

AIPS Short-term Fellowship

Post-Return Narrative

I proposed to use the American Institute of Pakistan Studies Short-Term Fellowship to complete an annotated English translation and critical commentary of Shabbir Hasan Khan Josh Malihabadi's autobiography, *Yādon kī barāt* (Procession of Memories). As a recipient of AIPS's short-term summer fellowship, I conducted research in Islamabad and Lahore. More specifically, I interacted with people who had access to Josh Malihabadi during the 1960s, 1970s, and the early part of the 1980s. I had the good fortune of engaging scholars and thinkers like Fateh Muhammad Malik, Kishwar Naheed, Intezar Hussain, and Razaqat Shahid. These people enhanced my understanding of Josh's dynamic reception in Pakistan, especially in the nation-state of the Bhutto and Zia eras. The fellowship also enabled me to visit libraries and archives in Islamabad and Lahore. It is at these institutions that I found complete collections of *Makhzan*, *Nigār*, *Humāyūn*, and *Nayā Adab*. These journals were in the forefront of setting the terms of aesthetic debates in Urdu, debates that had a formidable impact on the writing of Josh and his peers. I felt privileged to share my research with scholars from the University of Punjab, Forman Christian College, and the Benazir Bhutto University.

Speaking Engagements

1. June 22: The Aesthetics of ‘ālam āshob

Venue: Halqa-e Arbāb-e Zauq

Number of Attendees: 60

2. June 23: Urdu in the World of Comparative Literature

Venue: Forman Christian College

Number of Attendees: 20

3. June 26 (10-1 pm): Urdu’s Canon Formation

Venue: AIPS Center, Islamabad

Number of Attendees: 20

4. June 26 (2-6 pm): Translating Theory into Urdu and from Urdu

Venue: AIPS Center, Islamabad

Number of Attendees: 20

Urdu Literature in Comparative Literature:

An American Institute of Pakistan Studies Workshop

1. Definitions and Contested Concepts
 - a. Literature (adab)
 - b. Urdu
 - c. Comparative literature (taqabuli adab)
 - d. Canons and Categorization (darjah bandiyan)
 - e. Regionalism
 - f. Author and Authorial intention (adib aur mansha-e adib)
 - g. Readers and listeners (qari aur sama'in)
 - h. Literature and the nation:
 - i. What is Pakistani literature?
 - ii. How can we compare Pakistani literature to Indian literature?
 - iii. What is Islamic literature?
 - iv. How can we compare Pakistani literature to Islamic literature?
2. Approaches to Literature
 - a. Professor Adele Barker
 - b. Professor Syed Akbar Hyder
3. Translation & Literary Commentary Workshop
 - a. Gayatri Spivak
 - b. Walter Benjamin
 - c. Qurratulain Hyder