

## Afsaneh Najmabadi: Associate Editor



Born in Iran, **Afsaneh Najmabadi** came to Radcliffe College from Tehran University in 1966. With initial B.A. (Radcliffe 1968) and M.A. (Harvard 1970) degrees in physics, she later pursued social studies, combining academic interests with her engagement in social activism, first in the U.S. and then in Iran. She completed her Ph.D. (1984) in Sociology at the University of Manchester (U.K.).

She has recently completed a manuscript [Women with Mustaches and Men without Beards: Gender and Sexual Anxieties of Iranian Modernity](#) (University of California Press, 2005), a study of cultural transformations in 19th-century Iran centered on reconfigurations of gender and sexuality, and is working on two new projects, "How an Aqa became an Agha: women's sociality and sexuality in Qajar Iran," and "Genealogies of Iranian Feminism."

Najmabadi's previous publications in English include *The Story of Daughters of Quchan: Gender and National Memory in Iranian History* (Syracuse University Press, 1998), and *Women Autobiographies in Contemporary Iran*, editor and contributor (Harvard University Press, 1991).

She has been a fellow at Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton (1994-95), Harvard Divinity School, Women's Studies in Religion Program (1988-1989), Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women, Brown University (1988-1989), and Nemazee Fellow at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University (1984-85). After nine years at the Department of Women's Studies, Barnard College, in July 2001 Najmabadi joined Harvard University as Professor of History and of Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality. She currently chairs the Committee on Degrees in Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality.

[Dr. Afsaneh Najmabadi at Harvard University](#)

\*Photo of Afsaneh Najmabadi by Shahla Bebe