

Recent debates about the constituency and general political future of Iraq are partly based on specific perceptions and interpretations about Iraq's past, particularly with respect to the rule of Saddam Hussein. Contestations about Iraqi history have been largely based on male accounts in which diaspora men have played a significant role. As in many other contexts of war and reconstruction, women and gender issues have been instrumentalized in the context of ongoing conflict and political transition. But how do Iraqi diaspora women construct and interpret their own stories and the past of their country of origin? How do their own experiences shape their current relationship to Iraq and their possible political mobilization?

"Reconstructing Her Stories: Life Stories and Political Mobilization of Iraqi Diaspora Women"

**Friday, September 23, 12-2pm
Rm. 1225 University Center, UM-D**

**Center for Arab American Studies,
University of Michigan Dearborn
Mapping Arab Diasporas Colloquium Series
with:**

PROF. NADJE AL-ALI

- **Senior Lecturer, Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, University of Exeter, Britain**
- **Founding Member, Act Together: Women's Action on Iraq**
- **Member of Women in Black, Britain**

Free and open to the public. Space is limited. Please **RSVP** by 5pm, September 20, 2005 to caasumd@umd.umich.edu or call **313.583.6334**.

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