

The AAS panel that I partook in was on language politics in South Asia in the past and present with a focus on Hindi and Urdu. Panelists from comparative literature, linguistics, and history presented papers on language politics in South Asia. The panel took on a non-nationalist approach, paying attention to the “locations” of Hindustani rather than the definitions of the language. One panelist spoke about the role of Urdu in South Asia, another about Hindustani and the transition between silent and sound film. A third panelist spoke about Hindustani and Gandhi. My paper was about Hindustani in the radio airwaves. The panel and my paper contributed to Pakistani Studies by addressing issues of language in South Asia, and shifting the focus away from national borders.