

Dr. Humia Saeed

EDUCATION

PhD in Criminology (fully funded Jack Kent Cooke Foundation scholarship, USA), Department of Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Leuven 2012-2017

PhD Title: Economic-State Crime and Transformative Justice in Afghanistan: An Analysis at the Intersection of Transitional Justice and Criminology.

MSc Human Rights, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) 2009-2010

Gained interdisciplinary knowledge about theory, history and practice of human rights, particularly an understanding of international human rights law/treaties and their domestic application

Final dissertation on critical analysis of transitional justice processes in Afghanistan.

BA (Hons) Political Science and Anthropology, 3.9 GPA, University of Maryland 2005-2009

Honors thesis: "Ending the Cycle of Violence: The Role of a Truth Commission in Afghanistan"; based on field research in Kabul during summer 2008, including 40 semi-structured interviews

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- Saeed H. (Forthcoming). *Transitional Justice and Socio-Economic Harm: Land Grabbing in Afghanistan*. Routledge.

Articles Published in International Peer Reviewed Journals

- Saeed H. (2020). No Peace without Justice in Afghanistan. *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs* (section on Human Rights and Development).
- Saeed H., Parmentier S. 2017. When Rabbits are in Charge of Carrots...: Land Grabbing, Transitional Justice and Economic-State Crime in Afghanistan. *State Crime International Journal*, vol.6 (1), pp. 13-36
- Saeed, H. (2015). Victims and Victimhood: Individuals of Inaction or Active Agents of Change? Reflections on Fieldwork in Afghanistan. *International Journal of Transitional Justice*, 7 (1), p. 168-178
- Saeed, H. (2015). Empowering Unheard Voices through 'Theater of the Oppressed': Reflections on the Legislative Theater Project for Women in Afghanistan—Notes from the Field. *Journal of Human Rights Practice*, 7 (2), p. 299-326
- Brodsky, A.E., & Faryal, T.,¹ (2006). No matter how hard you try, your feet still get wet: Insider and outsider perspectives on bridging diversities. *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 37(3/4), 311-320

¹ As an activist under the Taliban regime, I was using a pseudonym for public engagements, including on a couple of articles that I co-authored. Should it be necessary, my co-author can confirm my identity in writing.

Book Chapters and reports

- Saeed H. (Forthcoming). Transitional Justice in Afghanistan: A Hegemonic Power Discourse. Routledge Series on Transitional Justice.
- Parmentier, S., Aciru, M., Saeed, H., and Rauschenbach, M. (2016). Human Rights in Times of Transitional Justice. In Weber, L., Fishwick, E. and Marmo, M. (eds). The Routledge Handbook of Criminology and Human Rights, Routledge (pp. 235-246), NY and London.
- Saeed, H. (2015). Reflections on Transitional Justice, Socio-economic Rights and Rights Based Approach. In Van Camp, K. & Lembrechts, S. (eds). Human Rights for Development. An international Training Programme on Human Rights and development: Summary report (pp. 63-68), Gent, Belgium: Children's Rights Knowledge Centre (KeKi).
- Brodsky, A.E. & Faryal, T. (2003). Afghan Women: Canaries in the coal mine of international foreign policy. In J. Evans, M. Levine, & P. Perez (Eds.), In the Twilight of Empire: Essays In Response to Occupation (pp. 73-81). Santa Monica, CA: Perceval Press.
- Saeed, H. et al. (2019). Combined Evaluation of the European Union's Humanitarian Interventions in Afghanistan 2014-2018 and DG ECHO's partnership with the Norwegian Refugee Council (Landell Mills International).
- Saeed, H. (2019). Analysis and feedback report on the GIZ's Manual on Women's Rights in Islam (GIZ).
- Saeed, H. (2019). Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM): Afghanistan Design Report 2017-2019 (Open Government Partnership).
- Saeed, H. (2018). New Penal Code and the EVAW Law: To Incorporate or Not to Incorporate? Afghanistan Public Policy Research Organization (APPRO).

Book Reviews

- Saeed, H. (2015). Book Review: Theorizing Transitional Justice. International Review of Victimology, 22 (1), 77-78.
- Saeed, H. and Vandenhoe, W. (2016). Taking Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Seriously in International Criminal Law. Journal of Human Rights Review, DOI: 10.1007/s12142-016-0423-5.

Academic Blogs

- Saeed H. (2021). What happens to the victims' of Afghanistan's war? Blog published at Inkstick: <https://inkstickmedia.com/what-happens-to-the-victims-of-afghanistans-war/>
- Saeed H. (2021). The rights of Afghan women must not be the "sacrificial goat" in a male dominated peace process. Blog publishes at Security Praxis: <https://securitypraxis.eu/the-rights-of-afghan-women-must-not-be-the-sacrificial-goat-in-a-male-dominated-peace-process/>
- Saeed H. (2020). Surviving a pandemic in Afghanistan amid impunity, political fragility and ongoing conflict. Blog publishes at the Leuven Transitional Justice Blog: <https://blog.associatie.kuleuven.be/tjb/surviving-a-pandemic-in-afghanistan-amid-impunity-political-fragility-and-ongoing-conflict/>
- Saeed H. (2019). A slap in the face of justice: the ICC and Afghanistan. Blog published at Security Praxis: <https://securitypraxis.eu/afghanistan-icc/>
- Saeed H. (2018). Transitional justice and criminology: Bridging the gap. Blog published at the Leuven Transitional Justice Blog: <https://blog.associatie.kuleuven.be/tjb/transitional-justice-and-criminology-bridging-the-gap/>
- Saeed H. (2017). Self-determining refugees: a story of empowerment. Blog published at KU Leuven Blogt (Leuven), <https://kuleuvenblogt.be/2017/04/26/refugees-in-europe-what-the-liberal-narrative-leaves-out/>
- Saeed, H. (2016). Victims and Victimhood in Afghanistan. Blog published at the Oxford University Press, <http://blog.oup.com/2016/02/victims-victimhood-afghanistan/>

- Saeed, H. (2016). Between Research and Activism: The Role of Organic Intellectuals. Blog published at the Oxford University Press, <http://blog.oup.com/2016/05/research-activism-organic-intellectuals-academia/>
 - Saeed, H. (2015). Backward or Forward, that is the Question: A Researcher's Reflection in a Conflict/Post-Conflict Context. Blog published at <http://blog.jkcf.org/welcome-to-the-jack-kent-cooke-foundation-blog/reflection-from-kabul-by-jkcf-graduate-scholar-huma-saeed>
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ACADEMIC AWARDS

- A combination of my background as a human rights practitioner as well as academic achievement were recognized through a number of awards:
 - Jack Kent Cooke Foundation (2009-2017), full scholarship that allowed me, respectively, to complete an MA at the LSB and a PhD at the University of Leuven
 - Sondheim Public Affairs Program (2005-2009), full BA scholarship offered by the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC)
 - Fully funded admission offer to the PhD program in International Studies, University of Trento, Italy (2012-2015, declined)
 - Erasmus Mundus European Master "Global Studies- A European Studies" (2009-2011, declined)
 - Erasmus Mundus European Master "Human Rights Practice" (2009-2011, declined)
 - The Amsterdam University Merit Scholarship for MA program on Conflict Resolution and Governance (2009-2011, declined)
 - President's List, Dean's List, Semester Academic Honors: highest awards available for academic excellence at UMBC (May 2007-December 2008)
 - Political Science Outstanding Senior Award, UMBC Department of Political Science (2008-2009)
 - Listed among twenty outstanding UMBC graduate of the year (2009)
 - New Employee of the Year Award, UMBC Office of Off-Campus and Transfer Student Services (May 14, 2008)
 - Senior Leadership Award, UMBC Transfer Student Services (Dec. 10, 2008)
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TEACHING AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Affiliated senior researcher, Leuven Institute of Criminology (LINC) 2017-present

- Member of Transitional Justice and Human Rights Research Line, KU Leuven
- Editorial board member of Leuven Transitional Justice Blog, KU Leuven
- Research and publication on Transitional justice, socio-economic harm, victims' rights and women's rights
- MA and PhD students' supervision, KU Leuven

Teaching experience 2014-Present

- Invited guest lecturer MSc International Security Studies (MISS) Sant'Anna, Scuola Universitaria Superiore Pisa, six-hour module on Peace Processes and human rights and justice: A Case Study of Colombia and Afghanistan, November 2019 and December 2020
- Invited guest lecturer Master in Human Rights and Conflict Management, Sant'Anna, Scuola Universitaria Superiore Pisa, three-hour module on Performing qualitative research in a conflict/post-conflict context, March 2019

- Invited guest lecturer MS Crime, Punishment and Migration in Europe, University of Bologna, Journey to the unknown: precarity or hope? March 2019
- Teaching assistant, Class on Political Crime and Transitional Justice, KU Leuven, 2014-2016
 - Provided written feedback to students on their paper assignment
 - Discussed in person with students their progress and challenges
 - Graded students' oral presentations and papers

PhD researcher

2012-2017

- Researched extensively discourses on transitional justice, with focus on its alternative understandings
- Researched history and development of criminology as a discipline, with focus on critical criminology
- Researched state crime and economic crime
- Researched discourses and theories on victims' agency, particularly paying attention to the human rights-based approach

Research methodological trainings and fieldwork

2007-current

- Followed course on qualitative methodology in Anthropology (UMBC, 2007)
- Followed course on qualitative methodology in Political Science (UMBC, 2008)
- Followed workshop on Developing Interview Questions and Basic Interview Skills (Hasselt University, 7 July 2014)
- Followed workshop on Qualitative Analysis Guide of Leuven (2015), which was employed in my PhD data analysis
- Field research (Kabul, June-August 2008): 40 interviews with war victims, civil society and human rights activists, government officials and international donor community
- Field research (Kabul, August-October 2013): 20 interviews with war victims, civil society and human rights activists as well as government officials
- Field research (Kabul, September-November 2014): 35 interviews with individuals and focus groups that included war victims, civil society, government officials and MPs, international donor community
- Various field visits and data collection for consultancy-based projects (November 2017-present)

Part-time Research Assistant, LSE Global Governance, London

Oct 2009– Jan 2010

- Researched and analyzed the Afghan media discourses on justice
- Researched Afghanistan's human rights compliance in reference to international human rights law and instruments

Part-time Research Assistant, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, Italy

Apr-July 2009

- Contributed to the EU funded (FP7) *Multipart* research project on the impact of multi-stakeholder partnerships on human security and peace-building during post-conflict reconstruction (<http://www.multi-part.eu>)
- Researched on good governance, rule of law, reconciliation and community bridge-building in the context of Afghanistan
- Contributed to the Farsi section of the Iran Electoral Archives, http://www.sssup.it/context_eng.jsp?ID_LINK=7928&area=47&lang=UK

CONFERENCES AND INVITED SPEAKER

- Saeed H. 2021, Presentation on Justice, Impunity and Economic-State Crime, Stockholm Criminological Symposium, June 14-16, 2021

- Saeed H. 2019, Presentation of PhD main findings to the civil society and war victims, Afghanistan Center for Memory and Dialogue, Kabul, 31 March 2019
- Saeed H. 2018, Socio-economic harm as economic-state crime: Analysis of empirical findings at the intersection of transitional justice and criminology, European Society of Criminology, Sarajevo, 29 August-1 September
- Saeed H. 2017, The Taliban shadow justice: A challenge to the state or an opportunity to reinvent the judiciary?, University of Kent, Brussels, 6-7 April
- Saeed H. 2017, Democratizing women's rights in Afghanistan through participatory theatre, Gender, religion, law and society: Exchanges between Iran and Belgium, Leuven, 14-15 March
- Saeed H. 2016, Transitional justice and development: Friends or foes?. Metaforum Mid-day talk, Leuven
- Saeed H. 2016, Afghanistan per dove. (Photo exhibition), San Vito di Cadore, 28 July
- Saeed H. 2015, Afghanistan per dove?, Public presentation, Belluno, 26 May
- Saeed H. 2016, Women's rights situation in Afghanistan. European Parliament sub-committee on Human Rights, Brussels, 17 February
- Saeed H. 2015, Refugees welcome (?): Citizens' initiative and media response to the refugee crisis and conflict, Refugees Welcome (?): Citizens' initiative and media response to the refugee crisis and conflict, Brussels Press Club, 24 September
- Saeed H. 2015, Socio-economic rights violation as economic crime in a transitional justice context. Advanced summer course on Human Rights, Development and Transitional Justice, Leuven, 16 August-11 September
- Saeed H. 2015, Socio-economic rights violation as state crime? The case of land grabbing in Afghanistan. Euro Crime 2015, Porto, 2-5 September
- Saeed H. 2015, Violation of Socio-economic rights as state crime. International study days and workshop on state crime, Berlin, 9-13 February 2015.
- Saeed H. 2014, Methodological Approaches to Law and Development Research. Law and Development, Leuven, 10 December 2014.

WORK EXPERIENCE

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| Independent Research and Evaluation Consultant, Bologna and Kabul | Nov. 2017- present |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct research and evaluations on consultancy basis with various international organizations, such as DG ECHO, War Child Canada, Open Government Partnership, International Alert, Human Rights Watch and APPRO • Provide expert knowledge on human rights, transitional justice, restorative justice and gender justice to the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Organization, Agency for Peacebuilding, UN Women and United States Institute for Peace • Employ qualitative and applied research • Conduct periods of fieldwork in Afghanistan, mainly interviewing stakeholders and experts | |
| Human Rights and Justice Portfolio Manager, UNDP, Kabul | Dec. 2011-Dec. 2012 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided projects' overall oversight (assurance role) • Networked with key national (including the Ministry of Justice) and international justice institutions to exchange knowledge, share experience and provide consultation in the relevant fields • Provided policy advice (including developing concept papers) on the projects' strategic formulation • Managed projects' day to day operation • Met and updated the donors' community on the projects' development and resource mobilization | |

National Advisor, NSGP/UNDP, Kabul

March 2011- Dec. 2011

- Worked with the Office of the President on enhancing their administrative and policy capacity
- Assessed the Vice President Offices on their policy development capacity
- Wrote recommendations based on my assessment on activating the national committees as part of the NSGP's (National State Governance Project) Capacity Development Plan
- Researched models from different countries on their policy units
- Established contact with UNDP's Democratic Governance Unit in other countries
- Advised NSGP's international consultant on various national issues
- Advised NSGP's project manager on various components of the project

Project Manager, AHRDO, Kabul

Oct 2010-Mar 2011

- Managed a six member team for the Legislative Theater project for women
- Held consultancy meetings with more than twenty civil society groups/activists on women's issues
- Conducted advocacy work in the Afghan Parliament to generate support for the project
- Researched and wrote in Farsi a 20 page long document on Afghanistan's laws for women
- Analyzed Afghanistan's compliance with international conventions/treaties to which it is a party

Part-time Trainer/Consultant, Institute for Cooperation and Development, Italy

Apr-Aug 2009

- Drew on my academic research and previous experience to assess the implementation of a € 300,000 European Union funded project on transitional justice in Afghanistan
- Trained Afghan civil society and victims' groups in Kabul on transitional justice and peace building
- Helped to enhance my leadership and networking skills, and gave me the opportunity to put my theoretical skills on transitional justice into practice
- Liaised with civil society groups in Italy and Afghanistan

Internship, Human Rights First, Washington D.C.

Jan-May 2008

- Worked with the organization's Law and Security division
- Researched on the application of the Third Geneva Convention to Guantanamo and Bagram detainees; attended Congressional hearings
- Produced a 25 page comparative paper on the application of the Third Geneva Convention by the US Administration

Student Coordinator, Off-Campus Student Services, University of Maryland

2007-2008

- Worked directly with the director on planning and coordinating events for the University's commuter and transfer students, including engaging other departments to conduct academic events
- Held responsibility and leadership role in establishing network and workshops for 50 students

Workshop facilitator and translator, Catholic Relief Services, Kabul

2003-2004

- Planned workshops for the local NGO partners of CRS
- Conducted employment screening interviews
- Facilitated and translated from English to Dari (Farsi) and vice versa in educational training workshops
- Translated documents from English to Dari and Dari to English

Human Rights Advocacy, Pakistan/Afghanistan and Internationally

1996-2002

- Worked with Pakistan/Afghanistan-based women rights groups
- Advocated at the United Nations, the US Congress and other countries' legislatures
- Spoke at more than 40 universities internationally and held meetings with numerous government officials and human rights organizations, including Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch

- Raised over \$US200,000 for humanitarian projects for Afghan refugees in Pakistan and Afghanistan
 - Gave interviews to more than 50 newspapers, radio and TV programs, including the BBC, the Larry King Live and the New York Times magazine
 - Coordinated and conducted public women's events such as the International Women's Day
 - Enhanced my communication, presentation, networking and leadership skills in local and multi-cultural settings
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LANGUAGES

- Fluent in *Farsi (Dari)* both oral and written (Native speaker)
- Fluent in *English* both oral and written
- Advanced spoken and reading *Pashto*
- Advanced spoken and reading *Italian*
- Intermediate spoken and reading *Urdu*

IT SKILLS

- Competent with Microsoft Office applications
 - Use Zotero for research data collection and management, citation and references
 - Competent with Zarnegar, a Persian program for typing, design, and layout
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REFERENCES: Available upon request
