

Susan Abraham is a daughter of the Assyrian diaspora, a member of the Thkuma clan with roots in Chicago and the village of Mazra'ya in present day Yaylak, Diyarbakır. She is a first-generation college student and currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese at the University of Virginia where she studies early modern Iberian and Mediterranean literature and culture. Susan's research focuses on the textual and cultural production of exiled Iberian Muslims, or Moriscos, living in the Mediterranean diaspora through theological and doctrinal treatises that were composed or circulated in Tunisia. Her dissertation, "Narrating Faith Across the Straits: Morisco Manuals of Faith in Tunis and the Early Modern Mediterranean", approaches the history of the Morisco diaspora by focusing on extant seventeenth-century didactic and devotional texts. In particular, this dissertation explores how Morisco discursive practices in exile negotiate among Islamic, Spanish, and diasporic modes of cultural and religious production in order to engage their readers in religious practices, ritual performance, and affective entanglements.