

## **HUMA IBRAHIM**

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Naturalized U.S. Citizen.  
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### **EDUCATION**

Post Doctoral Certificate: University of Michigan, 8/91

Ph.D., English, Indiana University, 5/88  
Minor: Comparative literature (African Literature)  
Dissertation: *Bessie Head: Third-World Woman Writer in Exile*

M.A., English, Indiana University, Bloomington, 6/79  
M.A., English, Punjab University, Lahore, Pakistan, 8/76  
B.A., English & Philosophy, Kinnaird College, Lahore, Pakistan, 12/74

### **SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS**

Internal Grant for *Punjabi Weave*, Qatar University 2010  
Provosts Grant for Summer Research and Travel, Long Island University, 1999  
Rockefeller Humanities Fellowship, at the Womanist Studies Consortium, University of Georgia, Athens(1998)  
Council for International Exchange of Scholars Award: Lecturing and Research Award under the Fulbright Program with Pakistan (1996-7)  
Zora Neale Hurston Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies and Research in the African Humanities, Northwestern University (1994-5)  
University Senate Research Fellowship, American University (5/94-5/95)  
DuBois-Mandela-Rodney Post-Doctoral Fellowship, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI (9/90-5/91)

### **AWARDS:**

Certificate of Merit: In Recognition of Outstanding Service as Deputy Vice President, African Literature Association, 2013/2014

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Visiting Adjunct Professor: UNC-Charlotte, Africana Studies, 8/2017---  
Visiting Adjunct Professor: Catawba College, 1/2017---12/18  
Full Professor & invited to be Chair of English, Kwara State University, 6/2015--  
Professor and Senior Curriculum Advisor, COMSATS: 4/2014---

Visiting Professor at Fatima Jinnah College for Women: 10/2013--6/2014  
Senior Research Fellow, Sustainable Development Institute of Pakistan, Islamabad (5/2013--)  
Duties: doing research, editing research proposals, giving workshops on grant, report and case study writing, journal editor and co-ordinator and mentoring young scholars to write research proposals)  
Associate Professor of Poetry, Qatar University, Qatar (9/09--9/12)  
Associate Professor, Zayed University, UAE (9/05--7/09)  
Associate Professor, Fatih Üniversitesi, Istanbul (9/04-05)  
Associate Professor, (tenure track) Long Island University, NY (9/99-8/04)  
Assistant Professor, Bowling Green State University, OH (9/98-9)  
Assistant Professor, (visiting) Eastern Michigan University, MI. (9/97-9/98)  
Assistant Professor, (tenure track) American University, Washington, D.C. (8/89--8/97)  
Assistant Professor, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, HI (8/87-7/89)

Instructor (full-time), Windward Community College, Kaneohe, HI (8/86-7/87)  
Lecturer (part-time), University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, HI (8/85-5/86)  
Lecturer (part-time), Chaminade University, Honolulu, HI (8/85-5/86)  
Lecturer (part-time), Kapiolani Community College, Honolulu, HI (8/85-5/86)

Research/Editorial Assistant, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, for Prof. Susan Gubar, ed., *The Norton Anthology of Literature by Women* (1/84-5/84)  
Associate Instructor, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 1/84-5/84).

### **EXPERIENCE IN THE FIELD**

I have been nominated and elected to be on the African Literature Executive twice. I am a founding member of the Women's Caucus of the African Literature Association and served as its president twice. I have been a nominated and elected Deputy Vice President of the African Literature Association. I am also a frequent reader for the official journal of the ALA, *JALA*.

I have been asked to be the outside evaluator and examiner for promotions and Ph.D dissertations written under the auspices of The Department of English, Punjab University, Lahore. This is where during my Fulbright year I started the Ph.D program in Postcolonial Studies and taught the first methodology class to incoming Ph.D candidates.

In 2009, I was also asked to be on the editorial board of the *Journal of Research* (Humanities) published since 1962 by the English Department of Punjab University.

### **ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Teaching African Literature in the New Jersey Scholars Program: “Africa: The Sub-Saharan Experience”, to thirty nine of the top New Jersey high school seniors, summer, 2006, and “Climate Change Literature” segment in 2014 and 2015 for the same program.

## IV. PUBLICATIONS

### Books

1. *Bessie Head: Subversive Identities in Exile* (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 1996)
2. *Emerging Perspectives on Bessie Head*, (Trenton NJ: Africa World Press, 2004) As editor and contributor, I wrote the "Introduction" as well as "The Problematic Relationship of Western Canonicity and African Literature: The Not-so-Singular Case of Bessie Head" in this volume.
3. *The Epistemology of Colonial/Postcolonial Violence* (Africa World Press, 2015)
4. *The Other Body: Sexuality, Spectacle Silence* (I have just submitting the ms to Africa World Press at their request)

### Books in Progress

1. *Punjabi Weave*, compiling and writing a critical introduction for an anthology of Punjabi Women Poets of the twentieth century. (Begun as a Fulbright Research, Project-underway)

### Published Articles

1. "Embedded Postcoloniality in Post-Apartheid Literature," *Journal of the African Literature Association*. Vol 9, No 2 Summer/Fall 2015
2. "Head, Bessie." *Twentieth-Century World Fiction*. Vol. III of The Encyclopedia of Twentieth Century Fiction. Vol. ed. John Clement Ball; gen ed. Brian W. Shaffer. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011. 1124-26.
3. Entries on Gender and Sexuality, Bessie Head, Noni Jabavu, Farida Karodia, Ellen Kuzwayo, Lauretta Ngcobo, Miriam Tlali, and Zoe Wicomb included in *Encyclopedia of African Literature*, ed by Simon Gikandi (London and New York: Routledge, 2003)
4. "Speaking in Tongues in the Living Past" *Thamyris*. Vol 6, No 2. January 2000, pp 195-214
5. "Transnational Migrations and the debate of English Writing in/of Pakistan," *Ariel* 29:1, January 1998, 33-48. I was asked to write this article by the editor for the 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of the independence of Pakistan and India.
6. "Ontological Victimhood: 'Other' Bodies in Madness and Exile: Towards a Third-World Feminist Epistemology." ed., Obioma Nnaemeka, *The Politics of*

(M)Othering: Womanhood, Identity, and Resistance in African Literature  
(London: Routledge, 1997) 147-161.

7. "The Troubled Past: Literature of Severing and Viewer/Viewed Dialectic," eds., Deepika Bahri & Mary Vasudeva, in an anthology titled: *Between the Lines: South Asians and Postcoloniality* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1996) 298- 311
8. "The Violated Universe: Neo-Colonial Sexual and Political Consciousness in Dambudzo Marachera," *Research in African Literatures* v. 21, no. 2, Summer, 1990 79-90
9. "Autobiographical Content of South African Women Writers: The Personal and the Political." *Biography East and West*. Ed. Carol Ramelb (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1989)
10. "Women and Education in Islam." *Forum: A Women's Studies Quarterly*, v. 10, no. 3, Spring 1984, University of Cincinnati

## Reviews

1. Review of Ghassan Hage's *Against Paranoid Nationalism: Searching for Hope in a Shrinking Society* in *Antipodes: A North American Journal of Australian Literature* vol 17, no 2, December 2003 174-5
2. Review of Irene Assiba D'Almeida's, *Francophone African Women Writers: Destroying the Emptiness of Silence* and M. Keith Booker's, *The African Novel in English: An Introduction* in *African Studies Quarterly*: Vol 2, Issue 2. May 1998.
3. Review of Piniel V. Shava's *A People's Voice: Black South African Writing in the Twentieth Century* in *African Studies Review*, vol 33, no 2., 1990. 223-4
4. Review of Bessie Head's Posthumous collections, *Tales of Tenderness and Power; A Woman Alone and A Gesture of Belonging* in *African Studies Review*, vol 35, no 3, 1992. 119-12

## Poems

"Kamala Das" (poem), *The Massachusetts Review* 29 (1988-89)

## V. AREAS OF COMPETENCE

AOS: Post-Colonial Literature & Theory    AOC: American Literature  
Anglophone African and                      Asian Arab & Native  
Asian Literatures,                              American Literature  
Gender Studies                                  Afro-American Literature  
Twentieth-Century British, American and Irish Drama

## **VI. CLASSES TAUGHT**

1. Postcolonial Literature: Theory and Practice (MPhil Leading to PhD (Semester 1)
2. Feminist Perspectives in Contemporary Theory (Ph.D: Semester 1)
3. Contemporary and Modern Poetry (undergraduate)
4. Postcolonial Literature and Theory (graduate)
5. Political Drama (graduate seminar)
6. Modern Drama (graduate and undergraduate)
7. Major Authors: Toni Morrison, Chinua Achebe, Bessie Head, Ama Ata Aidoo, Kamala Das, August Wilson (grad and undergraduate)
8. Political Novel (graduate and undergraduate)
9. American Literature
10. Third World Literature (undergraduate)
11. African Literature (undergraduate)
12. Afroamerican Literature (undergraduate)
13. Literary Imagination (undergraduate)
14. Postcolonial Women Writers and Theory
15. Postcolonial Theory and Research Methodology (Ph. D students)
16. Ethnic Studies
17. Women of Color in the US (Undergraduate)
18. African Literature and Film (Honors Elective)
19. Methods in Research and Criticism (graduate)
20. Postcoloniality and Desire (graduate)
21. Non-Western Literature (undergraduate)
22. Women and Globalization
23. African and Caribbean Literature
24. Reading and Writing Arguments
25. Africana Studies: Pan Africanism
26. Colloquium: Modernist Dialogue between African & African American Women Writers and Feminist Thinkers.

## **VII. COMMITTEE WORK**

### **Departmental:**

Rank and Tenure Committee(1992-3)AU Hiring Committee(2000-1)LIU  
Colloquia Committee(1989-90)AU Graduate Studies Committee(1996-7)AU  
Undergraduate Studies Committee(1994-5)AU College Writing  
Committee(1994-5)Upper Division Committee(2000-1)LIU Graduate Studies  
Committee(2002)LIU Library Committee(1999-2000)LIU

**Organizer of the Paumanak Lectures** (2000-2)LIU. Guests invited a)  
Derek Walcott(2000) b)Edward Said(2001) c)Nellie McKay (2002)

**University:** Diversity Committee(1994-6)AU Student Relations(1994-5)AU  
Faculty Relations and Senate committee (2003-4)LIU and Qatar University  
(2010-)

**Professional:** Member of the ALA Executive: 1998—2001.

Chair of the State of the Profession Committee of the African Literature Association

Deputy Vice President of the ALA 2011---2015

Considerable committee experience as Chair and member at AU, LIU, ZU and QU.

Founding member and twice President of WOCALA (women's caucus of the African Literature Association) 2011-13

### **VIII. PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

1. "Incest/Secrecy: the Ghostly frontier in African Women's Writing" to be presented in Beyreuth, African Literature Association Meeting, June 3-6, 2015

1. a) "Roundtable on Recent Popular Movements in North Africa" participation invited. b) "The Future of African Literature in the Western Academy," Chair and panelist at the 37th Annual African Literature Association Meeting in Athens, Oh April 13---17, 2011.

2. a) Panelist at "Mapping the New" Literature conference held at Qatar University, Doha, Qatar. Feb 2010. b) "Narcissism and Imperial consciousness" departmental presentation at Qatar University.

3. "Gender and Identity in African Liteature." Chair and organizer of Panel titled: "Goddesses and Monsters: African and Sub-Continental Women in the Arts," paper titled: "The Thin Line Between Goddesses and Monsters: *Bengal Nights* and Beyond" at the *Annual African Literature Association Meeting* in Macomb, IL, April, 2008.

4. Invited by the Cynthia Nelson Institute of Gender and Women Studies, American University of Cairo to deliver a paper titled, "Jouissance: Disseminations of Empire," on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

5. Invited by Iben Tofail University in Kenitra, and Mohammed V University, in Morocco to give talks titled, "Violence and Literature," and "Women's Literature and Postcoloniality," respectively on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

6. Invited guest at *A Canon of Our Own*, talk titled "The Other Body: Silence Spectacle Sexuality", at the University of Vienna, Nov 28-9, 2005.

7. Chair and organizer of panel titled "Epistemology of Postcolonial Violence" at the conference: *Connecting Cultures* at the University of Kent, Canterbury, April 2-4, 2004.

8. Invited to be on a roundtable discussion at the *African Literature Association Meeting* "Seeking Employment in the Field: African Literary Studies and the

Academy" as well as a panel on "Feminist Interventions: Edward Said Remembered" at the Madison, Wisconsin meeting in April 14-16, 2004.

9. Invited to be a panelist for a conference on "Actor as Activist," hosted by the Lincoln Center and Sakhi, September 29, 2002.

10. "Narcissistic Violence and the Exilic Consciousness," Presented at *African Literature Association* in San Diego, April 2002 as well as in Tangier at the conference *Outsiders and Exiles*, April 2002.

11. "'We're gonna smash their brains in coz they ain't got nothin in em:' The Epistemology of Violence." Presented at Chandigarh University, India, July 2001 and at "Postcolonialisms and Political Correctness" conference in Casablanca, Morocco and at the *African Literature Association* conference in Richmond Virginia in March 2001.

12. Chairing a panel, "Phoenix Tethered to a Shingle: Redemptive Codings and Recodings in Diasporan Literature," at *Crossing Boundaries: The African Diaspora in the New Millennium* at the New York University, September 21, 2000.

13. "Sexuality Silence Spectacle," chair and panelist at the Annual *African Literature Association* meeting in Fes, Morocco, March 1999.

14. "Hybridity, Sexuality & Godzilla," paper given at University of Athens, Georgia, July 17, 1998.

15. Chairing a panel, "South African Literature," at *African Literature Association* meeting in Austin, Texas, March 28, 1998.

16. "Teaching/Researching African, Asian and Asian American Literature in the Western Academy," (invited by ) Waseda University, Tokyo and Kyoto Seika University, Kyoto, Japan, 7-11 December, 1996.

17. "The Problematic Nature of Western Canonization of African Literature," (invited by) University of Paredeniya, Sri Lanka, 15 October, 1996.

18. "Western Canonicity of Bessie Head," *The Bessie Head Conference*, Singapore, 7-10 October, 1996.

19. "Exile, Home and Nation," Plenary session at *The Association of Commonwealth Literature and Languages*, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 18 August, 1995.

20. "The Other Body: Silence Sexuality Spectacle." Delivered at the Institute of Advanced Study and Research in the African Humanities at Northwestern University, Evanston, 5 April, 1995.

21. "Women and the Postcolonial Condition," delivered at the *African Literature Association*, Columbus, Ohio, March 1995.
22. "Post-apartheid Literature: What Paradigms?" delivered at the *African Literature Association* Columbus, Ohio, March 1995.
23. "Race Gender and Exile within National Discourse." *MLA*, 1994.
24. "Desire and Post-Coloniality." Library of Congress, 1994.
25. "The Dangers of a Separate Discourse: Homosexuality and African Literature." Chair and organizer of panel & panelist at the *African Literature Association*, Ghana, 1994.
26. "Women, Sexuality and Spectacle: The Other Body in Black Women's Writing." Chair and organizer of panel & panelist at the *MLA*, Toronto 1993. Panel, nominated by the executive branch of the ALA for inclusion in the African Studies Association, Boston, 1993.
27. "DessimiNation of the Feminine: Post-Coloniality and Desire," (invited) and delivered at St.Catherines, *African Literature Association* meeting, April 1992. Revised version delivered at the ALA in Gaudeloupe in 1993.
28. "Discourse of the Living Past" (invited) and delivered at the *MLA* in San Francisco, December 1991.
29. "South African Women's Writing." Forum on South Africa (invited). Program arranged as a tribute for Nelson Mandela's visit by the Bronx Museum of the Arts, July 21, 1990.
30. "'Other' Bodies in Madness and Exile: Towards a Third-World Feminism/Womanism," *African Literature Association*, Madison, WI, April 4-7, 1990.
31. Expanded version of "'Other' Bodies in Madness and Exile: Towards a 'Third world' Feminism," *Philosophy and Literature* Conference, UCI, California, April 26-30, 1990.
32. "The Troubled Past: Literature of Severing and the Viewer/Viewed Dialectic: Voices from the Indian Subcontinental Partition, *Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language*, University of Kent at Canterbury, August 1989.
33. "Speaking in Tongues: The Living Past in Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and Bessie Head's *A Question of Power*," *Modern Languages Association*, New Orleans, December, 1988.



34. "The Violated Universe: Neo-Colonial Sexual and Political Consciousness in Dambudzo Marachera," *Modern Languages Association*, New Orleans, December, 1988.
35. "Autobiographical Content of South African Women Writers: The Personal and the Political"; Chair (and Organizer), panel entitled "Autobiography and Third World Women," *International Conference on Biography East and West*, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu, HI, April 29, 1988.
36. Chair (and Organizer). Panel entitled "Bridging Gaps: Third World Women in Dialogue," *African Literature Association*, Pittsburgh, April 6-9, 1988.
37. "Mothers and Daughters: The Living Past in Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and Bessie Head's *A Question of Power*," *African Literature Association*, Pittsburgh, April 6-9, 1988.
38. "Humor and Historicity in Bapsi Sidwa's Novels" (invited paper). Panel on "Dreams and Reality: Perspectives from Asian Literatures," *Asian Studies Association*, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, October 30, 1987.
39. "The Cultural and Literary Significance of African Masks" (invited lecture). Honolulu Academy of Arts, May 7, 1987.
40. "The Development of South African Women Writers" (colloquium lecture). Department of English, University of Hawaii at Manoa, April 24, 1987.
41. "The Development of South African Women Writers." *African Literature Association*, Cornell University, New York, April 1987. Invited by Prof. Cecil Abrahams, President, African Literature Association.
42. "Racism and Exile in *Maru*." *African Literature Association*, Cornell University, New York, April 1987.
43. "African Women Writers" (invited speaker). Panel sponsored by Hawaii Committee for the Humanities, November 15, 1986.
44. "Bessie Head's Uncollected Writings." *Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies*, Singapore, June 20, 1986.
45. "Third-World Women's Literature in Exile: Bessie Head." *African Literature Association*, April 12, 1984.
46. "Women's Education in the Islamic World" (invited paper). Conference on Women in the Curriculum: National and International Perspectives, Center for Women's Studies, University of Cincinnati, October 8, 1983.

47. Chair (participation invited). Panel on Political Struggles of Women in the Third World, Conference on Women in the Arts, Indiana University, July 9, 1983. and Discussant (participation invited). Panel on Colonial Discourse: Literature and Exile in South Africa and Palestine. *African Literature Association*, April 9, 1983.

## **IX. PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

African Literature Association  
African Studies Association  
Association of Commonwealth  
Literature and Language Studies  
Association for Asian Studies  
Modern Language Association

## **X. LANGUAGES**

Native Fluency: English, Urdu, Punjabi  
Reading Proficiency: French, Gurmukhi and Arabic

## **REFERENCES**

Dr. Arlene Elder (Professor Emeritus)  
Comparative Literature  
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