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### **AIPS Travel Grant Final Report**

Accardi was awarded an AIPS Domestic Travel Grant to co-present a paper with Karen Pechilis at the at the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison: *Engendering Bhakti Networks in Kashmir and Tamil Nadu* at the Regional Bhakti Studies Network Preconference *Beyond Familiar Boundaries: Collaborative Studies of Bhakti Across Limits of Language and Region*.

This presentation served to build a foundation for ongoing collaborative research between Accardi and Pechilis investigating how somewhat marginalized religious figures who are nonetheless pertinent to differing sectarian, regional, and national identities may share parallel processes of gendering and reappropriation to serve sociopolitical ends. Their presentation raised these issues of religion and politics in ways that addressed concerns of Pakistan Studies among scholars who rarely attend to the field and demonstrated how certain historical dynamics may serve parallel ends even across contentious national boundaries, promoting continued collaboration and investment in Pakistan Studies among scholars who may be situate themselves as peripheral to the field. This presentation constitutes part of a now-continuing collaborative comparative project between Accardi and Pechilis and contributes to his second book project on the appropriation and gendering of early modern figures for contemporary politics in Pakistan and Kashmir.