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<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 2026.
- 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 2026

Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute

- Honorary affiliation (unpaid) for the completion of the first-ever translation of Shamsur Rahman Faruqi's *Sahiri, Shahi, Sahibqirani: Dastan-e Amir Hamza ka Mutalea* (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*

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

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 Mutaala* (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

- Completed BBC Training in Copy-Writing and Editorial Judgment in Broadcast Journalism
- 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

Completed University of Cambridge Stage 2 Intermediate Course in International AS/A Level English Literature (The International School of Choueifat, Dubai)

Research and Publication Centre, National College of Arts, Lahore

2006-2007

Junior Manuscript Editor

The Daily Times, Lahore

2002-2003

Assistant Op-Ed Editor

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES, REVIEWS, AND PUBLICATIONS

(Invited Contribution) Book Chapter (The Routledge Companion to World Epics, Ed. Jo Ann Cavallo)

2026

The Paintings of the Mughal *Hamzanama*

(Under Review) Book Chapter (Heidelberg Asian Studies Publishing, Eds. Ira Sharma and Volker Caumanns)

2026

Adaptations and Resonance: *Dastan-e Amir Hamza* and Storytelling

(Under Review) Book Chapter (Hong Kong University Press, Ed. Mrinmoy Pramanick)

2026

Comparative Literature in Pakistan

Textual Practice (Special Issue Invited Contribution)

2025

Out of Context: Veering into Indo-Islamic Storytelling

Journal of Scholarly Publishing (Issue 41) <i>Three Centuries of Travel Writing by Muslim Women</i> (Review)	2024
Marvels & Tales (Issue 38.1) Reclaiming the Fabulous Machinations of the Qissa Genre (Review)	2024
Research Journal of Language and Literature (Vol. 7, Issue 1) Bringing it Closer Home : A Close Reading Derek Walcott's <i>Odyssey</i>	2022
Oxford Literary Review (Vol. 42, Issue 2) Negotiating Meaning: The Case of Uncanny and Ajīb-o Gharīb	2020
Teaching World Epics Project, Center for Teaching and Learning Blog, Columbia University, USA The Adventures of Amir Hamza	2020
South Asian Review (Vol. 41, Issue 3-4: South Asian Literature in the World) <i>Dastan-e Amir Hamza and Two Years, Eight Months and Twenty-Eight Nights</i>	2020
Journal for the Fantastic in Arts (Vol. 31, Issue 1) Review of Pasha Muhammad Khan's <i>The Broken Spell: Storytelling in Urdu and Persian</i>	2020
Journal of Research in Humanities (Vol. 42.85) The Uncanny Eye	2006

PRESENTATIONS AND TALKS

The Role of Mythology and Folklore in Cultivating Resilience, Lahore College for Women University, Lahore Distinguished National Expert, Panelist and Discussant	23 April 2025
The Uncanny Symposium, Forman Christian College University, Lahore (Invited Talk) National Distinguished Guest Speaker	27 February 2025
Erasure, Resistance, and Innovation, University of Central Punjab, Lahore (Keynote Address) <i>Dastan-e Amir Hamza: Painting and Storytelling</i>	6 June 2024
The British Council Women of the World (WOW) Festival Fireside Chat, Lahore (Invited Talk) Mariam Zia in Conversation with Shahnaz Aijazuddin "Women of <i>Tilism Hoshruha</i> "	2 March 2024
National College of Arts, Lahore (Invited Lecture) Technical Aspects of the <i>Hamzanama</i> Paintings	19 November 2023
Nicholas Royle: A Symposium, University of Sussex, UK Out of Context: Veering into Indo-Islamic Storytelling	23 June 2023
Norm and Transgression in the Fairy-Tale Tradition, Brown University, USA Between Man and Jinn: The Story of a Betrothal from <i>Dastan-e Amir Hamza</i> (Funded by Harvard University, Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute)	7-9 June 2023
Mittal Institute Annual Symposium, Harvard University, USA South Asia: A Case for Storytelling and Translation	5 May 2023
Syed Babar Ali Fellow Seminar, Harvard University, USA Tellings, Translations, and The Uncanny: Thinking About <i>Dastan-e Amir Hamza</i> Mariam Zia in Conversation with Professor Ali Asani	26 April 2023

54th NeMLA Convention, Niagara Falls, USA <i>Panel Organizer and Chair</i> Intimacy, Violence, Gender, and Power: Folktales and Indigenous Genres in South Asia (Funded by Harvard University, Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute)	26 March 2023
13th Association for Iranian Studies Biennial Conference, Salamanca, Spain <i>Panel Organizer and Chair</i> Spinning Stories: The Evolution of the Dastan as a Genre (Funded by Lahore School of Economics)	30 August 2022
International Society for Folk Narrative Research Interim Conference, London, UK <i>Hamzanama: Between Miniature Painting and Storytelling (Funded by Lahore School of Economics)</i>	23 July 2022
Trajectories and Discourses in English Studies, COMSATS University, Lahore, Pakistan Dastan: A Theory	26 May 2022
International Training Workshop for PhD Supervisors in English Studies, Lahore, Pakistan Bilingualism, Translation, and World Literature	26 March 2022
COMSATS University, Lahore, Pakistan Urdu Classics: Mariam Zia in Conversation with Musharraf Ali Farooqi	8 December 2021
26th European Conference on South Asian Studies, Vienna, Austria Adaptations of Stories from <i>The Hamzanama</i> and <i>The Arabian Nights</i>	27 July 2021
1st International Conference on Emerging Trends in Arts & Humanities, Lahore, Pakistan Negotiating Meaning: The Case of the Uncanny and <i>Ajīb-o Gharīb</i>	15 June 2021
Glasgow International Fantasy Conversations, UK Salman Rushdie and The Eastern "Fantasy" Tradition	29 April 2021
Sussex Centre for Folklore, Fairy Tales and Fantasy, University of Chichester, UK Hazrat Khizr and the Sea of Stories	29 April 2019
LUMS 13th Annual Humanities Conference, Lahore, Pakistan Understanding "The Uncanny" in <i>Dastan-e Amir Hamza</i>	10-12 April 2019
Pacific Ancient & Modern Languages Association Conference, University of Honolulu, USA Dastan: Towards a Definition of a Genre (Funded by Lahore School of Economics)	11 November 2017
Graduate Research Conference, University College London, UK Caught Between History and Religion: The Uncanny Distortions of Storytelling in the Indo-Islamic Dastan Tradition (Funded by Lahore School of Economics)	6 June 2017
Sussex Centre for Folklore, Fairy Tales and Fantasy, University of Chichester, UK Of Animals and Monsters: The World of <i>The Adventures of Amir Hamza</i>	23 May 2015
10th Biennial Conference, International Society for Iranian Studies, Montreal, Canada <i>Invited Panel Presentation</i> <i>The Adventures of Amir Hamza</i> and the Question of "The Uncanny" (Funded by University of Sussex)	7-11 August 2014
Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, UK Consortium of the Humanities and Arts in the South-East (Postgraduate Conference: Found in Translation) The Lost Genre and "The Uncanny": A Reading of <i>The Adventures of Amir Hamza</i>	31 May 2014
The Stories We Tell Ourselves, University of Aberystwyth, Wales, UK Storytelling in the Dastan Genre	8-10 May 2014

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES AND INTERVIEWS

The News on Sunday Lamentations of a Literary Theorist	2022
The News on Sunday Challenging Narratives : Review of Qissa Chhabili Bhattiyari (Chhabili the Innkeeper)	2022
The News on Sunday '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	2021
Newsweek Pakistan (Print) Review of Salman Rushdie's <i>Two Years, Eight Months and Twenty-Eight Nights</i>	2015
The Daily Dawn A Luxury Even a Shahzadi Doesn't Afford (Special Feature on Government Schools in Lahore)	2010

SELECT TELEVISION PROGRAMMING, ANCHORING, AND APPEARANCES

Gender Roles (Women Day Special), Aik News (Urdu)	2024
Dastangoi: An Ancient Art form of Oral Storytelling, Indus News (English)	2020
Islamophobia, Indus News (English)	2019
Basant Special—DawnNews Television (Urdu)	2011
14th August Teacher's Special—DawnNews Television (Urdu)	2010
The State of Primary Schools in Lahore—DawnNews Television (Urdu)	2010
A Year of Fear and Crises, Year End Special on Terrorism, DawnNews Television (English)	2009
Special Live Program (Suicide Bombing at Jamia Naeemia Kills Anti-Taliban Cleric) DawnNews Television (English)	2009
Special Live Program (Terror Attack on Sri Lankan Cricket Team) DawnNews Television (English)	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