The LAU New York Academic Center invites you to a book discussion by:

Dr. Shahla Haeri

“LAW OF DESIRE: TEMPORARY MARRIAGE IN SHI’I IRAN”

In her presentation, Dr. Haeri highlights the Islamic Republic’s attempt to remove the veil of secrecy surrounding temporary marriage by hailing it as one of the most “brilliant” laws of Islam: a legally appropriate alternative venue for gender association and sexual relations; a modern yet moral substitute for the “decadent” sexual freedom prevailing in Western cities. The public, however, does not seem to have shared the state’s enthusiasm for temporary marriage. The author argues that the people’s discontent is primarily centered on the increasingly manifest incongruities between the state’s vociferous reiteration of the “high status of women according to Islam” and the deepening legal inequality gap between men and women; between demand for piety and modesty for women and permission for polygyny for men.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 6:00-8:00 PM

LAU New York Headquarters & Academic Center
211 East 46th Street (between 2nd and 3rd Avenues)
New York, NY 10017
(Reception will precede lecture)

Kindly RSVP by contacting Jasmine Jaime at jasmine.jaime@lau.edu or (212) 203-4333

Dr. Shahla Haeri is an Associate Professor of Cultural Anthropology and the former director of Women’s Studies Program (2001-2010) at Boston University. She has conducted ethnographic research in Iran, Pakistan and India, and has been awarded numerous grants and fellowships. She is the author of No Shame for the Sun: Lives of Professional Pakistani Women, and has produced a video documentary entitled, Mrs. President: Women and Political Leadership in Iran, focusing on six women presidential contenders in Iran in 2001.”