

## Report AIPS Travel Grant to Lahore, November 2015

### Mehr Farooqi - Narrative

Participating in the three day Faiz Peace Festival was an enriching experience because I had the opportunity to meet and interact with a cross section of Pakistani writers and intellectuals. Most important were my meetings with the younger generation of Urdu poets. I was pleasantly surprised to find a vibrant literary scene for Urdu because one hears a lot about Urdu being marginalized in favor of English as the literary language of choice among the younger generations.

At LUMS my lectures were well attended by students and scholars of literature. The faculty at LUMS was eager to engage with my research on Ghalib. I greatly benefitted from these discussions. There was a mutual exchange of ideas on current research methodology in the humanities. The Dean of the School of Social Sciences has extended an open invitation to me to spend a semester at LUMS, teaching one course and working on my Ghalib project.

I would like to pursue the open invitation extended to me by LUMS in the near future.