

AQSA IJAZ, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Language
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EDUCATION

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| 2024 | Ph.D., Islamic Studies, McGill University |
| 2014 | M.Phil., English Literature, Government College University |
| 2010 | B.A (hons.), English Literature, Philosophy, French, Government College University |

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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| 2023-pres. | Assistant Professor (Teaching Stream), Department of Language Studies (University of Toronto Mississauga) |
| 2018-2022 | Course Lecturer, Institute of Islamic Studies (McGill University) |
| 2020 | Senior Lecturer, South Asian Studies Language Institute (University of Wisconsin, Madison) |
| 2016-2017 | Lecturer (Kinnaird College for Women, Lahore) |
| 2013-2015 | Lecturer (Beaconhouse National University, Lahore) |
| 2012-2013 | Visiting Assistant Professor (National College of Arts, Lahore) |

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2024 Ijaz, Aqsa. Beyond imitation: A case for the hermeneutic agency of Persianate literary retellings. *Postmedieval* (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41280-024-00333-2>.
- 2024 Ijaz, Aqsa. "Retelling as Resistance: Translating Niẓāmī's *Ḳhusrau u Shīrīn* in Colonial India," Vol, 5, *Journal of Urdu Studies*, Brill.
- 2024 Ijaz, Aqsa. The Edge of the Text: Retellings and the Materiality of Indo-Persian Manuscripts. *Scholarly Editing: The Annual of the Association for Documentary Editing*, Vol. 42, Forthcoming.

2024 Ijaz, Aqsa. Celestial Crossings: The Reception of Tahireh Quratul ‘ain in the Indian Subcontinent, in *Women Poets Iranica*, (Encyclopaedia Iranica Foundation, Forthcoming)

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

2024 Ijaz, Aqsa. “Sowing *Sukhan*, Reaping Tradition: Reimagining Comparative Practices Through Persianate Reception Histories.” In *Premodern Comparative Practices in Islamicate World*, edited by Hany Rashwan, David Larsen, and Huda Fakhradine, Oxford University Press, British Academy, Forthcoming.

2024 Ijaz, Aqsa. “Melody and Metaphor: Integrating Music and Literature in Persian Language Instruction,” in *Adopting Persian Literature in Teaching Persian Language*, edited by Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi, Azita Taleghani, Routledge (forthcoming).

2020 Ijaz, Aqsa. “Reading Between the Postcolonial and Transcultural in Mirza Athar Baig’s Ghulam Bagh,” *Pakistan: Alternative Imaginings of a Nation-State*. Edited by Jürgen Schaflechner, Christina Oesterheld and Ayesha Asif, 46-71. South Asia Institute, University of Heidelberg and Oxford University Press.

Translations

Books

2024 *Gift of the Generous: A History of Islamic Rule in Sindh*, A translation of Mir Sher ‘Ali Qan’i’s *Tohfāt-al Kirām* with a critical introduction and notes, Karachi, Pakistan: Sindh Endowment Fund for the Preservation of Heritage of Sindh, Forthcoming.

2023 *Majnun and Layla: Songs from Beyond the Grave*, Translation from French and Introduction of Yann Damizen’s *Majnoun et Leïli: Chants d'outre-tombe*, translated by Aqsa Ijaz and Thomas Harrison, Simon & Schuster.

Short Stories

2020 “The Wall Theatre,” Translation of *Dīwār kā theatre* by Mirza Athar Baig, *City: A Journal of South Asian Literature*. Translated from Urdu by Aqsa Ijaz, Delhi: City Press Lockdown Edition.

2019 [“Is the Horse Oppressed?”](#) by Mirza A Baig, in *World Literature Today*. Translated from Urdu by Aqsa Ijaz, Fall Issue.

2019 [“Café Ghulam Bagh”](#), translated by Aqsa Ijaz, in *Harf: Journal of South Asian Studies*. McGill University.

2015 “Letters in Braille” by Mirza Athar Baig, translated by Aqsa Ijaz, *Ravi: Journal of Literary Studies*, G.C. University, Lahore.

Public-Facing Scholarship

2024 [“Art and Eros: A Classic Persian Poem Reimagined”](#) in *Marginalia Review of Books*, Oct

11, 2024.

2023 [“Emancipating Time: Temporal Consciousness Beyond the Models of European Historiography.”](#) *Rethinking, Remaking*, The Global Past Research Initiative Blog Series, University of Toronto Mississauga.

2023 [“Language, Emotion, and the Desire to Exist.”](#) *Marginalia Review of Books*, Fall edition.

2023 [“Is Thinking Beyond Theory Possible?”](#) *Rethinking, Remaking*, The Global Past Research Initiative Blog Series.

2022 [Invited Talk on Jalaluddin Rumi.](#) *Entitled Opinions*, Stanford University, Department of French and Italian, Fall Season.

2022 [“Spiritual Bridges: Across Time and Space,”](#) *Marginalia Review of Books*, Spring edition.

2020 [“Storytelling in Indo-Persian Literary Traditions.”](#) *Marginalia Review of Books*, Spring edition.

2017 [“Evolution of Female Characters in Pakistani English Novel.”](#) *The Herald*.

Book Reviews

2015 Book Reviewer at Dawn News’ *Books and Authors*

2012-2017 Columnist and Book Reviewer at *The Express Tribune*

HONORS AND AWARDS

2022 McGill Arts Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award

2022 McGill Graduate Mobility Award for International Research

2020-21 McGill-Glasgow collaboration award for exceptional ABDs

2020-21 McGill Graduate Mobility Award for International Travel

2020-21 McGill Graduate Excellence Award

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

2022 Ian Stewart Graduate Excellence Fellowship in the Study of Religion, Department of Religion, University of Victoria, Canada.

2015-2016 American Institute of Pakistan Studies Pre-Doctoral Fellowship

INVITED TALKS

2023 [“Fiction and the Formation of Romantic Love: The Afterlife of Nizami Ganjavi’s *Khusrau u Shirin* in Hindustan.”](#) Elahi Omidyar Mir Djalali Institute of Iranian Studies, Near and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Toronto.

2022 “Listening to the Dead: Philology and the Reading of Classical Persian Poetry in the Twenty-first Century.” Nizami Ganjavi International Forum II, Co- sponsored by the Cultural Ministry of Azerbaijan and Nizami Ganjavi Foundation in Baku, Azerbaijan.

2022 “Fiction and the Formation of Love: Reading Nizāmī Ganjavī in Islamicate India,” Centre for the Study of Religion and Society, University of Victoria.

2022 “Nizāmī Ganjavī and the Language of Love: How Poetry Materializes Emotion?” Oxford Nizāmī Ganjavī Centre, Department of Oriental Studies, Oxford University, Oxford.

2022 “Greek Wine in Indian Flasks: Alexander the Great in Medieval Persian Imagination,” Department of Classics, Dawson College, Montreal, Jan 23, 2022.

2015 “Parallel Narratives of Identity and Self in Contemporary Pakistani Art and Literature,” Asia Centre, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

2022 “Materialising Emotion in Experience: Love and Logos in Nizāmī Ganjavī’s *Khusrau ū Shīrīn*,” South Asia Colloquium, Centre of History of Emotions, Freie University, Berlin.

2021 “Shaping the Language of Love: The Afterlife of Nizāmī Ganjavī’s *Khusrau u Shīrīn* in Urdu and Punjabi,” *Pre-modern comparative literary practice in the multilingual Islamic world(s)*, Oxford Comparative Criticism and Translation Research Centre (OCCT), University of Oxford.

2020 “Romance or Qissah? Urdu Translations of a Persian Romance in the 19th Century,” *Troubling Translation(s)*, Graduate Student Conference, University of Pennsylvania.

2020 “Translation and Intertextuality in Indo-Persian Romance,” Association of Asian Studies Annual Conference, Boston.

2019 “Indo Persian Romance(s): Reflections on the two 19th century versions of *Qissa- e- Gul-e-Bakāwī*,” Association of Asian Studies Annual Conference Denver, Colorado.

2018 “Passionate Thinking and Symbols of Resistance in Mirza Athar Baig’s Ghulam Bagh,” Symposium paper, Annual South Asia Conference, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2014 “Navigating the Transition from Postcolonial to Transcultural in Contemporary Pakistani Fiction,” *Pakistan: Alternative Imaginings of a Nation*, University of Heidelberg.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Toronto

2024-2025	Introductory Punjabi Being Human in South Asia
2023-2024	Introductory Persian Intermediate Urdu
2022-2023	Introductory Urdu Intermediate Urdu

Readings in Literary Historiography
Persian in the Indian Subcontinent: Independent Study on *Tarīkh-e Avadh*

McGill University

2021-2022 Advanced Urdu
2020-2021 Introductory and Intermediate Urdu-Hindi
2019-2020 Advanced Urdu

University of Wisconsin Madison

2020 Intensive Intermediate Urdu

Kinnaird College for Women Lahore

2016-2017 Research Methods
Modern African Literature
Shakespearean Tragedy
Academic Writing,
Modern European Drama
Literary Theory

G.C University

2015-2016 Translation Studies
2011-2012 Classics of World Literature

Beaconhouse National University

2014-2015 Modern Arabic Novel
Diaspora Literature and South Asian Identity
World Literature
Modern European Novel
Theory and Interpretation

National College of Arts

2011-2012 Culture and Communication Studies

REFERENCES

Prof. Pasha Mohamad Khan (McGill University)
Email: pasha.m.khan@mcgill.ca
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Prof. Ajay Rao (University of Toronto)
Email: ajay.rao@utoronto.ca
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Prof. Nancy F. Partner (McGill University)
Email: nancy.partner@mcgill.ca

Prof. Miranda Hichman (McGill University)
Email: miranda.hickman@mcgill.ca
Cell no. +1 (514) 793-2543

Prof. Robert Pogue Harrison (Stanford University)
Email: harrison@stanford.edu
Cell no. +1 (650) 804-8164

LANGUAGES

Advanced	Persian, Indo-Persian, French, Hindi.
Native Fluency	Urdu, Punjabi (Gurmukhi and Shahmukhi scripts)
Near Native Fluency	English
Reading Knowledge	French, Arabic, Sindhi, Seraiki, Kashmiri

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- 2021 *Foreign Language Pedagogy Training*. South Asia Summer Language Institute (SASLI), University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Trauma-Sensitive Pedagogy Training*. South Asia Summer Language Institute (SASLI), University of Wisconsin-Madison,
- Urdu-Hindi and Punjabi Phonology Workshop*. South Asia Summer Language Institute (SASLI), and South Asia Foreign Language Institute (SAFLI), University of Wisconsin- Madison.
- 2011 Research Affiliate, The Annual Erfurt Summer School *Muslims in the West* organized by the Department of Religious Studies
Project: *Representation of Muslim Women in the Dutch Media: A Case of Ayan Hirsi Ali's The Submission and Theo van Gogh's Assassination*
- 1995-2010 Training in Indian classical music: Urdu, Braj, and Punjabi thumri, Persian and Urdu ghazal, Indo-Persian fusion.

Administrative, Service, and Editorial Positions

- 2024 Committee member for the advancement of Arabic sessional lecturer
- 2024 Member of the documentary project Francophonie in Canada (UTM/Government of Canada)

2022-2024 Lead author and Research Associate at the [Global Past Research Initiative](#),
University of Toronto Mississauga.

2022-present Editor (Persianate and Islamic Worlds) at [Marginalia Review of Books](#).