

Chad Kia

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## EDUCATION

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Columbia University. Ph.D. in Comparative Middle Eastern Literatures & Art History (2009)

University of Texas. M.A. in Middle East Studies (1999)

University of Iowa. B.A. in Global & Communication Studies (1989)

## TEACHING

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2011-2015 Harvard University, Lecturer in Persian Literature & Culture

2009-2011 Brown University, Visiting Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature

2008-2009 Cooper Union, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Humanities & Social Sciences

2005-2007 Columbia University, Preceptor in Literature Humanities

2004-2007 Stevens Institute of Technology, Adjunct Lecturer in Humanities

2003-2005 Columbia University, Teaching Fellow, Middle East Languages & Cultures

## BOOK & BOOK CHAPTERS

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[2021] "A Literary Fragment: Vahshi's *Farhad & Shirin*," in *A New Light on Bernard Berenson: Persian Paintings from Villa I Tatti*, Harvard Art Museums Exhibition Catalogue, edited by Aysin Yoltar-Yildirim. (Forthcoming.)

2019 *Art, Allegory and the Rise of Shi'ism in Iran, 1487-1565*, Edinburgh University Press.

2017 "Sultan Salim's *Rawdat al-Ushhaq* by Arifi and Ottoman Arts of the Book" (with Aysin Yoltar-Yildirim), in *15th International Congress of Turkish Art Proceedings*, Università Degli Studi di Napoli and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Republic of Turkey.

## ARTICLES & EXHIBITS

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[2021] "Adjunct Texts: Five Glosses in a Safavid Multi-Text Collection." *Journal for Studies in Manuscript Cultures*, Center for the Study of Manuscript Cultures, Hamburg University (Forthcoming).

- 2019 Website entries for Illustrated Poems from *Divan of Sultan Ibrahim Mirza AKM282*, in collaboration with Marianna Shreve Simpson, Aga Khan Museum Website Project, Toronto.
- 2014 “*The Scum of Tabriz: Ahmad Kasravi and the Impulse to Reform Islam.*” *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies* 41, no. 4.
- 2012 “*Sufi Orthopraxis: Visual Language and Verbal Imagery in Medieval Afghanistan.*” *Word & Image: A Journal of Verbal/Visual Enquiry* 28, no. 1.
- 2009 “*Joseph in Persian Art.*” *Encyclopædia Iranica*. New York: Encyclopædia Iranica Foundation.
- 2008 “*Jami and Persian Art.*” *Encyclopædia Iranica*. New York: Encyclopædia Iranica Foundation.
- 2006 “*Is The Bearded Man Drowning? Picturing the Figurative in a Late Fifteenth-Century Painting from Herat.*” *Muqarnas: An Annual on the Visual Culture of the Islamic World* 23.
- 2002 *Trans/Revelations: Persian Annotations in the Quran*. Exhibition Curated for the Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University.

#### UNIVERSITY & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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- 2015 Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Foreign Language Assessment for Persian, Harvard University
- 2014 Member, Search Committee, Preceptor in Persian, Harvard University
- 2013-14 Thesis Advisor, Masters in Near Eastern Languages & Cultures, Harvard University
- 2012-13 Member, Canvassing Committee for Persianist Position in Near Eastern Languages & Cultures, Harvard University
- 2010-12 Member, M.Phil. Comparative Project Defense Committee, Department of Comparative Literature, Brown University
- 2012 Member, Search Committee, Preceptor in Persian, Harvard University
- 2010 Referee for article manuscripts: *Differences: A Journal of Feminist Cultural Studies*
- 2010 Brown University’s Middle East Studies Curriculum Committee

## AWARDS AND HONORS

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- 2007-2008 Smithsonian Fellow, Freer & Sackler Galleries of Asian Art, Washington, DC.
- 2005-2007 Core Preceptorship for “Literature Humanities,” Columbia University
- 2000-2005 Teaching Fellow, Department of Middle Eastern and Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University.
- 2003-2005 Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Summer Fellowship, Columbia University.
- 2002 Summer Language Program Tuition Fellowship, Eastern Consortium in Turkish.
- 1998 Center for Arabic Study Abroad Full-Year Fellowship, Cairo, Egypt.
- 1998 International Education Fee Scholarship, University of Texas.
- 1998 Middlebury College Summer Grant, Middlebury College Language Schools.

## INVITED LECTURES & PRESENTATIONS

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- 2016 “Kashifi's Rules of Artisanal Ethics: A Principle of Selection for Illustrations of Attar’s *Mantiq al-Tayr*.” Invited Presentation, *Myers Symposium: New Studies in Islamic Painting*. Northwestern University, Evanston.
- 2012 “Figurative and Figural Allusions in Medieval Persian Sufi Literature.” Invited Lecture, Department of Comparative Literature. Harvard University, Cambridge.
- 2011 “Sufi Allegory and Representation before the Consolidation of Safavid Shiism.” Invited Lecture, Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Islamic Studies Faculty Seminar. Harvard University, Cambridge.
- 2011 “Allegory and Image in the Eastern Islamic World at the Turn of the Sixteenth Century.” Invited Lecture, Visual Culture Colloquium. University of Georgia, Athens.
- 2010 “Alexander Assimilated: Tracing the Sufi Iconography in South Asia.” Invited Presentation, *Organized by the ILEX Foundation* at the Middle East Studies Association’s 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, San Diego.

## CONFERENCE PAPERS

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- 2017 “The Rise of Shiism in Iran and the Art of Figurative Representation.” Conference Paper, *College Art Association Annual Conference*, New York.

- 2015 “Who is Your Audience? The Reading and Viewing Public in the Discourse of Middle Eastern Literature and Art.” Seminar Organizer, [American Comparative Literature Association](#) Annual Meeting, Seattle.
- 2015 “A Short Story is Written in Afghanistan.” Conference Paper, [American Comparative Literature Association](#) Annual Meeting, Seattle.
- 2014 “Towards a Social History of Persian Painting: Artisan Guilds and the Symbolic Order in Early Safavid Iran.” Conference Paper, [Association for the Study of the Middle East & Africa Annual Conference](#), Washington.
- 2014 “A Woman's Voice in Contemporary Afghan Fiction.” Conference Paper, [Middle Eastern Literatures in the 21st Century](#). Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge.
- 2013 “The Paradox of Reform in Ahmad Kasravi.” Seminar Paper, [Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Islamic Studies Faculty Seminar](#), Harvard University, Cambridge.
- 2013 “An Alternative to Occidentosis: Language & Literature before Global Modernity.” Seminar Paper, [American Comparative Literature Association](#) Annual Meeting, Toronto.
- 2010 “Spinning Pictures: Reading Nizami as Jami.” Conference Paper, Eighth Biennial Conference on Iranian Studies, Los Angeles.
- 2010 “String Theory: Layering Text & Image in a Medieval Persian Manuscript.” Conference Paper, International Congress of Medieval Studies. Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo.
- 2010 “Persian Puzzle: The Visual Culture and the Illustrated Book in Medieval Islam.” Conference Paper, Visual Culture and Global Practices. Annual Comparative Literature Conference, California State University, Long Beach.
- 2006 “Picturing the Figurative in a Late Fifteenth-Century Painting.” Conference Paper, Biennial Conference on Iranian Studies, School of Oriental and African Studies, London.
- 2005 “Figurative Depictions in Fifteenth-Century Afghanistan.” Conference Paper, Florilegium Graduate Student Medieval Studies Conference, Yale University, New Haven.

## LANGUAGES

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Persian, English (native fluency), Arabic (near fluency), French, German (proficient), Turkish (reading), Hindi and Hebrew (one semester)

## COURSES TAUGHT

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### **Harvard:**

Literary & Visual Narrative in the Epic Tradition  
Culture & Society in Contemporary Iran  
Ethics and Poetry: Nasir al-Din Tusi and Sa'di's *Gulistan*  
Survey of Persian Literature (3<sup>rd</sup> year Persian) from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> century  
Historiography and Popular Storytelling: Jami, Ali Safi, and Vasifi  
Rumi's *Masnavi*: Text, Image, Sound  
Cinema and 20<sup>th</sup>-Century Literature of the Middle East  
Reading al-Ghazali's *Alchemy of Happiness*  
Poetry of Hafez  
Shabistari's *Gulshan-i raz* & Lahiji's Commentary  
Survey of Iranian Islamic Art History

### **Brown:**

Prehistories of the Global: Kafka/Hedayat, Conrad/Salih, Faulkner/Chubak, Plath/Farrokhzad  
Dialectics of Word and Image  
Arabian Nights  
Medieval Art & Literature of the Islamic World  
Thematizing Sex and Gender in Literary and Visual Arts from the Middle East  
Twentieth-Century Arabic Prose Literature  
Sufi Traditions in Classical Persian and Arabic Literature

### **Cooper Union:**

Early Modern European Texts and Contexts: Thomas More to Rousseau (1500-1800)  
Literary Forms and Expressions from Dante to Mary Shelley

### **Stevens Institute of Technology:**

Survey of Islamic Art

### **Columbia:**

Literature Humanities: Great Works from Homer to Virginia Woolf  
Introduction to Islamic Civilization: Rise of Islam to the Ottoman Empire  
Cinema and Society of the Middle East and North Africa  
North African, Middle Eastern, and South Asian History and Culture  
Elementary and Intermediate Modern Standard Arabic