

2026 KAZI NAZRUL ISLAM LECTURE AT CSUN

Prose as Praxis: Nazrul's Emancipatory Imagination & Dialectical Dance

REBEL POET? OR REVOLUTIONARY MILITANT?



This lecture will resituate Bangladesh's national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam through Dr. Hussain's reading of his engagements with anticolonial struggle and an insurrectionary vision of decolonized "world literature." Reading Nazrul's writings through Palestinian writer Ghassan Kanafani's notion of *muqawamah*, and in dialogue with the Latin American revolutionary Roque Dalton's concept of "militant poetics," Hussain argues that Nazrul's work anticipates Frantz Fanon, Cabral, and Thiong'o, while remaining irreducibly his own: multilingual, materialist, internationalist.

May 4th | 11:30 A.M.
Flintridge Room, East
Conference Center
(location changed)
Zoom ID: 4803047926

Light lunch will be served.

Dr. Azfar Hussain is the Director of the Graduate Program in Social Innovation and Associate Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies at Grand Valley State University, Michigan. He serves as Vice President of the Global Center for Advanced Studies in New York, where he is Professor of English, World Literature, and Interdisciplinary Studies. He has authored and edited several books in both English and Bengali.

This talk is sponsored by the Kazi Nazrul Islam Endowment Fund and is organized by the Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies program and the College of Humanities.
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