

# Muhammad Zubair Abbasi

## Qualifications

DPhil Law, 2009 — 2013

Oxford University

LL.M Corporate Governance, 2007-2008

Manchester University

BA LL.B (Hons), 2000-2005

International Islamic University Islamabad

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## Teaching and Research

**Department of Law, School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, American University in Cairo**

(Visiting Assistant Professor) January 2017 — June 2017

Taught Comparative Law and Islamic Law Reform at LL.M level, and acted as examiner for final thesis.

**Shaikh Ahmad Hassan School of Law, Lahore University of Management Sciences**

(Assistant Professor) December 2013 — Present

Taught Muslim Personal Law, Islamic Jurisprudence, and Comparative Corporate Law & Governance. Launched and supervise the LUMS Law Journal, reviewed curriculum, and acted as a student advisor.

**Max Planck Foundation for International Peace and the Rule of Law** (Lecturer International Human Rights Law) Ulama Training Project 22 August to 2 September 2016 at Shari'a Academy, International Islamic University Islamabad.

**CBL International School, Oriel College, Oxford University** (Lecturer Contract Law, Corporate Law, and Tort Law) July-September 2012, March 2013, July-September 2013, August 2014, August 2015 and August 2016.

**University of Oxford**, Faculty of Law (Research Assistant) March 2010-December 2010

**University of Manchester**, School of Law (Research Assistant) May 2008-January 2009

Advised a leading polymer multinational group of companies RAPRA Ltd on the development of a website and in preparation of manuals containing information on Environmental Laws of the UK and EU.

**International Islamic University, Islamabad**, visiting faculty member at the Faculty of Law, (February 2009-June 2009)

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## Research Grants

“The Role of Judiciary in Protection of Women’s Rights: A Case Study of Divorce Law (Khul’), Rs. 2.6 million 1 year HEC Thematic Research Grant accepted in May 2016.

The Contribution of the Judiciary in the Application and Development of Islamic Jurisprudence in Pakistan, Rs. 0.86 million 2 years HEC National Research Program accepted in May 2015.

Sharia and the Modern State: The Contribution of the Judiciary in the Application and Development of Islamic Jurisprudence in Pakistan, Rs. one million 1 year LUMS Faculty Initiative Fund sponsored accepted in 2015.

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## Research Work

Abbasi, Muhammad Zubair, Judicial *Ijtihad* as a Tool for Legal Reform: Extending Women's Right to Divorce under Islamic Law in Pakistan, *Islamic Law and Society*, 24 (2017): 384-411.

Abbasi, Muhammad Zubair, Cheema, Shahbaz Ahmad, *Family Laws in Pakistan* (Oxford University Press 2018) (forthcoming)

Abbasi, Muhammad Zubair, Women's Right to Unilateral No-fault Based Divorce in Pakistan and India, *Jindal Global Law Review*, 7 (2016): 81-95.

Abbasi, Muhammad Zubair, Sharī'a and State Law: Relevance of Islamic Legal History for the Application of Muslim Family Law in the West, *Journal of Law, Religion and State*, 2:3 (2015): 124-38.

Abbasi, Muhammad Zubair, Islamic Law and Social Change: An Insight into the Making of Anglo-Muhammadan Law, *(Oxford) Journal of Islamic Studies*, 25:3 (2014): 263-297.

Abbasi, Muhammad Zubair, The Classical Islamic Law of Waqf: A Concise Introduction, *Arab Law Quarterly*, 26: 2 (2012): 121-53.

Abbasi, Muhammad Zubair, Colonial State and Muslim Institutions: History of Regulatory Framework for Awqaf (Religious Endowments) in British India in Brown, Rajeswary Ampalavanar and Pierce, Justin, *Charities in the Non-Western World: The Development and Regulation of Indigenous and Islamic Charities* (2013 Routledge) 311-32.

Abbasi, Muhammad Zubair, Legal Analysis of Agency Theory: An Inquiry into the Nature of Corporation, *International Journal of Law and Management*, 51:6 (2009): 401-420.

Abbasi, Muhammad Zubair, Legal Person and Determination of the Legal Personality of a Government Department, *Journal of Pakistan Law Digest*, (2006): 97.

Book Review: Muhammad Zubair Abbasi "Muslim Endowments and Society in British India", *Journal of Law and Social Policy*, 1:1 (2012): 87-89.

Book review: Muhammad Zubair Abbasi "The Ascent of Money: A Financial History of the World", *International Journal of Law and Management*, 52: 4 (2010): 332-335.

Abbasi, Muhammad Zubair, Islamic Concept of Jihad and Terrorism, *Kashmir Mirror*, October 2004, 16. **1<sup>st</sup> Prize winning essay in All Pakistan Essay Writing Competition**

**Interpretation of Just War Theory 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize winning essay in All Pakistan Essay Writing Competition, 2005 conducted by the Quaid e Azam Law College, Lahore**

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**Conferences and Seminars**

Presented a paper: ‘Women’s Right to Divorce between Law and Social Reality in Pakistan’ at Islamic Law and its Implementation in Asia and the Middle East Conference held at BIICL, Charles Clore House, 17 Russell Square, London on Friday 6 October 2017.

Presented a paper: ‘Family Waqf under the English Legal System in British India’ at Muslim Endowments in Asia: Waqf, Charity and Circulation Conference held at Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore on 19-20 October 2016.

Presented a paper: ‘Law and Economic Efficiency: English Private Property Law and Muslim Family Endowments (awqāf) in British India’ at Annual Economic History Society Conference held at Cambridge University on 1-3 April 2016.

Presented a paper: ‘Shari‘a Law and State Law: Balancing Religion with Politics under the Islamic Legal System’ at Regulating Religion: Normativity and Change at the Intersection of Law and Religion held at the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore on December 14 and 15, 2015.

Presented a paper: ‘Co-existence of Shari‘a and the Modern State: A Historical Perspective from South Asia’ at Annual Workshop of the Institute for Global Law & Policy held at Harvard Law School between June 1 - 4, 2015.

Presented a paper: ‘Living within the limits prescribed by Allah: Post-colonial Judiciary and Women’s Right to Divorce under Islamic Law in Pakistan’ at Conference on Gender and the Colonial held at SOAS Centre for Gender Studies, University of London between May 12 to 14, 2015.

Presented a paper: ‘Judicial *Ijtihad* as a Tool for Legal Reform: Extending Women’s Right to Divorce under Islamic Law in Pakistan’ at Workshop ‘Islamic Family Law: How Change is advocated’ held at the Harvard Law School, Cambridge, Massachusetts on 12-13 February 2015.

Presented a paper: ‘Relevance of Islamic Legal History in the Debate on the Application Muslim Family Law in the West’ at International Fiqh Conference on Current Issues in Muslim Personal Laws: Between Sharia and State Legislation held at International Islamic University Islamabad on 13-15 May 2014.

Presented a paper: ‘Non-legislating State: Islamic Law and Modern State in the Discourse on Judicial Islamisation of Property Laws in Pakistan’ at Property in South Asia: History, Law and Politics held at the University of Pennsylvania Law School on 18-19 April 2014.

Presented a paper: ‘Law and Economic Efficiency: English Private Property Law and Muslim Family Endowments (awqāf) in British India’ at Institutions and their Discontents: Rethinking Economic Development in South Asia held at Cambridge University on 17-18 March 2014.

Presented a paper: ‘Co-existence of Shari‘a and the Modern State: A Historical Perspective from South Asia’ at The Shari‘a Project: A UK-Netherlands Network of Scholars of Islamic Law Fourth Workshop held at the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, University of Exeter with guest scholar, Professor Wael Hallaq from Columbia University on February 6 and 7, 2014.

Presented a paper: ‘Shari‘a under the English Legal System: Awqāf (Endowments) in the Making of Anglo-Muhammadan Law’ at Oxford Legal History Forum, Faculty of Law, Oxford University on Tuesday 19 November 2013.

Presented a paper: ‘Islamic Family Settlements and the English Rule against Perpetuities’ at Property Law Discussion Group Faculty of Law, Oxford University on Thursday 31st October 2013.

Presented a paper: ‘Judicial *Ijtihād*: Contribution of the English Legal System in the Development of Islamic law’ at Conference ‘Exploring New Directions in the Islamic Legal Tradition: Human Rights and Legal Reform in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century’ held at Law School Brunel University on 18 June 2013.

Presented a paper: ‘The Genesis of Business Corporations: A Comparative Historical Analysis’ at Annual Meeting of the Economic History Conference held at York University on 5-7 April 2013.

Presented a paper: ‘Different Patterns of the Development of Business Organisations in the Middle East and Europe: An Analysis of Diversity from Legal Perspective’ at Annual Meeting of the Economic History Conference held at Oxford University 30 March-1 April 2012.

Presented two papers on Classical Islamic Law of Waqf; and Developments in Waqf Law in British India at Islamic Research Institute, International Islamic University Islamabad on 10 and 14 January 2012.

Presented a paper: ‘Colonial State and Muslim Institutions: History of Regulatory Framework for Awqāf (Religious Endowments) in British India’ at International Conference on “Philanthropy, the State and Globalisation” held at the University of Hong Kong on 6-8 December 2012.

Presented a paper: ‘Legal Analysis of Agency Theory: An Inquiry into the Nature of Corporation’ at International Graduate Legal Research Conference held at King’s College London on 7-8 April 2011.

Presented a paper: ‘What caused the rise of Business Corporations? An analysis inspired by the Middle Eastern Experience’ at PhD Law Conference held at Queen Mary, London on 7 June 2011.

Presented a paper: ‘Making Sense of the Pure Theory of Law in the Real World: A Perspective from Pakistan’ at Rights, Morality, and the Law Conference held at Birmingham University on 21 September 2010.

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## **Training Workshops**

Contributed a paper: ‘Islamic Law and Modern State in the Discourse on Judicial Islamisation of Property Laws in Pakistan’ at Harvard Law School Institute for Global Law & Policy (IGL&P) held Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Doha between January 2 and 12, 2015.

Contributed a paper: ‘The Genesis of Business Corporations: A Comparative Historical Analysis’ at European Historical Economics Society Summer School held at Carlos III University Madrid, Spain between June 27–30, 2012.

Contributed a paper: ‘Law and Economic Efficiency: English Private Property Law and Muslim Family Endowments (awqāf) in British India’ at Residential training course for postgraduate students held at Chancellors, University of Manchester during 28 November– 1 December 2012

Contributed a paper: ‘Why Did Corporations Develop in Europe and not in the Middle East?’ at PhD course on Ideologies, Ideas and Values during the Industrial Revolution held at Gothenburg University, Sweden on 4-9 September 2011.

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## **Professional Experience**

**Amhurst Brown** Barristers-Advocates, Islamabad (Associate) March 2009-September 2009  
Worked on international commercial arbitration at International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) regarding disputes in power sector. Responsibilities included legal research and drafting of legal documents.

**Amhurst Brown** Barristers-Advocates, Islamabad (Associate) December 2006-September 2007

Acted for companies and individuals in all facets of business needs, from incorporation, management, compliance, employment, raising of capital and protection of rights. Advised local and multinational companies on various legal issues relating to corporate, commercial, telecom, oil and gas, labour, taxation, intellectual property, privatization, environmental and property laws.

**Hassan Kaunain Nafees**, Legal Practitioners and Advisers, Islamabad (Associate) July 2005-November 2006

Drafted, reviewed and vetted various agreements including Term Finance Agreements, Settlement Agreements, Lease Deeds, Trust Deeds, Middle man Agreements, Novation Agreements, and Memorandum and Articles of Associations of Companies. Acted in a variety of litigation matters, including writ petitions, suits for permanent and temporary injunction, suits for custody of children, suits for dissolution of marriage and bail applications at the Lahore and Sindh High Courts, Labour Courts and District & Sessions Courts in Islamabad and Rawalpindi.

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## **Awards**

**PhD Scholarship** from Higher Education Commission of Pakistan, 2009

**PhD Scholarship** from International Islamic University Islamabad, Pakistan, 2009

**LL.M/PhD Scholarship** from Higher Education Commission of Pakistan, 2007

**Merit Scholarship** from International Islamic University Islamabad, Pakistan, 2004-2005

**Merit Scholarship** from the Board of Higher Secondary Education Sargodha, Pakistan, 1999

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### **Community Service**

Provided expert opinion to Punjab Commission of the Status of Women Government of Punjab on women's right to dower upon divorce regarding a pending case before the Federal Shariat Court in February 2017;

Advised the Lahore High Court on the rights of illegitimate children under Islamic law. In *Nadeem Masood v The State* 2015 PCrLJ 1633, the Court granted one million compensations to a child born as a result of rape;

Drafted a legislative proposal on Watersides Safety submitted to the legislature of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in 2015;

Delivered inaugural talk at Saida Waheed Gender Initiative on Women's Right to Divorce under Islamic Law in Pakistan in 2016.

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### **Memberships**

Member Islamabad Bar Council and Punjab High Court Bar Council, Pakistan

Member Economic History Society

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### **Languages**

English, Arabic, Urdu, Punjabi and Seraiki

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