

KATHRYN BABAYAN

*Department of Near Eastern Studies
4012 Thayer Bld.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
(734) 764-0314
fax (734) 936-2679
babayan@umich.edu*

EDUCATION

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

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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

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

1996–present: Associate Professor, Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of Michigan

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
2008 University of Michigan Humanities Award
2006 Rackham Spring/Summer Research Grant
2004 Honorable Mention, Said Sirjani Book Award, International Society for Iranian Studies

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

1999–2000 Visiting Fellow, Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan

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).

In Progress:

Book Manuscript on *Cultures of Literacy and Collecting 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, November 1, 2013).

Website: With fellow historian Nuzhat Ahmadi, at al-Zahra University in Tehran, we have begun the vast project of collecting and generating 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. We have been indexing the various genres of texts that comprise each *majmu’a*. Adapting our work to include reconnaissance, we have taken careful account of the content and organization of these miscellanies, and have considered eventually creating a Safavi blog where fellow scholars across the world may have access freely to these rich 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

“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 *MEHAT 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.

“Traveling Selves,” *Women’s Autobiography in Islamic Societies: Defining the Genre* An International Workshop, University of Texas, January 28-30, 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.

“Speaking in God’s Words: Social and Sexual Politics in early modern Isfahan” UT Austin, April 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
2007-2008	Humanities Institute Executive Committee
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

Department-Level:

2010-2014	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 <i>Iraname & Tarikh</i>
2009-	Member of the Board: American Institute for Iranian Studies & American Research Institute of the South Caucasus
2007-2008	Houshang Pourshariati Iranian Studies Book Award Committee
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