



News

Harvard Foundation Faculty of the Year Award

Awarded by the Harvard Foundation to a faculty member who has gone above and beyond their responsibilities to make Harvard a more inclusive place.



Project Faculty Award

We are delighted to announce that Project Faculty Co-Chair Ali Asani received the 2020 Harvard Foundation Faculty of the Year Award for his efforts to make Harvard an inclusive institution. For many years Professor of Indo-Muslim and Islamic Religion and Cultures in the Committee on the Study of Religion and Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, he was recently also named Murray A. Albertson Professor at Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University.

[Learn More](#)



In Conversation with Melani Cammett, Ali Asani, and Payam Mohseni

The WCFA Epicenter newsletter published a conversation on the study of Shi'ism in academia with the Project on Shi'ism and Global Affairs team and Michelle Nicholaisen.

[Learn More](#)



COVID-19 and the Middle East

Project Faculty Co-Chair Melani Cammett was invited for an interview with the APSA Newsletter of Comparative Politics where she discusses the impact of COVID-19 in the Middle East.

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Engage with Diversity in the Widest Sense

Project Faculty Co-Chair Ali Asani authored an article where he discusses the importance of diversity and inclusion in the Harvard Gazette.

[Learn More](#)



Political Trends in Pakistan and what to expect from the Kabul-Taliban Negotiations

Hassan Abbas, Professor at NDU and senior adviser to the Project, interviews Marvin G. Weinbaum, Director of Afghanistan and Pakistan Studies at the Middle East Institute on the current negotiations between the United States and Taliban.

[Learn More](#)



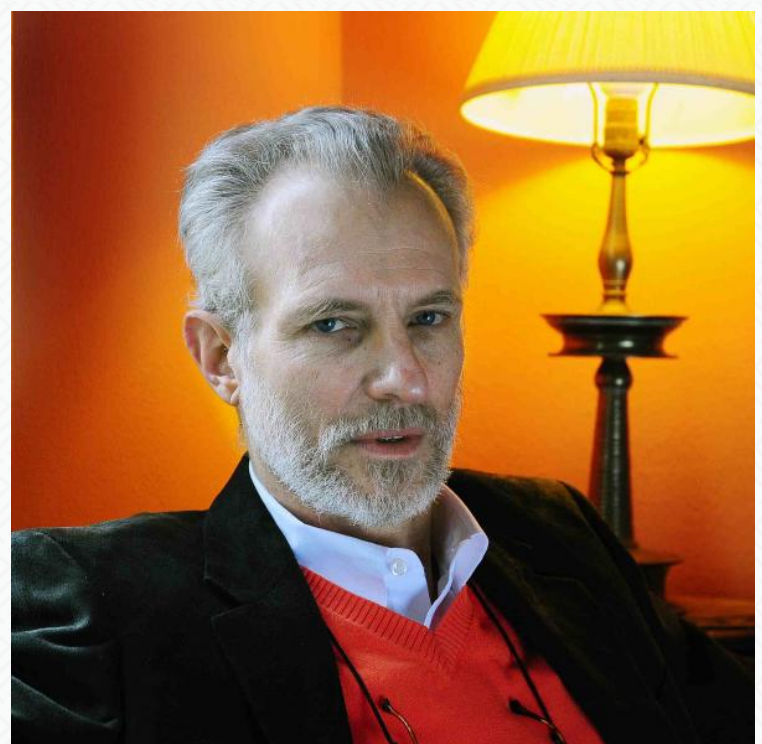
Summer Workshop

Project Director Payam Mohseni and Project Associate Mohammad Sagha led a summer workshop on Shi'ism, geopolitics, contemporary ideology, and political movements in the modern Middle East.

[Learn More](#)



Podcast



On the Origins of Islam - A Video Podcast with Fred Donner

Project Associate Mohammad Sagha hosted Fred M. Donner, Peter B. Ritzma Professor of Near Eastern History at the University of Chicago, for a podcast on the origins of Islam, the socio-political context of the early Islamic period, and conventional understandings of Islamic history, among other topics.

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Publications



A Return to Diplomacy: The Iran Nuclear Deal and a Democratic White House

Project Associate Hassan Ahmadian writes on potential Iranian responses to a prospective Biden administration and Iranian outlook towards the de facto collapse of the JCPOA nuclear deal.

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The Twin Crises and the Prospects for Political Sectarianism in Lebanon

By Melani Cammett and Lama Mourad
Project Chair Melani Cammett was invited by the LCPS to answer the question "Will the financial crisis, exacerbated further by COVID-19, strengthen or loosen the power of Lebanon's governing political parties?"

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The Reconstruction of Brazilian Foreign Policy

Project Associate Hussein Kalout, alongside Fernando Henrique Cardoso, former President and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brazil, and Aloysio Nunes Ferreira, Celso Amorim, Celso Lafer, Francisco Rezek, and José Serra -- all former Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Brazil -- write on the urgency and importance of restructuring Brazil's foreign policy.

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Latest from Visions



Imam Sultan Mahomed Shah Aga Khan III: Laying the Foundations for Ismaili Women's Progress

By Shenila Khoja-Moolji
This post details the efforts of the late Aga Khan Imam, Sultan Mahomed Shah Aga Khan III, towards the socio-economic development of Muslims globally, and, in particular, for creating an authorizing environment for the progress of Nizari Ismaili women.

[Read Now](#)



Religious Pluralism & Muslim Identity in the West & Islamic World

Wasif Rizvi, Syed Meesam Razvi, Mohamad Bashar Ararat, Sajjad Rizvi
This excerpt from the [Report on Escalating Sectarian De-Escalation](#) explores what it means to enable a pluralistic conception of Islam in the West.

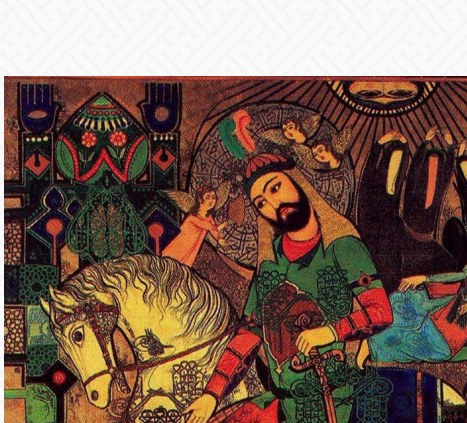
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Research

The Project on Shi'ism & Global Affairs pursues advanced research on four inter-disciplinary studies in an effort to re-focus scholarly attention on the strategic transformations happening across the Shi'a worlds on both a socio-political level as well as the cultural values and ideology that drive these larger phenomena.

[See Our Research](#)



Visions

Visions, the online publication platform of the Project on Shi'ism & Global Affairs, provides an educational platform that bridges the dispersed field of Shi'a studies -- from historical hagiography and philosophy to contemporary geopolitics and world affairs -- into a leading source on the latest analysis on Shi'ism from an academic and scholarly perspective.

[Read Our Blog](#)



For more on our project and research, visit shiism.wcfa.harvard.edu and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). If you are interested in contributing or getting involved with this initiative, please email Project Director Payam Mohseni at pmohseni@fas.harvard.edu, or click the button below.

[Contact Us](#)