

## **Zainab Saleh**

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### **Education**

- 2011 Columbia University, Department of Anthropology, New York, NY  
Doctor of Philosophy  
Dissertation: *Diminishing Returns: An Anthropological Study of Iraqis in the United Kingdom.*
- 2006 Columbia University, Department of Anthropology, New York, NY  
Master of Philosophy
- 2003 Columbia University, Department of Anthropology, New York, NY  
Master of Arts
- 2001 American University of Beirut, Department of Anthropology/Sociology, Beirut, Lebanon  
Bachelor of Arts, High Distinction
- 1995 Baghdad University, Department of English, Baghdad, Iraq  
Bachelor of Arts

**Field of Expertise:** Cultural Anthropology, Memory, Diaspora, Gender, Middle East, Nostalgia, Nationalism and Citizenship, Oil, Violence, Sectarianism, Media Studies.

### **Professional Positions**

- 2016- Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Haverford College
- 2013-2016 Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Haverford College.
- 2011-13 Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow at the John B. Hurford '60 Center for the Arts and Humanities, and Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Haverford College.
- 2011 (Spring) Sultan Program Postdoctoral Fellowship in Arab Studies, University of California at Berkeley.
- 2010 (Fall) Adjunct Professor, Department of Religion, the New School for Liberal Arts, Eugene Lang College.

### **Awards and Grants**

- 2018 Faculty Research Grant Award, Haverford College.
- 2017-18 Mellon Philadelphia Area Creative Collaboratives Grant, Haverford College.

- 2014 Faculty Research Grant Award, Haverford College.  
 2012 Faculty Research Grant Award, Haverford College.  
 2008 Scheps Summer Grant, Columbia University.  
 2006-07 Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation, London, UK.  
 2005 Firestone Summer Grant, Columbia University.  
 2004 Scheps Summer Grant, Columbia University.  
 2002-09 School of Arts and Sciences Fellowship, Columbia University.  
 2001 Amal Saidi Honor Award, American University of Beirut.

## **Publications**

### **Books**

- In Progress *Diasporic Homes: Exile, Empire, and Iraqi Subjectivities*. Under contract with Stanford University Press.

### **Peer Reviewed Journals**

- 2018 “Toppling” Saddam Hussein in London: Media, Meaning, and the Construction of an Iraqi Diasporic Community. *American Anthropologist* 120(3): 512-522.  
 2013 “On Iraqi Nationality: Law, Citizenship, and Exclusion.” *Arab Studies Journal* 21(1): 48-78.

### **Encyclopedia Entries**

- 2015 The Islamic State in Iraq and Greater Syria (ISIS), *Oxford Islamic Studies Online*.

### **Edited Journals**

- 2015 Editor of a special issue on Iraq entitled “Disinterring Iraq: Writing Silenced Histories of Nation, Nature, and State.” *Arab Studies Journal* 23(1): 120-123.

### **Book Chapters**

- 2012 [Iraq and Its Tahrir Square](#). In Bassam Haddad, Rosie Bsheer, and Ziad Abu-Rish, editors, *The Dawn of the Arab Uprisings: End of an Old Order?* Plato Press. Originally published on *Jadaliyya*, February 17, 2011.

### **Roundtables**

- 2015 “Learning from the Diaspora: Towards an Anthropology of Iraqi Exile.” *Arab Studies Journal* 23(1): 252-255.

### **Reviews**

- 2018 *Interpreters of Occupation: Gender and the Politics of Belonging in an Iraqi Refugee Network*, a book by Madeline Otis Campbell 2016. *Anthropological Quarterly* 91(1): 409-414.  
 2016 *Iraqi Women in Denmark: Ritual Performance and Belonging in Everyday Life*, a book by Marianne Holm Pedersen (2014). *American Anthropologist* 118 (3): 686-687.

2014            *Broken Pots Broken Dreams: Working in Jingdezhen's Porcelain Industry*, a documentary by Maris Gillette (2009). *Visual Anthropology Review* 30 (1): 75-77.

### **Public Lectures and Conferences**

#### **Invited Lectures and Talks**

“Toppling” Saddam Hussein in London: Media, Meaning, and the Construction of an Iraqi Diasporic Community. Special Collections Series. Bryn Mawr College, October 2018.

“Toppling” Saddam Hussein in London: Media, Meaning, and the Construction of an Iraqi Diasporic Community. Middle East Center. University of Pennsylvania. April 2018.

“Superfluous Nostalgics: Longing for an Idealized Past among Iraqis in London.” Department of Anthropology, Appalachian State University. April 2017.

“The Double Execution of Saddam Hussein: Mediation and the Construction of Iraqi Exilic Imaginaries.” Department of Anthropology and Sociology, Lafayette College, February 2017.

“The Double Execution of Saddam Hussein: Mediation and the Construction of Iraqi Exilic Imaginaries.” Elliot School of International Affairs, the George Washington University, October 2016.

“The Double Execution of Saddam Hussein: Diaspora, Media, and Images.” The Middle East Program, George Mason University, November 2014.

“Social Movements in Iraq.” The Department of History, Yale University, October 2014.

“Iraq Ten Years On: From US Occupation to Systemized Sectarianism.” The Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam and Society, Leiden University, May 2013.

“After the Fall: Distorted Perceptions of Post-Saddam Iraq.” The Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University, May 2013.

“Modern Iraqi Art.” Haverford College, March, 2012.

“On Authenticity and Exclusion: The First Iraqi Nationality Law of 1924.” Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of California at Berkeley, March, 2011.

“Political Identity and State-Formation in Iraq as Read through British Colonial Archives.” Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies, Emory University, March, 2008.

#### **Conferences**

Presenter        “Toppling” Saddam Hussein in London: Media, Meaning, and the Construction of an Iraqi Diasporic Community. American Ethnological Association. Philadelphia, March 2018.

- Moderator Reading Ahmed Saadawi's *Frankenstein in Baghdad*. American Ethnological Association. Philadelphia, March 2018.
- Presenter "Writing Home and Imperial Politics." American Anthropological Association. Washington, D.C. December 2018.
- Presenter "Nostalgia for the Non-Sectarian." Arab Traditions of Anti-Sectarianism. Rice University and Houston University. Texas, December 2018.
- Panel Organizer "Iraq's Many Pasts, Iraq's Many Presents: Memory, Archive, and Representation." Middle East Studies Association. Washington, D.C. November 2017.
- Presenter "Nostalgia for the Revolution." Middle East Studies Association. Washington, D.C. November 2017.
- Discussant "Dignity from the Margins." Discussion of Edwin Uto's Decolonizing Dignity and the role of "Ambivalent Europeans," and Angie Heo's "Human Dignity, Supreme Dignity." Villanova University, October 2017.
- Presenter "Superfluous Nostalgics: Longing for an Idealized Past among Iraqis in London." American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis, MN, November 2016.
- Discussant New Directions in Arabian Peninsula Studies.' Discussion of Attiya Ahmed's "The Spoils of War: Halal Tourism Aspirations and Material Counterpoints." Yale University, April 2016.
- Presenter "When Return Is No Longer Possible." American Anthropological Association, Denver, CO, November 2015.
- Presenter "The Sexualization of Saddam Hussein: Empire and Sodomy." American Anthropological Association, Washington D.C., December 2014.
- Presenter "Conceptualizing Sectarianism in Iraq." Middle East Studies Association (MESA) meeting, Washington, D.C., November 2014.
- Presenter "Documenting the Experiences of Refugees and the Displaced," Elliot School of International Affairs, the George Washington University, April 2014.
- Presenter "A Dying Dialect, A Vanishing Community: Iraqi Jews in the London Diaspora." Neubauer Collegium for Culture and Society, University of Chicago, March 2014.
- Presenter "Saddam Hussein's Two Bodies and the US Empire." American Anthropological Association meeting. Chicago. November 2013.
- Presenter "Researching Iraq Today: Archives, Oral Histories, and Ethnographies." Middle East Studies Association (MESA) meeting, New Orleans, October 2013.

- Discussant 'Forbidden No More ... The New China in Ethnographic Film.' Discussion of Maris Gillette's "Documentary Filmmaking in China's Porcelain World," Haverford College, February, 2012.
- Presenter "The Double Execution of Saddam Hussein." Middle East Studies Association (MESA) meeting, Denver, November 2012.
- Presenter "The Politics of Archiving in Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Palestine." Middle East Studies Association (MESA) meeting, Washington D.C., December 2011.
- Presenter "Thoughts on the Fall and Execution of Saddam Hussein." American Anthropological Association meeting, New Orleans, November 2010.
- Presenter "Self-Understanding among Young Iraqis in London." American Anthropological Association meeting, Philadelphia, December 2009.
- Presenter "Emerging Iraqi Identity: State Formation and Exile (The case of Shia Iraqis in the UK)." American Anthropological Association meeting, San Francisco, November 2008.

### **Symposium organizing**

Organizer, "Shades of Occupation: Iraq After 10 Years," John B. Hurford '60 Center for the Arts and Humanities, Haverford College, March, 2013.

### **Committee Assignments**

- 2017-present Coordinator of the Middle East and Islamic Studies concentration at Haverford College.
- 2017-2018 Non-departmental committee member, Religion search (Islam).
- 2016-2017 Committee member, Transnational and Comparative Studies.
- 2014-2015 Coordinator of the Middle East and Islamic Studies concentration at Haverford College.

### **Courses Taught**

- "Oil, Culture, Power."
- "Ethnography of Islam."
- "History and Theory of Anthropology."
- "Citizenship, Migration, and Belonging."
- "Introduction to Anthropology."
- "Anthropology of the Middle East and North Africa."
- "Memory, History, Anthropology."
- "National Imaginaries in the Middle East."
- "Anthropology of Displacement."
- "Defacement and Commemoration: Monuments and The Nation."

“Gender and Sexuality in the Middle East.”  
“Women’s Narratives in the Arab Middle East.”

### **Professional Career**

- 2018 Article Reviewer, *Arab Studies Journal*.
- 2018 Article Reviewer, *Contemporary Islam*.
- 2017 Article Reviewer, *American Anthropologist*.
- 2015 Reviewer of the dissertation prize on modern/medieval Iraq, The American Academic Research Institute in Iraq.
- 2012- Co-editor and translator, Arabian Peninsula Page, [Jadaliyya](#).
- 2011 Article Reviewer, *Sociological Forum*.
- 2010 Article Reviewer, *Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies*.
- 2009-2010 Organizer of the year-long seminar, “Liberalism and Its Others,” Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, Columbia University.
- 2009 Translator, “Towards a Vision of Sexual and Economic Justice,” Barnard Center for Research on Women, Columbia University.
- 2009 Guest expert for Jeremy Deller’s “It Is What It Is: Conversations About Iraq.” The New Museum, New York.
- 1998-1999 Editor, Center for Arab Unity Studies, Beirut, Lebanon.

### **Journalistic Articles**

- 2014 [Quick Thoughts: Zainab Saleh on Iraq](#). *Jadaliyya*, June 21.
- 2012 [Beating the Drums of Orientalism](#). *Sightings*, May 17.
- 2011 [Iraq’s Other War: The 23<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the End of the Iran-Iraq War](#). *Jadaliyya*, August 8.
- 2011 [Thwar tahit al-ihtilal: al-Intifada al-Iraqiyya of 2011](#). *Jadaliyya*, April 30.
- 2011 [Al-Iraq wa Sahat Tahrireh](#). *Jadaliyya*, February 12.
- 2010 [Laylun Wahidun fi Kull al-Mudun: Mawt Graphiki](#) (review essay of Sinan Antoon’s poetry book, *Laylun Wahidun fi Kull al-Mudun*). *Al-Quds Al-Arabi*, December 21.

## **Memberships**

American Anthropological Association  
Middle East Studies Association  
The American Academic Research Institute in Iraq

## **Languages**

Arabic: native speaker  
Persian: reading knowledge  
French: reading knowledge