

Jeewan Chanicka M.Ed

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Education

MASTER OF EDUCATION 2007

*York University
Faculty of Education*

Thesis Title: **A Reflective Journey on the Role of Islamic Epistemology as a guiding framework for Student Engagement and Teacher Resistance in a Post-September 11th world.**

Supervisor: Carl James
Nominated for Faculty of Graduate Studies award

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION 2003

*Ontario Institute for Studies in Education/ University of Toronto
Faculty of Education
Junior/Intermediate – History*

Graduated with honours

BACHELOR OF ARTS (Honours) 2000

Individualized studies *magna cum laude*
York University

Focus: Culturally appropriate forms of mediation
Thesis Title: **Culturally Appropriate forms of Mediation: Exploring the relationship between Children's Aid Society and the Muslim Community.**
Supervisor: Cynthia Chataway

Awards and Certification

Principal's Qualification Certification 1 – Ontario Principals Council June 2007

Primary Specialist Additional Qualification May, 2007

Middle Years Program Humanities (intermediate level) workshop participant – Basel, Switzerland 2006

Promising Practices AWARD – Character Education Partnership 2006

CAMP AWARD- Excellence in Community Service 2006

TRIBES Certified Trainer 2005

Talking Opportunities: A Pathways workshop to support communication to parents, 2005

Seven Habits of Highly Effective People Certificate 2004

Member of Golden Key International Honour Society 2003

Applause awards York Region District School Board 2003, 2004, 2005

"I have flown higher" AWARD North Albion Collegiate Institute 2002

Canadian Council for Multicultural & Intercultural Education AWARD 1994

Educational Experience

Grade 7 Homeroom teacher/Grade 6-8 MYP English/Humanities Teacher. **RAHA International School, Abu Dhabi** Sept 2006-June 2008

- Responsible for establishing an international humanities curriculum which integrates the local history/civics curriculum mandated by the United Arab Emirates Ministry of Education
- Co-development of the Middle Years Program English Language curriculum
- School representative for *Global Concerns* team between five schools in the Dubai/Abu Dhabi region
- Chair of Approaches to Learning committee- responsible for developing and implementing school-wide baseline for students
- Homeroom Teacher fulfilling all “homeroom” responsibilities Grade 7
- Internationalism/Community Service Coordinator

Grade 8 Homeroom teacher/Admin Team Intermediate Division **Armada P.S., Toronto** Sept 2005-June 2006

- Homeroom Teacher fulfilling all “homeroom” responsibilities Grade 8
- At-Risk Resource Teacher
- Literacy Teacher/Booster groups Grade 4
- Presenter at conferences, workshops and training programs on literacy, character, anti-racism, equity and at-risk students
- Mentor for Teacher Candidates from various U.S. and Canadian universities and colleges for practicum-placement
- TRIBES trainer and resource teacher
- Regional coordination, administration, development and training of staff for the ‘Helping Hands’ initiative active in East family of schools for York region.
- Equity Instructional leader
- Division resource for Assessment and Evaluation
- Organized and developed framework for first Summer Institute
- National Student Vote school representative

Lead Teacher Intermediate Division/Admin team **Ashton Meadows P.S., Toronto** Sept 2003- June 2005

- Grade 8 Homeroom Teacher fulfilling all “homeroom” responsibilities
- Designed and Implemented programs (including draft September 2003-June 2005 curriculum) to meet the needs of Gr. 6-8 “At-Risk” students
- Coordinated, developed and implemented school-wide Peer Mediation Program & work on board-wide team to develop PM program for Elementary Schools
- Presented at various conferences, workshops and training programs on literacy, anti-racism, equity and at-risk students
- Mentor OISE Teacher Candidate for practicum-placement
- Implement and use TRIBES and Instructional Intelligence strategies in classroom practice
- Intermediate Lead Teacher: Coordinate and lead Intermediate division wide activities.
- Developed and implemented the ‘Helping Hands’ initiative for over 24 schools
- Principal designate
- National Student Vote school representative

School Committees:

Transition Team: 2003-2006

Instructional Intelligences: 2003-2005

Graduation Committee: 2003-2006

At-risk/Guidance: 2003-2006

Literacy: 2005-2006

Anti-Racism/Equity: 2003-2006

Time tabling Committee: 2004-2005

Naturalization Project: 2003-2005

Character Education: 2003-2006

Helping Hands: 2003-2006

Peer Mediation: 2003-2005

Student Leadership: 2007- *ongoing*

Education Board Committees:

Global Concerns 2006-*ongoing*

Peer Mediation Committee 2004-2005

SEEDS 2004-2006

Leadership Forum 2005-2006

Employment History

CONSULTANT & LECTURER

3E Consulting (*Anti-racism, Equity & Conflict Resolution*)

Canada & United States 2003-present

- Develop and conduct Conflict Resolution workshops for students, teachers and parents
- Run workshops and lectures for parents and children “bridging the gaps”
- Develop workshops using culturally inclusive approaches
- Use interactive strategies of drama and art to develop and explore issues of equity, empowerment and education.

PROGRAM COUNSELLOR

Change Your Future

The Learning Partnership, Toronto August 2001 – August 2002

- Worked with up to 60 “at risk” youth across Toronto leading them to academic turn around and developing a love for school
- Liaised with officials and parents regularly
- Developed a culturally inclusive curriculum to meet needs of students
- Conducted educational and needs assessments

ENGLISH LITERACY TUTOR /OFFICE MANAGER

Self-Directed Studies, Toronto 2000- 2002

- Worked with young people to increase literacy proficiency and develop life skills
- Taught English as a Second Language
- Prepared statistical and progress reports as required by government funding agencies
- Performed all administrative duties

HATE CRIME/ANTI-RACISM

PROJECT COORDINATOR

ISSRA, Toronto June 1995 - July 1996

- Developed a comprehensive strategy for community mobilization to respond to hate crime and racism
- Worked primarily with youth from various ethno-cultural communities; liaised with police services and training volunteers
- Developed incident-tracking database

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ASSISTANT

Children Circle Daycare, Toronto January 1994- December 1997

- Responsible for the educational and social development of both pre-school and school age children that reflected cultural differences
- Planned classroom program and developed curriculum, performed individualized social, cognitive and motor skill assessments

VOLUNTEER DIRECTOR

ISSRA, Toronto Sept 2000- Aug 2001

- Liaise with board of directors and government funders.
- Management of Finances and financial information.
- Handling clients confidential information
- Independent management of at least 90 volunteer positions.

BOARDS of DIRECTORS

Canadian Muslims Civil Liberties Association: *Community Relations Director*, Civic engagement and participation, 1994-2006

Canadian Muslims for Peace and Justice: *Co-coordinator* responsible for developing a national network to communicate with Muslims regardless of group affiliations and beliefs. 2003- 2006

Masjid Toronto: Executive Committee member responsible for Social Services. 2004-2005

Canadian Relief Foundation: *Media Relations director*, 2001-2003

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Peace Education in the Islamic Context - Curriculum Framework development, August 2007 *to be implemented across South Asia* –chapter development on *Muslims and the Media*- United Nations University of Peace

Humanities Curriculum Development (Grades 6-10) – Middle Years Program
Responsible for the development of an International Humanities expectations with an embedded social justice narrative, scope and sequence and curriculum. (Raha International School, 2006-08)

English Language A Curriculum Development (Grades 6-10) – Middle Years Program
Responsible to co-develop the Language A curriculum expectations, scope and sequence and curriculum. (Raha International School, 2006-08)

Milestones – Developed a curriculum compatible with Ontario Ministry of Education curriculum targeting academically at-risk students. (Ashton Meadows Public School, 2004-05)

Change Your Future curriculum – Developed a curriculum to meet the needs of academically-at risk students with a focus on academic re-integration. (The Learning Partnership, 2002)

WORKSHOPS

Curriculum Development Workshop “Peace Education in Muslim Context”, May 2006,
International Center of the United Nations University for Peace at Toronto, Canada
(presentation and attendee)

TRIBES – a process of learning, February, 2006
Markham Gateway P.S., York Region District School Board

Community mapping – looking at assets as opposed to risk when engaging community,
January 2006
York Region District School Board

Instructional Intelligences in your classroom, February, 2005
Ashton Meadows P.S., York Region District School Board

TRIBES – a process of learning, August 2005
York Region District School Board

**Introduction to SEEDS – bringing Equity and Inclusion back to our focus – our core
business**, November 2004
York Region District School Board

Conflict Resolution and Team work, August 2004
Mississauga Youth Leadership Conference

Poverty and Classism – reconciling class differences in schools and classrooms, January,
2004 York Region District School Board, (co-presenter)

Integrating Islamic ethics within the Ontario Curriculum August 2003

**Flagbearers of Islam series: *Critical questions/reflections on maintaining Islamic identity in a
plural society*** Sept 2004 – ICNA/MAC Conference

Flagbearers of Islam series: *Empowering Muslim youth in the Canadian context*
Sept 2004 – ICNA/MAC Conference

Managing conflict in the classroom
MENTORS in-service for teachers in Islamic schools -August 2003

Project Come on In: A demonstration of Instructional Intelligence processes in the classroom,
April 2004, Ashton Meadows Public School

Portfolio institute: professional and student portfolios, February, 2004
OISE, University of Toronto

Classroom Management
MENTORS in-service for teachers in Islamic schools -August 2003

Instructional Intelligences in your classroom – Six Thinking Hats, Dec. 2003
Ashton Meadows P.S., York Region District School Board

Understanding Professional Portfolios for Educators, Feb 2003
Toronto District School Board, Leaders in Action

Conflict Resolution 101, April 2002
Toronto Responses for Youth Program (TRY)
City of Toronto

Anti-Islamophobia Education
School administrators-October 19, 2001
York Region District School Board

The Aftermath of 9/11 on the Muslim Community
Toronto District School Board Community Education Forum- November 12, 2001

LECTURES/PRESENTATIONS

Public Forum – Muslim youth and extremism in the Canadian context – are faith and citizenship mutually exclusive? Islamic Institute of Toronto, July 2006

Understanding Directed Reading Assessment, Armadale Public School, February 2006

Making Character Education work in the classroom: the Helping Hands initiative, Character Development Elementary Symposium. York Region District School Board, September 2005

Understanding Islamophobia: a context from the seerah of Muhammad ISNA, Toronto May 2005

Milestones: A new model to engage at-risk students while meeting curriculum expectations
York Region District School Board, Feb 2005

Making a difference for Tsunami victims CAMP Toronto, Jan 2005

Rethinking women in Islam – Muslim Students Association- University of Western Ontario, March 2004

Living Islam in America as a Youth The Islamic Society of Central New York, June 2003

Developing Strategic Alliances on campus – working together on a common platform, Muslim Students Association, Islamic Society of North America, May 2002

Outstanding Achievements of Muslim Youth in America, Islamic Society of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, April 2002

Muslim Youth in North America – exploring agency and the role of Muslim youth as global citizens MYLC conference, Mississauga

LANGUAGES:

English (Fluent), Arabic (Good), American Sign Language (Basic), Spanish (Basic), French (Basic)

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

COMMUNITY LIAISON VOLUNTEER

1994 – 2006

- Respond to requests from Board officials and administration to address the needs and concerns of ethno-cultural students and communities represented in the Scarborough board

- Conduct training and counseling sessions in areas of cultural diversity, race relations, and family intervention
- Conduct sensitivity training workshops for guidance counselors on issues pertaining to students with a South-Asian, Caribbean and Middle Eastern backgrounds.

COUNSELLING

- Counseled both youth and adults in areas dealing with employment, housing, mental health, suicide, drugs, anti-racism, physical and sexual abuse, immigration and integration issues and family problems

PAPERS

Anti-Racist Pedagogy- critical reflections on equity in teacher pre-service Education, May 13 2003

Peace in the Islamic Context: A Canadian Conception, May 2006

Towards Participatory Democracy in the Classroom: Engaging students in global citizenship *co-authored* November 2007

This program is helping me get where I need to be: Risk and Resiliency the Milestones experience November 2007

ARTICLES

Where are the Women 2, August 6 2005

Who will inherit the Muslim community?, December 29 2004

Disengagement in the school system, November 3rd 2004

Power of Purpose, July 1 2004

Creating an Equitable Environment – a checklist for teachers, January 12 2004

De-centering, (not deleting) Christmas, (*editorial response*) December 24 2003

Racial Profiling in the school system, December 10 2003

Where are the Women, July 29 2003

Remembering Holly Jones, July 15th 2003

The Future of the Peace Movement, April 2 2003

PROPOSAL FUNDING

Innovation Grant Proposal – Milestones – a program for at-risk youth in the school system, April 27 2004, \$ 5000

CITATIONS

Abubakar, Carmen A., Muslim Women in the Philippines: Challenged or Challenging? 2005

Cooper, Karyn and White, Robert, Burning Issues: Foundations of Education, 2003

REVIEWS

Opportunities for Muslim education in a non-Muslim school "Muslim Education - Challenges, Opportunities and Beyond" *Asia Pacific Journal of Education*

REFERENCES

Sharon Moss

Principal

Armada Public School

York Region District School Board

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