

## Curriculum Vitae

### Mohammad Jafar Mahallati

#### PERSONAL

Name: Mohammad Jafar Mahallati

Address: Department of Religion  
10 North Professor Street, Rice Hall 328  
Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio 44074-1095

Office: (440) 775-8861  
Fax: (440) 775-6910  
Cell phone: (240) 401-1654  
Email: [jafar.mahallati@oberlin.edu](mailto:jafar.mahallati@oberlin.edu)

#### EDUCATION

Ph.D. zIslamic Studies, McGill University  
(Field: History of Islamic Thought; Thesis Title: *Ethics of War in Muslim Cultures: a Critical and Comparative Perspective*, 2006)  
M.Sc. Political Economy, University of Oregon  
(Thesis Title: *A Critique of Marxist Theory of Imperialism*, 1980)

B.Sc. Civil Engineering, University of Kansas (1978)

B.A. Economics, National University, Tehran (1975)  
Islamic Theology: Khan Seminary (*madrasa*), Shiraz (1970)

#### EMPLOYMENT

Presidential Scholar in Islamic Studies, Oberlin College (Religion Department, 2009- )

Visiting Professor, Islamic and MENA Studies, Oberlin College  
(Taught courses on Islamic Thought and History, Middle East and North African Studies, 2007-09)

Visiting Professor of Trans-Regional Studies, Princeton University  
(Organized lecture series on Modern Iran, Islam and the Middle East, 1998-99)

Adjunct Professor of International Affairs, Georgetown and Yale Universities (Taught graduate courses on Religion and Politics in the Middle East, emphasis on Iran, 1998)

Adjunct Professor of International Affairs, Columbia University, New York (Taught graduate courses on Politic, International Relations, and Religion, 1991-97)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Iran to the United Nations  
(Played a key role in ending the eight year war between Iran and Iraq, 1987-89)

Director General, Economic and International Affairs,  
*Ministry of Foreign Affairs*, Iran  
Assistant Professor and Chair, Economics Department, Kerman University,  
Iran (Taught courses on Islamic Economics and Ethics, 1980-81)

ARTICLES, BOOK CHAPTERS, INTERVIEWS (Select-List):

Sepehri, Sohrab. *Water's Footfall*, co-translation with Kazim Ali. Richmond, California: Omnidawn Publishing, 2011

“Biography and the Image of a Medieval Historian: *The Tārīkh-i Jahāngushā of Atā-Malik Juvaynī*.” In *The Rhetoric of Biography: Narrating Lives in Arabic, Persian and Turkish*, edited by Louise Marlow. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Ilex Series, Distributed by Harvard University Press, 2011

“Iran and the Universal Space of Friendship,” interview published by PBS (March 4, 2011):

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/need-to-know/the-daily-need/iran-and-the-universal-space-of-friendship/7772/>

“The Significance of Dream Interpretations in the Qur’an.” In *Dreaming across Boundaries: the Interpretation of Dreams in Islamic Lands*, edited by Louise Marlow. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Ilex Series, Distributed by Harvard University Press, 2008

“Ethics of War in Persian Literature.” *Journal of Literary Studies*, The Azad University of Iran, vol. II, Tehran (2007)

“Moderates Everywhere Have a Duty,” (with Olga M. Davidson), *The International Herald Tribune*, December 4, 2002

“To Rebuild Afghanistan Look Next Door,” (with Olga M. Davidson), *The New York Times*, February 28, 2002

“Islam and the West: Challenges and Opportunities,” in *Under Siege: Islam and Democracy*, Richard W. Bulliet (ed.), New York: The Middle East Institute of Columbia University, 1994

“The New Persian Gulf Security Arrangement and the Relevant Factors,” *Middle East Insight*, Vol. 8, No. 1 (July-August 1991), pp. 22-24

## COURSES TAUGHT

### **Oberlin College**

Islam (Fall 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011)

Introduction to the Quran, (Spring 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012)

Introduction to Muslim Cultures and Civilizations: A Humanistic Approach, co-teaching with Esra Akin and Ali Yedes (Spring 2012)

Islamic Mystic Traditions, and Literature, Seminar (Spring 2009, Fall 2011)

Forgiveness in Christian and Islamic Traditions, co-taught with James Swan Tuite (Spring 2011)

The Making of an Ayatollah, First Year Seminar Program (Fall 2009, 2010)

Religion and Politics in the Modern Muslim World (Spring 2010)

Ethics in Islam: A Historical and Theoretical Perspective (Spring 2007, 2008)

Politics and Religion in the Modern Middle East (Fall 2007, 2008)

Introduction to the Middle East and North African Studies (Spring 2007, 2008)

### **Courses in Progress**

Supplication Literatures in Muslim Traditions

Ethics of Friendship in Muslim Cultures: Theory and Practice

Gratitude in Christian and Islamic Traditions

### **Columbia, Georgetown and Yale Universities**

Iran's Foreign Policies, Prospects and Retrospect, Graduate, Columbia, Yale and Georgetown Universities (1994-98)

Iran-Iraq War, A Case Study for the United Nations, Graduate (1995-97)

## AWARD and GRANTS

Ehsan Yarshater Fellow of Persian Studies, Center for Middle East Studies, Harvard University; conducted a research on Ethics of War in Muslim Cultures, a Critical and Comparative Perspective (2004-05)

Powers Travel Grant, Oberlin College (2011)

## INITIATIVE

Initiated the Friendship Day Festival at Oberlin College. The festival received wide support by the College administration, faculty and students and the Oberlin City Council. The festival will be annually celebrated each year on April 8<sup>th</sup>. The American National Friendship Day has already received supports from the White House, a few members of the US Congress and Oberlin City Council (Passed a resolution in support of the American National Friendship Day).

## LANGUAGES

English, Persian (Native) and Arabic (fluent), French (working)