

KATHRYN BABAYAN

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. 1993 Princeton University
M.A. 1987 Princeton University
M.A. 1983 Georgetown University
B.A. 1981 Wellesley College

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1996–2002: Assistant Professor, Department of Near Eastern Studies

2002-present: Associate Professor, Department of Near Eastern Studies and the
Department of History, University of Michigan

Summer 2006: Visiting Associate Professor, Department of History, Fudan University

Spring Semester 2005: Visiting Associate Professor, Department of History, Harvard
University

1992–1995: Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of North Texas

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2011-2012 Visiting Fellow, Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan
2012-2014 Associate Professors Support Fund Award
2008 University of Michigan Humanities Award
2006 Rackham Spring/Summer Research Grant
2004 Honorable Mention, Said Sirjani Book Award, International Society for
 Iranian Studies for my book, *Mystics, Monarchs & Messiahs*.

May 2000 Visiting Fellow, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Science Sociales, Paris, France

1999–2000 Visiting Fellow, Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan
1995-1996 Visiting Fellow, Institute for the Humanities, Vanderbilt University

LANGUAGES

Persian, Arabic, Turkish, French, Italian, Russian, Speaking knowledge of Armenian

PUBLICATIONS - Books

Mystics, Monarchs and Messiahs: Cultural Landscapes of Early Modern Iran (Cambridge: Harvard Middle Eastern Monographs, 2002)

Slaves of the Shah: New Elites of Safavi Iran. Joint monograph with Sussan Babaie, Ina Baghdiantz-McCabe, and Massumeh Farhad (London: I. B. Tauris, 2004)

Islamicate Sexualities: Translations Across Temporal Geographies of Desire. Co-editor with Afsaneh Najmabadi (Cambridge: Harvard Middle Eastern Monographs, 2008)

PUBLICATIONS – Selected Journals and Book Chapters

“The Safavi Synthesis: From Qizilbash Islam to Imamite Shi’ism,” *Iranian Studies* 27 (1994)

“Sufis, Darvishes, and Mullas: The Controversy Over Spiritual and Temporal Dominion in 17th Century Safavi Iran,” *Safavi Persia*, ed. Charles Melville (London: I.B. Tauris, 1996)

“The ‘Aqa’id al-Nisa’: A Glimpse at Safavi Women in Local Isfahani Culture,” *Women in the Medieval Islamic World*, ed. Gavin Hambly (London: St. Martin's Press, 1998)

“The Safavid Household Reconfigured: Concubines, Eunuchs, and Military Slaves,” *Slaves of the Shah: New Elites of Safavi Iran*, Joint monograph with Sussan Babaie, Ina Baghdiantz-McCabe, and Massumeh Farhad (London: I. B. Tauris, 2004)

“The Ever-Tempting Return to an Iranian Past in the Islamic Present: Does Lotman’s Binarism Help?” *Lotman and Cultural Studies: Encounters and Extensions*, eds. Andreas Schönle (Madison: Wisconsin University Press, 2006)

“In Spirit We Ate of Each Other’s Sorrow.” Female Companionship in Seventeenth Century Safavi Iran, *Islamicate Sexualities: Translations Across Temporal Geographies of Desire*, eds. Babayan & Najmabadi (Cambridge: Harvard Middle Eastern Monographs, 2008)

“The Cosmological Order of Things in Early Modern Safavi Iran,” *Book of Omens: The Falnama*, ed. Massumeh Farhad (Arthur M. Sackler Gallery Exhibition Catalogue, 2009).

“The Safavi Chapter in Iranian History,” *Iranian Civilization, from Antiquity to Present*, ed. Touraj Daryaee (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012).

“Topographies of Travel in Early Modern Persianate Landscapes,” in Elio Brancaforte, Sonja Brentjes, *EXHIBITION CATALOGUE. From Rhubarb to Rubies: European Travels to Safavid Iran (1550-1700)*; *Houghton Library*, Harvard College Library; *The Lands of the Sophi: Iran in Early Modern ... Library Bulletin* (Cambridge, MA, 2012).

“Shah Isma’il,” *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Islamic Political Thought*, (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2013).

Co-Curator with Melanie Tanielian. “Now or Never: Collecting, Documenting and Photographing WWI,” Audubon Room, Harland Hatcher Library, January-April 2015.

In Progress:

Book Manuscript on *The City as Anthology: Visualizing Cultures of Literacy in Early Modern Isfahan*.

Article in Persian: “Adab-i Mutali’eh va Girdavari-yi Majmu’aha dar Isfahan-i Dawran-i Pishamodern,” (The Adab of Reading and Collecting in Early Modern Isfahan), Hamyesh-i Bayn al-milali-yi Muta’liat-i Tarikh-i Dawreh-yi Safavi Tehran, Iran (Article in Persian being published in the Volume on the *Proceedings of the Iranian Society of History, International Congress on the Study of the Safavid Dynasty, Primary Sources, Manuscripts and Deeds*, October 31, 2013).

Website: With fellow historian Nuzhat Ahmadi, at al-Zahra University in Tehran, we have begun to collect and generate tables of contents for numerous *majmu’a* (anthology) that are housed in the capital’s most prominent public libraries of Majlis, Malik, Milli and Tehran University. Indexing the various genres of texts that comprise each *majmu’a*, we have taken account of the content and organization of these miscellanies, and plan to create a Safavi blog where scholars across the world may have access freely to these Persianate-world sources.

CONSULTANCY

Historian-consultant for exhibition on the *Book of Omens: The Falname*, Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Washington, D.C., October 2009

RECENT PAPERS and COLLOQUIA

“An Education of the Senses: The Ethics and Aesthetics of Male Desire in early modern Isfahan,” Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality, Columbia University, April 7, 2016.

“Disturbing the City of Isfahan,” 2016 Fereidoun and Katharine Mirhady Endowed Lecture, Simon Fraser University, February 4, 2016.

“Sovereignty and Amity: Masculinity at the Safavi Court in Isfahan,” Workshop on *Political Theologies*, UC Santa Barbara, October 29th, 2015.

“The Body of the Friend in early modern Isfahan,” University of Zurich, Seminar on *Conceptions of the Body in Muslim Societies*, October 15, 2014.

“Libraries of the Mind: Cultures of Literacy in 17th Century Isfahan,” Eisenberg Institute of Historical Studies, University of Michigan, April 10, 2014.

“The *Adab* of Reading and Collecting in Early Modern Isfahan,” paper presented at MESA in a pre-organized panel by Noah Gardiner on the *Ethics of reading in Islamic Manuscript Culture*. October 2013.

“The Unfolding of the Self/Friend in Early Modern Isfahan,” John E. Boswell Memorial Lecture, Department of History, the Program in Medieval and Renaissance Studies, the Gay and Lesbian Alumni Association, and the College of William and Mary, October 25, 2013.

“Histoire Croisée: Ottoman-Persian Exchanges in the context of World Literatures & Histories,” Keynote Speaker for Symposium on Ottoman-Persian Exchanges, organized by the Middle East Center at the University of Pennsylvania, April 2013.

“Libraries of the Mind: Objects of Memory & Community in Early Modern Isfahan,” Stanford University, March 2013.

“Communities of Literacy in Early Modern Isfahan,” UC Berkeley, October 2012.

“Literary Cultures and Social Practice in Early Modern Isfahan,” Keynote speaker for the *Middle East History and Theory Conference*, University of Chicago, May 2012.

“The Waning of the Qizilbash Reconsidered,” *Alevi-Bektashi Conference*, Bogazici University, Istanbul, December 2011.

“Safavi Early Modernities,” *NEH Workshop on the Legacy of Muslim Societies in Global Modernity 1300-1900*, George Mason University, March 2011.

“The Emerging Self in Early Modern Isfahan,” *The Annemarie Schimmel Memorial Lecture*, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, January 7, 2011.

“The Politics of Eros in Early Modern Isfahan,” *Gender, Sexuality & Formations of the State Question of “the Islamicate” Across Turkish-Persian Landscapes*, Harvard University, May 1 2010.

“Topographies of Travel in Early Modern Persianate Landscapes,” Conference at the opening of the exhibit “From Rhubarb to Rubies: European Travels to Safavi Iran, 1550-1700,” Houghton Library at Harvard on May 2008.

“Narratives of Difference and Domination: World Histories and Studies of Masculinity,” Chair of Presidential Panel, American Historical Association, January 2008.

SERVICE RECORD

University-Level:

2012-2015	Director, Armenian Studies Program
2007-2012	Armenian Studies Executive Committee
2010-2011	Rackham Executive Board
2010-2011	MEMS Executive Committee
2011-2012	Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies: Steering Committee
2007-2008	Humanities Institute Executive Committee

Department-Level:

2014-2015	Executive Committee (NES)
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2014-2015 Member, Search Committee, Alex Manoogian Chair of Armenian History (History)

2014-2015 Chair, Third Year Review, Melanie Tanielian (History)

2013-2015 Curriculum Committee (NES)

2014-2015 Chair, Search Committee for Iranian Literature & Culture (NES)

2013-2014 Member, Third Year Review, Erdem Cipa (History)

2012-2013 Member, Third Year Review, Hussein Fancy (History)

2010-2011 Executive Committee (NES)

2007-2008 Chair, Persian Lecturer I Review Committee (NES)

2008-2011 AAPTIS Undergraduate Advisor (NES)

2009-2010 Graduate Committee Member (NES)

2010-2011 Search Committee, Alex Manoogian Chair of Armenian History (History)

National

2008- Member of the editorial collective *Iraname & Tarikh*

2009- Member of the Board, American Institute for Iranian Studies & American Research Institute of the South Caucasus

2015- Member of the Board, Association for the Study of Persianate Studies

2009-2010 Berkshire Conference on Women's History, Sub-Committee: "Beauty and the Body"

2009 Historian-consultant, exhibition on the Book of Omens, Arthur M. Sackler Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

2009-2011 ACLS Graduate Fellowship Committee

2007-2008 Houshang Pourshariati Iranian Studies Book Award Committee