



WOMEN POWER, POLITICS, AND THE PANDEMIC: CELEBRATING WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS

THE
GRADUATE
INSTITUTE
GENEVA

GLOBAL
HEALTH
CENTRE



**Maternal and Infant
Health Canada**

SPEAKERS

FARAH SHROFF

Founder and Lead, Maternal and Infant Health Canada



Farah M Shroff is a Canadian public intellectual with expertise in global public health research and education. She works in the Department of Family Practice and the School of Population and Public Health in the University of British Columbia's Faculty of Medicine. The emphasis of her research is envisioning and developing Health for All. Her main areas of research are integrative health approaches, and social/environmental justice from a feminist anti-racism lens. She is a women's health researcher and educator, focusing on gender equity, reproduction, midwifery, HIV, sexuality, mental well-being and so forth. Dr Shroff's passion about the health and human rights of women, children and the environment led her to found Maternal and Infant Health Canada (MIHCan), a global public health collaborative that focuses on improving the lives of women and young ones through education, research and innovation. In 1993, she was an inaugural faculty member in Canada's first university programme to educate midwives in Ontario--a programme that was rated a world leader. Her book, *The New Midwifery: Reflections on Renaissance and Regulation*, an edited collection, was published in 1997. Since then, she has written about various aspects of health policy, HIV/AIDS, nursing issues, registered massage therapy, international health, innovations/transformations in health care, mental well being, yoga, and more. She also writes poetry and literary reviews. Unusual in global health work, she has a particular interest in ayurveda, yoga, meditation and other natural forms of health promotion and disease prevention, as well as a practical one, as she teaches yoga, dance, self-defence, laughter, meditation and other mind-body arts. She is regularly featured in the media and had a television spot called "Dr Shroff Talks about Holistic Health". Radio Canada currently features Dr Shroff as their public health expert.

SATYA LAKSHMI

Director, National Institute of Naturopathy, Pune Ministry of AYUSH



Satya Lakshmi is the Director of the National Institute of Naturopathy in Pune, India, in addition to being a member of the National Board for Promotion and Development of Naturopathy and Yoga at the Pune Ministry of AYUSH. She is also the Chief Editor of "Nisargopachar Varta" a monthly bilingual (Hindi/English) magazine. Dr Lakshmi has presented various papers on Naturopathy and Yoga, participated in various Television and Radio talks, and has published many articles in newspapers, magazines, and books. She is a member of the National Board of Promotion for Development of Naturopathy and Yoga, and is the recipient of both the Excellence in Health Services Award from the government of Telangana State and the Health Care Excellence Award from the Honorable Shri Devendra Fadnavis. An active feminist, she rides her bicycle to support the environment, amongst many other ways that she serves as a role model.

MARCIA CASTRO

Andelot Professor of Demography, chair of the Department of Global Health and Population, Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health



Marcia Castro is Andelot Professor of Demography, chair of the Department of Global Health and Population at the Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health, and co-director of the Brazil Studies Programme of the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies. Her research focuses on the development and use of multidisciplinary approaches to identify the determinants of infectious disease transmission in different ecological settings to inform control policies. Castro has projects on malaria, COVID-19, arboviruses, infant/child mortality and development, health policy, and climate change in the Brazilian Amazon. She earned a PhD in Demography from Princeton University.

AGNES BINAGWAHO

Vice Chancellor and Professor, University of Global Health Equity, Rwanda; Senior Lecturer, Global Health and Social Medicine, Harvard Medical School



MODERATOR

SOHA BAYOUMI

Assistant Dean, Harvard College; Lecturer, History of Science, Harvard University



Soha Bayoumi is Assistant Dean of Harvard College and lecturer in the Department of the History of Science at Harvard University. Trained in political theory and history, she works on the question of justice at the intersection of history, political theory, and science and technology studies. With a focus on medicine and public health, her research addresses the question of health and social justice, biomedical ethics, and the links between medicine and politics, with a geographical focus on the Middle East and a special interest in postcolonial and gender studies. Her research interests focus on medical expertise and how it is deployed in different political contexts. In this framework, she focuses on gender and race as important contributors to the fashioning of the medical profession and as key determinants of health and access to medical care. She is finishing a book manuscript (in preparation with Stanford University Press) on the roles played by doctors in revolutionary and post-revolutionary Egypt, and working on another book project on the social roles of doctors in postcolonial Egypt. She is editor of the Journal of Middle East Women's Studies (JMEWS) and associate editor of the Journal of Islamic and Muslim Studies (JIMS).

