Somaiyah Hafeez

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New York, New York

**Education**

Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, New York 2024-2025

M.S Data Journalism

* Reported on the MTA’s fare-free bus service program in Harlem, on a community-led fight against artificial turf fields in Inwood and covered community board meetings.
* Worked with a team of data journalists on a story on Courier, the progressive newsroom network that spent big on Meta ad blitz during the 2024 US election cycle for Columbia Journalism Review.

National University of Sciences and Technology, Islamabad, Pakistan 2019-2023

BSc Physics

President’s Gold Medal for highest CGPA

**Professional Experience**

Freelance Journalist May 2021-July 2024

* Independently reported for major international and national news organizations including The Guardian, The Diplomat, New Lines Magazine, The New Humanitarian and Dawn.
* Pitched, researched and wrote articles on a wide range of topics including the 2022 floods in Pakistan, economic crisis, enforced disappearances in Balochistan province and the resurgence of militancy in the country.
* Interviewed experts, politicians and masses about a plethora of issues.
* Coordinated and arranged interviews as a fixer for a team of Dutch journalists working on a documentary about climate change and the political landscape in Pakistan.

Media Fellow 2023-2024

Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development

* Produced 3 stories on Militarism, Peace and Women’s Human Rights from Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province in Pakistan as a media fellow for APWLD under their media and visual fellowship.

**Awards**

Finalist, Young Journalist of the Year Award 2024 by Thomson Foundation

Humanitarian Reporting Award 2023 by ICRC-CEJ

Honorable Mention, Solutions Journalism Award 2024

**Languages**

Balochi (native), Urdu (fluent), English (fluent)

**Skills**

Python, SQL, web-scraping, data visualization