

UCL Creative Health Community Event



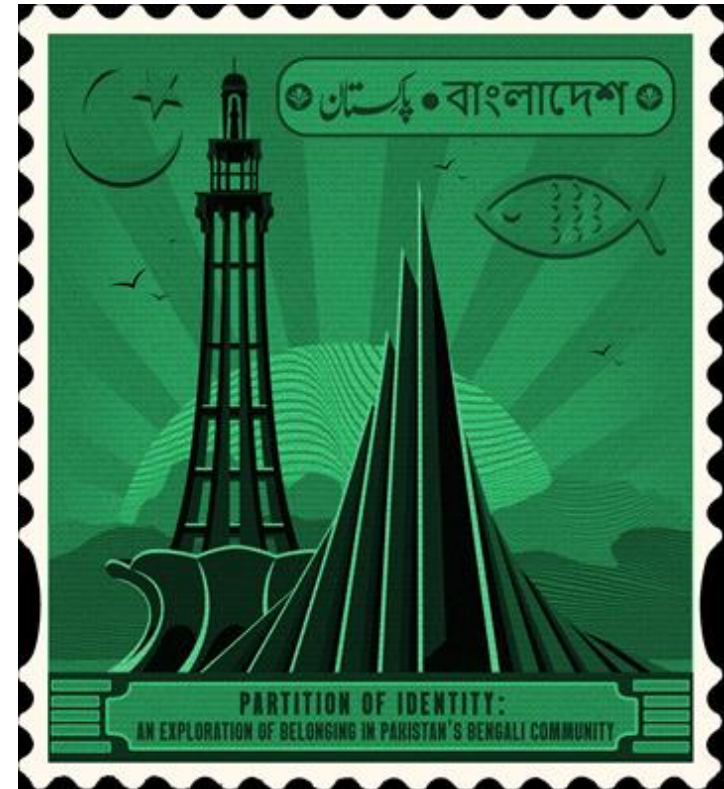
Dr Humera Iqbal
[@Humeralqbal1](#)

Image by Naila Mahmood

Statelessness

And challenges around citizenship

Partition of Identity: An Exploration of Citizenship & Belonging in Pakistan's Bengali Community (1971 – Present)



Logo designed by Artist - Amani Noor

Project Team

Humera Iqbal (UCL)

Anushay Malik (LUMS)

Maria Rashid (UCL)

Arooj Aurangzeb (LUMS)

Shahid Shah (activist,
community leader)

Irfan Hasan (artist)

Jawad Sharif (filmmaker)



HUMERA IQBAL



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MARIA RASHID



IRFAN HASAN



JAWAD SHARIF



AROJ AURANGZEB



UCL



INDUS VALLEY SCHOOL OF ART AND ARCHITECTURE



پاکستان انسٹیٹیوٹ آف لیبرا کیجو کیشن اینڈ ریسرچ کراچی
**PAKISTAN INSTITUTE OF LABOUR
EDUCATION & RESEARCH-KARACHI**



1. Historical Context



Overprint of Pakistani stamp following the events of 1971

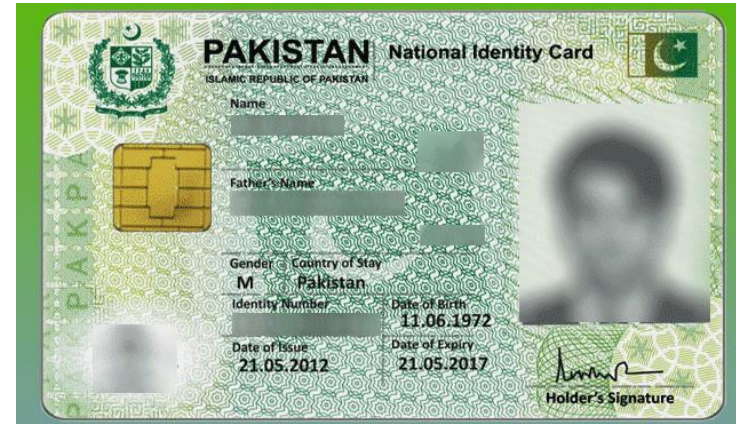
2. Pakistani Bengalis



a) Karachi as a key site



Map of Karachi



Biometric National Identity Card (NIC) issued by National Database and Registration Authority (NARDRA)

Access to Health (physical and mental)

Access to education

Mobility

Precarious work

Displacement

Property

Environment & Health

Everyday discrimination

Sense of belonging

Loss of family

Trauma linked to the past
(individual & collective memories)

***inherited statelessness**



Machar Colony, Karachi





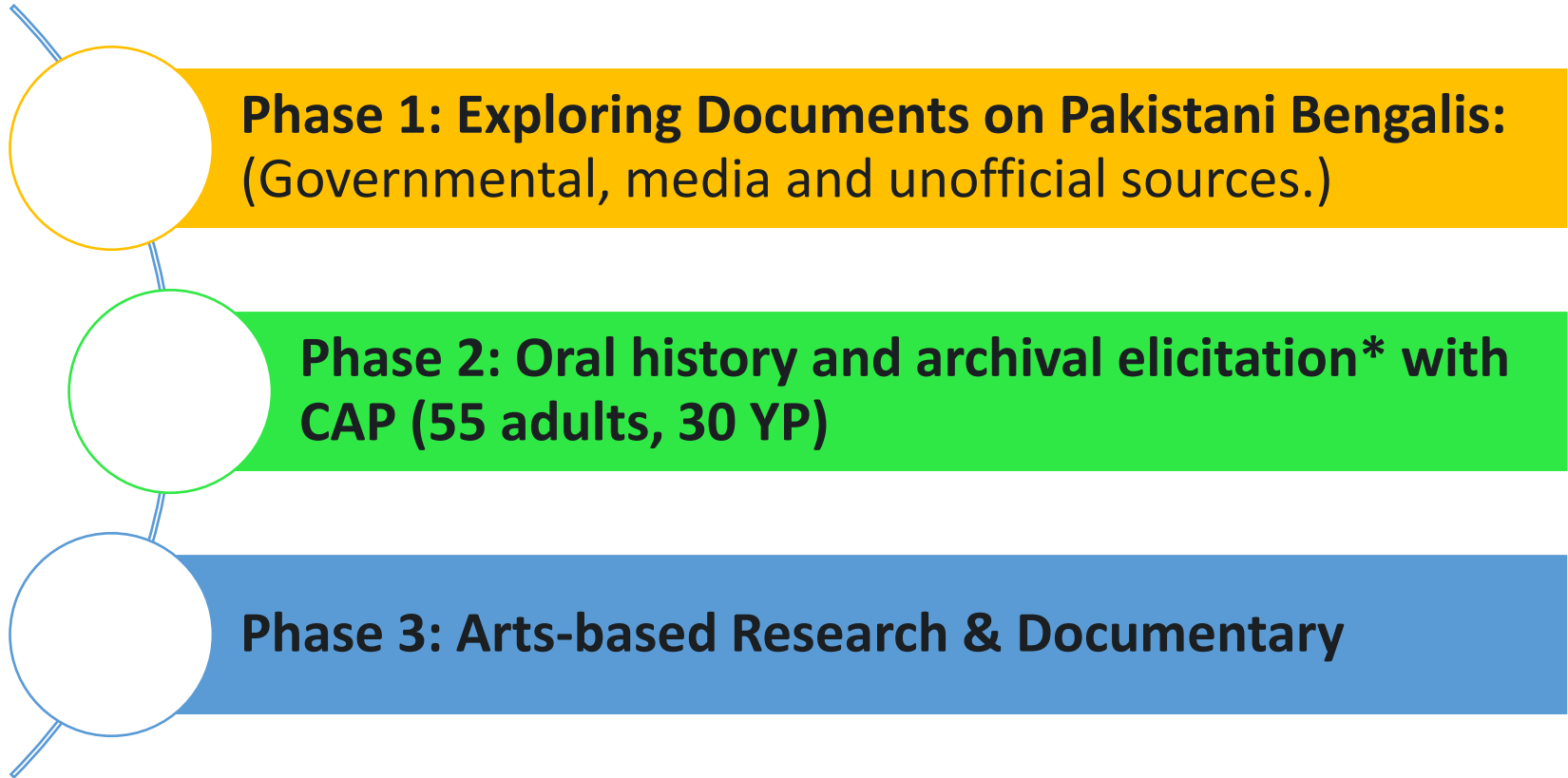
Images by Arooj Aurangzeb with permission

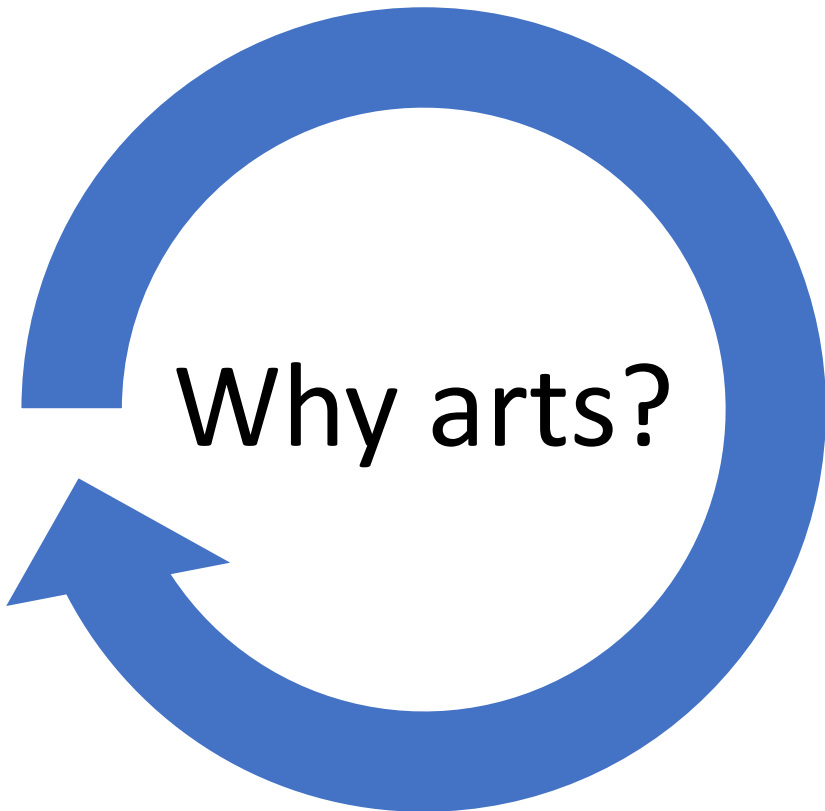
Q1. How are Pakistani Bengalis are **historically and culturally** represented in Pakistan

Q2: How do these representations and (for some) lack of citizenship rights influence how Bengalis describe their **identity** and **sense of belonging to Pakistan**?

Q3: What forms of **resistance** have people from these groups developed in response to the lack of citizenship rights and access to resources?

Q4: How do members of the **younger generations** of Pakistani Bengalis understand the migration history and subsequent lives of their parents and grandparents, and how do they relate this to their own lived experiences in Pakistan?

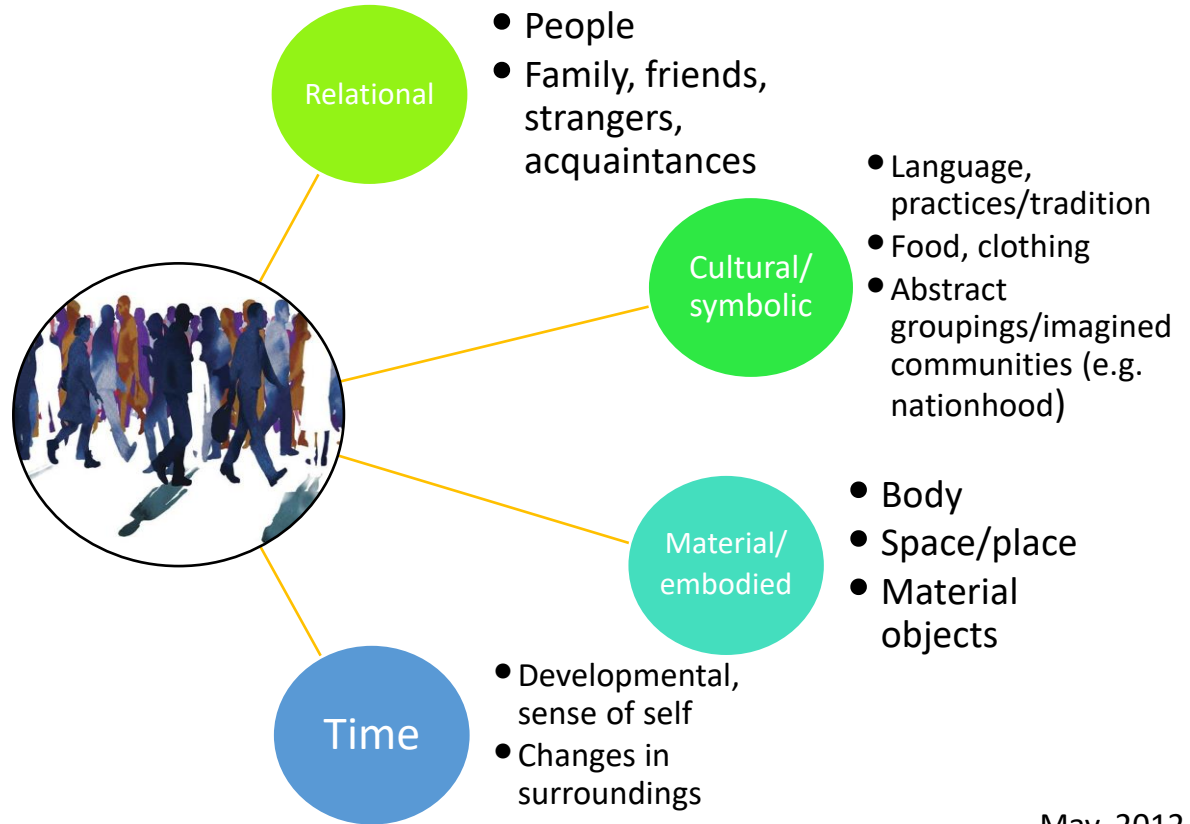




- Young people
- Bringing Alive social representations
- Knowledge transfer – both ways
- Tapping into challenging issues (trauma, loss)

“desire for interpersonal attachments—the need to belong—is a fundamental human motivation” (Baumeister & Leary, 1995)

Modes/sources of belonging



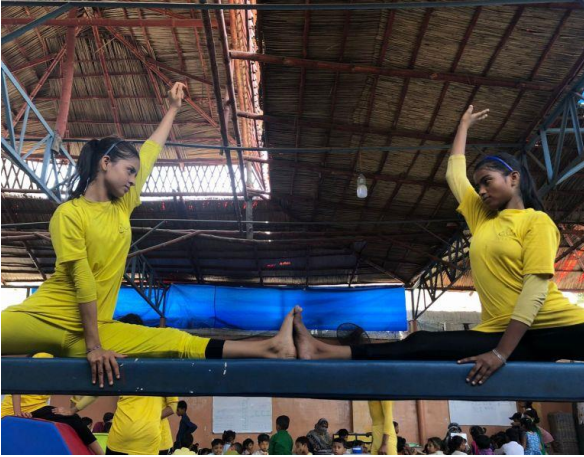
In May – Arts based work

DOCUMENTARY directed by Jawad Sharif

ART WORKSHOPS with young people*

Collaborations between COMMUNITY
ARTISTS and ARTISTS FROM Indus Valley
School of Arts





Collaborating with Artists, community members and organisations

Research based practice

Ahsan Javaid
Amani Noor

- Mural (space/place)
- Identity based ceramics (material objects)
- Letters to the prime minister (nationhood)



Temporary Exhibition at the National History Museum (NHM),
Lahore

Exhibition in the UK

Online Exhibition

Film Screenings and events inside and outside community