CFP: Widening the Lens on Pakistani Screens

The 3rd annual CLCS Screen Studies Symposium will be held online on 4-5 December 2020. We are inviting proposals for undergraduate/graduate papers, workshops and panels from within and outside LUMS under the theme of “Widening the Lens on Pakistani Screens”.

Practitioners and scholars in the field of film, television and screen studies are constantly having to adapt to ever-evolving challenges in the audio-visual landscape brought on by new technologies, changing social and political realities and even pandemics. Today we find ourselves facing both major obstacles and endless possibilities. It is, therefore, more important than ever that we encourage and support original and serious scholarship on film and screen studies in Pakistan, where the study of film, television, and digital media has only recently come to be seen as a legitimate area of scholarly inquiry. With this in mind, we hope that the CLCS Screen Studies Symposium can facilitate multiple and important debates, dialogue and innovative academic work in the field.

Topics for proposals may include but are not limited to:

- New technologies and their impact on Pakistani screens, including webseries, streaming platforms, and social media
- Impacts of gender, class, ethnic, or linguistic marginalization in and on media
- Censorship and social media as they relate to film, television, YouTube, and other platforms
- Sub-national or regional screens, particularly in languages other than Urdu
- Documentary or other non-fiction genres of film and television
- The popularity of Turkish and Korean dramas with Pakistani audiences
- Private collections and piracy as a form of archiving in Pakistan
- Film form and aesthetics, roles of sound and music, colour, editing and animation
- Film production and distribution infrastructures, financing, challenges and opportunities
- Relationships or comparisons between local and global industries, particularly other industries in the Global South
- Screen cultures as sites for political organization, solidarity-building, and activism
- The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on Pakistani screen cultures

Proposals should be sent to reelpakistan@lums.edu.pk by 24 October 2020. You will be notified whether your proposal has been accepted by 1 November 2020.

Proposals should include the title, abstract (up to 300 words) and short bio.

All virtual presentations of accepted proposals will be pre-recorded. Workshops and panel discussions will be held live. Selected papers may be published in Reel Pakistan.