

Samantha Christiansen

Discipline: History

Title of Project : United for Pakistan? Shared Ideas of Nationalism Among Students in East and West Pakistan in the 1960s

This project seeks to explore the ways in which the concept of Pakistani nationalism was constructed, acted upon, negotiated, and ultimately, abandoned by young people of the student movements of the late 1950s and the 1960s in the united East and West Pakistan. The fundamental research question that I seek to explore is: How did the student movement participants of East and West Pakistan articulate a shared national identity, and how does it change (and remain the same) once the divisions between East and West movements become more pronounced? Using archival sources in Dhaka, Bangladesh, I will examine ways in which students spoke about Pakistan, and their position in relation to the nation, and how it changes over the various cycles of the student movement of the 1960s.
