

Fall 2024

# ASSYRIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

*Quarterly Newsletter*

Vol. 3 Issue 03



Photo Credit: Benjamin Odisho.



## Children's/Popular Book Grant

Application Now Open

JAN. 30  
DEADLINE



## ASA AT THE NINEVEH ACADEMIC CHAIR INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

ASA Executive Director and Board Members Attend and Present at the Nineveh Academic Chair's 3rd International Congress in Paris.

[Read more on p. 3](#)

## NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN & POPULAR BOOK GRANT

ASA accepting applications until January 30, 2025 for the Children/Popular Book Grant.

[Read more on p. 6](#)

## INTERVIEW WITH BEDRI BET HURMUZ

Read the interview conducted by Alexandra Lazar, Executive Director of the Assyrian Studies Association in December 2024.

[Read more on p. 9](#)

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*The Assyrian Studies Association is honoring 60 years of service the Assyrian Foundation of America has provided for Assyrians around the globe.*

Dear Board of the Assyrian Foundation of America,

On behalf of the Assyrian Studies Association, we want to extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Assyrian Foundation of America on the remarkable achievement of your 60th anniversary! Sixty years of dedicated service to the Assyrian community is an incredible milestone, and we are in admiration of the positive impact you have made over the decades. Your commitment to preserving our culture, advancing education, and supporting Assyrians across generations is truly inspiring. We wish you many more years of success, growth, and continued contributions to our collective future!

"The collective forethought and care demonstrated by the Assyrian Foundation of America for 60 years has created a bastion for various work and aid to aid the Assyrian heritage in all of its aspects. Many thanks and here is to 60 more!," said Sargon Donabed, Assyrian Studies Association Board of Director.

Your unwavering support has been a driving force behind the growth and continued success of the Assyrian Studies Association. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to launch the first-ever Assyrian Studies Symposium at Stanford University—a historic event that brought together scholars, students, and community members to celebrate and explore our shared heritage. As you know, the symposium was a success, elevating the field of Assyrian Studies and sparking meaningful discussions that will leave a lasting impact on both academic and cultural communities.

We are also extremely grateful for your backing of our Preserving Assyria Initiative. This initiative, aimed at safeguarding the history and legacy of the Assyrian people, has reached new heights thanks to your support. Your generosity has empowered us to document, preserve, and share the stories of Assyrian communities worldwide, ensuring that future generations will have access to our rich cultural heritage.



Beyond your support for our organization, the Assyrian Foundation of America has been a beacon of strength for the Assyrian community. Through scholarships for young scholars, the funding of cultural projects, and your tireless efforts to preserve our language and identity, you have uplifted countless Assyrians, helping them achieve their goals and keeping our traditions alive. Your contributions to the academic and cultural well-being of our people are unparalleled.

We are truly honored to have your ongoing partnership, and I would like to take this moment to thank each member of your board: President Sargon Shabbas, Vice President Annie Elias, Secretary Dr. Julia Hallisy, Treasurer Mariam Karoukian, Membership Chair Ramin Daniels, Social Committee Flora Kingsbury and Chris Hamzaeff, Education & Cultural Chair Dr. Jack Chaharbakhshi, Welfare & Humanitarian Chair Dr. Robert Karoukian, and Nineveh Magazine Editor Dr. Ninwe Maraha. Your vision, dedication, and commitment to the Assyrian cause have been instrumental in the success of our initiatives.

Together, we are building a stronger, more connected Assyrian community for generations to come. We look forward to continuing this journey with you, and we are excited about the great work we will accomplish together in the years ahead.

With deepest appreciation and gratitude,

**Assyrian Studies Association**

Alexandra Lazar, *Executive Director*

Sargon Donabed, *Board Member*

Anobel Odisho, *Board Member*

Önver Cetrez, *Board Member*

Ruth Kambar, *Board Member*

Michel Shamoon-Pour, *Board Member*

Nahrain Bet Younadam, *Board Member*

Mariam Georgis, *Board Member*



## ASSYRIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION NEWS:

### ASA Executive Director and Board Members Attend and Present at the Nineveh Academic Chair's 3rd International Congress in Paris



Attendees and presenters outside the French Senate. Photo Credit: Benjamin Odisho.

From October 15-17, the Third International Congress of the Nineveh Academic Chair (NACIC) convened in Paris, gathering scholars and cultural advocates to explore the heritage and pressing challenges of the Assyrian community. Among the participants and attendees were members of the Assyrian Studies Association —Executive Director Alexandra Lazar and Board Members Dr. Sargon Donabed and Dr. Öner Çetrez.

The Congress, titled *Assyrian Cultural Heritage: Past, Present, and Future*, was organized by Dr. Efrem Yildiz, Professor at the University of Salamanca, Faculty of Philology, Hebrew and Aramaic Studies and President of the Nineveh Academic Chair (Cátedra Nínive). The event focused on fostering interdisciplinary dialogue around the historical, cultural, and socio-political dimensions of Assyrian identity.

This year's Congress emphasized innovative research methodologies, cultural preservation strategies, and the mobilization of global networks to address contemporary issues facing the Assyrian community. In addition, the Congress featured sessions on diverse topics, including the study of Neo-Aramaic dialects, the role of Assyrian women in cultural preservation, and the impact of contemporary geopolitical challenges on Assyrian heritage.

The Congress welcomed presenters from diverse academic and professional backgrounds, including historians, linguists, archaeologists, cultural advocates, and social scientists. Scholars and experts from institutions around the globe convened to share cutting-edge research on Assyrian history, linguistics, heritage preservation, and the contemporary challenges faced by





**Left to Right:** Attendees Natalie Babella, Robina Lajin, and Alexandra Lazar. **Photo Courtesy:** Alexandra Lazar.



Dr. Öner Çetrez presenting at the French Senate. **Photo Courtesy:** Alexandra Lazar.



**Photo Credit:** Benjamin Odisho.

the Assyrian community.

Dr. Sargon Donabed, a historian and advocate for re-examining Assyrian historical narratives, delivered a presentation on *The Construction and Deconstruction of Assyrian Identity Through History*. Dr. Donabed's talk delved into the multifaceted processes of identity formation, emphasizing how historical and cultural memory shapes, and is shaped by, the lived experiences of Assyrians across generations.

By exploring the fluidity of identity within the Assyrian diaspora, Dr. Donabed offered a critical lens on the interplay between heritage and modernity. His presentation highlighted the importance of reevaluating entrenched narratives to foster a more inclusive understanding of Assyrian identity, encouraging scholars and community leaders alike to embrace both historical authenticity and contemporary realities.

Dr. Öner Çetrez, an expert in psychology and migration, focused on *The Psychological Dimensions of Assyrian Displacement and Resilience*. Drawing on extensive research and clinical insights, Dr. Çetrez examined the profound mental health challenges faced by Assyrians in diaspora settings, including the impacts of forced migration, intergenerational trauma, and cultural dislocation. His analysis extended beyond diagnosis to explore





**Left to Right:** Abdulmesih Barabraham, Dr. Önver Çetrez, Dr. Sargon Donabed, Dr. Shabo Talay, Dr. Joseph Alichoran, Lolita Emmanuel, Dr. Gabriel Oussi, and Abboud Zeitoune. **Photo Credit:** Benjamin Odisho.

effective cultural adaptation strategies, emphasizing resilience and community-building as critical tools for overcoming adversity. Dr. Çetrez provided actionable insights for practitioners working with displaced populations, as well as for community leaders striving to support Assyrians in maintaining their cultural heritage while integrating into new societal contexts. His work underscored the urgent

need for culturally sensitive approaches to mental health care, policy development, and social support systems.

To learn more about Nineveh Academic Chair (Cátedra Nínive). please visit their website at [www.catedranineveh.com](http://www.catedranineveh.com).



**Left Photo:** Dr. Sargon Donabed, Dr. Efrem Yildiz, and President of the Association of Assyro-Chaldeans of France Tony Ide. **Right Photo:** Nahreen Odisho and Dr. Robin Bet-Shmuel. **Photos Credit:** Benjamin Odisho.





## ASSYRIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION NEWS:

### **ASA Board Member, Dr. Ruth Kambar and Assyrian Foundation of America Board Member Annie Elias Present Their “Assyrians in Motion” Film at the Assyrian Cultural Foundation’s Nabu Circle**

On October 9th, Dr. Ruth Kambar is a public-school English teacher, an adjunct professor at the State University of New York, Westchester Community College, and serves as an Assyrian Ethnographer-Archivist and board member at the Assyrian Studies Association. Ms. Annie Elias is a playwright, director, and board member of the Assyrian Foundation of America. Both Ruth and Annie presented their film, *Assyrians in Motion*, during the Assyrian Cultural Foundation’s Nabu Circle Lecture Series.

Their 1937 archival film documents Assyrian American communities in Chicago and on the East Coast. The film captures Assyrians living in America during the 1930s, providing a unique opportunity to reconnect with a community that has since largely assimilated into American society.

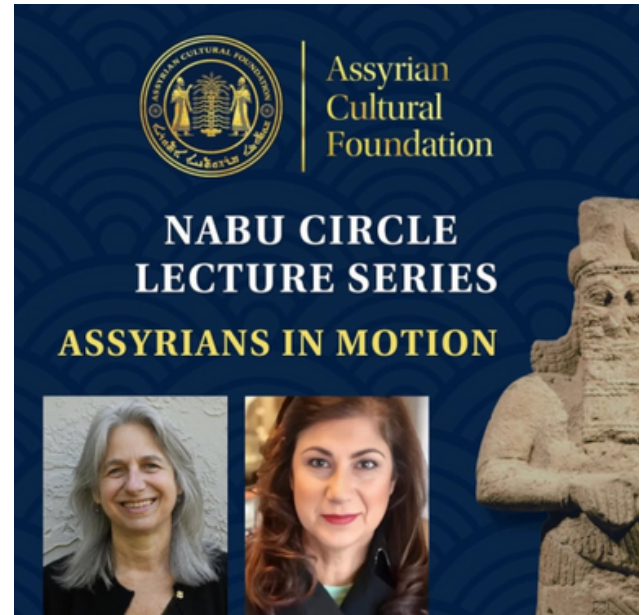


Photo Courtesy: Assyrian Cultural Foundation.

### **Children/Popular Book Grant - Now Accepting Applications Until January 20, 2025**



Applications for the ASA Children/Popular Book Grant is currently accepting applications. This opportunity is perfect for emerging writers or authors to bring their Assyrian-themed manuscript to life. Past grant recipients include Bedri Bet Hurmuz, Romane Iskaria, Rachel Sarah Thomas, Sarah Ego, and Ashor Sworesho.

Submit your application by **January 30, 2025**, at 12 PM PDT.

To learn more about the requirements and how to apply online, please visit our website at: [assyrianstudiesassociation.org/grants](https://assyrianstudiesassociation.org/grants)

## Assyrian Studies Association Sponsored Panel at the 2024 Middle Eastern Studies Association Virtual Conference



On November 11, 2024, the Assyrian Studies Association sponsored a panel discussion at the Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Conference, focusing on the complexities of Assyrian identity in the modern world. Titled *Navigating Assyrianness: Symbols, Politics, and Identity in the 21st Century*, the panel brought together scholars and researchers to examine how Assyrian identity, culture, and political landscapes intersect in today's global context. The session featured a diverse range of perspectives, with Arbella Issa, Alexandra Lazar, and Christina Salem offering insights into the evolving role of Assyrian symbols and cultural expressions, as well as the impact of contemporary political dynamics on the Assyrian community.

## Giving Tuesday Campaign Reached Goal to Support New Project on Preserving Modern Assyrian Language Through Digitization and AI

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed to the Assyrian Studies Association's Giving Tuesday campaign, which ran from November 27 to December 3, 2024. Thanks to your generous support, we exceeded our \$5,000 goal, raising a total of \$6,008!

These funds will directly support our newest project, *Preserving Modern Assyrian Language Through Digitization and AI*. This vital initiative aims to modernize and preserve the Assyrian/Syriac language, ensuring its accessibility across a wide range of software platforms, including web browsers, office suites, and desktops.

By translating common phrases, establishing linguistic standards, researching appropriate terms, and creating digital tools and fonts, this project will safeguard the Assyrian language for future generations.





## Assyrian Studies Association Presented at the Assyrian American National Federation's Annual Convention in Orlando, FL



Left to Right: Dr. Sargon Donabed, Alexandra Lazar, and Dr. Julye Bidmead. Photo Courtesy: Emma Lazar.



Left to Right: Dr. Sargon Donabed and Dr. Öner Çetrez. Photo Courtesy: Alexandra Lazar.

At the recent Assyrian American National Federation's (AANF) 90th Annual Convention, the Assyrian Studies Association hosted two insightful panels and an engaging workshop, each aimed at fostering scholarly discussion, community engagement, and professional development within the Assyrian diaspora.

The first panel, *Achievements, Ongoing Projects, and Public Engagement Opportunities*, highlighted the Assyrian Studies Association's recent accomplishments and ongoing initiatives, shedding light on its projects aimed at preserving Assyrian heritage, language, and culture. Panelists Dr. Sargon Donabed, Dr. Julye Bidmead, and Alexandra Lazar discussed opportunities for public involvement and collaboration in these efforts, engaging both scholars and the general public in the mission to advance Assyrian studies.

The second panel, *Assessing the Assyrian Diaspora: Current Realities and Community Dynamics*, focused on the contemporary experiences of Assyrian communities worldwide, addressing the socio-economic, cultural, and political challenges faced by the diaspora. Dr. Öner Çetrez and Dr. Sargon Donabed explored themes of migration, resilience, and identity preservation, along with the importance of solidarity within Assyrian communities and with other indigenous and marginalized groups.

The workshop, *Empowering Future Scholars: Leveraging ASA and the Graduate Student Knowledgebase for Academic Success*, provided graduate students with practical tools and strategies to excel in their academic careers. Facilitated by Dr. Helen Malko, Dr. Sargon Donabed, Alexandra Lazar, and Dr. Öner Çetrez, the workshop aimed to enhance research, networking, and professional development, equipping emerging scholars with the skills needed to navigate the academic landscape and achieve their scholarly goals.



# Interview with Bedri Bet Hurmuz, the 2023 Assyrian Studies Association Children/Popular Book Grant Recipient

This interview was conducted by Alexandra Lazar, Executive Director of the Assyrian Studies Association in December 2024.



**Pictured:** Bedri Bet Hurmuz, author of *Assyrian Folk Tales*. **Photo Courtesy:** Bedri Bet Hurmuz.

**Alexandra:** Who or what inspired you to write and create Assyria Folk tales and how does this work connect to your personal or cultural identity?

**Bedri:** *My late grandmother Sarro Petros inspired me to love folk tales. She became the reason to write and collect them in a book. I am perhaps one of the last generations to be told folk tales at night and then go to sleep, just like in the old times. It was very precious for me to be introduced to Assyrian folk tales in my childhood. The fact that I had listened to some of these tales and that they were partly part of my memory prompted me to do the work that led to the book *Assyrian Folk Tales*. When I read or listen to these tales, they take me personally back to the geography where my ancestors lived and connect me to my Assyrian culture.*

**Alexandra:** The tales I've read seem deeply connected to Assyrian traditions while at the same time feeling unique and vibrant. Can you share your process of collecting these stories? Did you rely on oral histories, archival research or personal memory?

**Bedri:** *In 2017, when I was working on a documentary project, I felt the lack of such work. That year, in parallel with the documentary project, I started collecting the tales orally. I recorded the tales orally from elderly Assyrians living in some Assyrian villages in the areas of the Assyrian culture called Bothan and Turabdin. The tales that my grandmother Sarro Petros told me and recorded were from my visit to France in 2005. I asked her to tell me a few of the tales she told me when I was a child, and now I regret a bit why I didn't ask her to tell me all the tales she had left in her memory.*



**Pictured:** Bedri at his book signing held at the Assyrian American Association of Southern California's reception hall. **Photo Courtesy:** Alexandra Lazar.



**Pictured:** Folk tale from *Assyrian Folk Tales*.

*Assyrian dialect and Yuhannu Vergili wrote in the western Assyrian dialect. In the meantime, over a period of seven months, Emin Dersim Tanlı created illustrations for each tale. Of course, all this work took time and completely changed my projected budget. The ASA grant was especially supportive for the final stage, the printing of the book. Printing the book on glossy paper and finishing it in the best way possible with a hard cover was not bad for my first book. I am therefore very grateful for the support of the ASA. I would also like to express my gratitude to AFA for supporting my project in the first phase.*

**Alexandra:** Now that you have published this book, what do you hope it will achieve in terms of cultural preservation and educating young audiences? Are there any specific lessons or values that you want readers to take away?

**Bedri:** *I believe that by compiling these tales and putting them into a book, I have already preserved a part of our Assyrian culture. But is that enough? Of course, I would say no. Because I believe that there is much more of our culture that needs to be preserved, especially oral history, oral literature, and oral tradition.*

*Before publishing this book, my initial intention was to bring this book to the Assyrian community in the diaspora. In Europe and North America, I believe I have partially achieved this. Also, intend to bring this book to the few Assyrian schools and young people in Iraq (Atra). I hope that by the time this book will meet many young readers, especially Assyrian children and young people. They will know that the history of their ancestors is deep-rooted and rich. By reading these tales young Assyrians will be connected to part of their culture and they will improve their language skill if they read these tales in Assyrian.*

*Firstly, I hope that readers enjoy the tales of their ancestors. There are fourteen tales in the book. Each tale is unique and each tale can teach small or big lessons to the readers.*

*The tales seem simple but I believe they have the power to touch people's minds and hearts. The best example we can see in the Western world that how they use tales for entertainment and commercials nowadays. One or two centuries ago no one would think well-known tales could be used so much for television and cinema. So, we should value our own culture because one day can be more valuable than we can imagine and can present our culture to other cultures.*

**Alexandra:** As the recipient of ASA's Children's/Popular Book Grant in 2023, how did this opportunity influence your creative process from initial conception to final publication? What role did the grant play in bringing this project to life?

**Bedri:** *As it was my first book project, I was not familiar with all the details of the process from beginning to end. The time and budget I envisioned for the project naturally stretched and increased. After hearing the tales orally and writing them down, I first translated them into Turkish, which was well-edited by two editors, and then I had them translated into English and French. Dr. Nicolas El-Jeloo wrote in the eastern*



**Alexandra:** How do you think Assyrian Folk Tales contribute to preserving Assyrian culture for future generations? What role do you see storytelling playing in maintaining cultural heritage?

**Bedri:** *Many foreign cultures have their own folk tales and many tales have traces of the culture to which they belong. This can be particularly related to the language of that culture and the customs of that society. Therefore the preservation of these tales is in a way the preservation of a part of our Assyrian culture. The preservation of these tales of our community should be especially important for our Assyrian people because our people do not have a homeland with defined borders. Current generations and future generations can get in touch with the culture of their ancestors through a word or a saying in the tales.*



Photo Courtesy: Bedri Bet Hurmuz.

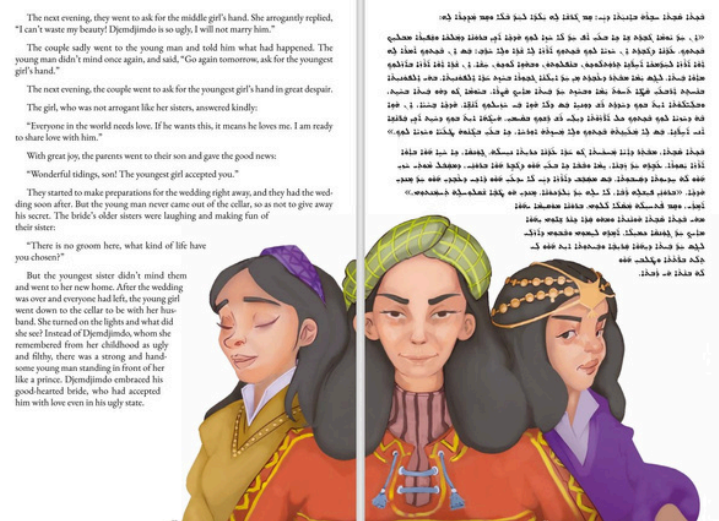
**Alexandra:** Are there any particular stories in the book that hold personal significance for you? If so, can you share why they resonate with you on a deeper level?

**Bedri:** *There are few ones for sure. The first one is `Khambeshaya`. This tale is pretty well-known among our Assyrian people cause is told almost in every region where our people lived in Bet-Nahren. The young generation probably didn't know it but when I talk with some elderly people they remember it quickly even if they forgot the tale. I love this folk tale cause there are different types of characters in the tale. A monster, a magician, animals, and a female hero make the tale so curious to read or listen it.*

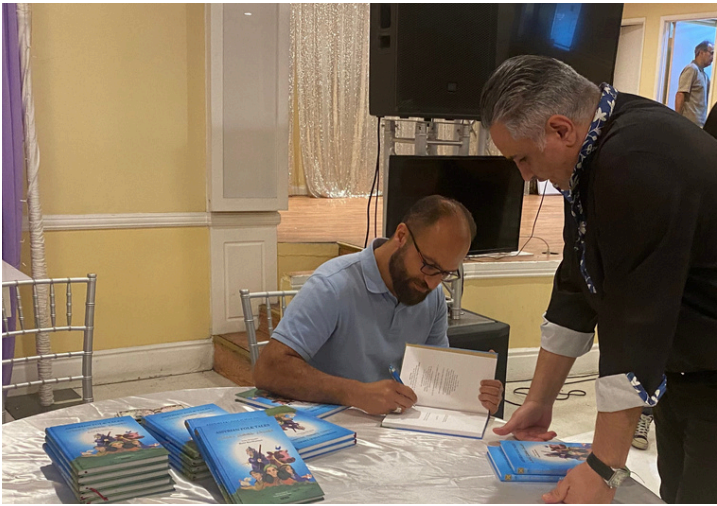
*The other one is `The Cow Sumaquer and Orphanage Girl`. This is almost the same tale as Cinderella and almost every kid knows the tale of Cinderella via TV cartoons or cinema movies. But our is a less known tale among our Assyrian people. I wonder how could be if `The Cow Sumaquer and Orphanage Girl` well-known as Cinderella. The tale is `Granny and The Cat` also different then other tales. Cause when the storyteller say it, he must say it in rhyme and it gives a different taste.*



Left: Bedri presenting at the Assyrian American Association of Southern California's book talk held in August 2024. Right: Folk tale story from *Assyrian Folk Tales*. Left Photo Courtesy: Alexandra Lazar.







**Pictured:** Bedri signing a copy of his book.  
**Photo Courtesy:** Alexandra Lazar.

**Alexandra: What role do you think storytelling can play in bridging generational gaps within the Assyrian diaspora?**

**Bedri:** *I think storytelling can be a bridge between generations. Because I believe that stories have the power to create a close bond between the teller and the listener, like the bond that was made between me and my grandmother when I was a child when she told me stories. If the Assyrian people can learn some of these stories and pass them on to the present and future generations, then this bridge or this bond will be created.*

**Alexandra:** If you could speak directly to a young Assyrian reader picking up this book, what message would you want to convey to them about their heritage?

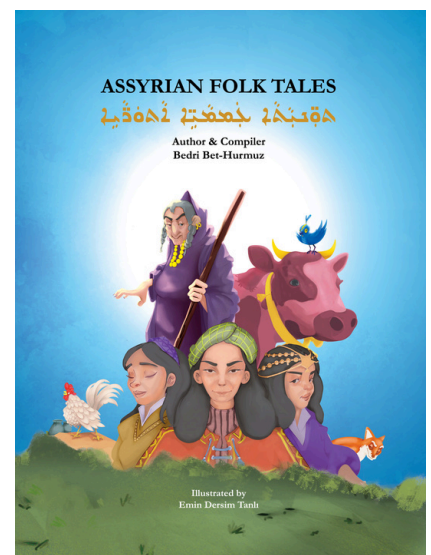
**Bedri:** *As I said before folk tales may seem simple, but I think that when we listen and learn them in our childhood, they take a special place in our lives.*

*Most of the current generation did not grow up with their own folk tales like the past generations. I hope that the new generation of children and young people who receive this book will pass on these tales to other generations as the older generations did. In this way, there will be a connection between generations again, as there was in the past. My other aim in publishing this book was to create a resource for the present generation and for the next generation. I hope it will inspire some young people and create new resources. We have few resources on Assyrian Folk Tales, but they are not enough and we need more work to preserve and develop our culture.*



**Bedri Diril** completed his secondary education at Evrim High School in Istanbul before earning a degree in Radio and Television Studies from Pera Fine Arts in 2004. With experience in producing various documentaries and independent projects, he continues to pursue freelance work, focusing on documentary films and publications that explore and preserve Assyrian culture.

**To purchase your copy of Bedri's Assyrian Folk Tales, please visit our website: [www.AssyrianStudiesAssociation.org/store](http://www.AssyrianStudiesAssociation.org/store)**



**Photo Courtesy:** Bedri Bet Hurmuz.

## GRADUATE STUDENT KNOWLEDGEBASE PAST EVENTS:

### Dr. Shameran Slewa-Younan Webinar on Mental Health Literacy in Refugee Communities: Lessons From the Field



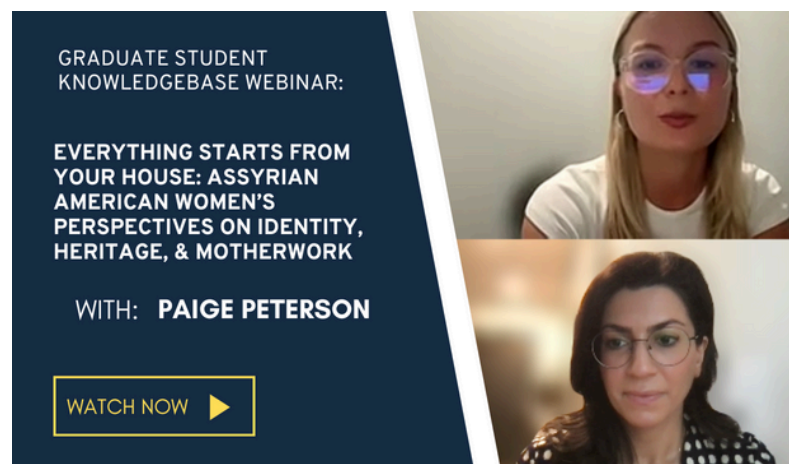
On September 9, the Graduate Student Knowledgebase hosted the first webinar in the Women's Speaker Series with Dr. Shameran Slewa-Younan, an esteemed Associate Professor in Mental Health at the School of Medicine, Western Sydney University. During the session, Dr. Slewa-Younan presented an overview of her extensive research studies and findings, which have significantly advanced the understanding of mental health and trauma within refugee populations. Dr. Slewa-Younan also shared insights from her extensive body of work, which includes over 60 peer-reviewed publications and numerous awards for teaching, research, and clinical cross-cultural contributions.

To view the webinar recording, please visit [www.GraduateStudentKnowledgebase.com](http://www.GraduateStudentKnowledgebase.com) or visit our YouTube page at Assyrian Studies Association.

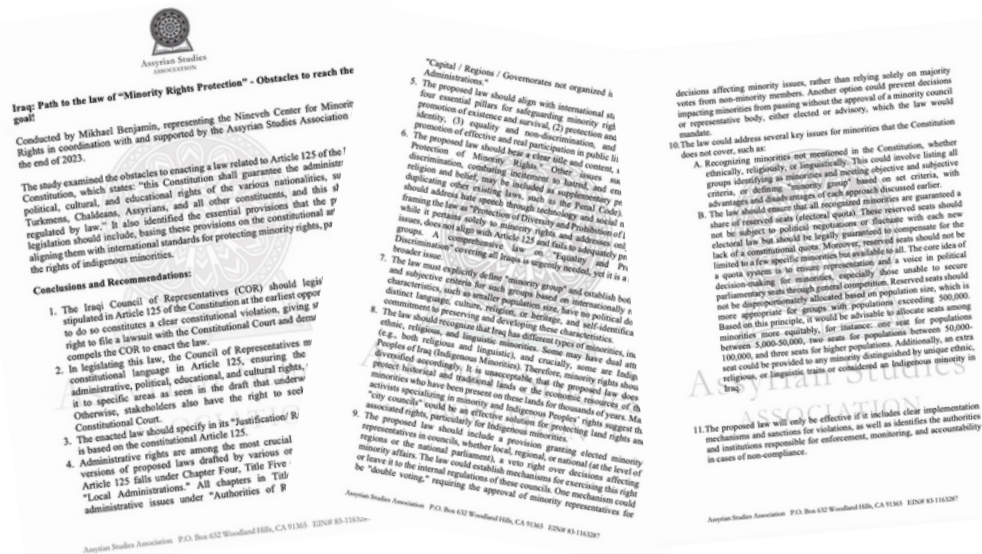
### Everything Starts From Your House: Assyrian American Women's Perspectives on Identity, Heritage, and Motherwork

On November 3, Graduate Student Knowledgebase welcomed Paige Peterson, M.A., who discussed her Master's thesis, *Everything Starts from Your House: Assyrian American Women's Perspectives on Identity, Heritage, and Motherwork*. Paige shared insights from her interviews with six Assyrian women who immigrated to the U.S. as adults.

To view the webinar recording, please visit [www.GraduateStudentKnowledgebase.com](http://www.GraduateStudentKnowledgebase.com) or visit our YouTube page at Assyrian Studies Association.



# Twelve Recommendations for Minority Rights Protection for Article 125 of the Iraqi Constitution



The report, led by Mikhael Benjamin of the Nineveh Center for Minority Rights and supported by the Assyrian Studies Association, examines barriers to enacting legislation under Article 125 of the Iraqi Constitution. This article guarantees administrative, political, cultural, and educational rights for various minorities, including Turkmens, Chaldeans, and Assyrians. The study emphasizes the urgency of passing comprehensive legislation to uphold these rights and align with constitutional and international standards. The report highlights the need for the law to safeguard minority survival, cultural identity, equality, and participation in public life. It also stresses the importance of explicitly defining "minority group" using both objective and subjective criteria, recognizing the unique challenges faced by Indigenous minorities, including their historical and traditional land rights.

The recommendations advocate for mechanisms like reserved parliamentary seats to ensure equitable political representation and veto rights for minority representatives over decisions impacting their communities. Additionally, the proposed legislation should have a clear title, such as "Law on Protection of Minority Rights," and include supplementary provisions addressing issues like discrimination, hate speech, and freedom of religion. Effective enforcement mechanisms, including sanctions and designated authorities, are critical for ensuring compliance and accountability. By enacting this legislation, the Iraqi government would not only fulfill its constitutional obligations but also reinforce its commitment to preserving the cultural and political diversity of the nation.

To read the full report, please visit:

[www.AssyrianStudiesAssociation.org/supportedpublicationsreports](http://www.AssyrianStudiesAssociation.org/supportedpublicationsreports)



## ASSYRIAN COMMUNITY NEWS:

### Advancing Assyrian Minority Rights: Overcoming Barriers to Legal Protection in Iraq



Photo Courtesy: Mikhael Benjamin.

Erbil, Iraq – November 6, 2024 — With support from the Assyrian Studies Association, Mikhael Benjamin of the Nineveh Center for Minority Rights recently presented key findings from his study, *Path to the Law on Minority Rights Protection – Obstacles to Achieving the Goal*. The presentation was delivered to the Independent Human Rights Commission in the Kurdistan Region and focused on strengthening Iraq's proposed minority rights law under Article 125. This critical effort aims to address existing barriers and ensure greater protection for minority communities throughout Iraq.

### "Ninve & Ninos: On a Journey through Mesopotamia" by Robina Youela Lajin

Robina Youela Lajin's new book, *Ninve & Ninos: On a Journey through Mesopotamia*, takes young readers on an engaging adventure through the rich history and culture of ancient Mesopotamia. Following the travels of Ninve and Ninos, the story introduces key aspects of the region's heritage, offering a fun and educational experience for children and families alike. This captivating journey brings to life the cradle of civilization, fostering curiosity and an appreciation for Assyrian and Mesopotamian history.

Robina's book can be purchased online through Amazon.

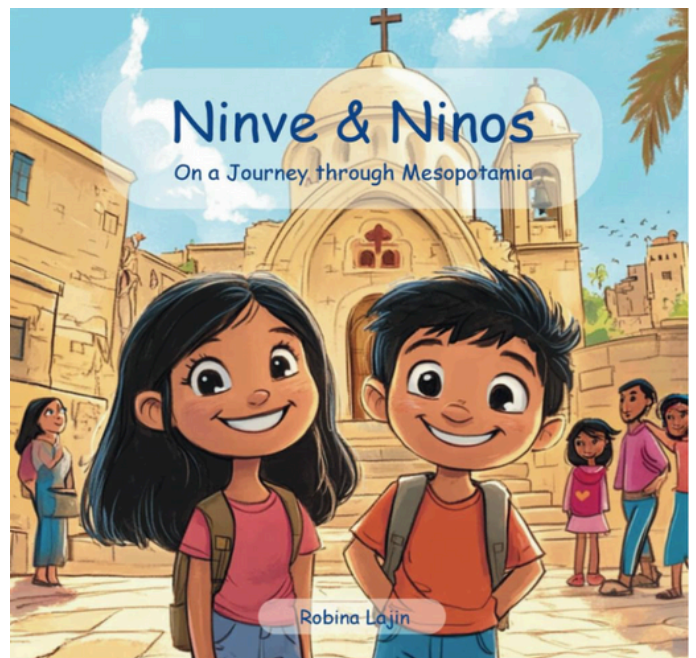


Photo Courtesy: Robina Y. Lajin.



## Assyrian Studies ASSOCIATION

This newsletter is created and published by the Assyrian Studies Association, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization that promotes interest in the academic study of the longue durée of the Assyro-Mesopotamian heritage through supporting research, scholarly publications, and collaborative projects. It facilitates contact and exchange of information between scholars, academic organizations, and communities across various disciplines. ASA functions as an instrument to advance studies on the Assyrian people and their culture.

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