

Simon Wolfgang Fuchs
Orientalisches Seminar
Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg
Platz der Universität 3
79085 Freiburg, Germany
simon.w.fuchs@orient.uni-freiburg.de
+ 49-(0)761/2033157
www.simonwolfgangfuchs.com

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‘i 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

In a Pure Muslim Land. Shi‘ism between Pakistan and the Middle East. Forthcoming 2019 with University of North Carolina Press, Islamic Networks and Muslim Civilization Series.

The Iranian Revolution: A Global History. Under contract with Princeton University Press.

Proper Signposts for the Camp. The Reception of Classical Authorities in the Ġihādī Manual al-‘Umda fī I‘dād al-Udda (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 ġihādī Camps,” *Die Welt des Islams* 53,2 (2013): 192-237

Ḥosayn ‘Alī Montazarī, “Religious Government and Human Rights (*Ḥokūmat-e dinī va hoqūq-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: Schubkräfte zwischen technologischer Entwicklung und religiösen Diskursen* (Halle/Saale: Acta Historica Leopoldina, 2017), 85-99.

“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* (London: Hurst, 2017), 217-232 and 290-300.

Book Reviews

“Review of Mona Hassan, *Longing for the Lost Caliphate. A Transregional History*, and Hugh Kennedy, *The Caliphate*,” forthcoming in *Bulletin of SOAS*

“Review of Johannes Rosenbaum, *Die Islamische Ehe in Südasien: zeitgenössische Diskurse zwischen Recht, Ethik und Etikette*,” forthcoming in *Islamic Law and Society*

“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*, 51,2 (2017): 275-278.

“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-Qāsim Khān Ibrāhīmī’s *Ijtihād wa taqlīd*,” *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

12/2017-08/2019 Research Award, Special Programme of the Gerda Henkel Foundation “Islam, the Modern Nation State and Transnational Movements” for my research project on the global intellectual history of the Iranian Revolution

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 Shi’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 23rd 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

Limits of Transnational Control: Saudi Arabia, Iran and Sunni-Shi'i Sectarianism in Pakistan. Invited talk delivered at the workshop “The Middle East and the Geopolitics of Religious Soft Power,” hosted by the Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University and the Center for Middle East Policy at the Brookings Institution, Washington, DC, 18-19 April 2018

Pressuring the mahdi: Theology, Sectarianism, and the Limits of Shi'i Reform in Pakistan. Invited talk delivered at the “Journée d'Études Franco-Allemandes sur le Chiisme Contemporain,” École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris, France, 08 November 2017

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 33rd 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 45th 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