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## **A brief introduction**

Yahia Baiza is a research associate at the Institute of Ismaili Studies (IIS) in London, United Kingdom. He specializes in education, Islamic, Central Asia, and Afghanistan studies, as well as in the study of refugee and diaspora communities in Europe, and manuscript analysis. Also, he is Bloomsbury Education and Childhood Studies Regional Editor for Afghanistan. In this capacity, he develops digital resources on education, and childhood and youth studies in Afghanistan.

Yahia is an alumnus of the Department of Education of Oxford University, where he obtained his master's degree in educational research methodology in 2002, and doctoral degree in education in 2009. Also, he completed a two-year Graduate Programme in Islamic Studies and Humanities at the IIS and School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London (1999-2001).

As an educationist and international educational consultant, Yahia worked on many educational projects, from curriculum and textbook development to education policy and planning. In 2020-2021, at the request of the Office of the First Vice President of Afghanistan, Yahia conducted a thorough textual analysis of the latest Draft Law on Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) of Afghanistan. He also offered a set of recommendations on how to improve the TVET law.

In 2006 and 2007, he served as the national representative of the UNESCO's International Institute for Educational Planning at the Ministry of Education in Afghanistan, where he led the development of the first five-year National Education Strategic Plan (2006-2010). Yahia has been supervising students at master's and doctoral levels, as well as examining PhD theses.

He is the author of *Education in Afghanistan: Developments, Influences, and Legacies since 1901*, published by Routledge in 2013 and 2017, and two forthcoming books, *The Hazara Ismailis of Afghanistan and their History*, and *Education in Troubled Times: A Global Pluralist Response*, and many academic articles in English, Persian, German, French, and Norwegian languages. Yahia is a frequent speaker and lecturer at international conferences, various universities, and local communities on various themes, such as education, history, religion, Islam, Central Asia, and Afghanistan.

## **Education profile:**

2009: Ph

The University of Oxford, Department of Education

Title of the Thesis: *Issues and Challenges of Higher Education for the Afghan Ismaili Refugees in Pakistan*

2001: Postgraduate Degree in Islamic Studies and Humanities

The Institute of Ismaili Studies, and the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), the University of London

Title of Research Project: *The Afghan Ismaili Refugees and their State of Education in Pakistan*

- 4 MS BT 157
- MS BT 189
- MS BT 265
- MS BT 136

Total number of

August 2015: Marking and reviewing GPISH-IIS students' essays on *Developments in Muslim Societies*.

May 2014: Marking and reviewing GPISH-IIS students' essays on *Culture and Development in Historic Islamic Cities*.

### **Academic Peer Reviews and Consultancies**



Baiza, Y. (2022, forthcoming) “Access to Early Childhood Education in Afghanistan”, in Y. Baiza (Regional Editor) and M. Waniganayake (Editor in Chief). London: *Bloomsbury Education and Childhood Studies: Early Childhood Education*. London: Bloomsbury.

Baiza, Y. (2022, forthcoming) “Overview of Early Childhood Education in Afghanistan”, in Y. Baiza (Regional Editor) and M. Waniganayake (Editor in Chief). London: *Bloomsbury Education and Childhood Studies: Early Childhood Education*. London: Bloomsbury.

Baiza, Y. (2022, forthcoming) “Transitions in Early Childhood Education in Afghanistan”, in Y. Baiza

Baiza, Y. (2020) “Ism liyya” (Revised Version with New Additions), in *D nishn mah-e Mardom-e Haz ra. Juld-e awwal, wayrayish-e dowom ba tajdid-e nazar wa izafat* [The Encyclopaedia of the Haz ra People: Vol. 1, Revised and Critical Edition]. Tehran: Bunyad-e D nishn mah-e Hazara.

Baiza, Y. (2020) “J n-e padar kuj st ? Mandag r-tar n jumlae r z-ha talkh-e Kabul” [Daddy’s sweetheart, where are you? ” ]

Baiza, Y. (2019) “Afghanistan: d st n-e mardom, ul , wa siy sat” [Afghanistan - the narrative of people, peace, and politics]” ( " " " " " "). in *Hashte Sobh*, Vol. 11, No. 3077. p. 5. <<https://8am.af/afghanistan-people-stories-peace-and-politics/>>

Baiza, Y. (2019) “Afghanistan: Country Overview”, in Y. Baiza (Regional Editor),



Baiza, Y. (2018) “Navigating Education in a Troubled Time: A Critical Pluralist Discourse”, in *2<sup>nd</sup> Oxford Symposium for Comparative and International Education: Uncertainty, Society, and Education*. Oxford: OXSCIE 2018. pp. 11-19.

<[https://www.academia.edu/36912466/Navigating\\_Education\\_in\\_a\\_Troubled\\_Time\\_A\\_Critical\\_Pluralist\\_Discourse](https://www.academia.edu/36912466/Navigating_Education_in_a_Troubled_Time_A_Critical_Pluralist_Discourse)>

Baiza, Y. (2018) “آل ب لبل ن: Naqsh-e Mardom Ch st?” [Peace with the Taliban: What is the People’s Role?]. In *Etilaat Roz*. <<http://etilaatroz.com/1397/04/03/>>





the development of girls' education)", Parts 1-2, in *Hashte Sobh*. Vols. 113 & Vol. 114, 7 & 8 October. Year 1. pp. 6-7.

September 2019: Presented a research paper, 'Genre, Structure, Word, and Meaning in Shaykh Far d al

*National Constitution and the Rule of Law in Afghanistan: An Educational Discourse.* The Third Annual Conference of the Afghan Lawyers Association in Europe, 19 November 2016.

*Jihad* Education and the Rise of Global *Jihadi* Movements, 1980-2016. The

*A Dream-Work: An Analysis of Nasir-e Khusraw's Dream and Intellectual Transformation. Millennium of Nasir Khusraw Qubadiyani.* The Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences of Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran, Iran, 10-11 May 2015.

*The 'Ulama, Education and Muslim Civilizations: A Historical Analysis.* [The Second Annual Conference of the British Association for Islamic Studies.](#) The Senate House, University of London, 13 – 15 April 2015.

[Invited speaker] [Migration, Education and Culture of Humanism.](#) 2015 Afghanistan Winter Crisis, a fundraising campaign for the victims of avalanches in the Panjshir Province of Afghanistan. Afghan Students' Association in the United Kingdom at King's College London, 14 March 2015.

[Keynote speaker] *Diasporas and Knowledge Societies in Making: individual challenges and communal opportunities.* [The Second Annual Celebration of Afghan-British Graduation Ceremony.](#) The Afghan Community Network in partnership with the Afghan Advisory Board (AAB-UK), and SOAS Afghan Society, The School of Oriental and African Studies, London University, 17 January 2015.

### **Languages**

Fluent in Persian, Pashto, Slovak/Czech, German and English, advanced level in Russian, Arabic, and Urdu.

### **Hobbies and interests:**

**Travelling:** I have travelled to more than 40 countries across four continents for education, research, recreation, and cultural exploration purposes. Travelling is an essential part of my life.

**Photography and film:** I have an active interest in photography and film since my secondary education level. I regularly take photographs for research and personal collection. In 2002, I produced a documentary film, entitled *The Ruins of Kabul*, which was screened in academic institutions in the United Kingdom.

**Sport:** As an ex-athlete, and semi-professional footballer, and hobby cyclist, I like all types of sports. I play table tennis, pool, chess, and occasionally swim and do skateboarding. I love ice skating in winter. I am a football fan of Borussia Dortmund in Germany's Bundesliga, and a snooker fan of Ronnie O'Sullivan.