitude, Norms and Discourses toward Love, Marriage, Sexuality, and Body Politics”**

Mehrangiz Kar, writer, attorney, and activist specializing in women's rights and family law

Title: **“Laws against Love and Loving in Iran”**

Janet Afary, the Mellichamp Chair in Global Religion and Modernity and Professor of Religious Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara

Title: **Iranian romance in the digital age: from arranged marriage to white marriage**

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