

Dr Shameer Modongal

Fulbright Nehru Postdoctoral Research Fellow

Email: smodongal@american.edu; shameernoorani@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.american.edu/sis/faculty/smodongal.cfm>

[Google Scholar](#) (Citations:123, h-index: 3, i10 index: 2)

SCOPUS ID: [57188536829](#) (articles: 9, citations: 56, h-index: 2)

Web of Science: [IQU-6201-2023](#) (articles: 12, citations: 42, h-index: 2)

Research Interests

International Relations, West Asia, Islam; BRICS, Indian Foreign Policy, Chinese Foreign Policy

Current Appointment

Fulbright Nehru Postdoctoral Research Fellow (2024 – Present)

Visiting Scholar in Residence, School of International Service, American University, Washington DC,

Education

2016-2021 PhD, Centre for International Politics, Organization and Disarmament (CIPOD), Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi

Title: Islamic perspectives on international conflict resolution: a case study of the theological debates on the Israel-Palestine peace process

2014-2016 MPhil, Diplomacy and Disarmament, CIPOD, JNU, New Delhi

2012-2014 MA Politics (with specialization in International Relations), JNU, New Delhi

Academic Appointments

2021-2024 Assistant Professor, Department of Islamic and West Asian Studies, University of Kerala

2021 CKG Memorial Government College, University of Calicut

Publications

Books

Modongal, S. (2022). *Islamic Perspectives on International Conflict Resolution: Theological Debates and the Israel-Palestinian Peace Process*. London: Routledge

Modongal, S & Mousavian, S. H. (2022). *Religion and Nuclear Weapons: A Study of Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan*. New Delhi: Vij Books India

Edited Books

Modongal, S. & Kunnath, R. (upcoming). *Reimagining Democracy in West Asia: Voices, Movements, and Moral Claims*. Nova Science Publishers.

Modongal, S. & Ramachandran, A. K. (Eds) (2025). *Navigating A Complex Terrain: India's Strategic Engagements with West Asia During the NDA Government*. Vij Books. ISBN: 978-93-48738-89-9.

Ramachandran, A. K & Modongal, S. (Eds.) (2025). *Women Empowerment: Issues and Challenges*. New Century Publications. ISBN: 978-8177085617

Lhaskyabs, S., Modongal, S. & Oinam, A. (Eds.) (2021). *Counterterrorism and Global Security - Genesis, Responses and Challenges*. Delhi: Vij Books India

Journal Articles

Scopus-Indexed Journals

Ramachandran, A.K. & Modongal, S. (2026). Women's Empowerment and Authoritarian Resilience: A Critical Analysis of Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030. *Hawwa: Journal of Women of the Middle East and the Islamic World* (Brill), 24, 1-27.

https://brill.com/view/journals/haww/24/1-2/article-p78_4.xml

Modongal, S. & Ramachandran, A.K. (2024). Steadfast and Strong: Chronicles of Palestinian Women's Resistance, *Economic & Political Weekly*, 59(48).

<https://www.epw.in/engage/article/steadfast-and-strong-chronicles-palestinian-womens-0>

Modongal, S. (2023). The resurgence of religion in international relations: How theories can accommodate it?. *Cogent Social Sciences*, 9(1),

2241265. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/figure/10.1080/23311886.2023.2241265>.

Modongal, S. (2020). Justice ('adl) Through Forgiveness ('afw): Islamic Ethics for Qisās as an Alternative to the Western Conflict Resolution Mechanism. *Islamic Quarterly*, 64(2), 147-158.

Modongal, S. & Mousavian, S. H. (2019). Why Iran Has Not Developed the Nuclear Weapons: Understanding the Role of Religion in Nuclear Policies of Iran. *Bandung*, 6(1), 132-152,

https://brill.com/view/journals/bjgs/6/1/article-p132_132.xml

Modongal, S. (2017). Self-Determination And Power: A Human-Centric Approach To The International Relations. *Journal of Liberty and International Affairs*, 3(1), 63-68, <https://e-jlia.com/index.php/jlia/article/view/85>

Modongal, S. (2016). Development of nationalism in China. *Cogent Social Sciences*, 2(1), 1235749, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2016.1235749>

Modongal, S. (2016). Deterrence of nuclear terrorism in the context of South Asia. *Defense & Security Analysis*, 32(4), 354-360. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/14751798.2016.1160488>

Other Peer-Reviewed Journals

Modongal (2025). Sociology of Nuclear Research in India. *Journal of Polity and Society*, 16(2), 91-100. <https://journalspoliticalscience.com/index.php/i/article/view/144>

Modongal, S. (2023). Prophet's Teaching on Jar: Application of Islamic Ethics of Neighborhood in the New Globalized Society. *Khazanah Pendidikan Islam*, 5(3), 143-155, <https://journal.uinsgd.ac.id/index.php/kp/article/view/34204>.

Modongal, S. (2022). Political Communication of Donald Trump: An Analysis of the Factors Shaping Populist Communication. *International Journal of Political Science*, 8(1), 9-17.

Modongal, S. (2021). Impact of 'War on Terror' on South Asian Security. *International Journal of Political Science*, 7(1), 23-30.

Modongal, S. (2017). Power Maximization and State Security. *World Affairs*, 21(2), 10-20.

Modongal, S. (2017). Unity in Diversity: A Normative Agenda in the Foreign Policy of India. *World Focus*, 455, 78-88

Modongal, S. (2016). Great Leap Forward Revisited. *Third Concept*, 30 (358), 11-16.

Modongal, S. (2015). Yemen: Competing Actors, Multiple Interests and Ambiguous Future. *World Focus*, 427, 117-127

Modongal, S. (2015). Increasing Relation between India and Israel after 1992: Causes and Effects. *International Journal of Research (IJR)*, 2(4), 542-552

Modongal, S. (2015). Collective economic diplomacy of global south: India's role. *International journal of diplomacy and economy*, 2(4), 368-377., <http://www.inderscience.com/info/inarticle.php?artid=73927>

Books in Regional Language

Shameer (2024). *Palestine-Israel: Matham, Rashtreeyam (Palestine-Israel: Religion and Politics)*. IPB Books

Kunnath, R. & Modongal, S. (Eds.) (2024). *Palestine: Charithravum Varthamanavum (Palestine: Past and Present)*. Mythri Books

Chapters in Edited Volume

Ramachandran, A.K. & Modongal, S. (2024). Palestinian women's resistant movements against Israel. In R. Kunnath & S. Modongal (Eds.). *Palestine: Charithravum Varthamanavum (Palestine: Past and Present)*. Mythri Books

Modongal, S. & Ramachandran, A.K. (2024). Causes and effects of shift in India's foreign policy towards Israel. In Athul S. (Ed.). *The Wound of the World: Marks of the Lands of Disappearance*. Trivandrum: Pravda Books.

Articles in Popular Magazines and Newspapers

- Modongal, S. (2025). Nimisha Priya's case shows formal diplomacy is not enough; we also need faith-based mediation. *Indian Express*. 21 July 2025.
<https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/nimisha-priya-case-blood-money-sharia-law-qisa-10140141/>.
- Modongal, S. (2025). Conflicts in West Asia: Levant in turmoil. *Indian Express*. 9th February.
<https://indianexpress.com/article/upsc-current-affairs/upsc-essentials/conflicts-in-west-asia-levant-in-turmoil-9823321/>
- Kunnath, R. & Modongal, S. (2023). Conversation with Prof. AK Ramakrishanan, *Palestine: Liberation History and Present/Palestine: Vimochanathinte Charithravum Varthamaanavum, Madhyamam Weekly*. 27th November.
- Kunnath, R. & Modongal, S. (2023). Conversation with Prof. AK Ramakrishanan, *Who is changing the position on Palestine? / Palestine Vishayathil Aaraanu Nilapadu Mattunnathu. Madhyamam Weekly*. 4th December.

Book Reviews

Scopus-Indexed Journals

- Modongal, S. (2019). Political Islam: Its Forms and Transition. *International Studies Review*, 21(3), 535–536. <https://doi.org/10.1093/isr/viz030>.
- Modongal, S. (2019). Book Review: B. Dupret. 2018. What is the Sharia?. *Digest of Middle East Studies*, 28(2), 419-422, <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dome.12185>.
- Modongal, S. (2019). Book Review: A. A. Haque. 2017. Law and Morality at War. *Human Rights Review*, 20(1), 129-130, <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs12142-018-0541-3>.
- Modongal, S. (2018). Book Review: Shiraz Maher (ed.), Salafi-Jihadism: The History of an Idea. *Political Studies Review*, 16(1), NP49 P49. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1478929917723872>
- Modongal, S. (2018). Book Review: H. S. Timani. 2017. Takfir in Islamic Thought. *Digest of Middle East Studies*, 27(2), 320–322, <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dome.12148>.
- Modongal, S. (2018). Book Review. S. Tharoor. 2017. Inglorious Empire: What the British Did to India. *Insight Turkey*, 20 (1), 242-244. <https://www.insightturkey.com/book-reviews/inglorious-empire-what-the-british-did-to-india>.
- Modongal, S. (2017). Book Review: Zafar Khan. 2015. Pakistan's Nuclear Policy: A Minimum Credible Deterrence. *Journal of Asian Security and International Affairs*, 4(3), 360–362. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2347797017729906>

- Modongal, S. (2017). Book Review: D. Dragovic. 2015. Religion and post-conflict statebuilding: Roman Catholic and Sunni Islamic perspectives. *Politics, Religion & Ideology*, 18(4), 468–469. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/21567689.2017.1397591>.
- Modongal, S. (2015). Book Review: J. A. Larsen & K. M. Kartchner. On a limited nuclear war in the 21st century. *Defence Studies*, 15(4), 382-384.
<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14702436.2015.1084107>

Other Peer-Reviewed Journals

- Modongal, S. (2026). Book Review: M. Mahdavi. 2023. The Myth of Middle East Exceptionalism: Unfinished Social Movements. *Reading Religion*. American Academy of Religion. <https://readingreligion.org/9780815637929/the-myth-of-middle-east-exceptionalism/>
- Modongal, S. (2018). Book Review: M. Graziano. 2017. Holy Wars and Holy Alliance: The Return of Religion to the Global Political Stage. *Reading Religion*. American Academy of Religion. <http://readingreligion.org/books/holy-wars-and-holy-alliance>.
- Modongal, S. (2018). Book Review: G. Shafir. 2017. A Half Century of Occupation: Israel, Palestine, and the World’s Most Intractable Conflict. *Strategic Studies Quarterly*, <http://www.airuniversity.af.mil/SSQ/Book-Reviews/Article/1465201/a-half-century-of-occupation-israel-palestine-and-the-worlds-most-intractable-c/>.
- Modongal, S. (2018). Book Review: F. Devji & Z. Kazmi. 2017. Islam After Liberalism. *Reading Religion*. American Academy of Religion. <http://readingreligion.org/books/islam-after-liberalism>.
- Modongal, S. (2018). Book Review: C. Bennett & S. Alam. 2017. Sufism, Pluralism and Democracy. *Reading Religion*. American Academy of Religion. <http://readingreligion.org/books/sufism-pluralism-and-democracy>.
- Modongal, S. (2015). Book Review. R. Kumar & V. Worm, International Negotiation in China and India: A Comparison of the Emerging Business Giants. *World Affairs*.

Fellowships and Awards

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2024 | Fulbright Nehru Postdoctoral Fellowship, United States-India Educational Foundation, New Delhi |
| 2017 | National Eligibility Test for Assistant Professor in Political Science, University Grants Commission, India |
| 2014 | Junior Research Fellowship of the University Grants Commission, India, Subject: International and Area Studies |
| 2013 | National Eligibility Test for Assistant Professor in International and Area Studies, University Grants Commission, India. |

Professional positions held

- Course Coordinator of M.A. West Asian Studies, University of Kerala, from 6 February 2023 to 27 August 2024.
- Academic Director, Jamia Madeenathunnoror, Kozhikode from 17th March 2021 to 16th March 2022
- Junior Research Associate at Write Ignite Pvt. Ltd., Delhi from 4th March 2020 to 15th March 2021.

Editorial and Reviewing Activities

- Editor of *Global Change, Peace & Security* of Taylor and Francis since June 2024.
- Editor of *Cogent Social Science* of Taylor and Francis since September 2021.
- Reviewer of the *British Journal of Political Science*, Cambridge University Press, since 29th December 2023.
- Reviewer of *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*, Springer Nature.
- Editor of the *International Journal of Political Science* (ISSN: 2454-9371) since 18th January 2021.
- Editor of *Journal of Political Science and International Relations* (ISSN: 2640-2785) since 30th April 2025.
- Editor of *World Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities* [ISSN (Print): 2474-1426, (Online): 2474-1434] from 13th May 2017 to 13th May 2018.
- Reviewer of *World Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities* from 13th May 2016 to 13th May 2017.
- Reviewer of the journal *International Relations and Diplomacy* (ISSN 2328-2134) from 10th August 2017 to 26th October 2021
- Reviewer of *Global Journal of Human-Social Science* (ISSN: 2249-460X) since 19th July 2018.

Other Qualifications

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 2018-2020 | MA Political Science, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi |
| 2018 | Online Course of Harvard University through EdX on “Religion, Conflict and Peace” |
| 2009-2010 | One-year Diploma in Urdu Language, National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India. |
| 2007-2012 | Degree in Islamic Studies, Madeenathunnoor College of Islamic Science, Kerala. |
| 2007-2009 | Two-Years diploma in Functional Arabic, NCPUL |

Invited Scholarly Engagements

- Chair of the Session: “(Re)assessing the Landscapes of Global Security II” at the International Studies Association’s 67th Annual Convention, held at Columbus, Ohio on 22-25 March 2026.
- Chair of the Session: “International Relations and Diplomacy” at the Middle East Studies Association annual conference held in Washington, DC on 22-25 November, 2025.
- Discussant on Virtual Panel: "The Middle East and North Africa: Between Colonialism and Conflict" at the International Studies Association’s third Annual Virtual Conference, held from 29 July to 1 August 2025.
- Technical Moderator on Virtual Panel: "India's Foreign Policy, Defence Policy, and International Relations" at the International Studies Association’s third Annual Virtual Conference, held from 29 July to 1 August 2025.
- Technical Moderator on Virtual Panel: "Terrorism and Counterterrorism" at the International Studies Association’s third Annual Virtual Conference, held from 29 July to 1 August 2025.
- Prepared syllabuses for many subjects for Four Year BA West Asian Studies, University of Kerala.
- Participated in the five-day workshop for Curriculum Design and Development for the Four-Year Undergraduate Programme in Islamic History, University of Kerala.
- Organized five-days international workshop on ‘Reframing Teaching-Learning Process in Islamic and West Asian Studies’ at the Department of Islamic and West Asian Studies (DIWAS), University of Kerala, on 06-10 March 2023.
- Discussant of session at international workshop on ‘Reframing Teaching-Learning Process in Islamic and West Asian Studies’ at the Department of Islamic and West Asian Studies (DIWAS), University of Kerala, on 06-10 March 2023
- Chaired a session on “Political Parties, Ideology and Representation” in the Three-Day National Webinar conducted by the School of Distance Education, University of Kerala on 25-27 March, 2022
- Convened a Session on “Justice and Human Rights in Post Secular World” in the First International Academic Conference Organized by Malaibar Institute for Advanced Studies in collaboration with National University of Malaysia (UKM) & Tawasul Centre for Research and Dialogue, Italy on 30-31 December, 2017.

Selected Conference/Seminar Presentations

- Lecture on “Mappila Muslims’ Life in Kerala” with the Outreach Lecturing Fund of Fulbright at Michigan State University on 15 April 2026.
- Presented a paper on “Reimagining Global Politics: Islamic Liberation Theology as Normative Framework” at the Michigan State University Muslim Studies Program’s nineteenth annual conference, held on 26-27 March 2026.
- Presented a paper on “Orientalist Discourses and the Crisis of Sovereignty in the Middle East: Reimagining International Relations through Decolonial Lenses” for Panel

“Perception and truth” at the International Studies Association’s 67th Annual Convention, held at Columbus, Ohio on 22-25 March 2026.

- Presented a paper on “Is the World Still Divided? Revisiting the Abodes Framework in the Age of Globalization” for Panel “Religion and Politics in a Globalized World” at the International Studies Association’s 67th Annual Convention, held at Columbus, Ohio on 22-25 March 2026.
- Presented a paper on “Beyond the Anti-West Narrative: Understanding BRICS+ and Its Global Role” at the First International Conference on "Rethinking International Relations in an Age of Uncertainty", conducted by Sino Group Belt and Road Research Institute, held in Hong Kong on 14-15 November 2025.
- Presented a paper on “Geopolitics of Bypassing: Role of Trade Corridors in Shaping Iran’s Sanctioned Economy” at the Eighteenth Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa held on 02-03 November 2025 at Washington DC.
- Presented a paper on “From Realism to Resilience: Rethinking Security through the BRICS Framework” at APSA-IS and ISAISSS 2025 Joint Annual Conference on “Security in a time of polarized extremes: Reassessing theory, practice, and the Classroom” held on 16-18 October 2025 at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg Center in Washington, D.C., USA.
- Presented a paper on “Faith-Based Peacebuilding: Integrating Religion into International Conflict Resolution Theories” at the International Studies Association’s third Annual Virtual Conference, held from 29 July- 1 August, 2025.
- Presented a paper on “BRICS Expansion and the Rise of Multipolarity: Implications of Iran’s Inclusion” at the workshop “The United States and the Gulf in an Era of Global Power Shifts” in the Second Gulf Studies Symposium, organized by the Gulf International Forum, on 11-12 April, 2025, Georgetown University, Washington D.C.
- Presented a paper titled “Intersectionalities and Political Participation: A Study of Muslim Women in Kerala’s Political Scenario” at the International Conference on “Reflections on the Past, Looking to the Future: Fifty Years of Towards Equality”, conducted by Centre for Women's Development Studies on 3-5 March 2025.
- Presented paper on “The Role of Indian Diaspora in the Soft Power of the Gulf Countries’ in the International Conference on "Migration and Diaspora in West Asian and North African (WANA) Region: Global Concerns and Implications for India", organized by organized by the Department of West Asian and North African Studies at Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), on March 15-16, 2023
- Presented a paper on “Understanding the Role of Diaspora in the Soft Power of the Host Countries” in the International Interdisciplinary Series of Conferences on “the Global Indian Diasporas: Literary, Cultural and Socio-Economic Perspectives in the 21st Century”, conducted by Central University of Gujarat on 23-25 February 2023.

- Presented paper on “The US in the Middle East: A Facilitator or Competitor for China?” in the IV Eurasian Research on Modern China and Eurasia Conference conducted by “China-Eurasia” Council for Political and Strategic Research Foundation, Armenia, on 2-3 December 2022.
- Presented paper on “Can Conflicts be Solved Without Religion? Limitation of Secular Pathways of Conflict Resolution in The Middle East” in the International Conference on Peace & Conflict Resolution (ICPCR), conducted by International Islamic University, Malaysia, on 22 October 2022.
- Presented paper on “Religion and non-proliferation: How do Religious Norms Constrain Nuclear Weaponization: A Case Study of Iran” in the International Studies Association (ISA) Joint International Conference 2017, Hong Kong, held on June 15-17th, 2017.

Membership in professional associations

- Member of the International Studies Association from 7th August 2025.
- Member of the American Academy of Religion from 4th August 2025.
- Member of the Middle East Studies Association (MESA) from 22nd June 2025.
- Member of the Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (ASMEA) from 8th September 2024
- Member of the Association of Third World Studies from 2nd July 2022 to 1st July 2024.
- Member of the British International Studies Association (BISA) from 31st January 2018 to 31st January 2019.
- Member of the International Studies Association (ISA) from 27th December 2016 to 27th December 2017.