

Mona Kanwal Sheikh
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International Security
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Curriculum

Mona Kanwal Sheikh is an expert on the Pakistani Taliban. Her current research focuses on the dynamics behind the transnationalization of jihad, and containment mechanisms, including the question of negotiating with jihadist actors. Empirically her focus is on the Pakistani Taliban, jihadi militancy in Afghanistan, and Al-Qaeda/the Islamic State in South Asia. Her recent publications on jihadi militancy include *Guardians of God: Inside the Religious Mind of the Pakistani Taliban* (Oxford University Press, 2016). Sheikh has also contributed to the theoretical debate on religious violence and concepts of religion and secularism in IR. Among her publications on these themes are 'How Does Religion Matter? Pathways to Religion in International Relations' (Review of International Studies, 2012), 'A Sociotheological Approach to Understanding Religious Violence' (Oxford Handbook on Religion and Violence, 2013), 'Appointing Evil in International Relations' (International Politics, 2014), and 'The Religious Challenge to Securitisation Theory' (Millennium, 2014). Sheikh holds a Ph.D. in International Relations from the University of Copenhagen. She was been appointed a visiting research scholar at the Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies at the University of California Santa Barbara (2008-9, 2013-14), Center for South Asia Studies at UC Berkeley (2014) and has during her research period also been hosted by the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies (2008), University of Notre Dame. She has been awarded two prestigious elite research prizes (2007, 2012) for her work on the Pakistani Taliban by the Danish Ministry of Science.

Publications

Prospects of a settlement with the Afghan Taliban: Exit, peace and governance from the Taliban Perspective

Sheikh, M. K. & Khan, A. 21 Jan 2019 Copenhagen: Dansk Institut for Internationale Studier. 64 p. (DIIS Report; No. 1, Vol. 2019).

Fem ting vi har lært af de sidste 17 års kamp mod terrorisme: Indlæg ved debat med udenrigsministeren på DIIS

Sheikh, M. K. 10 Dec 2018 Dansk Institut for Internationale Studier

Worldview analysis

Sheikh, M. K. 7 Nov 2018 *Oxford Handbook of Global Studies*. Juergensmeyer, M., Steger, M. B., Sassen, S. & Faessel, V. (eds.). New York: Oxford University Press

Recursion or rejection?: Securitization theory faces Islamist violence and foreign religions

Sheikh, M. K. 11 Sep 2018 *Securitisation in the non-West*. Mabon, S. & Kapur, S. (eds.). Routledge

Islamistiske ekstremister er også reformister

Sheikh, M. K. 25 Aug 2018 Baggrund

New conflict lines in Pakistan's tribal areas: How the civil government and military will handle the emerging tensions will determine the success of Pakistan's counterterrorism policies in the Northwestern tribal areas

Sheikh, M. K. 6 Jul 2018 Danish Institute for International Studies

Religion, emotions and conflict escalation

Sheikh, M. K. 2 Jul 2018 *Routledge Handbook of Ethics and International Relations*. Steele, B. & Heinze, E. (eds.). London: Routledge, 9 p.

Securitization analysis beyond its power-critique

Sheikh, M. K. 16 Feb 2018 In : Global Discourse. 2 p.

Recursion or rejection?: Securitization theory faces Islamist violence and foreign religions

Sheikh, M. K. 15 Feb 2018 In : Global Discourse. 13 p.

Trump's Jerusalem Statements open up a new front for transnational jihadists

Sheikh, M. K. 12 Dec 2017 Danish Institute for International Studies

Islamic State Enters Al-Qaeda's Old Hotbed: Afghanistan and Pakistan

Sheikh, M. K. 1 Dec 2017 In : Connections (Garmisch-Partenkirchen). 16

The real trouble with radicalization: Three challenges that the research community needs to address

Sheikh, M. K. 24 Nov 2017 Danish Institute for International Studies

Al-Qaeda and Islamic State finds Bangladesh

Sheikh, M. K. 27 Sep 2017 *Expanding Jihad: How al-Qaeda and Islamic State find new battlefields*. Sheikh, M. K. (ed.). Copenhagen: Danish Institute for International Studies, p. 35-46

Expanding Jihad: How al-Qaeda and Islamic State find new battlefields

Sheikh, M. K. (ed.) 27 Sep 2017 Copenhagen: Danish Institute for International Studies. 90 p. (DIIS Book).

Introduction

Sheikh, M. K. & Andersen, L. E. 27 Sep 2017 *Expanding Jihad: How al-Qaeda and Islamic State find new battlefields*. Sheikh, M. K. (ed.). Copenhagen: Danish Institute for International Studies, p. 11-22

Just because we look away, the war in Afghanistan is not over: Recent developments herald a troubled year for the Afghans

Sheikh, M. K. 13 Jan 2017 Danish Institute for International Studies

Islamisk Reformisme: Den individualiserede Islam på vej til at blive et grundvilkår

Sheikh, M. K. 13 Oct 2016 In : Herrens Mark. 10, 10, p. 76-93

Different faces of Taliban Jihad

Sheikh, M. K. 6 Oct 2016

The different faces of Taliban jihad in Pakistan

Sheikh, M. K. 6 Oct 2016

The Chilling Account Of How A Danish Woman's Research Took Her Into Pakistani Taliban Territory

Sheikh, M. K. 30 Sep 2016

Guardians of God: Inside the Religious Mind of the Pakistani Taliban

Sheikh, M. K. 22 Sep 2016 Delhi: Oxford University Press. 238 p.

Splittelsen i global jihad: Kampen mellem IS og al-Qaeda

Crone, M. (ed.), Andersen, L. E., Sheikh, M. K., Hansen, F. S., Gemmerli, T., Greenwood, M. T., Lia, B., Aasgaard, A. S., Clausen, M-L., Skovgaard-Petersen, J. & Friis, S. M. 23 Aug 2016 København: Danish Institute for International Studies. 179 p. (DIIS Book).

Islamic State Enters al-Qaeda's old hotbed: Afghanistan and Pakistan

Sheikh, M. K. 1 Jul 2016 Copenhagen: Danish Institute for International Studies, 15 p. (DIIS Working Paper; No. 07, Vol. 2016).

Islamisk Stat vinder frem i Afghanistan og Pakistan: skal vi sætte militært ind igen?

Sheikh, M. K. 7 Apr 2016 Danish Institute for International Studies

Danmark får ikke bugt med IS ved nu at gå i krig i Syrien

Sheikh, M. K. 2016 In : Dagbladet Politiken.

IS indtager al-Qaeda's arnesteder i Afghanistan og Pakistan

Sheikh, M. K. 2016 *Splittelsen i Global Jihad*. København: Danish Institute for International Studies, p. 58-71

Krudt og kugler får aldrig ram på terrorismen

Sheikh, M. K. 24 Nov 2015 In : Politiken.

Sociotheology: The significance of religious worldviews

Sheikh, M. K. 2015 *Nations under God : The Geo-Politics of faith in the 21st century* . Haynes, J., Herrington, L. & Mckay, A. (eds.). Bristol, UK: E-International Relations Publishing, (E-ir Edited Collections).

The price of peace in Pakistan

Sheikh, M. K. Apr 2014 In : Diplomast.

Why talk with the Pakistani Taliban?

Sheikh, M. K. 6 Mar 2014 Danish Institute for International Studies

Doctrinal War

Sheikh, M. K. 15 Jan 2014 E-International Relations Publishing

Appointing evil in international relations

Sheikh, M. K. 2014 In : International politics. 51, 4, p. 492-507

Det pakistanske taleban vil genopfinde sig selv

Sheikh, M. K. 2014 *Terrorisme og trusselsvurderinger*. Erslev Andersen, L. (ed.). København: Danish Institute for International Studies, p. 94-107

Introduction: On sacred or secular grounds and how would we know?

Sheikh, M. K. & Crone, M. 2014 In : Millennium - Journal of International Studies. 43, 1

Special Forum: Religion and violence

Sheikh, M. K. 2014 1 ed. (Millennium - Journal of International Studies; No. 1, Vol. 43).

Taliban: Has the Pakistani Taliban come to stay?

Sheikh, M. K. 2014 *Pakistan: challenges and perspectives*. Austrian Federal Ministry of the Interior, p. 62-71

The Religious Challenge to Securitisation Theory

Sheikh, M. K. 2014 In : Millennium - Journal of International Studies. 43, 1, p. 252-272

Sharif, the Army and the Taliban: Are there any reasons to worry?

Sheikh, M. K. 30 May 2013

Pakistan election 2013: will policy win over patrimony?

Sheikh, M. K. 24 Apr 2013

Denmark's Unnecessary Clash of Civilizations

Sheikh, M. K. & Tassinari, F. 1 Mar 2013 CNN

Mali kalder på en dansk interventionspolitik

Sheikh, M. K. & Boserup, R. A. 16 Feb 2013 In : Politiken.

Europe needs principles for intervention

Sheikh, M. K. & Boserup, R. A. 15 Feb 2013

Nej, det handler ikke om ytringsfrihed

Sheikh, M. K. 11 Feb 2013 In : Dagbladet Information.

Dansk krigsaktivisme i terrorens tid

Sheikh, M. K. & Boserup, R. A. 1 Feb 2013 In : Jyllands-Posten.

Bottom-up Pakistan: bringing context and local culture into aid thinking

Sheikh, M. K. 2013 *How the local matters*. Riis Andersen, L. (ed.). Copenhagen: Danish Institute for International Studies, p. 46-64

Engaging with islamists: a new agenda for the policy community

Sheikh, M. K. 2013 In : Security Policy Library. 2013, 1, 17 p.

Pakistan: verdens farligste land?

Sheikh, M. K. 2013 *Mellemøstens nye verden: Syrien / Egypten / Iran / Israel / Palæstina / Tyrkiet / Afghanistan / Pakistan / Mali - regionens fremtid*. Kjærsgaard, C. B. & Erslev Andersen, L. (eds.). København: Ræson Medier, p. 187-206

Taliban talks: past present and prospects for the US, Afghanistan and Pakistan

Sheikh, M. K. & Touzari Janesdatter Greenwood, M. 2013 Copenhagen: Danish Institute for International Studies. 40 p. (DIIS Report; No. 06, Vol. 2013).

Besværlig kærlighed mellem USA og Pakistan

Sheikh, M. K. 12 Sep 2012 Danish Institute for International Studies

Sekularismekritik og pluralistisk religionspolitik, tak

Sheikh, M. K. & Nikolajsen, J. 9 Jul 2012 In : Kristeligt Dagblad.

Imran Khan: Pakistans nye frelserfigur

Sheikh, M. K. 12 Jan 2012 Danish Institute for International Studies

Pakistan og USA: en hårdt prøvet alliance

Sheikh, M. K. 10 Jan 2012 In : Ræson.

A Sociotheological approach to understanding religious violence

Sheikh, M. K. & Juergensmeyer, M. 2012 *The Oxford handbook of religion and violence*. Oxford: Oxford University Press

Forbudt kærlighed mellem USA og Pakistan

Sheikh, M. K. 2012 In : FHH - Foreningen af Historielærere ved Handelsgymnasiet. 2012, 63, p. 16-23

Global conflict and security

Sheikh, M. K. & Wæver, O. 2012 *Encyclopedia of Global Studies*. SAGE Publications Ltd, 10 p.

Muslims as a Danish security issue

Sheikh, M. K. & Crone, M. 2012 *Islam in Denmark: The challenge of diversity*. Lanham, Md: Lexington Books, p. 173-195

Pakistan: Regional rivalries, local impacts

Sheikh, M. K. (ed.), Shaikh, F. (ed.) & Price, G. (ed.) 2012 Copenhagen: Danish Institute for International Studies. 66 p. (DIIS Report; No. 12, Vol. 2012).

Western secularisms: variation in a doctrine and its practice

Sheikh, M. K. & Wæver, O. 2012 *Thinking international relations differently*. New York: Routledge, p. 275-298

Haqqani-netværket: fra ven til fjende

Sheikh, M. K. 13 Nov 2011 In : Ræson.

Guardians of God: Understanding the religious violence of Pakistan's Taliban

Sheikh, M. K. 2011 Copenhagen: University of Copenhagen. 410 p. (Ph.D. dissertation; No. 7, Vol. 2011).

How does religion matter?: Pathways to religion in International Relations

Sheikh, M. K. 2011 In : Review of International Studies. 38, 2, p. 1-28

Jamaat-e-Islami

Sheikh, M. K. 2011 *Encyclopedia of Global Religion*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications Ltd

Sacred pillars of violence: findings from a study of the Pakistani Taliban

Sheikh, M. K. 2011 In : Politics, Religion and Ideology. 13, 4, p. 439-454

USA og Pakistan hænger sammen

Sheikh, M. K. 2011 In : Politiken.

Kan man forhandle med Taleban?

Sheikh, M. K. 9 Oct 2009 In : Politiken.

Selvmordsbombens nye logik

Sheikh, M. K. 20 Dec 2008 In : Dagbladet Information.

Projects

Al Qaeda and Islamic State in Southeast Asia

Sheikh, M. K., PI, International Security

Andersen, L. E., Col, Global transformations in finance, migration and aid

01/03/2019 → 31/12/2019

Karakteristika for etablering af ekstremistiske og voldelige organisationer

FSPS projekt med fokus på Al-Qaeda og Islamisk Stat

Sheikh, M. K., PI, International Security

01/05/2017 → 31/12/2017

Religious Militancy in Pakistan - Understanding Sacred Dimensions of Violence

Dette projekt beskæftiger sig med to relaterede emner: Empirisk er det et forsøg på at tilvejebringe en dybere forståelse af forskellige militante islamistiske bevægelser i Pakistan. Studiet vil især se på hvilken rolle religion spiller i legitimeringen af vold på tværs af bevægelser med forskellige politiske dagsordner, herunder det pakistanske Taliban, Lashkare Tayba, Jaishe Muhammad, Lashkare Jhangvi, og Sipah Sahaba. Samtidig lægger projektet op til teoretisk nytænkning med henblik på at udvikle en interdisciplinær 'socioteologisk' tilgang, der indenfor International Politik disciplinen (IP) og sikkerhedsstudier (SS) viser sig mere sensitiv overfor betydningen af religiøse verdensbilleder, og samtidig er opmærksom på den sociale/politiske kontekst de er indlejret i. De overordnede forskningsspørgsmål, der binder projektet sammen er: Hvad kan en socioteologisk analysetilgang tilføre IP og SS studier af religiøs vold, og hvordan kan den bidrage til en dybere forståelse af militant islamisme i Pakistan. Projektet baserer sig på en analyse af forskellige genre af originalt rekrutteringsmateriale indsamlet fra Pakistan, herunder løbesedler, hymner om jihad, DVD'er og optagelser af taler.

Sheikh, M. K., PI, International Security
01/01/2013 → 08/01/2017

Resolving jihadist conflicts

Tilknyttet projekt ved Uppsala Universitet
Sheikh, M. K., PI, International Security
01/09/2017 → 30/11/2017

Collaborators Uppsala University

Stability, development, militancy and security in Afghanistan/Pakistan

Project funded by the Danish Foreign Ministry. The objective was to establish a strong DIIS resource platform and stimulate closer collaboration with Pakistani and Afghani research institutions up to the military pull out of Afghanistan in 2014.

Sheikh, M. K., PI, International Security
01/08/2012 → 01/01/2014

Terrorisme og radikalisering

Denne projektside præsenterer resultaterne fra den forskningsgruppe, som er finansieret af finanslovsbevilling til forskning i terrorisme og radikalisering. Gruppen studerer aktuelle former for terrorisme og ekstremisme, der har relevans for Danmarks sikkerhed, samt bekæmpelse, forebyggelse og håndtering af disse trusler.

Andersen, L. E., PI, International Security
Crone, M., Col, International Security
Gemmerli, T., Col, International Security
Hemmingsen, A., Col, International Security
Sheikh, M. K., Col, International Security
Boserup, R. A., Col, Foreign Policy
01/01/2013 → 31/12/2016

Documents terrorisme-og-radikalisering-output-2013

Employment

Research Coordinator, Senior Researcher

International Security
Danish Institute for International Studies
1 Jun 2018 → present

Senior Researcher

International Security
Danish Institute for International Studies
1 May 2014 → 31 May 2018

Postdoc

International Security
Danish Institute for International Studies
1 Apr 2013 → 30 Apr 2014

Research affiliate to 'Resolving Jihadist Conflicts? Religion, Civil War, and Prospects for Peace', Department of Peace and Conflict Research

Uppsala University
Uppsala, Sweden
1 Sep 2017 → 1 Nov 2017

Visiting scholar at the Institute for South Asia Studies, University of California Berkeley.

1 Jan 2014 → 1 Aug 2014

Visiting research scholar at the Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies, University of California Santa Barbara.

1 Jan 2013 → 31 Dec 2013

Research affiliate, the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at University of Notre Dame, Indiana.

1 Jan 2009 → 30 Jun 2009

Visiting research scholar, Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies, University of California Santa Barbara.

1 Jan 2008 → 30 Jun 2009