

**Kathy Gannon,
Author, Journalist**
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WORK HISTORY:

Jan. 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025: Asper Fellow at the University of Western Ontario, London, Canada, teaching post-grad journalism course International New: Independent Media: Illusion or Reality.

Jan. 1, 2024 to Dec. 31, 2025: Book writing project; Authored chapter on Afghanistan in Hanns Siedel Foundation commissioned book entitled "Navigating Uncertainties."

Jan. 1, 2023 to Dec. 31, 2023: Curated exhibition and accompanying catalogue of photographs by Pulitzer prize winning photographer Anja Niedringhaus at Bronx Documentary Center, Harvard Kennedy School, Canadian Journalists for Free Expression;

Sept. 1, 2022, to Dec. 31, 2022: John Shorenstein Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy

1988 to May 2022: Associated Press correspondence, bureau chief and ended as news director for Afghanistan and Pakistan

1986 to mid-1988: Local hire for The Associated Press in Peshawar, Pakistan

1985 to 1986: Freelancing in Israel, and a brief stint in Tokyo editing for the English-language version of the Yomiuri Shimbun

1984-1985: Correspondent at the Lethbridge Herald, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada

1980-1984: Correspondent and later City Editor of the Kelowna Courier, Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada

1976-1979: Correspondent at the Prince Albert Herald, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Canada

1973-1976: Correspondent at the Timmins Daily Press, Timmins, Ontario, Canada

EMPLOYMENT DETAILS

Kathy Gannon is the current Asper Fellows at the University of Western Ontario in London Canada teaching a post-grad journalism course on International News. She was the Fall 2022 Joan Shorenstein Fellow at the Shorenstein Center, Harvard Kennedy School. She served as The Associated Press news director for Pakistan and Afghanistan, employed with The Associated Press from 1988-2022. She has authored *I is for Infidel* and has a second book in progress.

She has covered the region for the AP as a correspondent and bureau chief since 1988, a period that spans the withdrawal of Russian soldiers from Afghanistan, the assassination of Benazir Bhutto, the bitter Afghan civil war between Islamic factions and the rise and fall of the Taliban. Gannon was the only Western journalist allowed in Kabul by the Taliban in the weeks preceding the 2001 U.S.-British offensive in Afghanistan.

In addition to her coverage of South Central Asia, she has covered the Middle East, including the 2006 Israeli war against Hezbollah in southern Lebanon, and war in northern Iraq.

In April 2014 Gannon was seriously wounded __ hit by seven bullets __ while covering preparations for Afghan national elections when an Afghan police officer opened fire on the car in which she was riding. Her colleague and close friend, AP photographer Anja Niedringhaus, was killed in the attack.

She underwent 18 surgeries and returned to Afghanistan and Pakistan. After returning she has explored sexual abuse in Islamic madrassas in Pakistan, took a deep dive into honor killings, that kill more than a thousand women in each year at the hands of their family members.

Returning to Afghanistan after the shooting, she covered another Parliamentary election, this one in 2019 as well as a Presidential race, mired in corruption. Also followed the withdrawal of U.S. and NATO troops from Afghanistan, the Taliban's sweep through Afghanistan, the final withdrawal on Aug. 31, 2021, and the aftermath until her retirement from The Associated Press in May, 2022.

A native of Timmins, Ontario, Canada, she was the city editor at the Kelowna Courier in British Columbia and worked at several Canadian newspapers before her career took her overseas. She has lived in Israel, Japan, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

EDUCATION:

2015: Honorary Doctorate: Laurentian University, Sudbury Ontario Canada

2015: Honorary Doctorate: Nipissing University, North Bay, Ontario, Canada

1972-1973: Journalism Degree: Cambrian College, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada

1966-1971: O’Gorman High School, Timmins, Ontario, Canada

AWARDS AND HONORS

She has received two honorary doctorates from Northern Canada universities and is the recipient of numerous awards, including:

- Columbia School of Journalism Lifetime Award 2022
- Committee to Protect Journalists Burton Benjamin Memorial Award
- James Foley Medill Medal for Courage in Journalism from Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications
- The American Academy of Diplomacy 2021 Arthur Ross Media Award
- International Women’s Media Foundation Courage In Journalism Award
- Overseas Press Club Award for best newspaper or wire service reporting from abroad
- John Peter and Anna Catherine Zenger Freedom of the Press Award from the University of Arizona School of Journalism
- Grady College McGill Medal for Journalistic Courage from the University of Georgia
- Canadian Journalists for Free Expression Tara Singh Hayer Memorial Award
- Edward R. Murrow Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations
- National Newspaper Awards Governors’ Award
- AP Oliver S. Gramling Award in Journalism
- Honorary Doctorate from Laurentian University, Sudbury, Ont., Canada
- Honorary Doctorate from University of Nipissing, North Bay, Ont., Canada

The Coalition for Women in Journalism (CFWIJ) in February 2023 launched an annual award in her name, **The Kathy Gannon Legacy Award**, recognizing trailblazing journalism as well as decades of mentoring women journalists.

In 2005 Gannon authored “I is for Infidel: From Holy War, to Holy Terror, 18 Years Inside Afghanistan,” an examination of the Taliban and post-Taliban period, published by Public Affairs, New York.

FAMILY

Gannon is married to respected Pakistani architect Naeem Pasha, and has a stepdaughter, Dr. Kyla Pasha. She is the youngest of six children. Her brothers Brian and Lorne were also journalists, her brothers Robert and Terry were prominent in their fields and her sister, Patricia Ann, was a nurse in Canada's north for 40 years.

Her website with her latest stories and personal information: www.kathy-gannon.com

MOST RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

<https://shorensteincenter.org/journalism-maybe/>

<https://www.policymagazine.ca/kabul-capital-of-afghanistans-tragic-symmetry/>