

# Sudhir Suchak, Local Author

## Last Boat to Freedom

### Saturday, October 25 @ 1:00 p.m.

### Adults, 19+

At just eighteen years old, Sudhir Suchak made a daring escape from the island of Zanzibar in East Africa. Fleeing a repressive regime, political violence, and the trauma of a genocide that tore apart the fabric of his family; he trusted his father's belief that boarding a ship with the ultimate goal of reaching America, would lead to a better life. He learned firsthand what it means to belong in a land that promised freedom but didn't always offer acceptance.

Decades later, he returned to Zanzibar with his family, walking through the streets of his childhood, now transformed by time and memory. What he found was both familiar and foreign, a powerful reminder of what was lost – and what was gained.

*A book signing to follow the reading. 10% of the proceeds from the book sales will benefit the Aurora Town Public Library.*

## Registration is Required

Born on the island of Zanzibar off the coast of East Africa and coming-of-age through the bloody Zanzibar revolution and genocide of the 1960s. As a teenager, he fled his homeland under the cover of darkness as a stowaway with only 300 shillings and a passport and began a daring journey of perseverance and survival. He spent many of his formative years writing his thoughts on what had transpired during that journey that would eventually make their way into his story. More than fifty years later, Last Boat to Freedom, his debut book, provides readers with a passionate and inspiring first person look into a childhood among the clove plantations of Zanzibar, the island's descent into darkness during the little-known Zanzibar revolution and the eighteen months of unforeseen events that followed his escape. It culminates with his personal journey full of obstacles, tragedy and perseverance to find freedom and opportunity. Now living in the United States, he teaches at the University at Buffalo.

**INDIVIDUALS IN NEED OF AN ACCOMMODATION MAY CONTACT THE ADA COORDINATOR AT [ACCESS@BUFFALOLIB.ORG](mailto:ACCESS@BUFFALOLIB.ORG) WITHIN SEVEN DAYS OF THE PROGRAM.**

# Profoundly **PUBLIC.**

Aurora Town Public Library ● 550 Main Street ● East Aurora, NY 14052 ● (716) 652-4440

