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Author: Aziz, Aamir
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Acknowledgments

I came to Leiden in 2006 on the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan’s funding to pursue my PhD. There was conceivable pride in my mood. The expectation was that in a Western university things would be smooth like a stream and I would be able to float my research project quite easily. However there were 3 long years of course work before my research project finally got under way. In this journey there were many people who accompanied me and I am extremely thankful to all of them for sharing their time with me.

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Curriculum Vitae

Aamir Aziz was born and raised in Faisalabad (20 December, 1983), Pakistan. After finishing his school and college education from Divisional Public School and Government College in his home town, he went to Islamabad to do a masters in English Language and Literature (2004) at the International Islamic University, with cumulative grade point average of 3.5/4.0. After his graduation, he served in Bahria College Naval Headquarter Islamabad as a lecturer in English for 17 months. During this time he won a fellowship from the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan to pursue his PhD in English Literature in The Netherlands. He got admitted at Leiden University where Prof. Richard Todd supervised his course work from 2006 till the end of 2008. After Mr. Todd’s illness and unexpected retirement, Professor Frans-Willem Korsten supervised Aziz’s research project from 2009 to 2014.

Aziz has been writing English poems since 2004 and he had his first book, *Poetic Palpitations from Pakistan: A Lyrical Document of Protest Against a Society*, published on 9 September, 2014 by United P.C, Austria. He is a regular blog writer for the Huffington Post UK and a contributor to EMAJ magazine of the Euro Mediterranean Academy for Young Journalists. He also writes for *International Policy Digest, Daily Times, The Sydney Globalist, The London Globalist and The Postcolonialist*. He has written prose features that appeared in various international magazines, newspapers and electronic journals. He also served as an assistant fiction editor for the UK based literary magazine *The Missing Slate*. He has been working as a freelance translator for the last 4 years as well. After his PhD, he is supposed to serve as an Assistant Professor in English Literature at the department of Humanities in the COMSATS (Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South) Institute of Information Technology Lahore Pakistan.