

Ali Mehdi Zaidi is a PhD candidate in Anthropology at Stanford University, where his research explores the social life of heat and articulates environmental catastrophe from the perspective of the third world. He is currently a Global Fellow at Habib University in Karachi, where he teaches courses on Modernity and Environmental Anthropology. His upcoming course offerings include Medical Anthropology and the Social Life of Death.

Nazgol Ansarinia is an artist whose work examines the systems and networks that shape daily life, including everyday objects, routines, and the built environment, and how they reflect broader social and economic conditions. Born and raised in Tehran, her practice reflects on the tensions between private space and structural change. Ansarinia employs a range of materials to engage with vernacular architecture and the evolving conditions of urban life, informed by her background in art and design. She holds degrees from the London College of Communication and the California College of the Arts in San Francisco.

Danika Cooper is Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning at the University of California, Berkeley. Her research centers on the geopolitics of scarcity, alternative water ontologies, and designs for resiliency in the global arid lands. Her work foregrounds desert landscapes as critical sites for rethinking environmental and landscape architecture amidst accelerating climate change. Cooper's research and creative output has been published and exhibited across the world, and she has practiced architecture and landscape architecture both in the United States and in India. Prior to joining Berkeley, she was the 2015-2016 Designer-in-Residence teaching fellow at the Department of Landscape Architecture, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Aslam Kakar is a scholar of ethno-political movements whose academic interests include the philosophy of race, ethnicity, and emotions in the political sphere. His doctoral research examined the Pashtun struggle in Pakistan and the Kurdish struggle in Turkey, with a focus on conflict strategies and resistance. During this research, Kakar studied Turkish at Princeton University's Department of Near Eastern Studies. Later, as an ARIT Fellow, he attended Bogaziçi University's Summer school for intensive Turkish, where he also conducted fieldwork as a Dean Dissertation Writing Fellow. Kakar has taught courses in Political Science, Sociology, Anthropology, and Global Affairs at Rutgers, bringing an interdisciplinary lens to his research and teaching. He holds a Ph.D. in Global Affairs from Rutgers University, Newark.

Mohib Hassan is the co-founder of Open Farming, an AI technology company based in the UAE. He has previously led international franchises and held leadership roles focused on strategic direction, financial turnaround, technical innovation, and elevating customer experience. His core interest lies in developing artificial intelligence–driven solutions that address real-world challenges in the food industry.

Shanzeh Afzal is pursuing an MA in Literary and Cultural Studies at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. Her research focuses on the impacts of energy, approached through cultural, historical, and literary lenses, with a particular emphasis on environmental justice. Previously, she was a Research Associate at The Knowledge Forum, where she studied energy and electricity issues in Sindh. Her essay, 'The Opposite of Colonization is Indigenization: Imagining Energy Futures through South Asian Science Fiction', was published in the ninth issue of *Tasavvurnama*. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Social Sciences and Liberal Arts from the Institute of Business Administration, Karachi, where she majored in Media and Culture.

Marvi Mazhar is an architect and researcher whose practice combines visual culture, spatial advocacy, and urban interventions. She serves on several advisory boards in government and non-profit organizations. She regularly writes about issues related to real estate and heritage preservation for the newspaper *Dawn*, and recently co-edited the book *Architecture for the Future* (2023, MIT Publication) with Elke Krasny and Angelika Fritz. Mazhar is currently working in Kyrgyzstan and Georgia as lead architect for developing infrastructural and management connectivity. She has a Master's from Goldsmiths, University of London, and her ongoing research focuses on the representation and production of Karachi's urban and rural coastal periphery and its ecology.

Zehra Khan is a final year student in the Fine Art department at the Indus Valley School of Art and Architecture. For the past year, she has been recording and archiving oral history and material memory from the survivors of the 1947 and 1971 Partitions in South Asia. She is Program Assistant of South Asia Speaks, a South Asian literary mentorship program, and is currently working on a novel centered on the 1971 Partition of Pakistan as well as a collection of short stories about cats.