

Mina Sharif

AUTHOR · SPEAKER · MODERATOR

hello@minasharif.com

minasharif.com

In person & virtual · Canada and internationally



— SHORT BIO

Afghan-Canadian author, speaker and moderator who leads nuanced conversations on identity, belonging, Afghanistan and diaspora.

Mina grew up in Canada after her family resettled from Afghanistan. She later moved back to Afghanistan for about 15 years, where she directed the Afghan version of Sesame Street, founded the Sisters 4 Sisters Girls Mentorship program and led national media campaigns, before returning to Canada in 2019. That experience shaped her debut story collection, *Your War, Our Lives* (with ArtLords illustrations), which looks at everyday Afghan life beyond the headlines. She is a contributing author to the Penguin national bestseller *We Are Still Here* (ed. Nahid Shahlimi, foreword by Margaret Atwood), and created *Hyphenated: The Third Category*, a framework for belonging that doesn't require choosing between cultures.

Long-listed, CBC Short Story Prize · Shortlisted, Peter Hinchcliffe Short Fiction Award · Guest lectures at University of Toronto, Oxford and York

— WAYS TO INVITE MINA

Moderator & host

Identity, diaspora, Afghanistan, women's stories, belonging

Speaker & guest lecturer

Personal experience, storytelling and cultural context

Panelist & media guest

Hyphenated, Afghan experiences, migration, refugee inclusion, cultural narratives

Facilitator

Workshops and discussions on identity, narrative, women's stories, refugee and newcomer experiences, and cross-cultural understanding

Book events

Readings, book clubs and classroom visits for *Your War, Our Lives*



Keynote, Jumpstart Refugee Talent



Speaking at the Embassy of Afghanistan



Leading a workshop session

— WHAT HOSTS SAY

"She created an open, inclusive atmosphere that allowed for dynamic discussions... Mina's lecture left a lasting impact."

Jocelyn Orb, BScN, MA

Director, Student Wellness Centre, University of Saskatchewan

"You covered so many important topics and we learned a great deal... it changed my understanding of the challenges with resettling here."

Abbe Marcus

Co-Chair, CSI-Briarcliff Resettlement Committee

"An impactful presentation... challenging simplified narratives and offering valuable insight for researchers and students alike."

Giulia Daniele

Deputy Director, CEI-Iscte, Iscte—University Institute of Lisbon

— SELECTED MEDIA

TVO · television interview

Al Jazeera · television interview

India Today Global · television interview

Al Jazeera · feature article by Mina, "Yearning for Afghanistan, in one meal"

Teen Vogue · featured

Goethe-Institut · feature article by Mina, "The Missing Stories"

Gendering Geopolitics · podcast

Belonging Across Borders · podcast

Planning an event?

Tell me about your event, audience and the conversation you want to create.

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