

Institute of Development Studies  
Library Road  
Brighton  
BN1 9RE  
UK

E: [A.Khan2@ids.ac.uk](mailto:A.Khan2@ids.ac.uk)  
T: +92 21 34551482  
W: [www.ids.ac.uk](http://www.ids.ac.uk)

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT: Director and Senior Researcher, Collective for Social Science Research

DATE OF BIRTH: 29 October 1965

NATIONALITY: Netherlands

LANGUAGES: English, Urdu

THEMATIC EXPERTISE: South Asia - Pakistan and Afghanistan; feminist movements; women's political participation; reproductive health, women and conflict.

GEOGRAPHICAL EXPERTISE: South Asia: Pakistan and Afghanistan

---

## OVERVIEW

My work covers gender and development, social policy and conflict/refugee issues in the region. I have extensive experience in qualitative research design and fieldwork in Pakistan. I have been a partner at the Collective for Social Science Research for almost twenty years, known for its innovative and multi-disciplinary research. My book *The Women's Movement in Pakistan: Activism, Islam and Democracy*, was published in 2018. I have served on the governing bodies of leading non-governmental organizations working on women's issues, and participate in advocacy-related task forces to influence government policy. My current PhD research is on the intersection between women's activism, political voice and gender equality outcomes, based on findings from my studies in partnership with the Action for Empowerment and Accountability research programme at the Institute for Development Studies.

---

## EDUCATION

<b>2021 - 2022</b>	<b>Candidate for PhD [by Published Works] Development Studies</b> Institute for Development Studies, U.K.
<b>1988 - 1989</b>	<b>M.A. Area Studies of South Asia</b> School of Oriental and African Studies, U.K.
<b>1983 - 1987</b>	<b>B.A. Philosophy</b> Yale University, U.S.A.

---

## EMPLOYMENT

<b>2002 – 2021</b>	<b>Director &amp; Senior Researcher, Collective for Social Science Research</b> Manage research projects commissioned by academic & development organizations.
--------------------	---

- 1994 – 2001**                      **Independent Development Consultant, Pakistan**  
Consultancies with UNDP, Unicef, UNHCR, Population Council.
- 1990 – 1996**                      **Freelance Journalist, Pakistan**  
Reported for BBC World Service Radio, Panos, Pakistan television and press.
- 

## AFFILIATIONS

- 2019 – present**                      Visiting Faculty, Institute for Business Administration, Pakistan
- 2016 (Oct-Dec)**                      Visiting Fellow, University of Oxford, U.K
- 1998 (May-June)**                      Visiting Fellow, The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, Chicago, USA
- 

## SELECTED CONSULTING AND RESEARCH PROJECTS

- June 2020-Present**                      **Family & Community Transitions in the Time of Covid-19**  
Research partner for Pakistan in an [international research consortium](#) led by University College London using innovative online ethnographic methodologies to study the effects of the pandemic on families in Karachi.
- April 2017-Present**                      **Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex**  
Research partner in [Action for Empowerment and Accountability](#), multi-country study funded by UK Aid. Leading country studies on civic space; women’s collective action for increased political voice; women’s leadership in contentious politics; and external actors’ support for empowerment and accountability in Pakistan.
- 2011-2013**                                      **UNICEF**  
Led nation-wide mapping of data, laws, policies and programmes in place for child protection.
- 2007-2010**                                      **Packard Foundation**  
Co-led study to measure socio-economic costs of unsafe abortion-related morbidity and mortality in Pakistan.
- 2006-10**                                      **Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex**  
Research partner for Pathways to Women’s Empowerment, multi-country research programme funded by UK Aid. Conducted three studies on women’s paid work and empowerment outcomes.
- 2004-5**                                      **UNHCR and Afghan Research and Evaluation Unit**  
Analyses of Afghan migrant communities living in Pakistan and their livelihood and settlement issues.
- 1999-2001**                                      **Ford Foundation and MacArthur Foundation Research Grant**  
Co-led Women, Conflict and Security Programme in collaboration with Sustainable Development Policy Institute, to study effect of violent political conflict in Pakistan on women and their families.
- 

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND OUTPUTS

### Peer-reviewed journal articles

---

- [“Dilemmas of Representation: Women in Pakistan’s Assemblies”](#) (with Sana Naqvi). 2020. *Asian Affairs*. 51/2, pp. 286-306. DOI: [10.1080/03068374.2020.1748414](#)
- [“Women activists’ strategic use of the courts in Pakistan”](#) (with Sara Malkani and Zonia Yousuf). 2019. *Contemporary South Asia* 47/2, pp. 549-557. DOI: [10.1080/09584935.2019.1686751](#)
- [“Challenging Binaries to Promote Women’s Equality: Introduction to Special Issue”](#) (with Mariz Tadros). 2018. *Feminist Dissent* (3), pp. 1-22.

[“Moving Beyond the Binary: Gender-based Activism in Pakistan”](#) (with Nida Kirmani). 2018. *Feminist Dissent* (3), pp. 151-191.

“Cultural Values or Universal Rights? Women’s Narratives of Compliance and Cultural Contestation in Urban Afghanistan” (with Naila Kabeer). 2014. *Feminist Economics*, 20/3, pp. 1-24.

“Induced Abortion in Pakistan – Community-Based Research.” 2013. *Journal of Pakistan Medical Association*, 63/4 (Suppl 3), pp. S27-S32.

“Gendering War Talk: We Are Scattered Like Seeds and the World is Full of Us.” 2003. *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, 5/3, pp. 448-455.

“Afghan Refugee Women’s Experience of Conflict and Disintegration.” 2002. *Meridians: feminism, race, transnationalism*, 3/1, pp. 89-121.

“Song of War.” 2002. *Meridians: feminism, race, transnationalism*, 2/2, pp. 259-265.

“Mobility of Women and Access to Health and Family Planning Services in Pakistan.” 1999. *Reproductive Health Matters* 7/14, pp. 39-48.

“Policy-making in Pakistan’s Population Programme.” 1996. *Health Policy and Planning* 11/1, pp. 30-51.

## **Book and Book Chapters**

---

[“The Women’s Movement in Pakistan: Activism, Islam and Democracy”](#). 2018. London: I.B. Tauris.

“Bonded labour in domestic work and begging” (with Haris Gazdar). 2016. In Qureshi, A. and Khan, A. (eds), *Bonded Labour in Pakistan*. Karachi: Oxford University Press.

“Paid Work as a Pathway of Empowerment: Pakistan’s Lady Health Worker Programme,” in Cornwall, A. and Edwards, J. (eds). 2014. *Feminisms, Empowerment and Development: Changing Women’s Lives*. London: Zed Books, pp. 104-122.

“Social Science Research and Engagement in Pakistan.” 2012. In Tickner, B. and Blaney, D. (eds). *Thinking International Relations Differently*, pp. 322-341. London: Routledge.

“Women and Paid Work in Pakistan.” 2010. In Azim, F. and Sultan, M. (eds), *Mapping Women’s Empowerment. Experiences from Bangladesh, India and Pakistan*. Dhaka: University Press Limited (UPL) and BRAC Development Institute (BDI) 2010.

“Déjà vu: The Fantasy of Benign Military Rule in Pakistan.” 2006. In Riley, R. and Inayatullah, N. (eds), *Interrogating Imperialism: Conversations on Gender, Race and War*, pp. 101-127. New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

“Legalised Cruelty, Anti-Women Laws in Pakistan” (with Hilda Saeed). 2000. In Mirsky, J. and M. Radlett (eds) *No Paradise Yet; the World’s Women Face the New Century*, pp. 119-136. London: Zed/ Panos.

“Room to decide: education, employment and reproductive decision-making in Pakistan.” 1994. In *Private Decisions, Public Debate: Women, Reproduction & Population*, pp. 121-134. London: Panos.

## **Other Academic Outputs**

---

“Donor Action in Pakistan: A Comparative Case Study of CDIP and AAWAZ” (with Komal Qidwai). (upcoming 2021). IDS Working Paper. Brighton: Institute for Development Studies, University of Sussex.

“Pakistan’s National Commission on the Status of Women: A Case Study.” 2020. Case study prepared for the Accountability Research Center, American University, Washington, DC.

[“Women politicians navigating the ‘hostile environment’ in Pakistan”](#) (with Zonia Yousuf and Sana Naqvi). 2020. *IDS Bulletin ‘Collective Action for Accountability on Sexual Harassment: Global Perspectives’* 51/2, pp.43-61. DOI: 10.19088/1968-2020.129.

[“Women In Politics: Gaining Ground For Progressive Outcomes In Pakistan”](#) (with Sana Naqvi). 2018. IDS Working Paper #519. Brighton: Institute for Development Studies, University of Sussex.

“Afghan Values or Women’s Rights? Gendered Narratives about Continuity and Change in Urban Afghanistan.” (with Naila Kabber and Naysan Adlparvar). 2011. IDS Working Paper 387. Brighton: Institute of Development Studies.

“A Rapid Assessment of Bonded Labor in Domestic Work and Begging in Pakistan.” 2004. Working Paper (22). ILO Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labor. Geneva: International Labor Office.

“The linkages between scholarship and advocacy: from a feminist analysis of research on the Karachi conflict.” 2002. Working Paper No. 80. Islamabad: Sustainable Development Policy Institute:

### **Selected Research Reports**

---

“Navigating Civic Spaces During a Pandemic: Pakistan Report” (with Aslam Khwaja and Asiya Jawed). (Upcoming 2021). Karachi: CSSR.

[“Navigating Civic Spaces in Pakistan: Baseline Report.”](#) 2020. Karachi: CSSR.

[“Impact of Covid-19 on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Sindh”](#) (with Sara Malkani and Komal Qidwai). 2020. Karachi: CSSR and New York: Center for Reproductive Rights.

[“Case Study: The Citizens Foundation - Best Practices in Girls’ Enrolment in Pakistan”](#) (with Samar Zuberi, Rashid Mahmood and Rabia Khan). 2016. Report. UNGEI and TCF.

[“Child Protection System Mapping and Assessment - Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa”](#) (with Asad Sayeed, Fatima Haider and Sidra Kamran). 2013. Karachi: CSSR.

[“Child Protection System Mapping and Assessment – Punjab”](#) (with Asad Sayeed, Saba Shaikh, Asad Jamal and Sidra Kamran). 2013. Karachi: CSSR.

[“Child Protection System Mapping and Assessment - Sindh”](#) (with Asad Sayeed, Fatima Haider and Sidra Kamran). 2012. Karachi: CSSR.

[“The Criminal Justice System and Rape: An Attitudinal Study of the Public Sector’s Response to Rape in Karachi”](#) (with Sarah Zaman). 2011. Karachi: WAR and CSSR.

[“Causes and Implications of Induced Abortion in Pakistan: A Social and Economic Analysis”](#) (with Haris Gazdar and Saman Qureshi). 2011. Karachi: CSSR.

[“Afghans in Pakistan: Broadening the Focus”](#) (with the Collective Team). 2006. Kabul: Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit.

[“Civil Society and Social Change in Pakistan”](#) (with Rabia Khan). 2004. Mimeograph. Karachi: CSSR.

### **PhD Supervisors:**

Deeptha Chopra, Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex,  
UK Phone: +44 (0) 1273 915808, email: d.chopra@ids.ac.uk

Sohela Nazneen, Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex,  
UK Phone: +44 (0)1273 915609, email: s.nazneen@ids.ac.uk