

# Madiha R. Tahir

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http://www.madiahatahir.com

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## Education **Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism** May 2009

- M.S.; (Broadcast Television and Radio)
- Coursework: Broadcast (video shooting, editing, production of packages); Radio Skills; Multimedia Newsroom (multimedia slideshows, interactive graphics)
- Thesis: Iraqi Refugees Build New Lives in New York City –Sept 2008

## **New York University** April 2007

- M.A. Near Eastern Studies; awarded full scholarship and stipend for studies
- Fluent: Urdu and Hindi; basic knowledge of Arabic

## **Barnard College of Columbia University** May 2003

- B.A.; *magna cum laude*; Double major: Asian & Middle Eastern Cultures, Political Science

## Journalism Experience

### Sept 2009 – current **Freelance Journalist** Karachi, Pakistan

- Covered floods, refugees, government corruption, rebellion in Balochistan, food insecurity, Pakistani music, Islamists and the Facebook ban. In progress: post-Army operation Swat, the forcibly disappeared in the Global War on Terror, and drugs in Af-Pak border town of Chaman (Nato's supply route).
- Travelled widely through Pakistan including Balochistan, Swat, Peshawar, and rural areas.

### Aug 2006 –July 2009 **Alfred I. duPont Awards –Administrative** New York, NY

- Excerpted video and audio clips of winning programs for ceremony
- Assisted in production of duPont Awards documentary, produced by Rainmedia.
- Made video and audio ready for online viewing and judging process and worked with director to develop online process for duPont Awards
- Supervise two research assistants and 25 volunteers for ceremony
- Coordinate duPont site web updates: CMS familiarity

### Nov 2008 **Current TV Collective Journalism –Co-produced, Shot and Edited** New York, NY

- Package: profile of a former Bears Stearns worker after the financial market collapse

### May 2008 **Network 2020, Pakistan Policy Research –Field Researcher** Pakistan

- Co-produced report on US-Pakistan relations: [A Different Kind of Partner](#)
- Traveled across Pakistan—from Karachi to Peshawar—in 8 member team
- Conducted approx. 60 field interviews (ambassadors, radical Islamists, businessmen, university chancellors, politicians, Pakistani military, intellectuals and persons-on-the-street.)
- Presented report at New York Law School Panel

### Feb 2008 **Current TV Short Segment –Co-produced, Shot and Edited** New York, NY

- Package: an online medical practice that claims to cut the cost of healthcare for New Yorkers.

### Apr 2006 –Oct 2006 **Documentary for Current TV –Production Associate** New York, NY

- Conducted Urdu interviews with family of Brooklyn immigrant charged with planning to bomb New York City subways
- Gained access to family and the prosecution and defense teams for interviews
- Translated footage from Urdu to English

### Nov 2005 –Nov2006 **Arab Studies Journal –Book Review Editor** New York, NY

- Edit and review articles for submission; academic journal
- Solicit articles and book reviews

## Policy & Administrative Experience

### Jul 2005- Jan2006 **South Asian Construction Workers' Project –Organizer** New York, NY

- Involved in launch; organization lobbying for fair wages for immigrant workers
- Interviewed workers and served as translator to establish case histories for lawsuits

### 2003- 2006 **Coney Island Avenue Project (immigrants' rights)** Brooklyn NY

- Media work around immigrants' rights: press releases and press conferences.

### Oct 2003- Jul 2004 **Afghan Communicator (community non-profit) – Program Coordinator** Queens, NY

- Edited and did lay-out of bi-monthly Community Bulletin; wrote articles
- Commissioned free-lance submissions
- Created internship program and supervised 2 volunteers

## Skills/ Interests

- Video and Audio: Final Cut Pro, Avid, ProTools
- Web: Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Bridge, Audacity, Soundslides, CSS, basic Flash skills, CMS familiarity
- Languages: Urdu and Hindi (South Asia); basic Arabic

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## Sample Projects:

(For more clips, please go to [www.madiahatahir.com](http://www.madiahatahir.com).)

### PRINT

- [Letter from Karachi: The Facebook Fiasco and the Future of Free Speech in Pakistan](#) | *Foreign Affairs*
- [Balochistan: Pakistan's Broken Mirror](#) (Cover story) | *The National UAE*
- [Chaos Theory: How Pakistan was Cast as a Failed State](#) | *Columbia Journalism Review*

### VIDEO

- [Pakistan Flood Victims Tell of Suffering, Unfolding Disaster in Southern Sindh Province](#) | *Democracy Now!*
- [Flood Refugees in Karachi Relief Camp Complain of Government Corruption and Inefficiency](#) | *Democracy Now*
- [Pakistan Fashion Week: Defying the Taliban](#)
- [Edoc: Williamburg Doctor's Internet Practice](#) (original content) | *Current TV*
- [Deaf Dance Student Feels the Rhythm](#) | *Columbia Journalism School*

### RADIO

- [Religious minority under threat in Pakistan](#) | *BBC & PRI's "The World"*
- [Millions in Pakistan Still Depend on Handouts](#) | *BBC & PRI's "The World"*
- [Pakistani Solidarity After the Flood](#) | *BBC & PRI's "The World"*
- [Global Hit: Sufi Music in New York](#) | *BBC & PRI's "The World"*

### MULTIMEDIA:

- [Payback: Remittances in NYC to Pakistan](#) | *Global Post*
- [Bread & Burlesque: A Performer Survives the Bare Economy](#) (Photo slideshows, video and blog) | *Coping in NY*