

AIPS



AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PAKISTAN STUDIES

2023 NEWSLETTER



President’s Report

Dear Friends,



Dr. Matthew A. Cook, AIPS President

With the height of the COVID-19 pandemic increasingly behind us, planning and support for AIPS’s mission continues on multiple fronts.

AIPS funded and helped organize multiple workshops this past year. In Pakistan, it supported workshops by Joel Gordon (University of Arkansas), Zehra Hashmi (Brown University [but now the University of Pennsylvania]), Richard Wolf (Harvard University)/Alan Ray (University of Indiana, Bloomington), and Iftikhar Dadi (Cornell University)/Farhan Karim (University of Kansas)/Faiza Mushtaq (Indus Valley

School of the Art & Architecture). The hosting partners for these workshops were in Islamabad, Lahore, and Karachi:

- Forman Christian College University in Lahore and the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi, hosted Joel Gordon’s Popular Culture and History: Research Directions and Approaches workshop.
- Quaid-e-Azam University in Islamabad hosted Zehra Hashmi’s Writing and Publishing Workshop for Ph.D. and M.Phil. Students.
- The National Council of Arts in Lahore hosted Richard Wolf and Alan Burdette’s Faculty Development Workshop in Ethnomusicology.

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Front cover photo: Mohenjo-daro, Sindh, Pakistan by Dr. Uzma Rizvi

- The Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture in Karachi hosted Iftikhar Dadi, Farhan Karim, and Faiza Mushtaq’s workshop titled Architecture, Urban Design and Environmental Activism in Contemporary Pakistan.
- In addition to these workshops, AIPS supported the Pathways to Development: Equitable and Sustainable Growth in Pakistan conference. A three-day conference at LUMS, several US-based scholars attended it. Facilitated by AIPS Trustee Dr. Sarah Khan of Yale University, the multidisciplinary event covered themes ranging from macro-economic stability to climate change to gender and social justice.
- In the United States, AIPS conducted the Third Emerging Scholars Symposium and a Q&A panel session with the editors of Critical Pakistan Studies at the 2022 Annual Conference on South Asian Studies (ACSAS). (The institute will host a second Q&A session with the Critical Pakistan Studies editors at ACSAS 2023 and plans a Fourth Emerging Scholars Symposium at ACSAS 2024). In addition to these events, AIPS co-sponsored the 12th Annual Pakistan Conference at the University of Michigan and a second event, The Pakistan Conference: 75 Years of Independence, at Harvard University’s Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute. In addition to conferences, symposia, and panels, AIPS created a reoccurring Introduction to Urdu Language and Culture online course. Offered through extended learning at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, the course is open to the public for credit. Requiring no previous knowledge, it provides participants with a solid starting foundation in Urdu and the socio-cultural traditions of Pakistan.
- AIPS funded a wide variety of research grants this past year. This year’s short-term fellowship recipients were Ahmed Afzal (California State University-Fullerton), Daniel Waqar (Tufts University), Ijaz Ahmad (University of Georgia), Jonathan Paramore (University of California, Santa Cruz), Muntazir Ali (Brown University), Noor Habib (University of Massachusetts, Amherst), Omar Gondal (Washington University in St. Louis), Osama Ahmad (Brown University), Sharmeen Mehri (University of Buffalo [SUNY]), and Syed Haider Shahbaz (University of California, Los Angeles). The recipients’ projects crossed many disciplines:
- Ethnographic Study of the Uses of Mobile Social Networking Apps in Urban Pakistan (Anthropology).
- Governing Crowds: A Study of “Unlawful Assembly” Laws and Social Practices in South Asia, c. 1830s-1970s (History).
- Seeing Beyond Control: Assessing the Impact of the 18th Amendment on Pakistan’s Higher (Higher Education Administration).
- Nasalization in Punjabi and Mankiyali (Linguistics).
- Chitral as a “Tribal” Region: The Promise and Perils of Integration, 1947-1969 (Religious Studies).
- Remapping Literary Worlds: Miraji’s Urdu Translations of World Poetry (Comparative Literature).

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AIPS Islamabad Center Highlights

1. Dr. Richard Wolf (Professor, Harvard University) gave a talk on the role of music studies in humanities’ curricula at the Islamabad Club on December 7, 2022. Professors and lecturers from Nigeria, Uganda, Kenya, Kazakhstan, and Pakistan attended the discussion.



2. Students and scholars attended a screening of Dr. Wolf’s film, *Two Poets and a River* at the National College of Arts in Lahore on November 30, 2022.



3. Dr. J. Mark Kenoyer (Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison) visited Pakistan to facilitate archaeological workshops and excavation from December 24, 2022-January 20, 2023. Over 170 people attended these events.

4. From December 12-18, 2022, AIPS assisted with the workshop titled “Pedagogic Research: Advancing Methods, Analysis, and Practices” at Fatima Jinnah Women University. Dr. Michael Hirsch (Professor, Huston-Tillotson University) led the workshop along with Dr. Saima Hamid, Dr. Aneela Maqsood, Dr. Adeela Rehman, Dr. Shazia Hashmat, Dr. Shaheryar Naveed, and Dr. Sadaf Sajjad. Over 800 people attended the event.



5. Caroline Cummings (University of Oregon, CEO of the Regional Accelerator & Innovation Network (RAIN)) led workshops for Women Entrepreneurs at Fatima Jinnah Women University (FJWU) from January 13-31, 2023. AIPS facilitated her lodging and travel for the events, and 129 people were in attendance.



6. Cummings met with students of entrepreneurship at FJWU on January 17, 2023.



7. AIPS facilitated the visit of Dr. Jason Brownlee (Professor, University of Texas at Austin) as he attended meetings and gave lectures at the Lahore University of Management Sciences from October 14-22, 2022.

AIPS Islamabad Center Highlights

8. Ms. Atufa Qazi (Assistant Director, AIPS-Pakistan Office) gave opening remarks at the “Pop Culture and History – Research Directions” workshop led by Dr. Joel Gordon (Professor, University of Arkansas) at FCCU Lahore from March 13-14, 2023, below.



9. “Pop Culture and History – Research Directions” workshop participants and facilitators are pictured below.



Retirement of AIPS-Pakistan Director, Nadeem Akbar

After 25 years with AIPS, Mr. Nadeem Akbar, AIPS-Pakistan Director, has retired. Nadeem has been integral to AIPS operations in Pakistan, and his contributions will be appreciated and remembered by many. AIPS thanks him for his many years of service.

During his time with AIPS, Nadeem facilitated partnerships between US and Pakistani scholars and universities. As the resource person for those visiting Pakistan, and in his role as AIPS-Pakistan Director, he helped numerous scholars conduct research, facilitate workshops, and deliver lectures. AIPS applauds Nadeem’s quarter-century commitment to Pakistan Studies and extends its best wishes to him regarding his future plans.

10. AIPS President, Dr. Matthew A. Cook (Professor, North Carolina Central University), met with Dr. Inam Ullah Leghari (Associate Professor and Chairperson, Quaid-i-Azam University), faculty, and students at QAU on July 18, 2023, below.



11. The University of Sindh’s Pakistan Study Centre organized a session for Dr. Cook to interact with chairpersons and faculty members of various departments at the university, below.



GRANTEE TESTIMONIAL



“I am grateful to AIPS for supporting my dissertation research and giving me the opportunity to develop a strong foundation for my prolonged ethnographic fieldwork.” — Shandana Waheed, AIPS Pre-Doctoral Fellowship

Individual Grantees

AIPS Short-Term Research Grants to Pakistan 2023

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

Ahmed Afzal

Institution: California State University, Fullerton
Field: Anthropology
Project Title: “Ethnographic Study of the Uses of Mobile Social Networking Apps in Urban Pakistan”

Daniel Waqar

Institution: Tufts University
Field: History
Project Title: “Governing Crowds: A Study of ‘Unlawful Assembly’ Laws and Social Practices in South Asia, c. 1830s-1970s”

Ijaz Ahmad

Institution: University of Georgia
Field: Higher Education Administration
Project Title: “Seeing Beyond Control: Assessing the Impact of the 18th Amendment on Pakistan’s Higher Education”

Jonathan Paramore

Institution: University of California, Santa Cruz
Field: Linguistics
Project Title: “Nasalization in Punjabi and Mankiyali”

Muntazir Ali

Institution: Brown University
Field: Religious Studies
Project Title: “Chitral as a ‘Tribal’ Region: The Promise and Perils of Integration, 1947-1969”

Noor Habib

Institution: University of Massachusetts Amherst
Field: Comparative Literature
Project Title: “Remapping Literary Worlds: Miraji’s Urdu Translations of World Poetry”

Omar Gondal

Institution: Washington University in St. Louis
Field: Economics
Project Title: “Asymmetric Information, Relational Contracts, and Prices: Evidence from Fresh Produce Supply Chain in Pakistan”

Osama Ahmad

Institution: Brown University
Field: History
Project Title: “City of Knowledge: Lahore’s Urdu Bazaar as Engine of Print, Urbanity and Self-fashioning”

Sharmeen Mehri

Institution: University at Buffalo, SUNY
Field: English
Project Title: “Dr. Dastur Dhalla Library: Mapping Parsi Writing and its Literary Archive in Karachi”

Haider Shahbaz

Institution: University of California, Los Angeles
Field: Comparative Literature
Project Title: “Anticolonial Relation: Afro-Asian Solidarity in Urdu Magazines, 1947-1990”

AIPS Conference Travel Grants 2022-2023

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

Adeem Suhail

Domestic Travel Grant
Institution: Franklin and Marshall College
Conference Name: Annual Conference on South Asia, UW-Madison
Conference Dates: October 19-22, 2022
Title of Paper: “Faith, Flood and Pestilence: Climate Change and the Incompleteness of Reality in Pakistan”

Andrew Amstutz

International Travel Grant
Institution: University of Arkansas at Little Rock
Conference Name: Exhibit Asia: Partition and the Transition to Nation-States in South and East Asia
Conference Dates: September 1-2, 2023
Title of Paper: “Exhibiting Pakistan, Italian Style: Partition and the Exhibition of Buddhist Sculpture in Italian Museums”

John Mock

International Travel Grant
Institution: University of California, Santa Cruz
Conference Name: Roots of Peristan: The Pre-Islamic Cultures of the Hindukush-Karakorum
Conference Dates: October 5-7, 2022
Title of Paper(s): “Tibetans in Gilgit and Wakhan – New Data, New Implications”; “On the Title Tham of Hunza Rulers”; and “Onomastics of Shri Badat, the Cannibal King of Gilgit”

Mashal Saif

International Travel Grant
Institution: Clemson University
Conference Name: Annual Conference of the British Association for Islamic Studies
Conference Dates: May 15-16, 2023
Title of Paper: “Between History and Memory: Contemporary Pakistani Shi’a ‘Ulama’s Reflections on Politics and Sectarian Harmony”

Sarah Robinson

International Travel Grant
Institution: University of California, Los Angeles
Conference Name: AAS-in-Asia
Conference Dates: June 24-27, 2022
Title of Paper: “From Talib to Shaheed: Contemporary Tarana Production in Pakistan”

Individual Grantees

ACSA Panel Funding

AIPS funded the travel of one scholar in Pakistan to participate in an accepted panel at the 2022 Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison, WI.

J. Mark Kenoyer on behalf of panelist, Abdul Samad
International Travel Grant
Institution: University of Wisconsin-Madison
Conference Name: Annual Conference on South Asia
Conference Dates: October 19-22, 2022
Title of Panel: “Innovative Approaches to Traditional Archaeology in South Asia: Indus to Early Historic Periods”
Title of Paper: “Researches and New Approaches in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Ancient Gandhara) Archaeology”

AIPS Fellowships 2022-2023

Each year, AIPS awards long-term Pre-Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Fellowships for two to nine months. Funding for these fellowships comes from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the U.S. Department of State, through a grant from the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC), and from AIPS’s unrestricted funds. These awards have been highly competitive, and AIPS is excited to announce the recently awarded fellows below. Full abstracts and final reports for all fellows are accessible on the AIPS website.

Aabiya Noman Baqai
Pre-Doctoral Fellow
Institution: University of Texas at Austin
Field: Community and Regional Planning
Project Title: “Re-Imagining Citizenship through Informal Assemblages in Islamabad, Pakistan”

Brannon Ingram
Post-Doctoral Fellow
Institution: Northwestern University
Field: Religious Studies
Project Title: “‘Religion’ in Muslim South Asia: On the Colonial Pathways of a Modern Category”

Du Fei
Pre-Doctoral Fellow
Institution: Cornell University
Field: History
Project Title: “Gendering Property and Islamic Law in Bengal and Punjab, c. 1770-1870”

Kylie Gilchrist
Pre-Doctoral Fellow
Institution: University of Manchester
Field: Art History
Project Title: “Karachi Modern: Situating Rasheed Araeen’s Early Works in the Urban Field”

Mubbashir Rizvi
Post-Doctoral Fellow
Institution: American University
Field: Anthropology
Project Title: “Food Geographies of Coexistence in the Aftermath of Violence”

Muhammad Zubair Abro
Pre-Doctoral Fellow
Institution: University of New Mexico
Field: Anthropology
Project Title: “Sufi ‘Voicings’ of Multiculturalism in Contemporary Pakistan: A Linguistic Anthropological Approach”



Congratulations to Muhammad Zubair Abro for being chosen as this year’s recipient of the Suhail Zaheer Lari Memorial Fellowship Fund! The Lari Fund aims to promote studies on Sindh through AIPS’s Fellowships and Short-Term Research Grants. A pre-doctoral candidate at the University of New Mexico, Abro explores “the mediation of Sindhi nationalism in the Sufi voicings of the poetry of Shah Latif, and the implications of the practices of this under-represented group for highlighting the internal diversity of Pakistani nationalism.” Suhail Zaheer Lari (1936-2020) was a Pakistani historian and author who focused on research and documentation of the history of the Sindh region in Southern Pakistan. His family established this fellowship in his memory.

Onaiza Arshad
Pre-Doctoral Fellow
Institution: CUNY Graduate Center
Field: Anthropology
Project Title: “Mediating National Pasts: Image and Built Environment in Andaroon Lahore”

Saifullah Nasar
Pre-Doctoral Fellow
Institution: University of Michigan
Field: Anthropology
Project Title: “Value Across Margins: Regulations and Oil Smuggling in Iran-Pakistan Borderlands”

Sameena Azhar
Post-Doctoral Fellow
Institution: Fordham University
Field: Social Work
Project Title: “Gender-Based Violence against Khwaja Sira in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan”

Syeda ShahBano Ijaz
Post-Doctoral Fellow
Institution: University of California, San Diego
Field: Political Science
Project Title: “Aiding Accountability: The Politics of Last Mile Service Delivery”

Walter Hakala
Post-Doctoral Fellow
Institution: University of Buffalo, SUNY
Field: Language and Literature
Project Title: “Urdu as a Critical Foreign Language in South Korea: Expanding Pakistan Studies at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies”

AIPS Conferences and Workshops



AIPS Emerging Scholars Symposium
Date: [October 20, 2022](#)
Location: [Madison, WI, USA](#)
On October 20, 2022, AIPS hosted its biennial Emerging Scholars Symposium in conjunction with the 50th Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison, WI. The symposium showcased research being done by six junior scholars in the field of Pakistan Studies regarding a variety of topics including digital humanities, decolonization, women’s rights, political Islam, incarceration, and labor movements. The symposium was divided into four sessions, with each session’s chair giving detailed feedback that led to lively discussions on the papers. The scholars and papers are listed below:

From “New Womanhood” to “New Working Class”: Gender and Class Ambiguity in Pakistan’s New Service Economy – Dr. Sidra Kamran, Assistant Professor, The New School for Social Research

Arguing Pakistan in Late Colonial India: The Political Thought of Shabbir Ahmad Usmani – Hasan Hameed, Ph.D. Candidate, Princeton University

Double Bind of Gendered Digital Activism in Pakistan – Naila Sahar, Postdoctoral Fellow, State University of New York, Buffalo

“Digital Pakistan”: Dramas, Data Analytics and the Remaking of a Culture Industry – Elliot Montpellier, Ph.D. Candidate, University of Pennsylvania

Militarizing the Psyche: Incarceration and the Ontologies of Mental Illness in Pakistan – Sanaullah Khan, Ph.D. Candidate, Johns Hopkins University

Pakistani Women’s Labor at the Crossroads of Patriarchy and Colonial Capitalism: A Historical Perspective – Sameera Abbas, Ph.D. Candidate, State University of New York, Buffalo

Session chairs included Dr. Matthew A. Cook (North Carolina State University), Dr. Yaqoob Bangash (Harvard University), Dr. Rini Bhattacharya Mehta (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), and Dr. Iftikhar Dadi (Cornell University).

The Pakistan Conference: 75 Years of Independence
Date: [November 29-30, 2022](#)
Location: [Harvard University, USA](#)
This two-day conference, organized by Dr. Yaqoob Khan Bangash (Harvard University), had an interdisciplinary focus across all fields relating to Pakistan, with 40 presenters from a global community of scholars. The interdisciplinary focus ensures that the field of Pakistan studies is moving towards

a more holistic humanities and social sciences approach beyond the traditional security studies that has dominated the field. The keynote speaker was Justice Qazi Faez Isa, the Senior Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Pakistan and the plenary was given by Dr. Pippa Virdee from the DeMontfort University in the UK. AIPS funds helped sponsor the participation of seven graduate students at the conference, ensuring that early-career scholars could also participate in this conference. The conference organizers are now working with Routledge to publish an edited volume based on select conference papers.

Faculty Development in Ethnomusicology Workshop
Date: [November 30-December 4, 2022](#)
Location: [National College of Arts, Lahore, Pakistan](#)

Led by Dr. Richard Wolf (Harvard University) and Alan Burdette (Indiana University-Bloomington), this workshop was an opportunity for participants to give presentations of their research areas and discuss strategies for their respective works. Several approaches to musical archiving and the value of audio recordings were also explored. Participants and organizers engaged in beneficial discussions regarding sound archive training, finding aids, audiences, and grant writing. Overall, the workshop contributed to making Pakistan’s musical heritage more available to scholars, musicians, and others who value it.

Pop Culture and History Workshop: Research Directions
Date: [March 13-14, and 16, 2023](#)
Location: [Forman Christian College University, Lahore and the Institute of Business Administration, Karachi](#)

The purpose of the workshop was to share theoretical and methodological questions and insight related to the study of popular culture and to expand participants’ horizons on what might constitute an ‘archive.’ The two-day workshop at FCCU was attended by approximately 25 graduate students from five institutions and one faculty mem-

AIPS Conferences and Workshops

ber from Government College University. Distinguished Professor Sikander Hayat, Dean of the FCCU Faculty of Social Science hosted the workshop. The audience at IBA consisted of a mix of junior faculty and their students. Dr. Joel Gordon (University of Arkansas) led the workshop, and he drove discussion sessions where attendees raised parallels to their own research endeavors and projected plans that fit more squarely into Pakistan studies across a wide spectrum of disciplines. These themes included media studies, literature, cultural studies, political science, environmental studies, and gender. The workshop sought to move scholarship beyond existing parameters, especially at a time when official archives are restrictive in what scholars are allowed to access.

Architecture, Urban Design, and Environmental Activism in Contemporary Pakistan
Date: [May 12-13, 2023](#)

Location: [Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan](#)
Organized by Dr. Iftikhar Dadi (Cornell University), Dr. Farhan Karim (University of Kansas), and Dr. Faiza Mushtaq (IVS), the workshop brought together scholars and environmental designers based in Pakistan (architects, urban planners, landscape designers, urban researchers & design educators) who are exploring diverse models of research, practice, and pedagogy to address land rights and climate related insecurity in Pakistan. The workshop explored more humanistic ways of looking at climate crisis and climate justice in the region. As a result, participants were given the tools to access and engage in more diverse climate conversations.

Pathways to Development: Sustainable and Equitable Growth in Pakistan
Date: [December 19-21, 2022](#)
Location: [LUMS, Lahore, Pakistan](#)
This conference featured participation from several US-based scholars whose travel was facilitated by Yale University (Dr. Sarah Khan) with support from AIPS.



Pathways to Development conference



Pathways to Development conference

The conference saw more than 70 speakers across 22 panel sessions and was attended by over 350 students, faculty members, scholars, and government officials. The multidisciplinary conference centered on the theme of equitable and sustainable growth in Pakistan and covered themes such as macroeconomic stability, climate change, gender and social justice, and many more. Participants were therefore exposed to a broad array of expert assessment on Pakistan's path to sustainable and equitable growth and were able to hear the interplay between disciplines. The organizing committee is now planning to make the conference an annual event as planning gets underway for next year's event.

12th Annual UM Pakistan Conference
Date: [March 31, 2023](#)
Location: [University of Michigan, USA](#)
Dr. Matthew Hull (University of Michigan) organized this event alongside doctoral students Anmol Ghavri and Meenu Deswal. The conference was an initiative aimed at fostering an alternative intellectual and political discourse on Pakistan. This year's conference concentrated on the theme "The Country and the City in Pakistan." During discussion, participants explored the relationship between the urban and the rural. They examined the role played by kinship, domesticity, religion, institutional and technological change, and the everyday practices of governance that mediate people's experiences across the rural-urban continuum.

AIPS Opportunities

Please contact AIPS for more information on applying for these opportunities.

Institutional Membership Waiver

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

AIPS Book Prize

AIPS is soliciting books relating to Pakistan Studies (defined broadly) published within the last three years or soon-to-be published for the annual AIPS book prize. Books must be single authored monographs (no edited volumes); please confirm eligibility with AIPS prior to sending books. The award recipient will receive a monetary prize from AIPS (\$1,000). Applicants in all disciplines are encouraged to apply. **The next deadline is January 10, 2024.**

Pakistan Lecture Series

The Pakistan Lecture Series (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 US for two to four weeks to present lectures at a minimum of three AIPS Member Institutions. PLS speakers are nominated by AIPS members or member institutions. A three-member committee solicits and screens potential PLS speakers. The final selection and approval of the PLS speaker is made by the AIPS Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees and is contingent upon available funds.

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

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

Introduction to Urdu Language and Culture Course

AIPS will be hosting the Introduction to Urdu Language and Culture online course again in the spring of 2024. Enrollment is open to all interested in exploring Urdu language and culture, and faculty members at Community Colleges and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) are eligible to receive full funding to participate in the course thanks to support from AIPS's Department of Education's Title VI Overseas Research Centers funding.

In this introductory level class, participants will have the opportunity to gain a basic foundation in Urdu and learn about the rich cultural traditions of Pakistan and other Urdu-speaking regions. The 10-week online course is ideal for those who want to get an overview of the basics of the Urdu writing system, learn conversational Urdu useful for daily activities (e.g. shopping, ordering in restaurants), and explore cultural themes via dramas, movies, songs and poetry. No previous knowledge is required, and participants can earn up to 2.0 CEU credits for completing the course.

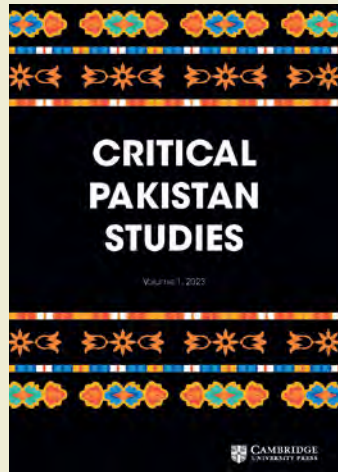
The course has been designed by Dr. Jameel Ahmad. Dr. Ahmad has been teaching beginning to advanced level Urdu for over a decade at the University of Washington, Seattle.

GRANTEE TESTIMONIAL



"AIPS's short term research grant was instrumental for me to advance in my PhD process. I am grateful for AIPS's grant because this trip helped me adapt my project to the realities on the ground, and think through some of the research questions I'm asking." — *Aabiya Noman Baqai, AIPS Short-Term Research Grantee*

Critical Pakistan Studies New Open-Access Journal from AIPS and CUP



AIPS is excited to announce the debut of *Critical Pakistan Studies*, a new open-access journal published with the support of Cambridge University Press. *Critical Pakistan Studies* will publish primary source interpretive research that, in addition to Pakistan and Pakistanis, tackle broader interdisciplinary issues. The journal's interdisciplinary approach pushes beyond the nation-state, security, Islam, extremism, and other topics that narrowly define the study of Pakistan. It will analyze, discuss, and seek to understand the varied and multi-layered contexts that constitute Pakistan and its people (both past and present and in South Asia and the wider world).

The journal is in affiliation with the Centre d'Etudes de l'Inde et de L'Asie du Sud--Center for South Asian Studies and the University of Exeter South Asia Centre. The journal is now accepting submissions. More information on the journal and author submission guidelines can be found on the journal's website: Cambridge.org/cps

GRANTEE TESTIMONIAL



"Working with AIPS was smooth and their support during the process has been exceptional. I received the funds a months before my departing flight, and I was able to make all the arrangements well in time. I am grateful to AIPS for supporting my research and enabling me to better perform my responsibility to my community and to my research." — Syed Eisar Haider, AIPS Short-Term Research Grantee

Photo: Dr. Matthew Cook

2022 AIPS Book Prize Interview: Nosheen Ali

The 2022 AIPS Book Prize awardee, Dr. Nosheen Ali, was recently interviewed about her book *Delusional States: Feeling Rule and Development in Pakistan's Northern Frontier* (Cambridge University Press, 2019).

How did you become interested in the topic(s) addressed in *Delusional States: Feeling Rule and Development in Pakistan's Northern Frontier*?

I was stunned by the absence of the political and social identity of the then "Northern Areas" in the Pakistan national imaginary—in school, in popular literature, even in intellectual discourse, there was scarcely any mention of the region as a historical and present place and only talk of K-2 and KKH. Particularly, Gilgit-Baltistan's constitutional liminality and repres-

sive regimes of rule in relation to Kashmir were deliberately silenced. I thought it important to delve further.

What was the most challenging/rewarding part of researching *Delusional States: Feeling Rule and Development in Pakistan's Northern Frontier*?

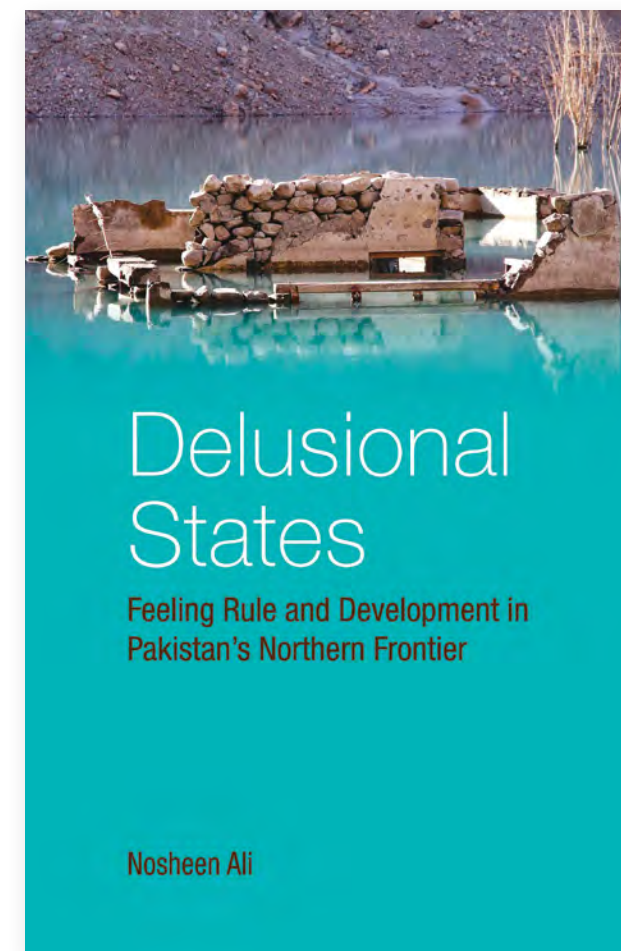
The most challenging part was navigating a new terrain in my early to late 20s, learning what "research" is, absorbing and observing so much not knowing where it is going, and learning what it means to inhabit and feel a new place. This was also the most rewarding part. The most challenging part was articulating a thought, a question, and laying out one's ten-fold argument. This was also the most rewarding part. I was often told I do not have a "focus", that I was "covering too much",



that I had to "pitch" myself in this way or that, and I must sound "important" by quoting "important" people. That is not my understanding of research, argument, or theory. We are multilayered beings with felt ways of seeing and connecting. And "writing" is action in the world. We must redefine "academic" work beyond the narrow confines of patriarchal and racial knowledge systems.

What's your next project?

Currently, I am working on Raachi publications, a new press that I have co-founded with Aziz Ali Dad, and our joint edited volume titled *Beyond the Mountains: Social and Political Imaginaries in Gilgit-Baltistan*. Second, I am working on *karti dharti*—a field-based ecological learning initiative based in Sindh that seeks to enhance understanding and preservation of native seed/soil. Finally, I am writing a book on gender, land and indigenous rights in Gilgit-Baltistan.



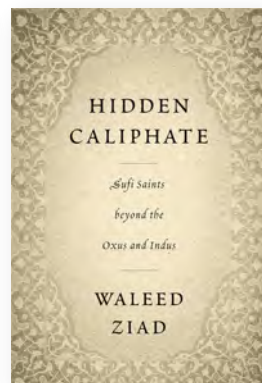
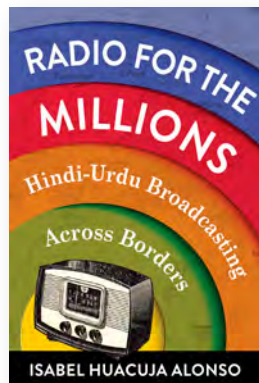
"In school, in popular literature, even in intellectual discourse, there was scarcely any mention of the region as a historical and present place and only talk of K-2 and KKH."

AIPS 2023 BOOK AWARD

Congratulations to both Dr. Isabel Huacuja Alonso (Columbia University) and Dr. Waleed Ziad (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill) for receiving the 2023 AIPS Book Prize! The AIPS Book Prize Committee selected two books for the annual award.



The committee found Huacuja Alonso's book, *Radio for the Millions: Hindi-Urdu Broadcasting Across Borders*, to be "a fascinating history of the role of radio at crucial points in South Asian history... Political intrigue, anticolonial resistance, quarrels about cinematic and musical taste, and wartime national pride were manifested through the airwaves and the policies guiding them. Alonso's impeccable research and accessible style of writing bring the background drama and the front-end effects of each turn of events to the scholar and lay reader alike."



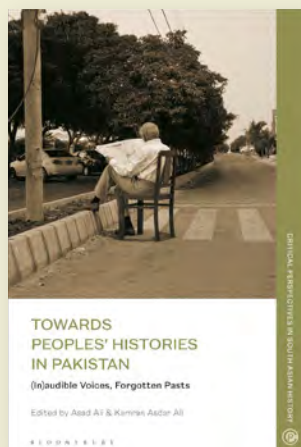
As noted by the committee, Ziad's book, *Hidden Caliphate: Sufi Saints Beyond the Oxus and Indus*, "is an ambitious study of a network of Sufi religious discourses and practices that spread through large stretches of Asia: 'across the Indus and Amu Darya well into the Inner Asian Steppes and western China.' In Ziad's meticulously detailed account, Shaykh Ahmad Sirhindi's concept of a millennial revival of Islam lives through three centuries of tumultuous history that connects the Mughal, British, and Sikh entanglements in South Asia with the world that lay west of the 'Oxus and the Indus.' Apart from contributing to the religious history of the Mujaddidis, Ziad has accomplished a truly connected and multi-disciplinary history of Sufism."

You can read the Book Prize Committee's full summaries on our website: www.pakistanstudies-aips.org/content/2023-book-prize-awards.

AIPS Member Publications and Resources

Abdul Aijaz, Doctoral Candidate, Indiana University
Aijaz, Abdul. "State, Scarcity, and Survival: A Minor History of People and Place in the Lower Bari Doab, Punjab." *Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space* Volume 6. (January 2023).

Kamran Asdar Ali, Professor, University of Texas at Austin
Ali, Kamran Asdar, and Asad Ali, eds. *Towards Peoples' Histories in Pakistan: (In)audible Voices, Forgotten Pasts*. Bloomsbury Publishing, 2023.



Meher Ali, PhD Student, Princeton University
Ali, Meher. "Student Politics Between Imagination and Action: The National Students Federation and the Anti-Ayub Movement in Pakistan, 1956-71." In *Crises in Authoritarian Regimes: Fragile Orders and Contested Power*, edited by Jorg Baberowski and Martin Wagner. Frankfurt: Campus Verlag, 2022.

Yaqoob Bangash, Fulbright Visiting Fellow for the Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute, Harvard University
Bangash, Yaqoob, et al. "Partitioning the University of the Punjab." *Indian Economic and Social History Review* Volume 59, No 4. (October 2022).

Bangash, Yaqoob. "Anglo-Indians and the Punjab Partition: Identity, Politics, and the Creation of Pakistan." *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*. (July 2022).

Elena Bashir, Senior Lecturer Emerita, University of Chicago
Bashir, Elena. "Khowar and Kalasha: Similarities and Differences in their Micro-Areal Contexts." *International Journal of Diachronic Linguistics and Linguistic Reconstruction* Volume 19. (2022): 1-59.

Mushtaq Bilal, Assistant Professor, Institute of Business Administration Karachi
Bilal, Mushtaq. "Yes, I am Joseph Bhatti Choohra." *Angles: New Perspectives on the Anglophone World* Volume 14 (2022).

Alexander Cromwell, Lecturer and Associate Director, George Washington University
Cromwell, Alexander. "Building Social Capital through Encounter-Based Peace Education: How Pakistani Youth Sustain Motivation for Peacebuilding and Social Cohesion." *Compare: A Journal of Comparative and International Education* Volume 52. (October 2022).

Kalhor, Javed Ali and Alexander Cromwell. "Musharraf's Enlightened Moderation Program: An Attempt at Transforming Education in Pakistan." In *Teaching Peace and Conflict: The Multiple Roles of School Textbooks in Peacebuilding*, edited by Catherine Vanner, Spogmai Akseer, and Thursica Kovinthan Levi, 43-61. New York: Springer, 2022.

Iftikhar Dadi, Professor, Cornell University
Dadi, Iftikhar. *Lahore Cinema: Between Realism and Fable*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2022.



Dadi, Iftikhar. *The Lahore Biennale 01 Reader*. Milan: Skira, 2022.

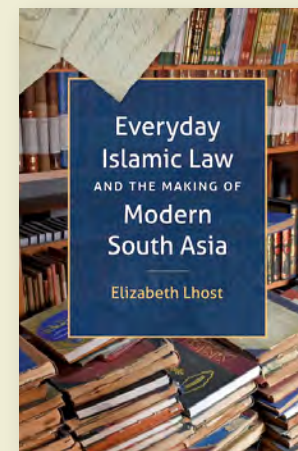
Sarah Halvorson, Professor, University of Montana
Halvorson, Sarah, Kelly Franklin, and Judith Fletcher-Brown. "Impacts of Service Learning on Tourism Students' Sustainability Competencies in Conflict-Affected Bamyan, Afghanistan." *International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education* Volume 24. (February 2023).

Halvorson, Sarah, and Andrew Orr, et al. "Knowledge Priorities on Climate Change and Water in the Upper Indus Basin: A Horizon Scanning Exercise to Identify the Top 100 Research Questions in the Social and Natural Sciences." *Earth's Future* Volume 10, No 4. (March 2022).

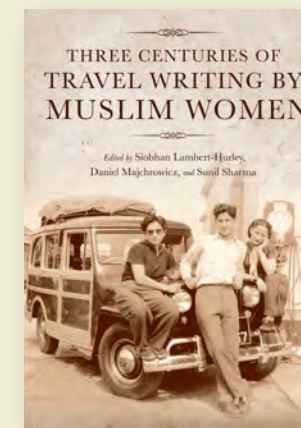
Sarah Khan, Assistant Professor, Yale University
Khan, Sarah, et al. "Canvassing the Gatekeepers: A Field Experiment to Increase Women Voters' Turnout in Pakistan." *American Political Science Review* Volume 117, No 1. (February 2023): 1-21.

Hamza Iqbal, PhD Student, University of Texas at Austin
Iqbal, Hamza. "A Translation of Juan Elia's Preface of Shāyad." *Journal of Urdu Studies* Volume 2, No. 2. (February 2023): 159-216.

Elizabeth Lhost, Postdoctoral Fellow, Dartmouth College
Lhost, Elizabeth. *Everyday Islamic Law and the Making of Modern South Asia*. Chapel Hill: University of South Carolina Press, July 2022.



Daniel Majchrowicz, Assistant Professor, Northwestern University
Majchrowicz, Daniel. *Three Centuries of Travel Writing by Muslim Women*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2022.

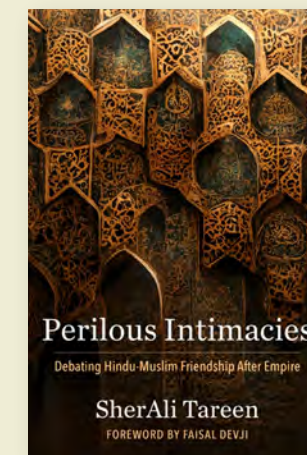


Natasha Raheja, Assistant Professor, Cornell University
Raheja, Natasha. "Governing by Proximity: State Performance and Migrant Citizenship on the India-Pakistan Border." *Cultural Anthropology* Volume 37, No 3. (August 2022): 513-548.

Shahnaz Rouse, Professor, Sarah Lawrence College
Rouse, Shahnaz. "On Contradiction(s): Being, Becoming, Belonging." In *Ways of Being*, edited by Sabyn Javeri. Women Unlimited, 2023.

Rouse, Shahnaz. "Culture: Destabilising the Given Order." *Dawn Newspaper*, 20 November 2022.

SherAli Tareen, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Franklin and Marshall College
Tareen, SherAli. *Perilous Intimacies: Debating Hindu-Muslim Friendship after Empire*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2023.



AIPS Member Highlights



Yaqoob Bangash

Fulbright Fellow at the Mittal Institute
Yaqoob Bangash was awarded the Fulbright Scholar Fellowship to the LM South Asia Institute, Harvard University for 2022-23.

Matthew Cook

Professor, North Carolina Central University

On February 18, 2022, Matthew Cook presented, “Local Culture and Sufism: Colonial Debates, Graphic Pluralism, and the Teaching and Learning of Sindhi,” in Boston, MA at the Association of Asian Studies Conference. In late 2022, Cook was invited to speak at the University of California, Berkeley as the Annual Mahomedali Habib Distinguished Lecturer on Pakistan. His talk was entitled, “Sindh, Graphic Pluralism, and Sufism: Script and Culture.” Additionally, he edited six articles in Volumes 2 and 3 for the *Journal of Sindhi Studies* (Brill) and served as a panel chair, discussant, and organizer for the “AIPS Emerging Scholars Symposium” during the Annual South Asia Conference on October 20, 2022. Cook was also a co-organizer in the Research Proposal Writing Workshop: An AIPS Academic Workshop at Forman Christian College University in Lahore on June 6-7, 2023.

Alex Cromwell

Lecturer and Associate Director,
George Washington University

On November 4, 2022, Alex Cromwell virtually presented “Musharraf’s Enlightened Moderation Program: An Attempt at Transforming Education in Pakistan.” He delivered this lecture at the book launch of *Teaching Peace and Conflict: The Multiple Roles of School Textbooks in Peacebuilding* at the University of Toronto, Canada.

Joel Gordon

Professor, University of Arkansas

Joel Gordon conducted a lecture titled “What is an Archive: Graffiti and Other Ephemera” at the Institute of Business Administration in Karachi on March 16, 2023.

Gordon and the University of Arkansas (UA) have welcomed Dr. Irfan Waheed Usmani, (Assistant Professor of History, Government College University, Lahore) as a post-doctoral Fulbright fellow for 2023-24. Dr. Usmani will be resident in Fayetteville, Arkansas, affiliated with the UA Department of History and King Fahd Center for Middle East Studies, where he will be working on a forthcoming project, “Contextualizing the Movements of Islamic Socialism in South Asia: A Case Study of Islamic Socialist Movement in Pakistan c.1947–1977.” He will also be presenting a paper, “The Origins, Genesis, and Outcomes of the Islamic Socialist Discourse in Pakistan Between 1947 and the 1990s: A Critical Analysis,” at the Annual South Asian Conference in Madison in October 2023. Dr. Gordon first met Dr. Usmani via an AIPS-sponsored workshop on “Pop Culture across Borders” in Lahore in July 2018. Dr. Usmani is one of the first cohort of post-Covid Fulbright scholars to reach the US after a long hiatus in the exchange program.



Walter Hakala

Associate Professor,
University at Buffalo, SUNY

Walter Hakala was recently awarded a 2023 Multi-Country Research Fellowship from CAORC.

His paper is named “Arabic-Script Vernacular Literacy and Public Texts” and seeks to construct a history of Arabic-script writing in South Asian languages by visiting sites in Sri Lanka, Pakistan, and India to study early examples of vernacular writing in the Arabic script.

Michael Hirsch

Professor, Huston-Tillotson University

In August of 2022, Michael Hirsch was invited as a guest on the PTV program Diplomatic Enclave, hosted by Omar Khalid Butt.



Nelofar Khamisani
Graduate Teaching Assistant,
Kansas State University

On March 27, 2023, Nelofar Khamisani presented at the Critical Question

in Education Conference. The event took place in San Diego, California, and the theme for the conference was “Changing the Narrative about Teaching.” Her presentation was “Let Teachers Admire: Stories about Teachers and Students” and focused on the experiences of both students and teachers when Covid-19 policies first began to affect schools. Furthermore, she received certificates for Professional Development and Leadership, as well as other honors including the Alumni Leadership Award, Social Justice Advocacy Award for the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, K-State Alumni Scholarship Award, and the International Leadership Award from Kansas State University.

Mehak Khan

Assistant Professor, University of Notre Dame

Mehak Khan concluded her PhD in English and Critical Theory in May 2023 at UC Berkeley. In Fall 2023, she begins her position as Professor of Global Anglophone Literature with a focus on South Asia at the University of Notre Dame.

Ken LeBlond

Marketing Communications Manager,
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Ken LeBlond hosted the Pakistan ambassador to the US and the New York Consular General on the UMass Amherst campus at the Donahue Institute. At the event, the ambassador spoke to a high school group in the morning and then led a discussion of Pakistan-US relations on the UMass campus in the evening.

Ken LeBlond and Rizwan Shinwari

Rizwan Shinwari and LeBlond collaborated on a presentation at the National University of Modern Languages on November 3, 2022. LeBlond gave a presentation on the U.S. credit system to Shinwari’s macroeconomics class via Zoom. LeBlond detailed his experiences with credit cards, interest rates, and the credit reporting system. He then had a discussion with the students about Islamic banking.



Uzma Rizvi

Associate Professor,
Pratt Institute

Uzma Rizvi recently completed her AIPS fellowship work in Sindh examining the archeological site of Mohenjo-

Daro. During her trip in December 2022, Rizvi participated in a conference titled “New Challenges to the Physical Heritage: Climate Change Perspective” which was hosted by the Government of Sindh’s Culture, Tourism, Antiquities, and Archives Department. The conference was covered in the *Friday Times*.

Shahnaz Rouse

Professor, Sarah Lawrence College

Shahnaz Rouse was the lead organizer of the colloquium entitled “A Poetics of Presence: Photography, Documentation, and History” held at Sarah Lawrence College on November 4, 2022. Additionally, she was instrumental in the fundraising for this event through her work with internal and external grant applications.



Photo copyright of family of Yasser Alwan and Sarah Lawrence College.

Sadaf Sajjad

Professor, Austin Community College

Sadaf Sajjad has recently made a notable effort to incorporate the lens of Global Peace and Conflict Studies, specifically focusing on the region of Kashmir in Pakistan, into her current syllabus. This innovative approach aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of human growth and development in the context of war and conflict in Pakistan.

SherAli Tareen

Associate Professor,
Franklin and Marshall College

SherAli Tareen delivered a talk in Pashto and Urdu on his second book, *Perilous Intimacies: Debating Hindu-Muslim Friendship* after Empire. He presented this work about Hindu-Muslim friendship at the 2023 Peshawar Literature Festival.

Anita Weiss

Professor, University of Oregon

Anita Weiss participated in a CAORC-hosted webinar on October 27, 2022. The webinar explored her experience on an AIPS-affiliated CAORC Multi-Country Research Fellowship and how the fellowship helped influence her career researching Muslim women’s rights.



The archeological site of Mohenjo-Daro

AIPS 2022-23 Institutional Member News

New Institutional Members

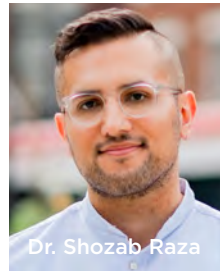
AIPS would like to welcome our three new institutional members! Prof. Farah Habib (Bristol Community College), Dr. Sameetah Agha (Pratt Institute), and Dr. Paul Edleman (Sauk Valley Community College) will serve as the new AIPS Trustees.

BRISTOL
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Pratt

Sauk Valley
Community College

ous contribution of Rafat Pirzada and Amna Jaffer. The S.S. Pirzada Prize honors the life of Rafat's father, Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada. The endowment fosters and recognizes the best dissertations in areas



Dr. Shozab Raza

of humanities, social sciences, law, and public health related to Pakistan. The University of Toronto's Dr. Shozab Raza received one of the awards with his dissertation titled, "Theory from the Trenches: Revolutionary Decolonization on Pakistan's Landed Estates." Berkeley's own graduate Dr. Zahra Hayat, who is now Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia, was the other awardee. Her winning dissertation



Dr. Zahra Hayat

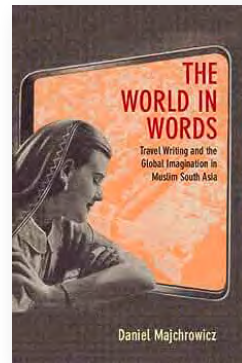
was titled, "The Scandal of Access: Pharmaceuticals in Pakistan." The recipients will attend the award ceremony in Fall of 2023. This event will feature a lecture

from Amna Qayyum, the 2021 recipient of the prize. Her discussion will be "Reproduction and Histories of Decolonization in Pakistan c. 1947-71." Furthermore, another talk, "Marvi's Sisters: Hindu Belonging and the Muslim State in Pakistan," will be given by Ghazal Asif Farrukhi, who received an Honorable mention for the 2021 S.S. Pirzada prize.

Huston-Tillotson University

Huston-Tillotson's Trustee, Dr. Michael Hirsch, was invited to speak at the Second International Conference of Collaborative Partnerships in Strengthening Social Sciences: Addressing Indigenous and Global Challenges. This event was hosted by the Fatima Jinnah Women University in Rawalpindi from December 15-17. At the conference, Hirsch provided a keynote address entitled, "Students as Researchers:

Undergraduate Research as an Innovative Teaching Pedagogy." During his time in Rawalpindi, he also presented the talk "Globalized Thought in the Academy and Beyond" at the Arid Agricultural University Rawalpindi.



Northwestern University

AIPS Executive Board Member Dr. Daniel Majchrowicz, who is Assistant Professor of South Asian Literature and Culture at Northwestern University, has

recently published a new book, *The World in Words: Travel Writing and the Global Imagination in Muslim South Asia* (Cambridge University Press, 2023). His study follows the social and literary history of Urdu travelogue during the years 1840 to 1990. The book explores how travel writers have utilized the genre to negotiate with and to highlight the dynamic social and political realities of a colonial and postcolonial existence.

University of Oregon

To enhance the study of Climate Change and Glaciology Gilgit-Baltistan, Karakoram International University (KIU) in Gilgit has been visiting the University of Oregon (UO) as part of a two-year project funded by the US Embassy in Pakistan. The members of the KIU faculty possess extensive backgrounds in environmental sciences, earth sciences, glaciology, and media sciences. Each KIU colleague has been paired with a corresponding associate of the UO faculty, and the teams have met to discuss topics related to climate change. As part of this exchange, UO researchers have traveled to KIU to share their scientific expertise and simultaneously learn about climate challenges in the high-altitude region of Gilgit-Baltistan. The central goal of this two-year project is to increase col-

Dr. Anita Weiss (third from right) with colleagues in Gilgit-Baltistan



laboration between KIU and UO faculty in research and curriculum development of climate change and glaciological studies. It draws upon successful UO teaching-learning and community outreach models, bringing them to KIU and customizing them according to the needs and requirements of the region.

Dr. Anita M. Weiss, professor of International & Global Studies, is the project director. Along with the UO Faculty Advisory Committee, Dr. Weiss organizes the logistics of the faculty exchange. Applications for the next round of exchanges have already been sent to KIU faculty, and the new cohort is lined up to begin meetings with the UO mentors in the fall. As the current visiting KIU faculty wrap up their visit to UO, both university partners have already reaped the benefits of one another's expertise and enthusiasm for the project.



Johns Hopkins University

In coordination with Engro Corporation and the University of Lahore, the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) co-sponsored the Conference on the Future of the US-Pakistan Relationship. The two-day event was hosted by the Atlantic Council's South Asia Center from October 31 to November

1, 2022. During the conference, participants discussed the bilateral relationship between Pakistan and the US in terms of technology, climate change, economics, agriculture, and foreign policy. These enriching discussions highlighted the interdisciplinary issues connecting the two countries, and it provided insights into the shared futures of the nations.

AIPS 2022-23 Election Results

Thank you to the AIPS Board of Trustees for voting in the AIPS Treasurer election, and congratulations to Dr. Michael Hirsch!

Dr. Michael Hirsch (*Treasurer from October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2025*) is a Professor



of Sociology and Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at Huston-Tillotson University. He received his Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Texas and received his M.A. and B.A. in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee. He was trained as a generalist and has published in numerous areas including drug use, program evaluation, gerontology, expert witness testimony, the role of women’s education in the modern nation-state and how people make sense of what they believe to be encounters with ghosts. Dr. Hirsch was the President of the Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology in 2011 and was President of the Missouri Sociological Association in 1996. Dr. Hirsch served as the Mayor of Fayette, Missouri from 1998 – 2003. Dr. Hirsch is currently doing research on reconciliation between Pakistan and India and the career paths of Russian Cosmonauts.

President’s Report continued from page 2

- Asymmetric Information, Relational Contracts, and Prices: Evidence from Fresh Produce Supply Chain in Pakistan (Economics).
- City of Knowledge: Lahore’s Urdu Bazaar as Engine of Print, Urbanity, and Self-fashioning (History).
- Dr. Dastur Dhalla Library: Mapping Parsi Writing and its Literary Archive in Karachi (English).
- Anticolonial Relation: Afro-Asian Solidarity in Urdu Magazines, 1947-1990 (Comparative Literature).

In addition to this exciting range of projects, AIPS awarded post-doctoral fellowships to Brannon Ingram (Northwestern University), Mubbashir Rizvi (American University), Sameena Azhar (Fordham University), Syed ShahBano Ijaz (University of CA-San Diego), and Walter Hakala (University of Buffalo). It also awarded pre-doctoral fellowships to Aabiya Noman Baqai (University of Texas at Austin), Du Fei (Cornell University), Kylie Gilchrist (Yale University/ University of Manchester), Muhammad Zubair Abro (University of New Mexico), Onaiza Arshad (Graduate Center CUNY), and Saifullah Nasar (University of Michigan). This year’s post-doctoral and pre-doctoral fellowships explore various topics and include the disciplines of Anthropology, History, Religious Studies, English, Community Planning, Art, Political Science, and others.

Also, congratulations to Muhammad Zubair Abro, who got the 2023 Suhail Zaheer Lari Memorial Fellowship and a pre-doctoral fellowship. A doctoral candidate at the University of New Mexico, Abro’s project focuses on “the mediation of Sindhi nationalism in the Sufi voicings of the poetry of Shah Latif, and the implications of the practices of this under-represented group for highlighting the internal diversity of Pakistani nationalism.”

At the start of September, AIPS got a 2.2 million dollar grant from the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad. Over two years, AIPS will organize and implement five education and exchange programs with multiple partners in Pakistan and the United States. They include:

- An American Studies exchange & conference (University of Wisconsin, Madison, with Karakoram International University, Women University of Multan, Iqra University, Karachi, Women University of Swabi, and University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir).
- A digital citizenship boot camp (Digital Rights Foundation with AIPS-affiliated universities in Islamabad, Mardan, Peshawar, Multan, Lahore, Hyderabad, Jamshoro, and Gilgit-Baltistan or Azad Jammu and Kashmir).

- A science, technology, engineering, and mathematics training and exchange series for female college students (University of Delaware and CAORC with multiple AIPS-affiliated women’s universities in Pakistan).
- A U.S.-Pakistan higher education workshop and exchange program (University of Wisconsin, Madison, and multiple AIPS-affiliated universities representing educators from all regions of Pakistan).
- A university partnership and exchange for Pakistani minority students and faculty to promote civic leadership (Huston-Tillotson University with ten AIPS-affiliated universities [one faculty and four students] or five universities [two faculty and eight students]).

At the end of September, AIPS got a second grant from U.S. Embassy in Islamabad. This grant was for over \$351,000. Instead of extending a grant AIPS obtained when Farhat Haq was President, the Embassy awarded a new one for all unspent funds, added additional monies, and extended the grant period.

The AIPS family grew in the past year. Dr. Paul Edleman (Sauk Valley Community College), Dr. Farah Habib (Bristol Community College), and Dr. Sameetah Agha (Pratt Institute) will serve as the trustees for the institute’s three newest institutional members. Institutional memberships are also likely to grow further: Indiana University, Bloomington, and the University of Massachusetts, Boston, both submitted applications in 2023.

After 25 years with AIPS, Mr. Nadeem Akbar, AIPS Pakistan Director, retired. Nadeem has been integral to AIPS’s operations in Pakistan. His contributions are appreciated and remembered by many. AIPS thanks him for his many years of service! The new AIPS Pakistan Director, Dr. Noman Baig, began work in July. Dr. Baig is a cultural anthropologist with a Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin. He was a founding faculty member at Habib University in Karachi. He served there as an Associate Professor of Comparative Humanities and Social Development and Policy and in various administrative positions at Habib University. AIPS welcomes Noman!

As is always the case, AIPS’s staff in Islamabad and Madison deserve high praise. They are crucial to AIPS’s operations in the U.S. and Pakistan. Lastly, thank you to the BOT and EC members. Their engagement and work are critical to AIPS’s success and its promotion of Pakistan Studies.

All the best,
Matt

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(TBD)

(TBD)

AIPS MISSION STATEMENT



The American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS), established in 1973, is a bi-national research and educational organization with a mission to promote academic study of Pakistan in the US and to

encourage scholarly exchange between the US and Pakistan. To fulfill this mission, AIPS provides research fellowships to American researchers, administers lectureships, and sponsors academic conferences. It is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt, autonomous organization and a member of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers.

Thank you to Dr. Iftikhar Dadi, AIPS Vice President, and AIPS staff members Paige Hendricks, Connor Steinke, Vincent Chen, and Layne Gebert for compiling and editing the newsletter.

Contact information:
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Wazir Khan Mosque,
Lahore, Pakistan
Photo: Dr. Walter Hakala