

Annex to AIPS Travel Grant Final Report

I actually gave three talks in Pakistan:

1. 15 January 2016 "Culture and Environment in Cholistan," I.T. University of the Punjab, Lahore. This is a new extension of Punjab University, modelled after MIT, in the southernmost part of Lahore. There were twenty faculty and students in attendance, and the Q and A went amazingly well.
2. 20 Jan. 2016 "Structure and Method in Assessing the Deeper History of Pakistan," Hamdard University, Karachi. This was the second day of the three-day, 25th Annual, Pakistan History Conference, when we went an hour away from Karachi University to Hamdard. The audience numbered about 130, and received my remarks with rapt attention. My talk was reported in Dawn. See <http://www.dawn.com/news/1234289>.
3. On the 21st, at the concluding session of the Conference, I was asked to give an assessment of the entire conference. Once I was finished, I called this 15-minute extemporaneous talk "Historical Research and Teaching in Pakistan: a Critical Appraisal," which was received with a surprising level of enthusiasm.

The positive outcomes of my trip to Pakistan is that I have a new and much expanded cohort of history colleagues in my Pakistan network of both research and teaching activities.

I met and chatted at length with Mubarak Ali, the critical gadfly of Pakistani history research and teaching.

I also discovered that historians are much more free nowadays to pursue topic areas that in recent decades were subject to censorship and repression.

There are also a cohort of younger scholars who have approached me for mentoring and encouragement, and I am doing what I can in free moments to assist them.

The talk in Lahore and the Conference in Karachi stand as the highlights of my year so far. I am grateful to the AIPS for their generous funding.