



2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT

# American Institute of Pakistan Studies

October 1, 2017 - September 30, 2018



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## JUNIOR SCHOLARS CONFERENCE

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**Full Day Symposium, 8:30am – 3:15pm  
Parlor Room 638**

### SCHOLARS AND ABSTRACTS

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1. **Ahsan Kamal, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Sociology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

***Saving Sindhu: River Defense Movements Along the Indus River in Pakistan***

Since 2005, activists have been gathering along Sindhu, the Indus river, to sing, dance, and perform rituals pledges to defend riverine life. Scholarship shows that strong traditions of environmentalism, nature worship, and indigenous peoples struggles explain the emergence of movements to defend rivers (or nature). But Pakistan doesn't boast of any of these factors. Yet such groups have emerged in multiple locations, expanded and demanded recognition of rights of the Indus. What explains the emergence and spread of the river defense in the Indus basin of Pakistan?

The studies of water politics in Pakistan usually focus on transboundary disputes, interprovincial conflicts, or issues of water governance. Consequently, we know about the politics of the state, water bureaucracies, and nationalist movements, but very little about the indigenous, subaltern, and working-class sources of riverine resistance. My dissertation research addresses this gap by examining three river protest movements along the Indus that emerged in late 1990s. While anti-dam resistance at Tarbela focused on resettling the displaced, Sindhu Bachao Tarla in southern Punjab and Pakistan Fisherfolk Forum in Sindh launched campaigns to defend the Indus river and associated cultural and ecological way of being. I examine these movements through detailed fieldwork, in-depth interviews, and review of movement archives. I upset the stable categories of 'subaltern' and 'indigenous' in decolonial theories to show that river defense movements emerge when subaltern indigenous groups forge alliances with ethno-nationalist groups who consider Indus river as central to the culture and ecology of their regions.

2. **Amna Qayyum, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of History, Princeton University**

***Co-operatives and Contraceptives: Family Planning and Theories of Rural Development in Comilla, East Pakistan***

In 1959 the Pakistan Academies for Rural Development were established in either wing of the (Peshawar and Comilla). The academies focused on training civil servants to administer a country developmental state, as opposed to the colonial focus on law and order. In just a few years the Academy at Comilla became well-known globally among development

practitioners and social scientists, not for its training program, but for the “development laboratory” it had established in the district. Led by Akhter Hameed Khan, the Comilla approach was hailed as the new way forward in modernizing rural spaces. The Academy’s novelty lay in its insistence on training organizers from within villages to lead their development programs.

Higher levels of agricultural productivity were the main focus of the program; however, family planning soon became an important aspect of the Comilla approach. This paper explores why family planning occupied an important place in narratives of rural development in Pakistan, and how various new methods were used to create model rural communities. Comilla was a place where ideas of Pakistani and American social scientists coalesced, and formed new notions of the family, the rural, and development. Through this paper I examine attempts to organize socio-economic relations through family planning schemes, and the responses Comilla’s residents to these new narratives. Based on previously untapped archival sources, this paper offers a granular reading of how the statist push for family planning under Ayub Khan was implemented and at times, questioned, in a rural community in East Pakistan.

**3. Sohaib Baig, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of History, University of California – Los Angeles**

***What Makes a Hanafi? The Juristic Boundaries of the Hanafi School of Law across Thatta and Medina in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century***

This paper focuses on the circulation of scholars and manuscripts across Sindh and the Hijaz in the first half of the eighteenth century to interrogate how Sindhi scholars transformed the Hanafi school of law. Based on a range of geographically dispersed biographical dictionaries, ijazas of intellectual transmission, and legal and doctrinal treatises, it analyzes the intellectual output and social mobility of a series of Sindhi scholars who contested the authoritative corpus of the Hanafi school of law and its relationship to hadith scholarship. In epistemological terms, it explores how they began to unravel the relationships between scripture, law, and theology that had been canonized in earlier centuries through reformulations of key foundational concepts such as independent reasoning (ijtihad) and scripture itself. In contextual terms, it locates these contestations within a multi-centered and diverse ecumene of law that spanned South Asia, the Indian Ocean, and the Arabian Peninsula. It thus analyzes how Sindhi scholars participated in overlapping networks of legal and hadith scholarship to construct normative and social authority in a context characterized by the rise of regional South Asian dynasties, of European presence in the Indian Ocean, as well as of intellectual traffic across the Indian Ocean. This paper argues that the intellectual history of Sindh and the Hijaz in the eighteenth century must take seriously the extent to which they constituted connected intellectual zones to understand the deep transformations that occurred in law and legal theory in the eighteenth century.

#### 4. Michelle Gris , Associate Policy Researcher, RAND Corporation

##### ***Inside the Nuclear Labyrinth: Understanding the Consequences of Nuclear Weapons Development in Pakistan, 1972-1998***

Scholars have debated at length the external consequences of Pakistan’s decision to embark on a program of nuclear weapons development in shifting the balance of power in South Asia. However, this debate has not adequately addressed the internal effects of nuclear weapons development in Pakistan. Using government records, the private papers of Pakistani nuclear scientists and officials, and interviews with nuclear scientists in Pakistan, this paper examines the impact of the decision to build the bomb on the scientific culture of Pakistan’s nuclear program. Focusing on the way in which Pakistani scientists experienced their leaders’ desire to obtain nuclear weapons, this paper reveals far-reaching changes in the nuclear program’s approach to scientific research after the Multan meeting in January of 1972. In particular, an increasingly pervasive culture of secrecy led to the abandonment of rigorous adherence to the scientific method in favor of quick results and a “just get to the bomb” approach. Over the next two and a half decades, this shift inspired feelings of discontentment and rumblings of dissent among the nuclear program’s scientists. I argue that a changed scientific culture within the nuclear program had a spillover effect, bringing about equally consequential changes within the broader scientific culture of Pakistan.

#### 5. Mashail Malik, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science, Stanford University

##### ***Political Violence and Ethnocentric Trust in Multiethnic Megacities: The Case of Karachi***

Ethnic identities are often activated during times of political competition. One reason this may be the case is because election campaigning allows greater opportunity for politicians and other elite actors to engage in rhetoric emphasizing the real or alleged crimes of ethnic out-groups. In contexts where interethnic violence is common and high levels of political competition increase the incentives to engage in hate rhetoric, what kind of messaging can help to reduce intergroup prejudice? In particular, can framing ethnic violence as being primarily perpetrated by politicians and other vested interests for purposes of personal gain dampen prejudicial attitudes towards members of out-groups? Violence can have the effect of “hardening” the social and economic boundaries between ethnic groups, and ethnic appeals by political entrepreneurs can increase inter-group hostility among the population. Through a survey experiment conducted in the weeks just prior to national elections, we examine the effect of competing narratives of ongoing ethnic violence on prejudicial attitudes in the megacity of Karachi, Pakistan.

## 6. Neelum Sohail, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of History, Tufts University

### *Lord of the District and Next to God: Policing and Governance in the Punjab*

The strike of the baton and barrages of bullets coupled with clouds of tear gas have become familiar etchings in an opus of police violence across the postcolonial world that is almost as old as the institution of modern policing and its colonial origins. One might be tempted to reduce the police to a tool of law enforcement when confronted with this anthology. However, I contend that policing was not simply coercion and domination from above, it was also governance from below at the level of the beat, the territory a police officer patrolled.

I draw out a textured narrative of everyday policing in colonial Punjab in 3 temporal scenes (1850s, 1880s, 1930s) that complicate conventional narratives of 'swift justice on horseback'. I argue that the non-regulation Punjab province was the ground for legislating Indians in the same way that Bengal had been the arena for legislating India, a century earlier. Punjab was the site where the next phase of colonial governance, with a shift in emphasis from land regulations to population governance, occurred. Within this shift, the police were the 'visible' hand of the colonial state penetrating Indians' daily lives; crucial to the colonial production of difference and the construction of a fractured colonial subject-citizenship. I delve into the nexus of the police and law to draw out the nuances of police power in an account that goes beyond exceptional moments of colonial violence to shed light on the daily making and re-making of the colonial state through the police.

## 7. Shehram Mokhtar, Ph.D. Candidate, School of Journalism and Communication, University of Oregon

### *Gender and Sexuality of the Other: Under the Gaze of Transnational Documentary*

This paper focuses on multi-platform non-fiction films and features that center around and address questions of non-normative sexuality and gender variance in the non-Western world and/or its diaspora. These non-fiction media directed toward and easily available online for transnational audiences function as discursive nodes that enable, constitute, and produce a universal discourse of non-normative gender and sexuality aligned with the politics of sexual citizenship in the Euro-American center. Any deviations from such universal ideals present the dilemma of lack with no recourse to context or history. The value of the center's preeminence and abundance is constructed in comparison to the inadequacies and deficiencies that constitute the other. Others are configured as lagging behind in the first in Euro-America and then elsewhere structure of time foreclosing other possibilities of gender variance and non-normative sexuality outside of its temporal schema. The arrival of the other on the platform of modern gender and sexual citizenship is constantly delayed by their lack. While contemporary gender and sexual politics within Euro-American center retains its capacity for critique, introspection, and transformation, the transnational media deploy tropes that devoid its non-Western others of any epistemological agency, historical specificity, and contextual

complexity. This paper highlights such discourses of exclusion and belonging that these media enable within the frameworks of freedom and oppression, abundance and lack, and timeliness and belatedness. In this paper, I closely read documentary films and features such as *Transgenders: Pakistan's Open Secret* (2011), *Oriented* (2015), and *How Gay is Pakistan* (2015) and demonstrate how they function individually as well as in cohesion with one another to produce a dominant discourse.

**8. Ghazal Asif, Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Anthropology, Johns Hopkins University**

***Women's Work: Ethnography of a Pakistani Vocational Center***

This paper will focus on the way young women enrolled in a sewing class at a vocational training centre in a mid-sized Sindhi town navigate specific roles and expectations grounded in gender, class and caste hierarchies and establish ephemeral, tenuous friendships within the sewing centre. Founded by a local Hindu charitable organization to impart vocational training, the centre is located on the premises of a temple managed by the same organization. The majority of students are young women from the surrounding neighbourhood, named after the temple but inhabited by Muslim, working- and lower- middle class descendants of Partition migrants allotted evacuee apartments abandoned by departing Hindus in 1947. Conversations in sewing class covered a broad spectrum from cuts and fabric to gossip, families, marriages, as well as castes and religious practices. However playful banter often reinforced Hindu vulnerability as religious minorities, even in an environment where the students all understood themselves to be recipients of upper caste Hindu charity. Drawing inspiration from Laura Ring's ethnography of Karachi women and the labour of peacemaking in *Zenana* (2006), I argue that paying attention to the ways in which friendly overtures contained demands for explanations helps understand some of the mechanics through which gender norms and religious hierarchies reproduce themselves in Pakistan, as well as how the intimate labour of friendship navigates these chasms.

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## AIPS FELLOWSHIPS

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AIPS awards Senior and Junior Research Fellowships to scholars conducting long-term (two to nine months) research projects. Fellows' abstracts and final reports can be found on the [AIPS website](#).

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### FUNDED BY CAORC

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#### 1) Junaid Rana – Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Project Title: *Dada Amir Haider Khan and the Politics of Revolution*  
Research Field: Anthropology  
Destination: Pakistan  
Dates: July 1 to November 15, 2018  
Status: In Progress

#### 2) Asif Akhtar – Ph.D. Candidate, New York University

Project Title: *Politics of Mediation and Regulation in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Pakistani News Media*  
Research Field: Media Studies  
Destination: United Kingdom  
Dates: August 10, 2018 to February 10, 2019  
Status: In Progress

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### FUNDED BY AIPS

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#### 1) Sidra Kamran – Ph.D. Candidate, The New School

Project Title: *Infrastructure(s) of Intimacy: Class, Gender and Social Reproduction in Urban Karachi*  
Research Field: Sociology  
Destination: Pakistan  
Dates: May 1 to July 30, 2018  
Status: Completed

#### 2) Abdul Aijaz – Ph.D. Candidate, Indiana University

Project Title: *Ontic Flows: Rivers in the Making of Modern Punjab*  
Research Field: Geography and English  
Destination: Pakistan  
Dates: November 15, 2018 to May 15, 2019  
Status: Upcoming

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## TRAVEL GRANTEES

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AIPS awards Conference Travel Grants to help support its members participating in invited lectures and conferences, both nationally and internationally. Abstracts and final reports for all Travel Grant awardees can be found on the [AIPS website](#).

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## FUNDED BY CAORC

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### 1) Aparna Kumar – Ph.D. Candidate, University of California-Los Angeles

Conference Name: American Council for Southern Asian Art 18<sup>th</sup> Biennial Symposium  
Conference Date: October 12-15, 2017  
Location: Boston, MA

Title of Panel: *Museums in Contention*  
Title of Paper: *Unraveling a National Symbol: Partition and the Lahore Museum*

### 2) Samina Iqbal – Assistant Professor, Lahore School of Economics

Conference Name: AIIS Dissertation to Book Workshop at the 46th Annual Conference on South Asia  
Conference Date: October 25-26, 2017  
Location: Madison, WI

Title of Paper: *Modern Art of Pakistan: Lahore Art Circle 1947-1957*

### 3) Nosheen Ali – Assistant Professor, Aga Khan University

Conference Name: Feminist Pre-Conference to the 46<sup>th</sup> Conference on South Asia  
Conference Date: October 26-28, 2017  
Location: Madison, WI

Title of Panel: *Feminist Pre-Conference: Gender, Sexuality and Militarization*  
Title of Paper: *Chup Karke Kareen Guzare Nu: Witnessing Violence and Staying Silent*

### 4) Neelam Khoja – Ph.D. Candidate, Harvard University

Conference Name: American Historical Association Conference  
Conference Date: January 4-7, 2018  
Location: Washington D.C.

Title of Panel: *Negotiating Power in Eighteenth-Century South Asia*  
Title of Paper: *“The Butcher of Hindustan”: Ahmad Shah Abdali in 18<sup>th</sup> Century Punjab*

**5) Esha Niyogi De – Senior Lecturer, University of California-Los Angeles**

Conference Name: Workshop on Urban Utopias: Memory, Rights and Speculations

Conference Date: February 21-22, 2018

Location: Utrecht, the Netherlands

Title of Paper: *Action Heroines and Corporeal Utopia: Trans-Urban Women's Cinema in Islamizing Pakistan*

**6) Alexis M. Saba – Ph.D. Candidate, Indiana University**

Conference Name: Comparative and International Education Society Annual Conference

Conference Date: March 25-29, 2018

Location: Mexico City, Mexico

Title of Panel: *Global Discourses, Equity, and Education in South Asia – Empirical and Theoretical Considerations*

Title of Paper: *Development Custodians of the Right to Education: The Mobilization and Appropriation of Global North Discourses by Non-State Educational Organizations in Pakistan*

**7) Randall W. Law – Honorary Fellow, University of Wisconsin-Madison**

Conference Name: European Association for South Asian Archaeology and Art

Conference Date: July 2-6, 2018

Location: Naples, Italy

Title of Paper: *Steatite Civilization: An Overview of Harappan Talc Acquisition and Trade Networks*

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**FUNDED BY AIPS**

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**1) Ayesha Mulla – Ph.D. Candidate, University of Chicago**

Conference Name: 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia

Conference Date: October 26-28, 2017

Location: Madison, WI

Title of Panel: *Ethnography and History from the Margins of the State: Class, Media and Politics in Pakistan*

Title of Paper: *'Marwa Na Dena': Reporting Between the Marginal and the Military*

**2) Naila Sahar – Ph.D. Candidate, University of Buffalo**

Conference Name: 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia

Conference Date: October 26-28, 2017

Location: Madison, WI

Title of Panel: *Religion, Politics and Literature in the Making of Modern South Asia*

Title of Paper: *Revisionary Political Historiography in Contemporary Pakistani Fiction*

**3) Maria-Magdalena Fuchs – Ph.D. Candidate, Princeton University**

Conference Name: Annual Association for Asian Studies Conference

Conference Date: March 22-25, 2018

Location: Washington D.C.

Title of Panel: *(Re-)ordering Religious Knowledge in Late Colonial India*

Title of Paper: *Act in the Living Present: Muslim Voluntary Association in Colonial Punjab and the Quest for a "Modern" Islam*

**4) Maira Hayat – Ph.D. Candidate, University of Chicago**

Conference Name: Annual Association for Asian Studies Conference

Conference Date: March 22-25, 2018

Location: Washington D.C.

Title of Panel: *Afterlives of Water Infrastructures in Asia*

Title of Paper: *"We Have Always Wanted to be Modern": Sovereignty, a Shared River Basin and the Postcolonial in Pakistan*

**5) Adeem Suhail – Ph.D. Candidate, Emory University**

Conference Name: Precarity/Promise: 2018 Stanford Anthropology Graduate Conference

Conference Date: April 27-28, 2018

Location: Stanford, CA

Title of Paper: *Gangs and Procrustean Beds: Precarity and Possibility Amidst an Urban Gang War in Karachi, Pakistan*

**6) Zunaira Yousaf – Master’s Student, Binghamton University – State University of New York**

Conference Name: 49th Northeast Modern Language Association Convention

Conference Date: April 12-14, 2018

Location: Pittsburgh, PA

Title of Panel: *Constructing South Asian National Identity in Literature and Film*

Title of Paper: *Nostalgia and Identity in Mohsin Hamid's Fiction*

## SHORT-TERM RESEARCH GRANTS

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AIPS awards short-term research grants to scholars conducting preliminary and/or exploratory research in Pakistan. These grants, funded by AIPS, support one to three months of travel in Pakistan. Scholars' abstracts and final reports can be found on the [AIPS website](#).

### 1) Mishal Khan – Ph.D. Candidate

US Institution: University of Chicago

Field: Sociology

Project Title: *The Emergence of the Legal Topography of Sindh in Modern Day Pakistan: A Case of a Colonial Site Impacted by Larger Global Processes of Legal Regime Building*

Dates: April 1 to June 30, 2018

### 2) Usmaan Masood Farooqui – Ph.D. Candidate

US Institution: University of Massachusetts

Field: Political Science

Project Title: *Hydraulic Peace: Water and the Everyday Politics of Infrastructure in Karachi*

Dates: May 24 to August 24, 2018

### 3) Erum Haider – Ph.D. Candidate

US Institution: Georgetown University

Field: Government

Project Title: *Transformation in Patronage, Service Delivery and Social Contract Between States and Citizens in Karachi, Pakistan*

Dates: June 1 to July 31, 2018

### 4) Ahsan Kamal – Ph.D. Candidate

US Institution: University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Field: Sociology

Project Title: *Resettling the Displaced: Large Dams and Involuntary-Displacement in Pakistan*

Dates: June 4 to July 30, 2018

**5) Zehra Husain – Ph.D. Candidate**

US Institution: City University of New York

Field: Cultural Anthropology

Project Title: *Lyari Town and the Politics of Race in Pakistan*

Dates: July 1 to September 1, 2018

**6) Sohaib Khan – Ph.D. Candidate**

US Institution: Columbia University

Field: Comparative Literature and Society

Project Title: *Financial Rationalization of the Shari'a by Conducting a Textual and Ethnographic Study of Interactive Labors between Mufti's and Financial Engineers*

Dates: July 12 to August 21, 2018

**7) Shehram Mokhtar – Ph.D. Candidate**

US Institution: University of Oregon

Field: Media Studies

Project Title: *Transgender Lives & Temporalities: Mediated Cultures & Lived Realities of Khwaja Siras*

Dates: August 13 to October 5, 2018

## JUNIOR FACULTY TRAINING AND EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The AIPS Junior Faculty Training and Exchange Program is an Embassy-funded program (by the US Embassy in Pakistan) supporting the exchange of senior US scholars and junior Pakistani scholars for mentorships and trainings. This grant seeks to increase the academic and professional caliber at Pakistani universities through a sustained transfer of expertise. To date, AIPS has hosted numerous workshops, lectures, mentorships and other academic engagements as part of this program, providing research and curricular training to junior faculty, exposing them to scholarly articles and helping them foster new relationships with scholars in the US and Pakistan. The impacts of this program have the potential to reach even greater audiences as the trained junior Pakistani faculty pass on their learnings to their students and other colleagues.

### EXCHANGES: US SCHOLARS TO PAKISTAN

- 1) **Grantee:** Iftikhar Dadi  
**US Institution:** Cornell University  
**Research Field:** History of Art  
**US Cohort:** Iftikhar Dadi (Cornell University), Esra Akcan (Cornell University), T.J. Demos (University of California, Santa Cruz), Sonal Khullar (University of Washington, Seattle)

**Partner Institution in Pakistan:**  
 Lahore Biennale Foundation  
**Program Dates:** March 10 to April 6, 2018  
**Status:** Completed



**Summary:** The four US scholars above traveled to Lahore, Pakistan to host three workshops for 52 participants and a series of lectures at the first Lahore Biennale. There was a total of 12 lectures fully or partially sponsored by AIPS, and audience numbers ranged between 30 and 80 attendees. This event, which was free and open to the public, created a space for the U.S. scholars to share with and train Pakistani scholars/professionals on the topics of art writing and curating, an aspect of the Pakistani art scene that is still being developed, as well as help foster a community of scholars and practitioners with related interests.

- 2) **Grantee:** Joel Gordon  
**US Institution:** University of Arkansas  
**Research Field:** Cultural History/Cultural Studies

**Partner Institutions in Pakistan:** Government College University, University of the Punjab

**Program Dates:** June 27 to July 28, 2018

**Status:** Completed

**Summary:** Dr. Joel Gordon held workshops on *Popular Culture Across Borders* at Government College University in Lahore (60+ participants) and the University of the Punjab (125+ participants). These workshops explored the state of Popular Culture Studies, the relevance of discourse about cosmopolitans and ‘Levantine,’ and the avenues through which creators – and consumers – of popular culture may have engaged in the own ‘broader’ regional discussions. Roundtable discussions followed in which Dr. Gordon was able to provide feedback to students on their current research projects and proposals.



3) **Grantee:** Michael Hirsch

**US Institution:** Huston-Tillotson University (HTU)

**Research Field:** Sociology

**US Cohort:** Michael Hirsch (HTU), Tricia Jokerst (HTU), Amelia Maciszewski (Sangeet Millennium), Amy Allen (Texas State University), Mueni Rudd (Texas State University)

**Partner Institutions in Pakistan:** University of Education (Lahore), HEC Resource Center (Khanaspur), Fatimah Jinnah Women University, Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services, National Academy of Performing Arts (Karachi)

**Program Dates:** July 13 to August 16, 2018

**Status:** Completed



**Summary:** A cohort of five US scholars, from the fields of Sociology, Social Work, Education and Ethno-Musicology, led three weeks of mentoring and workshop sessions in Pakistan, focusing on research and teaching methods in the Social Sciences as well as the respective fields listed above. The cohort hosted over 15 academic events which reached well over 200 people in Pakistan. Many of the workshop participants had the option to receive individual mentoring from one or more of the scholars in addition to attending to the provided workshops.

4) **Grantee:** Sarah Beckham**US Institution:** University of Wisconsin-Madison**Research Field:** South Asian Language Pedagogy**US Cohort:** Sarah Beckham (UW-Madison), Gwendolyn Kirk (Lahore University of Management Sciences)**Partner Institution in Pakistan:** Lahore University of Management Sciences**Program Dates:** September 1-29, 2018**Status:** Completed

**Summary:** Ms. Sarah Beckham and Dr. Gwendolyn Kirk hosted a series of instructor training workshops, demonstrating the concepts of Project-Based Language Learning (PBL), Flipped/Blended Learning, and core principles of Student-Centered Learning, with a specific focus on how these could be used in the teaching of Less Commonly Taught Languages. In these workshops, 15 instructors applied concepts in the development and piloted course materials and curriculum with colleagues. Additionally, the two conducted class observations and held one-on-one mentoring sessions with participants, offering feedback and strategies for their individual classes.



\*This program was co-sponsored by the Berkley-AIPS Urdu Program in Pakistan (BULPIP-AIPS)\*

5) **Grantee:** Marcia Hermansen**US Institution:** Loyola University**Research Field:** Islamic Studies**Partner Institution in Pakistan:** International Islamic University, Islamabad (IIUI)**Program Dates:** October 22-26, 2018**Status:** Upcoming

**Summary:** Dr. Marcia Hermansen will co-lead a seminar with Professor Husnul Amin (International Islamic University) for early career Pakistani junior faculty in the Humanities and Social Sciences on *Debates and Developments in Islamic Studies*. This seminar will cover current trends in the academic study of Islam (Islamic Studies) with the purpose of acquainting Pakistani academics in related fields with current theories and practices impacting the academic study of Islam, major debates in the field, innovative pedagogical strategies, and approaches from the academic study of religion. The ultimate goal will be to prepare Pakistani

faculty for research publications and curriculum design that fulfill local needs and interests while meeting international standards.

- 6) **Grantee:** Patricia Pashby  
**US Institution:** University of Oregon  
**Research Field:** Language Teaching Studies

**Partner Institutions in Pakistan:** TBD  
**Program Dates:** December 1-23, 2018  
**Status:** Upcoming

**Summary:** Dr. Patricia Pashby will host a training and mentoring program of junior faculty teaching English or other foreign language courses at universities in Pakistan titled *Language Teaching in the 21st Century*. Topics covered will include principled language teaching and learning, backward course design, creating balanced lessons, student-centered instruction, motivating language learners, flipped learning and multimodal learning. Participants will be given the opportunity to present a practice lesson and receive feedback from other participants and the session leader.

- 7) **Grantee:** Robert Nichols  
**US Institution:** Stockton University  
**Research Field:** Historical Studies  
**US Cohort:** Robert Nichols (Stockton University), David Gilmartin (North Carolina State University), Matt Cook (North Carolina Central University)

**Partner Institutions in Pakistan:** Lahore University of Management Sciences, Quaid-i-Azam University  
**Program Dates:** December 27, 2018 to January 8, 2019  
**Status:** Upcoming

**Summary:** Dr. Robert Nichols, Dr. David Gilmartin and Dr. Matt Cook will lead two workshops in Pakistan: *History Dissertation Workshop* at the Lahore University of Management Sciences (three days) and *History Research Methods and Research Proposal Workshop* at Quaid-i-Azam University (two days). The first workshop will provide research training and feedback to doctoral students in History who are in the early stages of dissertation research and writing. The latter will include newer graduate students of History beginning to develop their research skills and agendas.

- 8) **Grantee:** Matt Cook  
**US Institution:** North Carolina Central University (NCCU)  
**Research Field:** Digital Humanities  
**US Cohort:** Matt Cook (NCCU), Nathan Kelber (UNC), Mary Lagdameo (UNC) and two other faculty members from NCCU

**Partner Institutions in Pakistan:** TBD

**Program Dates:** March of 2019

**Status:** Upcoming

**Summary:** Faculty from North Carolina Central University and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (UNC) will host a Digital Humanities training and mentorship program for one week in Pakistan. The UNC faculty will teach introductory Digital Humanities courses on Geographic Information Systems, Natural Language Processing, Python, GIT, HTML/CSS, Digital Preservation, and Digital Cultural Heritage while the NCCU faculty mentor the Pakistani participants on how to integrate the course materials into their teaching.

Later in the spring, six Pakistani scholars from the program's first half will visit the US for six weeks. The scholars will be sponsored by UNC, Chapel Hill and attend the Triangle Digital Humanities Institute (also below).

9) **Grantee:** Charles Kennedy

**US Institution:** Wake Forest University

**Research Field:** Politics and International Affairs

**Partner Institution in Pakistan:** Forman Christian College

**Program Dates:** TBD

**Status:** Pending

**Summary:** Dr. Charles Kennedy will lead a week-long workshop on research methodology and project grant writing for faculty members from the Center for Public Policy and Governance (CPPG) at Forman Christian College (A Chartered University) and other universities across the province. He will be hosting separate talks/seminars for the MPhil students at CPPG and Pakistani public officials at the National School of Public Policy.

## EXCHANGES: PAKISTANI SCHOLARS TO US INSTITUTIONS

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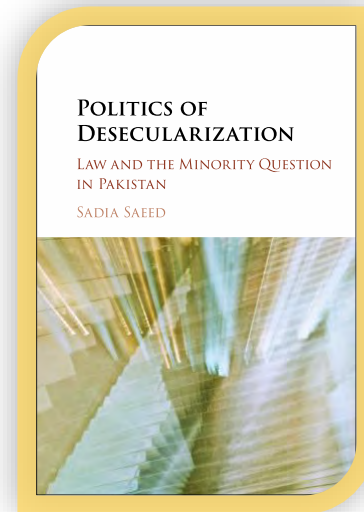
- 1) **Grantee:** J. Mark Kenoyer  
**US Institution:** University of Wisconsin-Madison  
**Research Field:** Anthropology  
  
**Visiting Scholars from Pakistan:** Nafees Ahmed (University of the Punjab) and Mueezuddin Hakal (Quaid-i-Azam University Texila Institute)  
**Program Dates:** Spring 2019  
**Status:** Upcoming
  
- 2) **Grantee:** Loren Toussaint  
**US Institution:** Luther College  
**Research Field:** Sociology  
  
**Visiting Scholar from Pakistan:** Momina Abid (Special Education Department, Government of the Punjab)  
**Program Dates:** Spring 2019  
**Status:** Upcoming
  
- 3) **Grantee:** Elena Bashir (Amy Dahlstrom and Chris Kennedy serving as institutional hosts)  
**US Institution:** University of Chicago  
**Research Field:** Linguistics  
  
**Visiting Scholar from Pakistan:** Saeed Lehri (University of Balochistan, Quetta)  
**Program Dates:** Spring 2019  
**Status:** Upcoming
  
- 4) **Grantee:** Matt Cook (See entry above)  
**US Institution:** North Carolina Central University  
**Research Field:** Digital Humanities  
  
**Visiting Scholars from Pakistan:** Five participants from the Digital Humanities program  
**Program Dates:** May of 2019  
**Status:** Upcoming

## 2016-17 AIPS BOOK PRIZE

**Author:** Sadia Saeed, PhD

**Title:** *Politics of Desecularization: Law and the Minority Question in Pakistan*

**Book Description:** The movement away from secularist practices and toward political Islam is a prominent trend across Muslim polities. Yet this shift remains under-theorized. Why do modern Muslim polities adopt policies that explicitly cater to religious sensibilities? How are these encoded in law and with what effects? Sadia Saeed addresses these questions through examining shifts in Pakistan's official state policies toward the rights of religious minorities, in particular the controversial Ahmadiyya community. Looking closely at the 'Ahmadi question', Saeed develops a framework for conceptualizing and explaining modern desecularization processes that emphasizes the critical role of nation-state formation, political majoritarianism, and struggles between 'secularist' and 'religious' ideologues in evolving political and legal fields. The book demonstrates that desecularization entails instituting new understandings of religion through processes and justifications that are quintessentially modern.



**Comments from the AIPS Book Prize Committee:** The committee chose the book because of its relevance to Pakistan Studies, as well as its theoretical sophistication and depth of argument. The author tackles tough questions such as why government officials in Muslim majority countries adopt policies that are explicitly religious and how such policies are then encoded explicitly in laws. Using Pakistan as her case study, she charts the changes in Pakistani law related to the minority Ahmadiyya community, which then allows her to create a conceptual framework for understanding the competitive dynamics of secularism versus religionism. Her framework allows her to conclude that desecularization is essentially a modern phenomenon that can only be understood through the lens of nation-state formation and political majoritarianism.

**Author Bio:** Dr. Sadia Saeed is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of San Francisco. She received her Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and held postdoctoral fellowships at the Maurer School of Law at Indiana University, Bloomington, and the Department of Sociology at Yale University.

*The AIPS 2017-18 Book Prize Award is under review. The awardee(s) will be announced on the AIPS website, Facebook page, email announcements and next year's annual report.*

## AIPS (CO)SPONSORED EVENTS

The following conferences, workshops and other academic events were partially or fully sponsored by the American Institute of Pakistan Studies.

### 1) *Folk Culture and Heritage Management Workshop*

Date: December 18-28, 2017

Location: Pakistan

Funded by: American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS) and the National Institute of Folk & Traditional Heritage

Organizer: Frank Korom (Boston University)

Participants: 46



AIPS (co)sponsored a ten-day workshop on *Folk Culture and Heritage Management* in collaboration with the National Institute of Folk & Traditional Heritage at Lok Virsa, Islamabad, Pakistan. This was a first of its kind event that ran every day from 10AM until 5PM between December 18, 2017 and December 28, 2017. AIPS Trustee Frank Korom developed the syllabus for the workshop. He also delivered a two-hour lecture each morning, which was followed by guest speakers,

discussions and group projects planning in the afternoons. A total of 46 students from a wide variety of ethnolinguistic and educational backgrounds participated in the workshop. Overall, the workshop was a great success and it received lots of local media coverage in both English and Urdu.

### 2) *Conference Panel at the 2018 Association of Asian Studies Conference – Democratic Consolidation in Pakistan: Challenges and Opportunities*

Date: March 25, 2018

Location: Washington D.C.

Funded by: American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS)

Organizer: Farhat Haq (Monmouth College)

Panelists: Michael Kugelman, Anwar Iqbal, Charles Kennedy, Mariam Mufti

Is Pakistan on its way to democratic consolidation where electoral democracy is viewed as the only game in town? The current political picture is confusing. Although it appears that Pakistan is on its way to democratic consolidation after passing the first important hurdle:

the transfer of power from one democratically elected government to another, with a robust media taking on the failures and mishaps of governments as well as opposition parties. There is also a suspicion that still persists that the military is playing a significant behind the scene role to keep the democratically elected governments weak by propagating the image of corrupt politicians. The recent decision by the Judiciary to disqualify Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on charges of corruption, the so-called Panama Papers scandal, has been a polarizing one. One sees many cheering that the decision is finally a step closer to accountability and good governance but others worry that it is yet another dismissal of democratically elected Prime Minister. The task given to the participants in this roundtable is to outline not just the challenges faced by democratic institutions in Pakistan but also changes on the horizon that are often ignored but bode well for deepening roots of democratic institutions. The speakers will concentrate on the Judiciary, Political Parties, Media and Pakistan's Foreign Policy and outline both the challenges faced and potentials present for democratic consolidation. Mariam Mufti will discuss the role of Political Parties in democratic consolidation by focusing on whether PTI (Pakistan Therik-e-Insaf) under the leadership of Imran Khan represents a departure from 'clan based' politics controlled by family members. Charles Kennedy will provide discuss the role of judiciary in democratic consolidation. The judiciary had in the past given a constitutional cover to military takeover but it also played a significant role in bringing the military government of General Musharraf. Anwar Iqbal will focus on the role of media in democratic consolidation. Does the highly partisan media help or hinder democratic consolidation? Michael Kugelman will discuss what if any role the U.S. can play in democratic consolidation in Pakistan.

### 3) **8<sup>th</sup> Annual Pakistan Conference: Movement, Migration, and Borders**

Date: April 6, 2018

Location: Center for South Asian Studies, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

Funded by: American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS), University of Michigan

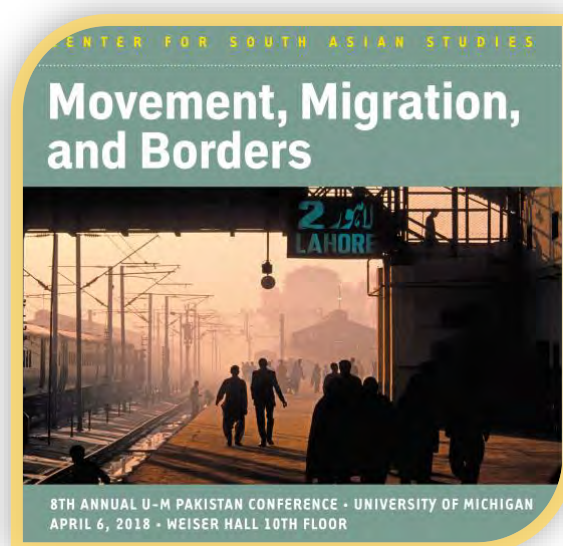
Awardee: Center for South Asian

Studies, University of Michigan

(Matthew Hull)

Participants: 70

The contemporary realities of migration and movement have implicated Pakistan within a global network of transaction and belonging, this due in part to the ever-growing mobility of Pakistanis. Both within and across the borders of Pakistan, the title of immigrant, citizen, and refugee has crafted new notions of identity and community. Further, the relationship between both the diaspora and Pakistan have shaped the conceptions of one another, and ultimately Pakistan. The narratives in circulation about



“Pakistan in the world” garner security concerns and fears about radicalization and terrorism. This year’s U-M Pakistan Conference challenges this dominant theme by highlighting new and exciting developments in the field of Pakistani migrations. This multidisciplinary conference brings together academics, activists, journalists, and artists from Pakistan, Europe, Bangladesh, and the United States in a discussion of the global and mobile realities of Pakistan and its people, and the histories and trajectories of Pakistani diasporas to Aboriginal Australia, the Arabian Gulf, Europe, and North America.

4) ***Special Lunch Session: The Disposable Pakistani Scholars at AAS-in Asia (Delhi, India): A RoundTable Discussion***

Date: October 12, 2018

Location: 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia (Madison, WI)

Funded by: American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS)

Organizer: Yasmin Saikia (Arizona State University)

On June 7, 2018, The Wire was the first to report on the ban on Pakistani scholars (irrespective of their nationality) from attending the AAS-in-Asia conference at Delhi. The exclusion of scholars from attending a conference may seem insignificant in comparison to the life and death situations many immigrants/refugees are facing worldwide, but it is a testament to an emerging pattern of hypernationalism penetrating into academia. It marks out select groups of academics from certain places and/or political affiliations as ‘disposable’. The restrictive and punitive practices stifle academic discussion and debate; constrain the exchange of ideas and knowledge production, while establishing the relationship between knowledge and power. In so doing, the excluded and marginalized scholars and their voices become reduced to what Giorgio Agamben and Judith Butler refer to as ‘bare life’, as disposable bodies.

The exclusion of the Pakistani scholars at AAS-in-Asia is the point of departure for generating an interactive round table conversation. Three interrelated questions will anchor the discussion. First, what is the responsibility of professional association with respect to such statist practices and prohibitions? We hope to examine the inadequacy of the AAS’ response and its attendant ethics. Second, how does the Indian government’s ban reproduce tropes regarding ‘Muslim’ bodies and feed into their dehumanization at this particular historical juncture? Finally, why this particular ban and AAS’s response is important to understand within the context of ascendant global nationalism(s) and neo-liberalization?

This round table is motivated by our concerns regarding the particular matrix under which nationalist politics and denial of voice to Pakistani scholars feed into the objectification of Muslims, the inadequacy of AAS’s response allowing the Indian government to make the Pakistani scholars disposable, and a re-examination of academic professional ethics. The round table will include several speakers from Pakistan, India, and Bangladesh and be moderated by Yasmin Saikia.

### 5) **Pakistan Lecture Series – Naila Mahmood**

Date: September 19-26, 2018

Location: North Carolina State University, Cornell University, Brown University

Funded by: American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS)

Organizer: Sandria B. Freitag (North Carolina State University)

Ms. Naila Mahmood, a highly regarded visual artist, writer and documentary photographer from Karachi, was selected to participate in the AIPS Pakistan Lectures Series. She presented at the Rabb Symposium on Urban Sustainability at North Carolina State University, Cornell University's weekly seminar series and Brown University's "Art History from the South 2018-19" series.

### 6) **Community College Workshop – *Religion and Culture in the Postcolonial City: Lahore 2019***

Date: May or June of 2019

Location: Pakistan

Funded by: American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS)

Organizer: Gwendolyn Kirk (Lahore University of Management Sciences)

Duration: 2 weeks

Participants: 8-12 US Community College faculty members (+2-3 group leaders)

Security Studies, Religious Studies, Urban Studies, Cultural Studies, and History all have various interests in and viewpoints on Pakistan. This workshop seeks to add nuance and context to these understandings by providing participants with firsthand experiences of various cultural sites and practices in Lahore, including its medieval walled city and its colonial architectural landmarks, as well as facilitating meetings with local scholars, artists, and others. Participants will, in encountering Lahore's urban geography, glimpse how religious diversity, political struggle, and cultural expression fold into each other in this ancient city of over ten million people.

## ADDITIONAL EVENTS IN PAKISTAN

### 1) Panel Presentation on *Social Science Research in the Contemporary World: Trends and Challenges*

**Date:** August 3, 2018

**Sponsored by:** Fatima Jinnah Women University (FJWU), American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS)

**Location:** Fatima Jinnah Women University

**Organizer:** Department of Sociology at FJWU

**Leaders:** Michael Hirsch (Huston-Tillotson University), Amelia Maciszewski (Sangeet Millennium), Rabia Gul (International Islamic University, Islamabad) and Mazhar Hussain Bhutta (Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi)

**Participants:** 50

Participants from different institutions around Pakistan came together at the *Social Science Research in the Contemporary World: Trends and Challenges* panel at Fatima Jinnah Women University to discuss the difficulties they may face in Social Science research and how to address them. AIPS-sponsored scholars, Dr. Michael Hirsch and Dr. Amelia Maciszewski, led discussions along with Dr. Rabia Gul and Dr. Mazhar Hussain Bhutta.

### 2) Round Table Discussion on *Emerging Trends in Social Sciences Research for Parliament*



**Date:** August 2, 2018

**Sponsored by:** Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS), American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS)

**Location:** Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS) in Islamabad

**Leaders:** Michael Hirsch (Huston-Tillotson University) and Tricia Jokerst (Huston-Tillotson University)

**Participants:** 36

Dr. Michael Hirsch and Dr. Tricia Jokerst presented different research challenges developing in the field of Social Sciences to researchers from the Pakistani National Parliament (Pakistan Senate Secretariat and National Assembly Secretariat). Dr. Hirsch addressed the various topics of public sociology, pseudo-science, corporate funding and big data, while Dr. Jokerst expanded on the practices of parliamentary research in the US, emphasizing the field of educational research. This event provided researchers at PIPS in Islamabad the opportunity to further their professional development in parliamentary research and strengthen their ties to other researchers in both Pakistan and the US.

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