

I feel so honoured and grateful to the Doctoral School, RHUL for showing their trust in me and my work by granting the Doctoral School Research Award to me. This award supported my travel to Pakistan for my research and resource collection. I had to visit the National Archives (Sindh, Pakistan), the archives of Sindh Assembly and the library of the University of Karachi. The material I was looking for (e.g., proceedings of the National Assembly debates, old Issues of the daily newspaper including Daily Jung (Urdu) and Daily Dawn (English) and some official documents related to the topic of my thesis i.e., the political history of Pakistan. Some of these resources are available online as they are digitized e.g., proceedings of the parliament and microfilms of Dawn newspaper. But so many original documents and newspapers which are the primary sources for my thesis, can be accessed only in person as these sources or documents are not digitised yet. Therefore, I had to travel to Karachi to access such research sources. I travelled to Pakistan in August 2023 and have spent the whole time till now completing my task of locating and accessing the research material. I first visited the library of the University of Karachi as it has some very valuable primary sources including original manuscripts, letters, official documents and proceedings. These sources are found in Quaid e Azam Collection, Freedom Movement Collection and the Muslim League Archives. It also has got some original drafts and proceedings of various political meetings and debates. All these are available in various personal collections along with some very valuable secondary sources including some books and drafts which are either handwritten or were published decades ago. My this visit for accessing this type of research material is well facilitated by the Research Award. It also helped me to be focused on my work as there was a sense of responsibility and accountability to my institution for completing the task for which I was awarded this research grant. In addition to that, I also met some historians and scholars who have worked on the same theme of my research. They guided me in pursuing my research and recommended some very valuable research material that can only be accessed in person for some important primary sources available in various personal collections and local small-town libraries. For instance, Liaquat Library ( Gulshan e Iqbal, Karachi) and Bilawal House Library (Clifton, Karachi). I am still here in Pakistan and have planned to visit some other places/libraries and archives where I can find very relevant primary sources and other material to substantiate my thesis. I will keep updating my supervisors and the Doctoral School about my progress in research.

Once again, I am grateful to the Doctoral School (RHUL) and my supervisors for their continuous and generous support. I am so obliged.

Profound Regards,

Kishwer Khan.