

2025 - 2026

IRI International Postdoctoral Fellowship



Islamic Research Institute
International Islamic University
Islamabad, Pakistan



Dr. Ahmed Saad Alahmed
President, IIUI



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Introduction of IRI

In the light of the *raison d'être* of the creation of Pakistan, the Islamic Research Institute (IRI) was proposed in Article 197(1) of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan 1956 for research and instructions in advanced studies to assist in the reconstruction of Pakistani society on truly Islamic basis. In compliance with this constitutional requirement, the Islamic Research Institute was established in 1960 to study Islamic culture and civilization and promote research in all branches of thought and learning to contribute to social reconstruction and behavioral change. The Islamic Research Institute (IRI) was annexed to Islamic University in 1980. The Institute became the research arm of the International Islamic University in 1985 as its constituent unit. Moreover, the Institute works as a national think-tank and is responsible for researching various dimensions of Islamic civilization, theology, religious studies, Shariah law, Islamic thought, history and culture. The research done at the Institute is published in books, monographs, reports, and its three renowned quarterly research journals. The Institute offers various graduate and postgraduate diplomas and degrees. It organizes seminars, conferences and workshops to achieve and promote its objectives and advocacy on specific issues related to Pakistani society. In addition, the Institute has one of the largest libraries of Pakistan in social sciences and religious studies that serves as a knowledge repository for researchers and students of Islamabad. Since 2017, the Institute has been leading a campaign for the articulation and implementation of the national narrative "Paigham-e-Pakistan" to contribute to peacebuilding and countering violence and extremism in Pakistan by engaging various segments of the society, particularly Pakistan's Muslim and non-Muslim religious leadership.



An Overview of the Performance of IRI

As one of the pioneering Islamic institutes of Pakistan for research, training and service to society, the Islamic Research Institute, International Islamic University, Islamabad, enjoys a central position when it comes to addressing issues of religious and national importance that require serious and in-depth research and analysis. Initially established under a constitutional declaration in 1960, the Institute has since made significant contributions in the fields of Islamic and social sciences through its research and publications, dialogues and seminars, training and education activities and building national narratives firmly rooted in Islamic principles and shariah guidelines. Being fortunate to have some of the world's renowned scholars at its disposal, the Islamic Research Institute has successfully produced contemporary research using modern research methodologies. The quantum of the impact of the research output of the Institute can be judged through the worldwide circulation of its journals and books. University libraries of some 40 countries subscribe to the Institute's quarterly research journal, Islamic Studies, a high impact factor and SCOPUS-indexed journal. Likewise, its publications are used as textbooks in more than fifty universities in Pakistan and worldwide. Its flagship undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral training programs remain in high demand at all times, and trainees from Saudi Arabia, Maldives, Iraq, Jordan, Egypt, Malaysia, Bangladesh, and Kazakhstan have been their brand ambassadors. The Institute looks forward to becoming a seat of research and learning that inspires researchers and scholars in various social and human sciences with a focus on Islamic studies and provides a platform to Muslim ummah for peacefully regaining their lost golden age by re-excelling in research and learning.



International Sirah Conference on
Contemporary Dimensions in the Study of Sirah of Prophet Muhammad(peace be upon him)
Approaches, Challenges and the Way Forward
April 23-24, 2025

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IRI Research and Writing Training Programmes have been approved by the Board of Governors of IIUI in its 82nd meeting held on July 20th, 2018 and were notified vide notification No.2(166)IRI-85-admin-342 dated August 28, 2018.

The Institute has launched the following three training programmes:

- (1) Undergraduate Training on Research and Technical Writing;
- (2) Postgraduate Training on Academic Research and Scientific Writing; and
- (3) IRI International Postdoctoral Fellowship.

The Institute has trained various groups of IRI International Postdoctoral Fellowship from 2018-Present. The postdoctoral training programme of IRI elevates the researchers to a position where they better understand all dimensions of the Islamic thought, history, and culture. Equipped with such training, these researchers are able to conduct and produce their own research independently. Furthermore, these training programmes contribute in preparing a cadre of researchers for the promotion of quality research at national and international level.



Photo of Postdoc fellows of the session 2022-23

International Postdoctoral Fellowship

INTRODUCTION

IRI International Postdoctoral Fellowship is a one-year learning and training programme that empowers postdoctoral fellows from Pakistan and abroad by providing them with an opportunity of being in touch with the latest research techniques, skills, and methods in a conducive academic environment. This research-based capacity-building programme in various fields of Islamic Studies (Qur'anic Sciences, Hadith and its Sciences, Sirah, Shari'ah, Islamic Law and Jurisprudence, Islamic History, Islamic Culture, Islamic Thought, Philosophy, Tasawwuf, Comparative Study of Religions), Social Sciences, Humanities, Literature, Political and Economic Thought, Law, Education, Arabic, Urdu and other Pakistani languages has been designed to prepare a cadre of capable researchers who can lead contemporary research in various fields of Social Sciences and Humanities. The programme facilitates the postdoctoral scholars with the applied research activities to produce quality research for publication in Journals having high impact factor. Through various training modules, the fellows are prepared to handle complex research problems and situations in advanced academic settings. They are able to use various research tools, data bases and softwares that are helpful in pursuit of efficient and quality research.

IRI International Postdoctoral Fellowship is aimed to:

1. Engage Islamic scholarship in a sound study and research in Islamic Studies (Qur'anic Sciences, Hadith and its Sciences, Sirah, Shari'ah, Islamic Law and Jurisprudence, Islamic History, Islamic Culture, Islamic Thought, Philosophy, Tasawwuf, Comparative Study of Religions), Social Sciences, Humanities, Literature, Political and Economic Thought, Law, Education, Arabic, Urdu, other Pakistani languages and various other social sciences with an Islamic perspective.
2. Review the achievements of Islamic culture and civilization in the past and articulate a framework for future development of Muslim thought to meet the requirements of the contemporary Muslim societies in general and Pakistani society in particular in a rapidly changing world.

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3. Contribute to the capacity-building of the postdoctoral fellows, so that they can:
 - a. update their research and writing skill;
 - b. equip themselves with the latest developments in Islamic thought to become active facilitators and leaders in research on various disciplines of Islamic thought, history and culture;
 - c. train their students to produce quality research;
4. Prepare a network of these fellows and their institutions to create an active international community of researchers in various academic disciplines.

During this training programme, the participants have the opportunity to develop and implement small-scale research projects. They also participate in the organised workshops, lectures, discussion sessions, field visits, and conferences. After IRI one-year International Postdoctoral Fellowship, the Fellows become the part of IRI fellows network.

ELIGIBILITY FOR IRI INTERNATIONAL POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

- I. PhD in any discipline of Islamic Studies (Qur'anic Sciences, Hadith and its Sciences, Sirah, Shari'ah, Islamic Law and Jurisprudence, Islamic History, Islamic Culture, Islamic Thought, Philosophy, Tasawwuf, Comparative Study of Religions), Social Sciences, Humanities, Literature, Political and Economic Thought, Law, Education, Arabic, Gender studies, Anthropology, Psychology, Urdu and other Pakistani languages preferably within the last five years.
- II. A sound research proposal on any theme related to the specialisation of the applicant.
- III. Preference will be given to those scholars who have already published research in the relevant fields. Merit will be determined on the bases of quantity and quality of published research work of the candidates as only limited number of scholars will be selected to join this prestigious programme.

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BOARDING AND LODGING

Selected fellows have to arrange their own boarding and lodging during the period of their residence in Islamabad. However, Islamic Research Institute will facilitate the fellows in securing accommodation in a convenient and economical place. Inside the institute the scholars will be provided with all necessary facilities for conducting research, including free Wi-Fi, utilisation of desktop computers, scanning, printing, and provision of digital data available in the resources of Dr. Muhammad Hamidullah library.

DURATION OF THE PROGRAMME

This postdoctoral fellowship will be held over a period of one year in which fellows will participate in workshops in Islamabad four times during the year. Each workshop will run for a period of one week. Between the two workshops the fellows will be required to work on their research that they anticipate to publish at the end of the programme in one of three research journals of the Islamic Research Institute or any other reputed journal. The fellows will remain in contact with their respective faculty advisors at the Institute.

WORKSHOPS FOR POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

- Workshop 1: Orientation, Capacity Building and Research Planning**
- Workshop 2: Development and Presentation of Postdoctoral Research Proposal**
- Workshop 3: Review of the Literature, Analysis of the Data and Articulation of Research**
- Workshop 4: Editing, Finalization, Presentation, Discussion and Peer Review of the Research**

CERTIFICATION

Fellows who participate and complete all the requirements of the programme are awarded a testimonial certificate as recognition of their completion of the programme. A separate certificate of participation for each workshop will also be given to the participants.

International Postdoctoral Fellowship

HOW TO SUBMIT APPLICATION

AVAILABILITY OF APPLICATION FORM AND INTRODUCTORY BROCHURE

Complete application form along with required documents and postdoc research proposal should be submitted online at the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/iripd>

The detailed information of the programme is available at:

<https://iri.iiu.edu.pk/index.php/training>

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

- 1- Copy of CNIC /Passport
- 2- Copies of all educational certificates from Matric to PhD
- 3- List of published books/ research articles published in HEC recognised journals
- 4- Postdoctoral research proposal
- 5- One reference/recommendation letter

SUBMISSION OF FORM

Complete application form along with required documents and research proposal should be submitted online at the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/iripd>



SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

**December 2025
to
December 2026**

**LAST DATE FOR
SUBMISSION
OF APPLICATION
NOVEMBER 30, 2025**

PROCESSING FEE

The applicant has to submit Rs. 2,000/- (Non-refundable) processing fee along with the application form.

BENCH FEE

The selected candidates will be informed to submit the bench fee of Rs. 70,000/- for local candidates and US \$1000 for international candidates.

VENUE

Islamic Research Institute,
International Islamic University, Faisal Masjid Campus,
Islamabad, Pakistan

FOR INFORMATION

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3rd Graduation Ceremony of IRI International Postdoctoral Fellows
April 25, 2025

GLIMPSES OF IRI POSTDOCTORAL WORKSHOPS



