

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Bilal

Co-Chair, University Strategic Planning Committee (USPC)
Former Reporting Faculty Member, Social Sciences
Former Chair, Departments of Anthropology, Sociology & Behavioral Sciences
Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan
Endeavour Fellow (Australia) | HESSA Fellow (USA)
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Education

Ph.D. — Anthropology
Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia | 2014

M.Phil. — Anthropology
Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan | 2007

M.Sc. — Anthropology
University of Arid Agriculture, Rawalpindi, Pakistan | 2003

Bachelor of Arts — Sociology & Journalism
University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan | 2000

Intermediate (Higher Secondary Certificate) — Sociology & Education
Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Rawalpindi, Pakistan | 1998

Certification

1. Education Planning
2. Population Welfare
3. Common Health Problems, Their Prevention and Nutritional Therapy

Thesis (PhD): Allah's Community: The Interplay of Islam and Everyday Life in Pakistan [An Ethnography of a Rawalpindi Urban Community].

Institution: Department of Anthropology, Macquarie University, Sydney

Advisor: Dr. Ian Bedford

Committee: Dr. Ian Bedford, Prof. Lisa Wynn, Prof. Chris Huston, Prof. Greg Downey

In the post-9/11 scenario, the rise of the Taliban and their coalition with Al-Qaeda have engendered new discourses about the lifeworlds and cultural realities of Pakistan. As a history of the present, my multi-sited ethnography explores various dimensions of Muslim life exploring the interplay of Islamic piety and secularization in four key sites of everyday life in Pakistan: education, the mosque, the Sufi shrine, and the media. The account of attitudes in education explores the degree to which Pakistanis support a religious education. This study further asks whether the mosque retains the significance it commanded in the past, and whether the ulama continue to regulate social life? The study also investigates whether Sufi Islam has been marginalized amid narratives of Islamic resurgence. The project finally explores how media in Pakistan reflects Islamic values, analyzing both the manifestation and absence of Islam and ideal Islamic values in virtual residential spaces.

Awards, Honours & Distinctions

Dean's Leadership Fellow – Selected as a Fellow of the Dean's Leadership Training Program under USAID's "Higher Education System Strengthening Activity (HESSA)" (2022–2024), University of Utah (United States).

Fatima Jinnah Award for Best University Teacher - Recipient of Fatima Jinnah Award for Best University Teacher (2023)

Endeavour Fellow - Recipient of the prestigious Endeavour Award from the Australian Government, Department of Education and Training, to pursue a Ph.D. in Anthropology in Australia (2010–2014).

International Macquarie Research Excellence Scholarship (iMQRES) — Conferred the highly competitive International Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship (iMQRES) for Ph.D. studies in Australia (2010)

PhD Fieldwork Grant - Awarded the Ph.D. Fieldwork Grant by the Department of Anthropology, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia, to support doctoral research (2011)

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Chancellor's Medal for Academic Excellence - Recipient of the Chancellor's Medal for academic excellence in M.Phil (2005–2007), awarded by Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, in recognition of outstanding performance within the Faculty of Social Sciences (2007)

Merit Scholarship - Recipient of the Merit Scholarship for academic excellence in M.Phil, Department of Anthropology, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan (2005)

Lok Virsa Fieldwork Scholarship - Awarded the Lok Virsa Scholarship for conducting M.Phil Anthropology field research (2006)

Distinction in M.Sc. Anthropology - Recipient of Distinction in M.Sc. (2000–2003), Department of Anthropology, University of Arid Agriculture, Rawalpindi, Pakistan (2003).

International Research Travel Grants - Recipient of consecutive International Research Travel Grants (2017 & 2018) from HEC Pakistan for conference presentations in Italy and the UK.

Tenured Academic Council Membership - Tenured Member, Academic Council, Kohsar University, Murree, Rawalpindi (2020–2023) and Academic Council, University of Malakand, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (2021–2024)

Strategic Leadership and Management Experience

Co-Chair, University Strategic Planning Committee (USPC)

Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan | Nov 2023 – Present

Provide strategic leadership in formulating and implementing the university's five-year strategic plan, setting institutional priorities, defining key performance indicators (KPIs), and ensuring alignment between departmental objectives and the university's academic, research, and institutional development goals.

Chairperson, Department of Anthropology

Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan | Jun 2022 – Jun 2025

Led the department's academic, administrative, and strategic development, including program design, faculty development, quality assurance, financial oversight, and policy implementation. Initiated BS and M.Phil. programs, enhancing academic offerings and strengthening the department's teaching and research profile.

Chairperson, Department of Public Health & Allied Sciences

Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan | Jun 2022 – present

Directed the academic, administrative, and strategic functions of the newly initiated department. Oversaw program development, faculty recruitment, quality assurance, and resource management, while fostering a research-driven, student-centered environment and launching new academic programs.

Chairperson, Department of Sociology

Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan | Jun 2022 – Oct 2023

Provided academic, administrative, and strategic leadership, overseeing curriculum development, faculty mentoring, quality assurance, and research promotion. Launched BS and M.Phil. programs, expanding academic opportunities and advancing the department's academic standing.

Reporting Faculty Member, Departments of Anthropology & Sociology

Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan | Jul 2022 – Jan 2023

Provided academic and administrative oversight to both departments in the absence of a regular Dean, ensuring leadership continuity, faculty coordination, and smooth departmental operations.

Founding Head, Department of Anthropology

Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan | Dec 2017 – Jun 2022

Established and led the department, providing academic, administrative, and strategic leadership. Initiated BS and M.Phil. programs, recruited faculty, and developed innovative curricula, laying the foundation for a dynamic teaching and research environment.

Head, Department of Behavioral Sciences

Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan | Oct 2016 – Dec 2017

Provided academic and administrative leadership, developing an interdisciplinary curriculum integrating Psychology, Anthropology, and Sociology. Launched M.Phil. and Ph.D. programs, significantly strengthening the department's academic profile and research capacity.

Teaching & Academic Experience

Professor, Department of Anthropology

Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan | Jun 2022 – Present

Provide academic leadership to promote excellence in the department's research and scholarly culture. Teach and supervise undergraduate and postgraduate students. Lead curriculum development and pedagogical updates. Mentor faculty, contribute to policy formulation, and represent the department within and beyond the university.

Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology

Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan | May 2019 – May 2022

Engaged in high-quality teaching and supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate students. Conducted independent research and contributed to the department's research profile. Participated in curriculum development and academic activities. Provided student mentoring and fulfilled administrative responsibilities.

Assistant Professor, Department of Behavioral Sciences

Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan | Jan 2010 – May 2019

Delivered effective teaching and academic supervision to undergraduate and postgraduate students in anthropology and sociology. Pursued independent research and contributed to the department's research initiatives. Participated in curriculum enhancement and scholarly activities. Provided academic guidance and supported departmental administration.

Lecturer (Anthropology), Department of Behavioral Sciences

Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan | Oct 2005 – Jan 2010

Planned and delivered lectures, seminars, and academic support to undergraduate and postgraduate students in anthropology and sociology. Assisted with course development, student assessment, and academic guidance. Contributed to curriculum improvements and participated in departmental affairs and academic administration.

Member, Core Project Team, Population Council, Islamabad

Oct 2004 – Mar 2005

Contributed to the project “Assessing the Potential Contribution of General Practitioners in Reducing Unmet Need for Contraception in Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT),” funded by the Packard Foundation (USA) and Population Council, Pakistan. Evaluated unmet need for contraception among women and examined family attitudes toward contraceptive use.

Field Researcher, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), Islamabad

Jul 2004 – Oct 2004

Conducted a household survey for the World Bank in Punjab province using extensive questionnaires covering education, credit, labor, and employment modules.

Team Supervisor, Community Development Program, Socio-Engineering Consultancy, Islamabad

Oct 2003 – Dec 2003

Led a comprehensive baseline survey to assess community needs and actively engaged local members in planning and implementing welfare projects aimed at improving community well-being.

Scholarly Publications:

Peer Reviewed International Book

1. **Bilal, M.** Beyond the Law: Living Blasphemy in Pakistan (Ethnography of Mundane Violence, Faith, and Lifeworlds) by Palgrave Macmillan (2024) - <https://link.springer.com/book/9783031710285>

Peer-Reviewed Research Articles - (HEC Recognized - Selected List)

2. **Bilal, M.** *The Field Site as a Religious Frontier: Negotiating Blasphemy Accusations and Reflexive Tensions in Pakistan.* **Ethnography**, Sage Publishers. (Web of Science, Clarivate Analytics). Online First, <https://doi.org/10.1177/14661381231185937> - 2023

3. **Bilal, M.** *An Ethnographic Account of Educational Landscape in Pakistan: Myths, Trends and Commitments.* **American Educational Research Journal**, Sage Publishers. (Web of Science, Clarivate Analytics). Vol. 56(4), pp. 1524–1551. ISSN: 0002-8312 . <https://doi.org/10.3102/0002831218822066> - 2019
4. **Bilal, M.** *Television Entertainment: An Ethnographic Study of Islam and the Cultural Text of Everyday Life in Pakistan.* **Anthropos – International Review of Anthropology and Linguistics**, Nomos Publishing. (Web of Science, Clarivate Analytics). Vol. 113(2), pp. 423–436. <https://www.anthropos.eu/anthropos/journal/abstracts/1132/113-2-02.php> - 2018
5. **Bilal, M.** *Rethinking the Authority of Ulama and Mosques in Shaping Religious Discourse in Pakistan.* **Anthropological Notebooks**, Slovene Anthropological Society. (Web of Science, Clarivate Analytics). Vol. 25(2), pp. 5–24 ISSN: 1408-032X. <https://anthropological-notebooks.zrc-sazu.si/Notebooks/article/view/44> - 2018
6. **Bilal, M.** *The Politics of Popular Islam: An Ethnographic Exploration of Islamic Revivalism in Pakistan.* **Politics and Religion Journal**, Center for Study of Religion and Religious Tolerance, Serbia. (Web of Science, Clarivate Analytics). Vol. 15(1), pp. 199–293 ISSN: 1820-6581 - <https://doi.org/10.54561/prj1501193b> - 2021
7. Chaudhry, A. M., & **Bilal, M. (Lead Author).** *Migration and Transnational Citizenship: The Quandary of Social and Economic Rights of Dual Citizens in Pakistan.* **Asian & Pacific Migration Journal**, Sage Publications. (Web of Science, Clarivate Analytics). Vol. 32(4), pp. 492–510. ISSN: 0117-1968. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01171968231153476> - 2023
8. Azam, S., & **Bilal, M. (Lead Author).** *Religion and Identity Crises: Politics and Intersectionality of Identity Markers in Pakistan.* **Journal of Asian and African Studies**, Sage Publications. (Web of Science, Clarivate Analytics). Vol. 59(3). ISSN: 0021-9096, 1745-2538. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00219096221124934> - 2022
9. Chaudhry, A. M., & **Bilal, M. (Lead Author).** *Migration, Diaspora and Citizenship: A Qualitative Study of the Perceptions of Pakistani Nationals towards the Political Rights of Pakistani Dual Citizens.* **International Migration Journal**, Wiley-Blackwell. (Web of Science, Clarivate Analytics). Vol. 59(1), pp. 58–73. ISSN: 1468-2435. <https://doi.org/10.1111/imig.12717> - 2021
10. Azmat, S., **Bilal, M., (Lead Author)** & Azam, S. *The Quandary of Faith and Politics of Islamisation: An Incursion into Experiences and Perspectives of Pakistani Christian Minority.* **International Journal on Minority and Group Rights**, Brill Publishers. (Web of Science, Clarivate Analytics). Vol. 28(4). ISSN: 1385-4879. https://brill.com/view/journals/ijgr/28/4/article-p732_732.xml - 2021
11. Zahra, S., **Bilal, M., (Lead Author)** & Azam, S. *Sufi Shrine as Space of Hegemonic Struggle in Pakistan: An Ethnographic Account.* **Religions of South Asia**, Equinox Publishing. (Web of Science, Clarivate Analytics). Vol. 14(3). ISSN: 1751-2689. <https://doi.org/10.1558/rosa.19329> - 2020
12. Shahzadi, K., Hussain, F., & **Bilal, M.** *The Interplay of Social Policy and Suicide in the Gilgit-Baltistan Region: What Went Wrong?* **Journal of Social Policy Studies**, Higher School of Economics, Russia. (Web of Science, Clarivate Analytics). Vol. 19(3). ISSN: 1727-0634. <https://doi.org/10.17323/727-0634-2021-19-3-509-522> - 2021
13. **Bilal, M.,** & Kavesh, A. M. *Constructing and Deconstructing the Discourse of Religion in Pakistan's Political Culture: An Anthropological Inquiry.* **Journal of Social Anthropology**, Serials Publications. Vol. 8(1–2), pp. 119–133. ISSN: 0973-3582. https://serialsjournals.com/index.php?route=product/product&product_id=388 - 2011
14. Arif, A., **Bilal, M., (Lead Author)** & Azam, S. *The Conundrum of Digital Religiosity in Pakistan: A Netnographic Exploration of Internet Memes as Contested Religious Capital.* **Journal of Policy Research**, Workflow Management Services. Vol. 8(2). ISSN: 2709-8966, 2410-8162. <https://jprpk.com/index.php/jpr/article/view/298> - 2023
15. Khan, N., **Bilal, M., (Lead Author)** & Azam, S. *The Rise of Sectarianism: An Ethnography of Religious Intolerance in Southern Punjab.* **Journal of Peace, Development and Communication**, Peace and Development Foundation, Pakistan. Vol. 5(1), pp. 315–324. ISSN: 2663-7898. <https://pdfpk.net/pdf/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/The-Rise-of-Sectarianism-An-Ethnography-of-Religious-Intolerance-in-Southern-Punjab.pdf> - 2021

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16. Khusnood, M., Bilal, M., (Lead Author) & Jahangir, T. *Digital Ascendancy and Madrasah Education: The Influence of Media Technology on the Life-worlds of Female Madrasah Students*. **Global Mass Communication Review**, Humanity Only, Pakistan. Vol. 6(1), pp. 43–56. ISSN: 2708-2105. <https://www.gmcjournal.com/article/digital-ascendancy-and-madrasah-education-the-influence-of-media-technology-on-the-lifeworlds-of-female-madrasah-students> - 2021
17. Bano, S. R., Bilal, M., (Lead Author) & Azam, S. *Digital Activism and Political Engagement of Pakistani Youth on social media: A Netnographic Exploration*. **Pakistan Journal of Society, Education and Language (PJSEL)**, Jehan Foundation, Pakistan. Vol. 8(1), pp. 247–259. ISSN: 2521-8123. <https://pjssel.jehanf.com/index.php/journal/article/view/628> - 2021
18. Behlol, M. G., Bilal, M., Khattak, J., Nisa, A. U., & Rashid, I. *The Ontology of Successful Teaching: Capturing Voices of Primary School Teachers*. **Voyage Journal of Educational Studies**, Voyage Academic & Management Services, Pakistan. Vol. 3(3). ISSN: 2790-7163. <https://vjes.voyageams.com/index.php/vjes/article/view/81> - 2023
19. Jahangir, T., Azam, S., & Bilal, M. (Lead Author). *Publish or Perish: Deconstructing Research Culture in Higher Education Institutes of Pakistan*. **Pakistan Journal of Society, Education and Language (PJSEL)**, Jehan Foundation, Pakistan. Vol. 7(1), pp. 11–27. ISSN: 2521-8123. <https://pjssel.jehanf.com/index.php/journal/article/view/297> - 2020
20. Misri, A., & Bilal, M. (Lead Author). *The Discursive Constructions in School: A Qualitative Assessment of Value Conflicts Between School Ethos and Everyday Life*. **Pakistan Journal of Education (PJE)**, Allama Iqbal Open University, Pakistan. Vol. 36(2), pp. 1–22. ISSN: 1818-3344. <https://ojs.aiou.edu.pk/index.php/pje/article/view/1506/1268> - 2019
21. Asim, F., & Bilal, M. (Lead Author). *Peshawar School Massacre, Pakistan: A Qualitative Account of Citizens' Perceptions*. **Journal of Political Studies**, University of the Punjab, Pakistan. Vol. 24(2), pp. 383–397. ISSN: 1994-1080. https://pu.edu.pk/home/journal/6/V24_Issue_2_2017.html - 2017
22. Bilal, M. *Cultural Expressions, Catastrophe and Emotional Stability (Anthropological Analysis of Disaster in Balakot)*. **HEC Conference Proceedings**, pp. 114–122 - 2006

Peer-Reviewed Book Review (HEC Recognized)

23. Bilal, M. *The Islamic State in the Post-Modern World: The Political Experience of Pakistan* by Louis D. Hayes. Published in **Journal of Contemporary Islam: Dynamics of Muslim Life**, Springer Netherlands. (Web of Science, Clarivate Analytics). Vol. 10(2), pp. 289–291. ISSN: 1872-0218 (Print), 1872-0226 (Online). <https://www.springerprofessional.de/en/review-of-louis-d-hayes-the-islamic-state-in-the-post-modern-wor/7027260> - 2016

Vernacular Peer-Reviewed Research Articles (HEC Recognized)

24. Virk, F. J., & Bilal, M., *The Contemporary Muslim Society and Discourse of Socio-Cultural Life in Iqbal's Poetry: A Critical Appreciation from Quranic Milieu*. **Al-Basirah**, National University of Modern Languages, Pakistan. Vol. 9(1), pp. 62–79. ISSN: 2222-4548. [https://numl.edu.pk/journals/subjects/159768132903.%20Dr.%20Farhat%20Jabeen%20Virk%20Dr.%20M%20Bilal%20\(Urdu\)-min.pdf](https://numl.edu.pk/journals/subjects/159768132903.%20Dr.%20Farhat%20Jabeen%20Virk%20Dr.%20M%20Bilal%20(Urdu)-min.pdf) - 2020
25. Virk, F. J., & Bilal, M., *The Interplay of Sufism and Poetry: A Qualitative Incursion into Mir Dard's Divine Poetics in Light of Kashaf-ul-Mahjoob Rahat-ul-Quloob*. **Rahat-ul-Quloob Research Academy**, Pakistan. Vol. 4(2), pp. 165–174, ISSN: 2520-5021. <https://rahatulquloob.com/index.php/rahat/article/view/163> - 2020
26. Virk, F. J., Bilal, M., & Azam, S. *The Issues of Urdu Translation in the Context of Culture and Nativity in Bhule Shah's Poetry*. **Daryaft**, National University of Modern Languages, Pakistan. Vol. 24, pp. 55–76. ISSN: 2616-6038. <https://daryaft.numl.edu.pk/index.php/daryaft/issue/view/36/304> - 2020
27. Virk, F. J., Bilal, M., & Azam, S. *Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and Academic Attitudes of Muslims: Socio-historical Analysis of Educational Philosophy*. **IDRAK**, Hazara University, Pakistan. Vol. 17(2). ISSN: 12412-6144. <http://idrak.hu.edu.pk/website/journal/article/627b6e85f1363/page> - 2022

Research Funding & Grants

1. Secured the competitive National Research Program for Universities (NRPU) Grant as Principal Investigator (PI), awarded by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan . The project investigates the social,

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legal, and institutional dynamics surrounding blasphemy-related violence in Pakistan, aiming to inform policy interventions and promote social harmony - 2025

2. Joint Research Grant with Dr. Amelia Maciszewski from the United States Education Foundation for various Courses/Workshops/Symposia at Fatima Jinnah Women University for a project titled “Teaching Indigenous Performance Traditions in 21st Century Pakistan: Embodied Knowledge as Pedagogy and An Antidote to Extremism” (2023).
3. Research Associate for Thematic Research Grant of Higher Education Commission Pakistan “Development of Teachers’ Capacity Building Model to Address the Counseling Needs of Students: A Way Forward to Institutional Development (2016-2020)”.
4. Secured training project “Developing Partnership for In-Service Teachers’ Learning and Professional Competence” training funded by the Federal Directorate of Education, Cantt. Garrison Rawalpindi in collaboration with the Department of Education, Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan (2019).
5. Secured project titled “Assessing the Potential Contribution of General Practitioners in Reducing Unmet Need for Contraception in Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) funded by Packard Foundation (USA) and Population Council, Pakistan. (2005)

Research Supervision

My research interests have been shaped and deepened through several years of supervising undergraduate and postgraduate research. I have supervised over 70 theses spanning a wide range of interdisciplinary themes. In recent years, my work has increasingly focused on the intersection of digital culture and religion—examining how online spaces shape the negotiation of religious and sectarian identities, the circulation of digital fatwas (religious rulings), the culture of *takfeer* (excommunication), and processes of radicalization in virtual environments. I have also explored the digitization of Islamic practices, the mediation of religiosity through online platforms, and media discourses surrounding terrorism and religious representation. Earlier research addressed the structure of religious authority, the relationship between education and extremism, transgender identities and socio-religious discourses, Sufi Islam and religious fanaticism, ethnic and identity conflicts, and the everyday experiences of Muslim lifeworlds. Collectively, my research and supervision reflect a sustained engagement with contemporary socio-cultural concerns, emphasizing the vital role that the social sciences—particularly anthropology—can play in understanding and responding to the complexities of the modern world.

Professional Trainings - (Attended - Selected List)

1. Dean’s Leadership Training Program under USAID’s Higher Education System Strengthening Activity (HESSA), conducted in Pakistan and at the University of Utah, USA - (2022–2024).
2. Academic Administration Training for Emerging Leaders, conducted by Academics Without Borders (AWB), Canada - (January 4–14, 2021)
3. International Summit: Higher Education: Workforce Development in 21st Century. Organized by USAID and the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan, Islamabad, Pakistan - (November 30–December 2, 2022)
4. Leadership and Institutional Governance: Advancing Leadership Capacities of Deans. USAID’s Higher Education System Strengthening Activity Islamabad, Pakistan - (October 26,27, 2023)
5. Good Governance organized by Higher Education Commission & Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi - (2016)
6. Training of Trainers for: 1) Family Literacy Program & Early Childhood Education, and 2) Family Children’s Resource Inc., conducted in collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) - (2003)

Conference Presentations (Selected List – International & National)

“How to Approach the Blasphemy Issue? Everyday Islam, the Conundrum of Problematization, and Perspectives of Ordinary Pakistani Muslims.” **Conference on Christianity and Christians in Pakistan**, a joint initiative of Kellogg College and the Asian Studies Centre, University of Oxford, in collaboration with Forman Christian College (A Chartered University) and Information Technology University, Lahore, Pakistan - 2024.

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"Threatened Indigeneity of Fishing Communities in Gwadar: The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and the Politics of Development." **Anthropology and Conservation Conference**, Annual Conference of the Royal Anthropological Institute (UK) - 2023.

"Rethinking the Authority of Ulama and Mosques in Constructing Religious Discourse in Pakistan." **36th International Conference on Social Sciences**, University of London, UK - 2018.

Television Entertainment: Islam and the Cultural Text of Everyday Life in Pakistan." **International Conference for Social Sciences & Humanities**, Sicily, Italy - 2017.

"The Enlightenment and the Development of Philosophical Anthropology." **Conference on The Enlightenment and the Development of Philosophical Anthropology**, University of Sydney, Australia - 2013

"Adding Value and Meaning to Anthropological Mapping in Native Title Research." **Annual Conference on Anthropological Mapping in Native Title Research**, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia - 2013.

"Counseling Needs of High School Students: Implications for a Capacity Building Framework for Teachers as a Way Forward for Institutional Development." **International Conference on the Teaching of Psychology**, Canada - 2017.

"Discursive Construction of Hate Speech and Sectarian Radicalization on Social Media: A Netnographic Exploration." **3rd International Conference on Pakistan in the 21st Century: Challenges, Responses and Opportunities**, organized by the Department of International Relations, Fatima Jinnah Women University (FJWU), Pakistan - 2023.

"Socio-Religious Aspects of Women's Inheritance Rights: A Case Study of Shah Allah Ditta, Islamabad." **Gender Equality: Issues and Challenges Conference**, organized by Law Colloquy in association with Oriental University, Indore, India - 2022.

"The Allure of Selfie Culture and Gender Discourse: Trends and Issues of Presenting Your Best Selfie(s) on Social Media." **International Conference on Gender Studies 2021: Contemporary Issues, Challenges & Opportunities**, organized by the University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan - 2021.

"Who's in Charge? The Role and Resistance of Religious Psychology in Coping with the Covid-19 Pandemic in Pakistan." **1st International Conference (Online) on Issues in Management and Social Sciences in the Context of Covid-19**, organized by Experts in Management and Social Sciences (EMS), Peshawar, Pakistan - 2020.

"The Rise of Intolerance: A Qualitative Study of Forms and Expressions of Religious Extremism in Southern Punjab." **First International Conference on Social Sciences: Emerging Trends in Research**, organized by the Institute of Southern Punjab, Multan, Pakistan - 2018.

"Sufism and Sectarian Expressions: An Ethnographic Study of the Shrine of Shah Abdul Latif (Bari Imam), Islamabad." **2nd International Social Sciences Conference: Social Sciences Research in Post-Modern Times**, Pakistan - 2016.

"An Islamic State or a Muslim State? An Exploratory Study of the Experiences and Perspectives of the Christian Community." **2nd International Social Sciences Conference: Social Sciences Research in Post-Modern Times**, Pakistan - 2016.

Chair/Discussant/Panellist - (Selected List)

Keynote Speaker, *Strategic Policy Dialogue on "The Role of Education and Arts in Countering Extremist Thought"*, organized by SHARP in collaboration with the European Union (EU), National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA), and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) - 2025.

Session Chair, *International Conference on Innovations in Education, Pedagogy and Assessment (ICIEPA)*, organized by the Faculty of Education, Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, Pakistan - 2024.

Session Chair, *International Policy Dialogue on Improving Gender Equality in Pakistan (Higher Education Leadership and Decision-Making)*, jointly organized by the University of Gloucestershire (UK) and Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan - 2023

Session Chair, *International Workshop on Climate Change, Displacement and Disease – Panel on Affect, Political Ecologies and Development*, jointly organized by the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, and Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan - 2022

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Session Chair, *International Conference on Strengthening Teaching and Research Capacity: Collaborative Partnership in Social Sciences*, organized by the University of Texas, Austin, USA, and the United States Education Foundation in Pakistan - 2022.

Session Chair, *International Conference on Mapping the Wounded Landscape of Swat Valley: From Taliban Violence and Iconoclasm to Social Growth and Reconciliation*, organized by King's College London, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, and University of Malakand, Pakistan - 2022.

Member, Gender Working Group, *Turnaround Pakistan Conference*, organized by the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Government of Pakistan - 2022.

Panelist and Session Lead, *Pakistan Mental Health Summit – A Parliamentary Initiative*, organized by the Pakistan Institute of Living and Learning (PILL) and the Government of Pakistan - 2020.

Panelist, *Freedom of Expression and Islam in Europe*, seminar organized by the Department of Anthropology, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan - 2015.

Professional Trainings, Workshops, Invited Talks and Seminars (Conducted – Selected List)

The Philosophy of Qualitative Research: Issues & Challenges, training delivered as part of the **Faculty Workshop**, University of Gujrat, Punjab, Pakistan - 2025.

Understanding Conflict, Peace, and Tolerance, training delivered as part of the **Peace Advocacy and Community Engagement through Teachers (PACT) Program**, organized by Shaoor Foundation - 2024.

Consultant Trainer, *Countering Violent Extremism & Radicalization Engagement*, under the **Pakistan Peace Collective Project**, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of Pakistan - 2022–2023.

Radicalization & Extremism in Pakistani Society: Implications for Organizational Culture, invited talk conducted at the **National University of Medical Sciences (NUMS)**, Rawalpindi, as part of the **NUMS Management Training Course** – 2018.

Promoting Tolerance through Education, training workshop organized by the **Higher Education Commission (HEC)** and **Federal Government Educational Institutions Directorate**, Rawalpindi, Pakistan – 2018.

Counter-Terrorism Policing: What Went Wrong? Training conducted at **Police College, Sihala, Islamabad**, for newly inducted police officers and those attending promotion courses- 2018.

Counter-Terrorism and the Role of Police: The Way Forward, training session delivered at the **Regional Headquarters, Special Branch Division, Punjab Police**, Rawalpindi - 2018.

National Qualitative Research Workshop Series 1, 2 & 3, designed and conducted for social science practitioners, public policy researchers, and professionals:

- **Series 1:** Philosophy of Qualitative Research & Basic Conceptual Issues
- **Series 2:** Qualitative Data Collection: Methods, Techniques & Tool Development
- **Series 3:** Qualitative Data Management & Analysis In collaboration with the **Office of Research, Innovation & Commercialization (ORIC)**, Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi - 2020, 2022, 2024.

Personal Reflections in Academic Writing: How to Navigate Emotions, Biases, and Authorial Voice, four-day international training workshop on research thesis/article writing, organized by **Fatima Jinnah Women University**, Rawalpindi - **2022**.

The Role of Philosophy in Research, three-day international training workshop on qualitative and quantitative research methodologies, part of a **Collaborative Research Project** between **King's College London** and **University of Malakand**, Pakistan - 2020.

Workshops/Professional Trainings/Conferences (Organized- Selected List)

Organized **Ethnographic Film-making for Social Change** workshop by Natasha Raheja, Cornell University, United States. **2024**.

Coordinated **Training on Sufi Music as Antidote to Extremism** by Dr. Amie Maciszewski, Ethnomusicologist, Sangeet Millennium, USA. **2023**.

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Hosted **Workshop on Ethnographic Research and Nativeness** by Dr. Amjad Kavish, Australian National University, Australia. **2023**.

Conducted **Workshop on Ethnomusicology: Theory and Practice** by Dr. Amie Maciszewski, Ethnomusicologist, Sangeet Millennium, USA. **2020**.

Organized **Fostering Intellectual Growth: A Shift from Rote Learning to Critical Thinking** by Dr. Patricia Omidian, Visiting Scholar, USA. **2018**.

Facilitated **Ethnographic Research Training and Seminar Series** by Dr. Tatiana Tiaynen-Qadir, University of Turku, Finland, under the Visiting Foreign Faculty Program, Higher Education Commission Pakistan. **2017**.

Led **Anthropology Week: Celebrating Diversity and Culture** in collaboration with Fine Arts and Urdu Departments. **2019**.

Coordinated workshops in collaboration with **Fountain House, Lahore**, at Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi:

1. Personal Development - (2016)
2. Stress Management - (2016)

Organized **Psychological First Aid** training at Fatima Jinnah Women University in collaboration with the Institute of Psychiatry, Benazir Bhutto Hospital, Rawalpindi - 2016.

Facilitated **Student Research Weeks** for the Departments of Behavioral Sciences, Anthropology, Psychology & Sociology Programs - 2017.

Conducted **Faculty Training on Professional Development** in collaboration with the Department of Leadership, Bahria University, Islamabad - 2018.

Organized **Public Colloquium Series**, Department of Behavioral Sciences, Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi - 2016–2021.

Coordinated **Student Study Groups** for Anthropology, Psychology & Sociology Programs - 2016–2017.

Organized **International Conference: Promoting Teaching and Assessment of Higher Order Thinking Skills in the 21st Century: Possibilities, Challenges, and Way Forward** - 2022.

Hosted **National Conference: 1st Multidisciplinary International Graduate Conference** -2020.

Organized **International Conference on Governance and Public Policy: Issues and Challenges**, Higher Education Commission (HEC), Islamabad, Pakistan - 2017.

Workshops / Professional Trainings (Attended – Selected List)

2nd Annual National Harmony Workshop: Discourses of Terrorism and National Security, National Defence University, Islamabad - 2017.

Anthropology Research Week with Prof. Tim Ingold, Macquarie University, Department of Anthropology, Sydney, Australia - 2012.

How to Present Research in a Colloquium, organized by the Department of Anthropology, Macquarie University, Sydney - 2014.

A Sane Approach to Presenting at Conferences, Higher Degree Research Unit, Macquarie University, Sydney - 2014.

Publishing Workshop, Department of Anthropology, Macquarie University, Sydney - 2013.

Endeavour Professionalization Workshops, Endeavour Awards, Department of Education, Australian Government - 2012, 2013, 2014.

Writing Retreat, Higher Degree Research Unit, Macquarie University, Sydney - 2013.

X-mind Software Training, Department of Anthropology, Macquarie University, Sydney - 2013.

Professionalization Workshops, Department of Anthropology, Macquarie University, Sydney - 2012, 2013.

PhD Writing Workshops (Parts 1 & 2), Higher Degree Research Unit, Macquarie University, Sydney - 2010.

Project Planning & Development, Institute of Research & Development Pakistan (IRDP) - 2002.

Social Science Research Methodology, Population Council Islamabad and Institute of Public Health (IPH), Lahore - 2004.

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Capacity Building Training on Child Domestic Labor, International Labor Organization (ILO) and SAHIL - 2005.

Languages

English: Fluent **Urdu:** Native proficiency **Hindi:** Fluent

Punjabi: Fluent **Saraiki:** Fluent **Potohari:** Fluent **Pahari:** Fluent