

CONTRIBUTORS

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Yusuf Sheikh Omar holds a PhD from La Trobe University in Australia. He is a writer, poet, and peace activist. His research has focused on social integration of young Somalis in western countries and he has published widely in international academic journals and leading Australian newspapers. Yusuf has worked as a consultant at Victorian Transcultural Mental Health. He is a Global Advisor for Global Reconciliation; a member of the Advisory Board of Somali Studies published by the Institute of Somali Studies, Mogadishu University; and a for-

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Mulki Al-Sharmani is a docent and Academy of Finland Research Fellow in the Faculty of Theology, University of Helsinki, Finland. She holds a doctorate degree in Cultural Anthropology from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA. She researches and publishes on: modern Somali diasporas, transnational migrant families, Muslim marriage norms and practices in Finland and in Egypt, Muslim family laws and Islamic jurisprudence, and contemporary Muslim women’s engagements with Islamic interpretive tradition.

Marja Tiilikainen is a docent and Academy of Finland Research Fellow in the Department of Social Research, University of Helsinki. She has a PhD in Comparative Religion from the University of Helsinki, Finland. Her research has focused on transnational Somali families in Finland, Canada, and Somalia; everyday life and religion; cultural concepts of illness and healing; and transnational healing practices. She currently leads two research projects titled “Transnational Muslim Marriages: Wellbeing, Law and Gender,” and “Young Muslims and Resilience: A Participatory Study.”

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Brendon Cannon is an Assistant Professor at Khalifa University’s Institute of International and Civil Security in Abu Dhabi, UAE. He previously taught at Kisii University in Nairobi, Kenya and was the Director of Gollis University Research Institute (GURI) in Hargeisa, Republic of Somaliland. He earned his doctorate in Political Science from the University of Utah, USA, with emphasis on comparative politics and international relations (IR). He is the author of articles that include, “Terrorists, Geopolitics and Kenya’s Proposed Border Wall with Somalia,” and “Kenya in Turkey and Turkey in Kenya: Alternatives to the East/West Paradigm in Diplomacy, Trade and Security.”

Abdirashid M. Jabane is a development consultant from Northern Kenya and holds a Masters in International Relations from University of Nairobi, Kenya. He has served in the public sector in Kenya in various regions and has wide-experience in the field of rural development and the environment.

