



## **AIPs Grantee Final Report**

In order to better report and highlight AIPs-sponsored programs with our funding agencies and AIPs members, please provide the information requested in this form. Information provided in this report may be posted on the AIPs website and/or submitted to our granting agency. All required materials should be sent via email to [aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org](mailto:aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org). If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us!

### **Final Report Requirements**

1. Complete the form below regarding details of your program. Please return this as a Microsoft Word document (doc or .docx).
2. Provide a one paragraph to one-page report highlighting the significance of this presentation on Pakistan Studies.

### **AIPs Grantee Information**

Name: Suneel Kumar

Affiliate Institution in U.S.: The University of Georgia, Dept. of Anthropology

Affiliate/Host Institution in Pakistan (If Applicable): The University of Sindh Jamshoro

Research Field: The Indus Delta

Conference: Royal Anthropological Institute: Anthropology and Conservation

Paper Title(s): The other-than-human affective relationalities: Camels, mangroves, and saltwater intrusion in the Indus Delta of Pakistan

Panel Title (if applicable): Cosmopolitical Ecologies of Conservation

Date of Conference or Presentation: October 28, 2021

Number of Attendees: over 50

### **Summary of Program and Significance on Pakistan Studies**

It was an online conference on the recent debates on the conversation in Anthropology and cognate disciplines. The panel brought critical discussions on the play of concept of cosmopolitical in conservation. Cosmopolitics although has numerous connotations, however, it is the ways various cosmologies not only exists but encounter in conservation. As, Donna Haraway (2016) following Stengers (2005) defines cosmopolitics as in the wake of Anthropocene decisions must take place in the presence of those who suffer the most. My paper, in this regard, brought the case study from the Indus Delta of Pakistan of the nonhuman's intimate relationality as cosmopolitics. That is in the Indus Delta camels and mangrove relation is most vulnerable beings as delta is degrading. However, mangrove conservation practices focus on single species (mangroves only), do not acknowledge this intimate relationality between mangrove and camels. Thus, my paper, argued that how the making of mangrove as international species by labelling them as "blue carbon", leave irrelevant the local cosmopolitics where more than species web of relations is important. Any conservation in the Indus Delta which do not pay

attention to web of relations will only reenforce the western conservation model, and cannot be cosmopolitical in true sense of the term.