

Dr. Nida Kirmani

Associate Professor, Sociology
 Mushtaq Ahmad Gurmani School of Humanities and Social Sciences
 Lahore University of Management Sciences
 DHA, Opposite Sector 'U', Lahore Cant.
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Education

University of Manchester PhD Sociology (2007)

- Thesis: 'Questioning the Muslim Woman: The Narration of Multiple Identities in Zakir Nagar'

University of Manchester MA (Econ) Development Studies (2003)

- Degree in Development Studies with a focus on South Asia.

University of Tennessee, Knoxville Bachelor of Arts, May 2000

- Interdisciplinary degree focusing on human rights and gender

Current Post: *Associate Professor* (2016-present), Department of Anthropology and Sociology, Lahore University of Management Sciences

Courses Taught: Introduction to Sociology, Understanding Social Movements, Introduction to Development Studies, Divided Cities, Gender and Development

Previous Positions

2011-2015: Assistant Professor, Sociology, Lahore University of Management Sciences

2007-2010: Research Fellow, Religions and Development Research Programme, University of Birmingham/Islamic Relief

2006-2007: Researcher, The Commonwealth Policy Studies Unit, London/New Delhi

2003-2005: Teaching Assistant, Department of Sociology, University of Manchester

2000-2001: Research Assistant, The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, New Delhi

1999: Programme Assistant, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, Cairo, Egypt

Grants and Honours

- Crossroads Asia Fellowship, Zentrum Moderner Orient (2014)
- Centre for the Study of Developing Societies Visiting Fellow (Assistant Professor) (2014-2015)
- Faculty Initiative Fund Grant, LUMS (2017-2018, 2015-2016; 2012-2013)
- Departmental Research Grant, LUMS (2011, 2013, 2014)
- Faculty Travel Grant, LUMS (2013, 2014, 2016, 2017)
- Writing Scholarship, Feminist Review Trust (2006)
- Department of Sociology Bursary, University of Manchester (2005)
- Overseas Research Studentship (ORS) (2003-2005)
- The North American Friends of University of Manchester Scholarship (2003-2004)
- Amnesty International Patrick Stewart Fellowship (2000)
- McClure Grant for International Studies, University of Tennessee (1999)

Books

Questioning 'the Muslim Woman': Space, Identity and Insecurity in an Urban Locality, Routledge, India, 2013.

Edited Volumes and Special Editions

Marginalization, Contestation and Change in South Asian Cities, Oxford University Press, Pakistan (under review).

Law and Runaway Women, special issue of *Journal of Law and Social Research*, No. 4, 2013.

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

- 'What You See is What You Get': Local Journalism and the Search of Truth in Lyari, Karachi,' with Laurent Gayer, under review in *Modern Asian Studies*.
- 'Resistance and Its Limits: Protesting Urban Violence in Lyari, Karachi,' *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. LII(7), pp. 41-48, 2017.
- 'Fear and the City: Negotiating Everyday Life as a Young Baloch Man in Karachi,' *Journal of the Economic and Social History of the Orient*, Vol. 58(5), 2015
- 'Strategic Engagements: Analysing the Indian and Pakistani Women's Movements' Relationships with Islam,' *ASIEN: German Journal for Politics, Economy and Culture*, January 2013.
- 'The Role of Religious Values and Beliefs in Charitable and Development Organisations in Karachi and Sindh,' *Development in Practice*, Vol. 22(5-6), July 2012.
- 'Re-thinking the Promotion of Women's Rights through Islam in India,' in *IDS Bulletin: Gender, Rights and Religion at the Crossroads*, Mariz Tadros (ed.), January 2011.
- 'Beyond the Impasse: 'Muslim Feminism(s)' and the Indian Women's Movement', *Contributions to Indian Sociology*, Volume 45(1), April 2011.
- 'Engaging with Islam to Promote Women's Rights: Exploring Opportunities and Challenging Assumptions,' with Isabel Phillips, *Progress in Development Studies*, Volume 11(2), April 2011.
- 'Claiming Their Space: Muslim Women-led Networks and the Women's Movement in India, *The Journal of International Women's Studies* (Special issue on Muslim women's movements), Volume 11, No. 1, November 2010.
- 'Deconstructing and Reconstructing 'Muslim Women' through Women's Narratives,' *The Journal of Gender Studies*, Volume 18(1), March 2009, pp. 47-62.
- 'Constructing 'the Other': Narrating Religious Boundaries in Zakir Nagar,' *Contemporary South Asia*, Volume 16, No. 4, December 2008, pp. 397-412.
- 'Competing Constructions of 'Muslim-ness' in the South Delhi Neighbourhood of Zakir Nagar,' *The Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, Volume 28, No. 3, December 2008, pp. 355-370.
- 'Does Faith Matter? An Examination of Islamic Relief's Work with Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons,' with Ajaz Ahmed Khan, in *Refugee Survey Quarterly*, Volume 27, No. 2, June 2008, pp. 41-50.

- ‘History, Memory and Localised Constructions of Insecurity,’ *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol, 43(10), March 8-14, 2008, pp. 57-64.

Peer Reviewed Book Chapters

- ‘Earning as Empowerment?: The Relationship between Paid Work and Domestic Violence in Lyari, Karachi,’ in *Rethinking New Womanhood: Practices of Gender, Class, Culture and Religion in South Asia*, Nazia Hussein (ed.), London: Palgrave (forthcoming).
- ‘Development: Non-governmental Organizations: Pakistan,’ with Onaiza Arshad, in *The Encyclopaedia of Women and Islamic Cultures*, Suad Joseph (ed.), Leiden: Brill, 2017.
- ‘Life in a ‘No-Go Area’: Experiences of Marginalisation and Fear in Lyari,’ in *Publics and Counter-Publics of Violence in Karachi*, Nichola Khan (ed.), London: Hurst, 2017.
- ‘Religion, Gender and Development in South Asia,’ with Tamsin Bradley in the *Routledge Handbook on Religions and Global Development*, Emma Tomalin (ed.), London and New York: Routledge, 2015, pp. 215-230.
- ‘Contentious Encounters: A Historical Comparison of the Indian and Pakistani Women’s Movements’ Relationships with Islam,’ in *Religion, Gender and the Public Sphere*, Niamh Riley and Stacey Scriver (eds.), New York: Routledge, 2013, pp. 197-207.
- ‘Treading a Dangerous Path? The Use of Islam in Women’s Rights Advocacy’ Approaches to Women’s Rights Activism,’ in *Alternative Islamic Discourses and Religious Authority*, Carool Kersten (ed.), Surrey: Ashgate, (2013).
- Kirmani, Nida. ‘Rusholme.’ *A Postcolonial People: South Asians in Britain*. Nasreen Ali, Virinder Kalra, and S. Sayyid (eds.), London: Hurst & Company, 2006.

Peer-reviewed Working Papers

- ‘Mobility and Urban Conflict: A Study of Lyari, Karachi,’ Working Paper 28, Crossroads Asia Working Paper Series, 2015. ([http://crossroads-asia.de/fileadmin/user_upload/publications/Crossroads Asia Working Paper Kirmani Mobility and urban conflict a study of Lyari Karachi.pdf](http://crossroads-asia.de/fileadmin/user_upload/publications/Crossroads_Asia_Working_Paper_Kirmani_Mobility_and_urban_conflict_a_study_of_Lyari_Karachi.pdf))
- ‘Interactions between Religion, the State and Civil Society in Pakistan: Some Implications for Development,’ Working Paper 65, University of Birmingham 2011 (http://www.religionsanddevelopment.org/files/resourcesmodule/@random454f80f60b3f4/1302706070_working_paper_65___complete_for_web.pdf)
- ‘The Role of Faith in the Charity and Development Sector in Karachi and Sindh,’ with Sarah Zaidi, Religions and Development Working Paper 50, University of Birmingham, 2010. (http://www.religionsanddevelopment.org/files/resourcesmodule/@random454f80f60b3f4/1293020859_working_paper_50___complete_for_web.pdf)
- ‘Bridging the Religious Impasse: Advocating for Muslim Women’s Rights in India,’ Religions and Development Working Paper 35, University of Birmingham, 2010. (http://www.religionsanddevelopment.org/files/resourcesmodule/@random454f80f60b3f4/1267021364_working_paper_35_for_the_web.pdf)
- ‘The Relationships between Social Movements and Religion in Processes of Social Change: A Preliminary Literature Review,’ Religions and Development Programme Working Paper 23, University of Birmingham, 2008.

(http://www.religionsanddevelopment.org/files/resourcesmodule/@random454f80f60b3f4/1226402281_working_paper_23_web_version.pdf)

Book Reviews

- ‘Honour Bound?’, a review of *Honour Unmasked: Gender Violence, Law, and Power in Pakistan*, by Nafisa Shah, in *Herald Magazine*, February 2017, pp. 136-137.
- ‘The Muslim Spring,’ review of recent literature on Indian Muslims in *Herald Magazine*, April 2015.
- ‘A False Spring’, a review of *India’s Muslim Spring*, by Hasan Suroor, in *Herald Magazine*, May 2014.
- ‘Disturbing Religious Boundaries,’ a review of *In Good Faith*, by Saba Naqvi, in *Dawn: Books and Authors*, June 23, 2013.
- ‘Muslims on the Decline? Understanding Processes of Marginalisation in Urban India,’ a review of *Muslims in Indian Cities: Trajectories of Marginalisation*, by Christophe Jaffrelot and Laurent Gayer (eds.), in *Books & Ideas.net*, April 16, 2013.
- Comparative review of *Religion and Development: Conflict or Cooperation* by Jeffery Haynes and *Development and Faith: Where Mind and Soul Work Together* by Katherine Marshall and Marisa Van Saanen, in *Development in Practice*, Vol. 18(6), pp. 808-810, 2008.
- Review of *For the Love of God: NGOs and Religious Identity in a Violent World* by Shawn Theresa Flanigan in *Gender and Development*, Vol. 18(3), November 2010.
- Review of *The Unhappy Marriage of Religion and Politics: Problems and Pitfalls for Gender Equality, Third World Quarterly Special Issue*, in *Gender and Development*, forthcoming, July 2011.

Media Appearances/Articles/ Op-Eds

- ‘#PartitionAt70: Acts of Kindness in the Midst of Bloodshed’ (guest), *The Stream*, Al Jazeera, 14 August 2017, <http://stream.aljazeera.com/story/201708141930-0025487>
- ‘Modi Didn’t Create Hindu Majoritarianism: He Only Stoked the Simmering Embers,’ *Dawn Blogs*, 4 July 2017, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1342963>
- ‘Sociology from Pakistan: Economic Participation and Violence against Women,’ *Global Dialogue Magazine of the International Sociological Association*, Vol. 7(2), June 2017, <http://isa-global-dialogue.net/sociology-from-pakistan-economic-participation-and-violence-against-women/>
- ‘Soft Obstacles in a Hard City,’ *Cityscapes*, Number 8, June 2017, <https://www.africancentreforcities.net/cityscapes-8-urban-south-asia/>
- ‘Fear and the City’ (talk), Tedx, Habib University, 27 May 2017, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VGv3eyxum5Q>.
- ‘The Ongoing Partition: What Happens When You’re Both Indian and Pakistani,’ *The Wire*, 14 May 2017, <https://thewire.in/135467/the-ongoing-partition-what-happens-when-youre-both-indian-and-pakistani/>
- ‘Bodies of Evidence’ with Laurent Gayer, *The Friday Times*, 10 February 2017, <http://www.thefridaytimes.com/tft/bodies-of-evidence/>
- ‘Which Side Are You On?’ *Dawn Blogs*, 20 April 2016, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1251443>

- ‘How Oppressed Are Indian Muslims?’, *The Herald*, 2 August 2016, <https://herald.dawn.com/news/1153473/how-oppressed-are-muslims-in-india>
- ‘Gender and Knowledge Production,’ *The News*, 1 May 2016, <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/116619-Gender-and-knowledge-production>
- ‘The Race to Kill,’ *Dawn*, 25 June 2015, <https://www.dawn.com/news/1190238>
- ‘City of Fear: Everyday Experience of Insecurity in Lyari (Karachi),’ *Allegra Lab*, 5 November 2015, <http://allegralaboratory.net/city-of-fear-everyday-experience-of-insecurity-in-lyari-karachi-violence/>
- ‘The Loss of an Unsung Hero,’ *The Express Tribune*, 13 February 2015, <https://tribune.com.pk/story/837307/the-loss-of-an-unsung-hero/>
- ‘If I Were Prime Minister,’ *Newsline*, August 2014, <http://newslinemagazine.com/magazine/nida-kirmani-if-i-were-prime-minister/>
- ‘Religion as a Human Rights Liability,’ *Open Democracy*, 16 April 2014, <https://www.opendemocracy.net/openglobalrights/nida-kirmani/religion-as-human-rights-liability>
- ‘Breaking the Religion/Gender Divide: Mobilising for Muslim Women’s Rights in India,’ *Open Democracy*, 14 January 2011, <https://www.opendemocracy.net/5050/nida-kirmani/mobilising-for-muslim-women%E2%80%99s-rights-in-india>
- ‘From Voiceless Victims to Political Agents,’ *Seminar*, No. 602, October 2009, pp. 38-42, http://www.india-seminar.com/2009/602/602_nida_kirmani.htm

Presentations at Invited International Conferences

- ‘Gender, Mobility and Urban Violence: The View from Lyari,’ at the Center for South Asian Studies Annual Pakistan Conference, the University of Michigan, April 7, 2017.
- ‘Transnational Geographies of Violence: The Case of Lyari,’ *Order Beyond Borders: Sovereignty and Citizenship in Asia and the Indian Ocean World*, Habib University, March 17-18, 2017.
- ‘Earning as Empowerment?: The Relationship between Paid Work and Experiences of Violence in Lyari, Karachi,’ FINDAS International Workshop on Women’s Work in South Asia in the Age of Neo-liberalism,’ Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Japan, 8 January 2017.
- ‘*Resistance and Its Limits: An Analysis of Protests to Urban Violence in Lyari, Karachi*’ at the workshop, ‘The City in South Asia’, American Institute of Pakistan Studies, Karachi. January 3-6, 2016.
- ‘Mediating the Local: The Role of *Jaanbaaz* in the Representation of Violence in Lyari, Karachi.’ at the American Institute for Pakistan Studies Workshop, ‘Locally Sourced: Recovering the Local in History, Culture and Politics in Pakistan,’ PIDE, Quaid-e-Azam University, August 7-8, 2015.
- ‘Marginalised and Manipulated: Experiencing the Pakistani Nation State in Lyari,’ at the conference, ‘Pakistan: Parallel Narratives of the Nation State,’ University of Heidelberg, December 1-3, 2014.
- ‘Questioning the Muslim Woman: Identity and Insecurity in an Urban Indian Locality,’ *The Long Indian Century: Historical Transitions and Social Transformations*, Yale University, 25-27 April 2017.

Other Seminar, Workshop and Conference Presentations

- ‘Negotiating the Informal State: The People’s Aman Committee in Lyari,’ at the conference, ‘The Informal and the Formal in Times of Crisis: Ethnographic Insights,’ the University of Corinth, July 7-9, 2017.
- ‘Earning as Empowerment?: The Relationship between Paid Work and Experiences of Violence in Karachi,’ International Conference on Gender, Work and Society, Lahore University of Management Sciences, 22-23 April 2017.
- ‘Tactical Negotiations: Gendering Mobility in Karachi’s Urban Landscape,’ at the Association for Asian Studies Conference, Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan, June 24-26, 2016.
- ‘Resistance and Its Limits: An Analysis of Protests to Urban Violence in Lyari, Karachi’ at the conference ‘Rethinking Cities in the Global South: Urban Violence, Social Inequality, and Spatial Justice,’ at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, January 19-23, 2016.
- ‘Managing Fear: The Spatial Negotiation of Multiple Risks amongst Young Baloch Men in Karachi,’ at the European Conference for South Asian Studies, University of Zurich, July 23-26, 2014.
- ‘The Right to Karachi: Marginalisation, Insecurity and the Struggle for Representation in Karachi,’ with Laurent Gayer at the First International Karachi Conference, Karachi Arts Council, November 2-3, 2013.
- ‘Challenging Conceptions of ‘Feminist’ Activism: Struggling for Respect in Lyari,’ at the conference, ‘Mapping Feminist Movement, Moments and Mobilisations,’ University of Nottingham, June 21-23, 2013.
- ‘The Right to Lyari: Marginalisation, Insecurity and the Rise of the Gangster Sardar,’ at the conference, ‘Asian Ecologies: Capitalism, Modernity and the Environment,’ Lahore University of Management Sciences, April 5-7, 2013.
- ‘Women’s Rights Advocacy and Islam Post-9/11: Comparing the Indian and Pakistani Women’s Movements,’ at the conference, ‘Sustainable Development in South Asia: Shaping the Future,’ Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad, December 11-13, 2012.
- ‘The Answer to Our Prayers? The Possibilities and Limits of the Nikahnama as a Means to Protecting Muslim Women's Rights in South Asia,’ at the European Conference for South Asian Studies, ISCTE-IUL, Lisbon, July 25-28, 2012.
- ‘To be or Not to be ‘Islamic Feminist’: Comparing the Approaches of the Indian and Pakistani Women's Movements vis-à-vis Islam,’ at the European Conference for South Asian Studies, ISCTE-IUL, Lisbon, July 25-28, 2012.
- ‘Contentious Encounters: A Comparison of the Indian and Pakistani Women’s Movements’ Relationships with Islam,’ at the conference, ‘Islam, Youth and Gender in South and Southeast Asia,’ jointly organized by Humboldt University and Freie University, April 20-21, 2012.
- ‘Comparing the Approaches of the Indian and Pakistani Women’s Movements vis-à-vis Islam,’ at the conference, ‘Religion, Gender and Human Rights: Challenges for Multicultural and Democratic Societies,’ sponsored by the European Science Foundation and Linköping University, June 21-25, 2011.
- ‘To Be or Not to Be ‘Islamic Feminist’: Comparing the Experiences of the Indian and Pakistani Women’s Movements,’ at the workshop, ‘New Approaches to Islam and Gender,’ held at Humboldt University, April 29-30, 2011.

- ‘Beyond the Religious Impasse: Mobilising for Muslim Women’s Rights in India,’ at the ICSSR-NRCT Joint Seminar on ‘Social Structures and Unequal Opportunities’, held in Bhopal, November 14, 2010.
- ‘The Role of Religious Values and Beliefs in Charitable and Development Organisations in Karachi and Sindh,’ at the Development Studies Association, London, November 5, 2010
- ‘An Uneasy Relationship: Religion, Philanthropy and Development in Karachi’ at the European Association for Modern South Asian Studies Conference held at the University of Bonn, July 26-29, 2010.
- ‘The Role of Religion in Charity and Development in Karachi,’ at the conference, ‘Religion Shaping Development: Inspirational, Inhibiting, Institutionalised?’, held at the University of Birmingham, July 21-23, 2010.
- ‘Claiming Their Space: Muslim Women-led Networks and the Women’s Movement in India,’ at the conference, ‘Religion Shaping Development: Inspirational, Inhibiting, Institutionalised?’, held at the University of Birmingham, July 21-23, 2010.
- ‘Religion and Civil Society: Faith-based Organisations and Development in Karachi,’ at the conference, ‘Religion, Politics and Society in Pakistan,’ held at Lahore University of Management Sciences on February 11-12, 2010.
- ‘The Changing Relationship between Women’s Rights and Religion in India and the Diversification of the Women’s Movement,’ at the conference, ‘Experiencing the State: Marginalised People and the Politics of Development,’ held at the University of Cambridge on March 12-13, 2009.
- ‘Locating Identities: Narrating a Muslim *Mahol* in Zakir Nagar,’ at the European Conference for Modern South Asian Studies held at the University of Manchester, July 8-11, 2008.
- ‘Narrating Multiple Identities through Stories of Place: A Study of Zakir Nagar,’ at the University of Sussex, Department of Anthropology, April 25, 2008.
- ‘The Complexity of Insecurity: Exploring the Narratives of Zakir Nagar Women,’ at the seminar, ‘India’s Religious Minorities: Democracy, Development and History,’ held at Jawaharlal Nehru University, February 8-9, 2008.
- ‘Narratives of insecurity amongst Muslim women in Zakir Nagar, New Delhi,’ at the ‘Religions, Social Exclusion and Development’ Seminar at the University of Birmingham, January 22, 2008.
- ‘The Role of Collective Memory in Narratives of the Urban Locality: The Case of Zakir Nagar in Delhi,’ at the Centre de Sciences Humaines, New Delhi, February 14, 2007.
- ‘Deconstructing and Reconstructing ‘Muslim Women’ through Women’s Narratives,’ at the Pakistan Studies Workshop, The Rook How, the Lake District, May 13, 2007
- ‘The Role of Collective Memory in Narratives of the Urban Locality,’ at the British Association of South Asian Studies Conference in Cambridge University, March 29-30, 2007
- ‘Shifting Identities in Zakir Nagar: Questioning the Muslim Woman,’ at seminar, ‘Towards a Sociological Understanding of South Asia at JNU, January 27-28, 2006

Conferences/Workshops/Panels Organized

- Workshop co-organizer (with Amen Jaffer), ‘Everyday Urbanisms,’ Lahore University of Management Sciences, March 16-18, 2018.
- Conference co-organizer (with Ali Raza and Zaib Aziz), ‘Urbanism, Exclusion and Change in South Asia, Lahore University of Management Sciences, Pakistan, March 4-6, 2016.
- Panel organizer, ‘Rethinking Religion in Processes of Development and Social Change,’ European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies, University of Bonn, Germany, 26-29 July 2010.
- Seminar co-organizer (with Sarah Zaidi), ‘The Role of Faith in the Non-Profit Sector’, the Regent Plaza Hotel and Convention Centre, Karachi, 28 April 2010.

Administrative Committees

- 2017-present, Member, University Research Council
- 2015-2016, Member, Sarsubz Conservation Committee
- 2013-2015, Co-organiser Departmental Seminar Series (with Mohammed Waseem)
- 2014-2016, Member, Academic Review Committee
- 2012-2014, Member, Proposals and Grants Committee

Professional and Public Service

- 2016-present, Chief Patron, Sindh Tech Vocational Training Centre, Lyari, Karachi.
- 2016-present, Member, College Management Committee, Abdullah Haroon Vocational Training Centre.
- 2017-present, Editorial Board Member, *Contemporary South Asia*.
- 2017-present, Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Gender Based Violence*.
- 2017-present, Member, Board of Studies (Sociology), Virtual University of Pakistan, Lahore.
- 2012-2014, Advisor, Youth for Education, Learning and Leadership, Lyari, Karachi.

Consultancies

- Member of Technical Advisory Group and Researcher, Women’s Economic Empowerment and Violence against Women, IMC Worldwide and the University of Portsmouth, 2016-2017.

Review of Manuscripts for Journals and Book Publishers

- Manuscripts: Oxford University Press, Routledge Books, Cambridge University Press.
- Reviewed Articles: American Ethnologist, Contemporary South Asia, Gender & Society, International Feminist Journal of Politics, The International Journal of Human Rights, Contributions to Indian Sociology, Identities, Feminist Criminology, Politics and Policy,