

# CURRICULUM VITAE

**DR. SOHEB NIAZI**

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## PERSONAL DETAILS

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Address: 272, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi 11025, India  
Date of birth: 16<sup>th</sup> June 1988  
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## LANGUAGE SKILLS

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English (excellent), Hindi (Native Proficiency), Urdu (Native Proficiency), German (A2), Persian (Basic), Gurmukhi (Basic reading skills).

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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<b>Researcher</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> August 2021 -August 2022	Max Weber Stiftung, New Delhi
<b>Associate Researcher</b>	December, 2020 – July 2021	Re:Work, Berlin International Research Centre Work and Human Lifecycle in Global History
<b>Visiting Researcher</b>	April-July 2020	Re:Work, Berlin International Research Centre Work and Human Lifecycle in Global History

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## EDUCATION

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<b>PhD</b>	2016- 2021	Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies, Department of History and Culture Studies, Freie Universitat, Berlin
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<b>MPhil. Political Science</b>	2013-15	Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
<b>M.A. Political Science</b>	2010-12	Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
<b>B.A (Honors) Political Science</b>	2007-10	Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
<b>Senior Secondary School</b>	2006	Sardar Patel Vidyalaya, New Delhi

### **RESEARCH FUNDING, GRANTS, HONOURS AND AWARDS**

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- Grant for Archival Research, **German Historical Institute, London**, April – July 2019
- Research Grant - Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, **DAAD Program** “Indo-German Partnerships in Higher Education, Nov-Dec 2020.
- **DFG (German Research Foundation)**, Funding for PhD, Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies 2016-2019.
- Awarded **Magna Cum Laude** for PhD Dissertation titled, “Social Stratification of Muslims at a *Qasbah* in Colonial North India: The Production and Contestation of Social Hierarchy at Amroha (1878-1934) in March, 2021.
- Awarded **Grade A** for MPhil Dissertation titled, “*Sir Syed and his Idea of Tehzeeb*” at Jawaharlal Nehru University, 2015
- Secured **First Division (67%)** in B.A. (H) Political Science, Jamia Millia Islamia 2010
- **Gold Medalist (First Position)** in B.A. (H) Political Science, Jamia Millia Islamia 2010

### **LIST OF PUBLICATIONS**

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#### **Peer Reviewed Journal Articles**

- “**Sayyids and Social Stratification of Muslims in Colonial India: Genealogy and Narration of the Past in Amroha,**” as part of Special Issue on “Historicizing Sayyidness: Social Status and Muslim Identity in South Asia”, in *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, July 2020 (<https://doi.org/10.1017/S1356186320000358>)

## Works in Progress

- **Practising Skills, Processing Skins: Urdu Manuals on Developing Chrome Tanning as a Rural Trade** in “Crafting Crafting India's Skill Ecology - Reproductions, Recalibrations, and Reimaginings, ed. Sebastian Schewecke, Saikat Maitra and Srabani Maitra. Sage: ICAS MP series. (Forthcoming).
- **“Writing History, Writings Pasts: Tarikh Nigari at Amroha (1870-1940)”** – The article will provide an overview of the various historical writings from Qasbah Amroha that were written in Urdu.
- **Contesting Genealogies: Deconstructing the Qassab Muslim Identity in Colonial India** – A social history of the All India Jamiat ul Quraish, an organisation of meat and leather traders and merchants who experienced economic prosperity with the expansion of the hides and leather trade.
- **Community History as Critique: Understanding the Mirasi qaum beyond the discourse of ashrafisation and reform** – This paper draws upon the writings of Shahzada Azad, from Sialkot Lahore who wrote the history of the Mirasi qaum in 1934.

## Book Reviews

- Book Review: **Making a Muslim: Reading Publics and Contesting Identities in Nineteenth-Century North India** by S. Akbar Zaidi, Economic and Political Weekly, Vol LVII, No. 22, May, 2022.
- Book Review: **Defending Muhammad in Modernity** by Sherali Tareen, The Book Review, September 2021.
- Book Review: **The Cambridge Companion to Sayyid Ahmad Khan** edited by Yasmin Saikia and M. Raisur Rahman", Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 55, No.11, 14 March, 2020.
- Book Review: **Makers of Islamic Civilization: IBN Khaldun** by Syed Farid Alatas in the South Asia Special Issue (XXII) on Islam of the journal *The Book Review*, Vol, XXXVII, Number 10, October 2013.

## Online Publications

- **“Revisiting Sir Syed’s Early Religious Writings”** in *Café Dissensus*, Special Issue (40) on Remembering Sir Syed Ahmad Khan in Bicentenary Year (1817-2017), November 2017.
- **“Reclaiming “Manliness”: Reflections on growing up in Delhi”** in *Café Dissensus*, Special Issue (35) on Masculinities in Urban India, May 2017.
- **“The Politics of Imagining (in) Urdu in Contemporary India”**, in *Café Dissensus*, Special Issue (33) on Urdu In Contemporary India: Predicaments and Promises, March 2017.

## Memberships and Affiliations

- British Association of South Asian Studies, 2022-2023
- European Association for South Asian Studies 2018-22
- Ernst Reuter Society, Alumni of Freie Universität, 2020-22
- American Historical Association, 2022-23.

## CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND PAPER PRESENTATIONS

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- Organized a multi session panel on “Associations, *asbrafization*, and group-based experiences of politics: re-investigating the debate on Muslim caste in South Asia” for the **British Association for South Asian Studies Conference**, 29<sup>th</sup> March-2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2022.
- Presented a paper on “Community history as critique: Understanding the Mirasi *qaum* beyond the discourse of *asbrafization* and reform” for the **British Association for South Asian Studies Conference**, 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022.
- Delivered a Public Lecture at the **Centre de Estudios de Asia y Africa, El Colegio de Mexico**, titled, “Contesting Genealogies: Understanding Caste and social hierarchies among Muslims in South Asia” on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021.
- Presented a paper at “Writing the Region: Knowledge, Practice and Power in South Asia”, **Princeton South Asia Conference**, April 2021, University of Princeton.

- Delivered a talk at the South Asian Political Thought Seminar, Hilary Term, 2021, University of Oxford, March 2021, titled **Qassab as Quraish: The Politics of the All India Jamiat ul Quraish in the United Provinces (1927-1940).**”
- Delivered a work talk (Arbeitsgespräche) organized by the research units Contested Religion and Representations of the Past at the Leibniz Center for the Modern Orient (ZMO), February 2020, titled – **“Qassab as Quraish: The Politics of the All India Jamiat ul Quraish in the United Provinces (1927-1940).”**
- Participated at the Modern South Asia History Research Seminar, Centre for Modern Indian Studies, University of Gottingen in October 2019 with a paper titled, **“The Production and Contestation of Social Hierarchy among Muslims at Amroha.”**
- Vernacular and Cosmopolitan in South Asian Islam, April 2019, University of Pennsylvania, paper titled, **“Social Stratification Among Muslims in Colonial India: The Case of of Amroha Town (1880-1940).”**
- German Historical Institute Fellow’ Colloquium, February 2019, paper titled, **“Social Stratification at a Muslim Qasbah: Genealogy and Narrating the Past at Amroha.”**
- Presented a paper at the 25<sup>th</sup> European Conference on South Asian Studies (ECSAS), July 2018 as part of the panel titled, **“The Sayyids in South Asia: The Social and Political role of a Muslim Elite.”**
- Presented a paper at the International Conference on **“Examining the "new" in Kinship and Family in South Asia”** held at IIT Hyderabad in February 2018.
- Participated at the **International Workshop on History and Democracy** organized by the ICAS:MP at the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies in New Delhi, December 2017
- Presented a paper at the 46<sup>th</sup> annual **Conference on South Asia at Madison, Wisconsin** (October 2017) titled, **“Social Stratification Among Muslims in Colonial North India: Genealogy as Narrating the Past at Qasbah Amroha (1878-1930)”**.
- Presented a paper titled, **“Tehzeeb-ul-Akhlaq at Aligarh in Late Nineteenth Century Hindustan”** at the MUSA Graduate Research Conference at SOAS, University of London from 8-10<sup>th</sup> October 2015, held at the premises of the Royal Asiatic Society in London.