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**CURRICULUM VITA – ABDIFATAH SHAFAT**

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**EDUCATION**

**PhD Candidate**      **Dept. of Islamic Studies: Bayreuth University, Germany**      **2015-Present**

**Areas of Interest:** Religious and social movements in the Horn of Africa, Islamic scholarly networks, traditional (Quranic/higher) education, modern higher Islamic education in Saudi Arabia.

**MA**      **Applied Linguistics: Ohio University**      **2005**

**Concentration:** Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL),

**B. Ed (Arts)**      **Islamic University in Uganda**      **2002**

**Concentration:** English Language Arts and Literature.

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**WORK EXPERIENCE**

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Guest Lecturer, Language and Society, University of Kansas**      **Fall 2013**

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- Language choice, language and society, language policy, language and identity, and language and ethnicity
- Provided a meaningful experience that included video clips, group exploration, review sessions, participant demonstrations, and instructor-led discussions

**Lincoln High School, Minneapolis USA**      **2006- 2010**

- Created annual syllabi aligned with state standards
- Dynamic and result-oriented teacher committed to inculcating passion in learning and cultivating diversity.
- Created an environment suitable for the maturity, interest, and abilities of students
- Demonstrated ability to create and maintain effective student-teacher relationships
- A strong talent to develop and implement creative, hands-on curriculum that reaches every student's learning style and ability, empowering students to succeed and realize their individual goals.
- Able to provide social and emotional support for students
- Supervised the selection and adoption of all language texts
- Assisted with the training of new teachers

**Teaching Assistant**

Department of Linguistics, Ohio University      **2003-2005**

- Assisted lead professor in assembling instructional materials,

- Proven record of designing lesson plans, conducting tests, and reporting.
  - Organized functions such as open houses, presentations and language tables.
  - Thorough understanding of maintaining classroom supplies and facilities
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### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**Consultant: Finney County Community Health Coalition:**

**Summer 2012**

- Helped write a guide book for immigrants to integrate in the US
- Facilitated and linked families with agencies such as the law enforcement, department of education, and social service.
- Held public forums to discuss progress

**Assistant Researcher- University of Minnesota**

**2005-2006**

- Served as a research assistant at the University of Minnesota to analyze language samples
  - Collected linguistic data and classified them into their specific categories: phonetic, syntactic or semantic.
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### **PUBLICATIONS & WRITINGS**

#### **Peer Reviewed Article:**

Shafat, Abdifatah. (2014). A Historical Reexamination of Youth from Northern Kenya. Journal of Somali Studies.

#### **Journal Articles and Short Stories**

Shafat, A. (2007). 'Somalis Condemn US, Ethiopian Involvement in Somalia', *Afrika News*.

**Shafat, A.** & Abdulkadir Khalif (2006). '*Ethiopia and Eritrea Gearing Up for their Old War in Somalia*', *Afrika News*.

Shafat, A. (2006). 'How Somalia Thrives Amid Anarchy', *Afrika News*.

Shafat, A. (2008). 'Somalis Mourn Killings', *Twin Cities Daily Planet*.

Shafat, A. (2008). 'Stopping Somali Youth Violence', *Twin Cities Daily Planet*.

Shafat, A. (2009). 'The Rogue Son.' African Writing online. [www.african-writing.com/eight/abdifatahshafat.htm](http://www.african-writing.com/eight/abdifatahshafat.htm)

Shafat, A. (2011). 'Children of War.' *Mizna*, An Anthology of Arab-American Literature.

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### **PRESENTATIONS:**

- Autochthony and Postelection Violence in Kenya-, Midwest African Studies Association, St. Louis, Missouri, November, 2012
- G-Youth An Alternative Space for Social Action in Northern Kenya- February, University of Kansas, Lawrence, 2013
- The Waking Up of a Sleeping Giant: Youth Education and Empowerment, November, African Studies Association Conference, Baltimore, Maryland, 2013
- A panelist at a round table discussion on "Beyond Jihad in Africa—Muslim Youths, Violence, and Visions of the Future, University of Bayreuth, Germany, May 2015.
- Mobility, Education, and the Making of a Modern 'Alim, Orient Institut Beirut, Lebanon, June 2017

### **AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS**

- Ohio University Research & Teaching Assistantships (with stipend and tuition benefits) 2003-2005
- FLAS Fellowship (Foreign Language and Area Studies), University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas- 2012-13
- FLAS Fellowship (Foreign Language and Area Studies), University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas- 2013-2014
- Carroll Clark Research Travel Grant to Present a Paper at the African Studies Association in Baltimore, Maryland. This grant was provided by the Department of Anthropology, University of Kansas, November 2013.