Ramapo College Presents Schomburg International Scholar Series Featuring Visiting Professor Shafiuddin Khan, Pakistan

MAHWAH, N.J. – The Schomburg International Scholar Series at Ramapo College will feature visiting fellow Professor Muhammad Shafiuddin Khan, of Pakistan, who will speak on "14 years after 9/11: Women, labor and the Media -- South Asian perspectives on the rise and impact of ISIS." The lectures are free and open to the public.
The schedule is as follows:

> ***Thursday, September 10, Alumni Lounge SC-156, 1 to 2:50 p.m.**
> "Drones, ISIS, and social movements in Pakistan: Comparing media coverage in the U.S. and South Asia"
> ***Thursday, September 10, Alumni Lounge Sc-156, 3:15 to 5:05 p.m.**
> "South Asia perspectives on the rise and impact of the Islamic State: Special focus on women, labor and the media"
> ***Friday, September 11, Friends Hall SC-217, 1 to 2:50 p.m.**
> "Examining stereotypes and misrepresentations of women in South Asia and the Middle East - From Malala and beyond"

Two film screenings, also open to the public, will explore themes related to Professor Khan's visit. *Return to Homs* (2013, Talal Derki, UK), scheduled Wednesday, Sept. 16, at 6 p.m. in the H-Wing Auditorium (H-129), provides a look behind the barricades of the besieged city of Homs, Syria, where for 19-year-old Basset and his ragtag group of comrades, the audacious hope of revolution is crumbling like the buildings around them. The 2014 Academy-Award winning film for Best Documentary, *CitizenFour* (2014, Laura Poitras, USA), scheduled Wednesday, Sept. 30, at 6 p.m. in the H-Wing Auditorium, features the encounters between Poitras and journalist Glenn Greenwald with Edward Snowden in Hong Kong, as he hands over classified documents with evidence of mass indiscriminate and illegal invasions of privacy by the National Security Agency.

Professor Khan's academic area of teaching, writing and publication is in literature, with special expertise in traditional Urdu poetry. His cultural approach to poetry grew out of his undergraduate education in economics, where he began his long-time involvement and interest in community organizing and relief work with refugees and displaced persons.

Prof. Khan has a background of service and training with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), diplomas from the Norwegian Refugee Council and field security training organized by the UNHCR. He was appointed by the Pakistan government to coordinate relief efforts with the UNHCR and United Nations Children's Fund in 2005 at the time of a major earthquake in northern Pakistan and again in 2010 in response to major flooding. He is active in the International Education and Development organization in Pakistan and participated in the 2006 World Social Forum in Karachi, Pakistan. Since 2009, he has been a regular contributor to and participant in the All Pakistan Women's Association, Pakistan Home-Based Women Workers Organization and Women Workers Federation.

The Schomburg International Scholar Series featuring Professor Khan's visit is funded by the Ramapo College Schomburg Program. Three Ramapo professors are co-directors for the grant: Professors Pat Keeton, communication arts, Contemporary Arts; Pinar Kayaalp, history, Salameno School of Humanities and Global Studies; and Erin Augis, sociology, School of Social Sciences and Human Services. The Schomburg funding provides both for the lecture series and also for additional lectures by Professor Khan to additional individual classes. Supplemental funding has also been provided by the Platinum Fund grant program, administered by the Center for Student and Involvement and School deans.

Professor Khan's appearance is part of Ramapo's Schomburg Scholar-in-Residence program. Named for noted scholar and African-American activist Arturo Alfonso Schomburg, the Schomburg Program is designed to impact students' learning experiences through exposure to scholars, activists, authors and artists from diverse backgrounds with expertise in areas related to Ramapo's intercultural/multicultural mission.