



**Sufism in India and Pakistan: Rethinking Islam, Democracy, and Identity**  
**Knox Hall, Room 509**

**Thursday, September 24**

4:30-6:00pm

Bruce Lawrence: "Allahu Akbar - Greater than Whom?" Talk and book signing for *Who Is Allah?*

6:00-7:00pm

Welcome Reception (open to all)

**Friday, September 25**

8:45am - Coffee and check-in

9:00-9:15 - Welcome and Introduction

- Katherine Pratt Ewing, Columbia University

9:15-11:15 - Sufism and State Policy

- Rosemary Corbett, Columbia University  
Cold War Theories about Mysticism and Modern Islam
- Pnina Werbner, Keele University  
Sufi Shaykh Encounters, Sufi Entanglements: Democracy, Patronage, Militancy, and Critical Discourse in Pakistan
- Zahid Hussain, Journalist  
Pakistan's Struggle with Violent Religious Extremism and Quest for Democracy
- Alix Philippon, Institute of Political Studies, Sciences Po  
Sufism as Politics in Pakistan : Sufi Mobilizations and Public Policies in the Shadow of the War on Terror
- Discussant: Akbar Zaidi, Columbia University

11:15-12:45 - Sufi Shrines: Conflict and Coexistence

- Carla Bellamy, Baruch College, CUNY  
What a Difference Difference Makes: Religious Diversity and the Culture of Indian Islamic Places of Pilgrimage
- Anand Taneja, Vanderbilt University  
Muslim Saints and Hindu Daughters: Kinship, Ethical Self-Fashioning, and Inter-Religious Relations at Firoz Shah Kotla Dargah, Delhi
- Rachana Umashankar, Iona College  
Qawwali - The Soundtrack to Indian Pluralism



- Discussant: Bruce Lawrence, Duke University

12:45-2:00 – Break

2:00-3:30 - Sufism and Popular Imagination

- Rob Rozehnal, Lehigh University  
Reimagining Pakistan: A Sufi Vision of Islamic History, Orthodoxy and Identity
- Helene Basu, University of Münster  
Sufi Healing Practices and Psychiatry in India
- Noor Zaidi, University of Pennsylvania  
“A Blessing on Our People”: Ritual, Authority, and Contested Sacred Space at Bibi Pak Daman
- Discussant: Katherine Pratt Ewing, Columbia University

3:30-5:00 - Sufi Institutions and Changing Modes of Authority

- Brannon Ingram, Northwestern University  
Is the Taliban Anti-Sufi? Deobandi Discourses on Sufi Saints’ Shrines in Contemporary Pakistan
- Usha Sanyal, Queens University of Charlotte  
Sufism through the Prism of Shari’a: Public-Private Space at a Barelwi Girls’ Madrasa in Shahjahanpur, U.P.
- Marcia Hermansen, Loyola University  
Beyond Barelviism: Tahir ul-Qadri as an Example of Trends in Global Sufism
- Discussant: Katharina Ivanyi, Columbia University

## **Saturday, September 26**

8:45am - Coffee and check-in

9:00-10:30 - Boundaries of Identity

- Thomas Gugler, University of Münster  
Barelvis in India and Pakistan: The Case of Dawat-e Islami
- Jamal Malik, University of Erfurt  
Sufis and Salafis in the Politics of Pakistan
- Sarah Ansari, Royal Holloway, University of London  
‘A Way of Life Rather than an Ideology?’: Sufi Saints and the Politics of Identity in Sindh
- Discussant: Akbar Zaidi, Columbia University

10:30-12:00 - Wrap-Up Roundtable and Commentary

- Souleymane Bachir Diagne, Columbia University
- Katherine Pratt Ewing, Columbia University
- Bruce Lawrence, Duke University