

Bilal Malik

SAI Graduate Student Associate, 2012-2013

Bilal Malik is a doctoral candidate at Harvard Graduate School of Education (in the Culture, Communities, & Education track). His dissertation project reflects 18 months of fieldwork in Pakistan, including field-trips, interviews, and year-long participant-observation inside an Islamic seminary. His research focuses on the cultural and religious lives of seminary students and their entanglements within Pakistani society. In his dissertation, he is exploring the relationships between every-day practices, religious subjectivities, and sociopolitical projects of seminary-affiliates. This first-ever ethnography of a male Islamic seminary in South Asia builds upon and contributes to theoretical, empirical, and policy work in two fields: scholarship on Muslim seminary education; scholarship on Islamist politics.