

DR. NADEEM AHMAD

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SUMMARY

Anthropologist and academic with a PhD from Quaid-i-Azam University, specializing in culture, language, literature, art, and society. My research explores cultural expression as a lens to understand history, politics, identity, and intangible cultural heritage. I have teaching experience in anthropology and tourism, grounded in qualitative research, fieldwork, and interdisciplinary analysis. I have published in peer-reviewed journals, edited an anthology, and led academic and cultural initiatives promoting art, language, literature, and regional knowledge systems. I also bring professional experience in culture and heritage sectors, leading work in language promotion & documentation, cultural programming, and research-driven peace building with artists and communities. My interests include cultural sustainability, peace building, gender, climate change, and community resilience.

CONTACT & BASIC INFORMATION:

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EDUCATION

PhD in Anthropology (*December 2025*), Quaid-i-Azam University

Dissertation: Pashto Poetry: A Socio-Poetic Lens on Culture, History, and Politics.

M.Phil. in Anthropology (*February 2016*), Quaid-i-Azam University

Dissertation: The Role of Non-Violence Legacy in Combating Terrorism: A Case Study of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

MSc in Anthropology (*January 2013*), Quaid-i-Azam University

Dissertation: Socio-Cultural Reforms of Khudai Khidmatgar Movement in Pakhtun Society: A Case Study of District Swabi.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

DARE Study Research Project (2025). Examined learning experiences of children with disabilities in mainstream schools to identify barriers and promote inclusive education through qualitative research and evidence-based reporting under the *National DARE initiative* by Agha Khan University and Sightsaver Pakistan.

PhD Research (2022–2023): Conducted 16 months of qualitative fieldwork and also written dissertation on “*Pashto Poetry: A Socio-Poetic Lens on Culture, History, and Politics*”, examining poetry as an archive of lived experiences, social critique, and community responses.

USIP Funded Research Project (2021): Undertook field-based research and documentation for “Standing above the Rubble: An Anthology of Peace Poetry from Waziristan,” involving interviews, thematic analysis, and cultural archiving. The research was part of the United States Institute of Peace funded project “*Reclaiming public space and agency – an initiative to promote artists’ role in restoring peace*”.

M.Phil. Research (2014–2015): Conducted ethnographic research and written dissertation on “The Role of Non-Violence Legacy in Combating Terrorism: A Case Study of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa After 9/11” focusing on artistic & cultural expression, resistance, and social transformation.

M.Sc. Research (2011–2012): Conducted ethnographic fieldwork and written dissertation on “*Socio-Cultural Reforms of Khudai Khidmatgar Movement in Pakhtun Society: A Case Study of District Swabi*” examining culture alternatives in social movements i.e., arts and cultural expressions, and nonviolent resistance.

PUBLICATIONS

Research Papers

- Nadeem Ahmad, Danish Ahmad, Dr. Tariq Khan, The Cultural Side of the Khudai Khidmatgar Movement: The Politics of Cultural Alternatives in Pakhtun Society in the time of British Colonialism. *Journal of Regional Studies*. Vol- 4, No. 4. pp 290-299. Dec 2025.
- Nadeem Ahmad, Dr. Danish Ahmad, Abu Bakkar Arif. Understanding Visitors’ Perceptions and Experiences at Takht-i-Bahi: Heritage Tourism at a Buddhist Archaeological Site. *Journal of Social Horizons*. Vol 2- Issue 2. pp 402-410. September 2025.
- Nadeem Ahmad, Dr. Ikram Badshah, Dr. Danish Ahmad. Folk Songs and Emotional Worlds: Cultural Expression of Pakhtun Women under Pakhtunwali. *Journal of Social Horizons*. Vol 2- Issue 3. pp 521-532. June 2025.
- Ahmad, N., Badshah, I., Khan, T., & Ul Haq, B. (2023). Pashto Poetry and Environmental Crisis in Swat: Understanding and Preserving the Ecosystemt through

Poetry. *Journal of Clinical Social Work and Health Intervention*, Vol 14, No. 1, 60-73. April 2023.

- Ahmad, N., Badshah, I., & Ul Haq, B. (2022). Interplay of Culturally Rich Terms in The Making of Political Fusion and Fissure in Pakhtun Society. *International Journal of Pakhtunkhwa*, Vol 7, No. 1, pp 49-61. June 2022.
- Qayum Khan, A., & Ahmad, N. A Brief Introduction to Allama Iqbal's Political Philosophy. *Pakistan Journal of Social Research*, Vol 3. No. 4, pp 338–344. December 2021.
- Ahmad, N., Badshah, I., & Qayum Khan, A. Pashto Poetry and Militancy in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa After 9/11: Thematic Analysis of Pashto Poetry in Resistance Militancy. *Pakistan Journal of Social Research*, Vol 3, No. 2, pp 55–65. June 2021.

Anthology (Book)

- Nadeem Ahmad & Ashraf Kakar (Edited). Standing above the rubble: An anthology of peace poetry from Waziristan. *Heela Institute of Research and Development*. December 2021.

Magazine Editor

- Founded and led the biannual multilingual magazine *Guldasta*, published by the *Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Culture & Tourism Authority*. Served as Editor for five issues, publishing it in both print and digital formats. The magazine focused on culture, art, tourism, languages, literature, and music, with an emphasis on regional heritage.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2024-2026: Adjunct Faculty, Tourism & Hospitality Management (TIAC), *Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad*. Designed and teaching Introduction to Hospitality and Tourism, Tourism: Concepts & Principles, Cultural Tourism and Tourism and Peace courses to BS Tourism and Hospitality students.
- 2024-2026: Adjunct Faculty, Department of Anthropology, *Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad*. Designed and teaching Anthropological Linguistics, Narrative Studies, Visual Anthropology, Ethnographic Research Methods and Ethno-Musicology Courses to BS M.Phil. Anthropology students.
- 2020-2021: Adjunct Faculty, *Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations (TIAC)*, *Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad*. Designed and taught Introduction to Anthropology, Cultural Anthropology, and Physical Anthropology courses to BS Archaeology students.

PROJECTS / PROGRAMS

- Education for Sustainable Development, Global Citizenship Education & Cultural Heritage (2025). Organization: *ACTED Pakistan / UNESCO*. Responsibilities: Capacity building, cultural heritage, intangible cultural heritage, curriculum integration.
- Reclaiming Public Space– *An Initiative to Promote Artists' Role in Restoring Peace* (2021). Organization: *Heela Research & Development Organization / USIP* (2021). Responsibilities: Community-based cultural research, capacity building of artists including poets, singers & musicians, peace education, and thematic knowledge production.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- *Senior Livelihood Officer* (2024 – Present)

Organization: Talent Beyond Boundaries

Description: Research, coordination, outreach, stakeholder engagement, skilled refugees, & talent hunt.

- *Deputy Manager Language & Literature- BPS 17* (2021-2024)

Organization: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Culture & Tourism Authority

Responsibilities: Led academic & cultural initiatives, coordinated with universities, documented literary works, art exhibitions, and organized knowledge-based events on culture, art, literature & tourism.

- *Project Coordinator* (2019–2021)

Organization: Pakistan Peace Collective

Responsibilities: Community engagement, and reporting on peace, interfaith harmony, and social cohesion.

- *Master Trainer / Resource Person* (2015–2019)

Organization: Institute of Rural Management (UNICEF & WHO Funded)

Responsibilities: Trainings delivery, child immunization, health staff, and education programmes.

- *Research Supervisor* (2012–2015)

Organization: Innovative Development Strategies

Responsibilities: Led field research, supervised data collection, ensured research quality, and report writing.

Professional / Advance Courses & Workshops

- Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (*Humanitarian Leadership Academy & KAYA*)
- Community Based Inventorying: Understanding & Safeguarding Our Intangible Culture Heritage (*UNESCO*)
- Folk Heritage: Making & Implementing Culture Policy (*Mehr Garh & UNESCO*)
- Advance Course on Understanding Folk Festivals of Pakistan (*Mehr Garh & UNESCO*)
- Communication for Development (C4D) (*PPC & Ministry of Information & Broadcasting*)
- Capacity Building: Peace, Tolerance and Conflict Management (*SPADO*)
- Research Mentoring Workshops Certificate (*LUMS*)

REFERENCES

Dr. Ikram Badshah. Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, *Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad*

Email: ikram@qau.edu.pk

Mr. Atif Afzal. Project Director. *Society for Human Rights and Prisoners Aid*

Email: aatif@sharp-pakistan.org