Bio

Fariba Nawa, an award-winning Afghan-American journalist, covers a range of issues and specializes in immigrant and Muslim communities in the United States and abroad. She is based in the San Francisco Bay Area but has traveled extensively to the Middle East, Central and South Asia. She lived and reported from Afghanistan from 2002 to 2007, and witnessed the U.S.-led war against the Taliban and al Qaeda. She has also reported from Iraq, Pakistan, Iran, Egypt, and Germany. She has a master’s in Middle Eastern studies and journalism.

Her work has appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Sunday Times of London, Foreign Affairs, Daily Beast, Newsday, Mother Jones, The Village Voice, The Christian Science Monitor, San Francisco Chronicle* and numerous other publications. She also reports for radio, including National Public Radio (NPR). She is the author of the groundbreaking report *Afghanistan, Inc*., (CorpWatch, May 2006 ) and a contributing writer in the anthology *Under the Drones: Modern Lives in the Afghanistan-Pakistan Borderlands* (Harvard University Press, May 2012). Her essays have also been published in two other books, *March to War* and *Women for Afghan Women*.

A frequent speaker on Middle East and South/Central Asian issues, she has participated in talks at the World Affairs Council, Commonwealth Club, major universities, and has been interviewed by prominent television and radio networks.

Her own book, *Opium Nation: Child Brides, Drug Lords and One Woman’s Journey Through Afghanistan*, is a mix of memoir and reportage focused on how Afghans have been affected by the drug trade in Afghanistan, (HarperColllins, November 2011). The book was a finalist for the 2012 PEN USA award for research nonfiction.

Her journalism awards include the Overseas Press Club Scholarship, One World Media Award and Project Censored.

She is currently teaching journalism at San Francisco State University, writing her second book, and is in search of full-time journalism or aid work outside the United States. She is fluent in Farsi/Dari, conversant in Arabic and understands Urdu.

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