

SYED RAAFAT GILANI

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RESEARCH PROFILE

Researcher in English literature and Digital Humanities, specialising in computational literary studies, folkloristics, and postcolonial and world literature. Holds an MA in English (dissertation on generative AI and Kashmiri folktales, graded Outstanding) and a BA (Honours) with Distinction. Developed the Word Extractor, an open-source DH tool for extracting Romanised Kashmiri from Anglophone texts, applied to computational analyses of Kashmiri literature.

RESEARCH FIELDS

Digital Humanities · Computational Literary Studies · Postcolonial and Indian Literature · Anglophone Kashmiri Literature · Folkloristics

EDUCATION

Master of Arts in English, Dr B. R. Ambedkar University, Delhi 2022–2024

Dissertation: *Application of Generative Artificial Intelligence in Folkloristics: Investigating Select Kashmiri Folktales Using GenAI Chatbots*

Grade: Outstanding (O) · O GPA 8.38 · Merit Scholarship · Committee: Dr Amit Singh, Dr Diamond Oberoi Vahali

Bachelor of Arts in English Honours, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi 2019–2022

CGPA 8.53 · First Division with Distinction · Class Representative 2019–2022

PUBLICATIONS

Books (fiction)

The Day I Died. 2017. *Sure*. 2019.

Forthcoming Blind Peer-Reviewed Article

“Tse and Cxe: A Digital Humanities Approach to Detecting Orthographic Variation in Romanized Kashmiri within Anglophone Kashmiri Literature.” *Digital Scholarship in the Humanities* (Oxford University Press).

International Conference Presentation

“Small Code, Shared Work: A Minimal-Computing Approach to Linguistic Sovereignty in Transliterated Texts.” *Global Digital Humanities Symposium 2026*.

DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP

Word Extractor: Open-source research tool for identifying Romanised Kashmiri embedded in Anglophone literary texts, applied to computational analyses of Kashmiri linguistic presence.

Computational Analysis of Language, Place, and Sentiment in Anglophone Kashmiri Literature:

DH project analysing geographic references, linguistic choices, and emotional tone in Anglophone texts about Kashmir. Preliminary findings hosted online.

RESEARCH, EDITORIAL & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Editorial & Scholarly Communication

Editor for South Asian Studies, The Digital Orientalist *Aug 2025 – Present*

- Commission, edit, and publish essays on Digital Humanities and South Asian scholarship; author the Editor's Digest on emerging research trends.

Assistant Development Editor, HarperCollins Publishers India *Jan 2025 – Jul 2025*

- Developed and edited K–8 computer science curriculum integrating AI literacy and open-source computing; introduced Linux modules into national textbooks.

Managing Director & Editorial Head, The Jamia Review *Dec 2019 – Jun 2021*

- Directed editorial policy, publication strategy, and organisational expansion to 70+ contributors; oversaw cross-department collaboration and quality assurance.

General Secretary & Editor-in-Chief, English Literary Association, Jamia Millia Islamia *Jan 2021 – Jun 2022*

- Led departmental academic magazine publication, academic panels, and undergraduate peer-review processes.

Technical Experience

Video Annotation Specialist & Content Analyst, Turing *Jul 2024–Nov 2024 & Sep–Nov 2025*

- Curated, annotated, and quality-controlled large-scale proprietary datasets for training and evaluating frontier LLMs; produced guideline-compliant annotations for RLHF pipelines.

RESEARCH SKILLS

- Computational text analysis: sentiment analysis, linguistic detection, and corpus-based methods in multilingual and Anglophone literary texts.
- Working knowledge of Python; experience building small-scale DH tools (NLP, text processing).
- Experienced in applying generative AI and LLMs to literary and folkloristic inquiry.
- Strong academic writing, editorial, and scholarly communication skills.

HONOURS

- Merit Scholarship, Dr B. R. Ambedkar University
- Certificate of Merit, Jamia Millia Islamia (for service as EIC & General Secretary, ELA)

LANGUAGES

English (C2, near-native) · Kashmiri (Native) · Urdu (Intermediate) · Hindi (Intermediate)