

Nimira Shariff, née Jaffer was born in our maternal Grandparent's home situated in the port city of Kisumu along the banks of Lake Victoria, Africa. Since her youth, I recall a notable sophistication around her being, influenced by an ingrained flare for creativity, passion and style. Her formal training in the world of art took root in her teens upon enrolling in an 'A Level Art' class in London, UK.

Experiencing a series of transient voyages spanning across Africa, beginning in Kenya, Uganda, and onward to Burundi, followed by the expulsion from the Belgian Congo (currently, D.R.C.), the family was then uprooted to England. Having lived in nine distinct communities across three continents and speaking different languages, this has undoubtedly nourished her with a vibrant outlook appreciating the wonderments of creation.

Spanning multiple decades, she has returned full circle, to the country of her birth. She is currently established in Nairobi, Kenya, with her husband, and is a proud Mother of two fine, accomplished young men.

As an exemplar of lifelong learning, Nimira exerts herself by pushing boundaries, and thereby achieving successful outcomes with resiliency. To illustrate, she acquired a new skill, the art of playing bridge which has since become a passion and is now an avid player. No matter the obstacles life has thrust upon her, she has always had an innate ability to jostle the circumstance, be it in Africa, England, or Canada, she has held her stance, remaining anchored most sternly. Numerous years of volunteering within the Ismaili community, as well as the broader society, fueled her with the confidence to embrace challenges and inspired her to pursue a lifelong passion in 'ART'.

For the past two years, she has been fortunate to participate in exhibits at Chez Mahmadi in Nairobi, housing an expanse for an Art Gallery as well as a Wellness Centre. During which her art has received much praise and interest from conscientious art enthusiasts. As a member of the American Women's Association of Kenya, she was respected as they held a special "out and about day" to view the SUFI exhibition at Chez Mahmadi, where speakers delivered profound insights on Sufism, Holistic Healing Modalities, and the Journey of Sound Healing.

The 2020 global lockdowns gave rise to reconnecting with her palette and brush as she resumed fashioning significant artwork. One such project was ignited, the reinvention of the firm's website MLR where a sample collection of her paintings can be viewed. Her forte is rooted in the left side of her brain, whereby she has a triumphant ability to proficiently organize and prioritize strategies extremely effectively. These strengths have played a pivotal role in the vision of a reputable advisory firm, which she has been an advocate for the past two decades. Additionally, during this period, she transformed a series of her paintings into alluring greeting cards, which were appreciated immensely by recipients. This resulted in giving her inspiration to take the plunge and exhibit regularly, for instance in "The Affordable Art Show" at the National Museum of Kenya, where she has successfully attracted persons of interest admiring her styles in fine art.

During 2017–2018 she was privileged to submit artwork for The Jubilee Arts, where both of her Watercolour paintings qualified at the National Level during the Diamond Jubilee of the late Prince Karim Al-Hussaini His Highness Aga Khan IV. The objective was to encourage aspiring and established Ismaili artists to showcase their exceptional talents. It is for this project that she invited me to participate, contributing a write-up for her art submissions. I was honoured to be involved with her on such a prestigious exhibit, and am humbled that this integrated journey perseveres. I am so looking forward to having this collaboration maturing. *Truly Exhilarating Dearest Nimira!*

In 2024, once again, she was privileged and honoured to present a heartfelt and thought-provoking piece of fine art titled "HARMONY" encompassing a theme focussed around "CARE" A submission for The Jalia Kenya National Festival, a prerequisite for the prestigious 'Global Encounters Festival' earmark to be held in Dubai, UAE in the summer of 2025.



"HARMONY" by Nimira Shariff

Nimira's path is etched as she continues to immerse herself deeper into the arena of Sufi Mysticism.

For Nimira, "Art from the Heart - Crafted with Love" descends, catapulting one's inner being in awe...





