

## **Mahnaz Alimardanian**

Doctor of Philosophy, La Trobe University



**PiiR Consulting**

PO Box 189 South Melbourne VIC 3205

### **Professional Research Background and Consultancy**

2018 onwards: Consultant Anthropologist, Sole Trader, PiiR Consulting, Melbourne, VIC. List of projects available on request.

2013-2018: (Senior) Researcher, Native Title Anthropologist, First Nations Legal and Research Services, VIC.

### **Academic Background and Appointments**

2019: Research Scholar, Centre for Native Title Anthropology, Research School of Archaeology and Anthropology, Australian National University, ACT.

2014 onwards: Honorary Fellow, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, La Trobe University.

2013: Doctor of Philosophy, Anthropology and Aboriginal Studies, La Trobe University. Thesis Title: 'Acting and not Acting: the challenge of being spiritual in an uncertain Aboriginal world'.

2008: Master of Anthropology, Australian National University.

2005: Master of Arts (Research), Anthropology, University of Tehran. Thesis Title: "Dramatic Healing' in Iran, Analysis of *Porkhani* ceremony'.

2002: Associate of Dramatic Arts (performance and design), Islamic Azad University of Tehran.

2000: Bachelor of Arts, French Language and Literature (literary and drama criticism), University of Tehran.

### **Publications**

#### Academic:

2020: Alimardanian, M. 'Ethnography of a Nightmare: Public Anthropology, Indefinite Detention and Innovative Writing', *American Ethnologist*, Vol. 47, Issue 1.

2020: Alimardanian, M. 'The demon is growing with sins, but there are angels around... Bundjalung Pentecostalism as Faith and Paradox', In *Australasian Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements: Arguments from the Margins*, Global Pentecostal and Charismatic Studies Series, Vol 36, Edited by Cristina Rocha, Mark Hutchinson and Kathleen Openshaw, Leiden: Brill Publishing, pp.257-273.

2019: Lourie, A. Kojovic, N. Hodgson, K. Alimardanian, M. 'Native Title Archives: Traditional Owner community owned and controlled repositories', Special Issue: Critical Archives, Edited by Tiffany Shellam and Joanna Cruickshank, *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History*. Vol 20, No 2, Johns Hopkins University Press.

2014: Alimardanian, M. Burnt Woman of the mission: Gender and horror in an Aboriginal settlement in northern New South Wales, In *Monster Anthropology in Australasia and Beyond*. Edited by Yasmine Musharbash and Geir Henning Presterudstuen, Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 93-108.

2013: Alimardanian, M. 'Porkhani as a healing drama: Analysis of a healing performance among Turkmen people of Iran.' *Anthropology of the Contemporary Middle East and Central Eurasia*, Vol. 1, Issue1, pp. 54-73, Sean Kingston Publishing.

#### Non-Academic:

2017: Alimardanian, M. 'News to celebrate or not?' *Transcultural Imagination*, Religion, State & Society Network magazine. University of Sydney.

#### **Up-published Professional Reports and Submissions**

List of reports (2013-2020) available on request. Reports are subject to confidentiality and legal professional privilege.

#### **Select Symposiums and Conferences**

2019: Presenter, Title of Paper: Anthropologists and 'fitting-in' to the applied world, 'out there', Stray Anthropologists: Circling the Discipline Lab, AAS 2019 Conference, Values in Anthropology, Values of Anthropology, Australian National University, Canberra, 02-05 December.

2019: Panel Discussant, Anthropologies of Uncertainty, AAS 2019 Conference, Values in Anthropology, Values of Anthropology, Australian National University, Canberra, 02-05 December.

2019: Chair, Title of Session: Trends and opportunities for anthropologists in the post-native title environment, Centre for Native Title Anthropology (ANU), Annual Conference, Change and development in Native Title Anthropology, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, 7-8 Feb.

2017: Convenor, Title of Panel: Dreaming in black and white: how the dreams of indigenes and non-indigenes about each other shape our social encounters (Anthony Redmond, Mahnaz Alimardanian), AAS/ASA/ASAANZ 2017 Conference, Shifting States, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, 11-15 Dec.

2017: Presenter, Title of Paper: Dream, Affection and Action: Ambiguity and hesitation in social encounters from the eye of dream, AAS/ASA/ASAANZ 2017 Conference, Shifting States, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, 11-15 Dec.

2017: Presenter, Title of Paper: 'Demon is growing with sins but there are angels around': Bundjalung Pentecostal Charismatic Christianity, living with faith and paradoxes, Symposium of Pentecostal Charismatic Christianity in Australia, Religion and Society Research Cluster, School of Social Sciences and Psychology, Western Sydney University, Sydney, 11-12 Aug.

2015: Chair, Title of Session: ILUAs, negotiation and development, Centre for Native Title Anthropology (ANU), Annual Conference, Alternative Pathways to Outcomes in Native Title Anthropology, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, 12-13 Feb.

Full list of symposiums and conferences available on request.

#### **Examples of Informant-based Research and Fieldwork Projects**

2013 onwards: Participatory research (applied field), participant observation, structured and semi-structured interviews in relation to social and cultural sustainability, Native Title, land rights and Traditional Ownership, social justice and compensation in VIC, SA and NSW Australia.

2010-2011: 15 months of participant observation research on local belief system, sensory and lived experience, Bandjalang community, NSW, Australia.



2006-2007: Semi-structured interviews and survey for socio-cultural mapping and collection of oral traditions. in four villages, ethnoarchaeology project, Iranian Cultural Heritage and Tourism Organisation, Mazandaran, Iran.

2002-2003: Participant observation and informal interviews, Turkmen healing ceremonies and performance, Golestan, Iran.

Full list of projects available on request.

### **Membership of Societies**

2014 onwards                      Fellow, Australian Anthropological Society

2002- 2008                        Anthropological Society of Iran

### **Languages**

English, Farsi, French.

