

Mohsin Yar Khan Yousufi

www.mohsinykyousufi.com

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/mohsinykyousufi/
Email: mohsin.yousufi@hotmail.com, yousufi@gatech.edu

Doctoral student at Design and Social Justice Studio at Georgia Tech working with Dr. Nassim Parvin and Dr. Yanni Loukissas on issues of **ethics** and **social justice** in **emerging technologies**. My research interests lie in studying and understanding how novel technologies act as **socio-technical systems** to impact **communities and individuals**, especially marginalized communities in **urban settings**, and how these impacts intersect with **law** and **design**. My research deals with the question of *how do communities come together using such technologies? Under what conditions are these the most beneficial? Who benefits? How does this challenge our notions about community' & 'home'? and what does this mean for the futures of home?*

Education

Doctor of Philosophy in Digital Media

August 2021 – Present

Georgia Institute of Technology, United States

GPA: 4.00 / 4.00

- *Relevant Coursework:* Principles of Interaction Design, Digital Craft, Information Design, Science and Technology Studies Seminar

Master of Science in Architectural Studies, Minor in Global Studies

August 2020 – May 2021

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, United States

GPA: 4.00 / 4.00

- *Relevant Coursework:* Programming for Data Science, Data, Machines and the Python, CyberGIS & Geo-spatial Data Science

Bachelor of Architecture

January 2015 – December 2019

Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture (IVSAA), Pakistan

Professional Experience

Graduate Research Assistant

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, United States

August 2021 – Present

Part of the team for “Visualizing Resiliency: BIPOC Youth advocacy through Map-making”, a \$1 Million project funded through NSF to research and promote resiliency in middle-school students in Savannah

- Redesigned Map Spot, a data visualization and map-making tool, for middle-schoolers
- Developed 3 modules for the curriculum that integrated Map Spot and introduced students to spatial data about the Savannah
- Led the implementation of the pilot program of the curriculum to 16 students at Georgia Tech Savannah, Summer 2022
- Taught 2 sessions and coordinated the program implementation in Fall 2022 at Mercer Middle School, Savannah to 19 students

International Strategic Plan Intern

Georgia Tech Enterprise Innovation Institute, United States

May 2022 – August 2022

- Reported directly to Vice President, Enterprise Innovation Institute to develop an effective and efficient way of building strategic industrial partnerships with the Georgia Tech and directing capital in excess of \$1 Billion.
- Analyzed and expanded the number of data sources used to inform future partnerships from 1 source to 17 sources related to supply chain risks, trade, governance, manufacturing capabilities, innovation
- Developed the database and refined 5,000+ data points to 234 key indicators for 200 countries to aid in quicker and effective decision making
- Advocated for and achieved successful inclusion of Social and Human Capital indices in the database

Junior Architect

Co-Design (previously Design Options), Karachi, Pakistan

January 2020 – May 2020

- Researched and designed sustainable, low-cost, energy efficient housing solutions for Karachi
- Successfully brought construction cost down to 1,400 PKR from 2,700 PKR per Square Foot

Philosophy Instructor

The Learning Tree, Karachi, Pakistan

August 2018 – May 2020

- Designed and taught Philosophy module in conjunction with Mindfulness & Comparative Spiritualities to 100+ Middle Schoolers

Design Intern

Zuby Design Collective, Karachi, Pakistan

January 2018 – July 2018

- Supervised a team of 3 people to conceptualize and design the expansion of over 20 acres MACPAC Films Limited, at Port Qasim, Pakistan
- Responsible for designs inside the project, commissions amounting to PKR 2.5 million for the firm

Design Intern

Design Options, Karachi, Pakistan

May 2017 – July 2017

- Led a 2 people team to design Karachi's first 'recycled' public park, constructed completely out of industrial & construction waste, at Neher-e-Khayam
- Conducted feasibility studies and research for the project that lead to keeping the project design under the budget of PKR 1 million

Skills

Tools and Software Skills: Python, HTML, JavaScript, CSS, Figma, Adobe Creative Suite, Arduino, Processing, p5.js, Tableau, Sketchup, AutoCAD, Apache Hadoop, MySQL, ArcGIS

Research Skills: Grounded theory, Ethnography, Contextual Inquiry, Interviews, Surveys, Competitive Analysis, Usability Testing, Affinity Mapping, Case Studies, Design Workshops, Focus Groups, Observations

Selected Projects

Heat Seek: A case study of self-surveillance. An ethnographic study of the design and implementation of Heat Seek program, a non-profit organization that provides tenants with heat sensors in New York City.

Mentor: Dr. Nassim Parvin

The "Lost" Window: a clay and arduino powered installation exploring human interaction and material embodiment.

Mentor: Dr. Micheal Nitsche

Huawei's Safe Cities in Pakistan. Drew upon STS and post-colonial frameworks to conduct a through analysis of China's Safe City program in Pakistan, using court records, news articles and interviews to highlight the problematic assumptions and implications of the project in cities around the country. Mentor: Dr. Anita Say Chan

A.I.R.: An AI based, Architectural Image Recognition program capable of classifying architectural drawings against a set of 10 architects. Mentor: Dr. Yun Kyu Yi

Invited Talks and Presentations

- i. **Yousufi, M.,** 'Digital Impact On Space', Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Columbia University, May 2022
- ii. **Yousufi, M.,** Janicki, S., Gupta, S., Casula, P., Ramirez, M., Anupam, A. & Parvin, N. 'Heart Sense: Feminist Reflections on Physiology and Embodiment', Presented at ACCelerate: ACC Smithsonian Creativity and Innovation Festival, Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, Washington D.C., April 2022
- iii. Final Project Reviews, Data Physicalization Design for 'Principles of Information Design', Georgia Institute of Technology, December 2021
- iv. **Yousufi, M.,** 'Trellis: A Shared Housing project in Karachi'. Presented at 'Drawing the Future. Development, Innovation, Sustainability, Beauty', Consulate of Italy, Karachi, Pakistan, November 2020.
- v. **Yousufi, M.,** 'Technology and the Future of Communal Spaces', Presented at Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture, Karachi, Pakistan, April 2018
- vi. **Yousufi, M.,** 'Architect + Communal Space and The Future', Presented at IAPLEX 2018 'Communal Spaces – Transformations and Lessons'. Karachi, Pakistan, March 2018.
*First student speaker in the 14-year history of Conference

Publications

- i. 2022. *Unreliable Tenants & Material Evidence: The work of technology in housing courts.* (In progress)
- ii. **Yousufi, M.,** 2020. "On Schisms and Generalism", Moving Forward, Vol. 1, Issue: Aug 2020, Pages 44-45, Indus Valley School Architecture Journal
- iii. **Yousufi, M.,** 2019. *Prospects for a 21st Century Architecture*, Undergraduate Dissertation, Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture, Pakistan *Distinction Awarded
- iv. **Yousufi, M.,** 2018. 'Architect + Communal Space and the Future', Proceedings of IAPLEX - Karachi 2018, Institute of Architects Pakistan.

Awards and Honors

- i. **Fulbright Masters' Scholar**, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2020 – 2021
- ii. **Highly Commended Award for Adequate, Safe & Affordable housing.** UIA - International Union of Architects, June 2022
- iii. **Founders' Award**, Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture, December 2019
- iv. **4 Honor's List & 1 Dean's List**, Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture, 2015 – 2019
- v. **Distinction**, Undergraduate Dissertation, Indus Valley School of Art & Architecture, December 2019
- vi. **Member, Gargoyle Architecture Honors Society**, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, January 2021
- vii. **Honorable Mention, Kausar Bashir Ahmed Award for Socially Responsible Architecture**, Institute of Architects', Pakistan, August 2020
- viii. **Best Undergraduate Paper**, IAPLEX-Karachi, Institute of Architects Pakistan (IAP), Pakistan, March 2018
- ix. **IAP's Official Student Delegation**, ARCASIA Conference, Japan, Architects Regional Council Asia, August 2018
- x. **Runner-up**, Young Athletes Playroom Design Competition, Special Olympics Pakistan, February 2017
- xi. **'Iftikhar Ali' Award for outstanding performance in Psychology**, Cordoba School for A'levels, 2014

Leadership

- i. **Senator at-Large, Graduate Student Association**, Georgia Institute of Technology, August 2021 – April 2022
 - ii. **President Student Council**, Cordoba School for A 'levels, August 2013 - May 2014
 - iii. **Deputy Head-boy**, Beacon Light Academy August 2011- May 2012
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