



Press Release: 15th March 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 15th March 2023

Sulaiman R. Khan Announced in The Slow Factory's 2023 Fellowship

ThisAbility Limited is excited to announce that our Founder and Chief Radical Officer **Sulaiman R. Khan** has been announced as a **2023 Research Fellow via The Slow Factory** to continue his radical adventure towards **Collective Liberation** becoming a fully **interdependent and loving** being.



IMAGE DESCRIPTION 1: A page from the imaginary Slow Factory Yearbook featuring the "Slow Factory Fellows 2023" in bold, black text in the top left corner. The header makes way





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for grids of photos of each of the Slow Factory Fellows, a colourful collage of individuals participating in specific areas of study with the support of the Slow Factory. Hand-drawn doodles (maybe notes from a friend) in various pastels sprinkle the page, some overlapping the photographs. The bottom, blue portion of the graphic serves as the footer and houses a black Slow Factory logo with accompanying text that reads: "Slow Factory's Climate Innovation Hub designs and implements solutions that are good for the Earth and good for people." To the right, a black Open Edu logo with rainbow "S".

This is Sulaiman's first ever Fellowship and he couldn't be prouder of an organisation to collaborate with on this. His Fellowship research will be on Access Intimacy for Collective Liberation. Access *Intimacy* a term created and defined by the magnificent Mia Mingus.

This year - The Slow Factory are:

[OPEN QUOTE] "...working with more than a dozen scholars, designers, activists, writers, and researchers to explore new ways of being and new ways of moving towards a just, equitable and sustainable future and processes.

The theme for the Class of 2023 is Systemic Change explored through various lenses including the need for reparations, degrowth, hyperlocal systems, fashion, media theory and so much more!

We're so proud to support and fund the work of Black, Brown, Indigenous, and Disabled folk!" [CLOSE QUOTE]"





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Sulaiman R. Khan

Disability & Intimacy

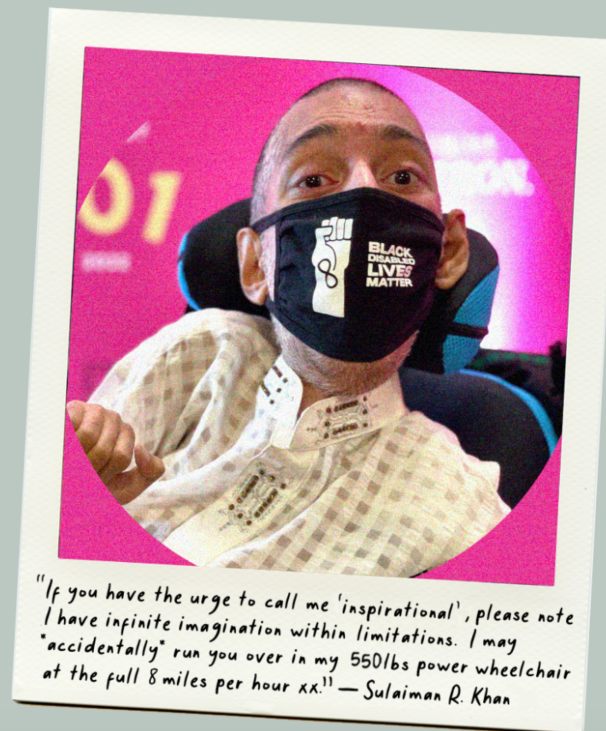


IMAGE DESCRIPTION 2: Screenshot from The Slow Factory website of Sulaiman (a wholeheartedly Disabled AF and British-Pakistani man with buzzcut black hair, sitting in his power wheelchair wearing his [HASHTAG] #BlackDisabledLivesMatter face mask via his dear friend @jtknoxroxs and his checkered-patterned white Pakistani Kurta with embellishment details on the collar) as a fellow in a yearbook format. Above the photo, the bold black text says, “Sulaiman R. Khan”; below the text, the black text says, “Disability and Intimacy”. Within the polaroid style photo, at the bottom of the frame, is a humorous black quote from Sulaiman in a cursive text that reads: [OPEN QUOTE] “If you have the urge to call me ‘inspirational’, please note I have infinite imagination within limitations. I may *accidentally* run you over in my 550lbs power wheelchair at the full 8 miles per hour xx!” [CLOSE QUOTE] [DASH] Sulaiman R. Khan”. The “xx” symbolises two kisses or “kiss, kiss.”

IMAGE DESCRIPTIONS END.





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Sulaiman adds his thoughts on what becoming a 2023 Research Fellow means to him:

“As a proudly and wholeheartedly Disabled AF, British-Pakistani man, creative, active (non-optical) intersectional accomplice-in-progress, socially conscious entrepreneur, continual work-in-progress: I am delighted to announce that I have been named a 2023 Research Fellow via The Slow Factory! I’m honoured to be a part of this incredible fellowship and proud that this is the first ever fellowship that I have been a part of. I couldn’t ask for a better organisation to be partnering with. In harmony above balance, I wish to lead conversations and solutions that aid our collective liberation for all of us and our kin (by blood and by bond, both human and non-human), using our infinite imagination within limitations. And this can only be done with interdependence and love. I look forward to working with The Slow Factory team to (along with anti-racism) ensure that anti-ableism and Disability Justice are rooted in everything we do. Without including accessibility (in all its forms for Disabled people), anti-ableism, and Disability Justice in ALL social justice movements, there is no movement. Again, with interdependence and love, the future is bright. Let’s go!”

Check out the [full Slow Factory 2023 announcement](#).

Also, here is [Sulaiman's blog post sharing his full thoughts on becoming a 2023 Fellow via The Slow Factory](#).

We’re so proud of Sulaiman and what we’re achieving daily as a business.

Watch this space.

Angela Y. Davis says it best:

[OPEN QUOTE] “We are not afraid to adopt a revolutionary stance — if, indeed, we wish to be radical in our quest for change — then we must get to the root of our oppression. After all, radical simply means ‘grasping things at the root.’” [CLOSE QUOTE]

N.B.: This press release is imagined, created, supported, and shared interdependently and collaboratively between our awesome personal assistant Tia Denton and Sulaiman Khan (our Founder and Chief Radical Officer) in [Crip Time](#) (a term created by, for, and used by the Disabled community).

— END —
— EDITOR’S NOTES —





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About The Slow Factory

Since 2012, Slow Factory has worked at the intersections of climate and culture to build partnerships and community to advance climate-positive global movements through the lens of human rights, science, technology, and fashion.

Slow Factory empowers people of the global majority to advance climate justice and social equity through educational programming, regenerative design, and materials innovation.

Slow Factory believes in educating and empowering communities to create climate change solutions using a liberatory framework centered in sustainability literacy and culture. Our unique approach to addressing the urgent and complex climate crisis is by design – we understand that building an equitable, climate-positive society will ultimately lead to systemic change.

About ThisAbility Limited

“Do not follow the path. Go where there is no path to begin the trail.” – Ashanti proverb (Ghana)

About us: Disability, daringly. ThisAbility Limited is a Disability (and Person of The Global Majority¹)-led (and owned) justice business and a [Certified B Corporation](#)TM. ThisAbility Limited helps socially conscious organisations focused on regeneration (beyond sustainability), technology, or design to diversify by going from ableism to Disability Liberation and integrating Disability Culture.

Because of our innate sense of solidarity and desire for justice, we work tirelessly to ignite, invest in, and amplify Disabled creativity across the world for a liberated tomorrow for Disabled people. Our business may be limited by name, but we are unlimited by imagination, and the future (for us) is bright.

¹ [People of the Global Majority](#): coined by Rosemary M. Campbell-Stephens MBE is inclusive of non-white folk around the world. It disrupts the centring and power of whiteness to categorise people, and moves the conversation away from non-white people's disadvantages, towards their 'added value' and power as the majority of the world's population. (R. Campbell-Stephens, 2020)





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About Sulaiman

Sulaiman's (current) Disability pronouns are: Disabled²/wheelchair user.

Sulaiman's (current) pronouns are: he/him/his/Disabled.

Daringly integrating Disability. A Regenerative Leadership and Regenerative Existence Custodian, Sulaiman uses his intersectional, anti-ableist, and Disability Justice lens as Founder and Chief Radical Officer of [ThisAbility Limited](#), a Disability (and Person of The Global Majority)-led (and owned) justice business, and a [Certified B Corporation](#)TM. The igniter of hearts creatively, a British-Pakistani Disabled wheelchair user³ adventurer, and a multiple award-winner, Sulaiman loves to create relationships, stories, and joy. With over 37-years of lived experience of Disability and over 12-years of experience with the creative industries, because of his innate sense of solidarity and desire for justice, he works tirelessly to ignite, invest in, and amplify Disabled creativity across the world for a liberated tomorrow for Disabled people. Radical (the “grasping at the root” definition by Angela Davis), restful, and regenerative: Sulaiman chooses to live in his divinity as a whole and complete person. Sulaiman is infinitely a radical with Adrak (ادرك), Haldi (بلدی), Zafran (زعفران), and Chambeli (چمبلی) badassery. Ultimately, his life's work and goal are to create infinite [Access Intimacy](#) (as defined by Mia Mingus), Post-Ableism, and Disability Liberation. [Read more about Sulaiman.](#)

If you have any further questions, please email us at info@ThisAbility.net.

² Personally, Sulaiman uses Disabled *interchangeably* with Crip (a term only to be used by the Disabled community and in no way by not-yet-Disabled people) as he is done making his Disability palatable for an ableist world. He doesn't wish to erase his Disability or Disabled identity nor be a part of the “overcoming Disability” and “[Disability Paradox](#)” narratives – Sulaiman hasn't “overcome” his Disability; Sulaiman has overcome ableism and ableists. He prefers not to use problematical person-first language such as “person with a Disability”, and Sulaiman is not keen on using ableist language such as “differently-abled,” “handicapped,” “wheelchair-bound”, or “special needs” that worsens his internalised ableism. This is Sulaiman's personal choice and may not reflect all Disabled people nor the whole Disability community across the world. We are all on different journeys in our Disabled identity journey, and that's okay. If in doubt, ask the Disabled person directly.

³ Sulaiman is actively wheeling away with **zero tolerance** to your *ableism, racism, patriarchy, anti-blackness, anti-fatness, colonialism, capitalism, sexism, heterosexism, cissexism, classism, anti-semitism, Islamophobia, hegemony, heteronormativity, carceral ideology, anti-abolition, subjugation, supremacy, toxicity, and all systems of oppression*. You can **put it where the sun doesn't shine**. And Sulaiman has *never* been able to walk and *doesn't* want to ever walk, so as a power wheelchair user, “**wheeling away**” is Sulaiman's *cheeky take* on “walking away.”

