

Abdul Manan Bhat
Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

- 2018-2019 PhD candidate, Department of Religious Studies, University of Pennsylvania.
2019 Summer Immersive Arabic Program, Saifi Language Institute, Lebanon.
2016 Research program in International Law, University of Geneva.
2018 BA Religious Studies (with Honors) & International Affairs, Lafayette College

PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 “Future’s Moving Terrains: Land, Language, and a Poetics of Congregation” in *English Language Notes* Vol 61, Issue 2
- 2020 “Mushaira: Islam, Poetry and South Asia.” Review of Ali Khan Mahmudabad’s *Poetry of Belonging*. Marginalia, Los Angeles Review of Books.

Forthcoming

- 2024 “Touched by Gabriel’s Wing: Metapoetics, Islamic Revelatory Ecosystem, and Muḥammad Iqbāl,” in *Premodern Islamic Multilingualisms*, eds. Huda Fakhreddine, David Larsen and Hany Rashwan (Oxford University Press)

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 2021-2024 PhD Presidential Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2021 SASGOV Research Grant, University of Pennsylvania.
- 2018- 2019 Geo L. Harrison Graduate Fellow, University of Pennsylvania
- 2018- Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2023 Ibn Sina Prize for Best Graduate Writing in Islamic Studies, University of Pennsylvania
- 2021 Religious Studies Graduate Student Prize, University of Pennsylvania
- 2021 *Finalist*, University Wide Penn Prize for Excellence in Teaching by Graduate Students.
- 2018 Lyman Coleman Prize, Lafayette College

- 2018 Benjamin Barge Oratorical Prize for Best Thesis Presentation in the Humanities, Lafayette College
- 2017 David Fowler Atkins Jr. Prize in Religious Studies, Lafayette College
- 2016 Reverend J.W and R.S Porter Bible Prize, Lafayette College
- 2016 Thomas & Lula M. Shephard Scholarship for Religious Studies, Lafayette College

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2023 Introduction to Islam, Instructor of Record, University of Pennsylvania
- 2021 Satan: History, Poetics, and Politics of the Archenemy, Teaching Assistant, University of Pennsylvania
- 2020 From Jesus to Muhammad, Teaching Assistant, University of Pennsylvania
- 2020 Religion of the Anime, Teaching Assistant, University of Pennsylvania
- 2019 Religion and Sports, Teaching Assistant, University of Pennsylvania

INVITED TALKS

- 2023 “Adoring Narrators: The Adab of Remembrance and the Hagiographic Process in Modern Shā‘ir-o shakhṣiyat Text in Persian and Urdu.” South Asian Religion Colloquium, Divinity School, University of Cambridge (Upcoming)
- 2022 “Performance as Hermeneutics: Words, Bodies, Spaces in the Urdu *Mushāi‘rah*.” Jury Talk, AA School of Architecture (London).
- 2021 “Gabriel’s Passion: Islam and Urdu Poetry in the Twentieth Century.” Department of Religious Studies, Central University of Kashmir
- 2020 “Be Something: Muhammad Iqbal’s Notions of Guidance.” Jashn-e Iqbal, London Urdu Voice (talk delivered in Urdu).
- 2020 “Visions of Contemporaneity in 20th Century Urdu Poetry.” Festival of Ideas, School of Oriental and African Studies.
- 2020 “Imagination in Occupation,” Lafayette College.

CONFERENCES

- 2023 “Terrains of Tradition: Shared Landscapes in the poetry of Faiz Ahmed Faiz and Khalilullah Khalili,” Association for the Study of Persianate Societies, Yerevan.
- 2022 “Technology of Congregation: Connecting Ghazals across Persian, Urdu and Kashmiri.” Kashmir in the Global Humanities, Cornell University
- 2022 “Listening as Performance: The Islamic *Adab* of Mushā‘irah in the Twentieth Century.” American Comparative Literature Association, Taipei (Virtual)
- 2021 “Sufi Shrines and Grammars of Redressal.” Author-meets-critic roundtable for *Resisting Disappearances: Military Occupation and Women’s Activism in Kashmir*. Annual South Asia Conference, University of Madison-Wisconsin (Virtual)
- 2021 “Prophethood in Poetic Wisdom: Adab, Beginnings, and Muhammad Iqbal.” Premodern Islamic Multilingualisms, University of Oxford (Virtual)
- 2021 “Poetics of Precarity in the Persianate Ghazal.” Spatial Precarity in Literature and Art, Kelly Writers House, University of Pennsylvania (Virtual)
- 2020 Panelist, Kashmiris on Kashmir: A Conversation. University of Pennsylvania.
- 2019 “Imagination, Literature, and Occupation.” Kashmir Teach-in, Philadelphia Socialists Collective.
- 2019 “Metapoeticity in 20th century Urdu Ghazal: the Case of Firaq Gorakhpuri”, *Adiban* Conference, University of Indiana Bloomington, September 2019. A revised version was presented at the Urdu symposium, Annual South Asia Conference, University of Wisconsin-Madison, October 2019.

SERVICE

- 2023 Peer Reviewer, Medieval Persian and Islamic Literature, *Journal of Comparative Study of South Asia and Middle East Studies* (CSSAME)
- 2023 Chief Organizer, “Modern Persianate Poetics: Literary Form, Temporality, (Im)mobility,” Panel Association for the Study of Persianate Societies Biennial Conference, Yerevan
- 2023 Organizing Committee, “Beyond the Rose and the Nightingale: What Makes Islamic Literature Islamic?” at University of Pennsylvania
- 2020 Organizing Committee, “Troubling Translations” at University of Pennsylvania

- 2019 Organizer, “The Postcolonial Mind: Urdu Modernism, Mysticism, and Muhammad Hassan Askari, University of Pennsylvania
- 2019 Founder, Penn Mehfil: Graduate Students Collective for the Study of Urdu Literature, University of Pennsylvania.

PUBLIC READINGS AND INTERVIEWS

- 2023 *Raṅg hai dil ka merey* (Colors of My Heart): A Poetry Reading, Soho House, Mumbai, India
- 2023 “[Interview](#) with Urdu Poet and Scholar Abdul Manan” News18 Urdu, Srinagar.
- 2022 Poetry Reading, Kashmir Lit, Srinagar, Kashmir
- 2021 Profile Piece on Abdul Manan’s Poetry, [InsideArabia](#), by Samia Bouzid
- 2021 Poetry Reading, Twelve Gates Arts, Philadelphia
- 2021 Poetry Reading, Kelly Writer’s House, University of Pennsylvania
- 2020 “The Contest in Context: Uyghur and Urdu Poetry Reading and Discussion.” PEW Center of Arts and Heritage, Haverford College
- 2020 Poem “Being Exile” exhibited in original handwriting at Piccolo Museo Poesia, Piacenza, Italy. Translated into Italian by Anje Stahn.
- 2020 Poetry Reading, PAMPA Literature Festival, Bangalore.
- 2020 “Poetry as Farhad’s Dagger: Semiotics, Translation and Fidelity.” Twelve Gates Arts, Philadelphia.
- 2019 Poetry Reading (*Mushairah*), Faiz Literature Festival, University of Westminster, London

LITERARY PUBLICATIONS

- 2023 “On the Poetics of Congregation Amidst Dispossession” in [Full Stop Quarterly: Fall 2023](#), 49-61.
- 2022 Multiple poems set to music, recorded, and performed by professional ghazal singers in Kashmir, namely [Mohiuddin Majrooh](#), [Waheed Jeelani](#), [Shazia Bashir](#), [Muneer Ahmed Mir](#), and [Shafi Sopori](#).

- 2020 “Ghazal.” Journal Adab Nawaz Urdu, Bhopal, India
- 2020 “A moon in your name: Kashmir, poetry and hierarchies of resistance”. In Soch, Lahore, Pakistan (Two Urdu poems in this bilingual essay are translated by Partho Chakravartty)
- 2020 “Where do I find a new heart?” (Translated by Partho Chakravartty), Saranga Books
- 2019 “Yaqeen”, *khabar-o nazar*, September 2019. The poem was [re-published](#) by an Indian media house, Quint

LANGUAGES

Urdu, Kashmiri, and Hindi (Superior reading, writing, and speaking).
Persian (Advanced reading, writing, and speaking).
Arabic (Intermediate reading)
Pashto and German (Basic reading knowledge).

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

American Academy of Religion (AAR)
Association for the Study of Persianate Societies (ASPS)
Middle East Studies Association (MESA)
American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)