

Semhar Arain

The
**DIASPORA
ACADEMY**
CEO

SPEAKER KIT



Semhar Araia

DYNAMIC PUBLIC SPEAKER, ENTREPRENEUR, ADVISOR

Semhar Araia is an award-winning diaspora pioneer, recognized thought leader and public speaker with two decades of experience in diaspora engagement, African affairs, women's leadership and international development.

She has led and advised multiple public and private entities, including governments, international organizations, companies and over 80 African, Asian, Arab, and European diasporas. Semhar is not only the proud daughter of Eritrean immigrants, but she is also a White House Champion of Change and named one of the **Top 100 Most Influential People of African Descent**.

Semhar's greatest priority is to support and amplify global diaspora changemakers, with a particular focus on women and girls. She enjoys advising startups and institutions focused on diaspora engagement and impact.

SIGNATURE TOPICS

- ✓ Diaspora Policy & Engagement
- ✓ Women's Leadership in the Diaspora
- ✓ Diasporas in Development
- ✓ Diaspora Philanthropy & Innovation
- ✓ Impact of Digital Diasporas
- ✓ Exploring Culture & Identity as New Americans

FEATURED IN

The Guardian
the **africa** report

FT FINANCIAL
TIMES



ALJAZEERA



HUFFPOST

THE **ROOT**

★ **StarTribune**

B B C

Get in Touch with
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SERVICES OFFERED

PUBLIC SPEAKING

- Professional Keynote
- Expert Panel Remarks
- Motivational Speaking
- Moderating

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

- Podcast Interviews
- Expert Quotes & Background
- Profile Features

TRAININGS & WORKSHOPS

- Customized Workshops
- Half-Day and Full-Day Seminars
- Virtual & In-Person Trainings

CLIENT FEEDBACK

Pradeepa J.

"Semhar has a world of experience.
Always professional and insightful."

David

"Semhar has **amazing energy, passion** and **enthusiasm** for making a difference in the world."

Heba S.

"Semhar has **taught me a lot** about how to **focus my advocacy efforts effectively** and translate them into **achievable goals** and action plans!"

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Create the spaces
you wish existed!

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SIGNATURE TOPICS

CONNECTING WITH DIASPORAS

Discover the incredible power of hyphenated communities and how they shape the world for positive impact:

- *Why Diasporas Matter: The World's Greatest Lifeline*
- *Living the Hyphenated Experience as Diasporas*
- *Diaspora, Migrant, Immigrant, Expat: What's the Difference?*

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN THE DIASPORA

A woman's place is anywhere she wants to be. Learn what makes diaspora spaces truly feminist and a source of empowerment for everyone.

- *Diaspora Feminism: A New Approach to Leadership and Impact*
- *Black, Immigrant and Global: Navigating the Workplace as Diaspora Women Leaders*

DIASPORAS IN DEVELOPMENT

Diasporas are key drivers of innovation and impact in global development and humanitarian affairs. Discover how critical they are in times of crisis and opportunity.

- *From Crisis to Opportunity: Diasporas as First Responders*
- *The Future is Bright: Diaspora Changemakers*

DIASPORA PHILANTHROPY & INNOVATION

Rethink the notion of philanthropy giving in the diaspora into its most powerful version. Beyond sending cash, its about diasporas' Time, Talent and Treasure.

- *Beyond Remittances: Giving for the 21st Century*
- *Brain Gain: Creating the Spaces We Wish Existed*

IMPACT OF DIGITAL DIASPORAS

Today's hyperconnected world means digital diasporas are drivers for mobilizing, creating and empowering communities all over the world.

- *The Power of Diaspora Organizing*
- *The Gen Z Diaspora: Reclaiming their Power for the Future*

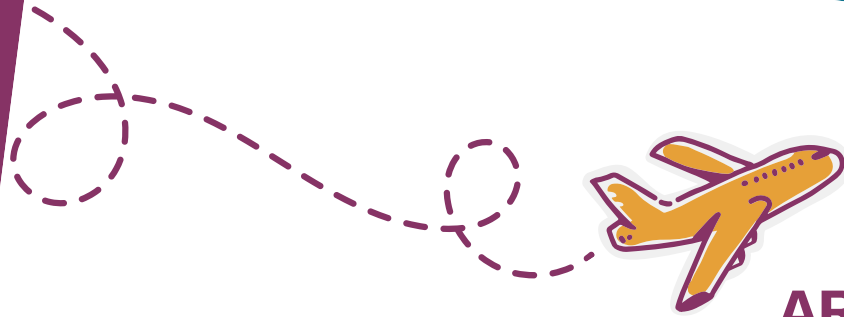
EXPLORING CULTURE & IDENTITY AS NEW AMERICANS

Embracing and leveraging diasporic and hyphenated experiences and identities is a cultural asset and enriches the American social fabric.

- *Navigating Diaspora Experiences in Uncertain Times*
- *Reconnecting to Our Diaspora Homelands*

FEATURED IN:





Around the World

AROUND THE WORLD

From Washington, D.C. to Eritrea, Semhar's professional journey spans the globe!

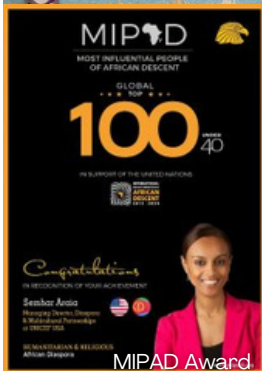
Some of her past destinations include:

Bangladesh, Burundi, Canada, Cuba, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ireland, Israel/Palestine, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Switzerland, The Netherlands, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom



Achievements

ACHIEVEMENTS





THE DIASPORA ACADEMY

This isn't a program - it's a movement!

A transformative experience designed for diaspora changemakers who dream of making a positive impact on a global scale. Whether you are a diaspora innovator yourself or you want to partner with diasporas, find out how TDA can help you!

TDA SIGNATURE COURSE DIASPORA LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Learn the tips, tools and strategies to become an effective diaspora changemaker and avoid the common pitfalls so many diaspora leaders face! This course covers the fundamentals for diaspora leadership, engagement and impact. Participants learn how to masterfully engage with diasporas and build powerful strategies to turn their ideas into smart, specific, and concrete goals and plans.

TDA STARTER COURSES

- An Introduction to Diaspora Journeys
- Understanding Effective Diaspora Engagement
- Diaspora Advocacy: Creating Your Agenda for Impact
- Diaspora Giving & Philanthropy: Strategies for Effective Diaspora Impact

LEARN MORE



As a diaspora leader, you know the immense potential that lies within our global communities. We possess an amazing wealth of knowledge, skills, and resources.

But sometimes, we lack the guidance and support we need to turn our ideas into tangible change. **That's why I've created The Diaspora Academy** - to bridge the gap between **your passion** and **your impact**.

Semhar

A portrait of Semhar Araia, a woman with long, wavy brown hair, smiling. She is wearing a bright pink blazer over a black top, large gold hoop earrings, and several gold necklaces and bracelets. The background is dark with a blue and orange gradient at the top.

Semhar Araia

DYNAMIC PUBLIC SPEAKER, ENTREPRENEUR, ADVISOR

Semhar Araia is the CEO and Founder of The Diaspora Academy, a premier advisory services firm and diaspora leadership institute, designed to support and strengthen diaspora changemakers around the world. Semhar is a technical advisor to IOM, African Union, USAID, and various governments and non-profits around the world. She previously led Diaspora Policy at Meta and Diaspora Partnerships UNICEF USA. A lawyer by training, Semhar began her career as an attorney for the implementation of the 2000 Eritrea-Ethiopia peace agreement and served as a public policy advisor for Oxfam International, the US House of Representatives and Nelson Mandela's organization, The Elders.

Semhar is a White House Champion of Change and a former UN Civil Society Delegate. She is named as one of the Top 100 Most Influential People of African Descent, as well as **The Root's Top 100** and **OkayAfrica's Top 100 Women**. Semhar was most recently profiled as one of the five individuals in the Smithsonian National Museum of African-American History and Culture's Next-Generation Voices exhibit.

She is a former Council on Foreign Relations Term Member and former USAID's Advisory Committee on Foreign Voluntary Aid (ACFVA) member. Semhar has been featured in The Africa Report, Financial Times, BBC, Al Jazeera, The Guardian, Ventures Africa, AfroElle, and other media outlets. Semhar was born in New York City to Eritrean immigrant parents and resides in Washington, D.C.



Semhar's Social Media

SOCIAL MEDIA STATS



X

@semhar

20.7K Followers



LinkedIn

Semhar Araia

7.5K Followers



Instagram

@semhararaia

6.1K Followers



Facebook

Semhar Araia

7.3K Followers

Contact Semhar



Thanks for making it
all this way, I can't
wait to meet you!

Call me now!



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