

Taklif: تکلیف

TAKLIF: IS AN IMAGINARY SPACE and a travelling library for radical imagination dedicated to learning, unlearning, and relearning practices through art and dialogue; an artist-run initiative formed with the ambition to rigorously bridge our intellectual activities with our emotional embodied intuitions, within and beyond institutional settings.

Taklif: enfolds connotations shared by diverse linguistic territories, including Arabic, Bengali, Farsi, Kazakh, Pashto, Turkish, Urdu, and Uzbek, among others.

Taklif: is homework—processes of learning, unlearning, and relearning within an imaginary space, in which our attempts to escape finally cease through our fugitive practices of togetherness.

Taklif: is invitation—the call to elude the logic of either/or in favour of the *neither/nor* of unbelonging.

Taklif: is pain—the affective difference in our disoriented collective bodies. Disorientation as the distance from the orientalizing tropes propagated towards us.

Taklif: is responsibility, as we study institutional and organizational frameworks, rhetorics, and behaviours that perpetuate the marginalization and the subjugation of the marginalized.

Taklif: is cost, the kind that escapes the market economy through vigilante modes of sharing and generosity, the cost that gifts are made of.

Taklif: is fate, where the entangled possibilities cross each other, in resisting the promises of belonging we heard through our precarious passages of home-leaving.

Taklif: believes our principles are only valid once we remember the unceded lands on which we dwell, think, read, write, and work. ¶

Co-founded in Montreal (December 2016) Taklif: تکلیف has produced and participated in numerous critical engagement initiatives, including *Common Aliens: Diaspora in Time* (Studio xx, 2016), *Disorienting Diaspora: Shortcuts by Brown Queer Artists* from the *Canadian Archive* (KIDM Festival, 2017), *Utopia as Method* (Regart, 2018), and *Ideas of Femininity* (FOFA Gallery, 2018).
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Taklif: Ideas of Femininity, November 5–December 14, 2018, organized by FOFA Gallery, Concordia University (Montreal). Taklif: تکلیف poster series. Image courtesy of Taklif: تکلیف.