

**Project Abstract**

*Translating Capitalism: How Muslim Jurists and Bankers Invented Sharī‘a Compliance* opens a pivotal chapter in the marginalized history of South Asian Muslims’ strategic engagement with capitalism. It centers this history on the efforts of Pakistan’s Deobandī-Muslim jurists to tailor Islamic law to meet the needs of modern finance. The Deobandīs are frequently portrayed in the media as Taliban-breeding militants and in scholarship as clerics invested in theological polemics. Neglected from history, however, is a silent revolution in finance propelled by the Deobandīs’ creative improvisation of Islamic law. *Translating Capitalism* examines how Deobandī jurists crafted Sharī‘a Compliance from Islamic law as a means to exorcise sinful interest from capitalism’s financial operations. However, in trying to make Sharī‘a Compliance *as efficient as* but also religiously *different from* conventional finance, they inadvertently refashioned Islamic law into a legal mechanism of market governance. *Translating Capitalism* shows how a traditional religious community seeking to dismantle Muslims’ material and cultural imprisonment in capitalism ended up entrenching it through legal improvisation.