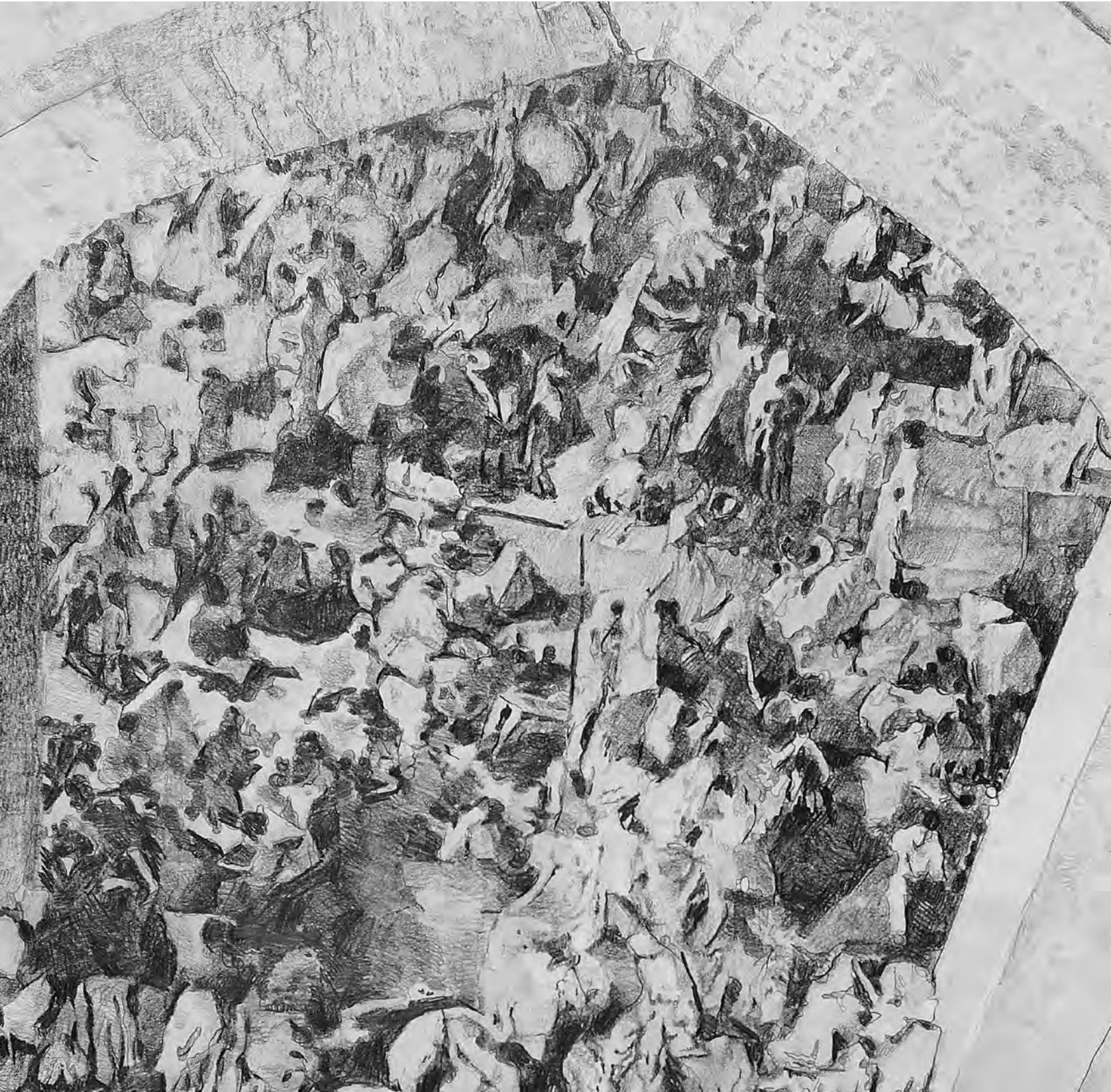


# AIPS



AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PAKISTAN STUDIES 2017 NEWSLETTER



# President's Report

Dear Friends and Colleagues,



**Kamran Asdar Ali**

Six years pass by quickly, it seems just yesterday that all of you provided me with the honor of serving AIPS as its President, which I have now done for almost two full terms. AIPS today has 37 Universities as institutional members and our individual membership stands at 176 (from approximately 65 in 2010-2011). In the past seven years 2010-2017, AIPS has awarded 77 Research Fellowships (50 were for research in Pakistan). Within the same time period, 50 domestic and 46 international (a total of 96) travel grants have been awarded and AIPS funded 51 workshops in the US and Pakistan. In addition, 52 scholars have been awarded summer research grants since this program's inception (2012). Since 2010, with the aid of the US Embassy and CAORC/ECA grants, AIPS has funded 225 US-based scholars with fellowships, summer research grants and travel grants.

In this day of social media and outreach, evidenced by website tracking data (and through the untiring efforts by our staff colleagues), our website ([www.pakistanstudies-aips.org](http://www.pakistanstudies-aips.org)) is highly

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### Contact information

[aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org](mailto:aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org) ■ [www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/](http://www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/)

utilized by scholars from Pakistan and the US. During 2016, the AIPS website recorded approximately 26,000 unique visitors with 31% users from Pakistan and 31% from the US. The remaining 38% of visitors came from other global locations, including India, the UK, and the UAE. In addition to announcing competitions, publications, and events in Pakistan and the US, AIPS utilizes social media outlets such as Facebook, to maintain contact with scholars and the general public.

This data clearly shows that AIPS is moving forward with energy and vision. For the moment we are financially secure and have the required funds to maintain our core mission of enhancing the study of Pakistan in US universities through academic workshops, fellowships, exchange programs and travel grants to conferences. Building on past practice we have continued to broaden opportunities for research and academic exchange for our members in a range of disciplines. For example, following up on the Dissertation Writing program initiated by my predecessor, Mark Kenoyer, since 2014, AIPS has trained 124 junior faculty in public sector universities in Pakistan through organizing ten workshops (each workshop is part of a series of two or three workshops based on a particular theme: Teaching Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Management, Conflict and Peace Building, Visual Analysis: Art, Architecture, and Media and Pakistan and Peace: Methods and Meaning).

Further, in addition to supporting workshops and conferences in Pakistan and in the US (LUMS/Clemson University, Boston University, University of Michigan in 2016-2017), in 2014, AIPS initiated a series of workshops on new intellectual areas of research on Pakistan in the coming decade. Two workshops have already been organized at the University of Michigan (2015) and Arizona State University (2016), a third will be organized in Pakistan in Fall of 2017. Similarly, the success of the summer research grant that is directed toward graduate students notwithstanding, AIPS has successfully held two workshops in conjunction with the South Asia Conference in Madison for junior scholars. These workshops have provided a venue for the new generation working on Pakistan to become familiar with each other's works and also get to know the senior scholars in the field. Apart from the intellectual merit of such events, these are the future of AIPS and will eventually be part of the leadership of tomorrow.

As we know, since 2014 AIPS has partnered with the University of California, Berkeley Urdu Program in restarting the teaching of Urdu in Lahore, Pakistan after a lapse of more than a decade. This program has expanded and now sponsors Urdu teachers from Pakistan to be trained in the pedagogical methods of teaching Urdu as a second language at US universities and at the SASLI program in Madison.

In opening up new areas of engagement and exchange, AIPS has created a pilot exchange project between US based community colleges and two year colleges in Punjab. The project is being conducted with close collaboration with the Punjab HEC. We envisage faculty members from the selected degree colleges

## The Study of Pakistan in the 21st Century: AIPS (Co)sponsored Conferences

### Junior Scholars Conference on Pakistan, Madison, 2016

*Farina Mir, University of Michigan*

In the last decade there has been a substantial increase in the number of students admitted into social science and humanities graduate programs in the United States. Where earlier generations of scholars working on Pakistan were primarily focused in the fields of economics and political science, we now have a new group of graduate students and recent PhDs in cultural anthropology, archeology, sociology, education, media studies, history, religious studies, literary studies and a range of other disciplines studying Pakistani culture and society. AIPS has been in the forefront of this wave of change and has given ample support to these scholars through its numerous programs, including: fellowships, summer research grants, publication write-up awards, and travel grants to attend conferences. Building on these initiatives and mindful of the fact that these young researchers are indeed the future of AIPS and the study of Pakistan in US academia, AIPS' Executive Committee decided to organize the second AIPS Junior Scholars Conference on Pakistan as a pre-conference to the 45th Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison on October 20, 2016. We encouraged those graduate students who were writing their dissertations and post-doctoral scholars who had completed their PhDs in the last three years to apply. AIPS received 10 proposals out of which 7 were selected, and were able to attend the conference. Each participant's travel (within the US) and accommodation (two nights) was provided by AIPS.

The Conference brought together a group of highly talented and intellectually bright scholars who presented excellent papers on Pakistan's politicians, security, water and governance, religion and the state, women and democracy, and colonization and resistance among other themes. These new and refreshing topics were in contrast to the representation of Pakistan linked to Islamist radicalism that in most



cases informs how the rest of the world views and imagines the country. Senior AIPS affiliated scholars were present throughout the day to serve as panel discussants and participated with the assembled audience of students and faculty in the general discus-

sion and exchange. One of the main aims for this conference was to create a network of young scholars who work on Pakistan in US universities. By all indications AIPS succeeded in its mission and plans to organize future conferences. ■

### PARTICIPANTS AND PRESENTATION TITLES:

**Abida Bano**, PhD Candidate, Western Michigan University  
"Women's Representation in Local Democracy: Formal and Informal Institutions in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa"

**Saad Gulzar**, PhD Candidate, New York University  
"Politicians: Experimental Evidence on Candidacy from KP, Pakistan"

**Maira Hayat**, PhD Candidate, University of Chicago  
"Big Companies, Small Bureaucrats: Water and Governance in Pakistan"

**Sahar Khan**, PhD Candidate, University of California, Irvine  
"Ontological Security: Explaining Continued State-sponsorship of Militancy in Pakistan"

**Faiza Moatasim**, Visiting Assistant Professor, Hamilton College  
"Negotiating Nonconformity: The Politics of Encroachment in the Planned Modern City of Islamabad"

**Shayan Rajani**, PhD Candidate, Tufts University  
"Obstructing Geography: Resisting British Interventionism in Early Nineteenth Century Sindh"

**Mashal Saif**, Assistant Professor, Clemson University  
"Sovereignty between God and the State: Insulting Muhammad in Contemporary Pakistan"

*Continued on p.25*

## University of Michigan's Pakistan Conference 2016: Infrastructure and its Discontents in Pakistan



The 6th Annual Pakistan Conference, organized by the Organization of Pakistani Students and the Center for South Asian Studies, University of Michigan, was held on April 8, 2016. The panelists, academics, and artists from Pakistan and the United States focused on the theme of infrastructure and development. From the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor to the jungle of flyovers and underpasses in Lahore, the development of infrastructure in Pakistan has rapidly transformed the country's landscape. This process has been accompanied by both critique and approval within Pakistani society. Through a conversation between artists and academics, conference participants engaged infrastructural development not as predetermined or inevitable, but as a process entangled with social and political implications. By exploring the particularities of infrastructural production and experience in Pakistan, the conference participants including both panelists and audience members grappled with the complex and multi-faceted aspects of infrastructure in Pakistan today.

The conference began with an introductory talk titled, "Rethinking Infrastructure & Development in the 21st Century in Industrializing Pakistan," by Nausheen Anwar from the Institute of Business Administration in

Karachi, Pakistan. Her talk analyzed the relationship between infrastructure and industrial development in the 21st century through the prism of Pakistan's post-independence history, industrialization, and the present discourse of an 'infrastructure crisis' in the context of a globalizing Pakistan.

This talk was followed by a panel on "Infrastructure, Identity, and Place: The Politics of Mega Development Projects in Pakistan" with presentations by Majed Akhter (Department of Geography, Indiana University) and Hafeez Jamali (School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Habib University, Karachi). Akhter's paper examined the series of development projects collectively labeled the China-Pak-Economic Corridor. He drew on debates in political geography, Marxist political economy, world systems theory, and Asian studies to situate the controversy within the longer history of contradictory infrastructural intervention in the Indus region. His talk was followed by Jamali's presentation, which explored the struggles over land and practices of place emerging from ethnic Baloch fishermen's entanglements with the Pakistani government's plans and practices for developing a large commercial seaport in the coastal town of Gwadar. Collectively, they presented a nuanced and well-rounded picture of the stakes and effects of infrastructural projects in Pakistan.

The second panel at the conference titled, "Detritus and Development: Seeing Infrastructure in Ruined Landscapes," consisted of two artists, Shahana Rajani and Zahra Malkani, members of the Tentative Collective based in Pakistan. Aside from their art practice, they are teachers at the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture and co-founders of the Karachi Art Anti-University. Using artistic and interdisciplinary research methods, they focus on the relationship of infrastructure to the landscape and ecology of cities. Reframing the controlled and constructed image of infrastructure as modern and technological progress, they highlighted the ruination of landscapes and degraded ecologies. They focused on the Ravi river in Lahore and its system of dysfunctional water sanitation plants and the mega-development project of Bahria Town, where a vast network of private infrastructure is displacing indigenous communities. By documenting the impact of infrastructural ruination at these two sites, the two artists powerfully portrayed the ruins created across a rapidly transforming landscape alongside 'development.'

David Gilmartin, Professor of History at North Carolina State University, provided comments as discussant for all three panels. He put the presentations in conversation with one another, drawing them together within a longer history of state power, and regimes of property and law in South Asia.

The conference ended with a roundtable discussion on engaged scholarship in which scholars were involved in a beneficial reciprocal partnership with the community they study. This session included short presentations by graduate students working in various parts of the globe including India, South Africa and the United States. The roundtable was motivated by the discontent around development, which often manifests in contentious political action by communities, individuals, and social formations that are directly impacted by development projects and scholarship concerning them. ■ —Zehra Hashmi

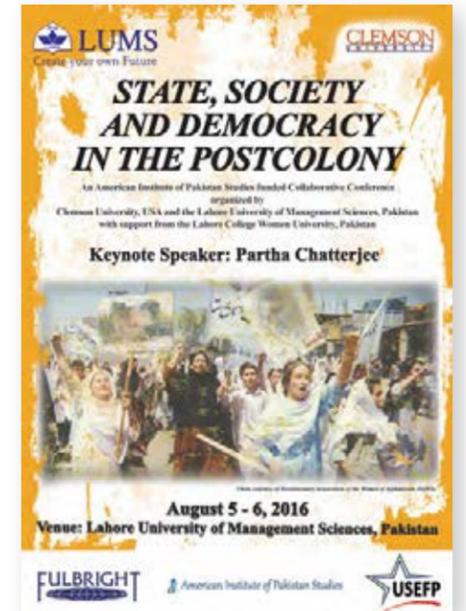
## Clemson University AIPS-sponsored collaborative conference: State, Society and Democracy in the Postcolony

Clemson University, in collaboration with the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) and with support from the Lahore College of Women University (LCWU) and AIPS organized a conference titled, "State, Society and Democracy in the Postcolony," in August 2016. Conference participants who arrived in Lahore early were welcomed at an informal dinner on 4th August at Haveli Restaurant—an establishment in Old Lahore with a stunning view of the Badshahi Mosque and Minar-e-Pakistan. The conference formally began on the morning of 5th August and continued until the evening of 6th August. Both days were packed with exciting presentations.

This conference focused on the impact of neoliberalism on state, society and democracy in the postcolonial world. Most papers centered on Pakistan but several also examined other parts of the Global South, particularly other regions in the Indian subcontinent. We had more than a hundred attendees in addition to the almost 40 presenters who shared their rich and innovative research. The presenters ranged from full professors in the United States to graduate students from all over the world. We were pleased to also have a high number of local Pakistan-based scholars present their work.

One of the distinguishing features of the conference was the novelty of approaches adopted to the examination of the state and society in Pakistan. For example, one excellent paper interwove a year of fieldwork in a small Pakistani village and affect theory to assert that the affective is a technology of rule which undergirds state-society relations. Another outstanding paper examined legal identity construction among hijras to show that influential state and social actors, employing the rhetoric of benevolence, create new identity categories that reflect dominant social constructions of minorities. Yet another paper focused on the Pakistani Ahmadi community to explore and theorize the insecurities and suspicion birthed by discourses of Ahmadi deception. The paper examined anxieties over ensuring that Ahmadis are clearly separated from state-endorsed Muslims and used these examinations to comment on the modern state's regulation of religion and religious difference in Pakistan. While such approaches to politics may not be so novel for other parts of the Global South, they certainly represent a new trend in scholarship on Pakistan.

A defining feature of the conference was its focus on the state and society in



South Asia through Foucauldian lenses. Examinations of everyday citizens' engagements, imaginations and negotiations with state in South Asian are an emerging trend to which the conference contributed. Pakistan is often peripheral to other such examinations of the South Asian state. In contrast to this dominant trend, our conference situated Pakistan at the heart of its study while also placing it in conversation with its South Asian neighbors, particularly India.

The conference was very well received and was covered in the media.

- <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1157252/rethinking-state-redefine-province-centre-ties-effective-reforms/>
- <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1156663/rights-vs-duties-poor-rarely-get-rights-neoliberal-regimes/>
- <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1156659/security-sectarianism-violence-public-outrage-aps-attack-facilitated-violent-response/>

The conference organizers are very grateful for the AIPS support that made this conference possible! ■ — Mashal Saif



## Trending Pakistan: A History Workshop Arizona State University in collaboration with the AIPS April 28/29, 2016



**T**rending Pakistan: A History Workshop” was organized and sponsored by the AIPS on April 28 and 29, 2016 at Arizona State University. The three-part workshop series grew out of the AIPS President Kamran Ali Asdar’s initiative to encourage and infuse new thinking and intellectual questions for the study of Pakistan. The workshop was co-sponsored by ASU’s Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict, Hardt-Nickachos Initiative in Peace Studies.

**History is everywhere in Pakistan—it is being actively created, consumed and recycled.**

The main aim of the workshop was to critically engage and explore the diversities of Pakistan’s history by bringing together a variety of junior and promising young

scholars from Pakistan, India, and the United States. The workshop explored burgeoning new trends and approaches for rethinking the role of history in understanding Pakistan. The workshop focused on various issues of politics, culture and society for linking the past with the present. The twelve papers presented at the conference covered local, national and diasporic histories of Pakistan and Pakistani communities. The vibrancy and possibility of multiple histories emerging and circulating in different sites was a common theme. It became clear from the two-day discussion that history is not an ignored or dead topic in Pakistan, nor is it controlled and managed by one central body. Rather, history is everywhere in Pakistan—it is being actively created, consumed and recycled for use in different sites, communities, and contexts. The effort to engage in this multi-faceted history was the main thrust of the conference. ■

## Eighth Karachi Literature Festival by Aqsa Ijaz, AIPS Junior Faculty Mentoring Fellow, 2015-16.

**B**eing an AIPS Junior Scholar Mentor Fellow (2015-2016) provided me with great opportunities to meet a wide-range of academics in the United States. This opportunity also led to meetings with U.S. academics at events in Pakistan, like the Karachi Literature Festival (KLF).

In February 2017, KLF invited me to be part of a panel—along with Christina Oesterheld, Bushra Malik, Fehmida Riaz, and Amtul Manan Tahi—titled “Feminine Consciousness in Urdu Fiction.” At KLF, I met my former AIPS mentor (Matthew Cook), who was on three KLF panels. I also met Anita Weiss, the University of Oregon’s AIPS trustee. Professor Weiss was on multiple KLF panels,

one of which was devoted to her book *Interpreting Islam, Modernity and Women’s Rights*. In addition to Matthew Cook and Anita Weiss, I also met Roger Long (Eastern Michigan State University) at KLF. Like Cook and Weiss, Long was on multiple KLF panels. One was “Remembering Liaquat Ali Khan” and another was “The Birth of Two Nations.”

Being able to extend academic conversations in Pakistan with people that I met in the United States was a great part of being at KLF. It also highlights how the AIPS Junior Scholar Mentor Fellow program not only fosters academic exchanges between Pakistanis and American in the United States but also Pakistan. ■



Matthew Cook and Aqsa Ijaz

## AIPS Pilots a Community College Exchange Program with Pakistani college principals in the US.

**T**he American Institute of Pakistan Studies has initiated a pilot community college training program in collaboration with the Punjab Higher Education Commission. The project fundamentally is an exchange program for the teachers and administrators at selected degree colleges in Punjab. It focuses on the professional development of faculty members from these colleges who will spend three weeks each at selected US community colleges. The program is designed to (a) expose visiting faculty to research opportunities and teaching pedagogies through a program of mentorship; (b) attend discipline-specific classes to learn advanced pedagogical techniques; (c) participate in workshops, seminars/lectures in addition to making use of the library and other academic resources on campus; (d) take advantage of site visits, networking opportunities, and intercultural experiences on campus; and (e) work on field-specific curricular topics (the visiting Pakistani faculty and the mentor/partner faculty at the community colleges) for associate degree level students. They will also co-develop a topical course to be offered at the Degree College by the returning faculty. In the second phase of this project, faculty from the US community colleges who have served as mentors will travel to Lahore to offer training courses for a group of degree college faculty and administrators.

Recently, under this program AIPS partnered with the University of Texas at Austin’s South Asia Institute to host three principals of degree colleges in Pakistan to study the community college system in the US at the Austin Community College (ACC) this spring. Given below is a short report on the activities to-date.

For three weeks during March and April 2017, Dr. Ijaz Butt, Principal, Government College Township, Lahore, Mr. Baqir Jaffary, Principal, Government College Civil Lines in Multan and Ms. Rubina Sarwar Principal, Government College for Women in Gujranwala visited with administrators at ACC to learn how community colleges function in



Rubina Sarwar and William Hayden, ACC

the US. ACC’s Office of International Programs took the principals to meet administrators and faculty one-on-one, and attend governance meetings where administrative issues were discussed and decisions taken.

The principals also toured several ACC campuses in the Greater Austin area, and were impressed with student learning facilities like the ACCelerator Lab and Bioscience Incubator. The ACCelerator is a state-of-the-art technological teaching facility that provides 600+ computer stations and an extensive network of faculty, counselors, advisors, tutors, librarians and other staff for individualized and group learning. The lab facilitates the teaching of mathematics as a foundation subject at ACC, and also encourages DIY learning albeit with teachers and instructors always available to help. The Bioscience Incubator is a wet lab facility that bridges the gap in the “research to product” cycle, providing an innovative work environment for life science entrepreneurs.

“It would be revolutionary if we follow this model in our country,” said Dr. Ijaz Butt,

talking to SAI at the conclusion of his visit. According to Dr. Butt, the only way to make community college in Pakistan “meaningful and successful” is to give the community in the vicinity of his college more involvement in college affairs.

Mr. Jaffary agreed, adding: “The link between academia and industry must be established.”

Ms. Sarwar also visited the job fair taking place at ACC’s Highland Campus during her stay and was impressed with what she saw. “It was very organized,” she said. “Companies were conducting on-the-spot job interviews.”

The principals were all too aware of the lack of infrastructure and resources in Pakistan where both computers and teachers are scarce. Ms. Sarwar said some of what she saw could be implemented in Pakistan, “but not at this scale.”

The principals were invited to interact with students of Sociology, Government and Psychology classes to talk about Pakistan’s government and its conflict with India over Kashmir, and the lives of women in Pakistan. “You are pampered,” Ms. Sarwar said to a class of sociology students she interacted with during the last few days of her visit.

All three visitors expressed their appreciation for William Hayden, Director International Programs at ACC, who planned their study tour and personally drove them around for meetings and visits.

For his part, Mr. Hayden said the principals’ visits were also “a great learning opportunity for ACC to understand ... the many challenges they face as they embark on the pilot project to adopt US community college practices in their own institutions.”

The three principals also spent time exploring the city on foot and imbibing UT’s intellectual spirit. Mr. Jaffary summed up his impressions in the following words: “Austin is a city of education. There are students studying everywhere—in labs and classrooms, on the street, sitting under trees in the shade.” ■ —Sahar Ali, Research Associate, South Asia Institute, U Texas



## AIPS Workshop Series Visual Analysis: Art, Architecture, and Media

This workshop series was conducted in three one-week sessions between 2015 and 2017. Each workshop focused on specific facets of visual analysis, and was attended by faculty from Lahore, Karachi, Rawalpindi and other places, who are affiliated with institutions of higher education and teach art history, visual studies, architectural history, and cinema studies. As there are hardly any departments in Pakistan focusing on these areas, the efforts of these faculty members are based on individual initiative and commitment, rather than being conducted systematically with good institutional support. The goal of conducting these workshops was not only to introduce the attendees to key issues in the field and current scholarship around them, but also for them to exchange ideas amongst themselves and to see each other as resources and allies facing similar challenges.

I organized the workshop series and led the first workshop. Its focus was on methods for the analysis of modern art. The topics covered included formal analysis, and situating modern art with reference to nationalism, institutions, and developments in transnational modernism. Zahid Chaudhary, a professor at Princeton University and the author of a book on colonial era photography, guest-led a session on the analysis of photography. Hammad Nasar, then director of research at Asia Art Archives, guest-led another session on research practices in archives. Case studies were drawn

from regions in the Global South, so that the attendees might find parallels with Pakistan. For example, one of the readings discussed formal and ephemeral museums in Morocco, enabling the attendees to recognize institutions in Lahore. A question like “how many museums are there in Lahore” now no longer had a simple or formulaic answer because Lahore has many surprising and diverse permanent and temporary sites for the collection and display of art and material culture.

William Glover (Professor, University of Michigan), whose expertise is architectural history and urbanism led the second workshop. Given the speed with which Pakistan is urbanizing, this is a topic of tremendous importance. The workshop took a field trip to the city of Chiniot famous for its architectural crafts and mansions, and also created a joint project for the workshop, by writing reflections on the space and location of their own homes, based on the concepts and histories they had engaged with during the week.

I also conducted the final workshop, which was focused on crafts, media, and popular cinema. The readings and case studies included a look at Lok Virsa, an institution which was founded during the 1970s to preserve and promote the folk culture of Pakistan. The attendees discussed the stability of the idea of the “folk” with reference to an uneven but steadily modernizing society. A key focus of this week was on the analysis of commercial cinema. Questions such as “how does the song-and-dance sequence upend the narrative form of realist cinema?” were addressed through assigned readings and through collective scene analysis in class.

The workshop series was undoubtedly beneficial for the attendees. And as I am presently engaged in writing on the art and cinema of Pakistan, the workshops provided me with considerable insight into the contemporary state of scholarship and discussion on these topics in Pakistan. ■ — *Iftikhar Dadi*



Sangat performers from UT at Austin and NAPA, Karachi at PNCA, Islamabad

## Islamabad Center News

The Islamabad Center had an event-filled year coordinating multiple programs, workshops and conferences.

In association with COMSATS, we organized a fusion music concert at the Pakistan National Council of Arts, Islamabad on January 8, 2017. Music school faculty and students from University of Texas in partnership with National Academy for Performing Arts (NAPA) performed SANGAT at Islamabad. Over 350 people, including the US Public Affairs Officer and Cultural Affairs officer and other delegates and officials from governmental ministries, universities and the Prime Minister Secretariat attended the event. Before Islamabad, the SANGAT team also performed in Karachi, which attracted a large gathering of over 250 attendees.

1) The AIPS Islamabad center facilitated a Hollings Center pre-departure orientation of the Afghanistan–Pakistan dialogue group on November 22, 2016 at Ramada Hotel, Islamabad. Ms. Ashley Mutlu, Hollings Center, coordinated the pre-departure orientation of participants in Pakistan including academics, trade leaders and civil society organization representatives. The meeting focused on exploring possible avenues for dialogue and collaborations with colleagues and related organizations in Afghanistan.



2) AIPS, in association with LUMS, hosted a faculty development workshop on “Art & Architecture” at LUMS Rausing Executive Center, Lahore from Jan 2-6, 2017. Dr. Iftikhar Dadi (Professor of Art History at Cornell University) conducted the five-day extensive workshop and interacted with Pakistani junior faculty members from various universities and institutes across Pakistan. The workshop was the third and final in the series, under the US Embassy-funded AIPS initiative for thematic research workshops, for academic mentoring of Pakistani students and faculty by US scholars.



3) The AIPS Islamabad center hosted a series of talks by visiting Trustee, Dr. Robert Nichols, (Professor of History, Stockton University, New Jersey) at Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, COMSATS, Islamabad and Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad during his visit, February 4 - 20, 2017. Dr. Nichols gave talks related to his book, “Frontier Crime Regulations: History in Documents,” at Quaid-i-Azam and Allama Iqbal Open University which was well attended by students and faculty at both the universities. He gave a separate talk titled, “History of Environment” at COMSATS, Islamabad on February 23, which was hosted by the Center for Research in Climate Change at COMSATS, Islamabad. Faculty

and students along with officials from Ministry of Climate Change attended the talk and interacted with the scholar on various historical aspects of Climate Change issues.



4) The AIPS Islamabad center hosted visiting faculty members from University of North Carolina, Wilmington (UNCW) under the US Embassy in Pakistan funded faculty exchange partnership program. For this program, UNCW partners with International Islamic University, Islamabad (IIUI). Dr. Caroline Clements is the Project Director, and she, along with other faculty members visited AIPS center, Islamabad on February 16 and held courtesy meetings with the AIPS Pakistan Director, Mr. Nadeem Akbar, along with the visiting AIPS Trustee, Dr. Robert Nichols. AIPS is facilitating visa processing and other logistics for the ongoing faculty exchange program between UNCW and IIUI. ■



## BULPIP-AIPS Urdu Language Program



In Fall 2016, the BULPIP—AIPS Urdu Language Program hosted its third batch of students in Lahore. A cohort of eight, these students came from a variety of departments and programs (History, Comparative Literature, Visual Studies, Asian Studies, Conflict Resolution, and Education Policy Studies) and institutions (Indiana University, City University of New York, Georgetown, UT-Austin, UC Berkeley, UC Irvine, Harvard, and UCLA). The students spent approximately fifteen weeks on the campus of the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) undergoing intensive Urdu language training under the tutelage of the program's highly regarded Urdu teachers—Faiza Saleem (who has taught in the program since its inception in the Fall of 2014) and Umar Anjum (who has been with the

program since the Fall of 2015). Gwen Kirk returned as the Program Manager and also lecturer in Urdu linguistics and Urdu poetry (Kirk received her doctorate in Anthropology from the University of Texas-Austin in October 2016). Although students and program personnel alike had to take basic security precautions, none missed any opportunity to explore Lahore, meet residents of the city, and pursue their own research. By all accounts, the program highlights were the weeklong road trip to Rohtas fort, Islamabad, Taxila, the Katas Raj Temple, the Khewra Salt Mines, Golra Sharif, and Murree in November and the weekly Friday speaker series (which hosted, philosopher and singer Dr. Muhammad Jawaad, artist Salima Hashmi, calligrapher Abdul Basit, traditional Punjabi wrestlers, among others). Reflecting back on their experience, individual students noted: “BULPIP was a transformative educational experience”; “compared to other Urdu language programs BULPIP was extremely well organized and effective”; “my Urdu has gone from average to really good; I really feel well equipped to undertake primary research work now”; the Urdu teachers were “the best language teachers I have ever had (and I have over twelve years of language training under my belt)”; “LUMS was a really safe and welcoming space”; “Lahore is an amazing city that I can now imagine visiting and re-visiting over the years to come”; and, “the BULPIP program is a must-attend for anyone interested in Urdu, Pakistan, the Muslim experience in South Asia.” For more information about the program, please contact Ms. Behnaz Raufi (behnazraufi@berkeley.edu) or visit: <http://southasia.berkeley.edu/BULPIP> ■ —*Munis Faruqi, UC-Berkeley*

## BULPIP-AIPS Urdu Teacher Training Program

Now in its second year, the BULPIP-AIPS Urdu Teacher Training Program hosted three Pakistan-based Urdu lecturers—Sidra Afzal (Government College for Women, Rawalpindi), Ahmed Atta (Government Zamindar College, Gujrat), and Inamullah Nadeem (Habib University, Karachi). They spent five weeks attending the Summer 2016 SASLI Urdu program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. As well as sitting in on Beginning and Intermediate Urdu classes, the lecturers also had many other opportunities to learn the latest techniques of Urdu training to non-native learners. Upon completion of the SASLI part of their program, the participants flew to the Austin, Texas, where they went through a three-day workshop under the guidance of Dr. Akbar Hyder (UT-Austin), Ms. Shahnaz Hassan (UT-Austin) and Dr. Jameel Ahmed (University of Washington-Seattle). All the participants remarked about the usefulness of the summer program for their future Urdu teaching. For more information about the program, please contact Ms. Behnaz Raufi (behnazraufi@berkeley.edu). ■ —*Munis Faruqi, UC-Berkeley*



## Pakistan Archaeology and Cultural Heritage News



This past year has seen some very important archaeology conferences and excavation programs in Pakistan that demonstrate the growing importance of Cultural Heritage and Archaeological studies throughout the country. AIPS has a long history of supporting Cultural Heritage studies, archaeology conferences, and conference travel for scholars to present their work in Pakistan and as well as in the USA (see website for list). The conferences being held in Pakistan were organized by Pakistani scholars who in the past have been involved in AIPS supported conferences and travel. The support for these conferences has been through local Pakistani Institutions, including international travel for US and other foreign scholars to participate in the conferences. The AIPS office in Islamabad has been of great assistance in helping with the logistics of the travel and post-conference visits of some of the US participants.

2nd Harappa International Conference 2016: The Indus Civilization in Regional Context, Dec. 18-20, 2016 was organized by Dr. Shahid Rajput, COMSATS, Islamabad. The conference was held at COMSATS Sahiwal, Punjab with a session at the Harappa Museum. The main goal of this three-day international conference was to provide a forum for the presentation and discussion of recent and innovative archaeological research on the regional context of the Indus Civilization. Specific focus was on the interaction between the Indus and adjacent regions prior to, during and after the main urban phase of the Indus Tradition commonly referred to as the Harappa Phase, dating to between 2600-1900 BCE. The conference brought together diverse scholars from Pakistan and other regions of the world that have expertise on archaeology of Pakistan as well as adjacent regions, including Afghanistan, India, Oman, Iran, and various countries of Central Asia and western China. The conference was organized in collaboration with the Department of Archaeology, Government of the Punjab and the Curator Harappa Museum Harappa.

The second major conference on archaeology was held at the site museum in Mohenjo-Daro, Sindh on Feb 9-11, 2017 and was supported by the National Fund for Mohenjo-Daro and the Ministry of Culture, Government of Sindh. This conference was organized by Dr. Kaleemullah Lashari and his many colleagues, including Dr. Asma Ibrahim, of the State Bank of Pakistan, Museum, Karachi. It was attended by a large number of Pakistani and foreign scholars, as well as students from universities located throughout Pakistan. One of the major goals of the conference was to raise local and international awareness of the site and the Indus Civilization as a whole. The organizers also launched an important new website with software for the undeciphered Indus Script ([www.mohenjodaroonline.net](http://www.mohenjodaroonline.net)). In addition to academic panels focused on the archaeology of the Indus and Mohenjodaro, the participants were invited to an evening of music that spanned the entire region of Pakistan where the Indus and its tributaries flow. It was a spectacular event with performers from all the major provinces of Pakistan. The participants were assured of the ongoing support for archaeology and the preservation of the site of Mohenjodaro by officials from the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities, as well as the Department of Archaeology and Museums, Government of Sindh.

Both of these important conferences provided encouragement for continuing collaboration between Pakistan and US scholars in the study and conservation of cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible. AIPS should be congratulated for its role in helping these scholars interact over the past many years and its efforts in establishing a firm foundation for future collaborations. ■ —*J. Mark Kenoyer*



### Studying and Researching Together: Interreligious Dialogue at Loyola Hall, Lahore

Stepping inside Loyola Hall, the Jesuit Center for Interreligious Dialogue at Lahore, feels like entering an oasis. Outside, car workshops, vegetable vendors, and rickshaws create a constant din. Inside, a huge garden with beds of roses and a bird aviary greet the visitor and allow for a deep breath of fresh air. Founded in 1962 as an intellectual meeting point for members of all religious communities, the Jesuit Center recently reopened its doors to the public. The compound on 28 Waris Road features an excellent research library with around 8,000 volumes (and growing) on South Asian history, Islamic Studies, Religious Studies, and Christian theology. In addition, interested readers will not only find copies of the Quran and various Hadith collections, but also commentary literature on both as well as Christian scriptures. This is complemented by a collection of academic journals that is constantly updated, a library with Urdu poetry and prose, and sections on psychology, science, and IT related topics.

The person behind this initiative is Father Juan Carlos Pallardel SJ, a Peruvian Jesuit with an academic training in Islamic Studies, knowledge of Arabic, Persian and Urdu, and several years of study and work experience in the Middle East and Africa. Father Juan also regularly hosts academic events such as lectures, workshops, and conferences at Loyola Hall. His objective is to bring scholars from different backgrounds together, offer them a space for the free and unhindered exchange of ideas, and make resources available that facilitate academic studies and research. However, Loyola Hall not only wants to create an atmosphere of scholarly learning, but also a space for personal exchange. Visitors are encouraged to continue conversations begun in the library over a cup of tea in the garden, amidst the smell of roses and chirping birds. ■ —*Maria Magdalena Fuchs*

# Member News

## Dean Accardi

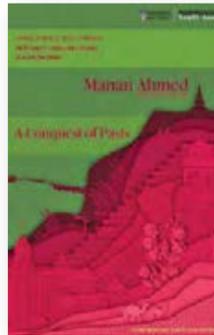
Visiting Assistant Professor,  
Connecticut College

Dean Accardi was awarded an AIPS Travel Grant to co-present a paper with Karen Pechilis, “Engendering Bhakti Networks in Kashmir and Tamil Nadu,” at the 45th Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison. This presentation served to build a foundation for ongoing collaborative research between Accardi and Pechilis investigating how somewhat marginalized religious figures who are nonetheless pertinent to differing sectarian, regional, and national identities may share parallel processes of gendering and reappropriation to serve sociopolitical ends. Their presentation raised these issues of religion and politics in ways that addressed concerns of Pakistan Studies and demonstrated how certain historical dynamics may serve parallel ends even across contentious national boundaries, promoting continued collaboration and investment in Pakistan Studies among scholars who may situate themselves as peripheral to the field. This presentation constitutes part of a now-continuing collaborative comparative project between Accardi and Pechilis and contributes to his second book project on the appropriation and gendering of early modern figures for contemporary politics in Pakistan and Kashmir.

## Manan Ahmed

Assistant Professor of History,  
Columbia University

On March 3, 2017, Manan Ahmed, Assistant Professor, Columbia University gave a seminar on “A Conquest of Pasts” at the Watson Institute of International & Public Affairs at Brown University. His work is interested in the relationship between text, space and narrative. His areas of specialization include intellectual history of Islam in South and Southeast Asia; frontier-spaces and the city in medieval South Asia; colonial and post-colonial North



India and Pakistan. In addition, he is involved in Digital Humanities projects, and is the co-founder of the Group for Experimental Methods in the Humanities in Columbia.

## William Belcher

Assistant Professor of Historic Archaeology,  
University of Hawai'i—West O'ahu

William Belcher received a domestic travel award to present his paper, “Subsistence Practices in the Indus Tradition: A Fishy Perspective,” at the 45th Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison, Wisconsin. This award allowed him to continue his research related to understanding the fisheries of ancient Pakistan, particularly the analysis of fish remains from the archaeological site of Harappa, District Sahiwal, Punjab Province.

## Abdul Haque Chang

Postdoctoral Fellow,  
University of Texas at Austin

Chang's work addresses how the southern region of Sindh, Pakistan, can be studied through anthropological and social science perspectives to understand how the region is connected with different geographies of the Indian Ocean past and present. Using examples of environmental studies and political ecology, to show how the ecological degradation in Sindh cannot be reduced to apolitical climate change debates. He demonstrates, through the examples of market economy, environmental martyrdom, and a growing need for housing in Karachi, a complex relationship with environmental degradation in which capitalism creates a double bind for the poor population of Sindh to sustain the economic growth of the city. These poor people are deprived of their

land rights, and this land is taken over by international developers. Their political and social representation is denied by corrupt politicians, who are at work within the greater political economy of capitalism. In 2016 Abdul Haque Chang presented a paper based on his research at the Annual Anthropology Conference in Minneapolis.

Currently, Chang's ethnographic fieldwork involves a comparative study of Sufism at the Pandanaran shrine located in central Java, Indonesia, and the shrine of Shah Abdul Latif Bhattai at Bhitshah, Sindh. Chang will be affiliated in Indonesia with Sunan Kalijaga State Islamic University, Yogyakarta during the fieldwork; the university is highly supportive of this research and Chang's efforts.

## Nabeeha Chaudhary

PhD Student, University of Texas at Austin

After a break from work begun during her M.A. at the University of Washington, Nabeeha Chaudhary geared up to dive back into her research on Pakistani television serials. An AIPS grant enabled her to present her research at the 45th Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison, Wisconsin and allowed her to get valuable feedback that guided her back on her journey to explore the realms of entertainment television. Chaudhary's larger research project pertains to shifting representations and changing identities of women in Pakistani television serials. Multiple socio-political-economic aspects are to be considered to begin to understand the changes that have been taking place; some themes she explores include: restrictions on fluidity between public and private spaces, impact of global media and politics on local representations and sense of identity, censorship and state-media relations, and the effects of a rapid rise in consumerism.

Moving forward, she intends to begin preliminary research on edutainment efforts linked to television serials, conducted in partnership with international

and local organizations. Initial questions regard how these collaborations are initiated, how impactful they are, how their impact has (or has not) been measured, and what differences—in methodology, in outcome, in stakes—arise when the partner institution for mainstream (commercial) entertainment media is local as opposed to international.

## Maria-Magdalena Fuchs

PhD Candidate, Princeton University

On March 25, 2017 Maria-Magdalena Fuchs participated in a workshop on Muslim-Christian dialogue. On April 6-8, she presented a paper at a conference on religious minorities in Pakistan, organized by Professor Anushay Malik at the Lahore University of Management Sciences. While in Lahore, she will also co-organize an event on interreligious dialogue with Father Juan Carlos Pallardel, SJ at the Jesuit Dialogue Center Loyola Hall, and Arafat Mazhar from Engage Pakistan (dates TBD). She will also be doing archival research at Gujranwala ([www.dawn.com/news/1267187](http://www.dawn.com/news/1267187)) where the owner, Ziy-uddin Khokar, has an outstanding collection of Urdu journals and newspapers and would be delighted to have more visitors.

**Miriam Golden**, Professor of Political Science, UCLA, **Saad Gulzar**, PhD Candidate, NYU, and **Luke Sonnet**, PhD Student, UCLA, have received funding from the International Growth Centre-Pakistan and the Empirical Studies of Conflict Project based at Princeton University for a pilot study aimed at improving the responsiveness by provincial legislators to voters. Working in KP, the team is testing whether sending voters voice messages recorded by their MPA—and potentially allowing voters to respond using their keypad to specific questions about spending and legislative priorities—improves how rural voters evaluate their representative and the workings of democracy more generally.

## Elizabeth Lhost

PhD Candidate, University of Chicago

Elizabeth Lhost received an AIPS travel grant to attend the three-day conference, “Ocean of Law, II,” at Leiden University in the Netherlands where she presented and workshopped a portion of her dissertation research on the circulation of Urdu-language fatwa-literature across the South Asian subcontinent and Indian Ocean littoral. During this conference, she exchanged ideas and participated in conversations with a dynamic group of scholars working on aspects of Islamic law and history throughout South and Southeast Asia. This research is part of her dissertation project on the paperwork of Islamic legal practice in nineteenth-century South Asia, which she will complete and defend at the University of Chicago this Spring. Lhost has also been awarded a two-year A.W. Mellon postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for the thematic program on “Translation, Adaptation, and Transplantation.” As a postdoctoral fellow, she will teach courses in the undergraduate Legal Studies Program and continue her research and writing on the culture and practice of Islamic law in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

## Robert Nichols

Professor of History, Stockton University

Robert Nichols spent the month of February 2017 in Pakistan. He visited the AIPS Center in Islamabad and other colleagues, collected research material, and delivered several lectures. With AIPS Pakistan Director, Nadeem Akbar, he visited the Iqbal Institute in Islamabad and met with the Chair of the Punjab HEC in Lahore. He also met with the first two participants of the AIPS PHEC community college exchange initiative, Muhammad Ijaz Butt, Government College Township and Syed Muhammad Baqir Jaffary, Government College Civil Lines.

He arrived as the issue of the merger of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas on the Afghan border into the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province was generating debate in political circles and the media.



Having published an edited volume, “The Frontier Crimes Regulation: A History in Documents” (OUP, 2013), he was invited to give lectures on this subject at the University of Sargodha, for the Council of Social Sciences in Islamabad, for the History Department at Quaid-i-Azam University, and for the AIPS Center, Islamabad for invited guests, many of whom traveled from Peshawar for the talk. After some press coverage of lectures he was invited to write a piece for *The Friday Times*. This was published March 3 just after the Prime Minister and the Cabinet had met and determined on pursuing the merger. Occasionally, historians have some relevant perspective. Some links follow:

[www.thefridaytimes.com/tft/the-final-frontier/](http://www.thefridaytimes.com/tft/the-final-frontier/)

[tribune.com.pk/story/1344530/fata-merged-k-p/](http://tribune.com.pk/story/1344530/fata-merged-k-p/)

[uos.edu.pk/home/news/35huos.edu.pk/](http://uos.edu.pk/home/news/35huos.edu.pk/)

## Uzma Z. Rizvi

Associate Professor of Anthropology  
and Urban Studies, Pratt Institute of  
Art and Design

Uzma Rizvi received an AIPS International Travel Grant to attend the 8th World Archaeological Congress (WAC) in Kyoto, Japan in August 2016, where she presented a paper “Intimate Landscapes: Sand.” This paper laid out theory related to her current archaeological research on

the third millennium BCE conducted in India, Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates. At the core of her presentation is an explicit desire to decolonize the discipline, and to do so, she spoke of bodies as human, as geologic and as narrative: her use of archaeological poetics is part of a postcolonial critique that is as much about decolonization as it is about destabilizing capitalism, patriarchy and the nation. In addition to the paper, she organized the plenary for Indigenous Archaeologies, in which a key focus was placed on Kalash of Pakistan and a resolution passed by WAC-8, which she helped write and present to the Congress. Rizvi was the chair (with Hirofumi Kato) for the Theme on Postcolonial experiences, Archaeological Practice and Indigenous Archaeologies.

#### Shahnaz Rouse

Professor of Sociology,  
Sarah Lawrence College

Shahnaz Rouse is on sabbatical from Sarah Lawrence College and is currently based at the Graduate Institute for Development Studies at the Lahore School of Economics. During this time, she is editing a volume on the Economic History of Pakistan (starting with Mughal period) with Dr. Rashid Amjad, Director of Graduate Institute of Development Studies, Lahore School of Economics, finishing a paper on missionaries, the colonial state and education in Lahore and is hoping to contribute a chapter in the *Political Economy of Lahore, 1849-1947*. She is also contributing towards Research Methods Seminar: qualitative methods at Lahore School of Economics. In summer, she plans on investigating British Army records in London for regiments posted in Lahore during the Colonial period.

#### Mashal Saif

Assistant Professor of Religion,  
Clemson University

Insulting the Prophet Muhammad has often garnered international headlines in the past decade. This research—that lies at the inter-

section of Islamic dream interpretation and insulting Muhammad—seeks to answer this central question: How do Pakistani Muslims draw on dreams to justify the extra-judicial killings of individuals who insult Muhammad? This question relates to two pressing concerns in contemporary Islam: 1) What is the relationship between dreams and criminality in the imaginary of Islamic legal scholars? 2) What exceptions are articulated by Pakistani clerics and mystics for reacting to the egregious ‘crime’ of insulting Muhammad? The significance of this research is two-fold. On the one hand, it provides us valuable insight into the complex relationship between the crime of insulting Muhammad and the Islamic dream tradition. Additionally, Mashal Saif’s focus on the dreams serves as an important case study for the unsettling of Western liberal assumptions regarding rationality, logic and the centrality of the state. Thanks to AIPS’ generous funding, Saif spent the summer of 2016 in Pakistan and had sustained engagement with multiple individuals who, drawing on their dreams of the Prophet, comment on the crime of insulting Muhammad. These conversations have enabled Saif to begin answering her research question. She will soon begin writing on her findings and she looks forward to presenting and publishing her work.

#### Yasmin Saikia

Professor of History, Arizona State University  
A four-month AIPS Senior Fellowship allowed Yasmin Saikia an opportunity to conduct archival work in Lahore and Islamabad for a new book project, tentatively titled, “Aazdi: Middle Actors’ and Emancipation From British Colonialism (1920-1940).” Her main sources for archival work were the Obaidullah Sindhi Foundation in Lahore and the National Documentation Center and the Pakistan National Archives in Islamabad. She completed an essay during this fellowship period that will appear in the August 2018 volume, *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*.

During her four months stay in Pakistan, Dr. Saikia gave lectures at several universities in Lahore and Islamabad. Another

highlight of the visit was a radio program she did at the school of journalism, Punjab University. She hosted two social meetings bringing together a variety of faculty from Punjab University, Forman Christian College, Lahore University of Management Studies and Government College University in pursuing her interest to contribute in forming an intellectual community in Lahore. She hopes this initiative will bear results and her colleagues at Lahore will take this initiative forward and develop teaching and research clusters based on mutually agreed on ideas and topics of interest.

She would like to thank AIPS for awarding her a fellowship that created new avenues for scholarly and community engagement at multiple levels for her.



#### Marvin Weinbaum

Professor Emeritus,  
University of Illinois—Urbana-Champaign

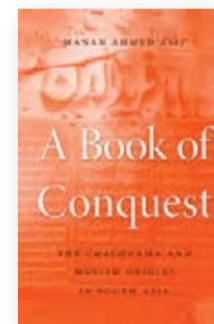
On Friday, March 10, 2017, Marvin Weinbaum, Director of the Middle East Institute’s Pakistan Studies Center moderated an event dealing with the policy options for the Trump administration in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Among the panelists was Daniel Feldman, a former Obama administration Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan. In addition to events on Pakistan the Middle East Institute hosts scholars working on their dissertations at various universities in Pakistan who are sponsored by the Higher Education Commission in the fall and winter semesters.

In November 2016 Weinbaum was on a State Department sponsored speaking trip and lectured at seven universities in Pakistan and spoke at several think tanks in addition to presenting a paper at a conference at Government College University Lahore. ■

### Recent Publications by AIPS members

Arbab, S. (2016). “Ghani Khan: A Postmodern, Humanist, Poet-philosopher.” *SAGAR: A South Asia Research Journal*: 24-63.

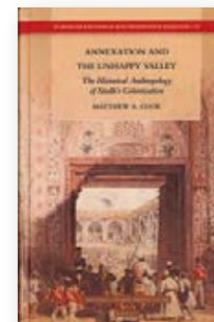
Asif, M. A. (2016). *A Book of Conquest: the Chachnama and Muslim Origins in South Asia*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.



Biberman, Y. (2016). “Self-Defense Militias, Death Squads, and State Outsourcing of Violence in India and Turkey.” *Journal of Strategic Studies*, (2016): 1-31.

Biberman-Ocakli, Y., Gul, S., & Ocakli, F. (2016). “Channeling Islam: Religious Narratives on Pakistani Television and Their Influence on Pakistani Youth.” *Asian Affairs: An American Review* 43(3): 78-97.

Cook, M. A. (2016). *Annexation and the Unhappy Valley: The Historical Anthropology of Sindh’s Colonization*. Leiden: Brill.



Fuchs, M. (2016). “Walking a Tightrope: The Jesuit Robert Bütler and Muslim-Christian Dialogue in Pakistan.” *Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations* 27(4): 439-454.

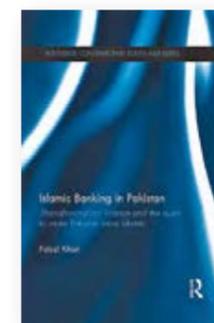
Gilmartin, D. (2015). *Blood and Water: The Indus River Basin in Modern History*. Oakland, CA: University of California Press.



Ingram, B.D., Scott, J.B. & Tareen, S.K., Eds. (2016). *Imagining the Public in Modern South Asia*. New York: Routledge.

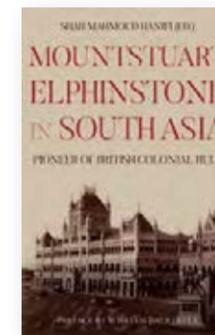
Kermani, S., Farrukhi, A., and Ali, K., Ed. (2016). *Centre Stage: Gender, Politics, and Performance in South Asia*. New Delhi: Women Unlimited.

Khan, F. (2015). *Islamic Banking in Pakistan: Shariah-compliant Banking and the Quest to Make Pakistan More Islamic*. New York: Routledge.



Nichols, R. (2017). “Pashtuns.” *Oxford Research Encyclopedias of Asian History*. <http://asianhistory.oxfordre.com>

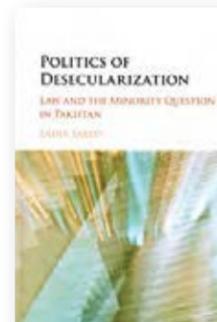
Nichols, R. (2017). “Charles Metcalfe, Ranjit Singh, and Lahore.” In S.M. Hanifi, Ed., *Mountstuart Elphinstone in South Asia: Pioneer of British Colonial Rule*. London: Hurst.



Qazi, F. (2016). *Secrets of the Kashmir Valley*. New Delhi, India: Pharos Media & Publishing Pvt Ltd.



Saeed, S. (2017) *Politics of Desecularization: Law and the Minority Question in Pakistan*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.



Tareen, A. (2017). “Revolutionary Hermeneutics: Translating the Qur’an as a Manifesto for Revolution.” *Journal of Religious and Political Practice* 3(1-2): 1-24.

Weinbaum, M. (2017). “Insurgency and Violent Extremism in Pakistan.” *Journal of Small Wars and Insurgencies* 28(1): 34-56.

### Upcoming Publications by AIPS members

Flowerday, J. (in press). “Identity Matters: The Hidden Text of Britain and China Over Hunza.” *Journal of History and Culture of South Asia*.

Flowerday, J. (in press). “State Security and Federalizing A Non-Federal Territory: Gilgit-Baltistan.” In R. Brasher, Ed., *First International Conference Ethno-Federalism in Punjab and Beyond*. Lahore: Forman Christian College-University.

# AIPS Fellows and Grantees

AIPS awards fellowships and awards for research, writing, conferences, and consulting at higher education institutions in Pakistan. Committees comprised of a combination of AIPS officers, Executive Committee members, and Trustees make all awards through a competitive review process. In the past year, AIPS has awarded the following 36 awards.

## AIPS Fellowships

AIPS awarded long-term research fellowships (2-9 months, funded by the Council of American Overseas Research Centers and AIPS unrestricted funds) during the past year. Due to security restrictions, applicants who are US citizens are required to conduct long-term fellowships in countries other than the US and Pakistan. Non-US citizen applicants, however, can conduct research in Pakistan or in countries other than the US. These awards have been extremely competitive, and AIPS is pleased to announce the recently awarded fellows. Full abstracts and final reports for all fellows can be accessed on the AIPS website ([www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/content/fellowship-archives](http://www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/content/fellowship-archives)).

### 1) Ateeb Ahmed

Field and Institution: **Geography, Environment and Society, University of Minnesota**  
Project Title: **Between Speculation and Dispossession: Pakistan Military's Urban Coup d'etat**  
Duration of Research: 2 months  
Destination: **Lahore, Pakistan**

Abstract: Just a few months after taking power through a Coup d'état, General Musharaff established the Defence Housing Authority (DHA), a gated residential and commercial housing society, through an executive order that remains effective to date. This put the DHA in a state of exception, legally and spatially, since it allowed the DHA to function beyond the jurisdictions of the municipal Lahore Development Authority (LDA), and the City District Government (CDG) since 2001. Backed by such powers, the DHA has become the largest residential housing society in Pakistan within a decade through speculative place construction

targeting the affluent classes. Spatially, the DHA is modelled like any other high end private housing enclave anywhere in the world; fortified boundaries, mediterranean villas, golf courses, shopping malls, cinemas, etc. Much of this urban development is taking place on the peripheries of major cities, and entails the annexation and transformation of agricultural land and villages into urban land. To date, there has been no comprehensive scholarly work on the expansion of the DHA in any of the major cities. How are we to understand such model of military led urban development? To address this lacuna, my study will follow the DHA expansion in the South-East of Lahore in order to illuminate the speculative dimension of such forms of urbanization; the economic, political and legal strategies adopted by the military to practice urban development; the conflictual alliances they forge with other classes and state functionaries; and the consequences of these transformations on the local communities, specifically the small land holding peasantry, upon whose land these housing projects are being built.

### 2) Zehra Hashmi

Field and Institution: **Anthropology and History, University of Michigan**  
Project Title: **Biometric Belonging: Kinship, Identification and Security in Urban Pakistan**  
Duration of Research: 2 months  
Destination: **Islamabad, Pakistan**

Abstract: This study will investigate the manner and means by which Pakistan's biometric identity card system, the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), moves from a security-oriented identification system into a broader regime shaping domains of social life in Pakistan outside the realm of security. NADRA began in 2000 by launching a multi-biometric (fingerprints, facial, and iris recognition) electronic identity card and claims to be one of the largest centralized databases in the world, hosting data from over 96 million citizens. Each ID record has its own unique identifying number that connects

## FELLOWSHIP

Since 2010 AIPS has awarded **76** fellowships to US scholars researching on Pakistan and/or South Asia. **46** of these fellowships were conducted in Pakistan.

its bearer with a vast set of other government and corporate databases. NADRA's significance lies in its ubiquity: the card is used for banking, paying bills, school admissions, acquiring a cell phone chip, property transactions, voting and weapons licenses. The NADRA card is a central preoccupation for Pashtun migrants in urban locations. Through multi-sited ethnographic fieldwork in Pashtun neighborhoods and NADRA's institutional sites, this research will address three broad aims: 1) How and to what extent do NADRA's biometric identification technologies transform Pashtun experiences, notions and practices of kinship? 2) In what ways does incorporation into and exclusion from NADRA's databases shape daily practices, especially for the ethnically marginalized in urban space, affect mobility and access to housing, education and government services? 3) How are NADRA's day to day operations shaped by Pashtun encounters with NADRA, and what does this reveal about Pakistan's governance and security practices? Thus, this project will develop an understanding of historically constituted connections between kinship, biometrics, security practices, and the status of ethnic minorities as they crystallize into a networked, state-organized infrastructure.

### 3) Naveen Kanalu Ramamurthy

Field and Institution: **History, UCLA**  
Project Title: **Sovereignty, Sunni Legalism, and the Religious Culture of the Mughal Empire**  
Duration of Research: 2 months  
Destination: **Islamabad, Pakistan; London, UK; Delhi, India; and Istanbul, Turkey**

Abstract: My research examines the nature and structure of Islamicate sovereignty in the seventeenth century Mughal Empire in South Asia. I will develop a historical narrative on the rise of Sunni legalist discourse, which led to jurisprudential reforms and the compilation of the imperial legal code, Al-fatawa al-'alamgiriyya or "The Institutions of the World Conqueror" in the 1660s. Legal reform rationalized civil law for different religious subject populations like Hindus, Sunni and Shi'a Muslims. Questioning the prevalent historiographical position, which attributes these changes to the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb's (r. 1658-1707) "Islamic orthodoxy" and conservative policies, I hypothesize instead that the political rivalries between Sunni legal authorities, networks, and institutions played a significant role in pushing for state intervention. The systematization of law for the first time transformed the Mughal State from a more flexible Turko-Persian entity it inherited from the Delhi Sultanate into a regionalized empire under greater centralized control. Examining a large corpus of Persian and Arabic legal and political texts, which have been understudied, I wish to demonstrate how the Mughal polity increasingly constituted itself as a "body-politic" in Islamic jurisprudential terms. My study offers a regional history of legal cultures in three provinces, Lahore, Kashmir, and Bihar, to illustrate the conflicts, differences, and particularities of local legal systems within the Mughal Empire. I also critically reassess the status and characteristics of early modern Islamic law through the comparative legal history of Mughal and Ottoman States, which shared similar features.

### 4) Uzma Rizvi

Field and Institution: **Archaeology, Pratt Institute of Art and Design**  
Project Title: **UAE Coastal Archaeological Heritage Project (AUE-CAHP)**  
Duration of Research: 3 months  
Destination: **United Arab Emirates**

Abstract: The UAE Coastal Archaeological and Heritage Project (UAE-CAHP) is a multi-year, transdisciplinary project that focuses on the threshold of sand and water in the United Arab Emirates. This research praxis conducted along the coastal region of the UAE aims to gather new data (as archaeological and ethnographic material) as well as reconsider existing data (museum collections, newspapers, and publications). This project incorporates geomorphology, landscape survey, ethnographic practices, critical heritage discourse, contemporary art and archaeological poetics. At the core of this project is the desire to contextualize the many relationships between the UAE and Pakistan/Northern India through time, to theorize the concept of a "coast" as a threshold, which has the capacity to engender forms of marginal subject positionality, and the impact such a position makes on subsequent aesthetic forms and critical heritage discourse. Key concepts that drive the project include: mobility, fluidity, cosmopolitanism, threshold, coasts, gulfs, critical heritage, and aesthetics.

### 5) Sadia Shirazi

Field and Institution: **Art History, Cornell University**  
Project Title: **Abstraction in Post-Independence Pakistan, Bangladesh and India**  
Duration of Research: 3 months  
Destination: **Spain and the UK**

Abstract: This project explores the largely unexamined history of abstraction and transnational modernism in post-independence in Pakistan, Bangladesh and India. It focuses on key artists in all three countries who were part of the modernist art movement but who, due to their use of abstraction, proved difficult to synthesize into figurative, modernist art historical

canons within South Asia. Working against this grain, these minoritarian artists instead made non-figurative work the center of their practice, and developed alternate modes of inquiry into art, technology and subjectivity. This project makes two interventions. First, it challenges Western art historical scholarship on modernism that excludes non-Western artists practicing during the decades of decolonization. And second, it is within Indian historical scholarship that privileges figurative art within its own history of "national" modernism. This project refuses the nation-state as a legitimate boundary within which to situate these artists and instead looks at metropolitan aesthetic production across the three countries, as evocative of alternate notions of belonging. It argues that these abstract artists from Pakistan, Bangladesh and India were synthesizing local and regional aesthetic practices, while also sampling from a complex inheritance of colonial modernity, Islamic art and architectural modernism. By placing these artists within a broader regional framework and also articulating their aesthetic engagements and intellectual thought within Indo-Persianite traditions, this project proposes a transnational and transdisciplinary methodology towards decolonized global art history.

### 6) Neelum Sohail

Field and Institution: **Modern South Asian History, Tufts University**  
Project Title: **Empires of the Beat: Policing the Empire, Governing the Colony, Negotiating the Postcolony**  
Duration of Research: 2 months  
Destination: **Karachi & Lahore, Pakistan; and London, Oxford, & Cambridge, UK**

Abstract: By focusing on the development of policing in Sindh and Punjab, provinces of colonial India and later post-colonial Pakistan, in the 1840s and the movement of policing practices and personnel across the British Empire to Hong Kong and Kenya in the mid 19th century and early 20th century, this project contends that policing was not simply coercion and domination from above,

## AIPS Fellows and Grantees

it was also governance from below. I suggest that the history of modern policing in the colony is an account of managing the disposability of colonial subjects while actively constructing the frontiers of human ontologies of race, gender, and class that were vital to the colonial project at the level of the beat, the territory a police officer patrolled. It studies citizenship, race, class, and gender across colonies of the British Empire through the analytic of policing connecting several areas of African, East Asian, and Pakistan studies with the field of South Asian history. Thus, my project aims to provide a new perspective on histories of, and debates around, citizenship, race, class, and gender in Pakistan through a multidisciplinary and multi-locational study of the creation and legal codification of colonial policing forces, the debates around policing practices, the daily reports and memoirs of various policemen, court cases, the rise of labor and crime statistics as well as the popular image of the policeman as seen in newspapers and novels roughly between 1840 and 1970.

### 7) Shundana Yusaf

Field and Institution: Architectural History, University of Utah  
Project Title: The Resonant Tomb: Sufi Shrines in the Indo-Persian World  
Duration of Research: 4 months  
Destination: India and Iran

Abstract: A four-month AIPS Senior Research Fellowship for US citizens in Summer 2017 will allow me to conduct fieldwork on the architectural context of these auditory rituals and practices in India and Iran. This work will complement research done on a Fulbright Scholarship in Pakistani Sufi shrines with short trips to Afghanistan and Uzbekistan in Fall 2017. These two pieces will come together constituting a regional exploration of Sufi soundscapes in Indo-Persian world, truncated today into modern nation states. The AIPS Fellowship will enable me to expand the lens on Sufi khanqahs in Pakistan and put their auditory rituals in a cross-cultural and transnational context.

### AIPS Summer Fellowship Grantees 2017

Since 2012 AIPS has been able to offer short-term research travel grants/summer research grants. This year AIPS short-term/summer research grants are funded by AIPS unrestricted funds, to allow scholars to do preliminary and/or exploratory research in Pakistan. Abstracts and final reports for these projects can be found on the AIPS website ([www.pakistanstudies-aips.org](http://www.pakistanstudies-aips.org)).

#### 1. Abdul Aijaz

Field and Institution: Geography and English, Indiana University  
Project: Post-colonial Indus River Hydro-social Relations

#### 2. Salman A. Hussain

Field and Institution: History and Anthropology, University of Michigan  
Project: Transnational Migrations to the Gulf in Sahiwal, Pakistan

#### 3. Sidra Kamran

Field and Institution: Sociology, The New School  
Project: Commodification of Intimate Practices and the Construction of the 'Economy' and 'Markets' by Focusing on All-female Workplace

#### 4. Tariq L. Rahman

Field and Institution: Anthropology, University of California, Irvine  
Project: Plots, Speculation, and Capital in Urban Pakistan

#### 5. Zoya Sameen

Field and Institution: History, University of Chicago  
Project: The Consumption of Prostitution: A History of Buying Sex in the Northwestern Indian Subcontinent, 1858–1918

#### 6. Gemma Sharp

Field and Institution: Art History, City University of New York, The Graduate Center  
Project: The International Lives of Pakistani Art: 1947–2001

#### 7. Luke Sonnet

Field and Institution: Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles  
Project: The Causes and Effects of Electricity Load Shedding in Pakistan

### AIPS Advising Travel Grants

Through a grant from the US Embassy in Pakistan, AIPS was able to fund travel to Pakistan by scholars from US universities as advisors for specific programs at Pakistani universities. This year, AIPS funded one advisor, who has gone to Pakistan twice in 2016 to advise COMSATS on the redesign of their Architecture and Design Program.

#### Hasan-Uddin Khan

Field and Institution: Architecture and Design Faculties, Roger Williams University  
Pakistan Institution: COMSATS Institute of Information Technology

### AIPS Conference Travel Grants

AIPS awards travel grants to help facilitate its members' participation in international or domestic conferences, or for invited lectures in Pakistan. These grants are funded in part by CAORC, US Embassy in Pakistan and AIPS unrestricted funds. Abstracts and final reports for these projects can be found on the AIPS website ([www.pakistanstudies-aips.org](http://www.pakistanstudies-aips.org)).

### US-Based Scholar awarded for domestic and international grants

Abstracts and final reports for these projects can be found on the AIPS website ([www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/content/travel-grant-archives](http://www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/content/travel-grant-archives)).

#### 1. Hassan Abbas

National Defense University  
State, Society and Democracy in the Post-colony Conference  
August 2016  
Paper: Sectarianism & Internal Security: How the State-Society Nexus was Reconfigured in the Post-Zia Era

## CONFERENCE TRAVEL GRANT

Since 2010 AIPS has awarded **115** Conference Travel Grants (67 domestic and 48 international) to US scholars presenting their paper(s) at scholarly conferences throughout the world. **30** of the 48 International Conference Grants were awarded for presenting papers at conferences in Pakistan.

#### 2. Dean Accardi

Connecticut College  
45th Annual Conference on South Asia  
October 2016  
Paper: Engendering Bhakti Networks in Kashmir and Tamil Nadu

#### 3. Abdul Aijaz

Indiana University  
Annual Conference of Association of American Geographers  
April 2017  
Paper: Reconfigurations of Interests and Identities: Symbolic Politics of Pak-China Economic Corridor and Pakistani Federation

#### 4. William Belcher

University of Hawai'i, West O'ahu  
45th Annual Conference on South Asia  
October 2016  
Paper: Subsistence Practices in the Indus Tradition: A Fishy Perspective

#### 5. Elizabeth Bolton

University of Texas at Austin  
45th Annual Conference on South Asia  
October 2016  
Paper: The Power of Place: Community and Newswork at Lahore's City42 Channel

#### 6. Waqas H. Butt

University of California, San Diego  
Politics of Waste Conference  
June 2017  
Paper: Legitimacy as Fetish: Documenting Work in Lahore's Waste Infrastructure

#### 7. Christopher Candland

Wellesley College  
Dynamics of Change in the Pakistan-Afghanistan Borderland  
August–September 2016  
Paper: The Purpose of Government, Manufacture of Legitimacy, and Violence of the State Conflict Transformation in Pakistan

#### 8. Abdul Haque Chang

University of Texas at Austin  
115th Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association  
November 2016  
Papers: Rethinking the Question of Fisherman through Gutka Piety

#### 9. Nabeeha Chaudhary

University of Texas at Austin  
45th Annual Conference on South Asia  
October 2016  
Paper: "This is Where You Belong"—Shifting Representations of the Ideal Woman in Pakistani TV Serials from the 1980's to the Present

#### 10. Jeffrey Diamond

Clarion University  
2017 Association of Asian Studies Conference  
Paper: Building a New "Paradise": Anjumans and Urdu Literary Culture in Late Nineteenth Century India

#### 11. Joel Gordon

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville  
Cinema and Transnationalism in Pakistan and South Asia: Regional Histories Conference  
September 2016  
Paper: Movie Stars without Borders: Fashioning National Identity in Regional Studios/Regional Identity in National Studios

#### 12. Saad Gulzar

New York University  
American Political Science Association Annual Meeting in Philadelphia  
September 2016  
Paper: Politicians: Experimental Evidence on Candidacy

#### 13. Faris Ahmed Khan

Brandeis University  
Feminist Pre-Conference to the 45th Annual Conference on South Asia  
October 2016  
Paper: Khwaja Sira: Dissent, Sex/Gender Activism, and State Regulation in Pakistan

#### 14. Alizishaan Khatri

University of Buffalo  
45th Annual Conference on South Asia  
October 2016  
Paper: The Ethics of Digital Humanities Approaches to Cultural Studies: A Perspective from Computer Science

#### 15. Elizabeth Lhost

University of Chicago  
Ocean of Law II  
December 2016  
Paper: Mapping Legal Authority in the Indian Ocean: The Geography of 19th and 20th century Fatwa Literature from South Asia

## AIPS Fellows and Grantees

### 16. Nadia Loan

University of Oregon  
Association of Asian Studies in-Asia Conference  
June 2016  
Paper: The Quran Workbook: Materiality and Devotion in Contemporary Pakistan

### 17. Carla Petievich

University of Texas at Austin  
Annual Conference of Association of American Geographers  
April 2017  
Paper: Notes on the Multiple Locations of Modern Punjabi Literature

### 18. Uzma Rizvi

Pratt Institute of Art and Design  
World Archaeological Congress  
August–September 2016  
Paper: Archaeologies of Emotion and Emotional Archaeologies

### 19. Osama Rehan Siddiqui

Cornell University  
45th Annual Conference on South Asia  
October 2016  
Paper: The Enchantment of Political Economy: Wealth and its Sciences in Colonial India

### Pakistan-based Scholar International Travel Support

AIPS offers travel grants to AIPS member institution faculty to bring Pakistan-based scholars to the US:

#### 1. Saeed Shafqat

Locations: Academic Engagements at numerous universities in North Carolina  
Sponsoring Institution in the US: Wake Forest University  
Affiliated Institution in Pakistan: Forman Christian College University  
August 2016

### 2. Anjum Tanveer

Location: 45th Annual Conference on South Asia and Princeton's Hindi/Urdu Conference on Literature and Politics  
Sponsoring Institution in the U.S.: Princeton University  
Affiliated Institution in Pakistan: Iqra University  
October 2016

## SUMMER RESEARCH GRANT

Over the years AIPS has awarded **45** Short-term/Summer Research Grants to US scholars conducting their research in Pakistan.



## Institutional Member News

### University of Michigan

The University of Michigan (UM) was pleased to enhance its ties with Pakistani institutions this past year, though MOUs signed with Habib University and the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS). The MOUs help pave the way for students from these institutions to spend a semester at UM. We are expecting our first batch of students from these institutions this summer, and look forward to more in the years to come. As circumstances allow, we also hope to send UM undergraduates to Habib and LUMS.

UM continues to be a hub for the study of Pakistan in the US. Anchored by faculty who work on Pakistan (William J. Glover, Matthew Hull, and Farina Mir), UM supports the work of graduate students working on Pakistan (currently we have two PhD students whose research focuses on Pakistan: Zehra Hashmi and Salman Adil Hussain, both in the Program in Anthropology and History). UM has also instituted an annual conference on Pakistan. In 2016, we hosted the 6th UM-Pakistan Conference on Infrastructure. In 2017, we hosted the 7th UM-Pakistan Conference, on "Gender & Sexuality." AIPS generously supported both conferences. —Farina Mir

### The University of Texas at Austin

In Spring 2017, in partnership with AIPS, the South Asia Institute at the University of Texas at Austin hosted three scholars from Pakistan who were chosen to study the community college system in the US in order to emulate it in their own institutions in Pakistan. (See page 7 for more on this program.

Another scholar who visited Austin in Spring 2017 under the AIPS-SAI partnership, was Faiza Saleem. Faiza, who is a Urdu language instructor for BULPIP in Pakistan, spent her time shadowing Urdu language faculty at UT in order to be trained in teaching Urdu to students enrolled in the intensive immersion program in Pakistan every Fall.

Under continuing university partnerships with the National College of Arts (NCA) in



The NAPA, NCA and Butler School of Music "ensemble" performing at the Pakistan Day celebrations at the Pakistani Consul General's residence in Houston.

Lahore and National Academy of Performing Arts (NAPA) in Karachi, SAI hosted batches of students at UT for a semester in Fall 2016 and Spring 2017. NAPA students spent a semester at the Butler School of Music, while NCA students studied various aspects of film-making at the Department of Radio-Television-Film at the Moody School of Communication. In January 2017, three Sangat concerts took place in Pakistan. Sangat is an ensemble of NAPA and UT music students and UT music faculty, who perform a raga-based fusion of classical, folk and Western music. The first event was held in Karachi at NAPA's in-house theater on January 6, 2017. The concert was well attended,

and received a favorable review in the local press (East, West and music, Dawn Metro, January 7, 2017). The second performance took place in Islamabad on January 8, 2017 and the third at the US Consulate in Karachi on January 10, 2017.

Back in the US, the Pakistan Consulate in Houston invited SAI and Pakistani exchange students at UT for the Spring semester, to participate in Pakistan Day celebrations on March 23, 2017. Two NAPA students and one NCA student along with two UT students and a member of the Butler School of Music faculty traveled to Houston with SAI staff and performed at the concert at the Consul General's residence. ■ —Sahar Ali



## Institutional Member News

### University of Wisconsin-Madison

In November 2016 UW-Madison hosted 160 Fulbright scholars from Pakistan for a three-day orientation focused on social movements in the US.

The Institute of International Education's (IIE) Fulbright Pakistan Orientation Seminar brought together the Pakistani master's and PhD students, who are currently studying at universities across the US as part of a two-year program supported by the US Department of State. The seminar focused on US social movements, particularly #BlackLivesMatter, along with other issues in the nation, such as marriage equality.

"UW-Madison is an ideal location for this seminar to take place," said Lalita du Perron, Associate Director of the Center for South Asia and Director and organizer of the seminar. "We have over 50 years of experience teaching and researching the languages and cultures of South Asia including Pakistan, and our campus is invested in creating a truly inclusive atmosphere and climate for students."

The seminar included a keynote address on marriage equality by Professor Emeritus Joe Elder, lectures and interactive workshops by UW-Madison Professors Chris Walker, Bridget Fielder, and Faisal Abdu-allah, and opportunities for peer student interaction. The First Wave Learning Community was actively involved through performance and discussion groups. Graduate students from the Department of Counseling Psychology under the guidance of Professor Stephen Quintana facilitated small-group sessions with the Fulbright scholars to reflect on life in the US.

"Being selected by the IIE to host this seminar is a great honor," said Guido Podesta, vice provost and dean of the International Division. "This is an opportunity not only to share information on social movements in the US, but also to engage in a dialogue on cultural and ethical issues on a global scale."

The Center for South Asia, a Title VI National Resource Center, is a member of the Institute for Regional and International Studies (IRIS). IRIS is a part of UW-Madi-

son's International Division and comprises the area studies centers at the UW-Madison.—*Lalita Du Perron*



### University of Washington, Seattle

The University of Washington (UW) is happy to be hosting Ms. Sidra Afzal, currently of Islamabad, as an AIPS Teaching Urdu as a Second Language fellow. Ms. Afzal teaches Urdu as a foreign language at International Islamic University in Islamabad, and is an Urdu lecturer in the Government Post-Graduate College in Rawalpindi, and she earned a Master's Degree in Urdu from Punjab University, Lahore.

She has participated in other Urdu teaching workshops at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and the University of Texas, Austin. She has produced her own Urdu teaching trainings in Pakistan.

During her internship at the University of Washington, Ms. Afzal hopes to learn new teaching techniques, particularly language teaching done differently than is now done in Pakistan. In her opinion, most language teachers in Pakistan teach their students as though they are children. She likes to use technology in the classroom, and also Pakistan's highly admired television serials.

The foreign students in her classroom in Pakistan are mostly Chinese and Korean, who take Urdu because they are doing translation studies or doing social work in Pakistan. In addition, some who work for their home governments are encouraged to study Urdu to better relate to Pakistanis. These language learners tend to prefer to learn in a government university.

Ms. Afzal is working with UW Senior Urdu lecturer, Jameel Ahmad, who said that BULPIP wants to build a cadre of Paki-

stani teachers who can work with foreign students who are second language learners. This program can build capacity in Pakistani institutes to be able to offer courses in Urdu for foreigners and second language learners.

Ms. Afzal is observing beginning, intermediate and advanced Hindi and Urdu classes, where she is witnessing different teaching techniques and learning environments.

This summer UW will host a four-day intensive workshop with Ms. Afzal and one other teacher who will be shadowing teachers at the South Asia Summer Language Institute in Wisconsin.—*Keith Snodgrass*



### Brown University

On Tuesday, April 4, 2017, Naiza Khan and Bani Abidi two most prominent multi-media artists from Pakistan gave the Roger B. Henkle Memorial Lecture on "The Disappearance of Things/The City as Archive" at the Granoff Center for the Creative Arts at Brown University. Their work on the city of Karachi interrogates both the sensory scale of the South Asian city, as well as its historical and political conflicts. A tumultuous city by the sea confronting the disasters of climate change, a city shaped by historic displacements and facing continuous migrations, a city that routinely erupts in violence, both with its pasts and over competing resources—these artists take on the city as few others have, and provide a kind of critical, ethical and satirical commentary that may make us rethink it again.

Naiza Khan, taught for many years at the Indus School of Art and Architecture in Karachi. She continues to serve on the board of the Department of Visual Studies



at the University of Karachi and is the founder of the Vasl Artists' Collective,

a vital organization that supports artists through residencies, workshops and collaborations in a regional network.

Bani Abidi was one of the early artists to begin working with video and performance, producing iconic works like *Mangoes* (1999), *Shan Pipe Band Learns the Star Spangled Banner* (2003), and *The Ghost of Mohammad Bin Qasim* (2006).

### Wake Forest University

Funded through a grant from the US Embassy in Pakistan, AIPS supported lectures by Professor Saeed Shafqat. The intention of this grant was to facilitate intellectual exchanges between the US and Pakistan. The grant provided travel support for invited scholars (as well as artists and musicians) from Pakistan to travel to the United States. As an invited scholar, Professor Saeed Shafqat, the Director of Forman Christian College's Centre for Public Policy and Governance in Lahore, came to the US in August 2016 to present multiple lectures in the United States over a period of two to three weeks. Presentations were held in Winston-Salem, NC, and Washington, D.C. In addition, he gave a talk at the Carolina Asia Center titled: "Perceptions, Realities and the Changing Dynamics of US-Pakistan Relations." The talk focused on multiple dimensions of the U.S.-Pakistan relationship as well as its changing contours and possible future directions. This invited speaker was co-sponsored by three AIPS member institutions: North Carolina Central University, Wake Forest University, and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. ■



## NEW AIPS INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

### Stanford University

The Center for South Asia at Stanford started as a proper center in the Fall of 2010 and we have in the past years been through a process of rapid growth and development, including recruitment of faculty and post docs in a number of fields. Initially we did not have faculty working in Pakistan, although we had a good number of faculty interested in broader questions of Muslim culture and history in South Asia. Along with the Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies, we ran a joint post-doctoral program on "Muslim Literary Cultures of South Asia" for some years.

In 2017 we had the good fortune to be able to recruit Saad Gulzar, a young dynamic political scientist working on Pakistan. Saad has kindly agreed to serve as our representative on the AIPS board. His partner, Maira Hayat, a prior AIPS Fellow and Conference Travel Grantee, is finishing her dissertation on water and environment in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Chicago. She will be affiliated as a post-doc for three years with the Department of Anthropology and the Woods Institute for the Environment, Stanford's hub for research on global environmental questions.

Some years earlier, we recruited Dr. Ryan Perkins, a specialist in Urdu and Pashto literature and the Muslim public in colonial India, as our South Asia librarian. Perkins, who is working with AIPS on a library/digital archiving workshop series in Pakistan, is engaged in a major effort to bring Stanford's library holdings in South Asia up to a standard that befits a major research university.

Scholars associated with Center for South Asia, the Abbasi program and other units at Stanford University have been associated with the Habib University in Karachi since 2013. Today, Stanford has an agreement with Habib that encompasses exchange of students at all levels, including summer programs at Stanford, a visiting scholar program that allows faculty and writing up students from both schools to spend time at either institution. The agreement will also help Stanford scholars beginning new work in Pakistan acquire an institutional home and contacts within the government.

CSA hopes to see this collaboration flourish in the future and we envisage a steady stream of students and faculty visiting both institutions. Professors Thomas Blom Hansen and Nadeem Hussain (Philosophy) undertook a more formal and comprehensive review of Habib's teaching program and structure in February 2017. It is our hope that our report will be useful to the future development of the university.

The scholars associated with the Center for South Asia at Stanford are all excited about joining the larger scholarly community within the AIPS. Our membership will help connect our faculty and students to the wider network of scholarship on Pakistan in the US and we hope to see our graduate students and faculty participate actively in conferences, events and language training in Pakistan. We also plan to promote Pakistan more systematically on campus as an area in its own right, in our teaching as well as being visible on the research agendas of faculty and graduate students.

We also look forward to hosting and facilitating events, speakers and activities connected with AIPS here on the Stanford campus.

### Brown University

The newly established Center for Contemporary South Asia (CCSA) is based at the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University. CCSA promotes research, teaching and public engagement on key issues of modern South Asia in an interdisciplinary framework and in a historically and culturally grounded manner. CCSA supports faculty, graduate and undergraduate research and teaching on the region and is home to the South Asian Studies concentration. In conjunction with greater efforts at the Watson Institute, CCSA seeks to define a new approach to regional studies for the 21st century. Anchored in the social sciences, this new approach is problem driven, comparative and multidisciplinary. Our multidisciplinary will include sustained interaction of social scientists with the humanities on the one hand and the disciplines such as medicine and public health on the other. CCSA is an expansion of the Brown-India Initiative; we look forward to participating in AIPS and other regional institute given this new expanded mission. ■

# AIPS News

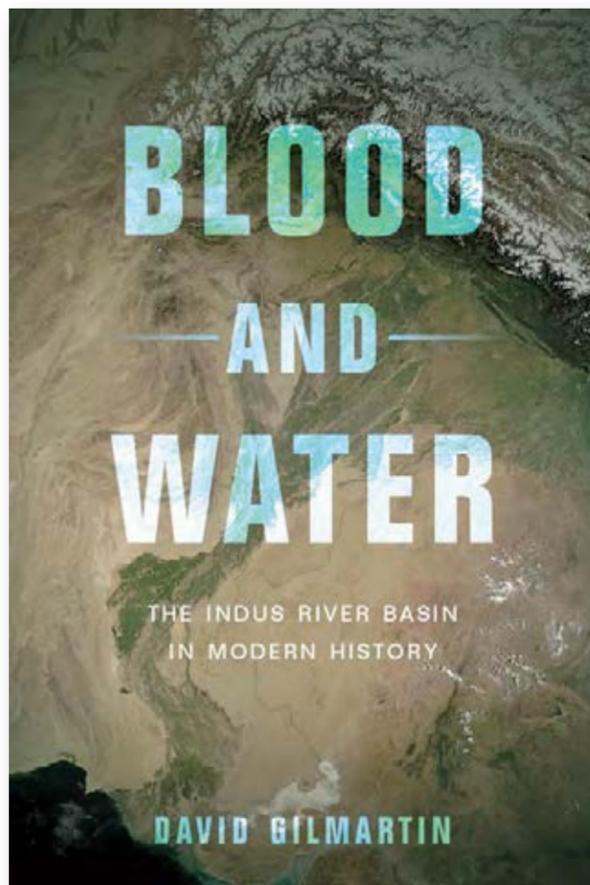
## AIPS Book Prize

AIPS is pleased to announce the 2015-16 Book Prize winner, David Gilmartin, author of *Blood and Water: The Indus River Basin in Modern History*. The Book Prize committee highly praised Professor Gilmartin's book as a major contribution to the study of colonial state formation, environmental history and the settlement of colonial frontiers. *Blood and Water* expands the scope

***Blood and Water* is a major contribution to the study of colonial state formation, environmental history, and the settlement of colonial frontiers.**

of Pakistan Studies and South Asian studies by highlighting the great transformations initiated by canal irrigation and the implications of these projects for contemporary politics, including within Pakistan and the trans-boundary water disputes between India and Pakistan. His research is prodigious and the culmination of several decades of related research and scholarly reflection. Competing visions of

statecraft and political community are explored in relation to the continuing power of nature to shape the Indus basin. This book is an invaluable contribution to scholarship on Pakistan and broader issues of state development and the environment. In addition to making original contribution to the study of British India and Pakistan, *Blood and Water* is going to be a major reference point for environmental historians, political scientists and anthropologists for many years to come. ■



## AIPS 2016-17 ELECTIONS RESULTS

**Executive Committee** **Matthew A. Cook** (North Carolina Central University) was elected to the AIPS Vice President seat, replacing Farina Mir on October 1, 2016. Similarly, election for two EC Members was conducted in the summer of 2016 and **Iqbal Singh Sevea** (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) and **Frank Korom** (Boston University) were elected. Congratulations to these three AIPS members! Their terms will run through September 30, 2019.

**At-Large Trustees** Due to increasing membership rolls, we added two new seats to the At-Large membership, bringing the total of At-Large Trustees to eight. AIPS is currently conducting an election for four At-Large Trustee seats.

**Presidential Election** AIPS will be running an election for a new President during Spring/Summer 2017. Our sincere thanks to outgoing President Kamran Asdar Ali for his dedicated service to AIPS as its president! The new President's term will begin October 1, 2017.

## Funding Opportunities for AIPS Member Institutions:

The AIPS grants below are open to faculty from any AIPS Member Institution. A scholarly committee reviews all applications. To apply for a grant, please contact [aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org](mailto:aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org) for further instructions.

### 1) Publication and Library Development

Funding (up to \$3,000) is available for small grants related to publication and library development. These small grants are intended to be seed money for larger programs. A proposal should explain the budget, and if it is part of a larger project, how the entirety of project will be funded and sustained. In addition, the proposal should address how the project will make materials accessible to Pakistan Studies scholars.

### 2) Course Development Grant

Course development seed money for a South Asia/Pakistan course, working in collaboration with a Minority-Serving Institution. These funds are meant to support the stipend for a graduate student who could teach such a course. These awards (up to \$4,000) are funded through grants from the Department of Education and CAORC.

### 3) Program Support for a Workshop/Conference on Pakistan in the US

AIPS has funds (up to \$4,500) to support a Pakistan-related conference that will take place in the US. These funds may be used to support airfare and other direct conference expenses. This award is funded through a grant from CAORC.

### 4) Pakistan Lecture Series (PLS)

PLS is a program designed to support academic exchange between Pakistani and US scholars and to promote the field of Pakistan studies as a whole. As a part of this program a Pakistani scholar, artist, musician, etc, is invited to travel to the USA for two to four weeks and present lectures at a minimum of three US AIPS member institutions. AIPS members or member institutions nominate PLS speakers. Each institution is expected to pay local travel expenses and is funded through grants from CAORC and the Government of Pakistan.

### 5) Conference in Pakistan in collaboration with a Public University

AIPS has funds to support a collaborative workshop with a public university in Pakistan using the theme of deepening democratic values and emphasizing diversity, tolerance, and co-existence. The budget can fund travel for US-based scholars or can be used to assist a university in organizing a conference/workshop. This workshop must be collaborative. This award (up to \$5,500) is funded through a grant from CAORC.

### 6) Conference in Pakistan in collaboration with a Minority Serving Institution (MSI)

AIPS currently has seed money to organize a workshop or conference at a Pakistani university. A requirement of this award is that you invite or collaborate with at least one individual working at a Minority-Serving Institution or Community College located in the United States. This award (up to \$6,000) is funded through a grant from the Department of Education and is for a conference to take place in the next fiscal year (October 1, 2017-September 30, 2018). ■

Thanks to Matthew Cook, AIPS VP, and AIPS staff members Laura Hammond and Aastha Ranabhat for editorial assistance on this newsletter.

## President's Report

Cont'd from page 2

will spend 2-3 weeks each at selected US Community Colleges. Faculty and administrators from the US community colleges will also travel to Lahore during the exchange period to lead a training course for a group of selected degree college faculty in Punjab. We hope that the Punjab Ministry of Higher Education on reviewing the results of this pilot project will consider upscaling the entire project to include the 700+ degree colleges in the province. The first batch of three degree college Principals from Multan, Lahore and Gujranawala (two men and one woman) spent 2-3 weeks at Austin Community College this Spring.

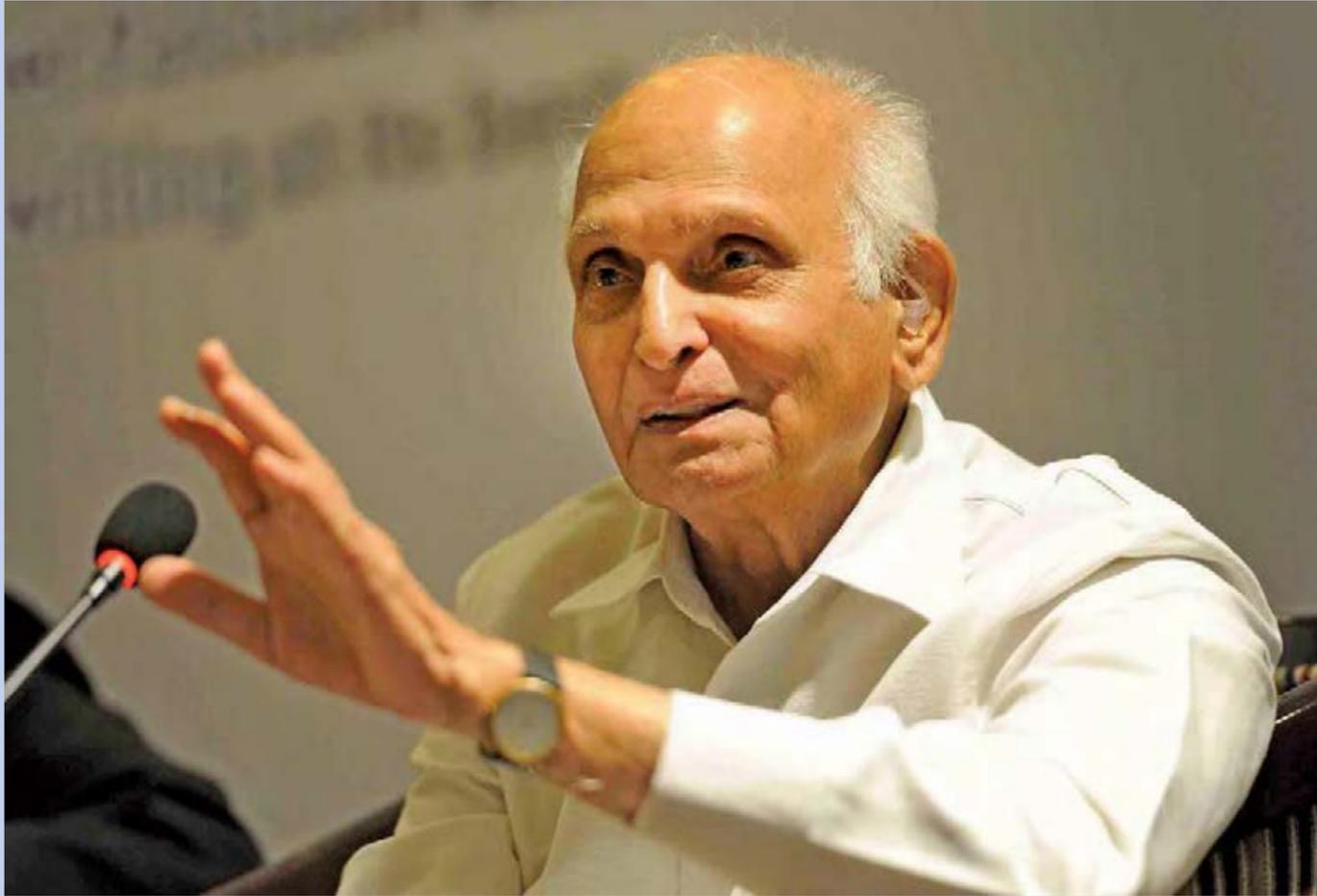
So, to reiterate, AIPS's finances are in excellent shape, our core mission of providing avenues for research in Pakistan to US based scholars is being seriously addressed, we have expanded our goals of building scholarly capacity of junior faculty in Pakistani universities in a variety of disciplines and we are encouraging the new generation of Pakistan scholars in the US in their research. This said, the most important issue that AIPS as an organization will face in the coming months (and perhaps years) is the uncertainty of our funding streams. Within this scenario, we have to be extremely vigilant regarding our finances and expenditures. Yet, due to the EC and elected members working closely in the past several years, there has been cross training, transparency, the maturing of oversight procedures and openness of dialogue and discussion. Given this history, I am confident that our new leadership will be more than capable in finding creative and productive solutions for the future health of the organization.

I thank each and every one of you for your support, advice and encouragement in the past six years. My special thanks to our two directors, Laura Hammond and Nadeem Akbar, and their staff. Their dedication, hard work and tireless effort makes all this possible.

Thank you.  
Best Wishes.  
Kamran

# In Memoriam: Intizar Husein (1925-2016)

By Kamran Asdar Ali



Intizar Husein, in an informal gathering once said to me that Delhi sent two things to Pakistan (after partition), one an acclaimed intellectual (who will remain unnamed) and the second, *Nihari*. Intizar Saheb maintained that “*woh sahib to nahin chale, par Nihari chal pari*” (that person did not succeed, but Nihari kept on going). He forgot that among the many that crossed the border in those fateful autumn months of 1947, another person who came from Dplai in UP “kept on going” was the great writer Intizar Husein himself who passed away on February 2nd, 2016.

With his passing, an entire era in Urdu prose and fiction has ended. His short sto-

ries, columns, essays and novels are a gift to us all, and in them we find the thoughts, dreams, trepidations and pleasures of a generation that has been leaving us in the past decade. Born in 1925, Intizar Husain received his BA and MA from Meerut College in the mid 1940s, before he migrated to Pakistan in 1947. The composite political category of being a *mohajir* (or migrant) in Pakistan notwithstanding, Intizar Husein’s many texts introduces readers to differences within this group. Relying on the use of distinct dialects and idioms and through his discussion of literary rivalries, sights, smells, tastes, mannerisms and etiquette we are made to inhabit the company of people who created their own identity in

opposition to those who may have lived only a few miles away in British India. So, we get an intimate understanding of what it means to be from Aligarh, or Bulandshahr, or Meerut, or Lucknow, or from a small *qasbah* in the Oudh region (but these can be stories from any part of South Asia as the underlying message is about how the emphasis on difference is intrinsic to the processes of identity formation).

Intizar Husein’s sojourns into the specifics of the migration experience has hence raised questions about his own nostalgia for a lost past. Indeed, in his novels like *Basti* (the most acclaimed) and *Agay Samandar Hai* and many short stories he brings to the fore the nuances of living in a

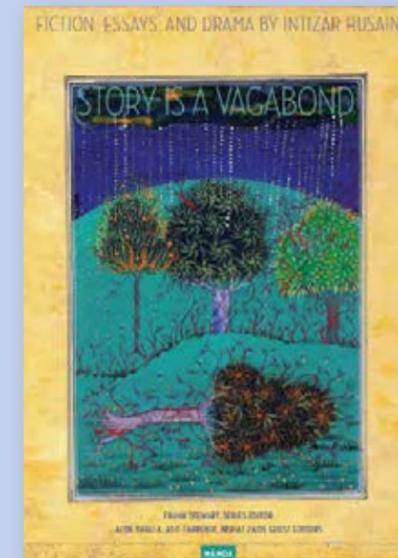
new space by a group that has left its ancestral land, with all its trials, tribulations and pleasures. Yet, for him the catastrophic aspects of Partition with its destruction and dislocation also undermined normative values and loosened moral strictures. The violence of the mid-1940s in South Asia hence created opportunities for many to rethink past certainties and generate visions for a new future; as we see the protagonists in his works break away from the social restrictions and the weight of traditions that binds them. The newness of the country hence also meant a certain democratization where age-old customs and taboos could be broken and social station could be contested.

Husein’s creative voice was constantly evolving. In many of his works, Intizar Husein uses idiomatic prose, the *ganga jamni* invocations peppered with long-forgotten proverbs, riddles and literary allusions. Yet, he also experimented with the Urdu short story form and introduced new subject matter to re-invigorate it. His short stories from the 1970s, *Hindustan se ek Khatt*, *Kachve*, *Shehr-i-Afsos*, *Aakhri Admi* stand out as masterpieces of in Urdu prose as he introduced new aesthetics in narrative style while providing a critical commentary on the violent events of 1971 and the kind of people Pakistanis had become.

Hence, Intizar Husein’s larger oeuvre cannot merely be read within the tropes of Partition literature or for that matter as a form of “nostalgia” (howsoever defined). Rather his writings have a more universal tone linked to the dilemmas of displacement, of a diasporic existence, of an experience of rootlessness and vagrancy that one inhabits, once one leaves “home.” A crucial question that his writings raise is about how we remember, for what purposes, who does the remembering, in what context and against what kinds of history this memory is counterpoised to. In doing this, he takes us into the realm of individual memories that undermine the nationalistic narra-



**He takes us into the realm of individual memories that undermine the nationalistic narrative of cataclysmic events like Partition.**



tive of cataclysmic events like Partition. It dwells on how we remember through the senses... sight, smell, sound... that trigger forgotten lands, events, times, pleasures and sorrows. In constructing this argument, Husein’s writing enters a much broader canvas that attempts to understand an individual’s travel through time and space; the nightingale’s singing, the sight of a tree, snakes crossing paths or the smell of monsoon rain, all can trigger a past that one has lived and experienced. In this sense, nature too, with all its diversity, matters to Intizar Husein in its intimate and intertwined relationship to humans.

Finally, by juxtaposing of memory with history, Intizar Husein hints at larger questions of who are we, where have we come from, what is our future. These queries of self-examination offer a critique of dominant history that fixes meanings through its own deterministic trajectories. Through the use of allegory and older techniques of storytelling (*dastan goi*) we find in him a sense of cyclical time as his characters while inhabiting the present, their affective and sensorial experiences also make them part of the long human tradition of mobility and travel.

A master storyteller, Intizar Husain introduces us to the apocalyptic and destructive aspects of our present condition, yet his stories from various and diverse traditions that make up the Muslim experience in South Asia also offer a different sense of history with its own regenerative power. He, therefore, provides a vision of rejuvenation and rebuilding that links the past, present and future in a continuum of human practice and experience that makes his writings so essential for us at this present juncture of our collective social and cultural impasse. ■

NOTE: AIPS co-sponsored the publication of *Story is a Vagabond* (Manoa Press) a collection of Intizar Husein’s Fiction, Essays and Drama in 2015. Please contact the AIPS office ([aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org](mailto:aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org)) for how to acquire this publication.

Front cover: Imran Channa, *IV Work in Progress*  
Graphite and eraser on paper, 53 x 35 inches, 2015.

AIPS is deeply grateful to Imran Channa for his generosity in contributing his artwork for both the front and back cover of this newsletter.



Imran Channa, *Pasts in Particles*, 2016 (Work in Progress)  
Pencil and graphite on paper, 150 x 100 cm



Imran Channa, *Pasts in Particles*, 2016 (Final Work)  
Eraser dust on paper, 150 x 100 cm

Imran Channa's artwork is borrowed from his *Enclosure/Eraser* exhibition (Koel Gallery, 2015). As Iftikhar Dadi writes in the accompanying catalogue, the "central concerns of Channa's extended investigation revolve around the question of historical truth associated with the photograph, and how our understanding of history remains malleable to ideology despite the ostensibly stubborn veracity of photographic evidence. If even the most reliable visual artifact in the archive cannot guarantee truth, how can we situate ourselves as subjects of history? These questions are absolutely central to subjectivities in South Asia today, as we individually and collectively seek a responsible relation to our history, beyond the siren song of exclusivist postcolonial nationalisms."

***Imran Channa's artwork helps us make a critical intervention on the 70th anniversary of South Asia's partition.***