

# Curriculum vitae

## *Dr Stephan Bernhard Popp*

Born 12 August 1969.

Lecturer,

Institute for South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies

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## EDUCATION

### **Doctoral Degree**

PhD dated 20 November, 2003. My thesis was published in July 2004 (see list of publications).

Title of thesis: Muhammad Iqbal's Romanticism of Power

### **Post-graduate studies**

October 1997 – November 2003 at Bamberg University on Muhammad Iqbal's Persian poetry.

Change of minor from Adult Education to Indology at Würzburg University, requiring 1-hour train trips there.

Doctoral exam on 20 November 2003.

### **Diploma in Oriental Studies (≈ M.A.)**

Summer 1990: Theology at Bamberg University

October 1990: to May 1997 Oriental Studies (Major Persian, minors Arabic and Adult Education) at Bamberg University. Graduation on 15 May 1997.

(The bachelor's degree has been introduced in Germany only after 2003.)

### **Compulsory Substitute Service (in place of compulsory army service)**

4 July 1988 – 28 February 1990 at Lauf Hospital (near Nuremberg, Germany)

### **Schooling**

September 1975 - July 1979: Schnaittach Elementary School

September 1979 - June 1988: Grammar School Lauf a. d. Pegnitz

Final exam qualifying for university entrance ("Abitur") on 29 June 1988 at Lauf Grammar School.

## EMPLOYMENT

- 1 Sept – 31 March 2022: Reader at the Department of South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies, Vienna University.
- 1 Sept 2017 – 31 March 2022: Employed as a research fellow at the Institute of Iranian Studies of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Austria, for conducting the 4-year project “A literary history of Persian essay and letter prose (*inshā*) in South Asia.”
- 1 February 2012 – 31 January 2015 employed as a research fellow at the Institute of Iranian Studies of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Austria, for conducting the 3-year project “The chronicles of Shah Jahan”, on the development of the Mughal empire under Shah Jahan (r. 1627–58) and on the depiction of the state in the chronicles of his time.
- 1 October 2011 – 19 December 2011 self-employed for the Institute of Iranian Studies of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Austria, within the scope of the project on “Modernisation of Persophone literatures”, to collect the relevant articles on then current literary theory in Iran and Afghanistan in the first half of the 20th century.
- 1 May 2010 – 30 April 2011 employed as a research fellow at the Institute of Iranian Studies of the Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Austria, for doing research on Persian historiography in the South Indian Sultanate of Bijapur (1409 – 1686).
- 1 February – 30 April 2010 employed as a scientific assistant at Bamberg University, Department of Iranian Studies, for preparing a biographical database of important Iranian writers since the Islamic Revolution of 1979.
- 1 November 2006 – 31 October 2008 employed as a research fellow at Bamberg University, Department of Iranian Studies, for the project: “The Vijayanagara Empire as seen by their adversaries, the Bahmani sultans”.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Winter semester 2023/24: lecture course “the early modern age in South Asia (1400–1800)” at the Department of South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies, Vienna University.
- Winter semester 2022/23: seminar “Characteristics of Islam in India and of its cultural history” at the Department of South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies, Vienna University.
- Winter semester 2017/18: lecture course “Islam in the Indian subcontinent and its history” at the Department of South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies, Vienna University.
- Summer semester 2016: lecture “Introduction into Early Modern Indian History” at the Department of South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies, Vienna University.

Summer semester 2013: seminar “Characteristics of Islam in India and of its cultural history” at the Department of South Asian, Tibetan and Buddhist Studies, Vienna University.

Summer semester 2007 – winter semester 2008/09: Urdu course at Department of Iranian Studies, Bamberg University.

Winter semester 2006/07: Seminars “Islam in India today” and “Urdu I” at Würzburg University, Germany. I continued to teach Urdu there up to winter term 2009/10.

Summer semester 2005: Seminar on reading and interpretation of the poems of Hāfez of Shirāz (1320-1389), at Department of Iranian Studies, Bamberg University

Winter semester 2001/02: Seminar “Muslims on the Indian Subcontinent in the 20<sup>th</sup> century”, at Department of Iranian Studies, Bamberg University (see <http://univis.uni-bamberg.de/form>)

Urdu course for beginners at Bamberg University from summer term 2007 to winter term 2008/09 (Urdu I–IV).

Urdu courses for students of South Asian studies at Würzburg University: winter term 2006/07 to winter term 2009/10: three courses Urdu I–IV, Urdu I–III, Urdu I–II; winter term 2016/17 (Urdu I) with following student’s course in Lucknow, India.

Urdu courses for students of South Asian studies at Vienna University: summer term 2018 to summer term 2018/19 (Urdu I–II), summer term 2019 (Urdu I), winter term 2021/22 (Urdu I).

#### WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED

26–27 May 2014: *The Mughal Empire under Shah Jahan (1628-58), New trends of research*, an international workshop of the Austrian Institute for Iranian Studies, together with Prof Dr Ebba Koch and the director of the institute, Prof Dr Florian Schwarz.

7–10 April 2021: “*The 17th century in India: Events, Society, Thought and Art*”, with the help of the Institute of Iranian Studies Vienna. Due to Covid restrictions, the workshop had to be held online and consider the time differences between USA west and East, the UK, Central Europe, and India.

#### OTHER FUNCTIONS

I have worked as an appointed **translator and interpreter for Persian** at the courts of law in the state of Bavaria, until July 2007. Then I had to withdraw for lack of time.

From 15 September 2015 to 15 September 2016, I have **translated the book** *Zabān-e Qor’ān va masāel-e ān* (“The Language of the Quran and its issues”, Qom, summer 2010) by the Shi’i theologian Mohammad-Bāqer Saeidi-Roshan, Qom/ Iran, from Persian into German. This involved dealing with linguistics, language philosophy, Shi’i theology, biblical sciences, and

the author's rather ill-founded ideas about European thought. I therefore annotated the book where necessary. The book appeared as Mohammad Baqer Saeidi-Roshan: *Die Sprache des Korans und damit zusammenhängende Probleme*, Berlin: Stiftung für Islamische Studien, 2022. Since 18 February 2017, I have been a **certified trainer for German** as a second language. Since 7 September 2023, I also hold a **certificate as a project management associate** (D level).

#### LANGUAGES AND LEVELS OF COMPETENCE ACCORDING TO CEFR

German	Mother Tongue
English	Fluency in reading, writing, and speaking (CEFR level C2)
Persian	Fluency in reading, writing, and speaking (CEFR level C2)
Urdu	Fluency in reading, writing, and speaking (CEFR level C1)
Arabic	Good skills in reading, writing, and speaking (CEFR level B1)
French	Good skills in reading (CEFR level C1), writing and speaking (CEFR level B1)
Spanish	Good skills in reading (CEFR level C1), writing and speaking (CEFR level B1)
Portuguese	Good skills in reading (CEFR level C1), writing and speaking (CEFR level A2)
Turkish	Basic skills in reading, writing, and speaking (CEFR level A1)
Kannada	Basic skills in reading, writing, and speaking (CEFR level A1)
Latin	Good skills in reading (CEFR level B1). I can write (B1) and speak (A2) it a bit.
Sanskrit	Basic skills in reading (CEFR level A2)
Old Greek	Basic skills in reading (CEFR level A2: course in Biblical Greek in summer 1990)

#### STUDIES ABROAD AND AWARDS

August 1992: Arabic Course at Goethe Institute Damascus

Summer term 1993: 1<sup>st</sup> stay in Iran as a guest student at Tehran University (attending among others an Urdu course). Awarded by University of Tehran.

Winter term 1996/97: 2<sup>nd</sup> stay in Iran as a guest student of Tehran University (attending a course in Middle Persian). Awarded by German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

January – April 1999: Journey to Pakistan and India doing research for material for my thesis, sponsored by the “post graduate programme for research on the present-day Orient” of Bamberg University, in which I conducted my PhD studies.

March – July 2004: Studies in India (Delhi, Patna, Aligarh, Hyderabad) for preparing a project on Sufis in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Awarded by German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

May – September 2006: Studies in India (Delhi, Patna, Aligarh, Hyderabad, Hampi) for preparing my research project on the Bahmani sultanate (1347-1538) and their view of the Vijayanagara Empire. Awarded by German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

March and August 2007: More research in Hyderabad and Karnataka for the same purpose, as part of my research project (see above).

5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> May 2007: taking part in the UNESCO conference to the Rumi year 2007 in Kabul, Afghanistan, as the official representative of Germany. The German Ministry of Foreign Affairs sponsored the trip.

Sept. 2008: Preparatory research in south India for a new project on the foreign trade of the sultanate of Bījāpūr.

March 2009 and July 2011: More research on manuscripts from Bījāpūr.

March 2012: Research in the libraries of India on manuscripts of Shah Jahan historians, especially Qazvīnī and Lāhaurī.

## INTERESTS

Above all, I am interested in the cultures of the world, in classical and modern Urdu and Persian poetry and in all kinds of poetry demonstrating cultural sign systems that have an influence on ways of thinking and acting. In history, I am most fascinated by “longue durée” processes, on the organization of power and by power reacting to material circumstances, such as terrain in battle or trade in peace.

Beside my education in Iranian studies, I am also much interested in Hinduism and Indian culture, and in China and Japan. Additionally, I am interested in languages, no matter how “exotic” they may seem; in modern theories of literature, in cultural semiotics as it appears in arts, cinema, sports and religions of all kind, classical Persian and Indian music, Tàijí and traditional systems of medicine as well as theological and philosophical matters and their public discussion.

I am involved in the charity team of St Johann Nepomuk’s Parish, Vienna, and have taught German to refugees in this context. I also act as a reader in church services there.

Vienna, 16 October 2023



Dr Stephan Popp

# LIST OF DR STEPHAN POPP'S ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Articles in: ELGER, Ralf (ed.): *Kleines Islam-Lexikon (A Little Lexicon of Islam)*, Munich (Beck) 2001: “Agha Khan”, p. 25 f., “Bangladesh”, p. 55 – 57, “Indien”, p. 129f., “Indischer Subkontinent”, p. 129 – 131., “Iqbal, Muhammad”, p. 133 f., “Kashmir”, p. 157 f.
- “Iqbal Replying To A Ghazal of Hafiz”, in: *Iqbal Review vol. 43* (April 2002), Lahore (Iqbal Academy Pakistan), p. 129 – 137.
- “Muḥammad Iqbāl’s Romanticism of Power”, in: SZUPPE, Maria (ed.): *Iran, Questions et connaissances, Actes du IV congrès européen des études iraniennes vol. II: périodes médiévale et moderne*, (Studia Iranica cahier 26), Paris (Peeters) 2002, p. 169 – 180.
- *Muḥammad Iqbāl’s Romanticism of Power*, Wiesbaden (Reichert) 2004. (PhD thesis)
- *Muhammad Iqbal, ein Philosoph zwischen den Kulturen (Muhammad Iqbal, a Philosopher between the Cultures)*, Trier (Bautz) 2007.
- “A Deconstruction of ‘Zauq-u Shauq’”, Interpretation of a famous Urdu poem by Muhammad Iqbal, in: *Aligarh Magazine*, vol. 3-4, no. 1, 2008, Aligarh (Dept. Of Urdu, Aligarh Muslim University), India.
- Articles in *Kindlers Literaturlexikon*, Germany’s standard encyclopaedia of literature: „Amīr Khusrau Dihlawi“; „Bēdil, Mīrzā ‘Abdulqādir“; „Daqīqī: Šāhnāma“; „Firdausī: Šāhnāma“; „Ġāmī, Nūruddīn ‘Abdurrahmān: Bahāristān“; „Ġāmī, Nūruddīn ‘Abdurrahmān: Haft Aurang“; „Ġāmī, Nūruddīn ‘Abdurrahmān: Nafahāt al-uns“; „Gurgānī: Wīs-o Ramīn“; „Kaikā’us ibn Iskandar: Qābūs-nāma“; „Muhammad Iqbāl: Javīdnāma“; „Muhammad Iqbāl: Payām-i Mašriq“; „Nāsir-i Khusrau: Dīvān“; „Nizāmī ‘Arūzī: Čahār Maqāle“; „Rūmī, Ġalāluddīn: Kullīyāt-i Šams-i Tabrēzī“; „Sā’ib“; „Bābā Tāhir“; „Sadaqāt ibn Abū l-Qāsim: Samak-i ‘Ayyār“; „Salmān, Mas’ūd Sa’d“; „‘Umar Khayyām“, Stuttgart (Metzler) 2009.
- “How to Carve a sāqī out of Nietzsche”, in: *Revisioning Iqbal, As a Poet & Muslim Political Thinker*, proceedings of the centenary conference of Iqbal’s stay in Heidelberg, Germany, at South Asia Institute, university of Heidelberg, 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> November 2007. Heidelberg (Draupadi) 2010, p. 59 – 75.
- Co-author of the exhibition catalogue *Schätze des Aga Khan Museum (Treasures of the Aga Khan Museum)* in Martin-Gropius-Bau Berlin (March 17 – June 6, 2010), Berlin (Nicolai) 2010.
- „Orient und Okzident bei Veltheim und Iqbal“, [*Orient and Occident in Veltheim and Iqbal*], on similarities and differences on the views of Muhammad Iqbal and Hans-Hasso von Veltheim-Ostrau, the travel-writer who happened to be the last person to meet Iqbal. In: PALATINI, John, und ROSENTERETER, Georg: *Alter Adel, neuer Geist, Studien zur Biographie*

- und zum Werk Hans-Hasso von Veltheims [*Old Nobility, New Spirit, Studies on the biography and oeuvre of Hans-Hasso von Veltheim*, proceedings of the conference on von Veltheim's 125<sup>th</sup> birthday], Halle (Saale): Mitteldeutscher Verlag, 2012, S. 177–188.
- „Persische diplomatische Korrespondenz im Südindien des 15. Jahrhunderts“ (*Persian diplomatic correspondence in 15th century South India*) a study on a collection of diplomatic letters from South India in the late 15th century, by Maḥmūd Gāvān, Grand Vizier of the Bahmani Sultanate. In: ZDMG no. 162-1/2012, Wiesbaden: Harassowitz, p. 95–125.
  - EṢFAHĀNĪ, Moḥammad Rūḥ ol Amīn: *Leylā o Majnūn*, part of a series of facsimile editions of Persian literature from Golconda (now Hyderabad, India) of the universities Bonn and Qom (Iran), ed. Eva ORTHMANN and Mohammad KARIMI, introduction by Stephan POPP, Qom: Majma‘-e zaxā‘er-e Eslāmī, and Bonn: Friedrich Wilhelm University 2012.
  - Book review: „Muhammad Iqbal: Streunende Gedanken“, translated into German by Axel Monte, Munich: Books ex Oriente, 2012, in: *Internationales Asienforum*, International Quarterly for Asian Studies, vol 3-4 / 2013, Freiburg im Breisgau: Arnold Bergstrasser Institut.
  - Blog: “Akbar’s horoscopes: how to become a Leo if you are not”, im *Africa and Asia studies blog* der British Library, <http://britishlibrary.typepad.co.uk/asian-and-african/2015/01/akbars-horoscopes.html>, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2015.
  - Review: „Thomas K. GUGLER: *Mission Medina, Da‘wat-e Islāmi und Tablīḡī Ġamā‘at*“ (Würzburg: Ergon, 2011) on a fast growing Islamist cult from Pakistan, in: *Orientalistische Literaturzeitung*, vol. 110/1, p. 71–74, April 2015.
  - Review: „Mehr Ali Newid (Hrsg.); Peter-Arnold Mumm (Hrsg.); *Johann Christoph Bürgel: Nachtigallen an Gottes Thron. Studien zur persischen Dichtung*, Wiesbaden: Reichert, 2013, in WZKM 105 (2015).
  - Review: „Jutta WINTERMANN: *Dichtung und Historie, Aspekte der Herrschaft Ḥosrou II. in Neẓāmīs Ḥosrou-o Šīrīn*“, Würzburg: Ergon, 2012, in: WZKM 105 (2015).
  - “The Rhetoric of Qazvīnī’s History of Shah Jahan”, on the structure of this official Mughal chronicle from the sentence level to the overall concept, including an analysis of the “florid” style of Mughal chronicles and its structure. In: ZDMG, Vol. 165, No. 2, 2015, Wiesbaden: Harassowitz, p. 369-394.
  - “Mughal Horoscopes as Propaganda”, on how Akbar and Shah Jahan had facts from the science of the time shaped into legitimisation of their power, in: *Journal of Persianate Studies* 9 (2016), Leiden: Brill, p. 45-59.



- “Presents Given to and by Jahangir and Shah Jahan: A Comparison”, in: KOCH, Ebba and ANOOSHAHR, Ali: *The Mughal Empire from Jahangir to Shah Jahan: Art, Architecture, Politics, Law and Literature*, Vol. 70 Nos. 2 and 3, Mumbai: The Marg Foundation, December 2018–March 2019.
- “Muhammad Iqbal – Reconstructing Islam along Occidental Lines of Thought”, in: *Interdisciplinary Journal for Religion and Transformation in Contemporary Society*, vol. 5 no. 1, Leiden: Brill, published online on 18 Dec 2019, p. 201–229, [https://brill.com/view/journals/jrat/5/1/article-p201\\_11.xml](https://brill.com/view/journals/jrat/5/1/article-p201_11.xml).
- “Introduction to Books on Occult Sciences” und “List of books on Occult Sciences” in: Miklós Mároth, István Lánckzy und György Oroszi (ed.): *Catalog of Bayazit II’s Library, Studies and Indices* Bd. III, Piliscsaba: The Avicenna Institute of Middle Eastern Sciences, 2022, S. 745–776. This is my contribution to the commented translation of the library catalogue of the Ottoman Sultan Bayezid II (1448–1512) by the Avicenna Institute of Middle Eastern Studies in Piliscsaba, Hungary, which is affiliated to the Department of Iranian Studies, Eötvös Loránd University Budapest, <https://avicenna-kkki.hu/?lang=en>. (Neither Sultan Bayezid II. nor me believed in occult sciences. I was given this task because of my article “Mughal Horoscopes as Propaganda”, see above.)
- “An Opinion on the Decentralization of the Mughal Empire”, in: Gehler, Michael, Robert Rollinger and Philip Strobl (eds.): *The End of Empires: Decline, Erosion, and Implosion*, Wiesbaden: Springer, 2022, p. 351–367.
- “The Style of Chandar Bhān Barahman of Lahore”, in: AMIN, Khalid, Jawed Ahmed Khursheed, and Muhammad Umaid Farooqui: *Ravi to Rhine, South Asian and European Cultures: Interaction during the Colonial Period and Beyond, A Festschrift in honor of Muhammad Ikram Chaghatai*, Karachi: Islamic Research Academy Karachi, November 2022, ISBN: 978-969-9935-12-1.

<b>FORTHCOMING</b>
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- “Literary inshā in Shah Jahān’s time”, in: *The 17<sup>th</sup> century in South Asia*, proceedings of a workshop held by me online, 7–10 April 2021, accepted by Primus Publishers, Delhi, on 4 April 2023.
- “The Dismissal of Qazvīnī”, proving that the style of Shah Jahan’s chronicler Lahaurī was indeed better than that of his predecessor Qazvīnī by the standards of Shah Jahan. To be published by Primus Publishers, Delhi, as proceedings of a conference of 13-15 in Aligarh April 2023.



## TRANSLATION

- Mohammad Baqer Saeidi-Roshan: *Die Sprache des Korans und damit zusammenhängende Probleme*, Berlin: Stiftung für Islamische Studien, 2022. This is my translation of Mohammad-Bâqer Saeidi-Roshan *Zabân-e Qor'ân va masâel-e ân* ("The Language of the Quran and its issues"), Qom, 2010, from Persian into German. It involved dealing with linguistics, language philosophy, Shi'i theology, biblical sciences, and the author's rather ill-founded ideas about European thought. I therefore annotated the book where necessary.

## LECTURES

- "Muḥammad Iqbāl's Romanticism of Power", held at the *IV congrès européen des études iraniennes*, September 6-10, 1999, in Paris.
- 4 March, 2006: „Persian Literature“, held at a day of study on Iran of Caritas-Pirckheimer-House, in Nuremberg, to the common public.
- 4 March, 2007: "Iqbal's Rumi", held at the Conference on the Rumi Year 2007 on March 2-4, 2007, in Gauhati, Assam, India.
- 7 May, 2007: "Teaching mystical experience: Didactic structures of Maulānā's ghazals", held at the UNESCO Conference on the Rumi Year 2007 in Kabul, Afghanistan, as the official representative of Germany. The journey was sponsored by the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 10 November, 2007: "How to carve a sāqī out of Nietzsche", held at the Conference *Revisioning Muhammad Iqbal* celebrating the centenary of Iqbal's studies in Heidelberg, South Asia Institute Heidelberg, November 9-10, 2007.
- 25 September, 2008: "Muhammad Iqbal's Contribution to India's Nationalist Struggle", held at the Department of History, Bombay University.
- 17 November, 2008: „Die Riyāz ul-inshā' als historische Quelle“ (*The Riyāz ul-inshā' as a historic source*), lecture held about a collection of Persian diplomatic correspondence from central India in the late 16<sup>th</sup> century, at Bonn University.
- 10 July, 2009: "Is Muḥammad Iqbāl's Persian Poetry Persian Literature?" Lecture held on the Mid-Term Conference of the Societas Iranologica Europaea "How to Write the History of Modern Persian Literature" in Bamberg of July 10-12, 2009.
- 20 September, 2010: „Diplomatie im Dekkan im Spiegel der Briefe des Wesirs Maḥmūd Gāvān (st. 1481)“ (*Diplomacy in the Deccan as mirrored by the vizier Maḥmūd Gāvān's letters*), held at the German Orientalists' Congress (DOT) in Marburg.

- 17 October, 2010: „Orient und Okzident bei Veltheim und Iqbal“ (*Orient and Occident in Veltheim and Iqbal*), lecture on the conference on the 125 birthday of the anthroposophist and travel-writer Hans-Hasso von Veltheim-Ostrau, who was Muhammad Iqbal’s last visitor, on Ostrau Castle near Halle, Germany, on October 16 and 17, 2010.
- 19 November, 2010: “Interpretation of Ḥāfīz’s ghazal no. 146 and further remarks on his ghazal poetry”, lecture on the occasion of a job interview as a lecturer for Persian literature at Oxford University. The lecture was called “beautiful”.
- 22 November, 2010: “Helden, Kämpfe und der Lauf der Zeit. Eine Einführung in das persische Nationalepos”, (*Heroes, struggles and the course of time. An introduction to the Iranian national epic*), held as one of the lectures on the 1000-year-celebration of the Shahnama, the Iranian national epic, in Vienna from November 10 to 22. This was organized by the Iranian embassy in Vienna, the Austrian Oriental Society and the Institute of Iranian Studies, with much success.
- 17 December, 2010: “Iqbal – a Chhayavād poet?” on the seminar *New Aspects of Iqbal's Thought* at the South Asia Institute of Heidelberg University on the same date.
- 7 September, 2011: “Relations between Gīlān and South India in Timurid Times”, held on the 7<sup>th</sup> European Conference of Iranian Studies, 7-10 September 2011 in Krakow, Poland.
- 14 January, 2013: „Als das Taj Mahal neu war: Kaiser Shah Jahan und seine Zeit“ [When the Taj Mahal was new: Emperor Shah Jahan and his time] as part of the course of lectures „Cultural Research on Iran: Persian India“, of the Austrian Orient society and the Institute for Iranian Studies Vienna.
- 10 September, 2013: “Rhetoric and the representation of Shah Jahan in Qazvīnī’s *Bādshāhnāma*”, at the international symposium *Cultural Change in Iran and Iranianate Societies* des Institute of Iranian Studies, September 9 to 11, 2013.
- 23 September, 2013: „Shāh Jahān, seine Eroberung von Mewar, und seine Selbstdarstellung“ [Shah Jahan, his conquest of Mewar, and his self-representation], at the 32 German Orientalists‘ Congress in Münster on September 23–27, 2013.
- 29 April, 2014: „Muhammad Iqbals Philosophie im Kontext dreier Kulturen“ [Muhammad Iqbal’s philosophy in the context of three cultures], held at the Muslim Student Group Heidelberg’s festival course of lectures on the Muhammad Iqbal memorial year, New University, Heidelberg.

- 26 May, 2014: “The representation of Shah Jahan in Qazvini’s *Badshahnama*”, lecture at the international workshop of the Austrian Institute for Iranian Studies *The Mughal Empire under Shah Jahan (1628-58), New trends of research*, 26.–27. May 2014.
- 25 June 2014: „Neue Dichter braucht das Land!“ Die literarische Moderne in Iran, Afghanistan und Indien“ [New poets is what the country needs! Literary modernity in Iran, Afghanistan and India] lecture for the common public held together with Christine Nölle-Karimi and Amr Taher Ahmad in the series *Kulturwissenschaftliche Iranforschung: Iran auf dem Weg in die Moderne* [Cultural research on Iran: Iran on the way to modernity] of the Austrian Oriental Society and the Institute for Iranian Studies Vienna.
- 7 August 2014: “Presents at the Court of Jahangir”, lecture at the Tenth Biennial Iranian Studies Conference in Montreal, 6–9 August 2014.
- 31 October 2014: “Horoscopes as Propaganda under Akbar and Shah Jahan”, held at the *One-Day Symposium British Library Persian Manuscripts: Collections and Research* of the British Library.
- 16 September, 2015: “Gifts and promotions in Shah Jahan’s administration”, held at the 8th European Conference of Iranian Studies in St. Petersburg, 15-19 September 2015.
- 21 November, 2015: “The Pitfalls of the Self”, held at the ‘Muhammad Iqbal Event’ “Limits and Transcending Limits. The Antagonism of Philosophy and Religion” at the Center of Islamic Theology, Münster University November 20–21, 2015.
- 4 March 2016: “An Elephant as an Order: Shah Jahan’s awards and the careers of his officers” at the conference “Indo-Persian Literature during Jahangir and Shah Jahan’s Period”, am Department of Persian der Delhi University, Delhi, India, 3–5 March 2016.
- 22 February 2018: “Iqbal – a chhāyāvād poet?” at the conference “Politics of the Poetry of Muhammad Iqbal” of the Institute of Indo Persian Studies (IIPS), 21. and 22. February 2018.
- 26. February 2018: Lecture repeated at the Faculty of Arts of the Aligarh Muslim University.
- 27. February 2018: “Introduction to semantic structure analysis of poems” at the Department of English, Faculty of Arts, Aligarh Muslim University.
- 16 August 2018: “The Rhetoric of Chandar Bhān Barahman in Context” at the 12th Biennial Iranian Studies Conference of the Association for Iranian Studies, 14–17 August 2018, University of California, Irvine CA, USA.
- 10 September 2019: “The development of rhetoric strategies in Mughal epistolography”, at the 9th European Conference of Iranian Studies 9–13 September 2019 in Berlin, Germany, at the Free University of Berlin.

- 8 April 2021: “Literary inshā in Shah Jahan’s reign”, at the online workshop “The 17th century in India: Events, Society, Thought and Art”, 7–10 April 2021, which I organized.
- 27 July 2021: “Mughal Pañcatantra adaptations”, at the 26th European Conference on South Asian Studies at the Institute of South Asian and Buddhist Studies Vienna (online), 26–29 July 2021. This was a spin-off of my project and dealt with one of the works that I read, Abu l-Faḡl’s “Touchstone of Knowledge” (*Iyār-i Dānish*). The organizers of the panel are working to publish the lectures.
- 2 September 2022: “Mughal inshā literature, Its rhetoric strategies and development”, at the 13th Biennial Iranian Studies conference of the Association for Iranian Studies (AIS) at the University of Salamanca, Spain, 30 August–2 September 2022.
- 14 March 2023: “The Development of Mughal Letter Style”, lecture at the Section of Slavic and South Asian languages and civilizations, Faculty of literature, University of Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Also on 14 March 2023, via Zoom: “The Dismissal of Qazvīnī”, online lecture at The National Seminar “Mughal Empire: Art, Architecture and Historiography” in Aligarh, India, on 13–15 March 2023. The proceedings of this conference are being published by Primus in Delhi.
- The lecture “The Dismissal of Qazvīnī” was also held on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2023 at the 10<sup>th</sup> European Conference of Iranian Studies in Leiden, Netherlands, on 21<sup>st</sup>–25<sup>th</sup> August 2023.