

# Middle Eastern and North African Studies Colloquium Series

## Say What Your Longing Heart Desires: Women, Prayer, and Poetry in Iran



Niloofar Haeri

*Professor  
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Dr. Haeri will present her recently published book, *Say What Your Longing Heart Desires* at the Spring 2021 Virtual Colloquium Series. Her book begins with the question of how we can avoid looking at revolutions as either failures or successes. The 1979 revolution in Iran resulted in a mass involvement with theological questions—most notably, what kind of Islam is the true one? The Islamic Republic sought to define and impose a certain version of Islam on Iranians. Hence, it was inevitable that people would question the authority of this particular approach by the state and offer their own alternatives. Dr. Haeri will discuss her investigation of the usage of classical poetry; spirituality of *namaz*; the temporality of performing a ritual; and the role of language in constructing a relationship with God.

**Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 3pm**

**Zoom registration: [cmes.arizona.edu/colloquium](https://cmes.arizona.edu/colloquium)**

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