



*Contesting Shi‘ism: Isna ‘Ashari and
Isma‘ili Shi‘ism in Modern South Asia*

September 9th-10th
2011

Royal Holloway
University of London

Further Information and Registration

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Venue

Arts Lecture Theatre 1

Arts Building

Royal Holloway

Egham Hill, EGHAM

TW20 0EX

Speakers

Prof. Dr. Francis Robinson, Royal Holloway College

Prof. Dr. Tahir Kamran, University of Cambridge

Dr. Tahir Wasti, Islamic College, London

Paul Rollier, School of Oriental and African Studies, London

Dr. Soumen Mukherjee, Centre for Modern Orient, Berlin

Dr. Bashir Damji, Exeter University

Simon Wolfgang Fuchs, Princeton University

Dr. Hasan Ali Khan, Independent Researcher, Karachi

Dr. Ali Khan, University of Cambridge

Dr. Justin Jones, Exeter University

Dr. Ian Williams, Markfield Institute of Higher Education, Leicestershire

Prof. Dr. Sajjad Rizvi, Exeter University

Conference Program

Friday, 9th September

13:30 **Registration**

13:45 – 14:30 **Reception**

14:30 – 15:00 **Key Note Address by Francis Robinson**
Reflections on the Shia in South Asia and the wider Muslim world

15:00 – 16:30 **Session I**

Tahir Kamran

Sufi Shrines, Electoral Politics and Sectarian Violence in Punjab: A Case Study of the *dargah* of Siyal Sharif

Tahir Wasti

The Islamization Policy of General Zia-ul-Haq and the Response of the Shiite Community in Pakistan (provisional title)

Paul Rollier

Azadari Processions in Lahore: Identity, Mediation and Materiality

Coffee/Tea Break 16:30 – 17:30

17:30 – 19:00 **Session II**

Soumen Mukherjee

Of 'Religious and Social Welfare' and 'Progress of the Community': Religious Inspiration, Leadership and Idioms of Welfarism among Shia Imami Ismailis in 20th Century South Asia and East Africa

Bashir Damji

The Khoja Shi'a Ithna 'Ashari Communities of East Africa: From Newcomers to Flag-Bearers.

Simon Wolfgang Fuchs

Third Wave Shiism: Sayyid Arif Husayn al-Husayni and the Islamic Revolution in Pakistan

Dinner 19:30

Saturday, 10th September

9:00 – 10:30 Session I

Hasan Ali Khan

The Role of the Auqaf Department in Re-Defining Sufi and Shi'a Built Heritage in Pakistan

Ali Khan

Transnational Shi'a Family Networks Across India, Iran and Iraq (provisional title)

Justin Jones

Khandan-i-Ijtihad: Authority and Transition in a Family of Shi'a 'Ulama in North India, c.1850-1950

Coffee/Tea Break 10:30 – 11:00

11:00 – 12:30 Session II

Ian Williams

A Dangerous Devotion? Shared and Disputed Symbols within Twelver Shi'ite and Ahl i-Sunnat Traditions of Islam: An Examination of Theological Constructions and Devotional Practices Amongst Leaders and Adherents of these Traditions from 19th Century South Asia to the Contemporary UK

Sajjad Rizvi

Establishing the Principles of the Faith for a New Shiite Polity: The Theology of Sayyid Dildar Ali Nasirabadi

Lunch 13:00