

**SHAMIKA SHABNAM (SHE/HER) PH.D.**

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ORCID: 0000-0001-6696-4425

## ACADEMIC HISTORY

**Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) | McMaster University, Canada**

**2015 – 2023**

English & Cultural Studies, Faculty of Humanities

**Dissertation:** “Fragmented Memories: *Muktijoddha* Masculinity, the Freedom Fighter, and the *Birangona - Ma* in the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War”

**Date of Conferral of Degree:** 12 June 2023

**Defense Performance Report:** Excellent

**Supervisor:** Dr. Chandrima Chakraborty

### MONOGRAPH PUBLICATION IN PRODUCTION

Shabnam, Shamika (Release Date: September 2026) [Remembering the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War: History, Memory, and Gender](#) Routledge – South Asian Literature in Focus | Series Editors: Goutam Karmakar, Puspa Damai, Payel Pal, and Deimantas Valančiūnas.

**Monograph Available for Pre-Order:** August 2026

**Link to Forthcoming Monograph:** [www.routledge.com](http://www.routledge.com)

**Master of Arts (M.A) | University of Leeds, England**

**2013 – 2014**

Postcolonial Literary & Cultural Studies, School of English

**Thesis:** “Examining and Analyzing the Complex, Shifting Identities of South Asian Women in Urban Society”

**Supervisor:** Dr. Sam Durrant

**Bachelor of Arts (B.A) | University of Leicester, England**

**2011 – 2013**

English, School of Arts

**Thesis:** “The Ambiguous Representations of Subaltern Hindu Widows in Ancient Sanskrit Scriptures and Twentieth-Century Indian Novels”

**Supervisor:** Dr. Corrine Fowler

**Bachelor of Arts (B.A) | University of Pretoria, South Africa**

**2010 – 2011**

English Studies, Faculty of Humanities

## SCHOLARLY WORKS

**IN PROGRESS: Peer-Reviewed Journal Article**

Shabnam, Shamika (2027) “Towards Unsilencing the Wartime Woman in Nasiruddin Yousuff’s *Guerilla*.” *Bad Reputations? Feminist Pedagogy and the (Non)Frivolity of Popular Genres. The Review of Education, Pedagogy, and Cultural Studies*. Themed Issue, edited by Sarah Brophy and S. Trimble. [In Preparation; Abstract Accepted with an Anticipated Publication Year of 2027]

**IN PRODUCTION: Monograph**

Shabnam, Shamika (Release Date: September 2026) [Remembering the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War: History, Memory and Gender](#) *Routledge* - South Asian Literature in Focus | Series Editors: Goutam Karmakar, Puspa Damai, Payel Pal, and Deimantas Valančiūnas.

Link: [www.routledge.com](http://www.routledge.com)

## PUBLICATIONS

Shabnam, Shamika, and Chandrima Chakraborty (2025) [Remembering to Forget: Wartime Mothers in Tahmima Anam's A Golden Age](#) *South Asian Review*, vol. 46, no. 4, pp. 454 – 468. [Peer-Reviewed Journal Article]

Link: [DOI: 10.1080/02759527.2025.2511421](https://doi.org/10.1080/02759527.2025.2511421)

Shabnam, Shamika (2024) [Modernist Traditions: Cultural Encounters between British and Bangla Modernist Fiction from 1910s to 1950s](#) *Critical Humanities*, vol. 3, no.1. [Book Review]

Link: [mds.marshall.edu](https://mds.marshall.edu)

Shabnam, Shamika (2023) [Speaking in Fragments: The Birangona - Mother's Traumatic Memories of the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War](#) *Narratives of Trauma in South Asian Literature*. Routledge, edited by Goutam Karmakar and Zeenat Khan. pp. 108 – 118. [Peer-Reviewed Book Chapter]

Link: [routledge.com](http://routledge.com)

Shabnam, Shamika (2020) [Place and Postcolonial Ecofeminism: Pakistani Women's Literary and Cinematic Fictions](#) – Shazia Rahman *Postcolonial Text*, vol. 15, no. 2, pp. 1 – 4. [Book Review]

Link: [postcolonial.org](http://postcolonial.org)

Shabnam, Shamika (2018) [Gender, Religion and Partition: The Shifting Sītā in Chandra Prakash Dwivedi's Pinjar](#) *Journal of Religion & Film*, vol. 22, no. 2, pp. 1 – 37. [Peer-Reviewed Journal Article]

Link: [DOI:10.32873/uno.dc.jrf.22.02.04](https://doi.org/10.32873/uno.dc.jrf.22.02.04)

## CREATIVE WORKS

Shabnam, Shamika (2020) “Stuck to the Tongue.” *The Lamp: Creative Journal*. Vol. X. | [Poem]

Shabnam, Shamika (2019) “Stitches from the Past.” *TRANSverse Journal*. Iss. 18. | [Poem]

## HONOURS & AWARDS

**The Faculty Professional Development and Scholarly Activity Fund** | Capilano University. **2025**

**The Don Goellnicht PhD Memorial Award – Inaugural Recipient** | McMaster University. **2021**

**Tuition Bursary** | McMaster University. **2016 – 2019**

**Graduate Scholarship** | McMaster University. **2015 – 2019**

**Tuition Bursary** | McMaster University. **2015 – 2016**

**School of Graduate Studies Excellence Award** | McMaster University. **2015 – 2016**

**Open Scholarship Award for International Students** | University of Leicester. **2011 – 2013**

**Recognition of Merit – Golden Key Honour Society** | University of Pretoria. **2011**

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Instructor

#### Capilano University (2024 – Present)

Department of English, Faculty of Humanities

#### University of Toronto (July 2024 – August 2024)

Department of Historical Studies

#### McMaster University (2020 – 2024)

Gender & Social Justice Program | English & Cultural Studies Department | Linguistics & Languages Department, Faculty of Humanities

### Courses Taught

**ENGL 109:** Literature and Contemporary Culture (2025 – 2026) | English Department. **Capilano University**

**ENGL 103:** Introduction to Literature (2025) | English Department. **Capilano University**

**ENGL 100:** University Writing Strategies (2024 – 2025) | English Department. **Capilano University**

**SAH200:** Being Human in South Asia (2024) | Historical Studies Department. **University of Toronto**

**LINGUIST 4G03/GENDRST 6G03:** Language, Sex, and Gender (2024) | Gender & Social Justice Program; Linguistics & Languages Department [Graduate Level and Fourth Year Undergraduate Course]. **McMaster University**

**GENDRST 1A03:** Gender, Race, Culture, Power (2023) | Gender & Social Justice Program. **McMaster University**

**ENGLISH 3A03:** Critical Race Studies (2021) | English & Cultural Studies Department. **McMaster University**

**ENGLISH 3V03:** Global Anglophone Literature and Film (2020) | English & Cultural Studies Department. **McMaster University**

### Teaching Assistant | McMaster University

2015 – 2019

Faculty of Humanities; Faculty of Social Sciences

### Courses Taught

**IBH 3AA3:** Relationship Management (2023) | Integrated Business and Humanities Program

**LABRST 2W03/PEACJUST 2B03:** Human Rights and Social Justice (2021) | Labour Studies Department; Global Peace & Social Justice Department

**ENGLISH 3V03:** Global Anglophone Literature and Film (2019) | English & Cultural Studies Department

**ENGLISH 3A03:** Critical Race Studies (2018) | English & Cultural Studies Department

**ENGLISH 2RW6:** Reading and Writing Criticism (2016 – 2017) | English & Cultural Studies Department

**ENGLISH 1AA3:** Longer Genre (2016) | English & Cultural Studies Department

**CMST 2H03:** Gender and Performance (2015) | Communication & Media Studies Department; Gender & Social Justice Program

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Executive Board Member & Conference Coordinator Canadian Association for Postcolonial Studies

2017 – 2019

Managed the end-to-end organization, coordination, and execution of roundtable and panel events to facilitate the exchange of dialogue and discussion among scholars and subject matter experts

Established interactive learning spaces for both Canadian and international researchers, historians, economists, policy analysts, and key stakeholders, connecting with each other through collaborative partnerships

Facilitated public consultations and executive panel events, raising awareness on issues relevant to socioeconomics, public policy, public administration, and sociology within the Canadian context

Applied equity, diversity, and inclusion while working with contributors from various intersectional backgrounds and lived experiences, promoting decolonial ideals of collaborative research work

Initiated decision-making on conference proposals, budgets, briefing materials and process improvement measures to ensure events run smoothly

### Conference Coordinator

2017

#### McMaster University-Gandhi Peace Festival (GPF) Conference

Communicated and connected with a range of activist societies, youth associations, and community organizations and coordinated their recruitment as speakers and guests at the GPF Conference

Coordinated conference and speaking logistics, through steady communication and prioritized accessibility requirements in order to ensure streamlined operation

Facilitated the “Re-thinking Dominant History & Institutional Learning” panel to stimulate critical discussions

Delivered adept organization through recording attendance of presenters, distributing lanyards and programs to speakers, and setting-up lunch items according to dietary needs

### Founding Member

2016 – 2017

#### Anti-Racism Working Group, McMaster University

Engaged graduate peers and faculty in conversations and knowledge exchange on intersectional belonging and the politics of spatial mobility to raise critical social awareness among members

Exhibited an understanding of the complex ways in which BIPOC (Black Indigenous and People of Colour) students navigate social spaces through the sharing and exchanging of lived experiences

Organized and coordinated a “Lunch & Learn” session for members with the Director of The Global Peace & Social Justice Program, Dr. Chandrima Chakraborty

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“‘The Bloodied Pond’: Women’s Testimonies of Environmental Risks and Wartime Atrocities During the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War.” Canadian Association for Postcolonial Studies, Toronto Metropolitan University.  
2025

**“The Patriotic Mother and Memories of the Birangona-Ma During the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War.”** Canadian South Asian Studies Association, Congress, George Brown College. **2025**

**“Narrating the Self: The Multifaceted Stories of Women Wartime Survivors of Sexual Violence During the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War.”** Canadian South Asian Studies Association, Congress, McGill University. **2024**

**“Marginalized Women in Bangladesh Garment & Textile Industries: Their Voices and Testimonies.”** Honouring International Women’s Day Conference, University of Guelph. **2022**

**“The *Birangona*-Mother’s Embodied Trauma & Fragmented Memories.”** Canada India Research Graduate South Asia Conference, University of Guelph. **2022**

**“Women’s Testimonies, Activism, and Solidarity.”** Canadian Association for Postcolonial Studies, Kwantlen Polytechnic University. **2022**

**“Genocide and the Woman in the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War.”** Women’s and Gender Studies et Recherches Féministes, Congress, University of Alberta. **2021**

**“Music Nationalism in the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War.”** Canadian University Music Society, Congress, University of Alberta. **2021**

**“Rewriting Gender through Visual Culture: The Liberation War Woman in *Guerilla*.”** Film Studies Association of Canada, Congress, University of British Columbia. **2019**

**“Unspeakable Nationalism Through the Body.”** Canadian Association for Postcolonial Studies, Congress, University of British Columbia. **2019**

**“Diasporic Bodies, Queer Memories.”** Canadian Association for Postcolonial Studies, Congress, Toronto Metropolitan University. **2017**

**“Mapping the Ineffaceable: Flesh and Paper as Inscriptive Sites of Pain.”** IABA – Americas Conference, York University. **2017**

**“Polysemic Motherhood and the Inedible Stain: Partition and the Shifting of Female Identity.”** Symposium on Gender Issues in India, York University and Guelph University. **2016**

**“Food, Palatability and Socio-Political Discourses around the 1985 Air India Tragedy.”** History, Memory, Grief: A 30<sup>th</sup> Air India Anniversary Conference, McMaster University. **2016**

**“The Ambiguous Representations of Subaltern Hindu Widows.”** Annual Master of Arts Conference, University of Leeds. **2014**

## VOX POPULI PRESENTATIONS

**“Discourse Analysis and Archival Research Methods: Postcolonial South Asian Theory and Culture”** | *English & Cultural Studies Vox Populi 2022 Speaking Series* | McMaster University, 2022

**“Motherhood and the Indelible Stain: Partition and the Shifting of Female Identity in Chandra Prakash Dwivedi’s *Pinjar*”** | *English & Cultural Studies Vox Populi* | McMaster University, 2017

**“The Politics of Aesthetics: The Jyoti Sigh Rape Case** | *English & Cultural Studies Vox Populi* | McMaster University, 2016

**“Rape, Renaming, and Identity in Post-Colonial Indo-Bengal and Bollywood”** | *English & Cultural Studies Vox Populi* | McMaster University, 2015

## GUEST LECTURES

**Doors, Borders, and Displacement in Mohsin Hamid’s *Exit West***

*McMaster University*. 2019

**Past and Present: Fragmented Memories in *Can You Hear the Nightbird Call?***

*McMaster University*. 2018

**Stories, Journeys, Identities: The Community & Diaspora**

*McMaster University*. 2017

**Bangladesh and the Partition Memories of 1971**

*University of Nottingham*. 2017

**Multiple Narratives and the Diaspora: A Reading of Shani Mootoo’s “Out on Main Street”**

*McMaster University*. 2017

**Bollywood/Hollywood: Queer Cinematic Representation and the Perils of Translation**

*McMaster University*. 2015

## JOURNAL PEER REVIEW

### Journals

**Critical Humanities:** 1 academic paper reviewed. 2026

**Global South Literary Studies:** 1 academic paper reviewed. 2026

**Journal of International Women’s Studies:** 3 academic papers reviewed. 2022

**South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies:** 1 academic paper reviewed. 2021

**Journal of Religion & Film:** 2 academic papers reviewed. 2017 | 2018

### Activities

Engaging in careful reading of papers submitted for potential publication in the above journals

Offering objective and academic critiquing and commentary on papers

Contributing to a journal committee’s decision concerning a particular paper and its appeal to a specific journal

## FIELD RESEARCH & TRAVEL

### PhD Project Field Research Sites:

Bangabandhu Memorial Museum, Bangladesh – 2017

Dhaka University Central Library, Bangladesh – 2017

Liberation War Museum, Bangladesh – 2017

National Martyr's Monument, Bangladesh – 2017

## CREATIVE OUTPUTS

### Career Cats (YouTube Channel) | 2026 – Present

**Link:** [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

Producing and Co-hosting digital content which focuses on academic and non-academic career trajectories and navigating the current job market

Using storytelling and personal narratives and anecdotes to establish an affective connection with viewers

Managing end-to-end production, including scriptwriting, branding, editing, and promoting

### Poetry Performances

**Rare Birds of Mac 2 Virtual Poetry Performance.** Department of English & Cultural Studies, McMaster University. **2021**

**Spoken Poetry Performance.** Night of Poetry at Grain & Grit, Hamilton, ON. **2020**

**Spoken Poetry Performance.** International Student Coffee House, Student Success Centre, McMaster University. **2019**

## LANGUAGES

Fluent in English and Bangla; learning French