

Global Diversities

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Over the past decade, the concept of 'diversity' has gained a leading place in academic thought, business practice, politics and public policy across the world. However, local conditions and meanings of 'diversity' are highly dissimilar and changing. For these reasons, deeper and more comparative understandings of pertinent concepts, processes and phenomena are in great demand. This series will examine multiple forms and configurations of diversity, how these have been conceived, imagined, and represented, how they have been or could be regulated or governed, how different processes of inter-ethnic or inter-religious encounter unfold, how conflicts arise and how political solutions are negotiated and practiced, and what truly convivial societies might actually look like. By comparatively examining a range of conditions, processes and cases revealing the contemporary meanings and dynamics of 'diversity', this series will be a key resource for students and professional social scientists. It will represent a landmark within a field that has become, and will continue to be, one of the foremost topics of global concern throughout the twenty-first century. Reflecting this multi-disciplinary field, the series will include works from Anthropology, Political Science, Sociology, Law, Geography and Religious Studies. While drawing on an international field of scholarship, the series will include works by current and former staff members, by visiting fellows and from events of the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity. Relevant manuscripts submitted from outside the Max Planck Institute network will also be considered.

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Sonja Moghaddari

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Iranian Germans Between Local
Boundaries and Transnational Capital

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*To my loved ones
Past, present, and future*

Acknowledgments

Writing this book seemed to me like doing pottery: over and over, I looked at the clay, I weighted it in my hands, wedged it, molded it to sculpt it into a form I thought was fitting. Then I set it aside, but looking at it again after a while, I tried out new shapes, until I had it standing stably on its own. I am very happy and incredibly grateful for having had the chance to have numerous people who, each in their own way, accompanied me through all the different stages of this research and writing experience.

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Praise for *Internal Diversity*

“Sonja Moghaddari documents the social life of people of Iranian descent in the German city of Hamburg. Through suggestive ethnographic vignettes, in constant dialogue with theoretical discussions, she depicts subtle processes of social differentiation. The book harmoniously brings together local, national and transnational dimensions.”

—Alessandro Monsutti, Professor, *Department of Anthropology and Sociology, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland*

“Sonja Moghaddari’s study on Iranian-Germans is a vivid ethnography of an understudied migrant group, enhancing our understanding by providing a valuable historical perspective. Beyond the empirical insights, Moghaddari also makes an important contribution to our understanding of cultural capital in migration, through a perceptive analysis of differentiation, the workings of capitals across fields and the politics of value. While contributing to nuanced scholarly debate, the book’s lively style makes it compelling reading for academics and students.”

—Umut Erel, Senior Lecturer, *Faculty of Social Sciences, The Open University, UK*

“With a keen ethnographic eye, Sonja Moghaddari delves into the histories and present-day worlds of Iranians in Hamburg, Germany. Across several strategic case studies of familial and professional ties, she reveals how transnational capital and kin networks shape local boundaries of social status and difference. A significant contribution to the field of Iranian Diaspora Studies, this is a highly readable, engaging book that brims with original insight into an understudied population and phenomenon.”

—Neda Maghbouleh, Assistant Professor, *Department of Sociology, University of Toronto, Canada*

“An empirically rich and theoretically informed analysis of the interlinkages between diversity and transnationality among Iranian-Germans.”

—Boris Nieswand, Professor, *Institute of Sociology, University of Tübingen, Germany*

Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Cohesion and Conflict in Transnational Merchant Families	39
3	Narrating “Traditional Iranian Carpet Merchants”	81
4	An Association Between Diversity and Exoticism	125
5	The Overlapping Uncertainties of Film Professionals	163
6	A Festival at the Interstices of Value Systems	197
7	Conclusion	227
	Index	245

List of Figures

Image 1.1	Black tea, a tablecloth from Iran and a part of Siavash's family archives at his home. (July 2013, author's photo)	25
Fig. 2.1	Ali's family tree, all non-specified people live or lived in Germany	46
Fig. 2.2	Jalal's family tree, all non-specified people live or lived in Germany. The data for the extended family is simplified for reasons of pertinence	47
Image 2.1	Drawing of the villa Parviz inherited from his German parents-in-law. (April 2014, author's photo)	50
Image 2.2	Christmas 1938 and Emma's mother's place. From right to left: Emma's sister's husband, Ali, Emma's sister with Gita, Emma, and her mother (Siavash's family archives)	52
Image 3.1	View on the warehouse district (<i>Speicherstadt</i>) from the Poggenmühlenbrücke. (June 2013, author's photo)	85
Image 3.2	Street view in front of Akbar's store. (June 2013, author's photo)	86
Image 3.3	Akbar's show room with view on a fleet. (June 2013, author's photo)	87
Image 3.4	Tea set from Iran on a hand-knotted Persian carpet. (June 2013, author's photo)	88

Image 3.5	Foundation stone ceremony of the Imam Ali mosque in February 1960. Hamburg's Senator Kurt Sieveking on the left, and Imam Hojatolleslam Mohammad Mohaghaghi on the right (Siavash's family archives)	97
Image 3.6	Utility vehicle of the merchant business Hassan Vladi, probably the 1950s (Parviz' family archives)	98
Fig. 3.1	German import of hand-knotted carpets from selected countries between 1996 and 2014 (in thousand Euro, product codes: WA57011010, /90, /91, /93, /99, and WA57019010, /90). (data: Statistisches Bundesamt 2015, graphic by the author)	106
Image 4.1	Young men whose clothing and hairstyle mark their <i>honari</i> identification at Khâneh honarmandân, center of contemporary art, Tehran. (February 2014, author's photo)	132
Image 4.2	A store in central Tehran selling <i>honari</i> artifacts. (February 2014, author's photo)	134
Image 4.3	Golzar dances in front of German journalists in her living room. (April 2014, picture taken by a member of the film crew with the author's camera, anonymized)	153
Image 6.1	Hochsieben's main hall with Sebastian's photo exhibition. (June 2013, author's picture)	201
Fig. 6.1	Behruz' potential Iranian allies and their positionalities at the intersection of tridimensional social fields	213