

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 (Durham, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2019), Islamic Networks and Muslim Civilization Series.

<https://www.uncpress.org/book/9781469649795/in-a-pure-muslim-land/>

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

Proper Signposts for the Camp. The Reception of Classical Authorities in the Ğihādī Manual al-‘Umda fi 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

“Legalised Pedigrees: Sayyids and Shi‘i Islam in Pakistan,” forthcoming in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*

„Von Schiiten lernen: Der Reiz des Martyriums für sunnitische Gruppen in Pakistan und Afghanistan,” (Learning from Shi‘ites: The Appeal of Martyrdom for Sunni Groups in Pakistan and Afghanistan) *BEHEMOTH – A Journal on Civilisation* 12,1 (2019): 52-68

“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 ğihādī Camps,” *Die Welt des Islams* 53,2 (2013): 192-237

Ḥosayn ‘Alī Montazarī, “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: 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 Faiz Ahmed, *Afghanistan Rising. Islamic Law and Statecraft between the Ottoman and British Empires*, Harvard UP, 2017,” *Die Welt des Islams*, 59 (2019): 99-102

“Compte Rendu de Shahab Ahmed, *What is Islam? The Importance of Being Islamic*, Princeton University Press, 2015,” *Annales HSS*, 72,4 (2018): 1161-1164 (in French)

“Review of Mona Hassan, *Longing for the Lost Caliphate. A Transregional History*, and of Hugh Kennedy, *The Caliphate*,” *Bulletin of SOAS*, 81,2 (2018): 347-350

“Review of Johannes Rosenbaum, *Die Islamische Ehe in Südasien: zeitgenössische Diskurse zwischen Recht, Ethik und Etikette*,” *Islamic Law and Society* 25 (2018): 311-317

“Review of Andreas Rieck, *The Shias of Pakistan: An Assertive and Beleaguered Minority*,” *Comparative Islamic Studies* 11,2 (2018): 241-244

“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 ijthād. A Study of Abū al-Qāsim Khān Ibrāhīmī's Ijthād 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

10/2019-09/2020 Junior Fellowship, Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS), granting teaching relief for one year

05/2019-05/2014 Elected Member of the Junge Akademie, a joint initiative of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities and the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina (<https://www.diejungeakademie.de/>)

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 AND UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND INVITED TALKS

Hunting for Paradigms: Shi'i Islam and the Challenge of History. Paper presentation as part of the panel "Islamic Histories", organized by Sana Haroon (UMass Boston), Annual Meeting, American Historical Association (AHA), January 3-6, 2020, NYC, USA

Round Table: "Author meets Critics" on In a Pure Muslim Land with SherAli Tareen (Franklin & Marshall), Megan Eaton Robb (UPenn), and Syed Rizwan Zamir (Davidson), Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI, USA, October 17, 2019

A Direct Flight to Revolution: Maududi and the 1979-Moment, invited paper presentation at the workshop "Divine Sovereignty, Morality and the State: Maududi and His Influence", Kings College London, UK, September 5, 2019

The Challenge of Modernity: Global Islam between Return, Reform, and Revolution, invited lecture to be delivered at the Evangelische Akademie Tutzing, Germany, July 5, 2019

Ditching the Periphery: Shiism, Pakistan, and Global Islam, invited lecture given at the Department of Religious Studies, University of Erfurt, Erfurt, Germany, June 5, 2019

When Tehran was the Brightest Star: A Global History of the 1979 Iranian Revolution, invited lecture delivered at the Royal Asiatic Society, London, UK, April 25, 2019

Faded Networks: The Overestimated Saudi Legacy of anti-Shi'i Sectarianism in Pakistan, invited paper presentation, SEPAD workshop on "Transnational Religious networks and the Geopolitics of the Muslim World," Lancaster University, UK, April 16, 2019

Selective Imports: How Middle Eastern Islamists Made Sense of the Iranian Revolution, invited paper presentation at the conference "Cold War Islamisms," Free University Berlin, Germany, March 15-16, 2019

How to Import a Revolution: Shi'is, Islamists, and their Opponents in Pakistan. Talk delivered at the conference "The Iranian Revolution as a World Event," Amsterdam Institute for Humanities Research, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands, 13-14 December 2018

Recovering the Global Impact of the Iranian Revolution – Some Conceptual Notes. Invited talk delivered at the workshop "Toward an International History of the Middle East in the 1980s," Friedrich-Meinecke-Institut, Free University Berlin, Germany, 30 July 2018

Unspoken Pedigrees. Shi'i Islam and Sayyids in Pakistan. Paper presented as part of the panel "The sayyids in South Asia: the Social and Political Role of a Muslim Elite," European Conference on South Asia Studies (ECSAS), Paris, France, 24-28 July 2018

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, USA, 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

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