

**NADIA QAMAR SIDDIQUI**



## **EDUCATION**

MSc. in Evidence-Based Social Work, Department of Social Policy and Social Work, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK 2004

Focus: Interventions in Criminal Justice, Interventions for Refugees and Asylum Seekers

B.A. (Honors) in Psychology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI USA 2003

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **SOCIAL INQUIRY, Erbil, Iraq / Barcelona, Spain 7/2017 – Present**

#### **Co-Founder & Executive Director**

Founded a non-profit research institution to conduct creative applied, cross-disciplinary research to influence debate, policy and praxis oriented at establishing civic trust and repairing the social fabric within and between groups and groups and the state in fragile communities. Quantitative and qualitative research related to governance, civic trust, and inequality. Lead the organization in strategic planning including expanding into Iraq, Sudan, and Syria, developing new partnerships and funding streams, and steadily increasing budget and organizational capacity pre-pandemic to seven full-time staff researchers as well as external, high-level experts and consultants. Focus on research exploring identities and belonging in displacement (and return), measuring social cohesion and institutional trust, understanding what reconciliation and transitional justice mean to communities, building movements, and the intersections of these topics in the aftermath of conflict and prolonged displacement.

### **OXFAM GB, Erbil, Iraq 10/2016 – 6/2017**

#### **Campaigns & Advocacy Manager**

Member of Iraq Office's Country Management Team. Developed strategic objectives on advocacy and communications for 2016-2018 plan. Recruited and supervised a team of 4 national and international staff to conduct research, develop strategic communications, and carry out policy advocacy in relation to protection of civilians over the duration and aftermath of the ISIS conflict and post-conflict recovery and peacebuilding in Iraq. Developed policy lines and talking points in relation to these topics. Participated in high-level international advocacy including presenting at meetings with government officials, diplomats, and experts and speaking to media.

### **MIDDLE EAST RESEARCH INSTITUTE, Erbil, Iraq 10/2015 – 3/2016**

#### **Research Fellow**

Contributed to existing research projects and developed own related to displacement and social cohesion, including successfully designing a project with United States Institute for Peace on minority communities' views of reconciliation. Mentored junior Iraqi researchers including supporting them in efforts for prestigious scholarships and fellowship programs abroad.

### **INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT, New York, NY & Erbil, Iraq 1/2014 – 6/2016**

Conducted research and analysis, including monitoring and evaluation. Provided strategic guidance and technical advice to technical proposal and frameworks for policy implementation and programmatic interventions. Clients included the East-West Center (Honolulu, HI USA), International Development Law Organization (The Hague, The Netherlands), Afghanistan Analysts Network (Kabul, Afghanistan), and Heartland Alliance International (Erbil, Iraq), among others.

**INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE, New York, NY 1/2008 – 8/2015**  
**Manager of Strategy & Grants Development (10/2012 – 8/2015)**

Advised Development Director on development strategy. Spearheaded efforts to improve program design and internal and external monitoring and reporting for both institutional learning and more change/results-oriented understanding of programming. This contributed to stronger program implementation and understanding of impact in the conduct of technical assistance and social movement building related to accountability and redress across contexts. Led in the conceptualization and drafting of proposals/concept notes, working with directors across the institution to help design programs, evaluations, and budgets for specific donor audiences. Conducted technical visits to support country offices in Tunisia and Kenya with respect to program design and reporting and participated in workshops in support of policy advocacy for Syria interventions.

**Associate, Afghanistan Program (1/2008 – 6/2012, program ended)**

In collaboration with senior experts, developed and implemented programming in Afghanistan. Specific interest and leadership in memorialization/documentation, civil society networking, and innovative arts-based programming. Participated in substantive travel missions to Washington, D.C., Europe, and Afghanistan. Research in theatre and other arts-based approaches to and cultural implications of transitional justice published in edited volumes and contributed to laying the initial basis for the organization's expanded and concerted programming and expertise in the realm of cultural production, justice, and social movement building in fragile societies, including those emerging from conflict, repression, and/or systemic violence and inequality.

**Associate, International Policy Relations (1/2008 – 9/2012, program ended)**

Represented organization at high-level policy meetings and briefings. Particular focus on links between peacebuilding and transitional justice; development and transitional justice; and disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration and transitional justice. Liaised with country and thematic teams to connect them to relevant policy actors for targeted interventions and technical assistance. Led in the development and organization of high-level international and cross-regional meetings, courses, and events. Wrote and edited factsheets, briefing notes, and formal comparative studies.

**SAMARITAN VILLAGE, INC., Briarwood, NY, 7/2005 – 12/2007**

**Research Associate**

Responsible for data collection and data analysis and reporting for a study on homeless, mentally ill substance abusers. Designed program and implementation evaluations. Created and conducted in-house surveys. Held focus groups with clients regarding treatment services. Data published in peer-reviewed journals and presented at relevant professional conferences.

**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT, Beirut, Lebanon 1/2005 – 3/2005**

**Research Intern, Department of Social and Behavioral Science**

Designed and implemented a brief needs assessment of the Fanar Juvenile Reformatory.

**MIRSAD/HUMAN RIGHTS MEDIA NETWORK, Beirut, Lebanon 11/2004 – 3/2005**

**Editorial/Writing Intern**

Researched and wrote stories on local events to raise human rights awareness in Lebanon.

**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, Ann Arbor, MI 8/2000 – 9/2003**

**Research Assistant and Laboratory Manager, Departments of Psychology and Neurology**

Oversaw day to day management of an experimental biopsychology laboratory. Developed and implemented protocols for all laboratory/electrophysiology techniques. Collaborated in designing and technically implementing experiments with professors, PhD researchers, post docs, and graduate students.

**SELECT PRESENTATIONS, GUEST LECTURES, & PANELS**

Siddiqui, N. (2022). "Streets Tell Stories: The Effects of Neighborhood Social Environment on Mental Health and Psychosocial Wellbeing in the Aftermath of Conflict." Guest lecture in Global Mental Health Systems

within the International Disaster Psychology Program, Graduate School of Professional Psychology at the University of Denver, Denver, Colorado (remote): February 22, 2022.

Siddiqui, N. (2021). Panelist in the webinar discussion on The Politics of Displacement in Iraq co-hosted by Chatham House and the Institute of Regional and International Studies at the American University of Slemani, (remote): March 3, 2021.

Siddiqui, N. (2021). "The Contributions of Storytelling and Participatory Theatre to Transitional Justice." Talk for a panel on Transitional Justice through the Lens of Art for the Oxford Transitional Justice Research Seminar Series co-organized with the Oxford Institute for Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict, Oxford, UK (remote): January 18, 2021.

Siddiqui, N. (2020). "Reasons to Remain: Determinants of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) Integration into Host Communities in Iraq." Paper presented on panel on Access to Durable Solutions Among IDPs in Iraq: What Four Years of Longitudinal Study Data Tells Us about the IASC Framework for Durable Solutions and Measuring the End of Displacement at the International Forum on Migration Statistics, Cairo, Egypt: January 21, 2020.

Siddiqui, N. (2019). "Reasons to Remain: Determinants of IDP Integration into Host Communities in Iraq." Paper presented on panel on Prevention, Mitigation and Solutions – Connecting Local and National Efforts at the Internal Displacement Conference, Geneva, Switzerland: October 1, 2019.

Siddiqui, N. (2018). "IDPs, Social Cohesion, and Transitional Justice: A Research Perspective." Presentation for panel on Transitional Justice and Internal Displacement with Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of IDPs at the IOM-NGO Humanitarian Consultation, Geneva, Switzerland: September 25, 2018.

Siddiqui, N. (2017). "We Don't Want Them Back: Balancing Rights of Displaced, Returning, and Remaining Populations in the Aftermath of ISIS in Ninewa, Iraq," paper presented at The Migration Conference 2017. Athens, Greece: August 2017.

Siddiqui, N. (2017). "Identities in Motion: Understanding Localized Fragility and Identity Dynamics in Displacement and Return in Iraq," paper presented at the International Organization for Migration and University of Kurdistan-Hawler conference on Migration and Displacement in Iraq: Working Toward Durable Solutions, Erbil, Iraq: April 2017.

Siddiqui, N. (2015). "Afghanistan Human Rights and Democracy Organization (AHRDO): Utilizing Creative Strategies for Victim Mobilization, Policy Recommendations, and Social Change in Afghanistan." Guest lecture in Creative Approaches to Difficult Problems: Arts-Based Practice for Social Change and Justice at the Center for Global Affairs, School of Professional Studies, High School Academy, New York University, New York, NY: July 30, 2015.

Siddiqui, N. (2015). "At the Frontlines of Education and Peace: Creating Mechanisms of Support for Educators Teaching Transitional Justice in Divided Societies." Paper presented during the Georg Arnhold Summer School on Transitional Justice and Education at the Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research, Braunschweig, Germany: June 25, 2015.

Siddiqui, N. (2015). "Portrait of the Artists: An Examination of Creative Production and the Search for Justice and Positive Change in Transitioning Contexts." Paper presented at the Spectres of Justice: The Aesthetics of Dealing with Violent Pasts, conference organized by the Re-Configurations: History, Remembrance and Transformation Processes in the Middle East & North Africa Research Network of the University of Marburg, Marburg, Germany: May 30, 2015.

O'Connor-Hill, M., Siddiqui, N., Nikolova, L., & Munoz, B. (2015). "Creative Approaches for Support: Arts-Based Dialogue for Building Professional Support Amongst Mediators." Interactive workshop facilitated at the 7th Annual Mediators Beyond Borders International Congress, Bucharest, Romania: April 24, 2015.

O'Connor-Hill, M., Siddiqui, N., & Nikolova, L. (2014). "Helping Helpers: Establishing Creative Space to Support Educators Teaching History and Peacebuilding in Iraq." Paper presented at First Annual Academic Symposium on Peacebuilding and Education in Iraq held in conjunction with New York University and the University of Duhok, Duhok, Iraq: May 14, 2014.

Siddiqui, N. (2014). Beyond Survival: Theater, Culture, and Justice in Afghanistan. Talk for the Muslim Societies in Asia and the Pacific Program, University of Hawaii-Manoa, Honolulu, HI: February 26, 2014.

### **SELECT PEER-REVIEWED ACADEMIC PAPERS & CHAPTERS**

Ngoya, G. & Siddiqui, N. (2020). "Triple Nexus Implementation and Implications for Durable Solutions for Internal Displacement: On Paper and in Practice," *Refugee Survey Quarterly* 39: 466-480.

Siddiqui, N., Guiu, R., & Shwan, A. A. (2019). "Among Brothers and Strangers: Identities in Displacement in Iraq," *International Migration* 57 (2): 80-95.

Siddiqui, N. (2018). Balancing the Rights of Displaced, Returning and Remaining Populations: Learning from Iraq," *Forced Migration Review* 57: 64-5.

Siddiqui, N. (2018). "At the Frontlines of Education and Peace: Arts-based Storytelling in the Classroom." IN: Ramirez-Barat, C. & Schulze, M. (eds.) *Transitional Justice and Education: Engaging Young People in Peacebuilding and Education* (Göttingen: V & R unipress), 211-228.

Siddiqui, N., O'Connor-Hill, M., Munoz, B., & Nikolova, L. (2016). "The Space Between: Exploring the Interplay of Mediation and Applied Theatre Practices to Create Space for Dialogue and Support." *Journal of Mediation and Applied Conflict Analysis* 3 (1): 4-15.

Siddiqui, N. & Joffre-Eichhorn, H. (2014). "From Tears to Energy: Early Uses of Participatory Theater in Afghanistan." IN: Ramirez-Barat, C. (ed.) *Beyond Outreach: Transitional Justice, Culture, and Society* (New York: Social Science Research Council), 368-394.

Siddiqui, N., Marifat, H., & Kouvo, S. (2014). "Culture, Theater and Justice: Examples from Afghanistan." IN: Simic, O. & Rush, P. D. (eds.) *The Arts of Transitional Justice: Culture, Activism, and Memory after Atrocity* (New York: Springer), 113-134.

Siddiqui, N., Astone-Twerell, J., & Hernitche, T. (2009). "Staff Perspectives on Modified Therapeutic Community (MTC) Services for Homeless Dually Diagnosed Clients: An Exploratory Pilot," *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs* 41 (4): 355-61.

### **MOST RECENT SELECT TECHNICAL REPORTS & BRIEFS**

Siddiqui, N. & Mohammed, K.W. (2022). *Movements before Mechanisms: Community Grievances & Windows of Opportunity for Restorative Justice in a Transitional Justice Context* (Baghdad: GIZ).

Siddiqui, N. (2022). *Prospects for Resilience Amid Fragility: Conflict Analysis of Al-Qurna and Al-Dair Districts in Basra Governorate* (Baghdad: World Food Programme)

Siddiqui, N. & Guiu, R. (2021). *Return as Social Interactions: Networks and Perceptions Among Yazidi and Christian IDPs from Ninewa Governorate Comparative Report Waves 1, 2, & 3* (Erbil: Social Inquiry)

Guiu, R. & Siddiqui, N. (2021). *Migration into a Fragile Setting: Responding to Climate-Induced Informal Urbanization and Inequality in Basra, Iraq* (Baghdad: International Organization for Migration)

Siddiqui, N. (2021). *Streets Tell Stories: The Effects of Neighborhood Social Environment on Mental Health and Psychosocial Wellbeing in the Aftermath of Conflict* (The Hague: Cordaid)

Siddiqui, N. (2021). “‘Like A Father Who Doesn't Love His Children’: Institutional Trust, State Neglect, and Prospects for Justice in Post-Conflict Iraq,” Social Inquiry Research Brief (Erbil: Social Inquiry)

Siddiqui, N. & Guiu, R. (2020). “The Growing Role of Reconciliation in Return Movements: Snapshots from the Return Index,” Return Index Thematic Series Briefing No. 3 (Baghdad: International Organization for Migration)

Siddiqui, N. & Guiu, R. (2019). “Cities as a Refuge, Cities as a Home: The Relationship between Place and Perceptions of Integration among Urban Displaced Populations in Iraq,” Background Paper for the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre’s Global Report on Internal Displacement 2019 (Geneva: IDMC)

## **SELECT OP-EDS & BLOGS**

Guiu, R. & Siddiqui, N. (2017). “Providing Shelter in Urban Iraq: Where the Displaced Meet the Poor.” Citiscope.

Ramin, A. & Siddiqui, N. (2013). “Blood Line: Afghanistan and Pakistan’s Unspoken Border Dispute.” World Policy Institute.

Siddiqui, N. (2013). “Of Waterfalls and Lightning Bugs: Reflections on the 2013 Practicum on Experiential Peacebuilding.” Outward Bound Center for Peacebuilding.

## **COURSES**

Intensive Course on Prevention & Guarantees of Non-Recurrence: The Role of Transitional Justice  
International Center for Transitional Justice & Barcelona International Peace Center, Barcelona, Spain  
10/2019

Summer School on Transitional Justice and Education  
Georg Eckert Institute, Braunschweig, Germany 6/2015

Practicum in Experiential Peacebuilding  
Outward Bound Center for Peacebuilding, Piedras Blancas, Costa Rica, 6/2013

## **TECHNICAL SKILLS**

Advanced quantitative and qualitative research methods and design in the social sciences

Design, monitoring, and evaluation of community programming and policy

Strong written and oral communication skills

Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe InDesign and Photoshop, SPSS software, NVivo software, basic knowledge of R

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT**

### **APPLIED THEATRE COLLECTIVE, Brooklyn, NY 1/2014 – Present**

#### **Founding Member**

Collective of artists, educators, mediators, and humanitarian workers who use innovative, participatory activities to curate creative space for dialogue and action. Contributed to initial mission and vision of the collective, design and implementation of proposals, projects, and communications, establishment of the board, and expansion of members.

### **JELL-O MOLD DESIGN COMPETITION, Brooklyn, NY 2/2009 – 7/2011**

#### **Co-Director**

Food design competition asking participants to re-imagine the Jell-O mold. Developed original concept for design event, conceived annual themes, and contributed to brand. Devised public engagement strategy and partnerships, notably a workshop for high students within the Design Scholars Program at the Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum. Competition and/or co-directors have been featured in local, national, and international media including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Vogue, Time Out New York, The Independent, The New Yorker, CBS Sunday Morning, The Globe and Mail, WNYC Culture, Eater, Serious Eats, Core77, Huffington Post, and Make, among others.

### **SOJOURNERS TEAM MEMBER RIVERSIDE CHURCH, New York, NY 1/2006 – 12/2007**

#### **Volunteer**

Visited with asylum seekers and other vulnerable immigrants held in detention, providing friendship, practical support, and advocacy on their behalf.