

SAMEER LALWANI

GWU INSTITUTE FOR SECURITY & CONFLICT STUDIES • 1957 E STREET, NW, SUITE 605 • WASHINGTON DC 20052
MOBILE: (510) 508-7854 • EMAIL: SLALWANI@MIT.EDU

EDUCATION

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (MIT), Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science • September 2008 – Present

- Affiliate, MIT Security Studies Program; Student Editor, *Precis*; 2012-13; Co-Director, MIT Strategic Use of Force Working Group, 2009-2011; Co-Organizer, Harvard-MIT-Yale Graduate Student Conference, May 2012
- Prospectus Defended, April 2011; Comprehensive exams passed in International Relations and Comparative Politics, Sept. 2010; Coursework completed, May 2010 (GPA: 4.9/5.0)
- Dissertation: “The Wars Within: Explaining State Strategies of Counterinsurgency and Consolidation” [Committee: Roger Petersen (Chair), Barry Posen, Fotini Christia, and Vipin Narang]

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY, B.A. Political Science • September 2001 – May 2005

- Phi Beta Kappa, 2005; Highest Departmental Honors; High Distinction University Honors (Magna Cum Laude)
- Honors Thesis: “The Political Economy of the Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process”

ACADEMIC WORK

CONFERENCE PAPER PRESENTATIONS

- “The Wars Within Pakistan: Explaining Strategies of Counterinsurgency and Consolidation,” American Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA, Aug 30-Sept. 2, 2012.
- “The Structural Image Reversed: Explaining and Evaluating the Civil-Military Balance of Power in Iran and Pakistan,” with Mahsa Rouhi, International Studies Association Annual Conference, San Diego, CA, April 1-4, 2012.
- “Selecting Strategy: Explaining Variation in States’ Counterinsurgency Campaigns in South and Southeast Asia,” International Studies Association Annual Conference, Montreal, Canada, March 15-18, 2011.
- “Why Isn’t Turkey Balancing Iran? Explaining Balance-of-Power and Alliance Behavior in Response to Nuclear Proliferation,” International Security Studies Section Annual Conference, Providence, RI, October 14-16, 2010.

WORKING PAPERS

- “Why Did the Iranian Military Stand Down in 1979? A Historical Puzzle with Contemporary Implications”
- “Why Didn’t Pakistan Become a Developmental State? Examining the Role of Threat Environment, Civil-Military Relations, and Institutional Investments.”
- “The Moral Hazard of Humanitarian Intervention Revisited: Explaining Critical Causal Mechanisms in the Model”

RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

RAND CORPORATION, Arlington, VA • June – September 2011

Summer Associate. Worked for NATO assessing force structure and training of Afghan National Security Forces.

NEW AMERICA FOUNDATION, Washington, DC • August 2005 – September 2008

Policy Analyst, American Strategy Program. Researched and drafted congressional testimony. Analyzed political and economic transformations in the Middle East, particularly the GCC states. Published a number of articles in major U.S. media outlets. Managed events, conferences, grant writing, and new media for the American Strategy Program.

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, UC BERKELEY, Berkeley, California • January 2003 – June 2004

Research Assistant to Professor Kiren Chaudhry. Analyzed secondary sources for project on “Economies and Identities: Economic Liberalization and the Rise of Majoritarian Religious Movements in Late 20th Century Turkey and India.”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant to Prof. Barry Posen for “U.S. Military Power,” Spring 2012 (Student Evals: 6.8/7)

Teaching Assistant to Prof. Melissa Nobles for “Intro to Comparative Politics,” Spring 2011 (Student Evals: 6.4/7)

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SELECTED POLICY CONTRIBUTIONS

POLICY PAPERS

- *Transitioning the Afghan National Police from Counterinsurgency to 'Community Policing': Challenges and Recommendations,* (with Laurel E. Miller, Stephen Watts, Stephanie Pezard, Khalid H. Nadiri, and Emily Rachman), RAND Corporation Restricted Draft Series, December 2011 [Under Review]
- "India's Approach to Counterinsurgency and the Naxalite Problem," *CTC Sentinel*, Vol. 4, No. 10, October 2011.
- "Whither Command of the Commons? Choosing Security Over Control," (with Joshua Shiffrin), *Great Powers Initiative Publication*, American Strategy Program, New America Foundation, September 2011.
- "Pakistan's COIN Flip: The Recent History of Pakistani Military Counterinsurgency Operations in the NWFP and FATA," *Counterterrorism Strategy Initiative Publication*, New America Foundation, April 2010. (republished by OUP, 2012)
- "Pakistani Military Capabilities for a Counterinsurgency Campaign: A Net Assessment," *Counterterrorism Strategy Initiative Publication*, New America Foundation, September 2009.

OPINION - EDITORIALS

- "Strategic Rethink Needed," *DAWN* (Pakistan's oldest and leading English daily), March 14, 2010.
- "Putting the 'I' in Aid" (with Peter Bergen), *New York Times*, October 2, 2009.
- "Why We'd Miss Musharraf," *ForeignPolicy.com*, September 2007.
- "The War on Poppies," (with Peter Bergen), *Los Angeles Times*, September 2, 2007.

INVITED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS AND POLICY CONFERENCES

- Presentation, "Explaining Variations in Counterinsurgency," Tobin Project, Cambridge, MA, November 18, 2011.
- Presentation, "Beyond Primacy: Rethinking American Grand Strategy and the Command of the Commons," New America Foundation, Washington, DC, September 13, 2011.
- Panelist, "The Future of Pakistan: Roundtable Discussion with Rt. Hon. David Miliband, MP," MIT Security Studies Program Seminar Series, Cambridge, MA, April, 13, 2011.
- Panelist, "Insecurity and Instability in Western South Asia," Asian Security Challenges Conference, Delhi Policy Group, New Delhi, January 11, 2011.
- Panelist, "The Foreign Fighter Problem: Recent Trends and Case Studies," Foreign Policy Research Institute, Washington, DC, September 27-28, 2010.
- Presentation, "The Battle for Pakistan," New America Foundation, Washington, DC, April 19, 2010
- Presentation, "US Foreign Policy Towards South Asia," Study of the United States Institute on U.S. Foreign Policy, hosted by University of Florida, July 7, 2009 (revised and presented on July 22, 2011)

SELECTED AWARDS & HONORS

- American Institute for Pakistan Studies Fellowship, 2012-13
- Predoctoral Research Fellowship, Institute for Security and Conflict Studies, George Washington University, 2012-13
- MIT Center for International Studies Research Grant, Summer 2012
- World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship, Smith Richardson Foundation, February 2012
- Visiting Scholar, Lahore University of Management Sciences, Pakistan, September-October 2011
- Tobin Project National Security Fellowship, Fall 2011 and Fall 2012
- Carol L. Wilson Award, MIT Entrepreneurship Center, (grant for international research), 2011
- MIT Presidential Fellowship, 2008 – 2009; MIT Graduate Fellowship, 2009 – 2013
- Finalist, U.C. Berkeley Political Science Department Valedictorian, 2005

OTHER

RESEARCH METHODS WORKSHOPS

- Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY, June 18-29, 2012
- Seminar in Conducting Archival Research, George Washington University, Washington, DC, May 21-25, 2012
- Introduction to Geographic Information Systems, MIT Roche Library, January 23-24, 2012

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS: International Studies Association, American Political Science Association

PROFESSIONAL/ACADEMIC TRAVEL: Pakistan, India, Romania, El Salvador, Germany, Belgium, United Kingdom