



*Nuisha Ghazban M.A., B.Sc*

### *INYI Featured Member*

## Meet Nuisha Ghazban M.A., B. Sc.

Niusha Ghazban (M.A., Ryerson University; B.Sc., McMaster University) is a fourth year PhD candidate at Ryerson University, Toronto. Her scholarly interests in developmental psychology include the study of social-cognitive development, emotion regulation in children and acculturation dissonance. Her doctoral dissertation examines the effects of maternal speech and singing (i.e., lullabies and playsongs) on infants' physiological and behavioural responses. Her studies highlight the notion that music and song are a form of "distal communication" that can regulate infants' stress and attention when physical proximity is not possible. Singing can also strengthen the caregiver-infant bond and offers a way to provide sensitive care to premature infants and hospitalized children. In collaboration with Dr. Morton Beiser, she is also pursuing her interests

examining how dissonant acculturation and language barriers affect children's self-esteem, depressive symptoms and overall mental health. She has presented at various professional meetings such as International Conference on Infant Studies (ICIS) and Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD). She has served three consecutive terms as the student representative in the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) Developmental Section, and is currently the student representative in the Advanced Interdisciplinary Research on Singing (AIRS).

### Selected Publications

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Beiser, M., Wickrama, K.A.S, Watson, P., & **Ghazban, N.** (Submitted). Dissonant Acculturation, Parenting, and Mental Health among Southeast Asian Refugee Youth. *Journal of Family and Marriage*.

**Ghazban, N.**, Trehub, S., Russo, F., Boudreau, J. P. (In preparation). The Behavioural and Physiological Effects of Maternal Singing and Speech on 10-Month-Old Infants.

**Ghazban, N.** and Boudreau, J.P. (2013). *Jean Piaget*. In Ross S. (Ed). London: Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism.

**Ghazban, N.**, Russo, F., Trehub, S., Boudreau, J. P. (2013). *Impact of Lullabies and Playsongs in Regulating Infants' Stress*. Poster presented at the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD), Seattle, WA.

**Ghazban, N.**, Labine, D., Stein, R. (2010). *Why Developmental Psychology Matters in Canada*. Roundtable Conversation facilitated at 71<sup>st</sup> Canadian Psychological Association (CPA), Winnipeg, Manitoba.