

**Azadi (freedom):
Feminist reading group**

Seminar series run as part of the Brunel
**Education 'Interculturality for diversity and
global learning' Research Group**

Feminist reading group led by Dr Geeta Ludhra
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Session 5: 31.03.22 (5-6pm)
Led by Dr Giuliana Ferri



Welcome and House-keeping

1. Quick reminder from Session 1:

House-keeping: mutual respect, sensitivity and kindness when speaking, and in the chat comments, no recordings being made, hands-up, feeling safe to speak.

Read more about our research group members and activities on the Interculturality website (access links on next slide).

- **Main Research Group Link:**
[Interculturality for diversity and global learning | Brunel University London](#)
- **Reading Group Link:**
 - **Feminist reading group | Brunel University London**
- **Azadi (freedom): Feminist works by scholars of colour**

This reading group will run on a monthly-basis where sessions will be held on the last Thursday of every month, between 5-6pm to avoid meeting clashes. All sessions will be held over zoom for the first year. Details and updates will be posted on the website.

- **Zoom link:**
<https://bruneluniversity.zoom.us/j/97896081315>
Meeting ID: 978 9608 1315; Passcode: 1372024688

Reflection questions and prompts for the year:

- To what degree do critical feminist writers of colour and global south feminists working in the North have the 'freedom' and 'safety' to write about and through their lived 'truths'?
- What does it mean to write through a critical feminist lens that captures the intersections, nuances and complications of lived experiences?
- How does this month's writing challenge some of the power dynamics and white mainstream feminist discourses?
- What emotional tolls do feminist scholars of colour and minoritised feminist scholars embody as part of their research and writing experiences?
- How can poetry be used to address feminist issues and silences by scholars of colour and minoritised feminist scholars?

Igiaba Scego

Igiaba Scego is an Italian writer, journalist, and activist of Somali origin.

Igiaba holds a PhD in Pedagogy and is actively involved in projects in Italian schools to promote decolonisation and intercultural understanding.

She is a successful writer and author of many books, including *Adua* and *the Colour Line*. Igiaba tells the stories and experiences of Afro Italians.



Link to her short story, *Sausages*:

<http://www.warscapes.com/retrospectives/food/sausages>

Reading Session 6: Why Igiaba Scego?

24 February 2022

Post-colonial discourses dominated by Anglo-American and to a lesser extent French literature.

Marginal postcolonial literature produced in the Mediterranean countries.

Experiences of Afro Italians: a result of Italian imperialist past, which is extremely different from other colonial powers ('peripheral colonialism' and abrupt end of colonialism at the end of WW2).

Italy was divided and colonised since the end of the Roman Empire: attempt to create a sense of national identity through colonisation after unification in the second half of the 19th Century.

Internal racism between North and South-degrees of 'whiteness'.

However, long lasting impact in North Africa (Lybia), East Africa, Albania and Greece.

Reflections, connections and questions raised through this reading

Prompts:

1. How did you feel during and after reading this story?
 2. Is there something you particularly connected to in this story?
 3. What is your relationship with food and how does it link to your cultural identity? Do you have any memories linked to food that you would like to share?
 4. How do you define national identity? What does it mean to you?
- **Share a key take-home message after today's session?**
 - **Has today's session raised a new question or follow-up line of thinking/reading for you?**
 - **Do share in the chat if you feel comfortable to.**

Thank you for attending today

24 February 2022

- On behalf of the Brunel **Education 'Interculturality for diversity and global learning'** Research Group, we encourage you to visit the website and keep up with our research activities and events.
- Full programme on the website: [Feminist reading group | Brunel University London](#)
- Hope to see you in April and other sessions in this series.

April **Reading session 7**: 28th April 2022

Led by: Giannis Efthymiou

Reading TBC – keep an eye on the website.