

INTRODUCTION

The creation of the Institute for the Study of Muslim Societies and Civilizations at Boston University reflects the university's long-standing commitment to the advancement of scholarship of the Muslim world. The Institute will act as an interdisciplinary meeting point for scholars and researchers in diverse fields – ranging from anthropology, history, religion, politics, literature, language, and the arts – across the regions in which Muslims live – from the Americas to Europe, the Middle East, South and Southeast Asia.



INSTITUTE DIRECTOR

The Institute's director is Thomas J. Barfield, Professor of Anthropology at Boston University and President of the American Institute of Afghanistan Studies.

His published work has focused largely on contemporary and historical nomadic peoples of Eurasia. He has conducted extensive fieldwork in among nomads in northern Afghanistan as well as a shorter period of research on the cultural and economic impacts of decollectivization of the Kazaks in Xinjiang, China, and the problems of economic change, ethnicity and nationalism in post-Soviet Uzbekistan.

His current research focuses on war reconstruction and economic development in Afghanistan as well as its political reorganization.

SCHOLARSHIP

The Institute is committed to educating a new generation of exceptional scholars in the varied and cross-disciplinary fields of Muslim studies. In support of this commitment, the University recently acquired four major Middle Eastern and Central Asian libraries to significantly expand Boston University's holdings. The Institute will continue to build on these resources, by acquiring additional books, journals, periodicals, and works of art – making Boston University a major center of Muslim research. The Institute intends to design, with existing departments, unique academic programs at both the masters and doctoral level that are tailored to individual students' disciplines and interests. In addition to existing fellowships and other resources provided by the university, the Institute will attract external support for graduate and postdoctoral fellowships, for visiting lecturers, and for endowed professorships.



OUR MISSION:

To study, teach, and –most importantly– to learn from the histories, cultures, sacred and secular literatures, and arts of Muslim societies and civilizations.

ASSOCIATED DEPARTMENTS

Department of Anthropology
Department of Archaeology
Department of Art History
Department of History
Department of International Relations
Department of Modern Foreign Languages
and Comparative Literatures
Department of Political Science
Department of Religion
Division of Religious and Theological Studies
Institute on Culture, Religion and World Affairs
Women's Studies
Boston University's Islamic Libraries
at the Howard Gotlieb Archival Research Center

ASSOCIATED INSTITUTIONS

American Institute of Afghanistan Studies
American Research Institute in Turkey
Global Health Initiative at Boston University
Boston Forum on the Middle East (with BC/Tufts)
Fulbright Visiting Specialists Program
Campagna-Kerven Lecture on Turkey

**“And so We awoke them that they might question one another.” - Quran, Surah 18.*

ASSOCIATED FACULTY

Kecia Ali – Assistant Professor of Religion
Betty S. Anderson – Assistant Professor of History
Thomas J. Barfield – Professor of Anthropology, President
of the American Institute of Afghanistan
Studies
Fredrik Barth – Professor of Anthropology
Cynthia Becker – Assistant Professor of Art History
Houchang E. Chehabi – Professor of International
Relations and History
Andre de Quadros – Director, School of Music
Charles F. Dunbar – Professor of International Relations
Emine Fetvaci – Assistant Professor of Art History
Irene L. Gendzier – Professor of Political Science
Thomas F. Glick – Director, Institute for Medieval History
and Professor of History
Erik Goldstein – Chair and Professor of International
Relations
Shahla Haeri – Director, Women's Studies Program and
Associate Professor of Anthropology
Nancy Smith-Hefner – Associate Professor of Anthropology
Robert Hefner – Professor of Anthropology
Nazli Kibria – Associate Professor of Sociology
Frank Korom – Associate Professor of Religion and
Anthropology
Lance Laird – Fellow in General Pediatrics, School of Medicine
Charles Lindholm – Professor of Anthropology
Margaret Litvin – Assistant Professor of Arabic and
Comparative Literature
Diana Lobel – Assistant Professor of Religion
Herbert W. Mason – Professor Emeritus of History and
Religion
Roberta Micallef – Assistant Professor of Turkish
M. Rafique Mughal – Professor of Archeology and Heritage
Management
Fallou Ngom – Associate Professor of Anthropology and
Director of the African Language Program
Augustus Richard Norton – Professor of International
Relations and Anthropology
Elizabeth Prodromou – Assistant Professor of International
Relations
Sunil Sharma – Senior Lecturer in Persian
Merlin Swartz – Professor Emeritus of Religion
Sassan Tabatabai – Instructor, Core Curriculum
Jenny B. White – Associate Professor of Anthropology
Diana Wylie – Professor of History

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