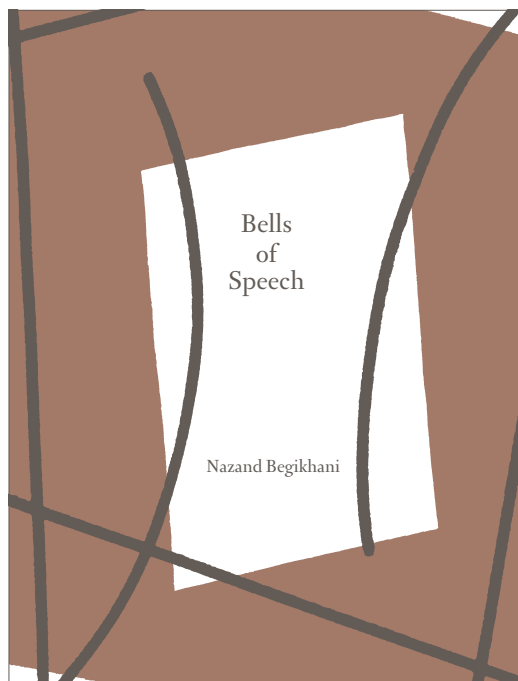


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Nazand Begikhani was born in Kurdistan (Iraq) in 1964. She has been living in exile (Denmark, France and later UK) since 1987. She took her first degree in English language and literature, then completed an MA and PhD in comparative literature at the Sorbonne. She published her first poetry collection *Yesterday of Tomorrow* in Paris in 1995. Her second collection *Celebrations* was published in Kurdistan by Arras in 2004. Arras also published her third collection *Colour of Sand* in 2005. *Bells of Speech* is her first collection in English.

She is a polyglot and translates her own poetry into French and English. Many of her poems are published in French, Arabic, Persian and English. She has also translated Baudelaire and Eliot into Kurdish.

Apart from writing poetry, Nazand is an active researcher and advocate for women's human rights. She is a founding member and co-ordinator of the network organisation Kurdish Women Action against Honour Killing (KWAHK). Her research on Kurdish gender is widely published in Kurdish, but also in French and English.

