Pakistan's Shi’a Scholars and the Specter of Violence

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Pakistan’s Shi’is are massacred daily due to their sectarian affiliations. Based on fieldwork conducted in Pakistan, Mashal Saif asserts that Pakistan’s traditional Shi’a scholars are shaped by this experience and haunted by the specter of this violence.

Mashal Saif is a PhD candidate in the Department of Religion at Duke. She is currently working on her dissertation which examines how traditional Muslim scholars contest tradition and authority in post 9/11 Pakistan. Her research interests include Islam in contemporary South Asia, the trans-temporal dynamics between medieval and modern Islamic discourses and shifts in legal religions imaginaries.

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