

Dr Syed Owais

Assistant Professor of Sociology
University of Peshawar, Pakistan.

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EDUCATION

- | | |
|------|--|
| 2017 | PhD in Sociology
University of Warwick, United Kingdom (UK). |
| 2010 | MA Gender & Development
University of Hull, UK. |
| 2005 | MA Political Science
University of Peshawar, Pakistan. |
| 2003 | MA Sociology
University of Peshawar, Pakistan. |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 01/2017 – Current | Assistant Professor (Sociology)
University of Peshawar, Pakistan. |
| 01/2016 – 03/2016 | Teaching Assistant (Quantitative Research Methods [PG])
ESRC- Doctoral Training Centre (DTC) , University of Warwick, UK. |
| 10/2014 – 03/2015 | Sessional Tutor (Sociological Perspectives [UG])
Department of Sociology, University of Warwick, UK. |
| 10/2009 – 09/2012 | Assistant Professor (Sociology)
University of Peshawar, Pakistan. |
| 01/2010 – 06/2011 | Visiting Lecturer
Institute of Management Sciences (IM Sciences) , Peshawar, Pakistan. |
| 11/2002 – 09/2008 | Lecturer (Sociology)
University of Peshawar, Pakistan. |

PUBLICATIONS

Sole Authored

- Owais, S. (2025). Women's empowerment or business as usual? Insights from a Women-run Village Bank (VB) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. *Community Development Journal*. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1093/cdj/bsaf006>
- Owais, S. (2021). "Horried by the Experience"? Reflections on a Pakistani Organisation's Feedback About Doctoral Research Findings. In D. L. Mulligan & P. A. Danaher (Eds.), *Researchers at Risk: Precarity, Jeopardy and Uncertainty in Academia* (pp. 233-247). London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Owais, S. (2020a). From Absolute Poverty to Participatory Poverty Assessment and Back Again? A Critique of Poverty Scorecard (PSC) through a Case Study from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, 55(8), 1246-1265. doi:10.1177/0021909620916903

4. Owais, S. (2020b). Historical contingency and path dependence in bottom-up democratisation through NGOs: a case study from Pakistan. *Development in Practice*, 30(7), 953-964. doi:10.1080/09614524.2020.1762543

Co-authored

5. **Owais, S.**, Bilal, &, Rehman, Habib Ur (Forthcoming: December 2026). Surfing along through a *Charmix*: The case of Namak Mandi (NM) Gemstone Market in Peshawar, Pakistan. *Projections*, 18.
6. Rehman, H. U., Bilal, Owais, S., Rahman, O. U., & Shen, A. H. (2021). Namak Mandi: A Pioneering Gemstone Market in Pakistan. *Gems and Gemology*, 57(2), 138-149. <https://www.gia.edu/gems-gemology/summer-2021-namak-mandi-a-pioneering-gemstone-market-in-pakistan>
7. Alam, A., Owais, S., & Bano, A. (2024). Bridging The Climate-Gender Divide Through Climate Change Governance in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. *Migration Letters*, 21(S6), 2166-2180. <https://migrationletters.com/index.php/ml/article/view/11893>
8. Ihsanullah, Nawab, H., & Owais, S. (2024). Factors Influencing Women's Preferences for STEM Professions: A Case Study of the University of Peshawar. *Qlantic Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities*, 5(2), 184-193. doi:10.55737/qjssh.767391422
9. Nawab, H., & Owais, S. (2024). The Alienating Academia: Exploring the Lives of Visiting Faculty in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa through Karl Marx's Theory of Alienation. *Journal of Development and Social Sciences*, 5(2), 509-525. doi: [https://doi.org/10.47205/jdss.2024\(5-II\)48](https://doi.org/10.47205/jdss.2024(5-II)48)
10. Owais, S., Nawab, H. U., Ahmad, S., & Adeel, I. (2024). Sustainable Tourism in Galiyat: Sociological Insights into Community, Environment, and Economic Growth. *Migration Letters*, 21(S14), 609-623. <https://migrationletters.com/index.php/ml/article/view/11332>
11. Owais, S., & Bangash, A. K. (2023). Association between Education and Gemstone Mining Practices of Artisanal and Small-Scale Miners (ASM) Mining in Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), Pakistan. *CARC Research in Social Sciences*, 2(4). doi: <https://doi.org/10.58329/criss.v2i4.77>
12. Owais, S., Bangash, A. K., & Raza, J. (2023). Problems Faced by Online Gemstone Traders of Namak Mandi Market at Pakistani Airports. *Journal of Business and Social Review in Emerging Economies*, 9(3), 263-272. doi: <https://doi.org/10.26710/jbsee.v9i3.2704>
13. Bangash, A. K., & Owais, S. (2023). Issues and Challenges faced by Artisanal and Small-Scale Miners in the Gemstones Sector of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), Pakistan. *Journal of Peace, Development and Communication*, 07(01), 290-301. doi: <https://doi.org/10.36968/JPDC-V07-I01-23>
14. Bangash, A. K., & Owais, S. (2023). Problems in streamlining the gemstone sector of Gilgit-Baltistan: Perspectives of Government Officials. *Pakistan Journal of Social Research*, 5(2), 605-612. <https://pjsr.com.pk/2023/05/17/problems-in-streamlining-the-gemstone-sector-of-gilgit-baltistan-perspectives-of-government-officials/>
15. Bangash, A. K., & Owais, S. (2023). The Use of Health and Safety Equipment in the Emerald Mines of Swat Valley, Pakistan: A Cross-Tabular Descriptive Analysis of Miners' Views. *CARC Research in Social Sciences*, 2(3), 161-166. doi: <https://doi.org/10.58329/criss.v2i3.51>
16. Aminullah, & Owais, S. (2022). Implications of Social Capital in Political Empowerment of Women in Pakistan: The Case of Quota-based Local Government System. *Pakistan: Bi-Annual Research Journal*, 59(1), 17-33. <http://pscjournal.pk/index.php/pakistan/article/view/67>
17. Owais, S., & Sanauddin, N. (2017). 'Securitized Development' in a 'Statist' Regime: Problems & Prospects for Civil Society (re)construction in Pakistan. *PUTAJ - Humanities & Social Sciences*, 24(1), 115-128.

18. Sanauddin, N., Chitrali, J. A., & Owais, S. (2016). Public Patriarchy: An Analysis of Women's Access to Education, Work and Politics in Pakistan. *PUTAJ - Humanities & Social Sciences*, 23(1), 27-37.
19. Chitrali, J. A., Sanauddin, N., & Owais, S. (2015). Gender-Based Discrimination in Punishment at Schools: A Study of Selected Schools in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. *Pakistan Journal of Criminology*, 7(3), 51-71. <https://www.pjcriminology.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/5-12.pdf>
20. Chitrali, J. A., Sanauddin, N., & Owais, S. (2015). Violence Explained? A review of Theoretical Explanations of Violent Behavior. *Pakistan Journal Of Criminology*, 7(4), 1-15. <https://www.pjcriminology.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/1-12.pdf>
21. Owais, S., Sanauddin, N., & Chitrali, J. A. (2011). Analysis of Gender-Based Experiences of Poverty in the 'North' and 'South': The Case of Pakistan. *PUTAJ - Humanities & Social Sciences*, 18, 159-171.

RESEARCH & CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

09-2021 – 06/2024 **Co-Investigator**

Factors inhibiting the beneficiation of gemstones in Pakistan: A mixed-methods value chain analysis of mining and trade in the gemstone industry of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa & Gilgit-Baltistan.

Funder: Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan.

Amount: US\$ 100K

04/2018 – 12/2019 **Principal Investigator**

Knowledge-based economy, and social sciences in Pakistan: An institutionalist analysis of factors in relatively low research productivity.

Funder: Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan.

Amount: US\$ 46K

11/2012 – 01/2013 **Research Assistant**

Memory, Youth, Political Legacy and Civic Engagement (MYPLACE) Project (Work Package 4)

Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester (UK).

10/2012 **Research Assistant**

Cambridge Science Communication Workshop, Cambridge.

Department of Sociology, University of Warwick (UK).

06/2011 – 12/2012 **Co-consultant**

Finance, Energy, & Defence (FeND)

Gendered Analysis of Provincial Budget 2011-12. UNDP Strengthening Poverty Reduction Strategy Monitoring Programme (SPRSM), Peshawar, Pakistan.

Funder: UNDP, Pakistan.

Amount: US\$ 8,000

08/2006 – 12/2006 **Technical Facilitator**

Canada-Pakistan HIV/AIDS Surveillance Project (HASP), Round 2 (CIDA).

Funder: Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

Amount: US\$ 100K

10/2001– 03/2002 **Research Internee**

Investigated *Sarhad Rural Support Programme (SRSP, Peshawar)* support for agriculture, livestock, and enterprise initiatives to increase productivity and income at the village and household levels.

RESEARCH SUPERVISION

PhD

- MS Aisha Alam (Completed: December 2025): Feminization of Energy Poverty: Investigating Gender Inequalities in Renewable Energy Resources in the Context of Climate Change in Pakistan.
- Mr Muhammad Iftikhar (2023 - current): Implications of Hegemonic Masculinity of Pakhtun Society on the Personal and Social Lives of Folk Artists.
- MS Natasha Ali (July 2026): A Comparative Analysis of Women's Property and Inheritance Rights in Islam and their violation in Pakhtunwali.
- MS Saiqa Afridi (2024 – Ongoing): Opportunities and Challenges to Women's Entrepreneurship in the Gemstone Trade in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan.
- Mr Shakeel Iqbal (2022 – Ongoing): The Social Exclusion of People with Disabilities in Pashtun Society, Pakistan.

MPhil

- Ayesha Wadood (Completed: January 2026): Socio-Economic Impact of Involuntary Resettlement: A Case Study of Balakot Hydropower Project.
- Huma Sadia (Completed: November 2025): Climate-Induced Migration and Community Resilience in Mountain Areas: Insights from Upper Chitral.
- Sara Yaqub (Completed: July 2025): Social Exclusion & Social Reproduction as a Factor in Christians' Aspirations for Higher Education in Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- Ihsanullah (Completed: November 2024): Factors Affecting Women's Participation in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Of Selected Universities in Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- Bilal (Completed: December 2023): Problems and prospects of gemstone business with special emphasis on Covid-19 in Peshawar.

Undergraduate & Masters (Taught)

- Supervised over 100 Undergraduate and MA students' research projects.

COLLEGIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Sep 2018 – Current	Member , Graduate Studies Committee (GSC), Department of Sociology, University of Peshawar, Pakistan.
April 2022 - Current	Member , Advanced Studies & Research Board (ASRB), University of Peshawar, Pakistan.
Sep 2018 – Current	Member , Board of Studies (BoS), Department of Sociology, University of Peshawar, Pakistan.
Sep 2022 – Current	Member [by invitation], Board of Studies (BoS), Department of Sociology, University of Swat, Pakistan.
Mar 2021 - Current	External Reviewer [by invitation], Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC), Islamia College Peshawar. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan.
Jun 2019 – Current	Member [by invitation], Board of Studies (BoS, Sociology), Islamia College Peshawar (ICP), Pakistan.
Jan 2010 – Current	Member [by invitation], Board of Studies (Sociology), Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan (AWKUM), Pakistan.

PEER REVIEW

- [BMC Health Services Journal](#)
- [Exchange: The interdisciplinary Research Journal](#)

- [Community Development](#)
- [Springer Nature](#)
- [Development in Practice](#)
- [Islamabad Policy Research Institute \(IPRI\) Journal](#)
- [PUTAJ: Humanities and Social Sciences](#)
- [Pakistan Journal of Social Sciences \(PJSS\)](#)

SELECTED TALKS & CONFERENCES

- | | |
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| 12/2020 | Guest Lecture: <i>Development – Meaning, Dimensions & Issues</i> .
International Summer Academy, Universidad de La Salle, Colombia. |
| 04/2019 | <i>Anomalies in publishing research papers in Public Sector Universities in Pakistan</i> . 13 th Humanities & Social Sciences Conference, Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), Pakistan. |
| 01/2019 | <i>Publishing as Bastard Institution in Public Universities of Pakistan</i> .
Knowledge-based Economy (KE) & Social Sciences in Pakistan: Problems & Prospects, University of Peshawar. |
| 10/2018 | <i>Changing the Story: Early Career Project Development Workshop</i> .
British Council/University of Leeds, UK. |
| 03/2018 | <i>Guest Lecture: Welfare States in Comparative Perspective: Applicability of Esping-Andersen's (1990) "regime" theory to Pakistan</i> .
Department of Social Work, University of Peshawar. |
| 03/2018 | <i>Sociology in Pakistan: A Cold War offspring into neoliberal adolescence?</i> 1 st International Conference on Sociology, Social Sciences, & Sustainable Development (ICCSSSD), University of Sind, Pakistan. |
| 05/2015 | <i>Locked into the rhetoric of change: Identifying organisational paths of development NGOs in Pakistan</i> . 3 rd International Social Science Conference on <i>State and Society in Pakistan</i> , Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan. |
| 02/2014 | <i>The development paths of development organisations in Pakistan</i> .
International Postgraduate Academic & GP conference: Multiple Crises and Sustainable Social Integration in Contemporary Societies. Chung-Ang University (Seoul, South Korea). |

ACADEMIC REFERENCES

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