

# Virtual Diasporas Commissioned Authors

---

## Recommended Citation

"Virtual Diasporas Commissioned Authors", Global Problem Solving, April 25, 2002,  
<https://nautilus.org/global-problem-solving/virtual-diasporas-commissioned-authors-3/>

---

**v i r t u a l d i a s p o r a s**  
**and global problem solving project**

#### Commissioned Authors

##### Karim H. Karim

Carleton University

Karim H. Karim is an Assistant Professor in Carleton University's School of Journalism and Communication. He has previously worked as Senior Researcher in the International Comparative Research Group and as Senior Policy Analyst in the Multiculturalism Secretariat, in the Department of Canadian Heritage.

He has also served as Chairperson of the Federal Digitization Task Force's Working Group on the Accessibility to Digitized Collections and the Chairperson of Canadian Heritage's Committee on Equal Access and Participation. Prior to his work in the Government of Canada, he reported on Canada for Compass New Features (Luxembourg) and for Inter Press Service (Rome).

Karim H. Karim's current book, *The Islamic Peril: Media and Global Violence*, is published by Black Rose Books. He has published a number of chapters in edited works such as *The Global Dynamics of News: The Language and Politics of Exclusion* and *Islam Encountering Globalisation* and articles in the *Journal of International Communication*, the *International Journal of Politics, Culture, and Society*, *The Public: Journal of the European Institute for Communication and Culture*, and the *Canadian Journal of Communication*, and UNESCO's *World Culture Report*. He is presently editing a collection of research essays by some of the leading scholars on diaspora and communication. B.A. (Columbia), M.A., Ph.D. (McGill)

His research interests include transnational communication, technology and culture, ethnicity and communication, myth and communication, and qualitative media analysis.

##### Michel Laguerre

UC Berkeley

Michel S. Laguerre is a Professor of Afro-American Studies/Antropology and Director of the Berkeley Center for Globalization and Information Technology. He has published "American Odyssey" (Cornell University Press, 1984), "Urban Poverty in the Caribbean" (Macmillan Press, 1990), "The Informal City" (Macmillan Press, 1994), "Diasporic Citizenship" (Macmillan Press, 1998), "Minoritized Space An Inquiry into the Spatial Order of Things" (University of California's Institute of Governmental Studies Press, 1999), "The Global Ethnopolis" (Macmillan Press, 2000), and "The Multitemporal City Globalization, Diasporic Temporalities and Internet Time" (forthcoming).

His essays on business corruption, rotating credit associations among Caribbean immigrants in New York, and diasporic social formations appeared in *California Management Review*, *Journal of Developmental Entrepreneurship*, *Millennium Journal of International Studies*, the *Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups*. He was a visiting professor at Harvard in 1991-2 and held in 1994-5 at UC Berkeley the Barbara Weinstock Lectureship on the Morals of Trade. He is completing a new volume entitled "The Global Digital City Information Technology and the Transformation of Silicon Valley."

##### Vinay Lal

UCLA

Vinay Lal is Assistant Professor of History at UCLA. He has published on a wide variety of subjects, including colonialism, Indian history, popular cinema, the Indian diaspora, and the political culture of India. Lal writes on a wide variety of subjects for periodicals in the US, India, and Britain, including the *Economic and Political Weekly* (Mumbai), *The Little Magazine* (Delhi), and *Social Scientist* (Delhi). Lengthier scholarly articles have appeared in such journals as *Diaspora*, *Social Text*, *Genders*, *Journal of the History of Sexuality*, *Environmental Ethics*, *History and Theory*, *Studies in History*, and *Emergences*.

Among other subjects, he has written on various aspects of the political and legal history of colonial India, sexuality in modern India, the Hindi film, the Indian diaspora, the politics and history of history, dissent in the Gandhian mode, American politics, the politics of culture, and the global politics of knowledge. Some of his recent essays have been revised and collected in *The Dialectic of Civilization and Nation-State Essays on Indian History and Culture* (in press, Seagull Books, 2002). His other publications include *South Asian Cultural Studies A Bibliography* (Manohar, 1996), a special edited issue of the journal *Emergences* on "Islands" (November 2000), a guest-edited issue of the journal *Futures on the social sciences* (in press, February 2002), a new edition of an old ethnography, *The History of Railway Thieves* (reprinted, 1996), and (edited) *Dissenting Knowledges, Open Futures The Multiple Selves and Strange Destinations of Ashis Nandy* (Delhi Oxford, 2000). Lal earned his B.A. and M.A. from Johns Hopkins University in 1982, and his Ph.D. with distinction from the University of Chicago in 1983. His dissertation, "Committees of Inquiry and Discourses of 'Law and Order' in Twentieth-Century British India", received the Marc Galler Award for the best dissertation in the Division of the Humanities at the University of Chicago, and it was also the only dissertation in the humanities chosen to represent the university in the competition for the Council of Graduate Schools/University Microfilms International Distinguished Dissertation Award.

##### Saskia Sassen

University of Chicago

Saskia Sassen is the Ralph Lewis Professor of Sociology at the University of Chicago, and Centennial Visiting Professor at the London School of Economics. Her most recent books are *Guests and Aliens* (New York, New Press 1999) and the edited volume *Global Networks/City Links* (New York and London Routledge 2001). New fully updated editions of *Cities in a World Economy* and *The Global City* are out in 2001. Her books have been translated into ten languages. She is co-director of the Economy Section of the Global Chicago Project and is the Chair of the newly formed Information Technology, International Cooperation and Global Security Committee of the SSRC.

##### Robert Smith

Barnard College

Robert Smith's work focuses on Mexican migration to the US and the northeast in particular, analyzing issues of transnationalization, immigrant incorporation and stat-diaspora relations. He is currently doing a research project on second generation adaptation funded by the National Science Foundation. He has received postdoctoral grants from the Center for US-Mexico Studies; International Center for Migration, Ethnicity and Citizenship; the Oral History Research Project at Columbia University; and the Social Science Research Council. He is currently revising a book manuscript *Los Ausentes Siempre Presentes The Politics of Membership, Gender and Generation in the Making of a Transnational Community*. He has published more than 10 articles or book chapters on migration related issues. He is also the co-founder of MEXED, Mexican Educational Foundation of New York, a non-profit organization that creates mentorship networks and seeks scholarships for Mexican and Mexican American students in New York.

##### Guobin Yang

University of Hawaii at Manoa

Professor Yang currently works on three research projects. One is an empirical and historical study of the relationship between developments in information technologies and changes in political institutions and civil society in 20th-century China. Related to this is a project on the emergence and consequences of a global internet-based Chinese-language public sphere. The third project examines the course and consequences of the identity transformation of China's Red Guard generation. He teaches in the areas of cultural sociology, sociological theory and modern Chinese society and culture.

Recent publications include *China's Red Guard Generation The Ritual Process of Identity Transformation, 1966-1999*. Ph.D. Dissertation. New York University, 2000. "The Liminal Effects of Social Movements Red Guards and the Transformation of Identity," *Sociological Forum* 15.2 (2000), pp. 379-406. "Achieving Emotions in Collective Action Emotional Processes and Movement Mobilization in 1989 Chinese Student Movement," *The Sociological Quarterly* 41.4 (2000). Professor Yang received his first PhD in 1993 at Beijing Foreign Studies University, PRC; and his second PhD in 2000 from New York University.

##### G. Pascal Zachary

UC Berkeley

G. Pascal Zachary is a visiting professor at UC Berkeley, a senior writer for *The Wall Street Journal*, as well as a contributing editor of the newsmagazine *In These Times* and a columnist for *Technology Review*. He has published two technology-related books — *Showstopper* (1994), on innovation at Microsoft, and *Endless Frontier*, a biography of Vannevar Bush, the organizer of the Manhattan Project. His latest book, "The Global Me New Cosmopolitans and the Competitive Edge," is a study of how rich nations handle ethnic, racial and national diversity in their societies and a celebration of multicultural identity in the New Economy. It was published in July 2000 by Public Affairs Books.

• [Virtual Diasporas](#)

• [Background](#)

• [Workshop](#)

• [Report](#)

• [Authors](#)

• [Papers](#)

---

View this online at: <https://nautilus.org/global-problem-solving/virtual-diasporas-commissioned-authors-3/>

Nautilus Institute

608 San Miguel Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707-1535 | Phone: (510) 423-0372 | Email:

[nautilus@nautilus.org](mailto:nautilus@nautilus.org)