

**Project Title:**Workshop-based Research Consultations on "Faith and Survival"

**Abstract:**

I propose to hold two two-day workshop-based research consultations, in Islamabad and in Lahore, to discuss the tentative findings of my work on religious charity in Pakistan. These workshops would allow me to conduct a final round of research consultations with Pakistani scholars and social activists without leaving Islamabad and Lahore. The Akhter Hameed Khan Resource Centre (AHKRC) in Islamabad and the Family Welfare Cooperative Society (FWCS) in Lahore have offered to host the workshops. The AHKRC would involve participants from the Aga Khan Rural Support Program and the National Rural Support Program. The FWCS would involve students from its Female Academy of Development Workers. The other envisioned participants are academics, community-based activists, government officials, philanthropists, and representatives of religious institution-based welfare associations. I would like to visit Islamabad and Lahore for one month, during the Wellesley College 2013-14 winter break. The two workshops and the in-country preparations for these would take two weeks. The other two weeks would allow me to work closely with those who would like to meet individually to extend the workshop discussions and to give lectures. The expected result is the completion of the book manuscript. Philanthropy is a vital part of Pakistan society. Yet, there is no book-length study of Pakistani philanthropy. Pakistanis are rightly proud of their philanthropic commitments. My research on Pakistani philanthropy provides an opportunity to engage with Pakistani scholars and social activists on an issue that is a matter of justified pride and to make suggestions for improvements in philanthropic services.