

# Mohsin Azhar Shah

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## Brief Bio

Mohsin Azhar Shah, pursuing a PhD in Strategic Studies, is an esteemed academic and researcher specializing in nuclear policy and strategy. With teaching roles at The University of Lahore, NUML, Air University, and at National Defence University (NDU), Mohsin has honed his expertise as a lecturer in international relations and security studies. Additionally, contributing to research at the Arms Control and Disarmament Affairs Directorate of SPD, CSSPR Lahore, and SASSI Islamabad, he has delved into strategic dynamics involving emerging technologies, cyberspace, geopolitics, and global socio-political order.

## Education

### **Air University, Islamabad**

In-progress – PhD Strategic Studies

- Courses taken during coursework:
  - Arms Control and Non-proliferation
  - Evolution and Theory of Deterrence
  - Legal and Normative Framework of Warfare
  - Emerging Technologies and International Security

### **National Defence University - Islamabad**

2021 – M. Phil. Strategic Studies

- Earned CGPA 3.70/4.0
- Thesis titled "Militarization & Weaponization of Cyberspace"
- Courses taken during coursework:
  - Nuclear Deterrence and Strategic Stability
  - Seminar on Contemporary Nuclear Issues
  - Seminar on Revolution in Strategic Affairs

### **National Defence University - Islamabad**

2015 – M. Sc. Strategic & Nuclear Studies

- Core Courses taken:
  - Arms Control and Disarmament
  - Nuclear Non-proliferation Regime
  - Evolution and Dimensions of Nuclear Strategy and Deterrence Theory
  - Role of Nuclear Weapons in Contemporary International System



## **The Superior University, Lahore**

2012 – BS Aviation Management

- Core Courses taken:
  - Aviation Law
  - Aircraft Accident Investigation
  - Aviation and Airport Security

## Experience

### **National Defence University | Islamabad**

Lecturer Sep-2024 – till-date

Teaching core courses in the Strategic Studies discourse to undergraduate students.

Contributing to society through engaging students in the community service agendas, especially focusing on promoting diversity and inclusion within Pakistani society.

### **Air University | Islamabad**

Visiting Lecturer Sep-2023 – Sep-2024

Teaching undergraduate students at the Faculty of Aerospace and Strategic Studies, Air University in the Department of International Relations.

### **Rawalpindi Women University | Islamabad**

Visiting Lecturer Sep-2023 – Sep-2024

Currently teaching undergraduate students at Rawalpindi Women University in the Department of Political Science, Department of Mass Communication, and at Department of Sociology.

Presented in the 2nd International Conference on Social Science Contemporary World: Challenges and Transformations, 2023. I delivered a talk on “Navigating Pakistan’s Foreign Policy in a Multiplex World Order”.

### **International Islamic University | Islamabad**

Visiting Lecturer Sep-2023 – Jan-2024

Taught undergraduate students at the Faculty of Social Sciences, IIUI in the Department of Politics and International Relations.



### **NUML University | Islamabad**

Lecturer Sep-2022 – Jul-2023

Served as a Lecturer at the Department of Area Studies (China), National University of Modern Languages (NUML), Islamabad, Pakistan.

Attended Faculty Development Program Level-1 training.

Participated as a keynote speaker in National Conference on CPEC and Regional Connectivity.

### **University of Lahore | Lahore**

Lecturer Jan-2017 – Sep-2022

Taught in the Lahore School of Aviation and later at School of Integrated Social Sciences under Dr. Rabia Akhtar.

### **Centre for Security, Strategy, and Policy Research (CSSPR) | Lahore**

Research Associate Sep-2021 – Sep-2022

Joined the Centre for Security, Strategy, and Policy Research (CSSPR) upon the kind invitation of the Director of CSSPR and Head of the Department at SISS Dr Rabia Akhtar. Have been part of the CSSPR – BASIC Nuclear Responsibility Task Force in Pakistan under the BASIC – CSSPR joint communique for offering a Pakistani perspective on Nuclear Responsibility. Also, participated in the CSSPR Nuclear Fellowship 2.0 held in August – September 2022.

### **Strategic Plans Division | Rawalpindi**

Research Intern Aug-2016 – Sep-2016

Served as a research intern at the Arms Control & Disarmament Affairs Directorate, Strategic Plans Division, Rawalpindi, Pakistan.

Primarily focused on Cyber Security during the internship at the Arms Control & Disarmament Affairs Directorate of the Strategic Plans Division, Joint Staff Headquarters, Rawalpindi.

### **Muslim Youth University | Islamabad**

Lecturer Aug-2015 – May-2016

Developed two courses, i.e., Introduction to International Relations, and Introduction to Peace & Conflict Studies; also, was a member of the Quality Enhancement Cell's Program Team (PT) formed to prepare a Self-Assessment Report (SAR).

Evaluated and revised lesson plans and course content to achieve student-centered learning.



## **South Asian Strategic Stability Institute (SASSI) | Islamabad**

Research Fellow Jan-2015 – May-2016

Served as a Research Fellow at the South Asian Strategic Stability Institute, Islamabad, Pakistan. Conducted research on areas related to regional strategic stability. Gave recommendations on pertinent foreign policy issues.

## Research Work

### **Journal Papers:**

1. IPRI Journal 2018 (X-Category)  
Shah, Mohsin Azhar. "Cyber Compellence: An Instrument of Technology-Driven Strategy." *IPRI Journal* 18, no. 1 (2018).  
<http://www.ipripak.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/art4jw2018.pdf>
2. Journal of Social Sciences Review (JSSR)  
Shah, Mohsin Azhar. "Terrorism and Insurgency in the Tribal Areas: Investigating the Historical Roots and Dynamics of Terrorism and Insurgency in Pakistan's Tribal Regions." *Journal of Social Sciences Review* 4, no. 1 (2024): 37-45.  
<https://www.ojs.jssr.org.pk/index.php/jssr/article/view/400/311>

### Research Projects:

24-Jun-2019 – Op-ed

- Article titled “War: An Inevitable Phenomena”, published on Foreign Policy News Website.  
URL: <https://foreignpolicynews.org/2019/06/24/war-an-inevitable-phenomena/>

2021 – M. Phil. Research Thesis focused on “Militarization and Weaponization of Cyberspace”

### **Conferences:**

#### **Young Researchers’ Convention (YRC) | Islamabad**

21-Feb-2024 | Panelist

Participated in the 3rd edition of the Young Researchers’ Convention (YRC) on “Redefining Pakistan’s Perspective on National Interest” organized by The Centre for Strategic and Contemporary Research (CSCR) that focused on “Redefining Pakistan’s Perspective on National Interest”.



**2nd International Conference on Social Sciences titled “Contemporary World: Challenges and Transformations” | Rawalpindi**

16-Nov-2023 | Presenter

Presented in the 2nd International Conference on Social Science Contemporary World: Challenges and Transformations, 2023 organized by the Rawalpindi Women University, Rawalpindi. Delivered a talk on “Navigating Pakistan’s Foreign Policy in a Multiplex World Order”.

**National Conference on CPEC and Regional Connectivity | Islamabad**

14-Dec-2022 | Keynote Speaker

Delivered a Keynote Speech at the National Conference on CPEC and Regional Connectivity organized by the Area Study Center (China) of the National University of Modern Languages (NUML), Islamabad, Pakistan.

## Certifications

**Stimson Center | Washington D.C.**

2023 – Restoring Deterrence: Coercion and Crises in Southern Asia

**Stimson Center | Washington D.C.**

2023 – Deterrence in Southern Asia

**Stimson Center | Washington D.C.**

2022 – Strategic South Asia

**Executive Development Center, NUML | Islamabad**

2022 – Academic Planning, Academic Execution, Academic Management Research & Projects, University Ethics and Policies

**Hague Center for Strategic Studies | Hague, Netherlands**

2021 – Indo-Dutch Cyber Security School (IDCSS)

## Skills

- Academic writing
- Academic and policy research



- Event Management and Organization
- ICT Skills
- Interpersonal and presentation skills