Contemporary Creative Expressions of the Qur’an in Pakistan

Ambreen Shehzad Hussaini

Thursday, February 13
5:00-6:00 p.m.
David Turpin Building, Room A110

The Qur’an is a part of people’s everyday life in Pakistan. People engage with the Qur’anic text and the Arabic script in multitude of ways and on various objects. Their perceptions and their reading of the text are guided by their experiences, needs, and interests. During my research fieldwork in 2019, I observed the use of Qur’anic text on objects of material culture ranging from a grain of rice to monumental architectures. In this presentation, I will briefly discuss why and how people engage with the Qur’an through art. I will also showcase a number of objects adorned with the Qur’anic text that I have collected during my fieldwork.

Ambreen Shehzad Hussaini is a PhD candidate in UVic’s Art History and Visual Studies Department and CSRS graduate fellow. Her research focuses on the use of Qur’anic text in material culture and modern visual art.

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