

DR. RIZWAN AKHTAR

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CONTACT DETAILS:

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TERTIARY ACADEMIC BACKGROUND:

- **PhD** in Post-colonial Literature from University of Essex, UK in 2012.
- **MPhil** in English Literature from the University of the Punjab Lahore, Pakistan in 1995.
- **Masters in English** from Punjab University, Lahore in 1992.
- **B.A** University of the Punjab. Major: English literature graduated in 1989

TEACHING EXPERIENCE/EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

- Currently Assistant Professor in English in the **Full-Time faculty** of the Department of English Language and Literature University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan from 13th April 2005 to present.
- Lecturer in English (Department of Education, Government of the Punjab) from 8/1997 to 4/2005

RESEARCH:

- *Counteractive Strategies in Colonial and Postcolonial Narratives of Memory: Joseph Conrad's Heart of Darkness and Anita Desai's Clear Light of Day. Social Transformations*, Journal of Global South Special Issue Memory and The Postcolony, Vol.1. No.1, 2013.
- Amra Raza & Rizwan akhtar, *Using literary text for teaching language at the undergraduate level*, Journal of English Studies, Department of English, Punjab University, Vol.1 2015.
- Syrrina Ahsan Ali Haque & Rizwan Akhtar, *Dialogizing Identities through a Parsee Narrator in Bapsi Sidhwa's the Ice-Candy-Man*, International Journal of Research in Humanities, Arts and Literature, Vol4. Issue 1, Jan, 2016.

CONFERENCES:

- *English Language and Literature Conference, Imperial College, Lahore April, 2015 Crossing Borders, embracing aesthetics in Kamila Shamsie's Burnt Shadows*
- *The Depiction of Rural and Urban Settings of Crime in Pakistani Novels*, Queens University Belfast, UK, June15.16,2015
- *Lahore as a cultural metropolis in Mira Nira's adaption of The Reluctant Fundamentalist by Mohisn Hamid*, Adaptation Studies Conference 2015 University of London 24-25 September, 2015.
- *Postcolonial condition and aesthetic autonomy; the resistant circumference of postcolonial novel*, Stockholm University, Sweden May,10-13,2016.

TEACHING CREATIVE WRITING (POETRY):

LGS International DHA Lahore Cantt, 2017-8.

Debut Poetry Collection “Lahore, I am Coming” Punjab University Press, 2017 (with a Preface written by New Zealand Poet (OMC) Alistair Paterson).

CREATIVE WRITING INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATION (POETRY):

Poetry Salzburg Review, Poetry NZ, Wasafiri, Postcolonial Text (Canada), decanto, Poesia (U S), Exiled Ink, Pakistaniat : A Journal of Pakistani Studies(US), Solidarity International, Orbis, New Contrast, Edinburgh Poetry Journal, Alban Lake Publishing(US), The Other Poetry, Planet; The Welsh International, Wolf, South Asian Review, Grain, Illumen, Beech Street Review, (US), Outposts, Gutter: New Scottish Writings, Under the Radar, Veranda, Open Road Review, The Waggle, Eastlit, Nine Arches Press, On the Veranda, Mizna , The Galway Review, Cortegena(US), ScottishPen, tinfoildresses (US), and in Bloodaxe anthology *Out of Bounds* (2011)”.

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP:

In July, 2012 I was part of 4 week poetry workshop with Derek Walcott at the University of Essex. UK.

PUBLISHED LITERARY JOURNALISM:

- Between personal and public; Moniza Alivi, June 5, 2008, The News International.
- Linguistic Dislocation; Sujata Bhutt’, 21st September, 2008. The News International.
- Living Between Memoir and History; Sara Suleri’ 31st August, 2009. Dawn, Books & Authors.
- Living the Gulag; *Alexander Solzhenitsyn*’, The News International, Lahore, Pakistan, August 17th, 2008. ’
- Agha Shahid Ali: Writing English Ghazals’, December 7, 2008, The News International.
- Wislawa Szymborska; personal and poetic’ December 21, 2012, The News International.

LINKS OF REVIEWS ON LAHORE, I AM COMING

- Rizwan Akhtar’s *Lahore, I Am Coming*. Reviewed by Dr. Shahid Imtiaz for Pakistaniat, Vol. 6, 2018. <http://pakistaniaat.org/index.php/pak/article/view/350>
- Lahore, I am Coming’ — embracing the city’s cultural offerings By Faiza Anum published in Daily Times, March 22, 2018 <https://dailytimes.com.pk/writer/faiza-anum/>
- Versifying Lahore, a review by Irafan Aslam published in Dawn, Feb 25, 2018. <https://www.dawn.com/news/1391581>
- Poems on Lahore and much more, a review by Dr. Saed ur rehamn published March, 4 2018. <http://tns.thenews.com.pk/poems-lahore-much/>

AUDIO LINKS OF POEMS AND DOCUMENTARY MADE ON THE AUTHOR

- Interview and conversation with the Author of Lahore, *I Am Coming* in a Radio Show FM Lahore. . Decmeber 31, 2017.
- <http://punjabpunch.blogspot.com/2017/12/lahore-i-am-coming-poetry-by-rizwan.html>
- Documentary made on the Author by Ewing English Society FCCU. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=poer1ezVJeU>
- <https://soundcloud.com/ramsha-ashraf-38376633/after-you-left-by-rizwan>
- <https://soundcloud.com/ramsha-ashraf-38376633/gulnaz-of-waziristan-by-rizwan>
- <https://soundcloud.com/ramsha-ashraf-38376633/shower-by-rizwan-akhtar>
- <https://soundcloud.com/ramsha-ashraf-38376633/prohibited-to-touch-you-by>
- <https://soundcloud.com/ramsha-ashraf-38376633/she-was-a-language-by-rizwan>
- <https://soundcloud.com/ramsha-ashraf-38376633/the-last-of-trees-by-rizwan>
- <https://soundcloud.com/ramsha-ashraf-38376633/writing-your-absence-by-rizwan>
- <https://soundcloud.com/ramsha-ashraf-38376633/love-in-times-of-load-shedding>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DkVSCUBiWYU&t=17s> (Star Asia News)

BOOK LAUNCH EVENTS / CONVERSATION/ TALK WITH THE AUTHOR RZWAN AKHTAR

- Inauguration Book Launch Event December 14, 200 at Punjab University Department of English Language & Literature <http://pu.edu.pk/home/section/allpress/7880>
- Book launch event conducted by Punjab Arts Council and Ministry of Information and Culture at Alhamra Hall Lahore. 29 Jan, 2018.
- A Talk with the author of Lahore, *I Am Coming* LCWU, February 28.
- “Conversation with Rizwan Akhtar” FCCU Lahore, March 15, 2018.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

- Conversation with Pakistani Poet Rizwan Akhtar LUMS April 10, 2018
- Dialogue with the poet Rizwan Akhtar, IIU April 17, 2018.