

ALI KARJOO-RAVARY

Curriculum Vitae
Bucknell University
Department of Religious Studies
Lewisburg, PA 17837
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Religious Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 2018

Dissertation: "Becoming a King of Islam: The Imperial Project of Qadi Burhan al-Din of Sivas (1345-1398 CE)"

M.A. in Religious Studies, University of Pennsylvania, 2016

B.A., *Summa Cum Laude*, in Religious Studies and Philosophy, minor in Linguistics, Stony Brook University, 2011

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

2018- Josephine Hildreth Detmer & Zareen Taj Mirza Assistant Professor of Islamic Studies, Department of Religious Studies, Bucknell University

PUBLICATIONS

Under Review

2020 "Adorning the King of Islam: The Materiality of a 14th Century Persian Chronicle," in *MAVCOR Journal*

Revise and Resubmit

2020 "Mapping the Unseen: Ibn al-'Arabi's Maps in *al-Futuhāt al-Makkiyya*," in *Material Religion*

"The Shrine of Shah Ni`matullah-i Vali," in *MAVCOR Journal*

Forthcoming

2020 "Illustrating the Forms: Ibn al-'Arabi's (d. 638/1240) Images in *al-Futūḥāt al-Makkiyya*" in *Visualizing Sufism* (Brill)

"Qur'anic Hermeneutics and the Translation of the Qur'an" in *Handbook of Qur'anic Hermeneutics* (De Gruyter) co-authored with Jamal J. Elias.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2020	Visiting Fellow, Bard Graduate Center
2019-2020	Mellon Foundation “Bridge to Retirement” Award, Bucknell University
2019	Scholarly Development Grant, Bucknell University
2017-2018	Dissertation Completion Fellowship, School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania
2016-2017	Graduate Student Research Fellowship, Penn Humanities Forum, University of Pennsylvania
2016	Pre-Doctoral Dissertation Research Fellowship, American Institute of Iranian Studies, New York
2016	Boardman Research Fellowship, Department of Religious Studies, University of Pennsylvania
2016	The Janet Lee Stevens Award for Arabic and Islamic Studies, the Middle East Center, University of Pennsylvania
2014	Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, Urdu, South Asia Center, University of Pennsylvania
2013	Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, Turkish, Middle East Center, University of Pennsylvania
2012-2013	Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, Turkish, Middle East Center, University of Pennsylvania
2012-2017	Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania

INVITED TALKS

2019	“The Song of God’s Shadow: Islam, Language, and Performance in 14th-century Anatolia,” Princeton University, Department of Religion
2018	“Illustrating the Forms: Ibn al-‘Arabī’s (d. 638/1240) Images in <i>al-Futūḥāt al-Makkiyya</i> ,” Visualizing Sufism International Workshop, Alexander von

Humboldt Kolleg for Islamic Intellectual History, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany

2017 “Performing God’s Shadow: The Material Production of a 14th Century Anatolian Court,” University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

“Diagrams and Visual Representation in Ibn al-‘Arabi’s *al-Futuh al-Makkiyya*,” State University of New York, Stony Brook

2014 “The Sufi King: Religion and Governance in Pre-Ottoman Anatolia,” the Middle East Center, University of Pennsylvania

CONFERENCES

Panels Organized

2019 *The Vocabularies of Islamic Sovereignty: Fashioning Authority in the Medieval Mashriq and Maghreb*
Middle East Studies (MESA) Annual Meeting, New Orleans

2018 *The Performance of Razm: Warfare in the Eastern Islamic World*
Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, San Antonio

Conference Presentations

2019 “Shadowing the True Kings: Sufism and Monarchy in 14th-Century Islam”
American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting, San Diego

“Muhammad’s Song, Firaydun’s Wine: Language and Kingship in 14th Century Anatolia”
Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, New Orleans

“The Ghazal as Islam’s Garment: Poetic Form Between Imitation and Inimitability,” The Primacy of Form: Islam and the Humanities Annual Conference, Brown University, Providence

“Weaving Gold into Silk: The Arabic Qasida as a Turco-Persian Garment,”
American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) Annual Meeting, Washington D.C.

- 2018 “Embodying the Seventh Pillar of Islam: Jihad in 14th Century Eastern Anatolia,” Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Meeting, San Antonio
- “The People Behind the Texts,” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) Annual Meeting, Los Angeles
- 2017 “Adorning the King of Islam: The Materiality of a 14th Century Persian Chronicle,” American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting, Boston
- “The Mahdi of the Fremmen: Islamic Eschatology and Frank Herbert’s *Dune*,” Department of Religion, Columbia University
- 2016 “Mapping the Unseen: Ibn al-‘Arabi’s Illustrations in *al-Futuhāt al-Makkiyya*,” American Academy of Religion (AAR) Annual Meeting, San Antonio
- “Reading Outside the Lines: Literary Exchanges Between Iran and India in the 19th century,” Association of Iranian Studies (AIS) Biennial Conference, Vienna
- 2013 “Becoming a Fable: Storytelling, Cosmology, and Human Becoming in the *Manaqib ul-‘Arifin*,” Old Time Religion Graduate Conference, Department of Religious Studies, Stanford University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Bucknell University

Islam
 Introduction to the Qur’an
 Alien Speedboats and Saffron Worlds: Fantasy, Sci-Fi, and Islam
 Drinking Coffee, Tasting God: The Mystical Path of Islam

University of Pennsylvania

Introduction to Islam
 Certificate in College and University Teaching

DIGITAL HUMANITIES

- 2019 Ajam Media Collective, ajammc.com, editor, podcast co-producer and co-host

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

- 2017 [“Shi’i Rituals in Pahlavi Iran: Audio Recordings from the Ajam Archive,”](#) in *Ajam Media Collective*
- [“Demons Licking Your Toes: An Early 20th Century Manuscript from Isfahan,”](#)
in *Ajam Media Collective*

SERVICE

- 2019 Conference Co-Organizer for “Islam in China: Religion, Ethnicity, and the State” (cancelled due to COVID-19)
Bucknell University
- 2018-2020 Library and IT Faculty Representative for the Department of Religious Studies,
Bucknell University
- 2017 Research and editorial assistant for Jamal J. Elias, *Alef Is for Allah: Childhood, Emotion and Visual Culture in Islamic Societies* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2018)
- 2014 Conference Coordinator for “Muslim Exceptionalism: Islam, the Academy, and the Global Public”
Department of Religious Studies, University of Pennsylvania

LANGUAGES

Persian: superior in reading, writing, speaking
Arabic: superior in reading and writing; intermediate in speaking
Ottoman Turkish: superior in reading
Turkish: superior in reading, advanced in writing, and speaking.
French: advanced in reading; intermediate in writing and speaking
German: intermediate in reading
Urdu: intermediate in reading

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Academy of Religion (AAR)
Middle East Studies Association (MESA)
American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)
Association of Iranian Studies (AIS)