Sarah Shah

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2025- Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Texas State University

2020-2024 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, The University of Toronto Mississauga

2019-2024 Postdoctoral Research Fellow and Principal Investigator, Muslims in Canada Data Initiative (MiCDI), Institute for Islamic Studies, The University of Toronto

2013-2019 Course Instructor and Teaching Assistant, The University of Toronto

2012-2013 Adjunct Faculty, Department of Sociology, The University of Texas at San Antonio

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Gestalt Institute of Toronto, Psychotherapy Training Program, 2024

The University of Toronto, PhD, Sociology, 2019

Dissertation: *Defining, Refining, and Enacting Religious Reflexivities in Pakistani Canadian Muslim Families*

Committee: Rania Salem (co-chair), Anna Korteweg (co-chair), Zaheer Baber

Comprehensive Exams: Health and Mental Health (September 2015)
Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration (September 2016)

The University of Texas, San Antonio, MS, Sociology, 2012

St. Joseph's University, BA, Human Relations, 2010

RESEARCH AREAS

Race, Mental Health, Family & Gender Relations, Religion; Research Methods

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

Shah, Sarah. 2022. Black and White or Shades of Grey: Religious Approaches and Muslim Marital Conflict. *Social Compass*. 69(1): 113-132. DOI: 10.1177/00377686211020567.

Salem, Rania, and **Sarah Shah**.* 2019. Economic rationales for kin marriage: Assessing the evidence using Egyptian panel data. *Demographic Research* 41(19): 545-578. DOI: 10.4054/DemRes.2019.41.19.
*Equal authorship

Shah, Sarah. 2018. Does Religion Buffer the Effects of Discrimination on Distress for Religious Minorities? The Case of Arab Americans. *Society and Mental Health* 9(2): 171-191. DOI: 10.1177/2156869318799145.

Shah, Sarah, Gabriel Acevedo, and Andrea Ruiz. 2017. Contextualizing Events in Imagined Communities: Pre- and Post-September 11th Egyptian Attitudes toward Non-Arabs and Jews. *Sociology of Islam* 5(4): 1-29. DOI: 10.1163/22131418-00504002

Shah, Sarah, John P. Bartkowski, and Xiaohe Xu. 2016. Gendered God Imagery and Attitudes towards Mothers' Labor Force Participation: Examining the Transposable Character of Religious Schemas. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 55(3): 540-557. DOI: 10.1111/jssr.12279

Acevedo, Gabriel, and **Sarah Shah**. 2015. Sectarian Affiliation and Gender Traditionalism: A Sociological Study of Sunni and Shi'a Muslims in Four Predominantly Muslim Countries. *Sociology of Islam* 3(1): 1-29. DOI: 10.1163/22131418-00301001

Peer Reviewed Book Chapters

Shah, Sarah. 2025. Blurred and Bright Boundaries: Immigrant Reflexive Appraisals of Home and Host Religions and Cultures. In *Emerging South Asian Feminisms: Critical Canadian Perspectives*. Editors: Amina Jamal, Jane Ku and Maryam Khan. University of Alberta Press. DOI: 10.1515/9781772128468-007.

Shah, Sarah, and Maryam Khan. 2023. The Impact of Islamophobia on Sexually and Gender Diverse Muslims in Canada. In *Systemic Islamophobia*, edited by Anver Emon. Toronto: University of Toronto Press. DOI: 10.3138/9781487545901.004.

Shah, Sarah. 2023. Religious Reflexivities among North American Muslims. In *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Religion*. Oxford University Press. DOI: 10.1093/acrefore/9780199340378.013.882.

Shah, Sarah. 2022. Beyond Immigrant Generation: Religious Approach, Perceptions of Discrimination, and the Stress Process Model. In *Research Handbook on Society and Mental Health*, edited by Marta Elliott. Edward Elgar Publishing. DOI: 10.4337/9781800378483.00015.

Shah, Sarah, Maryam Khan, and Sara Abdel-Latif. 2021. Decolonizing Muslim Same-Sex Relations: Reframing Queerness as Gender Flexibility to Build Positive Relationships in Muslim Communities. In *Positive Muslim Psychology*, edited by Nausheen Pasha. Springer Press. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-72606-5_12.

Bartkowski, John P. and **Sarah Shah**. 2014. Religion and Gender Inequality. In *Religion and Inequality*, edited by Lisa A. Keister and Darren E. Sherkat. New York: Cambridge University Press. DOI: 10.1017/CBO9781139226479.012.

Other Publications

Shah, Sarah. Forthcoming. The Survey of Muslims in Canada. *Muslims in Canada Data Initiative*. Toronto, ON.

Shah, Sarah. 2026. Honouring Shame: An Embodied Experience of Queering Islam. In *Queer and Muslim: On Faith, Family, and Healing*, edited by Rahim Thawer and Maryam Khan. University of Regina Press.

Shah, Sarah. 2026. From the Academy to Therapy: The Good, the Bad, and the Beauty of Relationality. In *The Politicized Practitioner Volume 2*, edited by Rahim Thawer. Blue Cactus Press.

Shah, Sarah. 2025. Canadian Muslim Demographics, Socioeconomics, Social Attitudes, and Experiential Outcomes. *Muslims in Canada Data Initiative.* islamicstudies.artsci.utoronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/IIS_IRC_2025_Data_Report_CdnMuslims_Oct31.pdf

Shah, Sarah. 2024. Still Overqualified and Underemployed? Canadian Muslim Women's Experiences of Employment Barriers and Facilitators. *Canadian Council of Muslim Women*. www.ccmw.com/aspire-study

Shah, Sarah, and Maryam Khan. 2023. The Search for Ethics in Research: Learning from Non-binary, Queer, and Trans Muslims. In *Reading Sociology: Decolonizing Canada*, edited by Johanne Jean-Pierre et al. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Shah, Sarah. 2023. Shiaphobia. *Critical Muslim*. 45 (Transitions): 84-93.

Shah, Sarah. 2022. Voices that Matter: An Intersectional Analysis of Canadian Muslim Women. *Canadian Council of Muslim Women*. www.ccmw.com/voices-that-matter-report

Shah, Sarah, and Aleena Atif. 2020. Canadian Muslim Health Exceptionalism. *Institute of Islamic Studies Occasional Paper Series* 1(3):1-48. hdl.handle.net/1807/102879.

Shah, Sarah. 2019. Canadian Muslims: Demographics, Discrimination, Religiosity, and Voting. *Institute of Islamic Studies Occasional Paper Series Collection* 1(1): 1-80. hdl.handle.net/1807/96775.

Salem, Rania and **Sarah Shah**. 2016. Correlates of Kin Marriage in Egypt, Jordan, and Tunisia. *Economic Research Forum Working Paper* 1067: 1-38.

Bartkowski, John P. and **Sarah Shah**. 2012. Religion and Gender Inequality: From Attitudes to Practices. *Duke University Working Paper.*

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Boundary Workers

Principal Investigator. Field research in progress.

Social Services for Queer Muslims in Canada

Service Needs of Sexually & Gender Diverse Muslims and Their Families. Collaborator, with Maryam Kham (Faculty of Social Work, Wilfrid Laurier University), Momin Rahman (Department of Sociology, Trent University), Michael Woodford (Faculty of Social Work, Wilfrid Laurier University), and Nuha Dwaikat-Shaer (Faculty of Social Work, Wilfrid Laurier University). Funded by SSHRC. Data collection and analysis complete; writing underway.

Supporting Sexually & Gender Diverse Muslims in Social Work. Collaborator, with Maryam Khan (Faculty of Social Work, Wilfrid Laurier University) and Momin Rahman (Department of Sociology, Trent University). Funded by SSHRC. Data collection complete; analysis underway.

Muslims in Canada Data Initiative

The Islamophobia Index. Lead researcher, with Sana Patel (Systemic Islamophobia Research Lab, The University of Toronto). In development.

PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY

Research Consulting

Canadian Council of Muslim Women (CCMW) Addressing Systemic Problems & Inequities in Resolving Employment Issues (ASPIRE) Project. Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE) funded. 2023-2024

Canadian Council of Muslim Women (CCMW) Strengthening Capacities Project. Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE) funded. 2020-2022

Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA). "Researching Canadian Muslim Women's Mental Health." 2019

National Council of Canadian Muslims (NCCM). "Measuring Canadian Physician Experiences of Workplace Discrimination." 2018-2019

Special Olympics Ontario (SOO). "Surveying the Health Seeking Behaviour of Diverse Populations with Special Needs." 2016 – 2017

Public Speaking and Keynote Lectures

"Systemic Islamophobia." Invited panelist. September 2023. Institute for the Study of University Pedagogy, The University of Toronto.

"Workplace discrimination." Invited panelist. September 2023. Toronto Diversity Festival Panel Discussion, Moksha Foundation Canada.

"Understanding Immigrant Women's Experiences: Voices that Matter." Invited speaker. April 2022. New Brunswick Annual Forum.

"How to be Better Allies: An Intersectional Approach to Hearing Voices that Matter." Invited keynote speaker. March 2022. Brantford Immigration Partnership.

"Voices that Matter: Community Dialogue & Call to Action." Organizer and presenter. March 2022. Canadian Council of Muslim Women.

"Voices that Matter: An Intersectional Analysis of Canadian Muslim Women." Research consultant. January 2022. Canadian Council of Muslim Women.

"Improving our Data and Understanding of Muslims in Canada." Presenter. March 2021. Institute of Islamic Studies, The University of Toronto.

"The State of Data on Muslims in Canada." Presenter. March 2021. Institute of Islamic Studies, The University of Toronto.

"Muslims at Home in Canada: Public Education Series." Organizer and presenter. 2020-2021. Institute of Islamic Studies, The University of Toronto.

"Theoretical and Methodological Advances in Studying Islam and Muslims in Canada Series." Organizer and presenter. 2019-2020. Institute of Islamic Studies.

SELECTED GRANTS, HONORS, AND CERTIFICATES

2023-2024 Addressing Systemic Problems & Inequities in Resolving Employment Issues (ASPIRE) Project. Collaboration with the Canadian Council of Muslim Women (CCMW). Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE) funded; $47,275

2023 The University of Toronto Mississauga Experiential Learning Development Grant; $2,500

2023 Theorizing Islamophobia, funded by Peel Social Lab; $10,000

2021-2023 Service Needs of Sexually & Gender Diverse Muslims and Their Families, SSHRC funded Partnership Engage Grant; collaborator with Maryam Khan (PI); $24,000

2021-2022 Supporting Sexually & Gender Diverse Muslims in Social Work, SSHRC funded Insight Development Grant; collaborator with Maryam Khan (PI); $45,000

2019-2021 University of Toronto Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, $45,000 per anum

2019 University of Toronto Teaching Assistants' Training Program Teaching Excellence Award, Shortlisted Finalist

2019 University of Toronto Graduate Professional Skills Development Certificate
Including: Community Engaged Service Learning; Teaching Higher Education; Conflict Resolution Fundamentals Workshop Series; Oral Presentation Skills; Introduction to Research Data Management; Understanding the Research Article: Reading Towards Writing; Fundamentals of Effective Research Grant Writing; Research Article Boot Camp

2018-2019 University of Toronto Arts and Sciences Doctoral Completion Award, $8,500

2017-2018 Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship Doctoral Award, $35,000

2017 Leading Women Building Communities Award, presented by MPP Glen Murray

2017 Teaching Fellowship, University of Toronto Mississauga, $1,800

2015-2018 Social Science and Humanities Research Council Doctoral Fellowship, $20,000 per annum

2014-2015 Ontario Graduate Scholarship, $15,000

2013-2017 University of Toronto Fellowship, $15,000 per annum
2013 Department of Sociology Outstanding Admissions Award, $5,000

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2025 Shah, Sarah. Canadian Muslim Women and Workplace Hierarchies: An Intersectional Analysis. Canadian Sociological Association Conference. Toronto, Canada. Presented virtually.

2025 Shah, Sarah. A Space of Her Own: Previously Married Muslim Women's Religious Reclamations. International Sociological Association Forum. Rabat, Morocco. (Withdrawn due to travel concerns)

2022 Shah, Sarah, invited paper. The Study of Muslims in Canada: Counting Muslims & Big Data. The University of Toronto – Humboldt University Conference. Toronto, Canada.

2020 Shah, Sarah. Black Canadian Muslims: Gendered Differences in Experiences of Discrimination and Civic Participation. Canadian Sociological Association Annual Meeting. London, Canada. (Cancelled due to COVID-19)

2020 Shah, Sarah, invited paper. Whiteness in Data Architecture: The Neglect of Canadian Ethnoreligious Minorities. The Racialisation of Violent Extremism. Geneva, Switzerland. (Cancelled due to COVID-19)

2020 Thawer, Rahim, Lali Mohamed, Yaseen Ali, and Sarah Shah. LGBTQ Muslim Resource Development Project. Biennial Rainbow Health Ontario Conference. Niagara, ON. (Cancelled due to COVID-19)

2019 Shah, Sarah, invited paper. Religious Approach and Immigrant Muslim Lived Experiences. International Muswah Workshop.

2019 Shah, Sarah, invited paper. Intersectional Subjectivities in Canadian Muslim Communities. Measuring Identities Forum, Statistics Canada. Gatineau, Canada.

2019 Shah, Sarah. The Divergent Discriminatory Narratives of Different Religious Reflexive Approaches. Center for the Multidisciplinary Study on Racism. University of Uppsala, Sweden.

2019 Shah, Sarah. Why Natal Family Narratives Diverge by Religious Reflexive Approaches. Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. St. Louis, MO.

2019 Shah, Sarah. How Gendered Family Practices Diverge by Religious Reflexive Approaches. American Sociological Association Annual Meetings. New York, NY.

2018 Thawer, Rahim, Yaseen Ali, and Sarah Shah. LGBT Muslims and Mental Health. Biennial Rainbow Health Ontario Conference. Sudbury, ON.

2017 Sarah Shah. The Context of Birth Country Gender Inequality on Mental Health Outcomes of Intimate Partner Violence. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Montreal, Canada.

2017 Sarah Shah. Distress in Gender Atypical Occupations. Canadian Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Toronto, Canada.

2017 Sarah Shah. The Context of Birth Country Gender Inequality on Mental Health Outcomes of Intimate Partner Violence; Junior Scholars Workshop I: Migration and Mental Health. Canadian Sociological Association Annual Meeting. Toronto, Canada.

2017 Sarah Shah, Sara Abdel Latif, and Maryam Khan. Intersectional Subjectivities: Queer Muslim Positionality Resisting Binaristic Constructions. Interdisciplinary Research Symposium. University of California, Berkeley.

2017 Salem, Rania and Sarah Shah. Determinants and Consequences of Kin Marriage in Egypt. Population Association of America. Chicago, Illinois.

2017 Shah, Sarah, Sara Abdel Latif, and Maryam Khan. Neoliberalism and the Neglect of Queer Muslims. Graduate Research Symposium. Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada.

2016 Salem, Rania, and Sarah Shah. Determinants and Outcomes of Kin Marriage. Economic Research Forum. Cairo, Egypt.

2014 Shah, Sarah. Arab American Mental Health: Religion as a Hierarchal Social Structure. International Stress Conference. Vancouver, British Columbia.

2013 Shah, Sarah, Gabriel Acevedo, and Andrea L. Ruiz. Egyptian Nationalism Pre- and Post- 9/11: An Imagined Communities Perspective. Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Boston, Massachusetts.

2013 Shah, Sarah, Christopher C. Ellison, and Harriett Romo. Religious Coping in Foster Care Alumni Mental Distress. Association for the Sociology of Religion Annual Meeting. New York, New York.

2013 Shah, Sarah, John P. Bartkowski, and Xiaohe Xu. Gendered God Imagery and Attitudes towards Maternal Workforce Participation: Examining Transposable Character of Religious Schemas. American Sociological Society Annual Meeting. New York, New York.

2013 Shah, Shah and Harriett D. Romo. Foster Care Alumni with Children: Exiting Care, Entering College. American Sociological Society Annual Meeting. New York, New York.

2013 Shah, Shah and Harriett D. Romo. Exploring the Parenting Skills of Foster Care Alumni. Southern Sociological Society. Atlanta, Georgia.

2012 Acevedo, Gabriel, and Sarah Shah. Sectarian Affiliation and Gender Traditionalism: A Sociological Study of Sunni and Shi'a Muslims in Four Predominantly Muslim Countries. Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Phoenix, Arizona.

2012 Shah, Sarah. The Buffering Effects of Religion on Arab American Mental Health. Association for the Sociology of Religion. Denver, Colorado.

TEACHING

SOCI5366, *Social Inequality: Race, Class, and Gender in the US*, Dept. of Sociology, Texas State University (Spring 2026)

SOCI3338, *Family Problems*, Dept. of Sociology, Texas State University (Spring 2026)

SOCI4306, *Sociological Theory*, Dept. of Sociology, Texas State University (Spring 2025; Fall 2026)

SOCI3350, *Gender and Society*, Dept. of Sociology, Texas State University (Spring 2025)

SOC425, *Gender in Global Contexts,* Dept. of Sociology, University of Toronto Mississauga (Winter 2024)

SOC408, *Anti-Muslim Racism,* Dept. of Sociology, University of Toronto Mississauga (Winter 2023, Fall 2023)

SOC318, *Sociology of Mental Health and Mental Disorders,* Dept. of Sociology, University of Toronto Mississauga (Fall 2022, Winter 2023)

SOC244, *Sociology of Families*, Dept. of Sociology, University of Toronto Mississauga (Fall 2020-Summer 2024)

SOC362, *Sex, Gender, and Work,* Dept. of Sociology, University of Toronto Mississauga (Fall 2020-Fall 2022)

SOC265, *Sociology of Gender,* Dept. of Sociology, University of Toronto Mississauga (Fall 2021)

SOC263, *Introduction to Race and Ethnicity*, Dept. of Sociology, University of Toronto Mississauga (Fall 2020)

SOCD08 *Advanced Research Seminar in Gender and Family*, Dept. of Sociology, University of Toronto Scarborough (Winter 2018)

SOC364, *New Directions in Social Inequality*, Dept. of Sociology, University of Toronto Mississauga (Summer 2017)

SOCC29, *Family and Gender in the Middle East*, Dept. of Sociology, University of Toronto Scarborough (Winter 2017)

SOC2013, *Social Problems*, Dept. of Sociology, University of Texas San Antonio (Fall 2012-Summer 2013)

<u>Invited Guest Lectures</u>

"The Globalization of Tiered Care Work," University of Toronto Mississauga (November 2016)

"Men and Masculinities in Palestine," University of Toronto Scarborough (March 2016)

"Through the Ages: Lives of Muslim Women," University of Incarnate Word, San Antonio (March 2012)

"Women and Gender in Islam," University of Incarnate Word, San Antonio (February 2012)

SUPERVISION

Postdoctoral Supervision

2022-2023 Sana Patel (PhD, University of Ottawa)
The Islamophobia Index
Muslims in Canada Data Initiative, Institute of Islamic Studies
The University of Toronto

Research Supervision

2023 ASPIRE Project research team: Fatima Khan, Anam Kazim, Alina Haidary, Zainab Jamal, Freshta Karimi, Fatimah Dini, Shumona Shafinaz, Silmy Abdullah, Sumaya Bahar, Rana Alrabi, and Kamilah Mohammad
Muslims in Canada Data Initiative, Institute of Islamic Studies
The University of Toronto

2022 Survey of Muslims in Canada (SMiC): Fatema Isam
Muslims in Canada Data Initiative, Institute of Islamic Studies
The University of Toronto

2021 Voices that Matter research team: Zainab Jamal and Ilham Ismail
Muslims in Canada Data Initiative, Institute of Islamic Studies
The University of Toronto

2020 Canadian Muslim Health Exceptionalism: Aleena Atif
Muslims in Canada Data Initiative, Institute of Islamic Studies
The University of Toronto

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT AND UNIVERSITY

Principal Researcher and Project Manager, Muslims in Canada Data Initiative, 2019-2024

Faculty Liaison, UTM Sociology & Criminology Student Society, 2022-2024

Committee Member, Dean's Excellence Awards, 2021

Co-organizer: International Women’s Day Celebration, The University of Toronto,

2017

Co-organizer: December 6th National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, Hart House, The University of Toronto, 2016

Co-creator and Facilitator: Resisting Oppression and Reclaiming Spirituality (ROARS), Centre for Women and Trans People / Multi Faith Centre, The University of Toronto, 2015 – 2017

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND MEMBERSHIP

Reviewer: *American Sociological Review, Social Forces, Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, Journal of Islamic Law and Culture, Religion and Gender, Sociology of Islam*

Member: Canadian Sociological Association, Canadian Association for the Study of Islam and Muslims, American Sociological Association, Association for the Sociology of Religion, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Southern Sociological Society, American Educational Research Association, British Association for Islamic Studies