

AIPS



AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PAKISTAN STUDIES

2022 NEWSLETTER



President's Report



Dr. Matthew A. Cook,
AIPS President

After multiple waves of COVID-19, planning and support for AIPS's mission continues on numerous fronts.

AIPS established the Suhail Lari Memorial Fund for Studying Sindhi Culture, Society, and History in Fall 2021. The Fellowship Committee subsequently made the fund's first award to Marvi Ahmed from Cornell University, for the project titled "Contested Frontiers: Development Aid, Identity, and Agrarian Politics in Southern Pakistan."

Aside from this project, the committee awarded fellowships for exciting projects on urban forests, the heritage of Rawalpindi, war, mental illness, kinship, Muslim jurists and bankers, and archaeological visualization.

In addition to funding research, AIPS expanded its partnerships with universities in Pakistan. It signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Forman Christian College University (FCCU) in June. The MOU will expand AIPS's presence in Lahore, with FCCU agreeing to host its workshops, scholars, and administrative activities. AIPS also signed an MOU with the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), for hosting workshops, scholars, and other activities. The institute will also renew its existing MOU with the University of Lahore in the coming months to help it develop Pakistan's first degree-granting program in Digital Humanities.

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In support of creating publishing venues for its members, AIPS received a contract from Cambridge University Press (CUP) to establish an international journal devoted to Pakistan and Pakistanis. The journal's title is *Critical Pakistan Studies* (CPS) and is a joint effort with CEIAS in Paris and the University of Exeter. The journal is entirely open access. Also, after five years, CUP takes on the journal's total production cost. The first editions of the new journal will be in 2023 in celebration of AIPS's 50th anniversary. In addition to establishing CPS, AIPS supported the Journal of Urdu Studies with a one-time grant.

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AIPS focuses much time on grants. In addition to applying for new funding opportunities, the CAORC, Department of Education, and US Embassy Facilitation grants require administrative attention and work. From these grants, AIPS co-sponsored conferences with the University of Michigan, New York University, Johns Hopkins University, and the University of Pennsylvania. During Summer 2022, the grants will support two AIPS workshops in Pakistan: one on humanities curriculum development and the other on dissertation proposal writing. AIPS is also actively organizing and facilitating lectures by multiple members while they travel in Pakistan. Stateside in Madison, and during the Annual Conference on South Asia, the institute plans to conduct its fourth Emerging Scholars in Pakistan Studies Symposium.

As always, AIPS's staff in Islamabad and Madison deserve high praise. Nadeem Akbar and Laura Hammond's hard work is fundamental to everything AIPS does. Their staff (e.g., Atufa Qazi, Paige Hendricks, Kimberly Knaup, and others) are also critical to AIPS's operations in the US and Pakistan. Congratulations to Paige Hendricks, who won an International Division Staff Excellence award for her work on behalf of AIPS and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Way to go, Paige! Also, congratulations to Rini Bhattacharya Mehta (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign) and Michael Hirsch (Huston-Tillotson University) on their election to AIPS's Executive Committee. Lastly, thank you to the BOT and EC members. Their engagement and work are critical to AIPS's success and its promotion of Pakistan Studies. Be safe, stay well, and remain healthy.

All the best,

Matt

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AIPS Islamabad Center Highlights



Dr. Anita Weiss (center) speaking with vice chancellors from across Pakistan

1. AIPS facilitated a 2-day training workshop for vice chancellors in collaboration with Kohsar University, Murree, the Inter-University Consortium for the Promotion of Social Sciences Arts and Humanities (IUCPSS), and the Government of Pakistan. The workshop was titled “Higher Education Leadership: Challenges and Opportunities during COVID Times.” AIPS scholar Dr. Anita Weiss (Professor Emeritus, University of Oregon, USA) presented at the forum which was attended by newly appointed vice chancellors of various Pakistani Universities. The workshop was held at Kohsar University, Murree from October 1-2, 2021 and discussions were held under various sub-themes of higher education management and leadership.

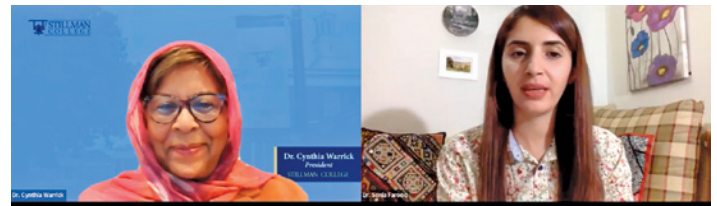
2. Officials from the US Embassy visited the AIPS Islamabad Center on October 6, 2021 and held a meeting with Mr. Nadeem Akbar, the AIPS Pakistan Director, to discuss AIPS-Embassy collaborations on various US-Pakistan academic exchanges and the US speaker series in Pakistan.

3. AIPS assisted Dr. Anita Weiss for her series of talks at Sindh University, Jamshoro; University of Peshawar; and Information Technology University, Lahore. She discussed her research titled “Local Action, Local Voices: How Pakistanis Have Been Joining Hands to Counter Violent Extremism at the Grass Roots.”

4. AIPS supported Dr. Vazira Zamindar (Associate Professor, Brown University, USA) for a scholarly visit to the University of Peshawar and Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, Peshawar in connection with her academic field work in KPK. Aside from her research interviews, she also interacted with faculty and doctoral students at both universities and discussed their ongoing research papers and doctoral studies while providing necessary mentoring to the students. The visit took place from January 11-17, 2022.

5. The Hollings Center organized an online Higher Education workshop titled “Current and Future Trends in Global Higher Education Internationalization” that was held on February 16, 2022. Mr. Nadeem Akbar participated in the workshop and facilitated the participation of selected vice chancellors and higher education leaders from Pakistan.

6. AIPS organized virtual meetings for junior faculty in Pakistan which was led by Dr. Robert Soza (Professor, Mesa Community College), Dr. Paul Edleman (Professor, Sauk Valley Community College) and Prof. Farah Habib (Professor, Bristol Community College). The online session of the workshop titled “Inter-disciplinary Integration of Social Sciences and Humanities in Pedagogy and Curriculum Development at Educational Institutions” was held on March 11 and April 22, 2022 and was attended by a selected group of junior faculty from various universities in Pakistan. These meetings were in preparation for the in-person workshop in May 2022.



Dr. Cynthia Warrick and the session moderator, Dr. Sonia Farooq (International Islamic University, Islamabad)

7. As part of the US Embassy Facilitations Grant, AIPS organized a webinar titled “Navigating Women’s Leadership Advancement in Higher Education,” led by Dr. Cynthia Warrick (President, Stillman College, USA) on March 30, 2022.

8. AIPS facilitated roundtable talks and academic training sessions for junior faculty by AIPS scholar Dr. Chad Haines (Associate Professor, Arizona State University, USA) in collaboration with FC College University Lahore (FCCU) and the Center for Public Policy and Governance (CPPG) Lahore from March 10-31, 2022.



9. Dr. Robert Soza (Professor, Mesa Community College), Dr. Paul Edleman (Professor, Sauk Valley Community College) and Prof. Farah Habib (Professor, Bristol Community College) visited multiple institutions for professional meetings and networking. These institutions included: University of Technology, Mandi Bahauddin; Institute of Applied Technology, Mang; National Skills University, Islamabad; and other places in and around Lahore and Islamabad.

AIPS Islamabad Center Highlights



10. AIPS signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Forman Christian College University, Lahore at FCCU on June 8, 2022 for collaborations on faculty training and academic research partnerships. Dr. Douglas Trimble (Vice Rector, FCCU) and Dr. Matthew A. Cook (AIPS President) signed the document while Mr. Nadeem Akbar, Dr. Sikandar Hayat (Dean of Social Sciences, FCCU), and other FCCU colleagues witnessed the document signing.



11. AIPS also signed an MOU with IBA Karachi on June 14, 2022 at IBA Karachi for cooperation and collaborations in the field of Social Sciences. Dr. Akbar Zaid (Executive Director, IBA) and Dr. Matthew Cook signed the document while Mr. Nadeem Akbar and IBA colleagues witnessed the signing.

GRANTEE TESTIMONIAL



"The funding provided by AIPS was vital to conducting my dissertation research in Pakistan. The opportunity to travel back to Karachi and engage in further ethnographic research has been essential to concluding my doctoral work. The ability to focus on research during this period, with the support of AIPS, allowed for rich engagement with members of the TV drama and adjacent industries. The staff and board at AIPS have been immensely supportive, particularly around the uncertainties around travel during COVID-19."

— Elliot Montpellier, 2021 Short-Term Grantee

Individual Grantees

AIPS Short-Term Research Grants to Pakistan 2022

Since 2012, AIPS has offered Short-Term Research Grants to AIPS members, regardless of citizenship. This year, AIPS allocated five Short-Term Research Grants to allow scholars to do preliminary or exploratory research in Pakistan for one to three months. AIPS's unrestricted funds support these awards. Abstracts and final reports for these projects are available on the AIPS website.

Asif Sandeelo

Institution: University of Georgia
Field: Anthropology
Project Title: Political Bird: Elite Falconry, Power Politics and Conservation in Pakistan

Aabiya Noman Baqai

Institution: The University of Texas at Austin
Field: Community and Regional Planning
Project Title: Negotiating National Citizenship through Insurgent Placemaking in Islamabad, Pakistan

Javairia Shahid

Institution: Columbia University
Field: Architecture
Project Title: Canal Colonies in Punjab: Labor, Property, and Water in Colonial India (1842-1935)

Sana Naeem

Institution: Harvard University
Field: Anthropology
Project Title: Da Katchero Chakaray: Litigating Divorce in Pakistan

Syed Eisar Haider

Institution: University of Notre Dame
Field: Sociology
Project Title: Local Expressions, Global Arenas: Pakistani Shia Pilgrims in the Arba'een Pilgrimage

AIPS Conference Travel Grants 2021-2022

AIPS awards travel grants to help facilitate its members' participation in international and domestic conferences. Grants for US citizens get funded through the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the US Department of State and the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC). AIPS's unrestricted funds support non-US citizens. Abstracts and final reports for these projects are on the AIPS website.

Syeda ShahBano Ijaz

International Travel Grant
Institution: University of California, San Diego
Conference Name: Political Economy of International Organizations
Conference Dates: July 7-9, 2022
Title of Paper: "Moral Hazard or State Capacity: US Military Assistance and Political Violence in Pakistan"

Anita Weiss

Domestic Travel Grant
Institution: University of Oregon
Conference Name: International Studies Association 2022 Annual Convention
Conference Dates: March 28 - April 2, 2022
Title of Paper: "Local Actions, Local Voices in Countering Violent Extremism in Pakistan"

AIPS Fellowships 2022-2023

Each year, AIPS awards long-term Junior (pre-doctoral) and Senior (post-doctoral) Fellowships, two to nine months in length. Due to security restrictions, US citizen applicants applying for Junior Fellowships must conduct their research in countries other than Pakistan. However, non-US citizen applicants and US citizens who are Senior Fellows can conduct research in Pakistan and countries other than the United States. Funding for these fellowships comes from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the US Department of State, through a grant from the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC), and AIPS's unrestricted

funds. These awards are highly competitive, and AIPS is excited to announce the recently awarded fellows below. All fellows' abstracts and final reports are accessible on the AIPS website.

Sohaib Khan

Institution: Yale University
Field: Islamic Law
Project Title: Translating Capitalism: How Muslim Jurists and Bankers Invented Shari'a Compliance
Fellowship Type: Post-Doctoral

Uzma Rizvi

Institution: Pratt Institute of Design
Field: Anthropology/Archaeology
Project Title: Laboratory for Integrated Archaeological Visualization and Heritage (LIAVH)
Fellowship Type: Post-Doctoral

Shandana Waheed

Institution: Stanford University
Field: Anthropology
Project Title: Present of Past: Negotiating Pre-partition Heritage of Rawalpindi in Post-Partition Pakistan
Fellowship Type: Pre-Doctoral

Tayeba Batool

Institution: University of Pennsylvania
Field: Anthropology
Project Title: City of Trees: Urban Ecologies of Miyawaki Urban Forests in Pakistan
Fellowship Type: Pre-Doctoral

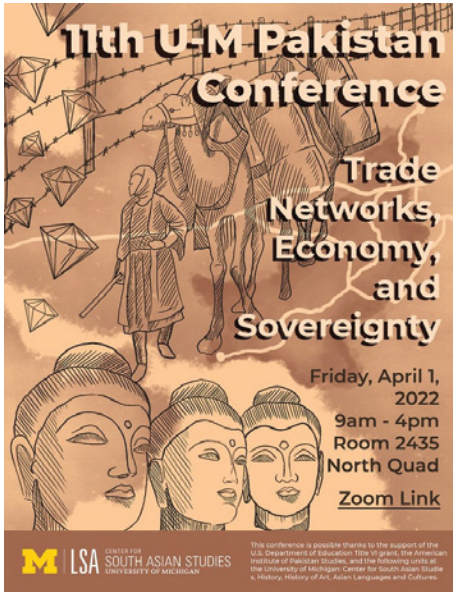
Marvi Ahmed

Institution: Cornell University
Field: Development Studies
Project Title: Contested Frontiers: Development Aid, Identity, and Agrarian Politics in Southern Pakistan
Fellowship Type: Pre-Doctoral

Sanallah Khan

Institution: Johns Hopkins University
Field: Anthropology
Project Title: Diagnosing Biraderis: War, Mental Illness & Kinship in Pakistan
Fellowship Type: Pre-Doctoral

AIPS Conferences and Workshops



University of Michigan's 11th Annual Pakistan Conference

Location: [University of Michigan, USA](#)
Date: [April 1, 2022](#)

The Center for South Asian Studies at the University of Michigan hosted its 11th Annual Pakistan Conference. This year's theme was "Trade Networks, Economy, and Sovereignty." The conference featured a full day of panels and presentations, ending with a keynote by Dr. Aditi Saraf (Utrecht University) titled, "Trade Artifacts: Mobility, Sovereignty, and the Edges of Empire." The three panels sought to navigate the conference's trade-centered theme and its political and economic implications. Topics ranged from historical trade roots and conflicts to contemporary cross-border disputes and market economies. The conference was held in person at the University of Michigan but was also available for virtual participants.

This conference was supported by the US Department of Education Title VI grant, the American Institute of Pakistan Studies, and the following units at the University of Michigan: Center for South Asian Studies, History, History of Art, the Rackham Graduate School, the Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies, and the Residential College.

Placing Pakistan: Space, Time and the Everyday

Location: [Virtual](#)
Dates: [February 11-12, 2022](#)

The Tafsilan Working Group of the University of Pennsylvania hosted its inaugural conference on February 11-12, 2022. The conference, titled, "Placing Pakistan: Space, Time and the Everyday," brought together an interdisciplinary group of scholars whose research spans literacy, geography, cultural politics, gender studies, and visual culture. AIPS funding sponsored two keynote speakers, Dr. Shenila Khoja-Moolji (Bowdoin College) and Dr. SherAli Tareen (Franklin and Marshall College). The keynote speakers delivered enlightening talks on women's cultural studies and religious minorities, respectively. Dr. Amber Abbas (St. Joseph's University) moderated a pedagogy roundtable that compared challenges to teaching between North American and Pakistani higher-education classrooms. Seventeen panelists were selected to present their research over the two-day conference. The event organizers noted, "the event not only opened fertile avenues of inquiry for our respective dissertation projects but also allowed five graduate students from Penn and Princeton to serve as discussants for panels related to their expertise."

The Tafsilan Working Group is "comprised of graduate students and early career scholars interested in critiquing and expanding the conceptual and methodological frameworks of scholarship on South Asia."

Community College Collaborative Workshop

Location: [Lahore, Pakistan](#)
Dates: [May 13-15, 2022](#)

Dr. Paul Edleman (Sauk Valley Community College), Prof. Farah Habib (Bristol Community College), and Dr. Robert Soza (Mesa Community College) facilitated a workshop titled, "Inter-Disciplinary Integration of Social Science & Humanities in Pedagogy and Curriculum Development at Skills Building Educational Institutions". This professional development initiative, which took place at Forman Christian College, brought to-



gether US and Pakistan-based faculty from community colleges, skills colleges, and universities. They developed pedagogy and curriculum aimed at integrating national and experiential understandings unique to how the faculty and students, both in Pakistan and the US, engage the humanities and social sciences. Faculty from both countries worked together to develop curricula that challenged assumptions about Pakistan and the US. This expands the field of Pakistan studies beyond research to include discussions on classroom resources and teaching techniques relevant to community college and skills college-level faculty. The workshop and post-workshop meetings with skills colleges in Pakistan will contribute to a growing link between Pakistan and the US beyond the traditional university institutions in both nations.

Identity and Nationhood in Pakistani Literature

Location: [Virtual](#)
Date: [October 22, 2021](#)

AIPS sponsored the panel "Identity and Nationhood in Pakistani Literature" at the 2021 Annual Conference on South Asia. The panel, organized by Dr. Mushtaq Bilal (Binghamton University) investigated the relationship between Pakistani literature, nationhood, and identity by bringing together established scholars and graduate students working on Pakistani literature. Two of the six papers presented on the panel are forthcoming in academic journals.

US scholars on the panel included Dr. Ambreen Hai, Sameera Abbas, Dr. Rajendar Kaur, Zain Mian, and Mushtaq Bilal. In addition, Muneeza Shamsie joined virtually from Pakistan to participate in the presentation, and Dr. Ulka Anjaria served as the discussant.

Research Proposal Writing Workshop

Location: Lahore, Pakistan

Dates: June 6-7, 2022

AIPS President, Dr. Matthew A. Cook (North Carolina Central University) and former AIPS at-large trustee Dr. Walter Hakala (University at Buffalo, SUNY) recently organized a workshop for Lahore-area graduate students on developing a proposal for doctoral research. The event, which was held at Forman Christian College University,

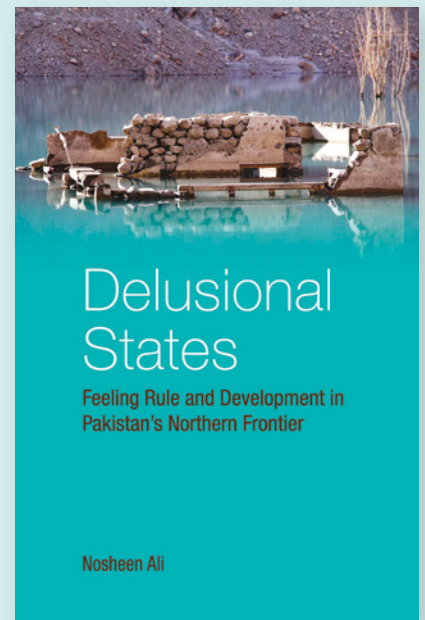


included sixteen student participants from four institutions (Forman Christian College University, University of the Punjab, Government College University, University of Management and Technology) representing English, History, Pakistan Studies, and Political Science. It was facilitated by both Dr. Sikandar Hayat (Distinguished Professor of History and Public Policy and Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences), and the outstanding staff of Forman Christian College University. Over the course of the one-and-a-half-day workshop in Lahore, participants learned strategies for developing compelling research projects, preparing formal research proposals, establishing productive relationships with faculty advisors, and navigating the academic and non-academic job markets.



2022 AIPS Book Prize Awardee: Nosheen Ali

Congratulations to Dr. Nosheen Ali for receiving the 2022 AIPS Book Prize for her book titled *Delusional States: Feeling Rule and Development in Pakistan's Northern Frontier*! The Book Prize Committee found the book to be “a superb ethnography of the nation-state. It advanced how the field thinks about the War on Terror and how citizens in Gilgit-Baltistan negotiate and respond to the unique political economy created by the US and Pakistan in the borderlands. The book’s theoretical approach—with its careful working of affect theory and geographical focus—is to be a crucial intervention into Pakistan Studies broadly and, significantly, into the morass of signification surrounding Kashmir. Ali’s inclusion of ecological considerations in part 3 illuminates her book’s central argument: the region’s ironic position as a ‘natural wonder’ and a security concern. Further, the committee appreciated the distinctions Ali makes in the types of belonging her ethnographic subjects seek: not strictly in terms of ‘Muslimness,’ which, in the book’s argument, fits too neatly into a given understanding of the Pakistani nation. This is an original, well-thought-out book, offering a novel indigenous explanation of the citizen-state relationship.”



Congratulations to Dr. Ali for the well-deserved recognition, and thank you to all who submitted their books for review!

AIPS Resource Library

The American Institute of Pakistan Studies is excited to announce the AIPS Resource Library (ARL) — library.pakistanstudies.org — a new effort we’ve been working on to consolidate Pakistan-related, open-access publications and materials on one central site. Our ARL currently houses over 100 publications and is continuing to grow. To navigate the library, click on “Browse Resources,” where all entries can be sorted by topic, subdiscipline, and region. If you have feedback, edits, or would like to add a resource to the ARL, please contact AIPS: aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org.

2021 AIPS Book Prize Interview: Mubbashir Rizvi

This year, AIPS Vice President, Dr. Iqbal Singh Sevea, interviewed the 2021 AIPS Book Prize awardee, Dr. Mubbashir Rizvi, about his book *The Ethics of Staying: Social Movements and Land Rights Politics in Pakistan*.



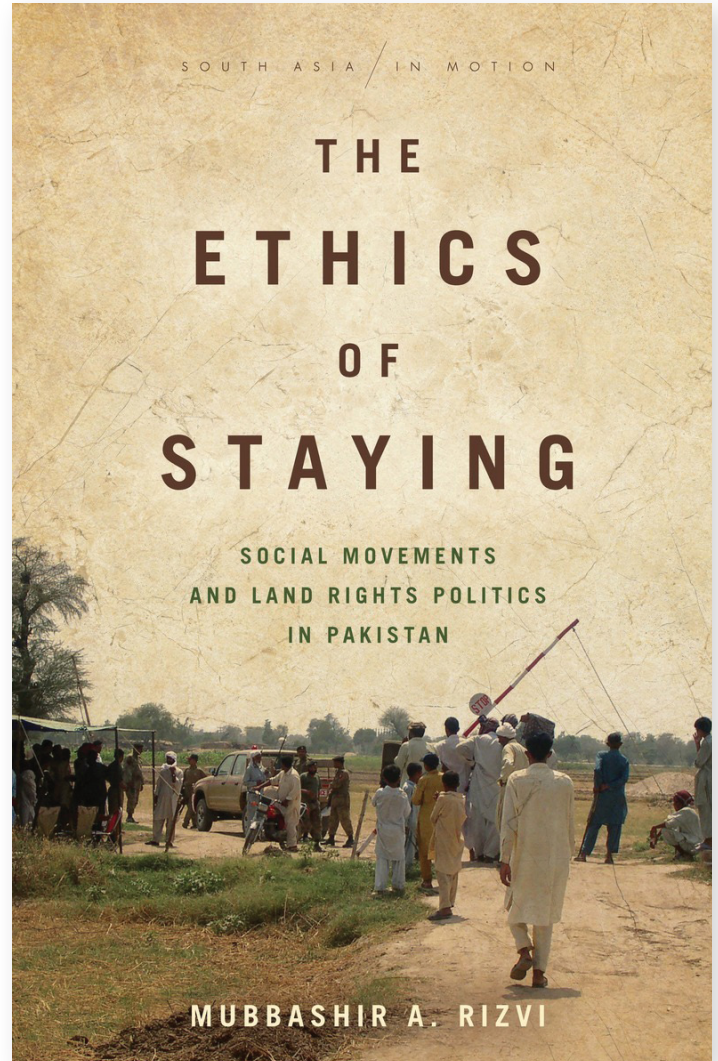
How did you become interested in the topic(s) addressed in the book?

I've been interested in the overlooked history of social movements and popular struggles in Pakistan for a long time. The scholarship on Pakistan focuses on big personalities and on institutions (whether civilian or military). Very few ethnographic studies center on people's histories (history from below)

in Pakistan. Almost every single district of Pakistan has been a site of struggle over land, water, forest, migration, and forced displacement, but we know little about these struggles. The AMP's struggle drew me for the same reason, especially because it defied the conventional understandings about the Punjab and military rule. For those who may not know, the AMP -The Punjab Tenants' Movement- represents thousands of tenant sharecroppers who are resisting the Pakistan military's plan to monetize, thus privatize, the land tenure arrangement on state-owned military farms in Central Punjab. The AMP represents tenant sharecroppers who've been tilling these lands for generations and fear that they will face eviction once they bring these lands to the market rates. My book explores the historical conditions and political conjunctures that enabled AMP to resist the military government. It required me to pay attention to both the history of claim-making in these farms (and in central Punjab) and the contradictions of military-led neoliberalism of the early 2000s in Pakistan.

What was the most challenging/rewarding part of researching for the book?

The logistics of doing research in rural areas are always more complex than in cities. I couldn't be anonymous or control my time. That said, I received great hospitality from AMP leaders and friends in different villages in Okara and Pirowal; I tried to stay on the move so as not to endanger my hosts, which was a big concern at the beginning of my research when the military farm villages were still under curfew and strict surveillance, I didn't have a base, and I was constantly moving from place to place. Being on the move allowed me to get a multifaceted understanding of AMP, especially when the movement represented so many groups across confessional, biradari, and caste lines. I made many long-lasting friendships, which are definitely the most rewarding part of the research.



Do you have any specific advice for emerging scholars of Pakistan after writing the book?

The emerging scholarship in Pakistan is very exciting, but there is still a lot of pressure on young scholars to answer or respond to very reductive questions about Pakistan — or couching their studies in ways that help answer geopolitical questions. In the long run, the most valuable scholarship is the kind that is produced with thoughtful consideration for people and places, the work that is not simply extractive or essentialist but scholarship that is insightful, opens up dialogue, and even collaborations.

What's your next project?

My next project is on food geographies of Karachi. I am interested in the role of produce markets, and street vendors in creating conditions for coexistence in the city.

Critical Pakistan Studies to be published by Cambridge University Press



A IPS, Cambridge University Press, the University of Exeter South Asia Centre, UK, and CEIAS, France are launching a new journal, *Critical Pakistan Studies* (CPS), in January of 2023. These organizations expect CPS to become a major force in a significant and growing field of research. CPS will also benefit from the strength of the existing CUP Asian Studies journals list and books program, with its strong focus on South Asia and the diaspora.

Critical Pakistan Studies will publish primary source interpretive social science and humanities research that, in addition to Pakistan and Pakistanis, tackle broader interdisciplinary issues (e.g., colonialism, nationalism, integration, marginalization, devotion, institutionalization, vernacularism, cosmopolitanism, development, environment, popular culture, diaspora, gender, representation, and others). The journal's interdisciplinary approach will push beyond the nation-state, security, Islam, extremism, and other topics that

narrowly define the study of Pakistan. It will analyze, discuss, and seek to understand the varied and multilayered contexts that constitute Pakistan and its people (both past and present and in South Asia and the wider world).

The journal's interdisciplinary approach will push beyond the nation-state, security, Islam, extremism, and other topics that narrowly define the study of Pakistan.

Its global editorial board represents and supports the publication of scholarship on Pakistan and the diaspora originating within Pakistan itself, as well as throughout Europe, North America, and elsewhere in Asia.

The journal's editorial collective of Kamran Asdar Ali, Michel Boivin, Matthew A. Cook, and Amina Yaqin assert that, "Until recently, Pakistan Studies was a small interdisciplinary research area. However, this is no longer the case and there is no international journal devoted to the study of Pakistan. *Critical Pakistan Studies* will fill this gap and be the flagship publication in its field of study."

Ann Avouris, Cambridge University Press' Head of Journals, North America, said, "The Press looks forward to working with the partnered institutions and the editorial team in this exciting new launch. We are particularly keen to bring new authors and readers to our program from Pakistan itself."

AIPS Opportunities

Please contact AIPS for more information on submitting a proposal for these opportunities.

AIPS Book Prize

AIPS solicits books (single-authored monographs, no edited volumes) published during the last three years or nearly published books (galleys must be available) for the annual AIPS book prize. The award recipient will receive a monetary reward from AIPS (\$1,000). In addition, AIPS will recommend the manuscript for publication in Pakistan with an appropriate press. Publishing in Pakistan is strongly encouraged but not a condition of the award.

Applicants in all disciplines are encouraged to apply. The deadline to apply is January 10, 2023.

Institutional Membership Waiver

For the first two years of membership, AIPS waives the Institutional Membership fee (\$250) for two-year colleges and Minority-Serving Institutions. Representatives of these institutions serve on the Board of Trustees, have full voting rights, and are eligible for numerous funding opportunities through AIPS. A permanent faculty member who is involved in Pakistan studies should submit a proposal for affiliation. As soon as AIPS receives this application, the Executive Committee members will discuss and vote.

Pakistan Lecture Series

The Pakistan Lecture Series is a program designed to support academic exchange between Pakistani and US scholars and to promote the field of Pakistan Studies. As a part of this program, a Pakistani scholar, artist, musician, etc., is invited to travel to the US for two to four weeks and present lectures at a minimum of three AIPS Member Institutions. AIPS members or member institutions nominate PLS speakers, and a three-member committee solicits and screens potential PLS speakers. The AIPS Executive Committee and Board of Trustees make the final selection and approval of the PLS speaker, contingent upon available funds.

The Trustee or Member Institution proposing a PLS speaker makes initial arrangements regarding the speaker's itinerary and the lectures they will present. Each host institution is expected to provide local hospitality for the PLS speaker, including accommodations, meals, and local transportation.

This program is funded through grants from the Council of American Overseas Research Centers and the Government of Pakistan.

Suhail Zaheer Lari Memorial Fellowship Fund

AIPS and the Suhail Zaheer Lari Memorial Fellowship Fund support scholars conducting research on Sindh through our Fellowships and Short-Term Research Grants. The recipients should be pre-doctoral or post-doctoral scholars of South Asia and members of AIPS. Interested individuals can apply for this opportunity through an AIPS Fellowship or AIPS Short-Term Research Grant.

Suhail Zaheer Lari (1936-2020) was a Pakistani historian and author who focused on research and documentation of the history of the Sindh region in Southern Pakistan. His family established this fellowship in his memory. The Suhail Zaheer Lari Memorial Fellowship Fund will assist in broadening the study of Sindh by providing resources to scholars who study the region.



Congratulations to Marvi Ahmed for being chosen as the first recipient of the Suhail Zaheer Lari Memorial Fellowship Fund!

A PhD Candidate at Cornell University, Ahmed focuses on “exploring how the aid frontier is constituted, how it is experienced by aid-receiving communities differentiated by caste, and how new political practices and shifting cultural identities of marginalized communities can raise questions for the Pakistani state and national imaginary.”

AIPS Member Publications and Resources

Fawzia Afzal-Khan, Professor, Montclair State University
Afzal-Khan, Fawzia. "Afghanistan Redux: Malala Yousafzai, White Feminism and Saving Afghan Women." *Counterpunch*, August 27, 2021.

Afzal-Khan, Fawzia. "Pakistan at the Crossroads, Again." *Counterpunch*, April 16, 2021.

Afzal-Khan, Fawzia. "Decolonizing James Bond." *Counterpunch*, November 3, 2021.

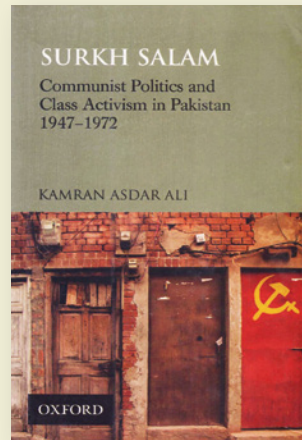
Afzal-Khan, Fawzia. "Afterword: Transculturalism, the Way Forward..." in *Transcultural Humanities in South Asia: Critical Essay on Literature and Culture*, edited by Waseem Anwar and Nosheen Yousaf. Abingdon: Routledge, 2022.

Kamran Asdar Ali, Professor, The University of Texas at Austin
Ali, Kamran Asdar, and Asad Ali, eds. *Towards a Peoples Histories of Pakistan: (In) audible Voices, Forgotten Pasts*. Bloomsbury Press (UK), forthcoming.

Derichs, Claudia and Kamran Asdar Ali. "The Long 1960s in Asia." *International Quarterly of Asian Studies* 52, no. 3-4 (2021): 173-179.

Ali, Kamran Asdar, Tabish Khair, and Om Dwedevi, eds. Special Issue on Partition, *Journal of Commonwealth Literature* (forthcoming).

Ali, Kamran Asdar. *Surkh Salam: Communist Politics and Class Activism in Pakistan 1947-1972* (Urdu translation). Karachi: Maktab-e-Danial, 2021.



Ali, Kamran Asdar. "Dostī kā Safar: Asif, Karachi, and I: Remembering Asif Aslam Farukhi (1959-2020)." *Journal of Urdu Studies* 2, no. 1 (December 2021): 3-13.

Ali, Kamran Asdar. Review of *Who Is a Muslim?: Orientalism and Literary Populisms*, by Maryam Wasif Khan. *Journal of Urdu Studies* 2 (2021): 95-101.

Ali, Kamran Asdar. Afterword to *Forms of the Left in Postcolonial South Asia: Aesthetics, Networks and Connected Histories*, edited by Lotte Hoek and Sanjukta Sunderason. London: Bloomsbury Press, 2021.

Ali, Kamran Asdar. "On Female Friendships and Anger," In *Love, War, and Other Longings: Emergent Cinema in Pakistan*, edited by Vazira Zamindar and Asad Ali. Karachi: Oxford University Press, 2020.

Hina Ashraf, Associate Research Professor, Georgetown University
Ashraf, Hina. "The Ambivalent Role of Urdu and English in Multilingual Pakistan: A Bourdieusian Study." *Language Policy* 21, no. 1 (March 2022): 1-24.

Sabrin Beg, Assistant Professor, University of Delaware
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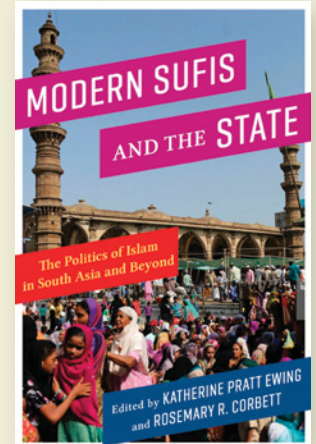
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Christopher Candland, Professor, Wellesley College
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Katherine Ewing, Professor, Columbia University
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Sarah Halvorson, Professor and Chair, University of Montana
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Shelby House, Graduate Student, University of Washington House, Shelby. Review of *Animal Enthusiasms: Life beyond Cage and Leash in Rural Pakistan*, by Muhammad A. Kavesh. *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies* 45, no. 2 (2022): 394-395.

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Syed Ali Hussain, Assistant Professor, Arizona State University

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Ken LeBlond, Marketing Communications Manager, University of Massachusetts Amherst
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Tryna Lyons, Independent Scholar

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Daniel Majchrowicz, Assistant Professor, Northwestern University

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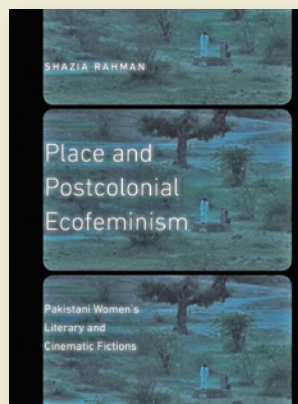
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Robert Nichols, Professor, Stockton University
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Shazia Rahman, Associate Professor, University of Dayton
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Natalya Rahman & Sarah Thompson, PhD Candidates, Stanford University

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Uzma Rizvi, Associate Professor, Pratt Institute

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Mashal Saif, Professor, Clemson University

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Rizwan Ali Shinwari, Visiting Research Fellow, University of Massachusetts Amherst
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SherAli Tareen, Associate Professor, Franklin and Marshall College

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Anita Weiss, Professor Emeritus, University of Oregon

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AIPS 2021-22 Institutional Member News

New Institutional Members

AIPS would like to welcome our three new institutional members for 2021-2022! Dr. Michael Hirsch (Huston-Tillotson University), Dr. Anna Stirr (The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa), and Dr. Sabrin Beg (The University of Delaware) will serve as AIPS Trustees.



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Diana Mirza. During this first year, T.J. Ligouri is leading the Initiative as the inaugural postdoctoral fellow alongside Jaffer Center Director, Professor Mohiaddin Mesbahi, FIU. They will be hosting a series of lectures and events on Pakistan and Muslim South Asia. In addition, FIU hopes to sustain and, ideally, expand the Pakistan Studies Initiative to host one or more permanent faculty positions and provide student services and more courses centered around Pakistan and Muslim South Asia.

FIU hosted a lecture from Qasim Qureshi on November 11 for Iqbal Day and had contributions from a number of panelists commenting on aspects of Iqbal's thought. They would like to continue an annual Iqbal Day lecture as part of the Initiative. FIU also had the assistance of a Pakistani Fulbright student, as well as the assistance of Professor Iqbal Akhtar, which has been pivotal in building the momentum and stability of this Initiative. The Pakistan Studies Initiative will also feature community outreach efforts with local officials and local Pakistani-Americans.

Huston-Tillotson University

Huston-Tillotson University's Trustee, Dr. Michael Hirsch, was invited to keynote an international conference on August 17 at Fatimah Jinnah Women University in Rawalpindi. The title of the talk is "Prospects and Challenges of Blurring Boundaries in the Social Sciences: Considering Indo-Pak Reconciliation, Transforming Patriarchy and Addressing Global Warming." Dr. Hirsch's paper, "Pakistan-US Research Collaborations: Past Work and Future Opportunities," was also accepted at the October meetings of the Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology.

Michigan State University

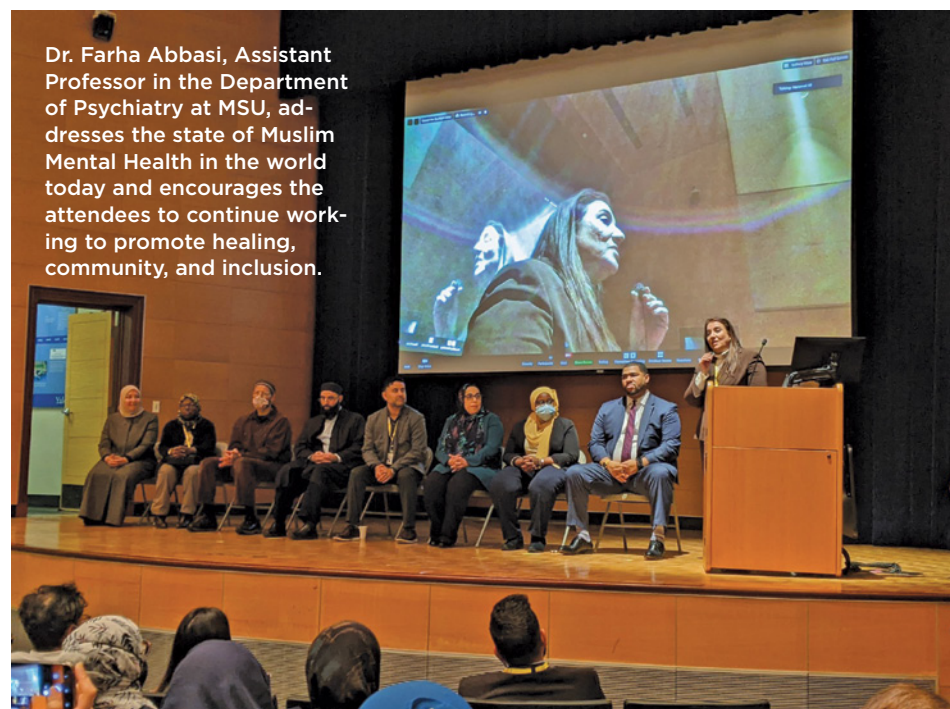
The 14th Annual Muslim Mental Health Conference, sponsored by Michigan State University Department of Psychiatry, Yale Global Mental Health Program, and the Institute for Muslim Mental Health, was held March 25-26 at Yale University. This year's theme was "Fragilities Unmasked: Emerging from Social Isolation, Social Inequalities, and COVID."

Ball State University

Ball State University is working on a project with Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU) to develop American Studies programs in Pakistan. This project grew from an earlier project with the Area Study Centre for Africa, North and South America at QAU.

Florida International University

Florida International University has started a Pakistan Studies Initiative under the Mohsin and Fauzia Jaffer Center for Muslim World Studies. This was supported through the benefaction of Khalid and



AIPS 2021-22 Institutional Member News



Volunteers worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make the conference a success.

The conference focused on topics such as COVID-19 and mental health, suicide interventions, interpersonal violence, refugee mental health, Islamic psychology, and substance use disorder. This hybrid event had over 150 in-person attendees and nearly 300 virtual attendees from across the globe.

"The unprecedented challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent global lockdowns continue to unmask our fragilities, long-existing social inequalities and have had a profound impact on society and our mental health as life continues to transition and shift. Our knowledge of the impact of the pandemic is evolving, will continue to expand, and the lessons for how we have adapted need to be highlighted," said Dr. Farha Abbasi, AIPS Trustee and Founding Director of the conference.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Juliane Hammer, from the University of North Carolina, whose topic was "Working Against Domestic Violence in Muslim Communities." "As religious communities, our responsibility is to minimize any barriers facing abused members of our congregations and to maximize the resources that exist within our faith traditions," Dr. Hammer said.

One presentation was specifically on "Pakistan's COVID-19 Outbreak Preparedness

and Response: A Situational Analysis" by Dr. Furqan B. Irfan of Michigan State University. "Despite being a resource-constrained country, the government of Pakistan has mounted a coordinated national effort using the best available resources. The government is rightly focusing on 4 major areas—surveillance, management, response, and coordination—in controlling the COVID-19 pandemic in Pakistan," Dr. Irfan reported.

University of Arkansas

Mehreen Jamal's dissertation, *Envisioning a New Pakistani Home: Gender, Class, and Identity in Women's Urdu Journals, 1947-1960*, was submitted in May of 2021. Jamal graduated with her PhD in History from the University of Arkansas and is currently teaching at Haas Hall Academy in Fayetteville, a highly ranked public charter school.

University of California, Berkeley

The 9th Annual Mahomedali Habib Distinguished Lecture on Pakistan was delivered on December 9, 2021, by Sri Lankan numismatist, historian, and archeologist, Professor Osmund Bopearachchi. Prof. Bopearachchi's lecture, titled, "Gandharan Art Revisited: What is New and What is Next", was an in-depth exploration of how Gandharan artists depicted episodes in the life of the Buddha.



Professor Osmund Bopearachchi

The talk was held in conjunction with an exhibition co-curated by him, titled, "Beyond Boundaries: Buddhist Art of Gandhara" featured at the Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive. As a part of the lecture, Dr. Bopearachchi led a select group of guests on a curator's tour of the exhibition.



Dr. Amna Qayyum

The S.S. Pirzada Dissertation Prize in Pakistan Studies for 2021 was awarded to Dr. Amna Qayyum, a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Jackson Institute for Global

Affairs, Yale University, for her dissertation titled, *The Demographic State: Population, Global Biopolitics, and Decolonization in South Asia, c. 1947-71* (Princeton University, 2021). Dr. Ghazal Asif Farrukhi, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, LUMS University, Lahore, received an Honorable Mention for her dissertation titled, *Marvi's Sisters: Hindu Belonging and the Muslim State in Pakistan* (Johns Hopkins University, 2021).

UC Berkeley is announcing the Mir Research Fellowship in Urdu Studies. Established with a generous contribution from Sadia Azmat & Muhammad Umair Shaikh,

both prominent business analysts from the Bay Area and members of the Institute's Urdu Language Advisory Board, this award provides for one or more graduate research awards (max: \$10k) on a topic related to the study of Urdu. Eligible recipients must be enrolled at a campus in the University of California system. Funds may be used towards flights and/or living and research expenses in Europe and/or South Asia. Please check out southasia.berkeley.edu/mir-fellowship for more details.

The UC Berkeley South Asia Artist Prize for 2022 was awarded to Saba Qizilbash. Born in Lahore and raised in Abu Dhabi, Saba has a BFA in Painting from the National College of Art, Pakistan, and a Master's degree in Art Education from Rhode Island School of Design. Saba's work has been showcased in Dubai, Hong Kong, San Francisco, Lahore, and Karachi, including solo shows at 1x1 Gallery (Dubai), Koel Gallery (Karachi), Cuadro Fine Art Gallery (Dubai), ArtChowk (Karachi), and Rohtas II Gallery (Lahore). She has also exhibited in numerous group shows across the UAE and abroad, including at Aicon Gallery in New York.

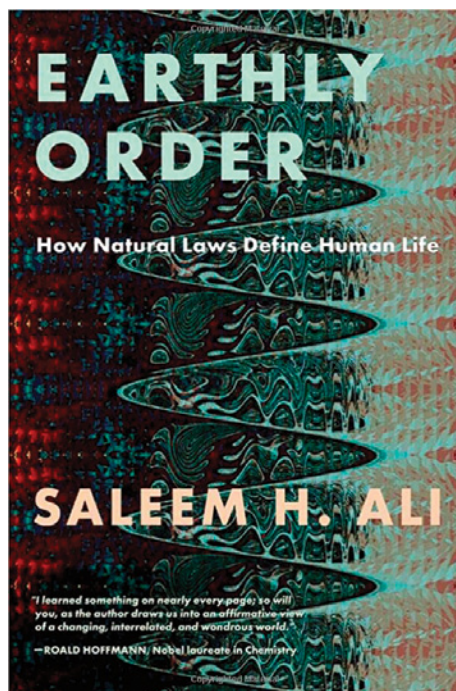


Saba Qizilbash

University of Delaware

Dr. Saleem H. Ali's new book, *Earthly Order: How Natural Laws Define Human Life*, received endorsements from Nobel laureate, Roald Hoffman.

The COVID-19 Pandemic has brought forth global anxiety about linkages between the environment and society at a fundamental



structural level. *Earthly Order: How Natural Laws Define Human Life* (Oxford University Press) provides an accessible exposition of the latest foundational knowledge on how natural and social systems science can inform planetary crises. Humanity has either tried to conquer or capitulate to natural order, whereas we should be seeking to understand latent structures and patterns that permeate all systems and develop an "earthly order," that is socially functional and sustainable.

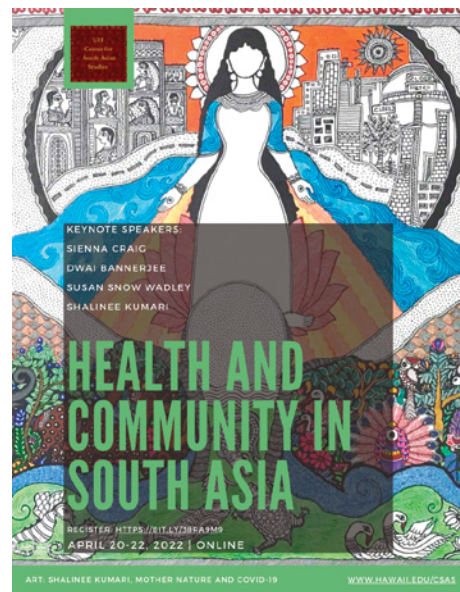
Current debates in politics often present what should constitute a "world order" while scientists have wrestled with what are fundamental conditions of "natural order." In his new book, University of Delaware's Professor Saleem H. Ali provides a readable synthesis of these debates with practical guidance for the public with a host of current examples around environmental decision-making by consumers, the government and industry.

Nobel laureate in Chemistry Roald Hoffmann—who is also a poet—gave the book a resounding endorsement: "In an ambitious, yet eminently readable book,

Saleem Ali uses a search for order as an organizing principle across all the scales of the world, from submicroscopic to the way human societies interact. I learned something on nearly every page; so will you, as the author draws us into an affirmative view of a changing, interrelated, and wondrous world."

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

The Center for South Asian Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa hosted their 2022 Spring Symposium on April 20-22 on the theme of "Health and Community in South Asia." The three-day conference featured four keynote speakers: Sienna Craig (Dartmouth College), Dwai Banerjee (MIT), Susan Snow Wadley (Syracuse University), and Shalinee Kumari (Mithila Artist). The conference was held online, with panel recordings posted to the CSAS's YouTube page.



AIPS Member Highlights

Farha Abbasi

Associate Professor, Michigan State University

Dr. Farha Abbasi participated in the International Research Symposium of Psychology: Challenges in Contemporary Psychology, a mental health conference in Pakistan. The conference was held at Lahore Garrison University on December 14, 2021.

Fawzia Afzal-Khan

Professor, Montclair State University

Dr. Fawzia Afzal-Khan delivered the keynote address for International Women's Day at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire on March 2, 2022. The keynote was titled "Neoliberalism, Rentier Capitalism and the Precariat: Women's Activisms and Solidarity from Pakistan, Afghanistan, and India."

Iram Naseer Ahmad

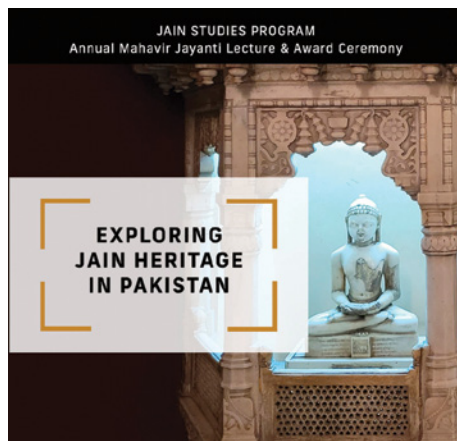
Assistant Professor, Forman Christian College

Dr. Iram Naseer Ahmad joined Forman Christian College as an Assistant Professor in the Department of History & Pakistan Studies.

Mohiba Ahmed

Graduate Student, New York University

Mohiba Ahmed was awarded the Falak Sufi Memorial Fellowship for the year 2021. This fellowship is awarded annually to one female student from Pakistan by the Graduate School of Arts and Science of New York University to pursue a fully-funded master's degree in Near Eastern Studies at the Kevorkian Center.



Iqbal Akhtar

Associate Professor, Florida International University

Dr. Iqbal Akhtar moderated the 2022 FIU Mahavir Jayanti Lecture & Award Ceremony. The Mahavir Jayanti lecture "highlighted contemporary research being done in Pakistan to explore the country's Jain heritage leading scholars." The lecture and subsequent awards ceremony were recorded and are available on YouTube.

Akhtar was also a US Fulbright Scholar at the University of Management and Technology (UMT) in Lahore, Pakistan from 2021-2022. During this fellowship, Akhtar gave 12 course guest lectures at UMT, advised six doctoral students, reviewed 22 Pakistani doctoral theses as an external examiner, and hosted a conference on Pakistani pluralism.



Above: Dr. Iqbal Akhtar (left) and his Fulbright mentor, Prof. Dr. Shoaib Pervez

Marta Ameri

Associate Professor, Colby College

Dr. Marta Ameri was awarded tenure at Colby College in December 2021. Ameri's work as an art historian and archaeologist focuses on prehistoric South Asia and its relation to Middle Asia and the Gulf Region.

Andrew Amstutz

Assistant Professor, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

Dr. Andrew Amstutz was a member at the Institute for Advanced Study (IAS) in the School of Historical Studies at Princeton during the Fall of 2021.

Kamran Asdar Ali

Professor, University of Texas

Dr. Kamran Asdar Ali was elected the Vice President of the Association of Asian Studies in 2021. He will be the President of AAS for one year, beginning late March 2022.



Association for
Asian Studies

Ken LeBlond

Marketing Communications Manager, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Ken LeBlond is the co-host/producer of a new podcast specifically focused on Pakistan/US relations called "Chai and Coffee: Pakistan-Talks" with co-host/producer Nuaman Ishfaq Mughal, a journalist based in Islamabad. The episodes are devoted to interviews with both Americans who have traveled to Pakistan and Pakistanis who have traveled to the United States. The conversations are informal and meant to challenge and break down the cultural stereotypes of each country to promote a softer image. Episodes are published weekly and can be found on Apple Podcasts, SoundCloud, Spotify, and YouTube.

AIPS Member Highlights

Maria-Magdalena Pruss

Postdoc Research Fellow, Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient

Dr. Maria-Magdalena Pruss and Dr. Khurram Hussain (Lehigh University) are co-organizing a panel for this year's South Asia Conference at Madison. It is titled: "Trajectories and Tensions in South Asian Islamic Modernism" and is planned to take place on October 22, 2022.

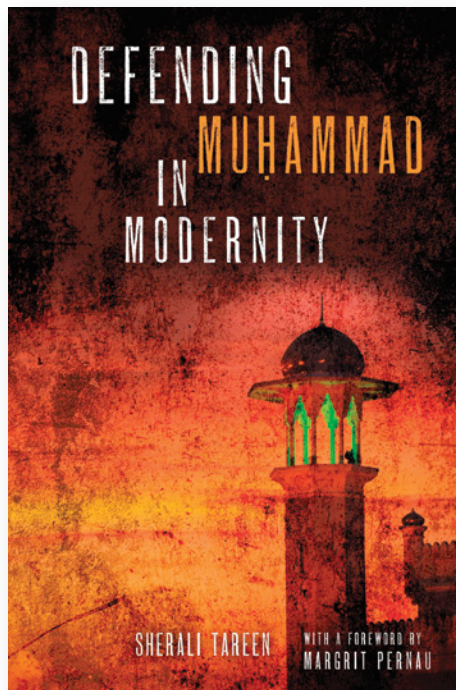
The presenters are:

- Maria-Magdalena Pruss (ZMO Berlin): European Orientalism, South Asian Modernism and the Academic Study of Islam in Colonial North India
- Gregory Maxwell Bruce (The University of California, Berkeley): Instruction Embodied: The Dars-e Nizami in the Nineteenth Century
- SherAli Tareen (Franklin & Marshall College): Encountering the 'Other': Power, Politics, Political Theology
- Khurram Hussain (Lehigh University): Freedom and Finitude: The Modernist Reformulation of taklif in Sayyid Ahmad Khan's Thought

Natalya Rahman, Sarah Thompson

PhD Candidates, Stanford University

In 2021-22, Natalya Rahman and Sarah Thompson received grants from J-PAL's Gender and Economic Agency Initiative and the International Growth Center to study the effects of women's mobility on economic participation and civic engagement in Pakistan. They propose to use this funding to run a field experiment that randomizes access to women's access to low-interest loans for scooters.



SherAli Tareen

Associate Professor, Franklin & Marshall College

Dr. SherAli Tareen delivered a talk in Pashto and Urdu on his book *Defending Muhammad in Modernity* for the inaugural Peshawar Literature Festival. This publication was also selected as a finalist for the American Academy of Religion Book Award.

AIPS 2021-22 Election Results

Congratulations to those elected to the AIPS Executive Committee and Board of Trustees in 2021-22, and thank you to all those who were willing to serve!

Executive Committee



Cara Cilano *Secretary from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2024*

Dr. Cara Cilano is a Professor of English and Associate Dean

for Undergraduate Studies at Michigan State University. She is the author of three books on Pakistani literature and has edited a collection of essays on literary representations of September 11, 2001, from outside the United States. She has also published 17 journal articles and book chapters. She was a Fulbright Visiting Professor of Cultural Studies at Karl Franzens University, Graz, Austria, in spring 2014 and a Fulbright Lecturer at Yanka Kupala University, Grodno, Belarus in spring 2007. In addition, Dr. Cilano served as lead-PI on a \$1 million US Department of State University Partnerships grant (2014-2016) to link her previous institution with the International Islamic University in Islamabad, Pakistan.

Continued on page 18

GRANTEE TESTIMONIAL



"I had a very productive and generative research trip to Pakistan with thanks largely to the grant provided by AIPS. It allowed me to conduct the research without which my dissertation would be incomplete."
— Sundas Amer, 2020 Short-Term Grantee

AIPS 2021-22 Election Results



Iftikhar Dadi *Treasurer from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2024*

Dr. Iftikhar Dadi is the John H. Burris Professor in the Department of History of Art & Visual

Studies at Cornell University and Director of the Cornell South Asia Program. He teaches and researches modern and contemporary art from a global and transnational perspective, with emphasis on questions of methodology and intellectual history. Another research interest of Dr. Dadi's examines the film, media, and popular cultures of South Asia, seeking to understand how emergent publics forge new avenues for civic participation. Publications include "Lahore Cinema: Between Realism and Fable (University of Washington Press, forthcoming)," a pioneering scholarly examination of mid-century cinema from Lahore; and "Modernism and the Art of Muslim South Asia (2010)," which has been widely reviewed in academic and art journals and received the 2010 Book Prize from AIPS.



Michael Hirsch *At-Large EC Member from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2024*

Dr. Michael Hirsch is a Professor of Sociology and Dean of the

College of Arts & Sciences at Huston-Tillotson University. He received his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Texas and received his M.A. and B.A. in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. He was trained as a generalist and has published in numerous areas, including drug use, program evaluation, gerontology, expert witness testimony, the role of women's education in the modern nation-state and how people make sense of what they believe to be encounters with ghosts. Dr. Hirsch was the President of the Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology in 2011 and was President of the Missouri Sociological Association in 1996. He also served as the Mayor of Fayette, Missouri

from 1998 - 2003. Currently, Dr. Hirsch is doing research on reconciliation between Pakistan and India and the career paths of Russian Cosmonauts.



Rini Bhattacharya Mehta *At-Large EC Member from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2024*

Dr. Rini Bhattacharya Mehta is an Associate Professor of Com-

parative Literature and of Religion at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and an affiliate of the National Center for Supercomputing Applications. Mehta works on the evolution and synthesis of modernity; nationalism, religious revival, cinema, and the post-global nation state. Her book on Indian Cinema, *Unruly Cinema: History, Politics, and Bollywood* was published by the University of Illinois Press in June 2020.

She has published two co-edited anthologies: "Bollywood and Globalization: Indian Popular Cinema, Nation, and Diaspora (Anthem Press, 2010)" and "Indian Partition in Literature and Films: History, Politics, Aesthetics (Routledge, 2014)." One of the recipients of the University of Illinois's first Presidential Initiative to Celebrate the Impact of the Arts and the Humanities, she is currently leading a Digital Humanities Project on Global Film History. She is currently an LAS fellow in the second discipline (2020-2022), studying Computer Science.

Board of Trustees



Maira Hayat *At-Large BOT Member from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2024*

Dr. Maira Hayat is an Assistant Professor of Environment and Peace

Studies at the University of Notre Dame. In 2022-23 she will be a Member at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton. Hayat conducts research at the intersection of bureaucracy, law, and the environment, drawing on ethnographic and archival methods. Her first book project is based on

her doctoral dissertation, *Ecologies of Water Governance in Pakistan: The Colony, the Corporation and the Contemporary*, which won the 2019 S.S. Pirzada Annual Dissertation Prize for best dissertation on Pakistan. A dissertation chapter, "The Gender of Corruption: Bureaucrats, Bodies, and the Female Complaint in an Irrigation Bureaucracy," won the Association for Feminist Anthropology's 2018 Sylvia Forman Prize for Outstanding Graduate Paper. Dr. Hayat's work has been supported by the Wenner-Gren Foundation, the National Science Foundation, and AIPS. Her publications have appeared in the *Anthropology of Work Review*, *Critique of Anthropology*, *Political Geography*, and the *Journal of the Anthropological Society of Oxford*, among others.



Gwendolyn Kirk *At-Large BOT Member*

Dr. Gwendolyn Kirk is an Assistant Professor at LUMS's Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani School of Humanities and Social

Sciences. Dr. Kirk's research centers on language ideologies and popular culture in Pakistan, and more broadly on the instantiation of language and power in cultural forms. Her current book project addresses questions of language, performance, and aesthetics in Lahore's Punjabi film industry. She researches and writes about Pakistani film and television in both contemporary and historical perspectives, with particular emphasis on language, ethnicity, class, and gender. Her other interests include semantics and performative genres in South Asian literature as well as links between global politics and South Asian librarianship. A founding member of the Punjabi Boliyan Research Initiative (PBRI), her work also addresses language shift and dialect variation in Punjab. In 2020, with film scholar Dr. Zebunnisa Hamid, she co-founded the open-access online journal *Reel Pakistan: A Screen Studies Forum*.

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