



ASIS&T South Asia  
**Salaam Namaste Ayubowan**  
Newsletter

Spring 2024 | DIGITAL

Association for Information Science & Technology - South Asia Chapter



*asis&t*  
Association for Information Science and Technology  
*south asia chapter*



*asis&t*  
Association for Information Science and Technology  
*south asia chapter*

## Inside the Issue

Message from the Chair	2
Webinar Report: Balanced life is ideal life.	3
Webinar Report: AI for Information Access: How do we do it responsibly?	4
Meet with the SA Member: Dr. Mohit Garg	5

### OFFICERS

## South Asia Chapter 2023-24

- **Reshma Dangol** Chair
- **Sourav Debnath** Chair-Elect.
- **Ammara Malik,** Secretary
- **Md. Atikuzzaman** Treasurer
- **Mohit Garg** Web Master
- **Muhammad Tariq** Communication Officer
- **Rehan Kausar** Membership Officer
- **Naresh Agarwal** Chapter Advisor
- **Bhakti Gala** Chapter Advisor
- **Md. Anwarul Islam** Chapter Advisor

## Message from the Chair



**Hi,**

Welcome to another South Asia Chapter Newsletter, filled with information about our Chapter activities, reports on events, and news about individuals and their work in our Chapter.

This spring edition of the SA Chapter offers you insight into the vision and mission of this chapter. It gives you imitations of the information professionals' and knowledge managers' activities. In the last months, we have successfully conducted an event on the title Research Ethics and Artificial Intelligence: The Way Forward series jointly organized by SIG & SIG-AI and South Asia Chapter and we have scheduled some events for the coming months with the collaboration of SA and Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and open university and other event with Peoples campus in Nepal both in Virtual platform. Our member from India will be organizing an event in the Hybrid platform with R4 Social Science RUGS IIT Delhi. You will experience the complete responsibility of the South Asia Chapter's engagement. Most importantly, I would like to express my gratitude to our officers and Chapter Advisors of this SA Chapter. Let's honor and celebrate them together.

### **DO YOU WANT TO JOIN?**

If you are a Library professional, LIS student, researcher, knowledge manager, or information professional from South Asia and wish to join in our chapter activities. Want to be involved and share the information and knowledge and conduct any activities or events that could be organized by ASIS&T South Asia. We are open and always looking for motivated societies who want to participate in our chapter. Feel free to Contact us and share your ideas with us! Praise the Lord!

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter!

**Reshma Dangol**

Chair

South Asia Chapter

## ASIS&T Webinar

# Balanced Life is Ideal Life

With the collaboration of SIG-Info Learn, the ASIS&T South Asia Chapter has arranged a webinar titled “Balanced Life is Ideal Life”, on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024, at 11.00 am EDT.

Dr. Tariq was the moderator and Prof Dr. Rao Adeel Nawab was the presenter of the webinar. Dr. Rao Muhammad Adeel Nawab holds a Ph.D. degree in Computer Science from the University of Sheffield, UK. Dr. Adeel has been working on a range of research projects in the domain of Artificial Intelligence, Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Data Science. He is the author of 3 Books and 31 Impact Factor Journal Publications. His motivational and life coaching seminars aim to assist academicians and industry professionals in achieving excellence in both technical skills and becoming a balanced and characterful human being.

The following were the main highlights of the seminar:

- Learn to Live a Balanced Life to
- Increase Your Income Up to 700%
- Achieve Excellence in Professional Career
- Become a Characterful Human Being

In this seminar, the attendees learned that:

- Four Big Challenges – Living a Life in the Current Era
- Living a life without a great purpose
- Lack of optimal peace and happiness at
- Individual Level
- Society Level
- Country Level
- World Level
- Lack of adequate strength to cope up with
- Normal challenges of life
- Lack of optimal strength and skills to
- Handle unseen and unexpected situations.

At the end, the Q/A session was held, and the participants asked questions related to the topic. The seminar was also recorded and the recordings were shared with all the registered participants. Overall, it was a good activity by South Asia Chapter and the SIG-Info Learn.

## Seminar Report

by  
Muhammad Tariq



### ASIS&T WEBINAR BALANCED LIFE IS IDEAL LIFE

REGISTRATION  
Please click here

#### SPEAKER PROF. DR. RAO ADEEL NAWAB

Dr. Rao Muhammad Adeel Nawab holds a Ph.D. degree in Computer Science from the University of Sheffield, UK. Dr. Adeel has been working on a range of research projects in the domain of Artificial Intelligence, Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Data Science. He is the author of 3 Books and 31 Impact Factor Journal Publications. His motivational and life coaching seminars aim to assist academicians and industry professionals in achieving excellence in both technical skills and becoming a balanced and characterful human being.  
Academic Profile: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/adeel-nawab/>

HIGHLIGHTS

- Learn to Live a Balanced Life to
- Increase Your Income Up to 700%
- Achieve Excellence in Professional Career
- Become a Characterful Human Being

#### TARGET AUDIENCE

- Information Professionals
- Academicians
- Librarians
- Industry Professionals

COLLABORATIVE EVENT BY  
• ASIS&T SOUTH ASIA  
• SIG-INFOLEARN

- March 14, 2024
- 11.00 am EDT (Time Converter)
- Free for ASIS&T Members

## ASIS&T Webinar

# AI for Information Access: How do we do it responsibly?

With the collaboration of SIG-III and SIG-AI, the South Asia Chapter hosted a webinar on 20 March 2024, on the topic “AI for Information Access: How Do We Do It Responsibly?” Dr. Shah was the guest speaker who is a Professor of Information and Computer Science at the University of Washington (UW) in Seattle, USA. He discussed the need for advancements in AI not just at technical levels, but also at policy, societal, and even philosophical levels. Challenges of AI included hallucination, misinformation, toxicity, mismatch in capabilities and usage, lack of transparency and control, issues of intellectual property, attributions, privacy, and value challenges with practical examples. Dr. Shah elaborated on this aspect by insisting on good, rigorous science, being responsible (fair, equitable, transparent, and accountable), focusing on users and their needs, and integrating human values. The webinar had 180 registrants and over 70 participants from 37 countries.

## Seminar Report

by  
Ammara Malik



## AI for Information Access: How Do We Do It Responsibly?

Over the last several years, AI-driven informational systems have proliferated around us. The pace at which AI is getting integrated in search, recommendation, and decision-support systems has quickened recently. Many of these are built on hopes and hypes of what AI could deliver, but it is not always clear when or if a real value to individuals and society is provided that justifies the risks we take in building and delivering such solutions. We are at a crossroad where we have important choices to make that will impact many aspects of our lives in profound ways:

**LO1:** Can we overcome the challenges posed by applying AI solutions and leverage their potential for all of us?

**LO2:** Can we mitigate risks and harms enough to bring the reward-to-risk ratio high enough for various areas like education, healthcare, and information access?

**LO3:** Can we do this right? Providing examples of accessibility, education, healthcare, and policy.



Chirag Shah

Chirag Shah is Professor of Information and Computer Science at University of Washington (UW) in Seattle. He is the Founding Director for InfoSeeking Lab and Founding Co-Director of Center for Responsibility in AI Systems & Experiences (RAISE). The most recent engagements included Amazon, Getty Images, Microsoft Research, and Spotify.

**March 20th at 11 am EST.**

**MEETING LINK:**

<https://www.asist.org/meetings-events/webinars/ai-for-information-access-how-do-we-do-it-responsibly/>

## Meet the SA Member

# Dr. Mohit Garg

Dr. Mohit Garg is working as an Assistant Librarian (Senior Scale) at the Central Library, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi. He is a UGC-NET-JRF qualified (a prestigious Indian examination for research fellowship), and he obtained his Ph.D. from IGNOU, New Delhi. His educational background includes a B.Tech in Information Technology from USICT, GGSIPU, New Delhi. He is actively engaged in professional associations at both national and international levels. He has served two continuous terms (2017-2021, 2021-2025) as a Standing Committee Member of the IFLA Indigenous Matters Section, Netherlands. He has contributed to reputed journals and conferences with research papers.



Recently, he has received two grants from international organizations including ORCID and the R User Community Group. In the current semester, Dr. Mohit Garg is offering a twelve-week MOOC titled "Science Communication: Research Productivity and Data Analytics using Open Source Software".

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Dr. Mohit Garg is an avid traveler, trekker, and culinary enthusiast. He finds joy in exploring new destinations, immersing himself in different cultures, and embarking on adventurous treks in the great outdoors. He also enjoys experimenting with various cuisines and honing his culinary skills in the kitchen. His passion for travel, trekking, and cooking adds a vibrant dimension to his life outside of academia and further enriches his experiences and perspectives.





*asis&t*  
Association for Information Science and Technology  
*south asia chapter*

■ For Suggestions and comments:

Dr. Muhammad Tariq  
[tariqnajmi@cuilahore.edu.pk](mailto:tariqnajmi@cuilahore.edu.pk)

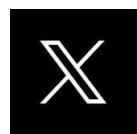
■ Reach us through ...



[asis&tsouthasia@gmail.com](mailto:asis&tsouthasia@gmail.com)



[@asis&tsouthasia](https://www.facebook.com/asis&tsouthasia)



[@asistSA](https://twitter.com/asistSA)



[@ASISTSouthAsiaChapter](https://www.youtube.com/ASISTSouthAsiaChapter)



SA website