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History Department
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History Department
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Education

- 2011 Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison, History
Comprehensive Exam Fields: Central Asia, Russian Empire, Soviet Union, Islamic history
2007 M.A., University of Wisconsin-Madison, History
2003 B.A., Arizona State University, History and Russian Language and Literature majors,
with a certificate in Russian and East European Studies

Employment

Academic

- Associate Professor, Utah State University-Blanding Campus, UT
August 2023 to present
Associate Professor of Asian and Islamic History, Utah State University, Logan UT
August 2020 to July 2023
Assistant Professor of Asian and Islamic History, Utah State University, Logan, UT
August 2014 to July 2020
Assistant Professor of Central Asian History, Nazarbayev University, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan
August 2011 to August 2014
Instructor of Elementary and Intermediate-Advanced Tatar Language, Critical Languages
Institute, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, Summer 2006
Instructor of Elementary Tatar Language, Critical Languages Institute, Arizona State
University, Tempe, AZ, Summer 2005

Non-Academic

- Senior Social Media Analyst / Leader of Central Asia Analysis and Operations Team,
Concepts and Strategies (CENTCOM, MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, FL)
December 2010 to August 2011

Publications

Books

Tatar Empire: Kazan's Muslims and the Making of Imperial Russia (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2020).

Translated into Turkish as *Tatar İmparatorluğu: Kazan Tatarları ve Çarlık Rusyası'nın Oluşumu*, trans. Kadri Mustafa Orağlı (Ötüken, 2020).

Shari'a in the Russian Empire: The Reach and Limits of Islamic Law in Central Eurasia, 1550-1900, co-edited with Paolo Sartori (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2020).

Authored Chapters

- Introduction, pp. 1-37 (co-authored with Paolo Sartori)
 Chapter One “Islamic Education for All: Technological Change, Popular Literacy, and the Transformation of the Volga-Ural Madrasa, 1650s-1910s,” pp. 38-80
 Chapter Three, “Debunking the ‘Unfortunate Girl’ Paradigm: Volga-Ural Muslim Women’s Knowledge Culture and its Transformation across the Long Nineteenth Century,” pp. 120-55

Voices from the Steppe: A Thematic Sourcebook on the History of the Kazakh Steppe and the South Urals (co-edited with Meiramgul Kussainova) (Vienna: Austrian Academy of Sciences Press, in press; forthcoming in 2024).

Refereed Journal Articles

- “Copying Islam: Constructing a New Soviet Islam through the Re-production of Religious Texts in the South Urals,” *Anzeiger* 157-158 (2022/2023): 51-81.
 “Complex Legal Lives: Separated Muslim Women’s Financial Rights in Russia (1750s-1820s),” *Genealogy* (Special Issue: *Separated and Divorced Wives in the Early Modern World*) 6 (3) (2022) <https://www.mdpi.com/2313-5778/6/3/72>
 “Retelling Mecca: Shifting Narratives of Sacred Spaces in Volga-Ural Muslim Hajj Accounts, 1699-1945,” *Religions* (Special Issue: *Telling and Interpreting Sacrum: Challenges and Current Issues of Storytelling and Interpretation in Religious Dialogue*) 12 (8) (2021) <https://www.mdpi.com/2077-1444/12/8/588/htm>.
 “The Promiscuous Life of a Genre for the Dead: The *Marthiya* as an Instrument of Community Construction in Muslim Russia,” *Journal of Economic and Social History of the Orient* 64.4 (2021): 343-376.
 “The Age of the ‘Socialist-Nationalist-Wahhabi Revolutionary’: The Fusion of Islamic Fundamentalism and Socialism in Tatar Nationalist Thought, 1898-1917,” *Genealogy* (Special Issue: *For God and Country: Essays on Religion and Nationalism*) 3 (4) (58) (2019) <https://www.mdpi.com/2313-5778/3/4/58/pdf>
 “Making Muslim Women Political: Imagining the Wartime Woman in the Russian Muslim Women’s Journal *Suyumbika*,” *Revue des mondes musulmans et de la Méditerranée* (2018):139-53.
 “Muslim Charity Under Russian Rule: *Waqf, Sadaqa, and Zakat* in Late Imperial Russia” *Islamic Law and Society* 24 (2017): 77-111.
 “Caught in the Middle: Education Reform and Youth Rebellion in Russia’s Madrasas, 1900-1910.” *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History*, 16/1 (2015): 58-89.
 “The Nation that Might Not Be: The Role of Iskhāqī’s *Extinction after Two Hundred Years* in the Popularization of Kazan Tatar National Identity among the ‘Ulama Sons and Shakirds of the Volga-Ural Region, 1904-1917,” *Ab Imperio* 3 (2012): 341-369.

Refereed Book Chapters

- “A Collateral Cultural Revolution: Russia’s State-Driven Papermaking and Publishing Efforts and their Effects on Volga-Ural Muslim Book Culture, 1780s-1905” in *Publishing in Tsarist Russia: A History of Print Media from Enlightenment to Revolution*, eds. Yukiko Tatsumi and Taro Tsurumi (London: Bloomsbury Academic, 2020), 141-70.

- “Domesticating 1916: The Evolution of Amangeldi Imanov and the Creation of a Foundation Myth for Kazakh SSR, 1916-1939” in *The Central Asian Revolt of 1916*. eds. Aminat Chokobaeva, Cloé Drieu, Alexander Morrison (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2019), 325-53.
- “From Dublin to Turgai: Discourses on Small Nations and Violence in the Russian Muslim Press in 1916,” in *1916 in a Global Context: An Anti-Imperial Moment* (London: Routledge, 2017), 131-145.
- “Fighting for the Tsar, Fighting against the Tsar: The Use of Folk Culture to Mobilize the Tatar Population during the Great War and the Russian Revolution, 1914-1921” in *Small Nations and Colonial Peripheries in World War I*. eds. Gearoid Barry et. al. (Leiden: Brill, 2016), 211-29.
- “Gog, Magog and the Aeroplane: Tatar Folk Literature as a Vehicle for Responding to the First World War, (1914-1917)” in *Malen'kii chelovek i bol'shaia voina*, (St. Petersburg: Nestor-Istoriia, 2014), 87-102.

Other Refereed Publications

- “What Does a Decolonized Field Look Like and How Do We Get There?” Study of Islam in Central Eurasia, Blog <https://www.oeaw.ac.at/sice/sice-blog/what-does-a-decolonized-field-look-like-and-how-do-we-get-there>
- “Kazan” in *The Encyclopaedia of Islam, Third Edition Advance Online* (Leiden: Brill, 2020), <http://referenceworks.brillonline.com/browse/encyclopaedia-of-islam-3>
- “Back to Stalinism and its Tropes? Islam and Europe in *Zuleikha Opens her Eyes*” Study of Islam in Central Eurasia, Blog, <https://www.oeaw.ac.at/sice/sice-blog/back-to-stalinism-and-its-tropes-islam-and-europe-in-zuleikha-opens-her-eyes>

Book Reviews

- “*Along the Silk Roads in Mongol Eurasia: Generals, Merchants, and Intellectuals*. Edited by Michal Biran, Jonathan Brack, and Francesca Fiaschetti. Oakland: University of California Press, 2020. xv. 335 pp. ISBN 9780520298750 (paper). *The Journal of Asia Studies* 80-3 (2021): 821-23.
- “Nile Green, ed. *The Persianate World: The Frontiers of a Eurasian Lingua Franca*,” *Journal of World History* 32-1 (March 2021): 161-163.
- “*Imperial Russia's Muslims: Islam, Empire, and European Modernity, 1788-1914* by Tuna, Mustafa,” *Canadian-American Slavic Studies* 52, no. 1 (2018): 474-477.
- “*The Russo-Turkish War, 1768-1774: Catherine II and the Ottoman Empire* by Brian L. Davies,” *Mediterranean Studies*, 26, no. 1 (2018): 128-130.
- “*Russian Hajj: Empire and the Pilgrimage to Mecca* by Eileen Kane,” *Central Asian Survey*, 37, no. 1 (2018): 187-189.

Invited Presentations

Paid

- “Like Baku...in 300 Years: The Lehman Oil Company, the Kazakhs, and Tatar Diaspora in Gur'ev, 1899-1917,” International Symposium: Muddying the Waters: Toward a History of the Caspian,” Austrian Academy of Sciences, September 13-14, 2023.
- “Mullah Songatullah's Children: Religious and Secular Narratives of Self and Family across Three Soviet Generations,” *Secularism and Religion in the USSR: Comparative*

- Perspectives on Islam and the Eastern Orthodox Church (an International Workshop). Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, July 2023.
- “Warrior Goats, Witchy Women, and Horny Forest Sheep: The Woods in the Works of Gabdulla Tuqay,” Summer School: The Archives of Islam in the Russian Empire (16th-Early 20th Centuries). Study for Islam in Central Eurasia, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, June 2023.
- “When Muslim Charity Met Capitalism: The Roots of Muslim Corporate Philanthropy in Russia,” The 6th Annual Symposium on Muslim Philanthropy & Civil Society (Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis), October 31-November 4, 2022.
- “Singing Down the Tsar: Volga-Ural Madrasa Musical Culture and its Adaptation for Translating and Disseminating Radical Ideologies,” Workshop: Russia’s Muslims and Global Radicalism, Commission of Islam in Central Eurasia, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, September 2022.
- “What Does a Decolonized Central Eurasian History Field Look Like and How Do We Get There?” Summer School: The Archives of Islam in the Russian Empire (16th-Early 20th Centuries). Study for Islam in Central Eurasia, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, June 2022.
- “Russia’s First Muslim Print Revolution: The Effects of the Asiatic Press on Popular Reading Habits, (1780s-1880s),” Japanese Society for the Study of Russian History, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, September 2017.
- “Secularization or Religious Revival: Reconsidering Muslim Education Reform in 19th and Early 20th-century Russia,” Religion, Education, and Literacy in Modernization Workshop, University of Tokyo, September 2017.
- “National Resistance across Borders: Parallel Depictions of the Easter Rising and the Turkestani Uprisings in Russia’s Muslim Newspapers,” 1916 in Global Context: Connections and Comparisons, National University of Ireland, Galway, June 2016.
- “The Production and Use of Law Books in the Volga-Ural Madrasas,” Sharia in the Russian Empire: An International Workshop, Institute of Iranian Studies, Vienna, Austria, November 2015.
- “Muslim Charity under Russian Rule: Defining and Regulating *Waqf*, *Sadaqa* and *Zakat* in the Early Twentieth-Century Volga-Ural Region,” Sharia in the Russian Empire: An International Workshop, Institute of Iranian Studies, Vienna, Austria, December 2014.

Unpaid

- “Domesticating 1916: The Evolution of Amangeldy Imanov and the Creation of a Foundation Myth for Kazakh SSR, 1916-1939,” Ch.Ch. Valikhanov Institute of History and Ethnology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan, April 27, 2021.
- “The Husaynov Brothers and Muslims in Russia’s Livestock Sector, (1860s-1920s)” Tatarstan Institute of History, Kazan, Russia, June 2018.

Conference Presentations

- “Building *Baraka* and Empire: The Construction of a Rural Community as a Muslim Sacred Space in Imperial Russia (1800-1922),” Association of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Annual Conference, Chicago, November 2022.
- “Copying Islam: The Soviet-era Reproduction and Transmission of Islamic Knowledge as Viewed Through a Collection of Bashkir Manuscripts” in Soviet and Post-Soviet Islam:

- State of the Field and New Directions, Study of Islam in Central Eurasia, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Austria, December 2021.
- “Neravnye poddannye: chto kriticheskaia rasovaia teoriia mozhet prinesti v izuchenie tatarskoi istorii” (“Unequal Subjects: What Critical Race Theory Can Bring to Tatar History”) at Tatarovedenie v situatsii smeny paradigmy: teoriia, metodologiya, praktika (Tatar Studies in a Situation of Paradigm Shift: Theory, Methodology, Practice) Republic of Tatarstan Academy of Sciences, Kazan, December 2021.
- “A Vernacular Century: Tatarskii/Bulgarchi as a Language of Bureaucracy and Local Literary Culture in the Eighteenth Century,” *Turkic: Probing the Frontiers of a Lingua Franca*, Study of Islam in Central Eurasia, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Austria, November 2021.
- “How Violent Should a Man Be?: Turko-Mongol Masculinity in *Qahraman the Slayer*,” Toronto Renaissance and Reformation Colloquium. *Masculinities in the Premodern World: Continuities, Change, and Contradictions*, University of Toronto, November 2020
- “Queering Jadidism: Exploring Models of Male Friendship and Masculinity in Muslim Cultural Reform, 1890s-1910s,” Association of Slavic, Eastern European and Eurasian Studies, November 2020
- “Walking the Long Road to *Ma'rifa*: Spiritual Journeys in Imaginary Spaces in Majlisī’s *Qiṣṣa-i Sayf al-Mulūk*,” E-Atlas Conference on Sacred Geography, Nazarbayev University, Nur-Sultan, September 2020
- “Who Gets Father’s Pasture?: The Persistence of Chinggisid Inheritance Practices in the Kazakh Steppe, 1730s-1910s,” Association for Asian Studies Conference, Boston, March 2020 (Canceled due to COVID-19)
- “Where Two Nations Met: The Steppe Livestock Industry and its Impact on the Tatar and Kazakh National Movements, 1880s-1922” Association of Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies Annual Conference, San Francisco, November 2019.
- “Defining Censorship and Freedom of Expression: Regulating Arabic-script Print in Russia after the 1905 Revolution, 1905-1914” Nihil Obstat: Reading and Circulation of Texts after Censorship, New York University Global Institute, Prague, October 2019.
- “From Public Servants to Community Leaders: The Evolving Role of Veterinarians in Russia’s Steppe, 1860s-1920s,” Agricultural History Society, June 2019.
- “Lusty Women Eating: Food, Power, and Sexual Morality in Early Modern Turkic Poetry, 1500s-1700s,” Renaissance Society of America Conference, Toronto, March 2019.
- “Remembering the Dead, Linking the Living: The Functions of *Marthiyas* in Volga-Ural Tatar Sufism,” Asia in the Russian Imagination Conference, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, March 2018.
- “Domesticating 1916: The Evolution of Amangeldi Imanov in Kazakh Oral Literature, (1919-1939),” British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies Annual Conference, Cambridge University, UK, March-April 2017.
- “Wives, Mothers, Believers: Recovering Russian Muslim Women’s Rights, Obligations, and Knowledge in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries,” Desert Workshop in Russian History, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, March 2017.
- “Making Revolution, De-Constructing Empire: Four Tatar-Language Russian History Textbooks (1912-1919).” Conference of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies, Philadelphia, PA, November 2015.
- “Fighting for the Tsar, Fighting against the Tsar: The Use of ‘Folk’ Songs to Mobilize the

Volga Muslim Population for or Against Military Service, (1914-1921),” International Conference on Small Nations and Colonial Peripheries in World War I: Europe and the Wider World, Galway, Ireland, June 2014

“Covering ‘the Most Important Question of our Time’: The National Question, Empire and Three Turkic Newspapers’ Reaction to the 1916 Easter Uprising,” Joint Conference of the Association of Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies and Central Eurasian Studies Society, Astana, Kazakhstan, May 2014.

“Breeding Revolutionaries or Providing Stability Amid Chaos?: Tatar Nationalist Materials in Rural Volga Maktab and Madrasa Curriculum, (1907-1922), Conference of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies, Boston, MA, November 2013.

“The Other Colonizers: The Students of Kazan ‘*Alim* Mortaza as-Simeti and their Adventures in the South Urals, (1731-1789).” Conference of the European Society of Central Asian Studies, Astana, Kazakhstan, August 2013.

“The Private Lives of Muslim Revolutionaries: Public and Private Performances of Muslim Social Reform in the Volga-Ural Region,” presented at the Central Eurasian Studies Society, Bloomington, IN, October 2012.

“Warrior-Scholars and Loyal Rebels: The Islamic Clergy of 18th-Century Russia,” presented at The World History Association Conference, Albuquerque, NM, June 2012.”

“At War with the Tatar Kingdom: The Genealogy of a Pan-Islamic Conspiracy Theory, or the Izh-Bubi Trial Re-examined,” presented at the Central Eurasian Studies Society, Washington, DC, September 2008.

Awards, Fellowships, and Honors

2023	National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend
2022	Norm Jones Faculty Fellow
2021	USU Creative Activity and Research Enhancement Grant
2019	USU CHaSS Small Grant Development Award
2019	USU Creative Activity and Research Enhancement Grant
2018	USU Creative Activity and Research Enhancement Grant
2015	USU Mountain West Regional Studies Grant
2014	Award for Outstanding Research, SHSS-Nazarbayev University
2012-2014	Nazarbayev University Seed Grant
2007-2008	IREX Individual Advanced Research Opportunity
2006-2007	Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Arabic)
2005-2006	Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, University of Wisconsin-Madison (Arabic)
2003-2004	Fulbright Student Award (Almaty, Kazakhstan)
2002-2003	National Security Education Program Boren Fellowship (Kazan, Russia)
2003	Phi Beta Kappa member

Courses Taught

Utah State University

HIST 1500: Pre-Modern World (to 1500) (BHU)

HIST 1510: Modern World History (since 1500) (BHU)

HIST 2018/ANTH 2018: Native American History and Culture (BSS)

HIST 3030/RELS 3030: Introduction to Islam (DHA)
 HIST 3330: Modern Russia and the Soviet Experiment
 HIST 3450: Asian Gender History
 HIST 3460: Comparative Asian History (DHA)
 HIST 3270/RELS 3270: Crusades (DHA)
 HIST 4560/RELS 4560: Women in Islam (DHA)
 HIST 4565/RELS 4565: Medieval Islam (DHA)
 HIST 4566/RELS 4566: Modern Islam (DHA)
 HIST 6010: History and Theory (MA level)
 HIST 6200: Comparative World History (MA level)

Nazarbayev University

Central Asia to 1700
 Central Asia since 1700
 History of Kazakhstan
 Russian Intellectual History
 Crusades
 Rise of Islam

Committee Service

Utah State University Committees

History Department Awards Committee (2023-2024)
 Director of Medieval and Early Modern Studies Certificate Program (2021-2023)
 Honorary Degrees and Awards Committee (2021-present)
 Faculty Senate Executive Committee (2021-present)
 Faculty Senator for CHaSS (2019-present)
 Graduate Program Committee (2015-2017, 2018-2019)
 History Department Scholarship Committee (2017-2018)
 World History Postdoc Search Committee (2018)
 Public History Search Committee (2016)
 Modern European Search Committee (2015-2016)
 CHaSS Scholarship Committee (2016-2017)
 Phi Alpha Theta Advisor (2014-2015)

Nazarbayev University Committees

Kazakh-Russian-English Interpreter and Adviser for the integration of NU's Kazakh Language Department into the Social Sciences and Humanities School, (2011-2013)
 Arabic Club Faculty Advisor and Elementary-Level Language Teacher, (2012-2013)
 Running of SHSS departmental job search interviews (2013)
 SHSS Curriculum Committee (2012-2013)
 SHSS Hiring Committee (2011-2012)
 SHSS Library Committee (2011-2012)
 University Library Committee (2011-2012)
 Faculty Senator (2011-2012)

Outreach

Utah State University

- Presentation “In Search of Fairy Princesses and Divine Love”, for Cache Valley Unitarian Universalists, (2020)
- Outreach to the Al-Mustafa Foundation, Salt Lake City (2019)
- Outreach to the Khadeeja Islamic Center, Salt Lake City (2018)
- Presentation “Scars of the Red Scare,” 29th Annual Language Conference, 300th Military Intelligence Brigade, Draper, UT, March 2018
- Presentation “Islam and Democracy in Post-Soviet Central Asia” for Utah’s Bennion High School Teachers’ Workshop, Summer, 2015

Nazarbayev University

- Hosting of village and provincial high school teachers, (2012-2013)
- Presentation at the 300-year Anniversary of Abylai Khan’s Birth, Kostanay, Kazakhstan, (2011-2013)
- Liaison between NU and Kazakhstan’s Institute of History in Astana, (2011-2013)
- Outreach to Eurasian National University, (2011-2012)

Professional Service

Peer reviewer for academic journals *Ab Imperio*, *Die Welt des Islams*, *Journal of Economic and Social History of the Orient*, *Journal of Islamic Studies*, *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History*, *Revolutionary Russia*, *Slavic Review*, *HTS Theological Studies*, *Journal of World History*, *Youth, Religions, Arabica*, *Journal of Women’s History*

Member of the Presiding Committee of the Commission of the Study of Islamic in Central Eurasia of the Austrian Academy of Sciences

Professional Organizations

- Association of Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)
- Central Eurasian Studies Society (CESS)
- European Society for Central Asian Studies (ESCAS)
- Agricultural History Society (AHS)
- Association for Asian Studies (AAS)
- Renaissance Studies Association (RAS)

Languages

- English: Native
- Volga Tatar: Fluent
- Russian: Fluent
- Kazakh: Advanced reading knowledge
- Chagatay: Advanced reading knowledge
- Classical Arabic: Advanced reading knowledge