Nayereh Tohidi: Bio-Bilingual
nayereh.tohidi@csun.edu
nayerehtohidi@gmail.com

Nayereh Tohidi is a Professor Emerita and former Chair of Gender & Women's Studies Department and the Founding Director of the Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies (2011-2021) at California State University, Northridge. She is also a Research Associate in the Program of Iranian Studies at UCLA coordinating its "Bilingual Lecture Series on Iran" since 2003. She has also joined the faculty board of the online *Iran Academia* of the Institute for Social Sciences and the Humanities based in the Hague, Netherlands (2015+). Tohidi was born in Tehran Iran in 1951 and completed her elementary and secondary education in Iran. She also completed her undergraduate education in The University of Tehran in sociology and psychology with an honor degree that won her a scholarship to do her MA and Ph.D. at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign in Ed Psych. She is a recipient of several post-doctoral fellowships and research awards, including a year of Fulbright lectureship and research at the Academy of Sciences of the Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan; universities of Harvard and Stanford, the Kennan Institute of the Woodrow Wilson Center, and Keddie-Balzan Fellowship at UCLA. She also received an NEH grant for establishing the Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies Program at CSUN. Her teaching and research expertise include gender and sustainable development; women's movements and feminisms; women and Islam; globalization, ethnicity, and democracy in Iran and the post-Soviet Caucasus.

Tohidi's extensive publications (written in Persian and English) include authorship or editorship of three books and numerous book chapters, articles and interviews in peer-reviewed academic and policy-oriented journals. Some of her articles have been translated into Spanish, Arabic, Turkish, Russian, German, and French. She has served as transcript reviewer for several academic journals and book publishers and has been on the advisory or editorial boards of journals such as Feminist *Studies in Religion* (Harvard), the bilingual Journal of *Azadi Andisheh*, and *Ms. Magazine*. Tohidi has integrated academic excellence with transnational human/women's rights activism. She represented women NGOs at the UN-sponsored third and fourth World Conferences on Women in Nairobi (1985) and Beijing (1995). She has also served as a consultant for the UN agencies (UNICEF and UNDP) on issues concerning children and women's rights and status in the Caucasus and the Middle East. In recognition of such human rights and civil society activism, she has been honored by receiving awards such the *Eleanor Roosvelt* (2017); the *Phenomenal Woman* (2018); and the *Freedom Dance* (2024) plaques. One of her latest articles in English is
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