

**Simon Wolfgang Fuchs**  
Orientalisches Seminar  
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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS AND EDUCATION

### **ALBERT-LUDWIGS-UNIVERSITÄT, Freiburg, Germany**

*Lecturer in Islamic and Middle East Studies, since 10/2017*

### **UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE, Cambridge, UK**

*Research Fellow in Islamic Studies at Gonville & Caius College, 10/2015-09/2017*

Member, World History Subject Group, Faculty of History, University of Cambridge

### **PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, Princeton, NJ, USA**

*PhD in Near Eastern Studies, September 2015*

Title of the Dissertation: "Relocating the Centers of Shi'ī Islam: Religious Authority, Sectarianism, and the Limits of the Transnational in Colonial India and Pakistan"

Adviser: Prof. Muhammad Qasim Zaman

Committee Members: Dr. Faisal Devji (University of Oxford), Prof. Michael Cook, Prof. Bernard Haykel

Winner of the 2016 S. S. Pirzada Dissertation Prize on Pakistan, awarded by the Institute for South Asia Studies, University of California, Berkeley

### **EBERHARD-KARLS-UNIVERSITY, Tübingen, Germany**

*Magister Artium, Islamic Studies and Political Science, graduation January 2010*

### **UNIVERSITY OF TEHRAN, Tehran, Iran**

*International Center for Persian Studies, 09/2007 – 03/2008*

### **DUKE UNIVERSITY, Durham, NC, USA**

*Exchange Student, Department of Political Science, 08/2005 – 05/2006*

### **INSTITUT FRANÇAIS D'ÉTUDES ARABES DE DAMAS (IFEAD), Damascus, Syria**

*Arabic language training for research purposes, 10/2004 – 07/2005*

### **FRIEDRICH-ALEXANDER-UNIVERSITY, Erlangen, Germany**

*Magister Artium, Political Science, Islamic Studies, and Economics, 10/2002 – 07/2004*

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

*Proper Signposts for the Camp. The Reception of Classical Authorities in the Ġihādī Manual al-ʿUmda fi Iʿdād al-ʿUdda* (Würzburg: Ergon, 2011)

Simon Wolfgang Fuchs and Stephanie Garling (eds.), *Religion in Diktatur und Demokratie – Zur Bedeutung von religiösen Werten, Praktiken und Institutionen in politischen Transformationsprozessen* (The Role of

Religion in Dictatorship and Democracy. Studies on the Importance of Religious Values, Practices, and Institutions during Political Transformations) (Berlin: Lit Verlag, 2011)

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

“Third Wave Shi‘ism: Sayyid ‘Arif Husain al-Husaini and the Impact of the Iranian Revolution in Pakistan,” *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society* 24,3 (2014): 493-510

“Failing Transnationally: Local Intersections of Science, Medicine, and Sectarianism in Modernist Shi‘i Writings,” *Modern Asian Studies* 48,2 (2014): 433-467

“Do Excellent Surgeons Make Miserable Exegetes? Negotiating the Sunni Tradition in the *ġihādi* Camps,” *Die Welt des Islams* 53,2 (2013): 192-237

Ḥosayn ‘Alī Montazari, “Religious Government and Human Rights (*Ḥokūmat-e dinī va ḥoqūq-e ensān*),” trans. Simon Wolfgang Fuchs, *Die Welt des Islams*, 52,1 (2012): 69-102

### Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

“Glossy Global Leadership: Unpacking the Multilingual Religious Thought of the Afghan Jihad,” in Nile Green (ed), *Afghanistan’s Islam: From Conversion to the Taliban* (Oakland: University of California Press, 2017), 189-206 and 299-307. Available open access at <http://www.luminosoa.org/site/books/10.1525/luminos.23/>

“Modernismus im Blut: Muhammad AL-CHALISIS medizinisch-technologische Lesart des schiitischen Islams (Bloody Modernism: Muhammad al-Khalisi’s medical-technological reading of Shi‘ite Islam),” in Constanze Breuer and Sebastian Böhmer (eds), *Technologien des Glaubens*, forthcoming with Acta Historica Leopoldina, 2017

“The Long Shadow of the State: The Iranian Revolution, Saudi Influence, and the Shifting Arguments of Anti-Shi‘i Sectarianism in Pakistan,” in Laurence Louër and Christophe Jaffrelot (eds), *Islam between the Gulf and South Asia*, forthcoming with Hurst 2017

### Book Reviews

“Review of Andreas Rieck, *The Shias of Pakistan: An Assertive and Beleaguered Minority*,” forthcoming in *Comparative Islamic Studies*

“Review of Elvire Corboz, *Guardians of Shi‘ism: Sacred Authority and Transnational Family Networks*,” *Review of Middle East Studies*, FirstView, <https://doi.org/10.1017/rms.2017.61>

“Review of Michael Farquhar, *Circuits of Faith: Migration, Education, and the Wahhabi Mission*,” *Bulletin of SOAS* 80,2 (2017): 382-384

Review of Seema Alavi, *Muslim Cosmopolitanism in the Age of Empire*, *Die Welt des Islams* 57 (2017): 223-226

“Review of Raihan Ismail, *Saudi Clerics and Shi‘a Islam*,” *Bulletin of SOAS*, 79,3 (2016): 657-658

“Review of Denis Hermann, *Kirmānī Shaykhism and the ijtihād*. A Study of Abū al-Qāsīm Khān Ibrāhīmī's *Ijtihād wa taqlid*,” *Bulletin of SOAS*, 79,2 (2016): 423-424

“Review of Masooda Bano, *The Rational Believer. Choices and Decisions in the Madrasas of Pakistan*,” *Contemporary Islam*, 9,3 (2015): 393-397

“Review of Naveeda Khan, *Muslim Becoming. Aspiration and Skepticism in Pakistan*,” *Contemporary Islam*, 9,1 (2015): 123-125

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

09/2017 Research Prize of the Annemarie-Schimmel-Stiftung für Islamkunde, Bonn, Germany

06/2016 Bayard and Cleveland Dodge Memorial Dissertation Prize 2016 for best PhD dissertation, awarded by the Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University

02/2016 S. S. Pirzada Dissertation Prize on Pakistan, awarded by the Institute for South Asia Studies, University of California Berkeley (Members of the Prize Committee: Prof. Manan Ahmed (Columbia University), Prof. Munis Faruqui (UC Berkeley), Prof. Farooq Hamid (UC Riverside), and Prof. Saba Mahmood (UC Berkeley))

10/2015 Cambridge Humanities Research Grant Scheme Travel Award for Research on Transnational Islam in Egypt and Pakistan

07/2015 – 09/2015 Grant for research on transnational Shī‘ism in German archives, awarded by The Sharmin and Bijan Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies at Princeton University

09/2014 – 06/2015 Dissertation Writing Grant, Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies (PIIRS), Princeton University

07/2014 Research Student Award, awarded for the best graduate student paper by the European Association for South Asian Studies (EASAS) during the 23<sup>rd</sup> Conference on South Asian Studies, Zurich, Switzerland

09/2013 – 08/2014 Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation Dissertation Fellowship

09/2013 – 08/2014 Graduate Fellow, Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University

06/2013 – 08/2013 PIIRS Summer Travel Grant for research in Pakistan and India

01/2013 Travel Grant by the Department of Near Eastern Studies for research in Iraq

06/2012 – 08/2012 Travel Scholarship of the Deutsche Morgenländische Gesellschaft (DMG) for research in Pakistan and Iran

06/2012 – 08/2012 PIIRS Summer Travel Grant for research in Pakistan and Iran

06/2011 – 08/2011 Donald and Mary Hyde Fellowship for research in Pakistan

09/2010 – 08/2011 Johnson Garrett '35 Memorial Merit Fellowship

06/2010 – 08/2010 PIIRS Summer Funding for Arabic language training in Damascus, Syria

09/2009 Perkins Prize of the Department of Near Eastern Studies at Princeton University, granted to the top applicant in the PhD cohort

08/2005 – 05/2006 ISAP scholarship, granted by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) for two terms of graduate studies at the Department of Political Science, Duke University, NC, USA

03/2003 – 09/2009 German Federal Merit Scholarship (Begabtenförderung), administered by Studienwerk Villigst

### RECENT CONFERENCES AND INVITED TALKS

*The Blind Leading the Blind? Multivocality, Certainty, and the Impact of Sufism on the Regime of taqlid.* Paper presenter and co-organizer (together with Ali Mian/Seattle University) of the panel “Certainty and Ambiguity in modern Islam,” held at the 33<sup>rd</sup> Deutscher Orientalistentag, Friedrich-Schiller Universität, Jena, Germany, 18-22 September 2017

*An Alliance of Shady Trees and Meadows in Bloom: Rallying Sunni Traditionalism between the Middle East and South Asia.* Invited talk delivered at the “Sharia in Motion II” Workshop, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK, 14-16 July 2017

*Potentials of Periphery: how Pakistan's Shi'is Navigate the Pull of West Asia.* Invited talk delivered at the “West Asia Workshop,” University of Sussex, Falmer, UK, 17 May 2017

*Casting aside the Clutches of Conjecture: The Striving for Religious Certainty at Aligarh.* Invited talk delivered at the Conference “Revisiting the Writings of the Aligarh Movement,” held at the Max Planck Society, Berlin, Germany, 05-06 May 2017

*A Puzzle of Resilience: The Islamic Schools of Law between South Asia and the Middle East.* Invited talk delivered at the Near and Middle East Seminar, School of Oriental and African Studies, London, UK, 5 December 2016

*Center and Periphery in Islam: Pakistan, Shi'ism, and the Limits of the Transnational.* Invited lecture delivered at the Bayerisches Orientkolloquium, Friedrich-Alexander University, Erlangen, Germany, 25 November 2016

*Striving for a Sunni State: Anti-Shi'i Sectarianism and Belonging in Pakistan.* Invited paper presentation at the conference “Islam and Citizenship: Perspectives from the Middle East and South Asia,” held at Centre for Modern Indian Studies, University of Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany, 11 November 2016

*How can there be a madhhab after Sayyid Aḥmad Khān? Ḥanafī Islam and its critique in South Asia.* Paper presented at the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, USA, 20-23 October 2016

*Printed Jihad: Afghanistan's religious periodicals of the 1980s.* Invited talk delivered as part of a lecture series on Afghanistan at the Central Asia Institute, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany, 15 June 2016

*Elusive Centers: Transnational Shi'ism between Pakistan and the Middle East.* Paper presentation at the conference “Trans-l Encounters: Religious Education and Islamic Popular Culture in Asia and the Middle

East,” Research Network “Re-Configurations. History, Remembrance and Transformation Processes in the Middle East and North Africa,” Philipps University Marburg, Germany, 26-28 May 2016

*Diverging Fates: Madhhab Identities in the Middle East and South Asia.* Paper presentation and co-organizer (together with Justin Jones/University of Oxford) of the panel “When Fiqh Meets the State: New Problems and Solutions in Islamic law,” held at the Third Annual Conference of the British Association for Islamic Studies (BRAIS), Senate House, University of London, London, UK, 11-12 April 2016

*The West is a Career: Pakistan’s Shi’i Islam between the Local and the Transnational.* Lecture for the S.S. Pirzada Dissertation Prize Award Ceremony, Institute for South Asia Studies, UC Berkeley, 9 April 2016

*Shi’i Thought in Pakistan: The Limits of the Transnational.* Invited paper presentation at the conference “An Intellectual History for Pakistan,” St. Antony’s College, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, 1 March 2016

*Longing for the State: the Dialectics of the Local and the Transnational in Pakistan’s Sunni – Shi’i Sectarianism.* Invited Talk delivered at the South Asia Seminar, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK, 17 November 2015

## LANGUAGES

Arabic, Persian, Urdu, French, and German

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND SERVICE

American Institute for Pakistan Studies (AIPS)  
British Association for Islamic Studies (BRAIS)  
Deutsche Morgenländische Gesellschaft (DMG)  
Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft Vorderer Orient (DAVO)  
European Association for South Asian Studies (EASAS)  
Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA)

Reviewer of article manuscripts for *Bulletin of SOAS*, *Modern Asian Studies*, *Welt des Islams*, and the Royal Asiatic Society

Treasurer, Graduate Student Government Executive Committee, Princeton University, 03/2013 - 02/2014

Chair, Graduate Student Government Events Board, Princeton University, 03/2013 – 02/2014  
Graduate Student Representative, Princeton University Sustainability Committee, 04/2013 – 02/2015