



IPRI UPDATE

Inside this Issue



- **Media Workshop:**
Foreign Policy & Diplomacy 1
- **One-Day Conference:**
Issues of Radicalization 1
- **Guest Lecture:**
Improving Pak-Bangladesh Relations 4
- **Latest Publication:**
Journal of Current Affairs 6
- **In-House Discussion:**
Role of Israel in Middle East 7
- **Upcoming Panel Discussion:**
Indian Armed Forces Joint Doctrine 2017 7

Workshop for Media

Foreign Policy and Diplomacy



Ambassador (R) Abdul Basit and Ambassador (R) Tajammul Altaf

A one-day media workshop titled "Foreign Policy and Diplomacy" was organized by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) on January 18, 2018.

The workshop discussed in detail the organizational structure and functioning of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and Pakistani missions abroad, Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations 1961 and Vienna Convention on Consular Relations 1963 along with other important terms and definitions.

Ambassador (R) Abdul Basit, President IPRI, Ambassador (R) Tajammul Altaf, and Ms Gulshan Bibi, Assistant Research Officer, IPRI, shed light on the aforementioned themes.

Ambassador (R) Abdul Basit, President IPRI, emphasized that in the fast globalizing world, media is playing an important role in advancing foreign policy objectives.

He elucidated that foreign policy is an all-encompassing term,

Continued on p. 2

One-Day Conference

Issues of Radicalization and Extreme Behavior in Pakistan



L-R: Ambassador (R) Abdul Basit, Lt. Gen. (R) Masood Aslam, Mr Ihsan Ghani and Dr. Khurram Iqbal

A one-day conference titled "Issues of Radicalization and Extreme Behavior in Pakistan" was organized by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) on January 30, 2018 at IPRI premises.

Mr Ihsan Ghani, National Coordinator, National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA), Dr Khurram Iqbal, Assistant Professor, National Defense University (NDU), and Lt. Gen. (R) Masood Aslam spoke on the occasion.

The eminent speakers discussed in detail the issues of extremism and radicalization in society and Government of Pakistan's strategies to deal with these phenomena.

Ambassador (R) Abdul Basit, President IPRI, said that radicalization and extremism are serious issues faced by Pakistan. An open discussion can help in understanding these

Continued on p. 3

Robust national narrative against extremism finalized: National Coordinator, NACTA

Mr Ihsan Ghani, National Coordinator, NACTA, while speaking at the conference on "Issues of Radicalization and Extreme Behavior in Pakistan" shared that NACTA has finalized a robust national narrative on extremism, sectarianism, terrorism and militancy. This narrative prepared with 18 months strenuous efforts and input from academia, media and religious leaders will be the cornerstone of the country's response to non-traditional threats and to deal with extremist ideology.

He said that radicalization and extremism are processes, not actions. They develop gradually. Thus, tackling them requires a holistic approach that goes beyond kinetic means. Issues of injustice, lack of service delivery, a dilapidated criminal justice

system and an inequitable socio-political environment, equally contribute to the growth of intolerance and violent behavior in society.

Corrective measures including promotion of rule of law, an integrated set of education reforms, rehabilitation and reintegration of extremists and nurturing religious and inter-faith harmony will go a long way in helping eradicate radicalization and extremism from society, Mr Ghani emphasized.



Foreign Policy and Diplomacy

Continued from p. 1
whereas diplomacy is a tool to achieve foreign policy objectives.

He identified that given the country's size and resources, MOFA is faced with financial and human resource constraints, but even within its limited resources, the government, with the help of the country's robust media can work towards creating an image for Pakistan as a vibrant and dynamic country.

He explained the objectives of Pakistan's foreign policy, which include: promoting normal and cooperative relations with all countries with particular focus on neighbors, major powers, and Muslim countries; enhancing national security; achieving just resolution of Jammu and Kashmir dispute; promoting Pakistan's economic development; improving Pakistan's soft image

abroad and developing a fair world order.

Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Vienna Conventions

Explaining the main functions of the MOFA, Ambassador (R) Tajammul Altaf ascertained that these include articulation of effective foreign policy; promotion of Pakistan's interests abroad; relations with other countries; matters relating to international organizations and agreements with other countries; declaration of war and the making of peace; negotiations for settlement of issues (the Kashmir dispute) and implementation of agreements reached, etc.



Elaborating further, he shared that the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations defines the privileges and immunities of



a diplomatic mission and its personnel that enable them to perform their functions satisfactorily without pressures, fear, coercion, intimidation or harassment by the host country.

On the other hand, Vienna Convention on Consular Relations (1963) covers consular functions for protecting the interests of the sending state and of its nationals. Explaining the consular functions, he identified that these help in developing commercial, economic, cultural and scientific relations, issuing passports and travel documents to nationals of the sending state and visas to persons wishing to travel to the sending states.

Important Terms and Definitions of Interest to Pakistan and their Right Usage

Ms Gulshan Bibi, Assistant Research Officer, IPRI, briefly discussed the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, the differences between the Line of Control (LoC), Working Boundary, International Border, Line of Actual Control (LAC) and Integrated Check Posts (ICP) Border crossings.

The objectives and achievements of various regional organizations such as Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) were also explained.

Ms Gulshan highlighted that Pakistan with a consumer market of over 200 million people, vast business potential and a rapidly developing infrastructure, offers the SCO with enormous opportunities for mutually beneficial cooperation. As a full member, Pakistan can work with SCO in countering terrorism threat in the region; and can develop better relations with India.



Issues of Radicalization and Extreme Behavior in Pakistan

Continued from p. 1

phenomena, their root causes and in charting a future course of action to rid Pakistan of these grave issues and make it a more tolerant and vibrant society.

Radicalization and Extreme Behavior in Pakistan: Leading Causes

Radicalization is a multi-faceted phenomenon and its roots lay in various factors, namely nationalism, social exclusion, revenge, deprivation, psychological abnormalities and religious fundamentalism, said Dr Khurram Iqbal.

The spillover effects of the war in Afghanistan gave birth to a new breed of terrorist groups in the tribal areas of Pakistan. Inspired by al-Qaeda's ideology, Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) is at the pinnacle of this list.

He remarked that the discourse on extremism and radicalization was largely shaped by Western scholars. They



He recommended that the government should not only eliminate the physical militant infrastructure, recruitment bases and recruiters who support radical elements and militant violence, it should also support mainstreaming some of the radical elements, who have been reformed.



tend to over-emphasize on mono-causality and exclusively focus on Islam, but issues of extremism and radicalization are not Islam-specific.

Pakistan's Counter Radicalization Strategy: Lessons Learnt and Way Forward

Discussing deradicalization efforts in Swat, Lt. Gen. Masood Aslam shared that Swat differed from other parts of the country; therefore, the model adopted there could not be replicated in FATA or other parts of the country, which had different characteristics and cultural outlook.

Likewise, adopting and replicating models from other countries such as Sri Lanka, Turkey or the UK would not be fruitful.



L-R: Ambassador (R) Abdul Basit presenting mementos to Lt. Gen. (R) Masood Aslam and Dr Khurram Iqbal

Recommendations

- Radicalization is a process which can only be countered by continuous mechanisms including soft power as well as hard power solution for de-radicalization.
- Inclusive growth strategies are very important and the state should ensure provision of education, health, rule of law, speedy justice and generating more job opportunities in every part of the country to avoid proliferation of radicalized tendencies.
- The social initiatives of de-radicalization would not bear any fruit if there is no political ownership and political will along with the public support to move them towards implementation.
- Since radicalization in Pakistan is caused by both external and internal issues, it is important to enhance focus on soft approaches; reduce collateral damage in counter-terrorism operations; find a regional solution to Afghanistan conundrum; and devise a joint Sino-Pak stance on issues related to the use of proxy groups by India and extra-regional forces that fan terrorism.
- There is a need to bring reforms in media keeping in view the fact that any changes to media laws currently in force in the country will have to be linked to larger policy reforms, if they are to succeed.

Improving Pakistan-Bangladesh Relations



Ambassador (R) Abdul Basit and Dr Junaid Ahmad during Lecture

On 16 January 2018, the Institute had an impromptu Guest Lecture on “Pakistan-Bangladesh Relations” by Dr Junaid Ahmad, a distinguished academician, Management Consultant and the author of *India-An Apartheid State* (2017) and *Creation of Bangladesh-Myths Exploded* (2016).

“Islamabad should work continuously and systematically to smooth out tensions and have improved relations with Dhaka.”

Discussing his book *Creation of Bangladesh-Myths Exploded* (2016),

Dr Ahmad said that the creation of Bangladesh is one of the most cataclysmic chapters in the history of Pakistan, invoking remorse, frustration and anguish due to undeserved accusations hurled at Pakistan, both by

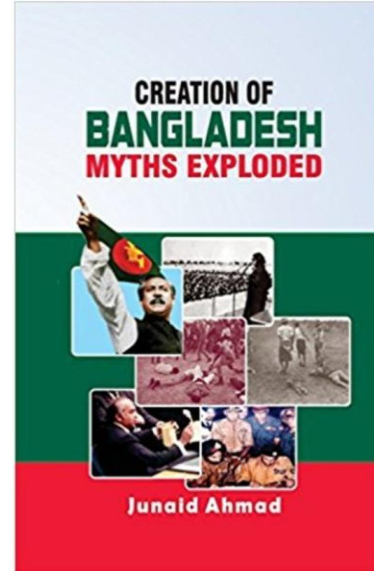
India and Bangladesh.

He separated facts from fiction and shed light on the actors, their misadventures, failings, whose actions culminated in the debacle of East Pakistan and creation of Bangladesh. “Unfortunately, baseless and fabricated propaganda of friendly and antagonistic stakeholders in the creation of Bangladesh tarnishes Pakistan’s image abroad and taints its history with false allegations of fomenting genocide,” he shared.

Dr Ahmad discussed the cover-ups that hide facts and mislead history into unjust labeling of Pakistan as the perpetrator of the horrifying atrocities committed against the Bengalis during the course of events which led to the loss of the Eastern Wing of Pakistan.

He said that he conducted exhaustive research and articulated the chronological account of real factors and actors who perpetrated the tragic dismemberment of Pakistan in 1971.

For improving Pakistan and



Bangladesh relations, Dr Ahmad recommended that it is imperative for Pakistan to develop friendly ties with the latter.

Dr Ahmad also discussed the initiative his school took to bring 30 students each year for education and taking real-time experience and views about Pakistan back home. Dr Ahmad suggested that other Pakistani educational institutes should also offer such student exchange programs/opportunities for Bangladeshi students. He was optimistic that such endeavors would promote amity and good will among the youth of both countries and resentment carried since 1971 would not pass on to generations, eventually giving room



Improving Pakistan-Bangladesh Relations

to nurture good neighborly relations.

In the interactive Q/A session with research scholars, Dr Ahmad opined that India, which claims to be a 'secular' state, is in fact a Hindu state with a discriminatory caste system, so ingrained in the Indian society that it promotes apartheid and discrimination, reducing those belonging to lower castes or religious minorities to mere untouchables.

Sharing details about his latest book, titled *India: An Apartheid State* (2017), he said that he has presented well-researched and sourced account of facts, exposing the real face of 'Shining India', laying bare its highly segregated society and inhumane barbaric acts against the 'untouchables'.

Dr Ahmad argued that a state which has been grappling with numerous Hindu-Dalits riots; Hindu-Sikh riots; Hindu-Muslim riots; Hindu-Christian riots as well as riots in Indian-held Jammu & Kashmir, Mizoram and Nagaland etc. since its establishment in 1947, cannot be truly called a 'secular' state.

Mistreatment of women, abortions and infanticide of girls also reflect Hindutva



extremist approach. The eminent guest argued that India also plays an active role in destabilizing its neighbors e.g.

“ While Indian government may make tall claims of prosperity and development, 25 crore people in India do not even have electricity.”

question on discriminatory domestic politics of India, Dr Ahmad said that caste system in India is pervasive and deep-rooted: there are as many as 5000 castes in the 'Shining India'. Brahmins, the noblest caste enjoys privileges, while other castes and minorities are being persecuted.

Dr Ahmad stated that Hindu-Muslim riots are going on since the inception of Pakistan. Currently, India is grappling with 11 insurgencies. His research reveals that 100 to 150 people are being killed in India daily.

India's rankings in the Slavery and Hunger Indices is rising day by day.

“No development is inclusive in India,” he shared.

INDIA AN APARTHEID STATE



Junaid Ahmad

dismemberment of Pakistan and creation of Bangladesh; meddling in internal affairs of Nepal and Sri Lanka; sponsoring terrorism in Balochistan and Karachi are a few instances.

Answering why India manages to garner support of the West, he said it is perhaps due to its Anti-Muslim approach and because it is seen as a parallel to rising China.

Dr Ahmad exposed the hollow secularism based on deception and chicanery, using mostly Indian and British sources for his scholarship.

While answering another



Ambassador (R) Abdul Basit presenting memento to Dr Junaid Ahmad

Brief Summaries of Research Papers

The Rohingya Crisis: Impact and Consequences for South Asia -Didier Chaudet

Inevitably, the Rohingya crisis will have an impact on the South-East Asian environment. But it would be simplistic to see this important Burmese internal issue as limited to South-East Asia. Geographically and historically, Myanmar has also been connected to another area: South Asia. Hence, what is happening to the Rohingya Muslim minority is also a political issue of particular importance for the sub-continent. This paper analyzes its impact on India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Implications of Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS): Options for Pakistan -Gulshan Bibi

According to general perception, future wars will be fought with Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS). This paper is an attempt to discuss the ethical, legal, technological, security and economic implications of the development of LAWS and to consider the challenges which the international

community needs to be cognizant of before deploying such technology.

Pakistan's Energy Security: Viability of Regional Options -Saman Zulfqar

Since a decade, Pakistan has been facing an acute energy crisis that has affected each segment of society. While highlighting Pakistan's energy mix and share of various resources, the paper explores various options that have been adopted and highlights Pakistan's institutional vision to overcome the energy crisis.

Deconstructing Brexit: The Reasons, EU's Future and Implications for Pakistan -Umar Farooq Khan

Brexit was a watershed event which had a ripple effect on international politics. This paper attempts to make sense of Brexit by analyzing the longstanding paradox in United Kingdom-European Union relations wherein, the UK held a privileged position as it was able to mould EU integration as per its own needs and give back relatively less in return. The author looks at the future of the EU by analyzing the impact of Brexit on its defense, foreign and economic policy as well as its possible implications of Brexit on Pakistan.

About Journal of Current Affairs (JoCA)

In a world where suicide terrorist strikes come without warning and thousands die each day from poverty, we need to be aware of what is happening around us, based not on tweets, media sound bytes or breaking news coverage; but through credible, well-researched and accurate facts and objective analysis.

Published since 2016, the *Journal of Current Affairs (JoCA)* is IPRI's second biannual journal which supports and encourages the scholarly work of young academics to fill the critical void between research analysis and policy. The Journal covers contemporary subject matters, providing policy-makers critical understanding of world politics, foreign affairs and international security vis-à-vis Pakistan. It is indexed in ResearchBib.



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- 1 The Rohingya Crisis: Impact and Consequences for South Asia
Didier Chaudet
- 2 Implications of Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS): Options for Pakistan
Gulshan Bibi
- 3 Pakistan's Energy Security: Viability of Regional Options
Saman Zulfqar
- 4 Deconstructing Brexit: The Reasons, EU's Future and Implications for Pakistan
Umar Farooq Khan
- 5 The China Pakistan Economic Corridor and Shanghai Cooperation Organization: Implications for South Asia's Strategic Stability
Usama Nizamani



Islamabad Policy Research Institute

The China Pakistan Economic Corridor and Shanghai Cooperation Organization: Implications for South Asia's Strategic Stability -Usama Nizamani

This paper assesses the existing architecture of strategic competition in South Asia. In relation to this, it studies the potential of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) after admission of India and Pakistan as full members of the latter and how this could shape and strengthen existing strategic stability in South Asia between these nuclear armed neighbors.

The papers are available for free download at:

<http://www.ipripak.org/journal-of-current-affairs-vol-2-no-2-2018/>.

The print edition of the Journal can be purchased from the IPRI Office

or

Mr. Books, F-6 Markaz,
Islamabad.

Role of Israel in Contemporary Middle East



A presentation was delivered by Sajid Aziz, Consultant, IPRI on “Role of Israel in Contemporary Middle East” on January 11, 2018. Mr Sajid Aziz briefly touched upon the genesis of the Israel-Palestine conflict, from which other Israel-Arab wars originated. Mr Aziz shared that Zionism – the belief that the return of Jews to Palestine would rescue them from the perils of anti-Semitism in Europe – was the driving force behind Israel’s creation. He also analyzed the broad planks of Israel’s policies, which, inter alia, include: continuous existential threat, decisive victories and combat initiatives that guide its relations with its neighbors and determine its role in the region.

“Trump’s recent announcement to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel has only served to exacerbate the security situation and put oil on a region already aflame.”

Upcoming Panel Discussion



On Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 1030 hours
at IPRI Conference Hall

Currently, Israel controls nearly 78% of historic Palestine, excluding occupied Jerusalem and West Bank.

Non-approval of resident permits and revocation of permanent residency has brought down Palestinian control over Jerusalem to a mere 15%. The US President Donald Trump’s recent announcement to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel has only served to exacerbate the security situation and put oil on a region already aflame.

Land expropriations, Jewish settlements, deliberate and artificial changes in demographics, in flagrant breach of international law, have made the internationally-agreed two-state solution unviable.

Moreover, to maintain its notion of complete military hegemony, emanating from its refusal to relinquish Zionism, and live in peace and harmony with the Palestinians and other Arab states, Israel does not tolerate even a modicum of resistance, that might undermine its designs.

IN-HOUSE DISCUSSION/
PANEL DISCUSSION

Asghar Ali Shad
Research Fellow
(Urdu Articles)

"Haq-e-Khud Iradiyat aur Trump...!" *Daily Sama*
"Bharat Hosh ke Nakhun Le!" *Daily Azkar*
"Ye Pak Bayaniya.... 'Pegham-e-Pakistan,'" *Nawa-i-Waqt*
"Daakhli Intihapassandi se Munkir America!!"
Daily Pakistan
"Youm-e-Siah, Gandhi Qatil aur Romain Festival!"
Nawa-i-Waqt



Dr Muhammad Munir
Research Fellow

"Kazakhstan Role in UNSC," *Pakistan Observer*



Khalid Chandio
Research Fellow

"The US Government Shutdown," *Regional Rapport*



Muhammad Nawaz Khan
Research Officer

"Pak-US Ties: War of Words to Actions"
Regional Rapport



Amna Ejaz Rafi
Assistant Research Officer

"Economic Woes behind Iran Protests"
The Express Tribune



Gulshan Bibi
Assistant Research Officer

"Indispensable United Nations," *The Nation*



Khurram Abbas
Assistant Research Officer

"2018: Fear and Hope," *Pakistan Observer*



Maryam Nazir
Assistant Research Officer

"Afghan Quagmire: So much to Nothing!"
Pakistan Observer



Iqra Mobeen Akram
Assistant Research Officer

"Has Russia Outflanked the US in Syria?"
Regional Rapport



Sajjad Haider
Assistant Research Officer

"A Perilous Voyage of Self-Determination," *The Nation*



Usama Nizamani
Consultant

"To Infinity and Beyond," *Daily Times*
"Rawat Factor: India's New Adventurism," *Daily Times*



Sajid Aziz
Consultant

"Will Iran Protests Yield Results?" *Daily Times*



Call for Papers IPRI Journal

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The mission of the IPRI Journal is to promote scholarly research in the academic fields related to International Relations and Political Science, as reported by academics, scholars, researchers, social scientists from around the world, especially Pakistan.

The biannual Journal welcomes original high-quality papers/studies, review articles and book reviews which debate erudite and contemporaneous issues and ideas of academic relevance. Research published by the Journal encompasses (but not limited to) topics such as:

- International Affairs
- Diplomacy
- Political Economy
- Defence and Strategic Studies
- Geopolitics
- Security
- Governance
- Conflict

Important Dates

- For the Summer 2018 issue: 31 March 2018
- For the Winter 2019 issue: 30 September 2018

Submission Procedure

Author/s are required to submit manuscripts in MS Word format, along with their brief introduction, complete contact details and a letter certifying that the submission has not been previously published nor currently under consideration for publication elsewhere. Contributor Guidelines, Certification Letter and Author Checklist are available at: <http://www.ipripak.org/category/journals/>. Articles submitted for publication are subject to a double blind triple peer-review process of evaluation.

Format

- Word Length of Articles: 5000-8000 words
- Word Length of Book Reviews: 1000 words
- Referencing Style: The Chicago Manual of Style 16th Edition (Full Note)

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ipri.editor@gmail.com

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The IPRI Journal follows a strict zero-tolerance policy for plagiarism.



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