

Narrative Report AIPS Conference Grant:

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Revolutionary Hermeneutics: Narratives of Emancipation in Muslim colonial India  
presented at the Annual South Asia Conference Madison, WI October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

This conference presentation focused on the thought of Mawlana Ubaydullah Sindhi, a prominent and curious South Asian Muslim scholar (d. 1944) who tried to combine socialist and Qur'anic egalitarianism. Sindhi is a very important figure in the narrative of South Asian Islam, and lately many Muslims scholars in Pakistan have started revisiting his thought in their own attempts at dealing with questions of politics, language, and Islamic law in Pakistan. This paper engaged with Sindhi's Qur'an commentary and showed ways in which he introduced and worked through novel conceptual vocabularies and categories while reading the Qur'an as a manifesto for revolution. This was the first conference presentation on Ubaydullah Sindhi's thought and Qur'an commentary at a major North American conference, and provided an important example of the heritage and tradition of Muslim thought in Pakistan and in South Asia more broadly.