

Curriculum Vita

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BIOGRAPHY

Dr Reza Masoudi Nejad is an urbanist, interested in the idea of protest, urban violence, and the spatial organisation of rituals with a focus on the Middle East and India. He has developed his interdisciplinary approach based on his long-term research focus on urban anthropology and his initial academic trainings in urban morphology and architecture. He is currently an Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellow at the Centre of Modern Oriental Studies (ZMO) in Berlin. Reza's current research, *the spatial phenomenology of Protest*, is about the post-election protest in Iran (2009). He is also a Research Associate at the Department of Anthropology and Sociology (SOAS) since 2011. Reza was a Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity (Göttingen) between 2009 and 2011, when he carried a research project about the Muharram rituals in Mumbai (India). He received his PhD on the spatial dynamics of religious processions in Iranian cities from UCL in 2009.

EDUCATION

PhD; University College London (UCL), University of London, 2009
Dissertation: ***The Rite of Urban Passage: the Spatial Transformation of Ashura Ritual in Iranian Cities during Iranian Modernisation***

MSc Advanced Architectural Studies; focused on 'space syntax' (a morphological theory), UCL, University of London, 2003
Dissertation: *A Socio-Spatial Idea in Historical Iranian Cities: A Comparative Study of the Spatial Structure of the City of Shushtar and Dezfoul*

Foundation Diploma for Postgraduate Studies (FDPS); SOAS, University of London, 2002. The diploma was based on two subjects: (1) Studies in European Society and (2) Studies in Media and Communications.
Dissertation: *The Ideal City in the Italian Renaissance*

MSc Architecture; Collage of Fine Art, University of Tehran, Iran, 1997
Dissertation: *the Cultural Structure of the City of Dezfoul*
Award: Dissertation of the Year in Art and Architecture (1996-7, Iran)

PEER REVIEWER

The Journal of *Iranian Studies* (published by Routledge)

The journal of *Diversities* (by UNESCO & MPI-MMG)

External reviewer of Rosa-Luxemburg-Foundation (Germany) for PhD grants

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCES

Currently: Alexander von Humboldt Fellow at the Centre of Modern Oriental Studies (ZMO), Berlin (May 2013-2015)

Research Associate at Department of Anthropology and Sociology, Faculty of Art and Humanities, SOAS, University of London (2011-2015)

Research Fellow: Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity (MPI-MMG), Göttingen, Germany, 2009-2011

Teaching Fellow: Higher Education Centre for Cultural Heritage, Tehran, Iran, 2001

Teaching Fellow: Islamic Azad University at Dezfoul, Iran, 1999-2000

Teaching Fellow: Jundi-Shapur University of Technology, Dezfoul, Iran, 1996-97 and 1998-99

PUBLICATIONS

Upcoming: The Muharram Procession of Mumbai: From Seafront to Cemetery, in Van der Veer, Peter (Edt) *Urban Aspirations in Asia: critical perspectives on the religious and the secular*. University of California Press.

Upcoming: *Iran* in Encyclopaedia of Religious Practices, Thomas Riggs.

Upcoming: Trans-spatial Public Action: the Geography of Iranian Post-election Protests in the age of Web 2.0, in Rahimi, Babak (Edt) *Iran and Social Media*, SUNY Press.

Upcoming: Urban Violence, the Muharram Processions, and the Transformation of Iranian Urban Society: the Case of Dezfoul, in Freitag, U. (Edt), *Rethinking Urban Violence in Middle Eastern Cities: From Empire to Nation States*, Berghahn.

The Spatial Logic of Crowd: the Effectiveness of Protest in Public Space; *International Journal of Islamic Architecture*, Vol. 2, No. 1, March 2013, pp. 157-178. (peer-reviewed publication)

The Discursive Manifestation of Past and Present through the Spatial Organisation of the Ashura Procession, *Space and Culture*, May 2013, Vol. 16, No. 2, pp. 133-160. (peer-reviewed publication)

Practising Fractal Shi'i Identities through Muharram Rituals in Mumbai; *Diversities, International Journal on Multicultural Societies*, Vol. 14, No. 2, 2012, pp. 103-117. (peer-reviewed publication)

Oral History and Urban Studies; pp. 141-159, in *Oral History of Iran* (2007), pp. 141-159 Tehran: National Library and Archives of I.R. Iran. 2009. ISBN: 978-964-446-223-4 (in Farsi)

The Modern Transformation and Generation of the Image of Social Life in Iranian Historic City: Field study and qualitative methods in urban studies; pp. 281-286, in Pellegrini, P. & Ferrario, V. (edit) (2006) *Urbanism and Urbanisation, a new modernity – approaches, theories and designs*. Venice: Universit luav di Venezia (peer-reviewed publication)

The Spatial Dynamic of Religious Ritual in Iranian Cities during the Modern Transformation; pp. 351-359, in *Urbanism and Urbanisation, Vol 1*; Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Barcelona: Carlos Saldana (ETSAB). ISBN: 84-7653-871-5 (peer-reviewed publication)

Social Bazaar and Commercial Bazaar: Comparative Study of Spatial Role of Iranian Bazaar in the Historical Cities in Different Socio-economic Context, pp. 187-200 in Akkelies van Nes (edit) (2005) *Proceedings of 5th International Space Syntax Symposium, Vol 1*; Delft: TU Delft. ISBN: 90-8594-002-8. (peer-reviewed publication)

A Study about New Streets and Transformation of Iranian Cities in the 1930s, Saba, No. 5, October-November 2002, pp. 40-43 (in Farsi)

Translation: Hillier, Bill (1998) Reasoning Art: or the Need for an Analytic Theory of Architecture, *Epistemological Foundation in Teaching Architecture*, Published in Farsi in *Abadi*, No 43-44, 2005, p.p. 134-139

Translation: Foster, Sir N. (2004) Architects as Environmentalist, Economist, special issue: The World in 2005, Published in Farsi in *Shargh* (newspaper), No 409, 6th Feb, 2005

RECENT CONFERENCE PAPERS & SEMINARS

“Ritual, Public Space, and Urban Development: the Bohras' Muharram in Mumbai”; at Prayer, Architecture, History. ZMO, Berlin, November 2013.

“Trans-spatial Protest in the Age of Web 2.0: the Geography of Iran Post-election Protest”, a seminar given at University of Copenhagen, Denmark, October 2013.

“Where is My Vote? Where is Our Public Space, the Production of Public Space in Post-election Tehran”; at From Tehran to Tahrir, Public Space Redefinition. The Annenberg School of Communication, University of Penn, February 2013

“Iranian Diaspora and the Dynamics of Muharram Rituals in Mumbai”; a seminar given at Department of Anthropology and Sociology, SOAS, London, January 2012.

“The Rite of Deforming a City: Muharram Rituals in Mumbai”; a seminar given as a part of South Asian History Seminars at Asian Studies Centre, St. Antony's College, University of Oxford, November 2011.