**MARIAM ZIA, PhD.**

mariamzia@gmail.com | mariamzia@fas.harvard.edu

+92 300 8487555 | Lahore, Pakistan

<https://mittalsouthasiainstitute.harvard.edu/2023/02/mariam-zia/>

**CURRENT APPOINTMENT**

**Department of Social Sciences, Lahore School of Economics, Pakistan Since June 2016**

Assistant Professor and Coordinator Department of Social Sciences

* Teaching the following undergraduate courses: Literary Theory, Introduction to Literature, Modern and Postmodern Literature, World Literatures, Language, Culture and Society, and Creative Writing. MPhil and PhD degrees scheduled to begin in 2025.
* Member Board of Studies and Board of Faculty that meet regularly to discuss curriculum development and design, and to develop self-assessment reports (SAR) in accordance with the values, mission, and research vision of the university. The Board is also responsible for ensuring implementation of Higher Education Commission policies.
* Team Leader for undergraduate courses in Creative Writing, Language, Culture and Society, Literature, and Sociology
* Supervisor for undergraduate theses in English Studies (Pakistan Higher Education Commission-approved PhD Supervisor)

**Research Affiliate, Harvard University, USA July 2023 to June 2024**

Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute

* Honorary affiliation for the completion of the first-ever translation of Shamsur Rahman Faruqi’s *Sahiri, Shahi, Sahibqirani: Dastan-e Amir Hamza ka Mutaela* (Sorcery, Kingship, Lordship of the Auspicious Planetary Conjunction: A Critical Study of The Adventures of Amir Hamza, 2005)

**CURRENT RESEARCH**

**Book Contract, Routledge Series in Global Genre Fiction**

Working Title: *Dastan-e Amir Hamza*: Religious Orientations, Storytelling, and The Uncanny

Full Draft due in March 2024.

**EDUCATION**

**University of Sussex, United Kingdom | PhD (Critical Theory)**

September 2011-July 2017

* Dissertation: “Religious Orientations, Storytelling, and The Uncanny: A Reading of *The Adventures of Amir Hamza*”

**Supervised by Professor Nicholas Royle and Professor Keston Sutherland**

**University of Sussex, United Kingdom | MA English Literature (Critical Theory)**

October 2005-September 2006

* Merit Pass
* Modules in Deconstruction, Psychoanalysis, Postcolonial Theory, and Marxism

**University of Punjab, Pakistan | MA English Language and Literature**

September 2002-June 2004

* CGPA 3.83/4.00
* Gold Medal for the Highest CGPA
* Vice Chancellor’s Role of Honour

**Kinnaird College for Women, Pakistan | BA English Literature and Political Science**

September 2000-May 2002

* Minor in Applied Psychology

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

**Harvard University, USA (Postdoctoral Fellowship)** Spring 2023

[Syed Babar Ali Fellow at The Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute](https://mittalsouthasiainstitute.harvard.edu/people/mariam-zia/)

**Faculty Mentor: Professor Ali S. Asani**

* Working on the first-ever translation of Shamsur Rahman Faruqi’s *Sahiri, Shahi, Sahibqirani: Dastan-e Amir Hamza ka Mutaela* (Sorcery, Kingship, Lordship of the Auspicious Planetary Conjunction: A Critical Study of The Adventures of Amir Hamza, 2005)
* Member Review Committee for Syed Babar Ali, Raghunathan, and Bajaj Fellowships for 2023-2024 at The Mittal Institute

**Dawn News Television, Lahore, Pakistan** 2007-2011

Assignment Editor, Punjab Region

* Managed news gathering in Urdu, English, and Punjabi
* Responsible for production, quality, and editorial check
* Hosted various talk-shows and special reports on social and political issues including terrorism and suicide bombings.

**Department of English, University of the Punjab, Pakistan** 2007-2011

Visiting Faculty (Research Methods and Literary Theory) for MA and MPhil.

**Department of English, Kinnaird College for Women, Pakistan** 2007-2009

Visiting Faculty (Critical Theory) for MA and MPhil.

**Lahore Grammar School, Pakistan** 2007-2009

Visiting Faculty A Level English Literature

**Research and Publication Centre, National College of Arts, Lahore** 2006-2007

Junior Manuscript Editor

**The Daily Times, Lahore** 2002-2003

Assistant Op-Ed Editor

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Textual Practice (Special Issue Invited Contribution, In Progress)** 2024

Out of Context: Veering into Indo-Islamic Storytelling

**Marvels & Tales (Issue 38.1, forthcoming)** 2024

Reclaiming the Fabulous Machinations of the Qissa Genre (Review)

**Research Journal of Language and Literature (Vol. 7, Issue 1)** 2022

[Bringing it Closer Home](https://www.rjll.org.pk/ojs/index.php/7/article/view/49): A Close Reading Derek Walcott’s *Odyssey*

**South Asian Review (Vol. 41, Issue 3-4: South Asian Literature in the World)** 2020

[*Dastan-e Amir Hamza* and Salman Rushdie’s](https://doi.org/10.1080/02759527.2020.1851518) *Two Years, Eight Months and Twenty-Eight Nights*

**Oxford Literary Review (Vol. 42, Issue 2)** 2020

Negotiating Meaning: [The Case of Uncanny and Ajīb-o Gharīb](https://doi.org/10.3366/olr.2020.0345)

**Journal for the Fantastic in Arts (Vol. 31, Issue 1)** 2020

Review of Pasha Muhammad Khan’s *The Broken Spell: Storytelling in Urdu and Persian*

**Journal of Research in Humanities (Vol. 42.85)** 2006

The Uncanny Eye

**PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS**

**Nicholas Royle: A Symposium, University of Sussex, UK** 23 June 2023

Out of Context: Veering into Indo-Islamic Storytelling

**Norm and Transgression in the Fairy-Tale Tradition, Brown University, USA** 7-9 June 2023

Between Man and Jinn: The Story of a Betrothal from *Dastan-e Amir Hamza*

**(Funded by Harvard University, Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute)**

**Mittal Institute Annual Symposium, Harvard University, USA**

South Asia: A Case for Storytelling and Translation5 May 2023

**Syed Babar Ali Fellow Seminar, Harvard University, USA**

Tellings, Translations, and The Uncanny: Thinking About *Dastan-e Amir Hamza*26 April 2023

Mariam Zia in Conversation with Ali Asani

**54th NeMLA Convention, Niagara Falls, USA** 26 March 2023

*Panel Organizer and Chair*

Intimacy, Violence, Gender, and Power: Folktales and Indigenous Genres in South Asia

**(Funded by Harvard University, Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute)**

**13th Association for Iranian Studies Biennial Conference, Salamanca, Spain** 30 August 2022

*Panel Organizer and Chair*

Spinning Stories: The Evolution of the Dastan as a Genre **(Funded by Lahore School of Economics)**

**International Society for Folk Narrative Research Interim Conference, London, UK** 23 July 2022

*Hamzanama*: Between Miniature Painting and Storytelling **(Funded by Lahore School of Economics)**

**Trajectories and Discourses in English Studies, COMSATS University, Lahore, Pakistan** 26 May 2022

Dastan: A Theory

**International Training Workshop for PhD Supervisors in English Studies, Lahore, Pakistan** 26 March 2022

Bilingualism, Translation, and World Literature

**COMSATS University, Lahore, Pakistan** 8 December 2021

Urdu Classics: Mariam Zia in Conversation with Musharraf Ali Farooqi

**26th European Conference on South Asian Studies, Vienna, Austria** 27 July 2021

Adaptations of Stories from *The Hamzanama* and The Arabian Nights

**1st International Conference on Emerging Trends in Arts & Humanities, Lahore, Pakistan** 15 June 2021

Negotiating Meaning: The Case of the Uncanny and *Ajīb-o Gharīb*

**Glasgow International Fantasy Conversations, UK** 29 April 2021

Salman Rushdie and The Eastern “Fantasy” Tradition

**Sussex Centre for Folklore, Fairy Tales and Fantasy, University of Chichester, UK** 29 April 2019

Hazrat Khizr and the Sea of Stories

**LUMS 13th Annual Humanities Conference, Lahore, Pakistan** 10-12 April 2019

Understanding “The Uncanny” in *Dastan-e Amir Hamza*

**Pacific Ancient & Modern Languages Association Conference, University of Honolulu, USA** 11 November 2017

Dastan: Towards a Definition of a Genre **(Funded by Lahore School of Economics)**

**Graduate Research Conference, University College London, UK** 6 June 2017

Caught Between History and Religion: The Uncanny Distortions of Storytelling in the Indo-Islamic Dastan Tradition

**(Funded by Lahore School of Economics)**

**Sussex Centre for Folklore, Fairy Tales and Fantasy, University of Chichester, UK** 23 May 2015

Of Animals and Monsters: The World of *The Adventures of Amir Hamza*

**10th Biennial Conference, International Society for Iranian Studies, Montreal, Canada** 7-11 August 2014

*Invited Panel Presentation*

*The Adventures of Amir Hamza* and the Question of “The Uncanny” **(Funded by University of Sussex)**

**Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, UK** 31 May 2014

Consortium of the Humanities and Arts in the South East (Postgraduate Conference: Found in Translation)

The Lost Genre and “The Uncanny”: A Reading of *The Adventures of Amir Hamza*

**The Stories We Tell Ourselves, University of Aberystwyth, Wales, UK** 8-10 May 2014

Storytelling in the Dastan Genre

**NEWSPAPER ARTICLES, INTERVIEWS, AND BLOG**

**The News on Sunday** 2022

[Lamentations](https://www.thenews.com.pk/tns/detail/979917-lamentations-of-a-literary-theorist) of a Literary Theorist

[**The News on Sunday**](https://www.thenews.com.pk/tns/detail/913801-we-dont-tell-a-story-in-isolation-were-connected-to-an-ancient-storytelling-tradition)2021

‘We don’t tell a story in isolation; we’re connected to an ancient storytelling tradition.’ [An interview with writer and translator, Musharraf Ali Farooqi](https://www.thenews.com.pk/tns/detail/913801-we-dont-tell-a-story-in-isolation-were-connected-to-an-ancient-storytelling-tradition)

**Teaching World Epics Project, Center for Teaching and Learning Blog, Columbia University, USA** 2020

[*The Adventures of Amir Hamza*](https://edblogs.columbia.edu/worldepics/project/hamzanama/) **(Peer-reviewed)**

**Newsweek Pakistan (Print)** 2015

Review of Salman Rushdie’s *Two Years, Eight Months and Twenty-Eight Nights*

[**The Daily Dawn**](https://www.dawn.com/news/578970/a-luxury-even-a-shahzadi-doesnt-afford)2010

A Luxury Even a Shahzadi Doesn’t Afford (Special Feature on Government Schools in Lahore)

**SELECT TELEVISION PROGRAMMING, ANCHORING, AND APPEARANCES**

**Dastangoi:** An Ancient Art form of Oral Storytelling, [**Indus New (English)**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vuYPk9uMaqM) 2020

**Islamophobia**, [**Indus News (English)**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MOeCEo4DVv8) 2019

**Basant Special**—**[DawnNews Television (Urdu)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ZtqYnscOLY)** 2011

**14th August Teacher’s Special—[DawnNews Television (Urdu)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TLtq42067Hw)** 2010

**The State of Primary Schools in Lahore—[DawnNews Television (Urdu)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=neCH7AXrcBs)** 2010

**A Year of Fear and Crises, Year End Special on Terrorism,** [**DawnNews Television (English)**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GVWoh3Ip3OY) 2009

**Special Live Program** (Suicide Bombing at Jamia Naeemia Kills Anti-Taliban Cleric) [**DawnNews Television (English)**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8mROqyqilwU) 2009

**Special Live Program** (Terror Attack on Sri Lankan Cricket Team) [**DawnNews Television (English)**](https://youtu.be/UTDLORK0uh4)2009

**MEMBERSHIPS**

**Association for Iranian Studies, Canada** 2014-Present

**European Association for South Asian Studies, Germany** 2019-Present

**Northeastern Modern Languages Association, (NeMLA) USA** 2022-Present