Mohammad Talha

Karachi, Pakistan, talha.ibr1@gmail.com

PROFILE

Dedicated research director with around ten years of experience at a notable policy think tank in Islamabad providing strategic input to government departments, academia, and the public at large. My expertise lies in fostering partnerships with the government sector, enhancing knowledge sharing among professionals, and driving innovative advocacy strategies. A strong commitment to innovation in research methodologies and program management, dedicated to advancing strategic knowledge and collaboration within the field.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Aug 2017 — Present

Director Research and Academics, Centre for Strategic and Contemporary Research

Islamabad

Policy Research and Advocacy

- Brainstormed and directed CSCR policy research and advocacy initiatives, its publications and supervision of the academics team. Achieved the status of one of the most reputable private policy organisations in Islamabad.
- Ensured knowledge sharing among young to mid-career professionals working in different policy research organisations.
- Developed the idea and organised annual events for young research community to create linkages with the foreign diplomatic corps and government organisations.
- Developed research programs relevant to South Asia and the international community in the domains of technology, maritime, transnational security, deterrence, and climate change.

Notable Projects

- Experience in **designing and leading a Government of Balochistan's sanctioned public diplomacy and capacity-building campaign** for the youth of the province.
- Involved in an **advisory capacity with the digital communication teams of key government figures on security, governance and political issues** at the provincial and federal level.
- **Curated databases related to the Balochistan Militancy Index and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor** containing all the publicly available statistical data.
- Designed a survey to **gauge Pakistan's academic and strategic experts' perspectives on Kashmir** (Published: Future of Kashmir Self Determination Movement, 2021).
- Worked as a **Project Coordinator and developed cover art for the book** 'Downfall: Lessons for our Final Century' authored by Dr. Ilhan Niaz for Amazon Kindle.
- **Conceptualized the Young Researchers' Convention** (Flagship annual conclave of young and mid-career research professionals from the policy and development sector).
- **Developed a pilot study on the demographic implications on Pakistan's national security** for a federal government organisation.
- **Drafted numerous policy briefs for federal government organisations and other external stakeholders** including foreign organisations and various diplomatic missions **on diverse issues of regional and global concerns** in an advisory capacity.

Communications and Outreach

- Designed the UI/UX of CSCR's website over the years and worked along with the communications and web development team to augment the organisational brand image.
- Conceived new knowledge-based products that could cater to the general public as well as informed audiences across different research areas.

Jan 2015 — Jul 2017

Research Associate, Centre for Strategic and Contemporary Research

Islamabad

- Produced daily, weekly, or fortnightly briefs including Pakistan's political situation, Afghanistan monitor, and other research or writing assistance as needed;

- Assisted the Operations & Outreach Directorate in the provision of content relevant to internal event management, including lectures, workshops, and academic conferences;
- Liaison and assistance as and when required to the digital communications team;
- Prepared concept notes and research programs;
- Designed survey instruments and questionnaires to obtain the desired research data;
- Planned and organised in-house and external events and invited subject experts, scholars and officials.

CONSULTANCY

2023   Konrad-Adenaeur-Stiftung (KAS-RECAP)   Hong Kong

- Research study project related to South Asian regional responses to disaster management with the KAS - Regional Programme Energy Security and Climate Change in Asia and the Pacific based in Hong Kong.

2021   International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)   Islamabad

- Worked on a research project related to Pakistani women peacekeepers which was later converted into a published study.

TEACHING

- National University of Modern Languages   Karachi
- Bahria University   Karachi
- DHA Suffa University   Karachi

EDUCATION

Jan 2023 — Present   PH.D. in Strategic Studies, Air University   Islamabad

Currently working on the research dissertation after completion of coursework.

Jan 2020 — Dec 2021   M.Phil in Defence and Strategic Studies, Quaid-i-Azam University   Islamabad

- Dissertation: Indian Armed Forces: Reforms Amidst Changing Civil Military Relations
- CGPA 4.0

Jul 2017 — Jun 2019   M.SC in Defence and Strategic Studies, Quaid-i-Azam University   Islamabad

- Seminar Paper: Conflict Transformation, Virtual Reality, and Peace between India & Pakistan
- Cumulative Percentage 73.3 (Grade B)

Jan 2015 — Dec 2016   BA in International Relations, University of Karachi   Karachi

- First Division, Cumulative Percentage 70.75

PUBLICATIONS

Jan 2024	Pakistan Floods - Underlining the Need for Regional Cooperation for Disaster Risk Management in South Asia(Konrad Adenauer Stiftung - 2024)
Jun 2023	Role of Pakistani Female Peacekeepers in Enhancing International Humanitarian Law: Opportunities and Challenges. Published in Margalla Papers - Volume: 27, Number: 1 (2023)
May 2020	Non-Military Threats and the Limits of National Security (E-IR, 2020)
Mar 2020	Covid 19 Outbreak in Pakistan - Implications and Future Outlook (CSCR, 2020)

COURSES

2024	Foundations of User Experience (UX), Google
2024	Climate Change, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) -RECAP
2022	AI For Everyone, DeepLearning.AI

SKILLS

Communication	Expert	Research Skills	Expert
Innovation	Expert	Consulting	Expert
Python	Beginner		

LANGUAGES

German	Urdu
English	

HOBBIES

Rock Climbing, Paragliding, Learning Music, Reading

REFERENCES

References Available Upon Request