



## **Syed Wasif Azim**

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### **Brief Introduction**

Syed Wasif Azim is currently working as a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in the department of Political Science, University of Innsbruck, Austria. Before, joining this department he worked as an IPFP-HEC Research Fellow (Intern Placement of Fresh PHDs) in the department of Political Science, University of Chitral, Chitral, Pakistan. He did his PhD from the department of Political Science, University of Peshawar in June 2019 under the supervision of Professor Muhammad Ayub Jan. The PHD research primarily investigated the question of how conflict and violence impact ethnic and national identities. This question was explored through the case of conflict and violence among the Pukhtuns in Swat, northern Pakistan. Part of the research was conducted in South Asia Center of Jackson School of International studies, University of Washington, Seattle, USA which was funded by Higher Education Commission of Pakistan through its international research support program. Moreover, the PHD research was also funded by HEC through indigenous fellowship for PHD. Prior to this Wasif's research in MA Political Science from Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan, Pakistan, explored the impediments to Political Participation of Pukhtun Women in district Peshawar, Pakistan. His research interests are Conflict, Violence, Ethnic identity, National Identity and Political Participation.

### **Personal Information:**

Nationality: Pakistani

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### **Education:**

- Post-Doctorate in Political Science (From 01 June 2021): Department of Political Science, University of Innsbruck, Austria, Research Project is *Conflict, Violence and Ethnic identity: Women perception regarding Pukhtun ethnic identity and conflict in Swat, Pakistan* (Funded by OeAD: Agency for Education and Internationalization, Austria through Ernst Mach Grant).
- PhD in Political Science (2019): University of Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (CGPA 3.9/4), Thesis title *Ethnicity, Conflict, and Identity: The Sense of Belonging Among the Pakhtuns Of Swat, Pakistan* (Funded by Higher Education Commission of Pakistan through Indigenous PHD Fellowship).
- Visiting Research Fellow (15 July 2017 to 15 January 2018): South Asia Center, Jackson School of International Studies, *University of Washington, Seattle Campus* (Funded by Higher Education Commission of Pakistan through IRSIP Fellowship).
- MA in Political Science (2012): Abdul Wali Khan University, Mardan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (CGP 3.5/4), Thesis title *People's Perception of women's political participation: A case study of Pakhtun Society in Peshawar*.
- B. Ed Education (2014): University of Peshawar (751/1100).
- BA in Law and Political Science (2009): University of Peshawar (320/550).
- F.SC in Pre-Medical with Additional Mathematics (2006): BISE Peshawar (862/1100).
- SSC in Science (2003): BISE Peshawar (682/850).

### **Professional Experience:**

- Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in the department of Political Science, University of Innsbruck, Austria (From 01 June 2021).

- IPFP-HEC Research Fellow (Intern Placement of Fresh PHDs) in the department of Political Science, University of Chitral, Chitral, Pakistan (11 November 2020 to 31 May 2021).
- Lecturer in the Department of IR and Political Science, Qurtuba University of Science and Information Technology Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan (Courses taught are Pakistan Studies, Muslim Political Philosophy, Constitutional Development in Pakistan, Comparative Politics, Western Political Thought and Political Ideologies) (November 2019 to September 2020).
- Instructor for Pakistan Studies in Pak Turk Maarif International School and College, Peshawar, Pakistan from November 2018 to October 2019.
- Visiting Lecturer in the Department of Political Science University of Peshawar (Courses taught are Research Methodology, Pakistan Studies, Introduction to political science, Political Systems, Elections and Parties in Pakistan, Muslim Political Philosophy, Government and Politics in Pakistan) (September 2013-January 2017)
- Tutor with Directorate of Distance learning education, University of Peshawar for two sessions (2015-2016) (Courses taught are Government and politics in Pakistan, International Law and organizations, Political systems, Social Change and Research Methodology).
- Global Campaign for Education, USA, as ‘Coordination Officer’ in Peshawar Office from January 2014 to December 2014.
- Lecturer (BPS-17) in Oxford College, University Town Peshawar from November 2010 to May 2011.

**IT and computer skills:**

- Six-month certificate course in MS Office including MS Word, MS PowerPoint, MS Excel, and MS Access.
- Working experience of Zotero software (Sessions, Seminars and Tutorials attended in University of Washington, Seattle).
- Basic use of NVivo software for the analysis of Qualitative data (sessions, seminars and tutorials attended in University of Washington, Seattle)

**Languages:**

Proficiency in spoken and written English, Urdu and Pukhtu.

**IELTS (Academic) Score:** 7.5 Overall (Listening 7, Reading 8.5, Writing 6.5, Speaking 7, Result issuance date 17/03/2017, Candidate No 014357)

**Awards/Distinctions/Grants (4):**

1. Higher Education Commission's 'Start-up Research Grant' provisional approval as of 23/2/2021 for a project titled "A tale of two Ex-Princely states in Northern Pakistan: An analysis of violent conflict in Swat and Peace in Chitral". Grant amount is PKR 572000.
2. Higher Education Commission (Pakistan) 6 months Fellowship for University of Washington, USA under International Research Support Initiative Program (IRSIP). Grant amount was 14000 US dollars. The outcome of the fellowship were two paper presentations, publication of a research article and working on parts of the PHD thesis (Listed below).
3. Higher Education Commission (Pakistan) fully funded indigenous Scholarship for PhD. The fellowship comprised of Tuition fee, hostel and boarding charges, payments for books, conferences and workshops, stipend, and thesis publication funds for the 5 years' timeframe of the PHD. Grant amount PKR 1594500 (Approx.).
4. 4<sup>th</sup> position in order of college merit academics in final year graduation (BA).

**Professional and Academic Training:**

1. One-month research and teaching training for IPFP fellows conducted by National Academy for Higher Education (NAHE) organized by Higher Education Commission (HEC) Pakistan.

**Professional and Academic membership:**

1. Working as BS Coordinator in the department of Political Science, University of Chitral, Chitral, Pakistan (Since 19 April 2021).
2. Member of the Graduate Students Committee (GSC), Department of IR and Political Science, Qurtuba University of Qurtuba University of Science and Technology (November 2019 to September 2020).

3. Member of the Board of Studies and Academic Research (BOSAR), Department of IR and Political Science, Qurtuba University of Qurtuba University of Science and Technology (November 2019 to September 2020).

**Students Supervised (1):**

1. Inam Ullah. 2021. *Changing patterns of voting behavior: Comparing 2013 and 2018 general elections in upper Dir, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa*. M.Phil. Department of IR and Political Science, Qurtuba university of Science and Technology, Peshawar.

**Students under Supervision (1):**

2. Usman Ahmed. *A Comparative study of private and state control electronic media and Public opinion in Pakistan*. M.Phil. Department of IR and Political Science, Qurtuba university of Science and Technology, Peshawar (Status: Data Analysis).

**Workshops, Conferences, Presentation (16):**

1. Presented a research paper titled ‘The Nexus of Structure (Pukhtunwali) and Agency (Mullah): An Analysis of Women Socio-Political Marginalization in Pukhtun Region of Pakistan’ in ASIA PASIFIC 3rd International Conference on Contemporary Studies (1-2 June 2020 through Zoom).
2. Presented a research paper titled ‘conflict, violence and ethnic identity: Pukhtunwali in the conflict of swat, Pakistan’ in a three-day international conference on ‘the dynamics of change in the Pakistan Afghanistan region: politics, (dis)integration and reformation in the borderland’ (3-5 September 2018), organized by the department of political science university of Peshawar and Hanns Seidel foundation (HSF) Islamabad.
3. Presented a research paper titled ‘Conflict and Violence in Swat: Impacts for Pakistaniyat of Pakhtuns and National Integration Process of Pakistan’ in a Two-Day International Conference on ‘Changing regional political dynamics in South Asia’ (17-18 January 2018), organized by the Department of Political Science, University of the Punjab, Pakistan.
4. Presented an ongoing research, titled ‘Conflict, Culture and Purdah: Diversity, forms and Impacts in Swat, Pakistan’ in graduate Colloquium of Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington, USA, on 4 January 2018.

5. Presented an ongoing research, titled 'Conflict, violence and Ethnicity: *Pakhtunwali* in the conflict of Swat, Pakistan' in graduate Colloquium of Sociology Department, University of Washington, USA, on 24 October, 2017.
6. Presented 'Pakistan: History, Culture and Society' at a Global Ambassador day in Genesee hill Elementary School, Seattle Washington, on 20 October 2017 (Organized by FIUTS, University of Washington, USA).
7. Attended a one-day workshop titled "Ethnic Media Startup" organized by Seattle Neighborhood and Seattle Globalist in Seattle Washington, USA (September 23, 2017).
8. Presented 'Pakistan: History, Culture and Society' at a Global Ambassador day in Leschi Elementary School Seattle Washington on 10 August 2017 organized by FIUTS, University of Washington, USA.
9. Presented a paper titled "Militant mindset and Quranic Verses: A Comparison of Narratives from Pakistan" in 1<sup>st</sup> International conference on Contemporary issues in Muslim Societies, organized by University of management and Technology Lahore, Pakistan (April, 2017).
10. Presented research work on "National Integration in Pakistan: Issues, concern and perspectives of Pakhtuns" in International conference of social sciences, Organized by Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University Peshawar, and Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan, Pakistan in April 2016.
11. Presented a research work on "The Nexus of Structure and Agency: An analysis of women Socio- political Marginalization in Pakhtun region" in International conference of social sciences, Organized by University of Lahore, Pakistan in February 2016.
12. Was member of the organizing team of 2<sup>nd</sup> International Summer School on the theme of "Governance, Conflict and peace building in Pak-Afghan Region", organized by the Department of Political Science, University of Peshawar (31<sup>st</sup> May 2015 to 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2015).
13. Attended an International Workshop on "National Harmony in Pakistan" from 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2015 in National Defence University Islamabad.

14. Attended Sumer School on the theme of “Governance and Conflict in Pak-Afghan Region”, organized by the Department of Political Science, University of Peshawar (1<sup>st</sup> September 2014 to 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014).
15. Presented research paper on ‘The Loss of Self in Migration’ in a *Graduate Conference on Critical Migration Studies* at the Department of Political Science, University of Peshawar, Pakistan. (4<sup>th</sup> December 2013).
16. Presented research paper on “Pak India trade relations. From Rivalry to Friendship” in *International conference on “Socio Economic and Cultural Relations between Pakistan and India”* in department of History and Pakistan Studies, University of the Punjab Lahore, Pakistan, (25<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> November 2013).

**Publication of Research work:**

**Book Chapters (2)**

1. Azim, Syed Wasif, and Surat Khan. 2019. “Conflict and Ethnic Identity: Pukhtunwali and Purdah in Conflict Ridden Swat, Pakistan.” In *International Trends in Behavioral Science: Managing People, Knowledge, Strategy and Performance in 21st Century*, Excelloropen Publishers, 32–44. [www.excelloropen.com](http://www.excelloropen.com).
2. Azim, Syed Wasif. 2018. “Nexus of Structure and Agency: Analysis of Women Socio-Political Marginalization in Pakhtun Region.” In *Interrogating Women Empowerment: The Global Experience*, New Delhi: Satyam Law International, ed. Vikram Singh. New Delhi: Satyam Law International, 505–518. <https://www.satyambook.in/9789387839144.html>.

**Conference Proceedings (1)**

1. Azim, Syed Wasif. 2019. “Conflict, Violence and Culture: The Socio-Cultural Relationship of Mashar and Kashar among the Pukhtuns of Swat Pakistan.” In *The Dynamics of Change in the Pakistan-Afghanistan Region: Politics (Dis)Integration and Reformation in the Borderland*, ed. Shahida Aman. Islamabad, Pakistan: Hanns Seidel Foundation, Islamabad, 23–38.

**Research Articles (12)**

1. Azim, Syed Wasif. 2020. "Structural Constraints and Women’s Socio-Political Marginalization in the Pukhtun Region of Pakistan: The Nexus of Pukhtunwali,

- Mullahs, and Pakistani State Laws". *Asian Women* 37 (1), pp. 93-118, <https://doi.org/10.14431/aw.2021.3.37.1.93> **(HEC Category X)**.
2. Azim, Syed Wasif, et al. (2021). "Religion, Conflict and Identity: Islam, Pakistani identity and the conflict in Swat" *Journal of Peace, Development and Communication*, vol. Volume 5, no. Issue 1, 2021, pp. 416-427, <https://doi.org/10.36968/JPDC-V05-I01-35> **(HEC Category Y)**.
  3. Wahab Fazal, **Syed Wasif Azim** and Muhammad Ayub Jan. 2020. "The Testimony of Traumatic and Violent Conflict: Pukhtu Poetry in Swat in Retrospect." *Journal of Peace, Development and Communication*, 04 (02): 16–42 **(HEC Category Y)**.
  4. Azim, Syed Wasif, Zarmina Baloch and Asif Salim. 2020. "Our Hujra is deserted": Conflict, Violence, culture, and ethnic identity among the Pukhtuns of Swat, Pakistan. *International Journal of Psychosocial Rehabilitation* 24 (9): 4694-4704. **(HEC Category Y)**.
  5. Yaseen Ullah, Manzoor Ahmad and **Syed Wasif Azim**. 2020. "Politics of Protest in Pakistan: Causes and Features of the PTI (2014) Dharna in Islamabad, Pakistan" *Global Strategic & Security Studies Review (GSSSR)* 5 (1): 36 – 46. **(HEC Category Y)**.
  6. Shah, Hassan., **Azim, Syed. Wasif.**, Mehmood, Wajid., & Zubair, Seema. 2020. "General Elections 2013: A Case Study of Low Turnout of Women Voters in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan". *Liberal Arts & Social Sciences International Journal (LASSIJ)*, 3(2), 126-138. <https://doi.org/10.47264/idea.lassij/3.2.15>
  7. Azim, Syed Wasif. 2018. "Conflict and Violence in Swat: Impacts on Pakistani National Identity among Swat Pukhtuns." *Journal of Political Studies (Special Issue)*: 59:74. **(HEC Category X)**.
  8. Azim, Syed Wasif, Mohammad Ayub Jan, and Nathalie Willaims. 2018. "Conflict and Ethnic Identity: Pukhtunwali and Purdah in Conflict Ridden Swat, Pakistan." *Pakistan Journal of Criminology* 10(3): 64–85. **(HEC Category Y)**
  9. Azim, Syed Wasif, Wajid Mehmood, and Sajjad Hussain. 2018. "Swat Conflict in Retrospect: Violence and Jarga among the Swat Pukhtuns in Pakistan." *LASSIJ: Liberal Arts and Social Sciences International Journal* 2(1): 37–48. **(HEC Category Y)**



10. Azim, Syed Wasif, Muhammad Ayub Jan, and Hassan Shah. 2016. "Pak-India Trade Relations: From Rivalry to Friendship." *The Dialogue* 11(4): 428-443. **(HEC Category Y)**
11. Khan, Zahid, **Syed Wasif Azim**, and Wajid Mehmood. 2015. "The Quest for National Integration in Pakistan: Pakhtun Perspective." *Journal of contemporary studies* 4(1): 95–107. **(HEC Category Z)**
12. Azim, Syed Wasif, Wajid Mehmood, and Mohammad Ayub Jan. 2015. "Muslim Militant's Mindset and Quranic Verses: A Comparison of Narratives from Pakistan." *Humanities and Social Sciences* 22(1): 183-194. **(HEC Category Z)**

### **Research Publications under Review/Process of Publication**

#### **References:**

1. Muhammad Ayub Jan, Assistant Professor Department of Political Science, University of Peshawar, Pakistan. Email: ayub@uop.edu.pk <http://www.uop.edu.pk/departments/Teaching-Faculty/?r=429&q=Dr-Muhammad-Ayub-Jan>
2. Nathalie Williams, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology and Jackson School of International Studies, University of Washington, USA. Email: natw@uw.edu <https://soc.washington.edu/people/nathalie-williams>
3. Issyk Kuşçu Bonnenfant Associate Professor, Department of International Relations, Chair, Eurasian Studies METU Ankara, Turkey, [kuscu@metu.edu.tr](mailto:kuscu@metu.edu.tr) <https://avesis.metu.edu.tr/kuscu>