

## SYED MOHAMMAD ALI

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### EDUCATION

**Masters Degree** 2003

**Melbourne University, Melbourne**

- Development Studies (passed with distinction)
- Thesis topic: Role of structural adjustment in poverty alleviation in Pakistan

**Bachelors Degree** 1994

**Tufts University, Massachusetts**

- Majors: International Relations & History. Minor: Comparative Religion
- Dean's List

### EMPLOYMENT

**Research Consultant**

**Campaign for Quality Education (CQE)** 8/07 to Present

- A research study of teacher training institutions in Pakistan - based on secondary sources, interviews with relevant stakeholders in Islamabad, Quetta, Lahore and Karachi - being conducted under supervision of the Chairman for Advancement of Education (SAHE), in its capacity as the national secretariat of the CQE
- A baseline research study of teacher training institutions in Pakistan based on secondary research and key informant interviews

**National Evaluation Expert**

7/07 to 7/07

**United Nations Volunteers (UNV)**

- Research for preparation of an evaluative report concerning UNV's support to the National Volunteer Movement (NVM), and the progress made by NVM, so as to enable UNV to decide if it should continue supporting the NVM
- Presenting the evaluative findings to UNV, NVM (with international consultant) and to the Economic Affairs Division, GoP

**Research Consultant**

1/07 to 3/07

**CARE International**

- Research and preparation of an 'Underlying Causes of Poverty' study to guide CARE's future work in Pakistan.
- Team leader of sub-regional (India, Afghanistan and Pakistan) future scenario analysis in coordination with CARE's Asia Region Management Unit

**Research Consultant**

Ongoing since 12/06

**South Asia Partnership - Pakistan**

- Analysis of video records, photographs and detailed interviews to develop profiles of 20 individuals and households for SDC's 'Voices and Views of the Poor' study

**Research Consultant** 10/06 to 1/07  
**Groupe Development (GD)**

- I undertook primary research and prepared a baseline study on the prevalence of under-aged sex workers in the Red Light Area of Lahore for GD, a project funded by the European Commission.

**Research Consultant** 9/06 to 10/06  
**Freidrich Naumann Stiftung (FNSt)**

- Preparation of an impetus paper on privatization in the financial, industrial, oil and gas and telecommunications sector in Pakistan to highlight a potential middle-path to privatization.

**Research Consultant** 11/05 to 3/06  
**Gender Responsive Budgeting Initiative, United Nations Development Programme**

- Collation and analysis of sex specific data from the Education, Health and Population Welfare departments of the Government of Punjab for preparing gender budget statements

**Research Consultant** 11/05 to 3/06  
**Heinrich Boll Foundation (HBF)**

- Preparation of a proposal identifying a relevant niche for HBF's future work on environmental and conflict resolution issues in Pakistan

**Researcher** 11/05 to 3/06  
**Society for Advancement of Education (SAHE)**

- Identification and documentation of 6 school models in selected tehsils of DG Khan and Rajanpur districts, for the Open Society Institute-Budapest (OSI) and SAHE study, 'What works in Education and Why?'
- Identification of prevailing 'rules of business' in the education department and their implementation/operationalization on ground to help provide analytical substance for the forthcoming book on the OSI-SAHE study.

**Researcher** 11/05  
**Policy Economics and Education and Research Consortium, Inc.**

- Preparation of a case study of the Islamabad based Sustainable Development Policy Institute, part of an international study on think tanks under the Bridging Research and Policy Project funded by the Global Development Network

**Research Consultant** 12/05  
**LEAD-Pakistan**

- Identification and documentation of case studies concerning the role of citizen community boards in devolution in Pakistan
- Facilitation of a strategic visioning exercise for relevant stakeholders (including Devolutionary Trust for Community Empowerment, bilateral devolution support programmes, and NGOs)

**Senior Editing Consultant** 10/05 to 12/05  
**Communication for Effective Social Services Delivery (CESSD)**

- Preparation of 12 case studies highlighting CESSD's work in four districts of the NWFP

**Documentation Consultant** 2/05 to 3/05  
**Canadian International Development Agency – Devolution Support Program**  
○ Identified and documented 15 best practices in devolution across Pakistan

**Research Consultant** 12/04 to 1/05  
**South Asia Partnership - Pakistan**  
○ Analysis of video records, photographs and detailed interviews to develop profiles of 20 individuals and households for Swiss Development Corporation's 'Voices and Views of the Poor' study

**Research Consultant** 1/04 to 12/04  
**South Asia Partnership – Pakistan**  
○ Analyzed survey results and compiled report for a research conducted across 8 districts of Pakistan to ascertain the impact of globalisation on rural communities

**Research Supervisor** 8/04 to 10/04  
**Education Sector Reforms Project, World Bank**  
○ Supervised survey of primary and middle public schools in 17 tehsils of Punjab for a teaching management study under the Punjab Education Sectors Reform Project  
○ Besides supervising administering student tests, developed by the National Education Assessment System, my TORs required consulting with district level project personnel and documentation of research

**Research Consultant** 7/04  
**Canadian International Development Agency – Devolution Support Program**  
○ Identified and documented 15 best practices in devolution across Pakistan for further dissemination and replication purposes

**Public Advocacy Project Specialist** 1/04 to 6/04  
**Pakistan Legislative Strengthening Consortium**  
○ Undertook mapping of stakeholders and consultations with CSOs in the Punjab to initiate a civil advocacy campaign for supporting legislative performance

**Research/Documentation Consultant** 2/02 to 6/02  
**South Asia Partnership- Pakistan, Lahore**  
I. Research/Documentation for the Democratic Rights and Citizen's Education Programme II  
II. Research/Documentation for Farmers Training and Development Programme

**Research Consultant** 1/02 to 2/02  
**Systems (Pvt.) Ltd., Lahore**  
○ Provided third party validation of field research in 6 districts being conducted by the Bureau of Statistics in primary schools for the Multi-Donor Support Unit  
○ Conducted simultaneous research on school management committees in these 6 districts, which had been established under the Social Action Programme for Pakistan

**Research Consultant** 2/01 to 12/01  
**SEBCON (Pvt.) Ltd., Islamabad**

- I. Joint Team Leader for British Council's Needs Assessment Survey (Designed and coordinated quantitative research to ascertain felt needs concerning a range of development and education services offered by the British Council offices in Pakistan)
- II. Research consultant for devising a multi-stakeholder strategy for preventing fuel adulteration in Pakistan (involving consultation with concerned line departments, NGOs, Oil Marketing Companies, and oil tanker drivers)
- III. Review of the micro-enterprise component of Sungi's Sustainable Livelihood Programme

**Project Manager (based at SEBCON)** 7/00 to 1/01  
**Women in Credit Information Resource Centre, Islamabad**

- o Liaison with donors, government and relevant NGOs
- o Documentation of project experiences and production of quarterly newsletters

**Senior Director** 2/99 to 2/00  
**Family Planning Association of Pakistan, Lahore**

- o Project Manager of UNICEF supported Facts for Life Project. Involvement in formulation of standardized Macro Information, Education and Communication (IEC) package, and compilation of FPAP's Annual Report 2000

**Research Consultant** 6/98 to 1/99  
**SEBCON (Pvt.) Ltd., Islamabad**

- o Resource person in Karachi and Lahore for a national opinion-makers survey to ascertain on Britain's developmental role in Pakistan
- o Contributions to quantitative segment of survey report

**Publications Coordinator** 1/98 to 5/98  
**LEAD-Pakistan, Islamabad**

- o Responsible for organizing a publications portfolio, editing documents and preparing the organization's brochure

**Sub-Editor** 2/96 to 12/96  
**Daily Nation**

- o Edited and contributed to Sunday section

**Research Analyst** 7/95 to 1/96  
**Systems (Pvt.) Ltd., Lahore**

- o Worked on a study of major political parties in Pakistan for a broader survey of democracies in Asia for the National Democratic Institute in Washington

**Research Analyst** 10/94 to 7/95  
**Seer (Pvt.) Ltd., Lahore**

- o Worked with technical advisors from the Academy of Educational Development on policy making, monitoring and evaluation components of the Punjab Middle Schooling Project

## FREELANCE EDITING/WRITING

<i>Columnist</i>	The Daily Times, Lahore	Since December `04
<i>Case Writer</i>	Lahore University of Management Sciences, Lahore	January - March `04
<i>Copy Editor</i>	Human Development Centre, Islamabad	March - May `99
<i>Freelance Editor</i>	Oxford University Press, Karachi	June `98 & January `00
<i>Features Contributor</i>	The Friday Times, Lahore	June - August `96

## PUBLICATIONS

'Examining Citizen Community Boards in Pakistan' (research paper), LEAD-Pakistan	<i>Forthcoming</i>
'Ranking Local Government Performance through Score-cards (research paper), South Asia Partnership, Pakistan	August, 2007
'Poverty alleviation is South Asia' (academic paper), South Asia Journal, Vol. 16, South Asia Free Media Association, Lahore	June `07
'The state, feudal lords and poverty in rural Pakistan' (research paper co-authored with Dr. Brigitta Bode), CARE International, Islamabad	March `07
'The politics of development aid: Implications for Pakistan' (academic paper). Oxford Univ. Press, Karachi	March `06
'Innovations in Tehsil Municipal Administration in Jaranwala' (case study), CIDA-DSP, Lahore	August `05
'Efforts to Improve Sanitation Services in Lodhran District' (case study), CIDA-DSP, Lahore	August `05
'Citizen Community Board Formations in Khairpur District' (case study), CIDA-DSP, Lahore	August `05
'Innovative Health Management in Rahimyar Khan District' (case study), CIDA-DSP, Lahore	August `05
'Innovations in Tehsil Municipal Administration by Sadiqabad District' (case study), CIDA-DSP, Lahore	August `05
Identification of 'best practices' in devolution in Pakistan (research paper), CIDA-DSP, Lahore	December `04
'Seed Business in Pakistan' (case study), LUMS. Lahore	October `04
'Poverty in India' (article), Arena Magazine, Melbourne	April `04
'Restoring Sanity in South Asia' (article), Arena Magazine. Melbourne	August `04
'Why doesn't development aid work?' (academic article), Traffic Journal, Melbourne	November `03
'Islam in Australia' (book review), Arena Magazine, Melbourne	November `03
<i>SACHET Annual Report</i> , Islamabad	October `00
<i>Credit News</i> (editorials), UNDP-Islamabad	November `00

'Just take the USA' (literary critique), The New Renaissance, Massachusetts	Fall issue `94
'Environmental Conservation' (article), Natura Magazine, WWF-Lahore	October `93
Weekly Op-ed, Daily Times, Lahore	Dec`93 to Present

#### **WORKSHOPS/CONFERENCES/SEMINARS ETC.**

Participant	World Bank's Independent Evaluation Unit and the United Nation's Economic Council for Africa's conference on fragile states, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	August, 2007
Presenter	22 General Meeting of Pakistan Institute of Development Economists, Lahore, Pakistan	January, 2007
Participant	Salzburg Seminar, 'Harnessing markets for development', Austria	2006
Presenter	7th EUROFOR Conference on Migration Management, Madrid, Spain	June, 2006
Participant	Workshop on 'Developing Effective Policy Strategies for Policy Action', Open Society Institute, Budapest, Hungary	April, 2006
Speaker	Pakistan Social Forum's plenary on privatization, Lahore, Pakistan	February, 2006
Participant	Policy advocacy workshop, Open Society Institute – Istanbul, Turkey	December, 2005
Participant	9th Thematic International PRA Training Workshop, PRAXIS – Institute for Participatory Practices, New Delhi, India	September, 2005
Presenter	Role of international aid in poverty alleviation, Concerned Citizens Forum, Lahore	December, 2004
Organizer	Consultative workshops for Civil Activism Group in the Pakistan Legislative Strengthening Consortium – Multan & Lahore, Pakistan	November, 2004
Guest speaker	Talk on conflict resolution and Islam, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Melbourne, Australia	August, 2003
Organizer/ Participant	Perspectives on Peace – International Conference on Conflict Resolution, Asialinks Centre, Melbourne, Australia	July, 2003
Participant	'Our World in Crisis' course, Australian Volunteers International, Melbourne, Australia	November and December, 2003
Organizer	FPAP- Facts for Life project's Master Trainer Workshops, Lahore and Islamabad, Pakistan	August, 1999
Organizer	LEAD- Pakistan & China Regional Seminar, Islamabad, Pakistan	September, 1998
Participant	NRSP - Community Organization Training, Islamabad & Khusab, Pakistan	December, 1997
Delegate	Pakistan - India Peoples Forum, Calcutta, India	December, 2005

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **Lecturer**

November `04 to April `05

#### **Virtual University, GoP**

- Cultural Anthropology – undergraduate course
- International Relations: Theory and Practice – undergraduate course

### **Demonstrator**

#### **SAGES, Melbourne University, Melbourne**

Semesters 2 - `02 & Semester 1 - `03

- Environmental Politics and Management
- Development and Urban Environments
- Australia in Asia
- China in Transition

### **Tutor**

#### **Saint Marys College, Melbourne University, Melbourne**

- Inequalities in Australia

### **Substitute Teacher**

2000-2001

#### **Lahore American School, Lahore**

- World History and Economics (Grade 9, 10 and 11)
- Literature (Grades 9 and 10)

### **Teaching Assistant**

#### **Tufts University, Massachusetts**

Fall `93 & Spring `94

- Philosophy of Religion and Asian Religions

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### **Advisory Board Member and Joint Director**

Since October `06

#### **Individual-Land**

- Research, politics and policy analysis platform (for details refer to [www.inidivualand.com](http://www.inidivualand.com))

### **[Recurrent] International Policy Fellow**

April 2005 to present

#### **Open Society Institute, Budapest**

- Research on the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) for Pakistan

### **Documentary/film-making**

November and December `07

#### **Business Plus, Lahore**

- 'Surviving on the streets' – half-hour documentary on street children in Lahore
- Half-hour documentary on underaged sex-workers, broadcast during the talkshow 'Lucman Dotcom' (on which I was also a panelist).
- 'Juvenile justice in Pakistan' - half-hour documentary on prepared for Business-Plus

### **Host, 'Developing Pakistan'**

October and November `06

#### **Business Plus, Lahore**

- Background research, panelist selection, and editing supervision of 13 half-hour shows concerning the development sector in Pakistan

***Panelist/discussant***

Since June `06

**Voice of America's Urdu Service**

- VOA Roundtables on the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, earthquake rehabilitation/reconstruction, street children, water scarcity, etc.

***Secretary***

June `00 - August `01

**Society for Citizen's Rights, Islamabad**

- Coordination and subsequent documentation of proceedings of seminars held on matters of national concern

***Country Representative***

January - December `01

**South Asia Against Aids Foundation (SAAIDS), New York**

- Helped local NGOs coordinate project proposals for SAAIDS investment programme