





Maaz Shaikh

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Language documentation and description, Morphosyntax, Historical linguistics, Phonology, Language planning and revitalization, Language contact, Western Tibetic languages, Indo-Aryan languages.

EDUCATION

- SINCE 2022 Doctor of Philosophy in LINGUISTICS, **University of Alberta**, Edmonton, Canada
Supervisor: [Dr. Jorge Emilio Rosés Labrada](#)
- 2021-22 Doctor of Philosophy in LINGUISTICS, **Jawaharlal Nehru University**, New Delhi, India (Discontinued)
- 2019-21 Master of Philosophy in LINGUISTICS, **Jawaharlal Nehru University**, New Delhi
Thesis title: *Verb Morphology in Awadhi of Azamgarh*
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5704835>
Advisor: [Prof. Pradeep Kumar Das](#)
FINAL GRADE POINTS AVERAGE (FGPA): 8.66 out of 9 [91.6%]
- 2017-19 Master of Arts in LINGUISTICS, **University of Delhi**, New Delhi, India
Thesis title: *Interrogation in Ladakhi*
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5841251>
Course Supervisor (for Field Methods): [Dr. Gail Coelho](#)
FINAL MARKS: 1149/1600 [71.81%]
- 2013-17 Bachelor of Engineering in MECHANICAL ENGINEERING,
Dwarkadas. J. Sanghvi College of Engineering, University of Mumbai, Mumbai
Project title: *Design and Manufacture of 3-Wheel All-Terrain Vehicle*

POSITIONS

- SINCE 2023 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**
for LING 102: Introduction to Linguistic Analysis
Department of Linguistics, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada.
- 2022-23 **Graduate Teaching Assistant**
for LING 101: Introduction to Linguistic Analysis
Department of Linguistics, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada.
- 2021-22 **Senior Research Fellow**
Centre for Linguistics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India.
- 2019-21 **Junior Research Fellow**
Centre for Linguistics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India.

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS, AND CERTIFICATES

SCHOLARSHIPS

- SINCE 2021 **Graduate Assistantship,**
University of Alberta
Fellowship amount: \$ 17,302.16/year (CAD)
- 2021-22 **Senior Research Fellowship,**
University Grants Commission, Ministry of Education, Government of India.
Fellowship amount: ₹ 35,000/month
- 2019-21 **Junior Research Fellowship,**
University Grants Commission, Ministry of Education, Government of India.
Fellowship amount: ₹ 31,000/month
- 2013-17 **DTE Scholarship,**
Directorate of Technical Education, Govt. of Maharashtra.
Scholarship amount: ₹ 25,000/year

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2023-24 **Ivy A Thomson and William A Thomson Graduate Scholarship.**

Amount: \$15000 CAD

2023 **Empowering Communities to Preserve their Heritage: A Citizen Science Approach to Language Documentation.**

Mitacs Globalink Research Award

Amount: \$6000 CAD

2022 **Doctoral Recruitment Award.**

University of Alberta

Amount: \$5000 CAD

2022 **Documentation of Zangskar Tibetan.**

Endangered Language Fund (ELF), Language Legacies (LL) Grant.

Amount: \$2910 USD

CERTIFICATES

DEC 2019 **National Eligibility Test (NET-JRF)**, conducted by National Testing Agency, Government of India. [100 percentile score]

PUBLICATIONS

2022 Dale, Merrion, Prafulla Basumatary, Javid Iqbal, Rex Khullar, and **Shaikh, Maaz**. "Case Study of Using Facebook Groups to Connect Community Users to Archived CoRSAL Content" *Language Documentation & Conservation*, 16. 399–416.
<https://hdl.handle.net/10125/74685>.

PRESENTATIONS

REFREED CONFERENCE TALKS

2021 **Shaikh, Maaz**. "A preliminary description of the Azamgarhi language" at *For SEL By SEL Virtual Conference*, Society for Endangered and Lesser-known Languages (SEL India), 11 January 2021.

2019 **Shaikh, Maaz**. "Descriptive phonetics and phonology of Western Sham Ladakhi" at *Two-day National Conference on Phonetics: Theoretical Underpinnings and Research Explorations*, The English and Foreign Language University, Hyderabad, India, 19 and 20 November 2019.

INVITED/ORGANIZED TALKS AND TRAINING SESSIONS

- 2022 A 5-day training workshop on “Documentation of Zangskari Language” at the Government Model Degree College, Padum, Zangkar, Ladakh, India. 4–8 August (Documentary Video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rIX81jtU1c0>, Media coverage [here](#))
- 2022 “Documentation of the Zangskari Language”. A Seminar at the Government Model Degree College, Padum, Zangkar, Ladakh, India. 3 August (Media Coverage [here](#)).
- 2021 with Prafulla Basumatary, Kenneth Van Bik & Marjing Mayanglambam at CoRSAL Annual Meeting (CoRSAL V) (Virtual) as **Panelists**, 1 October.

LANGUAGE DOCUMENTATION & REVITALIZATION PROJECTS

[ZANGSKARI](#) (Since September 2020)

DOCUMENTATION	<p><i>Overview:</i> The project aimed at the documentation of Zangskari is a broader goal of my aspired doctoral research on the language. Besides documentation and description of this endangered Bodic tongue of great significance to the historical-comparative research on Tibetic languages, archiving and revitalization will also be given special attention.</p> <p><i>Timeline:</i> Exploratory two-week-long field trip in Sep–Oct 2020 to Zangskar valley, UT of Ladakh, India. This was followed by a second trip to Zangskar (two-week-long) in Jul–Aug 2022. The third field trip in 2023, funded by MITACS, was focused on piloting a citizen science-based approach to language documentation and revitalization</p>
ARCHIVING	<p>A collection under the title “Zangskari Language Resources” is out at the Computational Resources of South Asian Languages (CoRSAL) Archive, University of North Texas Digital Library, UNT.</p>

AZAMGARHI (Since December 2019)

DOCUMENTATION	<p><i>Overview:</i> The overall project is aimed at holistic and comprehensive documentation along with archiving and revitalization of the Azamgarhi language. This is with the principal purpose of attracting attention and research on this not only under-documented and threatened but also quite lesser-known Awadhi language of the Indo-Aryan family.</p> <p><i>Timeline:</i> Primarily in two three-week-long field trips (Jan–Feb 2020 and Nov–Dec 2020) in the Azamgarh and Mau districts of Uttar Pradesh, India.</p>
ARCHIVING	<p><i>Overview:</i> The collection currently includes audio and video recordings of texts which are in different genres, such as traditional and children’s stories, popular legends, historical accounts, personal narratives, natural conversations, dramas, folk songs, poems, food recipes, discussions on events or items of cultural importance, and discussions on language and linguistic data. Also included are transcriptions and translations of selected texts, digitized copies of fieldwork notes, and photographs documenting fieldwork and other events. Interlinear glossing and analyses of the texts will be added to the corpus during the next phase.</p> <p><i>Place:</i> The Computational Resources of South Asian Languages (CoRSAL) Archive, University of North Texas Digital Library, UNT.</p>
ANNOTATION	<p><i>Overview:</i> Recorded texts are transcribed and translated to English and Hindi-Urdu with the help of SayMore, followed by interlinear glossing in FLEx then exported to ELAN. The Azamgarhi FLEx database currently hosts more than a thousand and a half lexical items in its corpus besides annotated texts.</p>
REVITALIZATION	<p><i>Overview:</i> Revitalization efforts of Azamgarhi is initially for the time being taken up only via social media due to the pandemic.</p> <p><i>Youtube:</i> Children’s stories in Azamgarhi language YouTube playlist</p> <p><i>Facebook:</i> The Azamgarhi Community Resources FB Group</p> <p><i>Instagram:</i> The Azamgarhi language Instagram account</p>

BHOJPURI (Since January 2019)

DOCUMENTATION	<p><i>Overview:</i> This project, aimed at documenting the underdocumented Western dialect of Bhojpuri spoken in the Azamgarh and Mau districts of UP, is an outcome of my fieldwork on the Azamgarhi language of Azamgarh. It was undertaken with a view of (socio)linguistic comparison of Azamgarhi and Bhojpuri as the latter has exerted significant substratum influence on the former.</p> <p><i>Timeline:</i> In two three-week-long field trips (Jan–Feb 2020 and Nov–Dec 2020) in the Azamgarh and Mau districts of Uttar Pradesh, India.</p>
ARCHIVING	<p><i>Overview:</i> The collection currently includes audio and video recordings of texts and photographs documenting fieldwork and other events. All the recordings are in the Western dialect of Bhojpuri spoken in the Azamgarh and Mau districts of UP. Most of them are the outcome of (socio)linguistic comparison, whereas some are that of dialect surveys undertaken to determine the extent of Azamgarhi.</p> <p><i>Place:</i> The Computational Resources of South Asian Languages (CoRSAL) Archive, University of North Texas Digital Library, UNT.</p>

WORKSHOPS/ TRAINING PROGRAMS ATTENDED

- 2022 *Summer School on Language Documentation*, Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, India 17–31 May 2022.
- 2019 *International workshop on Noun Modifying Constructions and Nominalizations*, Department of Linguistics, Deccan College Post-Graduate Research Institute, Pune, India in collaboration with The National Institute of Japanese Language and Linguistics (NINJAL), Tokyo, Japan and Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, at Deccan College Post-Graduate Research Institute, Pune, India, 19–20 December 2019.
- 2019 *A Boot Camp on Theoretical and Experimental Phonology*, Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, India 22–27 July 2019.
- 2019 *Workshop on Working with Communities on Language Revitalization*, Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, India 27 March to 02 April 2019.
- 2019 *Workshop on Information and Communication Technology-Forensic Linguistics* organized by CDAC Kolkata and IIT Patna in IIT Patna, Patna, India, 11–12 January 2019.
- 2018 *3-Week Intensive Training Programme on Introduction to Translation*, National Translation Mission in Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, India, 18 May to 07 June 2018.

WORK EXPERIENCE

SINCE SEPTEMBER 2022	<i>Freelance Urdu Linguist</i> at PTW Large Scale Text-to-Speech project (TTS) of the Urdu (India) language
MAY 2020 – AUGUST 2020	<i>Freelance Linguist</i> at LIONBRIDGE Localization project of the Awadhi language

SKILLS

LANGUAGES

NATIVE	Urdu, Hindi
ADVANCED	Azamgarhi (Near-native after fieldwork), English
INTERMEDIATE	Marathi, Awadhi, Bhojpuri, Persian/Dari/Tajiki
BEGINNER	Punjabi, Gujarati, French
READING	Arabic, Sanskrit, Tibetan
FIELDWORK/ STRUCTURAL KNOWLEDGE	Purik/Purgi, Ladakhi, Zangskari, Balti

TECHNICAL

Markup languages:	\LaTeX , HTML
Scripting:	PRAAT, R
Programming:	C, C++
MS Office:	MS WORD, EXCEL, POWERPOINT
Linguistics related:	FLEX, SAYMORE, PHONOLOGY ASSISTANT, TRANSCRIBER, ELAN, LEXIQUEPRO, and WE SAY.
Multimedia:	AUDACITY, ADOBE PREMIERE PRO, etc.

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- [Foundation for Endangered Languages \(FEL\)](#) [since 2019]
- [Society for Endangered and Lesser-Known Languages \(SEL India\)](#)-Lifetime Member [since 2020]
- [Linguistic Society of India \(LSI\)](#)-Lifetime Member [since 2022]