



UNFINISHED REVOLUTIONS

CONFERENCE

April 12 - April 14, 2024

Friday | 3pm - 8pm

Saturday | 11am-7pm

Sunday* | 1pm-7pm

William Doo Auditorium

45 Willcocks St., Toronto ON

Speakers | Kaveh Abbasian, Shiva Amelirad, Azize Aslan, Raha Bahreini, Chandni Desai, Aytak Dibavar, Nisrin Elamin, Selay Ghaffari, Alborz Ghandehari, Ozlem Goner, Frances Hasso, Niloofar Hooman, Neda Hooshang, Sara Kermanian, Chowra Makaremi, Uahikea Maile, Kamran Matin, Zahra Mousawy, Melonie Newton, Shozab Raza, Sardar Saadi, Shokoufeh Sakhi, Nastaran Saremy, Elif Sari, Marral Shemshiri, Abdel Razzaq Takriti, Alissa Trotz, Nazan Üstündağ, Peyman Vahabzadeh, Alice Wilson, Anna Zalik, and Asli Zengin

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RSVP: www.uoft.me/wgsi50-ur

***On Sunday, April 14, the program will be in Kurdish and Persian.**

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

As the organizers of this conference, we believe that any meaningful discussion about settler colonialism, occupation, apartheid, genocide in Palestine and the new McCarthyism must acknowledge the realities of settler colonialism here in Canada. Since its inception, Canada has been built upon the theft of Indigenous lands, genocide, and the displacement of Indigenous peoples.

The University of Toronto is on Indigenous land, which for thousands of years has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca and, most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island, many of whom continue to fight against colonization, extractive industries, gendered, and racialized oppression. To grasp the global struggle for freedom, equality, and justice, we must begin by acknowledging the historical colonial practices that led to the conquest and expropriation of Indigenous lands and understanding the enduring legacies of patriarchal and racialized capitalist imperialism, as they continue to oppress and exploit majority of the people around the world. Most importantly, we must recognize the ways in which people resist, fight back and struggle for revolution. It is our hope that our reflections and discussions will contribute to the understanding of past and present injustices, fostering the creation of new visions for a just future.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Unfinished Revolutions is a public forum and an intellectual and political space to deliberate the unsettled questions of revolutions, revolts, rebellions, and resistance in our contemporary world. In this gathering, we intend to explore the complexities of victories, defeats, and challenges, while maintaining our tenacity in thinking through and envisioning a path towards a more just world. People are rising, solidarities are forged, collectives are built, nonetheless we witness genocide, occupation, dispossession, and displacement wound the lives of many. We are inspired by those who rise, unite, mobilize, and organize. Therefore, our intellectual and political commitment remains unyielding and our defiance unwavering.

This international gathering serves as a key space to revisit the recent histories of movements within the Middle East and North Africa and beyond. The violence exerted in these geographies is undeniably connected to the oppression and exploitation experienced by Indigenous communities in Canada and globally. It is within this context that we explore and confront forms of white settler colonialism, genocide, patriarchal, racialized homo-nationalism, and capitalist imperialism. Thus, we seek to unravel their interconnectedness across borders, cultures, religions, geographies, and state structures. We also pursue the idea and the desire to envision a revolutionary future.

Conference conveners:

Hazal Halavut, Haleh Mir Miri, Shahrzad Mojab, Shokoufeh Sakhi

FRIDAY APRIL 12, 2024

3:00pm - 7:30pm

3:00 - 3:30 Land Acknowledgement & Welcome

3:30 - 4:45 Global South in Revolt

Chair | Alissa Trotz

Nisrin Elamin | Sudan's Revolution and Counterrevolution

Melanie J. Newton | Between Dictatorship, Destabilisation and Déchoukaj: Haitian History, Democracy, and the Hubris of Empire

Sara Kermanian | Gender and Geopolitics of Nation-State-Building in Iran: A Reflection on the Journey of 'Woman, Life, Freedom' from Kurdistan to Iran

Uahikea Maile | On Mana Wahine: Failed Rebellions, Indigenous Feminism, and Kanaka Maoli Counter Dispossession in Hawai'i

4:45 - 5:00 Break

5:00 - 6:30 Global South in Revolt

Chair | Jesook Song

Frances Hasso | Academic Feminisms and Anti-Imperialist Resistance in Progress: Contradictions and Conundrums

Chowra Makaremi | Affective Resistance and Antagonism: The Woman Life Freedom Revolution

Selay Ghaffari | Only Oppressed People Can Break the Grips of Imperialism and Fundamentalism

Kamran Matin | Unfinished Business: Reflections on Marxism's Debacle of Nationalism

6:30 - 7:00 Closing Remarks

Chair | Shahrzad Mojab

Abdel Razzaq Takriti | Palestine: Genocide and Global Revolt

SATURDAY APRIL 13, 2024

11:00am – 7:00pm

11:00 – 11:15 **Land Acknowledgement & Welcome**

11:15 – 1:00 **Rebellious Love, Revolutionary Solidarity**

Chair | Dina Georgis

Asli Zengin | Queer, Trans and Feminist Coalitions against Rising Fascism in Turkey

Alborz Ghandehari | Exploring a Working-Class Feminist Perspective in the Iranian Teachers' Movement

Azize Aslan | Lessons from the Rojava Revolution: Antagonic and Self-critical Revolution

Niloofer Homan | Unveiling Queer Visibility: The Complexities of Automodality on Instagram in an Authoritarian context

Elif Sari | Racial/Sexual Politics of Asylum: LGBTQ+ Refugee Organizing

1:00 – 2:00 **Lunch**

2:00 – 3:45 **(Re)thinking Revolutions and Internationalism in the Global South**

Chair | Haideh Moghissi

Marral Shemshiri | The Gendered Politics of Dead Bodies: Obituaries, Revolutionaries, and Martyrs Between the Iranian, Palestinian, and Dhofar Revolutions

Ozlem Goner | Internationalism From the Ground: Re-thinking Anti-Imperialism from the Middle East to the Belly of the Beast

Peyman Vahabzadeh | Unfinished Imaginations: The Grassroots Council Movement of Iran's Turkmens

Alice Wilson | Lasting Legacies of Revolution: Retrieval, Regeneration, and Futures of Resistance in Postwar Oman and Beyond

Raha Bahreini | Grounded Voices, Global Shifts: How "Woman Life Freedom" Protests Reshaped International Narratives on Change and Human Rights in Iran

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024

3:45 - 4:00 Break

4:00 - 5:30 Meet the Authors

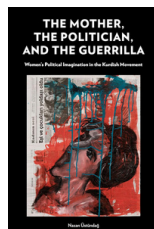
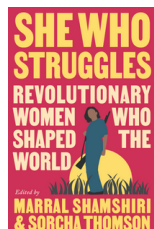
Chair | Beverly Mullings

Asli Zengin | Violent Intimacies: The Trans Everyday and the Making of an Urban World

Alissa Trotz | The Point is to Change the World: Selected Writings by Andaiye

Marral Shemshiri | She Who Struggles: Revolutionary Women Who Shaped the World

Nazan Üstündağ | Mother, Politician and Guerilla: Political Imagination in the Kurdish Women's Freedom Movement



5:30 - 6:45 The Future is Now: Organize, Mobilize, Build

Chair | Hazal Halavut

Shokoufeh Sakhi | Being With and for the Other: An Ethical Dimension for Revolutions-in-Making

Chandni Desai | Palestine and Anti-Colonial Internationalism

Kaveh Abbassian | 24 Bullets and More: A Call to Arms Towards a Transnational Counter-Media from the Global South

Shozab Raza | From Decaffeinated Decolonization to Worldly Marxism

Anna Zalik | Reading the Conjuncture: Organizing & Solidarity under Unfreedom

یکشنبه، ۱۴ آوریل

انقلاب‌های ناتمام: ژن ژیان نازادی/زن زندگی آزادی، ندای آینده

ساعت 1:00 - 1:15 خوش‌آمد، "بوم-سیاسی"

شهرزاد مجاب و سردار سعدی

ساعت 1:15 - 2:45 نشست اول

مسئول جلسه: شکوفه سخی

ندا هوشنگ | نسبت بحران‌های اکولوژیک با جنبش‌های رهایی‌بخش
آبتک دیباور | امید و خواسته‌های کوپیر: تصویری دیگر از آینده جامعه کوپیر در ایران
سردار سعدی | ژن، ژیان، نازادی و سیاستی یوتوپایی له کوردستان: گهران یو داهاتوو
کاوه عباسیان | ۲۴ گلوله و بیشتر: فراخوانی برای مسلح شدن به ضد رسانه‌ای فراملی برخاسته از جنوب جهانی

ساعت 2:45 - 3:00 استراحت

ساعت 3:00 - 4:30 نشست دوم

مسئول جلسه: هاله میرمیری

شورا مکاری | همدلی و پافشاری: جنبش زن زندگی آزادی و زبان مخالفت
نسترن صارمی | تخیل‌های اجتماعی رقیب: میراث‌های انقلاب 57 و جنبش‌های اجتماعی معاصر در ایران
شیوا عاملی‌راد | تهرکی ریکستن له سرده‌میکی دژه-رینکخراودا: توانا و ناسته‌نگه‌کانی بزونه‌وهی ماموستایانی کوردستان و وئیران

ساعت 4:30 - 4:45 استراحت

یکشنبه، ۱۴ آوریل

ساعت 4:45 - 6:15 نشست سوم

مسئول جلسه: هاید مفیئی

زهره موسوی | امکان‌ها و امتناع‌های مبارزه‌های رهایی‌بخش زنان در افغانستان زیر سلطه طالبان و دو دهه‌ی حضور ناتو

سارا کرمانیان | جنسیت و ژئوپولیتیک دولت-ملت سازی در ایران: خوانشی از سفر زن، زندگی، آزادی از کوردستان به ایران

پیمان وهاب‌زاده | جنبش شورایی ترکمن صحرا: نگاهی به گذشته برای آینده

مارال شمشیری | تاریخچه‌های پنهان: زنان انقلابی ایران که دنیا را شکل دادند

ساعت 6:15 - 7:45 نشست چهارم

مسئول جلسه: شهرزاد مجاب

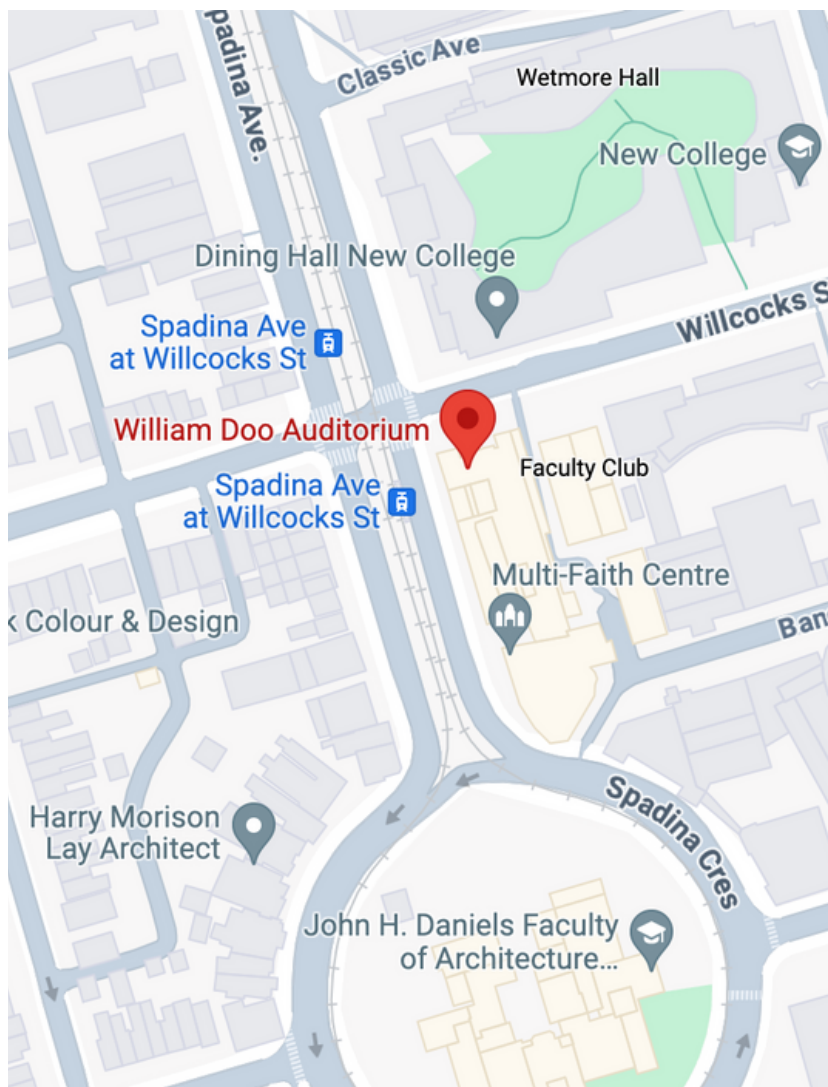
رها بحرینی | از کف خیابان تا صحن مجامع بین‌المللی: چگونه خیزش «زن زندگی آزادی» مواضع بین‌المللی در مورد تغییر و حقوق بشر در ایران را تکان داد

شکوفه سخی | دگرگونی سوژه (فاعلیت) انسانی-انقلابی از انقلاب ۵۷ تا انقلاب ژینا

کامران متین | پروژه‌ی ناته‌واو: رامانیتیک له سهر چه‌قیوی مارکسیزم بهرامبر به ناسیونالیزم

FINDING THE WILLIAM DOO AUDITORIUM

45 Willcocks St, Toronto, ON M5S 2H3



SPEAKER BIOS

Kaveh Abbasian is a filmmaker and lecturer in Film and Media Practice at the University of Kent. In 2019 he completed his PhD in Film and Television Studies at the University of Roehampton on a project titled *Chronicle of Triumph: Iranian National Identity and Revolutionary Shi'ism in Morteza Avini's Sacred Defence Documentaries*. His research interests include exilic cinema, refugee filmmaking, Iranian and Kurdish cinemas, microbudget filmmaking, and the Islamic Republic of Iran's propaganda film culture. He also has a special interest in archive-based audiovisual research. His most recent feature-length film, *Triumph* (2022), is an essay documentary about the contrasting narratives of the contemporary history of Iran since the 1979 Revolution. In Iran, Kaveh was a student activist and a founding member of Students for Freedom and Equality. In 2008 during the countrywide crackdown on the organisation, he had to leave the country and reside in the UK as a political refugee.

Shiva Amelirad, PhD, was an educator and psychologist with 18 years of teaching experience in Iran's Kurdistan province. She is an active member of the Kurdistan Teachers' Union and has served many years as a representative of the Coordinating Council of Iranian Teachers' Trade Associations (CCITTA). Currently, she serves as CCITTA's international representative on the International Committee, passionately advocating for teachers' rights globally. Committed to feminist principles, she works to advance the rights of women from marginalized backgrounds. Shiva's efforts focus on promoting gender and ethnic equality, as well as social justice within the education sector and society at large.

Azize Aslan is originally from Kurdistan and for the past seven years has lived in Mexico where she completed her PhD in Sociology at the Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla under the mentorship of John Holloway. Her thesis has been published in both Spanish (available for download at <https://unam1.academia.edu/AzizeAslan>) and most recently in English by the Canadian press, Daraja. The anticapitalist economy in Rojava: Contradictions of Revolution in the Kurdish Struggles. She has supported the organization of women's cooperatives in Kurdistan since she studied economics in Istanbul, and she is currently a research professor at the Mora Institute in Mexico City.

Raha Bahreini is an Iranian-Canadian human rights lawyer, has worked as Amnesty International's Researcher on Iran for a decade. Previously, she supported the work of the UN Special Rapporteur on Iran. Her expertise is in investigating and advocating against systematic and widespread human rights violations in Iran, such as torture, the death penalty, arbitrary detention, protest suppressions, discrimination against women and minorities, and impunity. Her extensive documentation and legal analysis cover crimes against humanity related to Iran's 1988 prison massacres and ongoing lethal crackdowns on protests since 2017. Additionally, her work encompasses juvenile executions, deliberate denial of medical care in Iran's prisons, deaths in custody, and structural barriers to accountability in Iran. Bahreini's work at Amnesty International has contributed to increasing international awareness and pressure, supporting the establishment of UN investigations and the strengthening of resolutions on Iran.

Chandni Desai is an Assistant Professor at the University of Toronto. She is working on a book tentatively titled *Revolutionary Circuits of Liberation: The Radical Tradition of Palestinian Resistance Culture and Internationalism*. Her writings can be found in the *Journal of Palestine Studies*, *Race and Class*, *Curriculum Inquiry*, *Decolonization*, *Radical History Reviews* (The Abusable Past) and *Praxis Center*. Desai is the host of the *Liberation Pedagogy Podcast*. She is on the steering committee of the *Hearing Palestine Initiative* at UofT. She is also a transnational organizer and has been involved in the Palestine solidarity movement for over 17 years.

Aytak Dibavar is a postcolonial feminist educator in the Gender and Social Justice Program at McMaster University. Aytak's work/research is entangled with feminist, queer, decolonial, and anti-racist knowledge production and creative/art-based teaching practices. Aytak reads and writes about race, gender, memory, political trauma and silence. For more than a decade, Aytak has developed a dual academic and activist career on issues pertaining to women's and LGBTQIA+ community's rights—specifically related to trauma survivors, resettlement, and barriers to education and workplace access for femme refugees.

Nisrin Elamin is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology and African Studies at the University of Toronto. She received her PhD in Anthropology from Stanford University in 2020. She is currently writing a book tentatively titled: *Stratified Enclosures: Land, Capital and Empire-making in Central Sudan* which focuses on Saudi and Emirati land grabs and community resistance to land dispossession in the agricultural Gezira region of Sudan. In addition to scholarly articles, Nisrin has also published several op-eds for Al Jazeera, the Washington Post, Okay Africa and the Egypt Independent. Before pursuing her PhD, Nisrin spent over a decade working as an educator, community organizer and researcher in the US and Tanzania.

Selay Ghaffari is an outspoken political feminist activist from Afghanistan, often credited as the most fearless and recognized face in Afghanistan for her stance against Islamic fundamentalists and the US-NATO invasion of Afghanistan. Over the past two decades, she has been a vocal advocate for women's rights, working with several national and international human rights organizations. She was the only female leading member of the Solidarity Party of Afghanistan, renowned for its resistance against US imperialism and its backed Afghan government. In 2020, La Repubblica honoured her as one of the 100 most influential women in the world. Her tireless efforts for women's emancipation and freedom have been documented in films such as "I Am the Revolution" by Benedetta Argentieri. She advocates for internationalist solidarity through her involvement in alliances such as the Progressive International and Women's Transnational Democratic Platform.

Alborz Ghandehari is an Assistant Professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of Utah. His research centers on social movements in Iran and Southwest Asia/North Africa (the Middle East), as well as movements in the region's diasporas. His forthcoming book, *Post/Revolutionary Conditions: Renewed Visions of the Iranian Freedom Struggle* (Northwestern University Press, December 2024) brings together oral histories among grassroots organizers across Iran's contemporary labour, feminist, and student, movements with resistance literature and art, to explore the ongoing struggle against dictatorship and imperialism in Iran and its solidarities with popular resistance movements worldwide. A second research area for Ghandehari centers around migrant justice struggles transnationally. Some of his publications appear in the *Journal of Middle East Women's Studies*, *Social Identities*, *Critical Ethnic Studies Journal*, *Frontiers: A Journal of Women Studies*, *Jadaliyya*, and *In These Times*. Ghandehari is the lead Instructional Coordinator for the Diversity Scholars program at the University of Utah, a cohort program to support first-generation college students and students of colour at the university. He is also a performer whose most recent credit was a performance of Nassim Soleimanpour's play "White Rabbit Red Rabbit" in association with Aurora Nova Productions.

Ozlem Goner is an Associate Professor at the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the College of Staten Island and Middle Eastern Studies at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. Her book entitled, *Turkish National Identity and its Outsiders: Memories of State Violence in Dersim*, was published by Routledge in June 2017. She has written academic and popular journal articles on themes of state violence, intersectional feminist movements, anti-colonial self-determination, and internationalist solidarity. Her research and teaching aim to bridge academic and activist fields of knowledge production. She is a steering committee member of the Emergency Committee for Rojava and a member of the Global Prison Abolitionist Collective.

Frances Hasso is Professor in the Program in Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies at Duke University. She holds secondary appointments in the Department of Sociology and the Department of History. She is a widely published scholar of the Arab world and Palestine, most recently Buried in the Red Dirt: Race, Reproduction and Death in Modern Palestine (Cambridge 2022) and "Beyond the Treatment Room: The Psyche-Body-Society Care Politics of Cairo's El-Nadeem" in Signs: Journal of Women and Culture in Society (2023, Vol. 49:1). She is a member of the Black Alliance for Peace Solidarity Network, Durham Beyond Policing, and more recently, Duke Academics and Staff for Justice in Palestine. In spring 2024, she convened The Palestine Seminar, which includes an open access syllabus and multiple public in person and livestreamed events.

Niloofer Hooman is a PhD candidate in the Department of Communication Studies and Media Arts at McMaster University, Canada. She is also completing a joint Graduate Diploma (PhD) in Gender & Social Justice. Niloofer holds a PhD in Communication (2019), an MA in Cultural Studies and the Media (2010), and a BA in Social Communications (2007) from the University of Tehran. Her research encompasses theories of new media, digital culture, digital activism, feminism, and gender, as well as critical studies of marginalized bodies. Niloofer's doctoral dissertation concentrates on the embodiment, performances of nudity and unveiling as political actions in Iran. Her work has been published in *New Media & Society*, *The International Journal of the Image*, *LGBTQ Digital Culture: A Global Perspective*, *The #MeToo Movement in Iran: Reporting Sexual Violence and Harassment*, and in a popular media outlet, *The Conversation*.

Neda Hooshang is an ecologist whose primary focus in both study and work revolves around ecofeminism, political ecology, and environmental justice. She holds a degree in Agroecology from SLU. In her study, she uses an intersectional approach to address the relation of ecological crisis, feminism, and environmental justice. Throughout her career, she has actively addressed issues such as food insecurity, water scarcity, and environmental crises within vulnerable communities, with a particular emphasis on women and historically marginalized groups. Neda has worked as an educator and facilitator, created content and led educational workshops shedding light on the socioeconomic impacts of climate change on women. Furthermore, she has organized and facilitated workshops on urban farming, specifically targeting vulnerable communities, including refugee women. These initiatives aim to empower individuals by enhancing food security and fostering sustainable practices.

Sara Kermanian is a PhD candidate in the Department of International Relations at the University of Sussex. Her research interests lie in international political theory, with a particular focus on the question of time, international imaginaries, non-Western imaginaries and knowledge production, the international dimension of revolutions and socio-political transformations, and gender and geopolitics. Her thesis provides a framework for explaining the relational formation of international imaginaries, with a particular focus on the entangled emergence of democratic confederalism and neo-Ottomanism.

Chowra Makaremi is an anthropologist at the National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) in Paris. She coordinated several research collectives on border control and detention in Europe. Since 2011, she has been working on the Iranian revolution of 1979, the genealogy of the Islamic Republic and the question of state violence, based on an ethnography of archives. She has published *Aziz's Notebook at the Hearth of the Iranian Revolution* (Gallimard, 2011/) and with Hannah Darabi *Enghelab Street: A revolution through books 1979-83* (LeBal/Spector, 2019). In 2019, she directed the movie *Hitch: An Iranian Story* (Alter Ego, France, 78 min.). In 2023, she published the essay "Woman! Life! Freedom! Echoes of a revolutionary uprising in Iran" (*La Découverte*). She leads the ERC research program OFF-SITE: Violence, State formation and memory politics: an off-site ethnography of post-revolution Iran.

Kamran Matin is an Associate Professor of International Relations at Sussex University, UK, where he teaches international history, nationalism, and Middle East politics. His current research focuses on the theory of 'uneven and combined development', (nation-)state formation, nationalism, and the limits of postcolonial critique. He is the author of *Recasting Iranian Modernity: International Relations and Social Change* (Routledge, 2013) and numerous articles and op-eds on Kurdish and Iranian politics, and the co-editor of *Historical Sociology and World History: Uneven and Combined Development over the Longue Durée* (Rowman & Littlefield International, 2016) and the director of Centre for Advanced International Theory (CAIT).

Uahikea Maile (Uah-hee-kay-uh My-lay) is a Kanaka Maoli (Native Hawaiian) scholar, organizer, and practitioner from Maunawili (Mao-na-wee-lee) on the island of O'ahu (Oh-ah-who). He is an Assistant Professor of Indigenous Politics in the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto at St. George. He is also an Affiliate Faculty with the Centre for Indigenous Studies, and they are the founding Director of Ziibiing Lab which is a global Indigenous politics research collaboratory. Professor Maile is finishing a book project entitled *Nā Makana Ea: Settler Colonial Capitalism and the Gifts of Sovereignty in Hawai'i*, examining the historical development and contemporary formation of settler colonial capitalism in Hawai'i and gifts of sovereignty that seek to overturn it by issuing responsibilities for balancing relationships with 'āina, the land and that who feeds.

Zahra Mousawy started her career as a journalist with state-run radio and television network in Kabul in 2002 and has more than 13 years of experience in managing current affairs and producing content for newsrooms with TOLO TV, 1TV, and Radio Azadi in Kabul and press outlets. For the past decades, she has been an advocate for independent political, civil and social Women's rights movements across the country and the region. As a researcher for Persian publications, Zahra writes on social issues, and in particular on gender equality. In the past 8 years, She has been based in Berlin and contributes to several Persian media outlets.

Melanie J. Newton is an Associate Professor of History at the University of Toronto, where she teaches Caribbean and Atlantic World History. Her research and publications have focused on histories of slavery, emancipation, gender and indigeneity. She is currently Associate Chair (Graduate) of the Department of History. From 1996-98 she served as youth representative on the Barbados Constitution Review Commission, which recommended that Barbados move from its status as a constitutional monarchy to a republic. The government of Barbados followed through on the commission's recommendation in 2021. She served as co-chair of the City of Toronto's Community Advisory Committee on the renaming of Dundas St and Yonge Dundas Square.

Shozab Raza is an Assistant Professor of Social Justice Education, with a cross-appointment in Anthropology, at the University of Toronto. He has held fellowships at Princeton and Yale University and completed his graduate training from the University of Toronto and the University of Oxford. His research and teaching focuses on imperialism, decolonization, and revolutionary theory, especially in South Asia and the global South. His current book project, *Theory from the Trenches*, tells the story of peasants in Pakistan who became revolutionary actors and theorists, struggling not just to remake the country but joining others across continents to remake the world. Shozab's research has been published in several journals, including *Cultural Anthropology* and *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, while his public writing has appeared in venues like *The Guardian* and *Boston Review*. He is also a founding editor of *Jamhoo*, a critical left magazine on South Asia and its diasporas.

Sardar Saadi has a PhD in sociocultural anthropology from the University of Toronto. His PhD research examines the urban dynamics of the Kurdish struggle for self-determination in Diyarbakir, Kurdistan. He completed an SSHRC postdoctoral fellowship on youth politics in the Kurdish movement at Wageningen University in 2022. Saadi is currently the co-director of the Institute of Social Sciences and Humanities at the University of Rojava, Qamishlo–Northeast Syria.

Shokoufeh Sakhi is an independent scholar and researcher who is currently a research associate with Off-Site Ethnography of Post-revolution Iran, a project hosted by the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) in Paris, France. She has a doctorate in political science from York University. Her writing and teaching are focused on ethical political subjectivity, resistance, and prison abolition. Among many documentaries, she participated in *The Tree That Remembers*, directed by Mr. Masoud Raouf, an award winning NFB documentary film on the experiences of Iranian political prisoners in the first decade after the 1979 revolution. Her latest publications include "Prison and the Subject of Resistance: A Levinasian Inquiry," "Death and Other Penalties: Philosophy in a Time of Mass Incarceration," "Ethical-Political Praxis: Social Justice and the Resistant Subject in Iran" in *Iran's Struggle for Social Justice*, and "A Taste of Mortadella" in *Voices of a Massacre*.

Nastaran Saremy is a Kurdish-Iranian art critic and interdisciplinary researcher in the field of cultural and social analysis. She majored in Philosophy and Aesthetics, now doing her PhD in Media and Communication studies at Simon Fraser University, Canada. She is also affiliated with feminist and environmental groups that frame intersectionality as a discourse on recognition and disparity. Currently, she is exploring the aesthetics of the social praxis in the MENA region, by focusing on media and communication roles in social transformation. In her PhD, she aims to explore how memory practices and mnemonic projects mobilize or constrain social transformation in societies undergoing rapid political change, and thereby shed light on the relationship between the collective memories and social movements. In this study, memory is considered as one of the most relevant aspects of political and social actors' choices and shapes the symbolic and discursive traits in which the complex environment of movements takes shape. Her work also explores the experiences of movements in terms of historical time through the question "How, in a given present, are the temporal dimensions of past and future related?", or to be more precise, how the tensions between the space of experience and the horizon of expectation articulate the past, the present, and the future. She has presented her works at various conferences worldwide and published works in different journals, books and catalogues, in Farsi and English.

Elif Sari is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia. Her scholarship lies at the intersections of transnational sexualities, migration, asylum, borders, humanitarianism, and carcerality, with a particular focus on the Middle East and its diasporas. Her research, rooted in ethnographic work with Iranian LGBTQ+ refugees in Turkey awaiting resettlement in the Global North, explores the carceral dynamics of asylum and the lived experiences of 'stuckness' intersecting with gender, sexuality, race, and citizenship.

Marral Shemshiri is a historian and activist. She is a doctoral researcher at the London School of Economics. She is co-editor of the book *She Who Struggles: Revolutionary Women Who Shaped the World* (2023). Her recent writing and research have been published in *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East* (CSSAAME), *History Workshop* magazine, *Kohl: A Journal for Body and Gender Research*, *Revolutionary Papers*, *Silver Press* blog, and *The Fate of Third Worldism in the Middle East: Iran, Palestine and Beyond* (2024).

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