

# AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PAKISTAN STUDIES



**2021-2022 Annual Report**  
October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022

# AIPS ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022

## AIPS FELLOWSHIPS

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

## FUNDED BY CAORC

### 1) Sohaib Khan – Postdoctoral Fellow, Yale University

Project Title: *Translating Capitalism: How Muslim Jurists and Bankers Invented Sharī'a Compliance*

Research Field: Islamic Law

Location: Lahore, Pakistan

Dates: December 2023

### 2) Uzma Rizvi – Associate Professor, Pratt Institute of Design

Project Title: *Laboratory for Integrated Archaeological Visualization and Heritage (LIAVH)*

Research Field: Anthropology/Archaeology

Location: Lahore, Pakistan

Dates: TBD

## FUNDED BY AIPS

### 1) Shandana Waheed – Ph.D. Candidate, Stanford University

Project Title: *Present of Past: Negotiating Pre-partition Heritage of Rawalpindi in Post-Partition Pakistan*

Research Field: Anthropology

Location: Rawalpindi, Punjab, Pakistan

Dates: October 1 – November 30, 2022

### 2) Tayeba Batool – Ph.D. Candidate, University of Pennsylvania

Project Title: *City of Trees: Urban Ecologies of Miyawaki Urban Forests in Pakistan*

Research Field: Anthropology

Location: Islamabad and Lahore, Pakistan

Dates: September 1 – October 30, 2022

**3) Marvi Ahmed – Ph.D. Candidate, Cornell University**

Project Title: *Contested Frontiers: Development Aid, Identity, and Agrarian Politics in Southern Pakistan*

Research Field: Development Studies

Location: Islamabad and Sindh, Pakistan

Dates: TBD

**4) Sanaullah Khan – Ph.D. Candidate, Johns Hopkins University**

Project Title: *Diagnosing Biraderis: War, Mental Illness & Kinship in Pakistan*

Research Field: Anthropology

Location: Pakistan

Dates: May 24 – September 26, 2022

---

## TRAVEL GRANTS

---

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

---

## FUNDED BY CAORC

---

**1) Syeda ShahBano Ijaz – Ph.D. Candidate, University of California, San Diego**

Conference Name: Political Economy of International Organizations

Conference Dates: July 7-9, 2022

Location: Oxford, United Kingdom

Title of Paper: “Moral Hazard or State Capacity: U.S. Military Assistance and Political Violence in Pakistan”

**2) Anita Weiss – Professor, University of Oregon**

Conference Name: ISA 2022 Annual Convention

Conference Dates: March 28 – April 2, 2022

Location: Tennessee, United States

Title of Paper: "Local Actions, Local Voices in Countering Violent Extremism in Pakistan"

**3) John Mock – Lecturer, University of California, Santa Cruz**

Conference Name: Roots of Peristan: The Pre-Islamic Cultures of the Hindukush-Karakorum

Conference Dates: October 5-7, 2022

Location: Rome, Italy

Title of Paper(s): “Tibetans in Gilgit and Wakhan – New Data, New Implications”; “On the Title Tham of Hunza Rulers”; Onomastics of Shri Badat, the Cannibal King of Gilgit

## SHORT-TERM RESEARCH GRANTS

---

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

**1) Asif Sandeelo – Ph.D. Candidate, University of Georgia**

Field: Anthropology

Project Title: *Political Bird: Elite Falconry, Power Politics, and Conservation in Pakistan*

**2) Aabiya Noman Baqai – Ph.D. Candidate, the University of Texas at Austin**

Field: Community and Regional Planning

Project Title: *Negotiating National Citizenship through Insurgent Placemaking in Islamabad, Pakistan*

**3) Javairia Shahid – Ph.D. Candidate, Columbia University**

Field: Architecture

Project Title: *Canal Colonies in Punjab: Labor, Property, and Water in Colonial India (1842-1935)*

**4) Sana Naeem – Ph.D. Candidate, Harvard University**

Field: Anthropology

Project Title: *Da Katchero Chakaray: Litigating Divorce in Pakistan*

**5) Syed Eisar Haider – Ph.D. Candidate, University of Notre Dame**

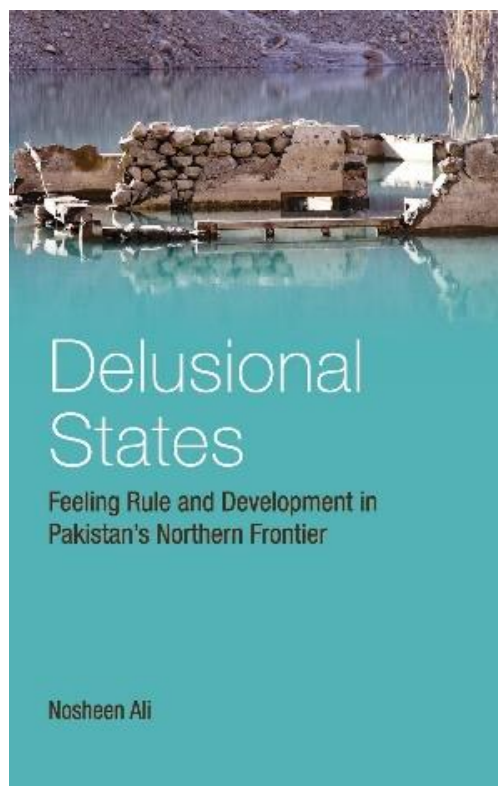
Field: Sociology

Project Title: *Local Expressions, Global Arenas: Pakistani Shia Pilgrims in the Arba’een Pilgrimage*

## 2022 AIPS BOOK PRIZE

**Author:** Dr. Nosheen Ali

**Title:** *Delusional States: Feeling Rule and Development in Pakistan's Northern Frontier*



**Book Description:** *Delusional States* is the first in-depth study of state-making and social change in Gilgit-Baltistan, a Shia-majority region of Sunni-dominated Pakistan and a contested border area that forms part of disputed Kashmir. For over seven decades, the territorial conflict over Kashmir has locked India and Pakistan in brutal wars and hate-centered nationalisms. The book illuminates how within this story of hate lie other stories - of love and betrayal, loyalty and suspicion, beauty and terror - that help us grasp how the Kashmir conflict is effectively structured and experienced on the ground. Placing these emotions at the center of its analysis, the book rethinks the state-citizen relation in deeply felt and intimate terms, offering a multi-layered ethnographic understanding of power and subjection in contemporary Pakistan.

The Book Prize Committee found the book to be “a superb ethnography of the nation-state. It advanced how the field thinks about the War on Terror and how citizens in Gilgit-Baltistan negotiate and respond to the unique political economy created by the US and Pakistan in the

borderlands. The book’s theoretical approach—with its careful working of affect theory and geographical focus—is to be a crucial intervention into Pakistan Studies broadly and, significantly, into the morass of signification surrounding Kashmir. Ali’s inclusion of ecological considerations in part 3 illuminates her book’s central argument re: the region’s ironic position as a ‘natural wonder’ and a security concern. Further, the committee appreciated the distinctions Ali makes in the types of belonging her ethnographic subjects seek: not strictly in terms of ‘Muslimness,’ which, in the book’s argument, fits too neatly into a given understanding of the Pakistani nation. This is an original, well-thought-out book, offering a novel indigenous explanation of the citizen-state relationship.”





## AIPS (CO)SPONSORED EVENTS

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

### 1) Identity and Nationhood in Pakistani Literature

Date: October 22, 2021

Location: Virtual

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

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

### 2) Placing Pakistan: Space, Time, and the Everyday

Dates: February 11-12, 2022

Location: Virtual

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

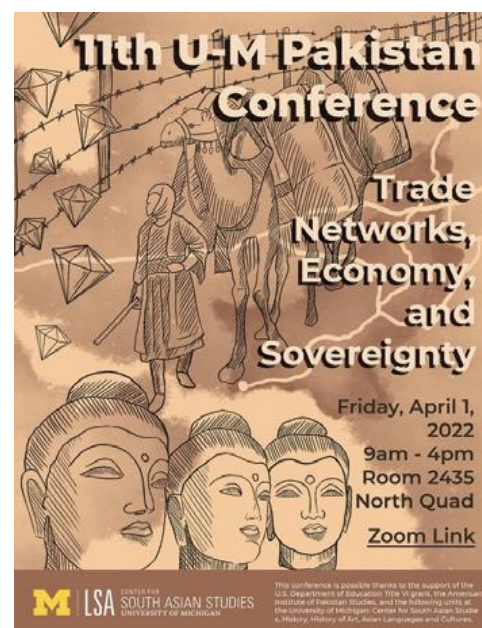
The Tafsilan Working Group is "comprised of graduate students and early career scholars interested in critiquing and expanding the conceptual and methodological frameworks of scholarship on South Asia."

### 3) University of Michigan 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Pakistan Conference

Date: April 1, 2022

Location: University of Michigan, USA

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



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

### 4) Community College Collaborative Workshop

Dates: May 13-15, 2022

Location: Lahore, Pakistan

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



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

### 5) Research Proposal Writing Workshop

Dates: June 6-7, 2022

Location: Lahore, Pakistan

AIPS President Dr. Matthew A. Cook (North Carolina Central University) and former AIPS At-Large Trustee Dr. Walter Hakala (University at Buffalo, SUNY) recently organized a workshop for Lahore-area graduate students on developing a proposal for doctoral research. The event, which was held June 6 and 7, 2022 at Forman Christian College University, included sixteen student participants from four institutions (Forman Christian College University, University of the Punjab, Government College University, University of Management and Technology) representing English, History, Pakistan Studies, and Political Science. It was facilitated by Dr. Sikandar Hayat,



Distinguished Professor of History and Public Policy and Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, and the outstanding staff of Forman Christian College University. Over the course of the one-and-a-half-day workshop in Lahore, participants learned strategies for developing compelling research projects, preparing formal research proposals, establishing productive relationships with faculty advisors, and navigating the academic and non-academic job markets.



## 6) American Institute of Indian Studies (AIIS) Dissertation-to-Book Workshop

Dates: October 20-21, 2021

Location: Virtual

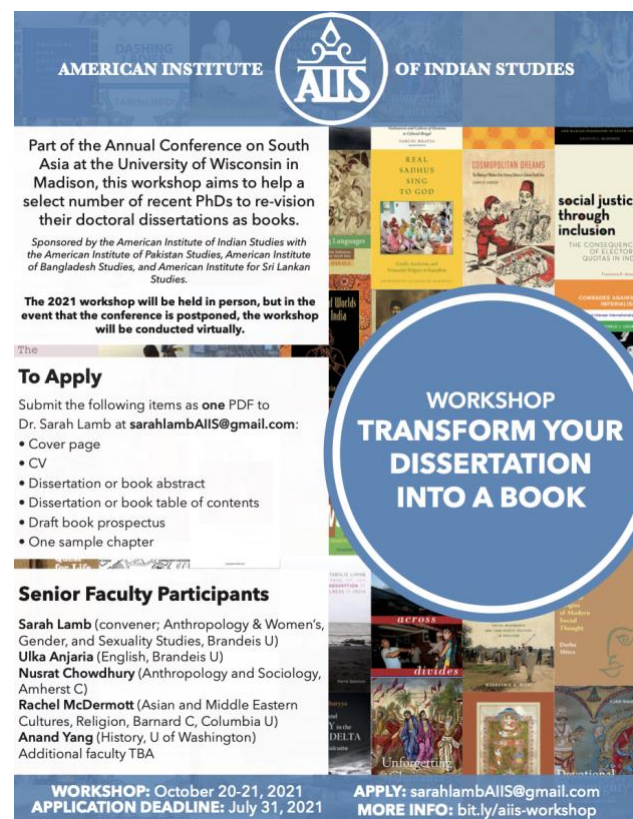
Co-sponsored by: CAORC, AIIS, AIPS, AIBS, AISLS

The annual AIIS Dissertation-to-Book workshop aims to help a select number of recent Ph.Ds. to re-vision their doctoral dissertations as books. Originally part of the Annual Conference on South Asia, this year's workshop occurred virtually. The workshop was sponsored by the American Institute of Indian Studies, American Institute of Pakistan Studies, American Institute of Bangladesh Studies, and American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies. AIPS is also co-sponsoring the AIIS Dissertation-to-Book Workshop

## 7) Writing and Publishing Workshop

Date: August 5-6, 2022

Location: National Institute of Pakistan Studies, Islamabad



**AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF INDIAN STUDIES**

Part of the Annual Conference on South Asia at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, this workshop aims to help a select number of recent PhDs to re-vision their doctoral dissertations as books.

Sponsored by the American Institute of Indian Studies with the American Institute of Pakistan Studies, American Institute of Bangladesh Studies, and American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies.

The 2021 workshop will be held in person, but in the event that the conference is postponed, the workshop will be conducted virtually.

**To Apply**

Submit the following items as one PDF to Dr. Sarah Lamb at [sarahlambAIIS@gmail.com](mailto:sarahlambAIIS@gmail.com):

- Cover page
- CV
- Dissertation or book abstract
- Dissertation or book table of contents
- Draft book prospectus
- One sample chapter

**Senior Faculty Participants**

Sarah Lamb (convener; Anthropology & Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Brandeis U)  
 Ulka Anjaria (English, Brandeis U)  
 Nusrat Chowdhury (Anthropology and Sociology, Amherst C)  
 Rachel McDermott (Asian and Middle Eastern Cultures, Religion, Barnard C, Columbia U)  
 Anand Yang (History, U of Washington)  
 Additional faculty TBA

**WORKSHOP: October 20-21, 2021**  
**APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 31, 2021**

**APPLY: [sarahlambAIIS@gmail.com](mailto:sarahlambAIIS@gmail.com)**  
**MORE INFO: [bit.ly/aiis-workshop](https://bit.ly/aiis-workshop)**

**WORKSHOP TRANSFORM YOUR DISSERTATION INTO A BOOK**

Dr. Zehra Hashmi (Brown University) and Dr. Ahsan Kamal (Quaid-i-Azam University) led a two-day intensive writing workshop at the National Institute of Pakistan Studies, Quaid-i-Azam University. The workshop brought together 25 Ph.D. and MPhil students to develop their dissertations and other written work into publishable articles. Participants worked in a collaborative environment to strengthen their writing and improve their intellectual practices and networks, skills that often comprise the “hidden curriculum” of academic study. The overarching goal of the workshop was to “demystify academic knowledge production” so as to move towards addressing the inequalities of access that exist between institutions of the Global North and those in Pakistan.

## CAORC-AIPS 2021/22 FACULTY DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR: “RELIGION & CULTURE IN THE POSTCOLONIAL CITY”

**Summary:** AIPS has selected its next cohort for the Faculty Development Seminar in Pakistan. This seminar, organized by AIPS with support from CAORC, aims to provide participants with firsthand experiences of various cultural sites and practices in Lahore, including its medieval walled city and its colonial architectural landmarks, as well as facilitating meetings with local scholars, artists, and others. Participants are faculty members or administrators of a community college or minority-serving institution, who seek to provide a global perspective to their students. This program is currently set to occur in May of 2023.

## UPCOMING AIPS EVENTS

### 1) Emerging Scholars in Pakistan Studies Symposium

Date: October 2022

Location: Madison, WI, USA

AIPS is planning to hold its third Emerging Scholars in Pakistan Studies Symposium at the Annual Conference on South Asia in 2022. This half-day symposium is expected to bring together emerging scholars who are based in the social sciences and the humanities primarily in US academia. It will showcase the new research being done by six emerging scholars in the field of Pakistan Studies. AIPS identifies senior scholars who will read the accepted papers and provide feedback, mentorship, and guided discussion after the presentations. These events have been central in enabling emerging scholars to network with others in their field and have resulted in significant outcomes, including multiple projects started, mentorships forged, articles written, and dissertations revised, edited, and completed. Additionally, a few of those who attended previous symposia have received tenure-track positions in academic institutions in the US.



*[Photo: Participants at the 2018 AIPS Junior Scholars Conference]*

## 2) **The Pakistan Conference: 75 Years of Independence**

Dates: November 29-30, 2022

Location: Harvard University, USA

The Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute at Harvard University will host the AIPS co-sponsored “Pakistan Conference: 75 Years of Independence.” This conference aims to bring a focused, though not exclusionary, lens to the study of the country, where in a regional context, Pakistan is overshadowed by its much larger neighbor. Taking a long view of 75 years since independence this conference will provide the space to reflect upon the past, but also explore the lingering legacies and challenges that continue to cast a shadow over the country. In doing so, the themes will be framed around the local, the regional, the international and the overarching influence of (pan)-Islamism that informs or influences all these spaces. This approach will bring together strong interdisciplinary research that extends into multiple genres.

## AIPS CONTACT INFORMATION

---

### **President**

Dr. Matthew A. Cook  
Professor, South Asian Studies  
North Carolina Central University  
1801 Fayetteville St.  
Durham, NC 27707  
Tel: 919-530-6883  
Email: [mcook@nccu.edu](mailto:mcook@nccu.edu)

### **AIPS Administrative Office**

U.S. Director, Laura Hammond  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
702 Langdon St., Ste. L50  
Madison, WI, USA 53706  
Phone: +1 608-265-4149  
Email: [aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org](mailto:aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org)

### **Islamabad Office**

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, CIS Technology Park  
Building 12, Sector G-5  
Islamabad, Pakistan  
Phone: +9251-9201360, 9201370

*Cover photo: Wazir Khan Mosque, Lahore, Pakistan. Courtesy of Robert Nichols*