To whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong interest in applying for Elahe Omidya Mir-Djalai Dissertation Completion Fellowship.

I am a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Toronto. To write my dissertation, titled “Fugitive Territories: The Hazara Refugees’ Life at the Threshold in Iran,” I have conducted more than twenty months of ethnographic fieldwork in Mashhad, Iran.

As of July 2022, I have drafted and got feedback on four of my dissertation chapters and need to finalize these chapters by addressing my advisors’ comments. I also need to write my introduction and conclusion chapters.

I am very hopeful that with the help of the fellowship freeing my time from the responsibilities of teaching— especially since, as of September, I will start the fifth year of my graduate studies at UofT and leave the funded cohort without having any other source of funding—I will be able to work on and finalize my chapters and prepare myself for the doctoral defence. I am aiming to defend by January 2023.

I appreciate your consideration and look forward to hearing from you. Please find a copy of my CV, a synopsis of my dissertation and two recommendation letters from my advisors’ professor Amira Mittermaier and Professor Michael Lambek, in my application package uploaded to the website.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Elmirasadat Alihosseini

30 July 2022