

The Uncreated Garden: A Textual History of Ghalib's Urdu Poetry
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I will be giving two-three lectures at Lahore University of Management Sciences pertaining to my current work on Ghalib. LUMS has organized a “literary week” (November 20-27, 2015) in tandem with the Faiz Peace Festival in Lahore (November 22-24, 2015). I have been invited to the Faiz Festival as well. Professor Frances Pritchett and I will also offer an Urdu literature workshop at LUMS.

My project explores a trove of ‘unpublished’ or ‘rejected’ work of the great 19th century Urdu and Persian poet Asadullah Khan Ghalib (1797-1869), with a view to addressing major issues surrounding the mystery as to why this poetry was discarded. I use the inquiry as an approach to larger questions, such as the importance of the printed word in the changing literary milieu, the values of critical practice from the perspective of new readers, and the economics of publication. It will be the first textual history of Ghalib’s poetry.