

TIMSAL MASUD

Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies
Columbia University
New York, NY
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EDUCATION

Lucknow University, Lucknow, India

Ph.D. Department of Urdu, 2008. Dissertation: *Farsi Afsanon Ke Urdu Tarajim* (Urdu Translations of Persian Short Stories). Advisor: Professor Anis Ashfaq.

Chhatrapati Shahujimaharaj University, Kanpur, India

M.A. Urdu Literature, 2000

Lucknow University, Lucknow, India

M.A. Persian Literature, 1998. B.A. concentrations in Urdu, Persian, and Modern Indian History, 1996

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Columbia University

Lecturer. Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies. 2021 – Present

The University of Chicago

Assistant Instructional Professor of Urdu. Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations. 2019-2021

The University of Texas at Austin

Hindi Lecturer. Department of Asian Studies. 2018

Northwestern University – Evanston

Visiting Assist Professor of Hindi-Urdu. Department of Asian Languages and Cultures. 2014 – 2016

University of Wisconsin – Madison

Urdu Lecturer. South Asia Summer Language Institute. 2013 & 2014

The University of Chicago

Hindi Lecturer. Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations. Winter 2014

Heritage Institute of Languages, Lucknow, India

Hindi and Urdu Instructor. 2010

American Institute of Indian Studies, Lucknow, India

Urdu Instructor. Urdu Language Program. Summer 2008

TEACHING

Columbia University

Elementary Hindi
Intermediate Hindi

The University of Chicago

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th year Urdu and Advanced Reading in Urdu
Indo-Islamic Literature and Culture course

The University of Texas at Austin

Accelerated 1st year Hindi, 2nd year Hindi, and Advanced Urdu

Northwestern University – Evanston

1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year Hindi-Urdu

Indo-Islamic Literature and Culture course

SASLI University of Wisconsin – Madison

Intermediate Urdu (2013 & 2014)

The University of Chicago

2nd, 3rd, and 4th year Hindi, and Reading in Advanced Hindi

American Institute of Indian Studies, Lucknow, India

3rd and 4th year Urdu, and advanced Urdu (Summer 2008)

PUBLICATIONS

Pedagogical works

- 2023 *Hindi-namah: A Textbook for Intermediate and Advanced Hindi*
Co-edited with Syed Akbar Hyder
Lucknow: Kitabnagar Publication
- 2023 *Complete Urdu* (Learn Urdu with Teach Yourself)
Revised for a new edition
London: Hodder & Stoughton (first edition came out in 2014)
- 2020 *Urdu-namah: A Textbook for Intermediate and Advanced Urdu*
Co-edited with Syed Akbar Hyder
Karachi: City Press
- 2015 *Essential Urdu Dictionary* (Learn Urdu with Teach Yourself)
London: Hodder & Stoughton
- 2012 *Mir Anis Ka Ek Marsiya* (One marsiya of Mir Anis)
Edited and transliterated a marsiya poem, بخارفاں میدان تہور قہاڑ by Mir Anis (1803-1874) into Devanagari and Nastaliq script with the addition of Hindi and Urdu glossaries and notes.
New Delhi: Arshia Publications

Edited publications

Books

- 2024 *Intekhab-e Mir* (Selected verses of Mir Taqi Mir)
After consulting all the important poetry editions from 1811 to the latest publication of an Urdu poet Mir Taqi Mir (1723-1810), I prepared this edition.
Lucknow: Kitabnagar (Forthcoming)
- 2024 *Shabkaar-e Anis*
In 1943, an exquisite edition of Mir Anis's (1803-1874) *marsiya* poem, جب قطع کی مسافت شب آفتاب نے, was published in Lucknow. This publication had secured a unique place in the history of Urdu print culture. After digitizing, processing, and adding an introduction I prepared this edition.
Lucknow: Kitabnagar (Forthcoming)
- 2024 *Tareekh-e Badr* (A history of Badr)
A letter collection of the last king of Awadh Wajid Ali Shah (1822-1887) and his wife Badr-e Alam. Wajid Ali Shah himself transformed these prose letters into poems.
Edited and translated from original Urdu to Hindi with a useful glossary and notes.
New Delhi: Aakhar Prakashan (Forthcoming)
- 2023 *Masnavi Babr-e Mukhtalif* (Lyrical story in various meters)
The last king of Awadh Wajid Ali Shah (1822-1887) composed anecdotes of his 82 wives.
Edited and translated from original Urdu to Hindi with a useful glossary and notes.
New Delhi: Aakhar Prakashan (Forthcoming)

- 2023 *Sultan-e Alam Wajid Ali Shah*
Edited and translated the biography of Wajid Ali Shah written by Masud Hasan Rizvi Adeeb from original Urdu to Hindi with a useful glossary and notes.
New Delhi: Aakhar Prakashan (Forthcoming)
- 2022 *Naiyer Masud – Muhammad Umar Memon: Murasalat* (Letters: Naiyer Masud and Muhammad Umar Memon)
Edited the Urdu letters of Naiyer Masud and Muhammad Umar Memon. I collected these handwritten letters from Madison (USA) and Lucknow-Delhi (India). This project received a generous funding from COSAS (Committee on Southern Asian Studies), The University of Chicago.
Karachi: City Press
- 2021 *Anis: Ek San Gyarab Marsiye* (Anis: 111 *marsiya* poems)
Edited the most-trusted anthology of Urdu marsiya poetry by Mir Anis (1803-1874) in 3-volume set.
Karachi: City Press
- 2019 *Lucknow Ka Shabi Stage* (The Royal Stage of Lucknow)
Edited and translated Sahitya Academy Award winning book of Masud Hasan Rizvi Adeeb from Urdu to Hindi with a useful glossary and notes.
New Delhi: Aakhar Prakashan
- 2018 *The Tale of the Missing Man*
Jason Grunebaum and Ulrike Stark translated Manzoor Ahtesham's Hindi novel *Dastan-e Lapata* into English. I read the English translation with the Hindi by my side.
Evanston: Northwestern University Press
- 2018 *Mir Anis Ke Matbua Marsiyon Ki Febrist* (A detailed index of Mir Anis's published marsiya poems)
www.emarsiya.com
- 2018 *Qavaed-E-Tabt-ul-Lafz Khvani* (Instructions for reciting marsiya poem)
Syed Mehdi Hussain authored and published this book in 1884.
Edited and revised for a new edition.
www.emarsiya.com

Articles

- 2023 *“Wajid Ali Shah Ki Ilmi Yogyta Aur Vidya Ki Sarparasti”* (Wajid Ali Shah: a literary figure and his patronage for literature)
Edited and translated some parts from Masud Hasan Rizvi Adeeb's Urdu writings to Hindi.
New Delhi: Pratiman (Forthcoming)
- 2017 *“Naiyer Masud Ki Afsana-nigari par Khalid Jawed Ki Tanqeed”* (Khalid Jawed's criticism of Naiyer Masud's fiction writings)
Transcribed and edited the interview of Khalid Jawed.
Jaipur: Istifsaar (September)

Academic publications

- 2024 *“One Marsiya of Khaleefa Sikandar”*
Translation & transliteration with notes and critical introduction
Co-authored with Peter Knapczyk
Journal of Urdu Studies, Brill (Forthcoming)
- 2023 *“Aam Bolchal Ki Zabaan Urdu Aur Meyari Zabaan Urdu”* (The spoken Urdu and the literary Urdu)
Lahore: Bazyaft (Forthcoming)
- 2023 *“The Publications of Mir Anis's Marsiya Poetry”*
Journal of Urdu Studies, Brill (Forthcoming)

- 2022 *“Mard, Namard Aur Mardangi, Namardi Ki Maneviat Ke Uljhaa”* (The complications of the word Man, Unman and Manliness, Unmanliness)
Lahore: Tehqiq Nama, Vol#30, Issue#30
- 2021 *“Shams ur-Rahman Faruqi”* by Nayyar Mas‘ud
Annotated and translated with Dr. Isabel Huacuja Alonso
Journal of Urdu Studies, Brill. URDS 2.1
- 2020 *“Naiyer Masud Ki Adabi Zindagi Me ‘Maqsad’ Ki KarfarmaiyaN”* (What was the ‘purpose’ of Naiyer Masud’s academic life.)
Lahore: Tehqiq Nama, Vol#26, Issue#1
- 2019 *“Naiyer Masud Ke 15 Register”* (Naiyer Masud's 15 registers)
Karachi: Duniyazad. New Delhi, Aajkal Urdu journal (September 2017)
- 2018 *“Klasiki Adab Ka Hamdardana Mutalea: Naiyer Masud Ka Bunyadi Nazariya”* (Sympathetic study: Naiyer Masud’s approach towards classic literature)
Karachi: Duniyazad
- 2010 *“Dhami Mazhab Oudh Mein”* (Dhami religion in Awadh)
Lucknow: Tauheed Urdu Weekly

Urdu Translations

(Books)

- 2022 Antoine de Saint Exupéry's *The Little Prince*
Lahore: STORYKIT (Private) LTD
- 2009 Antoine de Saint Exupéry's *The Little Prince*
Lucknow: Advertisers India
- 2009 Patrick Süskind's *The Story of Mr. Sommer*
Karachi: Aaj

(Shorter Writings)

- 2015 Herta Müeller. “Every Word Knows Something of a Vicious Circle,” 2009 Nobel Prize in Literature Lecture
Karachi: Duniyazad
- 2014 Thibaut d’Hubert. “The Languages of Islamic Scholarship in Southeastern Bangladesh and Arakan”
Azamgarh: Marif
- 2009 Jean-Marie Gustave Le Clézio. “In the Forest of Paradoxes,” 2008 Nobel Prize in Literature Lecture
Karachi: Aaj
- 2009 Mo MacAuley's short story “Mr. Sticky”
Lucknow: Urdu Daily Aag
- 2008 Guy de Maupassant's short story “The Return”
Lucknow: Urdu Daily Aag
- 2007 Gabriel Garcia Márquez. Paris Review interview
Lucknow: Urdu Daily Aag
- 2007 Orhan Pamuk's Nobel Prize lecture: My Father’s Suitcase
Lucknow: Urdu Daily Aag (Translated with Sher Ahmad Tookhi)

Journalistic Publications

- 2018 *“Baat YuN Nikli Ke...”* (And it came up)

I publish fortnightly Urdu column and produce videos based on my columns.
Lucknow: Urdu Daily Aag, Sunday magazine
print: dailyaag.com/epapers/epaper/edition/3633/sunday-aag/page/4
video: youtube.com/watch?v=cj1OYmpn09E

- 2018 “*Iran Ki Qaumi Shinaxt Ki Mubim*” (The movement of Iranian national identity)
Lucknow: Urdu Daily Aag, March 25th
- 2017 “*Mazaar-E-Anis Ki Tameer Ki Dastaan*” (The story of the construction of Mir Anis’ mausoleum)
Lahore: Roznama 92 news, September 11, 2017. Lucknow: Urdu Daily Sahafat, 2013., Lucknow: Urdu Daily Avadhnama, 2013
- 2017 “*Mexico Me Jab Fatima Ka Church Dekha*” (Finding Fatima church in Mexico)
Lucknow: Urdu Daily Aag, July 23rd
- 2017 “*Filisteen Ko Ham Kaise Samjhen*” (How to understand the situation of Palestine)
Lahore: Roznama92news, June 21st, Lucknow: Urdu Daily Aag, June 11th
- 2013 *Roots of Impunity*
A report by Committee to Protect Journalists
Edited the Urdu translation.
cpj.org
- 2011 *The Little Prince Speaks in Urdu*
Indian Express interviewed me about my Urdu translation of The Little Prince.
indianexpress.com/article/cities/chandigarh/the-little-prince-speaks-in-urdu/

TALKS AND PANELS

- Dec 10, 2022 *Mir Anis: 111 marsiye*
The book launch for Timsal Masud’s edited three-volume collection of Mir Anis’s poetry, Anis: 111 Marsiye, took place at the Islamic Education Center in Chicago. I presented a paper about my decade long editing project.
[Mir Babar Ali Anis - Book launch and discussion - 111 Marsiye – YouTube](#)
- Jan 03, 2021 *Karbala Poetry Across the Linguistic Boundaries of South Asia*
I organized a panel on Ahlulbait Media Online Channel and invited three scholars to talk on Kashmiri, Bangali, and Saraeki marsiya traditions.
[Karbala Poetry Across the Linguistic Boundaries of South Asia – YouTube](#)
- Dec 06, 2020 *Deeper Insights into the Marsiya of Mirza Dabir*
I presented a talk on the tradition of comparing Mirza Dabir to Mir Anis, both were contemporary marsiya poets of 18th century in Lucknow.
[Deeper Insights into the Marsiya of Mirza Dabir. – YouTube](#)
- Oct 24, 2020 *Academic Perspective on Mir Anis and Contribution to the Urdu Culture, Literature and Religion*
I presented a talk on the mausoleum of Mir Anis, a 18th century marsiya poet in Lucknow.
[Part 2: Academic Perspective on MIR ANIS & Contribution to The Urdu Culture, Literature & Religion – YouTube](#)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND ACTIVITIES

Radio, Newspaper, TV

- Insaan Ke Chand Par Qadam Rakhne Ke 50 Saal* (50 years of moon landing)
Broadcast by All India Radio Urdu Program. July 20, 2019
- A Talk with Dr. Timsal Masud*
Broadcast by All India Radio Urdu Program. September 10, 2017
- Mirza Dabir*, a radio feature

Broadcast by All India Radio Urdu Program. November 18, 2012

Sub-Editor, 2007 – 2010

Contributed news features on the history of Lucknow and Urdu literature. Translated news from English and Hindi into Urdu.

Lucknow: Urdu Daily Aag

Assistant Director and Screenwriter, 2003 – 2006

Assisted the direction of two serials (Hatim and Hotel Kingston) telecasted on Star Plus channel.

Assisted Kavita Choudhry (a well-known television director) in the making of two short films (Anjamkaar and Bijuka) telecasted on the national TV channel, Doordarshan. Mumbai: Kani Veri Productions and Sagar Art

Academic

Faculty Advisory Board Member

Columbia Journal of Asia

Columbia University, New York

Advisory Board Member

Tehqiq Nama - an Urdu research and critical inquiry journal

Government College University, Lahore

Advisory Board Member

Tahqeeqi-o-Tanqeedi Jareeda - an Urdu research and critical inquiry journal

Government College Women University, Sialkot

Advisory Board Member

Bazyaft - an Urdu research and critical inquiry journal

Oriental College, Punjab University, Lahore

External Language Evaluator for Urdu

Loyola University Chicago, Illinois

Advisory and Organizing Member

Ahlulbayt Media and standwithdignity.org

Curriculum Consultant, 2009 – 2013

Hindi-Urdu Flagship Program, University of Texas – Austin

Developed and designed Hindi-Urdu course material for all levels