

# MISHAL KHAN

Postdoctoral Associate

Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition, Yale University

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## EDUCATION

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**

Chicago, IL

**Doctor of Philosophy**, Sociology, August 2020

Dissertation: *Empire, Law, and Order Making after the Abolition of Slavery: Three Laboring Figures in India*

**Master of Arts**, Sociology, 2015

**MACALESTER COLLEGE**

Saint Paul, MN

**Bachelor of Arts**, International Studies and Political Science, 2010

*Graduated magna cum laude*

**UNIVERSITY OF MAASTRICHT**

Maastricht, The Netherlands

**Study Abroad**, Globalization in Comparative Perspective Program, 2009

## CURRENT POSITION

**YALE UNIVERSITY MACMILLAN CENTER**

New Haven, CT

*Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition*

**Postdoctoral Associate**, Fall 2023

## PREVIOUS POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF LAW, SAN FRANCISCO**

San Francisco, CA

*Oxford University Fairwork Project*

**Postdoctoral Research Fellow**, 2022 - 2023

**THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOOL OF LAW AUSTIN**

Austin, TX

*Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice*

**Postdoctoral Fellow**, 2020 - 2021

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Khan, Mishal. "Abolition as a Racial Project: Erasures and Racializations on the Borders of British India." *Political Power and Social Theory* 38 (2021): 77-104.

**Winner of 2021 Best Scholarly Article Award**, Global and Transnational Sociology Section at the 2022 American Sociological Association.

Khan, Mishal. "After the Railways are Built: *Makrani* Labor and Illegible Claims to Land and Belonging in Sindh." *Journal of Sindh Studies* 3, no.1 (February 2023): 1-27.

### Chapters and Essays

Khan, Mishal. "The Indebted Among the "Free": Producing Indian Labor through the Layers of Racial Capitalism." In *Histories of Racial Capitalism*, edited by Destin Jenkins and Justin LeRoy. New York: Columbia University Press, 2021.

Khan, Mishal. "Imperial Anti-Trafficking: Producing Racialized Knowledge Regimes over the Longue Durée." In *White Supremacy, Racism, and the Coloniality of Anti-Trafficking*, edited by Kamala Kempadoo and Elena Shih. Routledge, 2022.

Baber, Zahra R. and Mishal Khan. "The Paradox of Technical Education and the Pakistani Migrant in the Gulf." In *The Gospel of Work and Money: Global Histories of Industrial Education*, edited by Karine Walther and Oliver Charbonneau (Under Review).

### **Book Reviews and Smaller Pieces**

Khan, Mishal. Review of "Combatting Modern Slavery: Why Labour Governance is Failing and what we can do about it." By Genevieve LeBaron. *American Journal of Sociology* 126, no. 3 (November 2020): 739-41.

Khan, Mishal. Review of "Indentured Servitude: Unfree Labour and Citizenship in the British Colonies." By Anna Suranyi. *American Historical Review* 127, no. 3 (September 2022): 1567-1568.

Khan, Mishal. "Foreword." Translation from Sindhi to Urdu of *Ghulami Ain Azadi* (From Slavery to Freedom) by Muhammad Siddiq Mussafir. Karachi: Kitaab Publishers, 2021.

### **Manuscripts in Progress**

Khan, Mishal. *Empire of Innovation: Rethinking Abolition, Labor, and Freedom in British India and Beyond*, Book manuscript.

Khan, Mishal and Funda Ustek-Spilda. "Entering and Exiting: Rethinking the "De-skilling" Narrative in the Contemporary Platform Economy." *American Sociological Association Platform Economy 2023 Workshop Paper*.

Dubal, Veena and Mishal Khan. "Paradoxes of Freedom: Platform Work as Racializing Labor." *Law and Society Review* Special issue: New Perspectives on Empirical Methods and Critical Race Theory (in progress).

Khan, Mishal, Funda Ustek-Spilda, and Mark Graham. "Beyond Classification: A Comparative Analysis of Migration, Race, and Social Hierarchy in the Global Platform Economy." (in progress).

Khan, Mishal. "Custom as Innovation in British India: Empire, Capital, and the International Commission of Inquiry." (in progress).

Gazdar, Haris and Mishal Khan. "Kinship Groups and Marginalization: Thematic Trends Across Pakistan." *Collective for Social Science Research* (ongoing).

### **Blogs, Op-Eds, and Public Engagement**

A Crisis of Safety for Racialized Workforce, [Fairwork US](#), August 9<sup>th</sup> 2023

World Business Report Segment on the Great Resignation, [BBC World Radio](#), December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2021

Great Resignation Segment, [WCPT 820 Radio](#), December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2021

Behind the "Great Resignation" Television Segment, [WTTW Chicago Live](#), November 15<sup>th</sup> 2021

Khan, Mishal, "Is the Great Resignation a Global Opportunity or a Siren Song?" [Chicago Tribune](#), October 25<sup>th</sup> 2021

Khan, Mishal, "Can you 'see' slavery? Black Skins, Brown Skins, and the Price of In/visibility in Colonial India." [OpenDemocracy. Beyond Trafficking and Slavery](#), November 11, 2019

Khan, Mishal, "'Slaves' and 'Bondsmen' after Abolition." [Collective for Social Science Research Blog](#), July, 2018

### **TEACHING**

2020 **Inequality, Labor, and Human Rights: The Future of Work in the Age of Pandemic (Co-teacher)**, University of Texas School of Law at Austin.

2018 **Reading Cultures Teaching and Writing Assistant**, Humanities Core, University of Chicago.

2017 **Human Being and Citizen Teaching and Writing Assistant**, Humanities Core, University of Chicago.

2017 **Writing for Research Seminar Leader**, Summer Session with Undergraduate Mellon Fellows, University of Chicago.

2016 **Human Rights and World Civilizations Intern**, Civilizations Core, University of Chicago.

2016 **Political Sociology Teaching Assistant**, Sociology Department, University of Chicago.

2015 **Urban Policy Teaching Assistant**, Sociology Department, University of Chicago.

## INVITED LECTURES/PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 **Seminar on Comparative-Historical Methods with Erik Larson**, Department of Sociology, Macalester College, invited to speak to seminar on transnational sociology and methods.
- 2022 **Histories of Race and Capitalism Workshop**, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), Invited speaker.
- 2022 **Whiteness in South Asia Conference**, Habib University Pakistan, Invited speaker.
- 2022 **Comparative Historical Analysis and Theory (CHAT)**, Flash Panel on the Global Historical Sociology of Race and Racism, speaker.
- 2021 **Seminar on Slavery & South Asian history with Indrani Chatterjee**, Department of History, University of Texas at Austin, invited to speak to seminar on slavery and abolition in India.
- 2021 **Seminar on Empire and Resistance in the Caribbean with Westenley Alcenat**, Department of African American Studies, Princeton University, invited to speak to seminar on session on Indian indenture.
- 2021 **Politics, History, and Society**, Department of Sociology, University of Texas, Austin, "The Colonial Origins of Global Labor Governance Regimes," invited speaker.
- 2020 **South Asia Institute**, Seminar Series, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas: "Neither 'Slaves' nor 'Unfree' Labor - Thinking through Abolition in India over the Longue-Durée," invited speaker.
- 2018 **Sindh Archives**, Karachi, Pakistan: "The Role of Archives in Research," invited speaker.

## CONFERENCE/WORKSHOPS (SELECTION)

"Rethinking Abolition, Capitalism, and Freedom: The View from South Asia" Comparative Historical Sociology (CHS) Mini-Conference Panelist, *American Sociological Association*, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

"How to Extract "Labor" from the Colony: Abolition and its Innovations in British India," panelist, Power and Normativity in Society and History Panel, *Social Science History Association*, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

"How to Extract "Labor" from the Colony: Fictions of Governance in British India," panelist, Politics across Time and Space, CHS Paper Session, *American Sociological Association*, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

"The Familiar and the Unfamiliar: The Underpinnings of Imperial Labor Regulation in India and Beyond (1860-1930)" Empire, Sovereignty, and labor in the Age of Global Abolition, *The McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania*, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

"Bonded labor is not a 'Labor' issue": Understanding "Modern Slavery" through the Il/Logics of Colonial Labor Regulation in India," panelist, The Business of Human Rights session, *Law and Society Annual Meeting*, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

"Neither Slave, nor (Forced) Laborer: Residual Categories of Non-Intervention at the League and the ILO," panelist, Labor and Foreign Policy Session, *Annual Social Science History Association Conference*, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019.

"Colonial Law and Imperial Order Making: Defining Free and Unfree Labour in Sindh after Abolition," British International Studies Association, Historical Sociology and International Relations Annual Workshop, *University of Sussex*, United Kingdom, November 2019.

"The Hari Movement in Sindh: Anatomy, Failure, and Legacy," panelist, Caste & Capital Redux: Hierarchies of Labor & Property in South Asia session, *South Asian Studies Annual Conference in Madison*, October 2019.

"Diverse Mindscales and Imperial Networks: Examining Islamic Notions of Time," panel member, *Ways of Knowing, Graduate Conference on Science and Religion, Harvard University*, November 2016.

## FELLOWSHIPS (SELECTION)

- 2019 Social Science Division Dissertation Completion Fellowship, University of Chicago  
*Awarded fellowship for final year of dissertation writing*
- 2019 Committee for Southern Asian Studies, Dissertation Write-up Fellowship, University of Chicago  
*Fellowship to support dissertation writing during winter, spring, and summer quarters*
- 2018 Nicholson Center for British Studies, Graduate Research Fellowship, University of Chicago

*Fellowship for dissertation research in the India Office Records at the British Library*

- 2018 Center for International Social Science Research, Lloyd and Suzanne Rudolph Field Research Award, *Dissertation fieldwork grant for research in Sindh, Pakistan on colonial records related to labor and slavery*
- 2018 American Institute for Pakistan Studies, Short-term Research Grant  
*Award to collect legal materials on cases related to slavery in Karachi, Pakistan.*
- 2017 Pozen Center for Human Rights, PhD Research Grant, University of Chicago  
*Award for research with a human rights emphasis, conducted in the India Office Records at the British Library*
- 2016 Graduate Global Impact Internship Award, University of Chicago  
*Award to explore the professional applications of doctoral research at the University of Chicago Press*
- 2010 Dorothy Dodge Women in Political Science Scholar, Macalester College  
*Endowed scholarship for achievement in political science awarded during senior year*
- 2006 Kofi Annan International Scholar, Macalester College '06 – '10  
*Merit based tuition scholarship awarded to international students*

### **WORK/RESEARCH EXPERIENCE** (SELECTION)

**VERITÉ, INC, 2020 & 2021**

**Amherst, MA**

*Research Intern and Consultant*

Consulted on US Department of Labor funded Supply Chain Traceability project focusing on labor issues  
Researched India's apparel supply chain exploring the social context and effects of liberalization policies

**UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS, 2015-2016**

**Chicago, IL**

*Acquisitions Assistant*

Assisted editor with daily tasks, proofread draft materials, evaluated the market for out of print books  
Successfully researched and submitted application for grant opportunities for new 'Silk Roads' book series

**COLLECTIVE FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH, 2011-2012**

**Karachi, Pakistan**

*Research Analyst*

Examined colonial policies and cultural norms enabling servitude, attached, and bonded labor regimes  
Report editing and writing, questionnaire design, summarizing fieldnotes, and final data analysis

**BROOKINGS INSTITUTION 2011**

**Washington, DC**

*Research Intern*

Research support for *Shooting for a Century* (2013) manuscript on Indo-Pak relations by Dr. Stephen Cohen

### **APPOINTMENTS AND SERVICE**

Theories and Practices of Racial Capitalism Mini-Conference Co-convener, SASE (2023 & 2024)  
Barrington Moore Book Award Selection Committee, American Sociological Association (2022-2023)  
GATS Best Scholarly Article Award Selection Committee, American Sociological Association (2022-2023)  
Comparative Historical Sociology ASA Section Annual Mini-Conference Organizing Committee (2021-2022)  
South Asia Institute, University of Texas at Austin, Faculty Affiliate (2020-2021)  
University of Sydney, Laureate Program in International History, Research Affiliate, Sydney, Australia (2019)  
Habib University, Visiting Scholar, Karachi, Pakistan (2018)  
Collective for Social Science Research, Visiting Researcher, Karachi, Pakistan (2018)  
**Professional Association Membership:** American Sociological Association, Social Science History Association, South Asian Studies Association, Law and Society Association, American Political Science Association, American Institute for Pakistan Studies

### **LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

English (native), Urdu (native), Persian (basic)