

Report on American Institute of Pakistan Studies Grant

Farina Mir - University of Michigan at Ann Arbor

Grant Period: Summer 2009

Site of Research: London, U.K.

Purpose: Archival Research

Post-Doctoral Fellowship - Interim Report

With the support of an AIPS Postdoctoral Fellowship, Farina Mir (Department of History, University of Michigan) traveled to London this summer to research at the Oriental and India Office Collection (OIOC) at the British Library. Mir was doing preliminary research for a project entitled, "Producing Modern Muslims: Muslim *Anjumans* in Colonial India." This project focuses on *anjumans*, voluntary associations that proliferated in late colonial India, forming around a range of religious and civic issues, as key sites for the redefinition of Muslims as modern subjects. Mir's focus in her summer research was the *Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islam* and the *Anjuman-i-Islamia*, organizations founded in Lahore in 1866 and 1869, respectively. Mir examined the OIOC's vernacular tract collection for publications by these organizations, as well as related publications on Muslim reform. She was able to locate relevant materials in Punjabi and Urdu, including a number of speeches delivered at anniversary celebrations of the *Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islam*. Among these are speeches by Muhammad Iqbal and compositions he wrote specifically for these occasions. Mir used half of her fellowship support for this research trip, and looks forward to returning to London in Summer 2010 to continue her work on this project. At that time, she will continue to work with vernacular tracts and also examine Government of India records, which she hopes will provide information about *anjumans'* endeavors in the field of education.