

Abdul Manan Bhat
Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

- 2018-2020 PhD candidate, Department of Religious Studies, University of Pennsylvania.
2020 MA, 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

- 2024 “Postures of Tradition: Islamic Ethics, Literary Ecosystem, and Corporeal Religion in Modernity” Interreligious Interactions in South Asia Colloquium, Faculty of Divinity, University of Cambridge.
- 2024 “Small Differences: Islamic Visions of Difference.” Invited Respondent to *The Muslim Difference: Defining the Line Between Believers and Unbelievers from Early Islam to the Present*. Lafayette College.
- 2024 “Postures of Tradition: Corporeality and Islamic Ethics in Modern Urdu & Persian Literary Domains.” Invited Talk. Northwestern University.
- 2024 “Flowers of the Same Spring: Iqbal and His Interlocutors.” Invited Talk. Iqbal Institute of Culture & Philosophy, University of Kashmir.
- 2024 “Iqbal and the Islamic Intellectual Tradition.” Invited Talk. Department of Islamic Studies, Islamic University of Science and Technology.
- 2024 “Metaphor and Religious Meaning.” Al-Jamiat al-Saifiyyah Religious Seminary, Mumbai.
- 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

- 2024 Panelist, CISSR Book Workshop for *Gabriel’s Madness: Indian Muslim Poetry, Ethics, and Politics in an Age of Hindu Nationalism* by Anand Taneja, Religious Studies, Vanderbilt University.
- 2023 “Adoring Narrators: Adab and the Hagiographic Process in *Shā‘ir-o Shakhshiyat* Texts in Urdu & Persian,” American Academy of Religion, San Antonio.
- 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.

SERVICE

- 2024 Jury Member, Jashn-i Sahafat Award For Best Urdu Journalism in India 40 Under 40 Awards, Delhi.
- 2023 Peer Reviewer, *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*; *Journal of Comparative Study of South Asia and Middle East Studies*
- 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

PUBLIC READINGS AND INTERVIEWS

- 2024 “At the Zenith of Separation: An Urdu Poetry Reading.” 13th Annual Pakistan Studies Conference, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
- 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 Chakravarty)
- 2020 “Where do I find a new heart?” (Translated by Partho Chakravarty), 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 (Native fluency in reading, writing, and speaking).
 Persian (Near-Native fluency in reading & writing, and advanced 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)