

Recent Books from Pakistan – Dec 2023

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Biography

A Lifetime Of Dissent: A Memoir / I. A. Rehman
Lahore, Pakistan: Folio Books, 2023
xviii, 186p.
9789697834617
\$ 25.00 / HB
320gm.

'As a public intellectual, I. A. Rehman devoted his whole life to the cause of oppressed classes. Besides campaigning against religious extremism and the violation of human rights, he actively participated in democratic movements, generating political consciousness in Pakistan and beyond. His work (and this memoir) is worth remembering in the days to come.'

—Dr Mubarak Ali, Historian and Author.

'This book is a testament to how a seemingly modest man lived and sneaked his way to the status of a legend.'

—Amin Mughal, Scholar, Activist and Journalist.

'As a young man, I. A. Rehman experienced the hopeful tumult of national liberation. For the next seven decades, he stood shoulder-to-shoulder with all those who sought to keep the dream of decolonisation alive. This memoir is a must-read for young people on the left today, a reminder that revolutionary humanism can and must be sustained unflinchingly for as long as one lives.'

—Aasim Sajjad Akhtar, Academic, Political Organiser and Author.

'Rehman Sahib had the ability, like my father, to be at ease across generations. Witty, compassionate and a man with infinite patience, he would engage with unknown young people as much as his known contemporaries. What also astonished me was his ability to comment on the latest developments in art, poetry, theatre, medicine and constitutional law. His vision was far-reaching and always attendant to life around us. This memoir is a beautiful glimpse into the life of South Asia's iconic thinker, journalist and activist.'

—Salima Hashmi, Painter and Artist

'I was introduced to I. A. Rahman by his associate and admirer and my good friend Amin Mughal. Rahman Sahib's track record as a legendary human rights campaigner and eminent journalist had made me curious about him. His balanced and dispassionate analysis of politics in Pakistan was invaluable. Every time he visited London, a meeting with him was a must. He was the toast of Indian progressives and diplomats who had served in Islamabad. To obtain an insight into his fascinating life, lucidly told in his own words, is as refreshing as it was conversing with him.'

—Ashis Ray, formerly editor-at-large of CNN
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861632>

Economics/Development Studies

Pakistan Maritime Tourism / Prof Dr S M Shahzad (Retd) SI (M)
Lahore, Pakistan: Sahar Printers Lahore, 2023
406p.
9789692381918
\$ 150.00 / HB
2930gm.

Pakistan is blessed with over 1000 Km long coastline with numerous opportunities of tourism. Maritime Tourism is a significant peace contributor with positive effect on economic development and employment around the world. It is additionally an undeniably perspective in the life of individuals, increasingly more of whom are voyaging and travelling, either for business or leisure time. However, the vital role of maritime tourism and its impact on economic development in Pakistan has hardly been realized. The study is qualitative and exploratory in nature. This research is the outcome of detailed review of available material and publications on this subject by the official sources. The official reports, government publications, books, newspapers, websites and many other official sources also used to collect the primary data. The main objective of this research is to review the facilities, opportunities and challenges of maritime tourism in Pakistan, and to develop a link for the economic activity along the coastlines. The reviewed literature depict that the maritime tourism has become a new business hub that forms a considerable component of the rising global tourism business. The security situation, natural disaster, negligible infrastructure and comparatively poor education are the main reasons that tourism could not flourish on coastal area of Pakistan. Despite lot of opportunities like scenic views, historical sites, religious places, mud volcano, blue lagoons, ancient monuments and sandy beaches, maritime tourism in Pakistan has yet not gain momentum at desired pace. This research is conducted to find out the opportunities, challenges and reasons, why tourism is at slow pace around the coastal area of Pakistan. The proposed way forward will help the policy makers in devising strategies to promote Marine tourism that will further leads to develop the tourism industry in Pakistan.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=861807>

Development Pathways: India, Pakistan, Bangladesh 1947 – 2022 / Ishrat Husain, Sarah Nizamani, Shagufta Shabbar & Masood Siddiqui
Karachi, Pakistan: Liberty Publishing, 2023
viii, 472p.
Include Index
9786277626198
\$ 40.00 / PB
420gm.

Development Pathways presents evidence-based comparative analysis of economic and social developments in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh since they gained independence in 1947. Pakistan was further subdivided in 1971 when Bangladesh became independent. In 1947 these countries were mired in poverty, illiteracy, poor health status, underemployment, and rudimentary infrastructure. There was tremendous pessimism about the future economic sustenance of these countries.

The development pathways adopted by each of these countries differed significantly but they each also went through paradigm shifts in their policies in the period 1990 onwards. All three countries started their journey with centrally planned state control of command heights of economy with Pakistan switching back and forth from liberalization, nationalization and once again liberalization. Institutional decay and frequent political changes brought about a major shift from a fast growing economy in the first forty years to becoming a laggard in the recent thirty year period. India adhered to its initial model until 1991 when it abolished License Raj, opened up the economy to the private sector, and attracted Foreign Direct Investment. India has been recording growth rates of 6-7 percent since then.

Bangladesh also started its development journey by following a state-controlled model. However, political stability post 1990, continuity of economic policies across political regimes and liberalization widened the scope of the private sector and moved the growth trajectory significantly upwards.

This study identifies critical success factors, and the risks and pain points for steering the future direction of these economies. This book would be of interest to policy practitioners, opinion makers, academics and researchers, and the students of Development Studies as it takes a multidisciplinary approach rather than a narrow lens of economic analysis.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=862230>

Pakistan Economic Challenges And Solutions / Ishrat Husain

Lahore, Pakistan: Vanguard Books, 2023

xii, 444p.

9789694026565

\$ 60.00 / HB

715gm.

Pakistan faces a multitude of economic challenges some of them man made and domestic and the other external and natural. There is very little disagreement on the diagnostics — weak institutions, low productivity. Low savings and investment, burgeoning burden of debt, Macroeconomic instability, poor human capital, indifferent bureaucracy, tough business climate, inefficiencies in energy sector etc. This volume consisting of fourteen chapters attempts to bring together at one place the well-known prescriptions and detailed solutions to address these challenges.

The main insight arising from this work is that a lot has been done to define the contents and the contours of reforms but the asymmetry in the accrual of losses and gains is the main stumbling block to their implementation. As losses are immediate, the losers are identifiable, organized groups that agitate and resist the reforms eroding the political capital of the ruling party weakening their chances at electoral cycle. Successive governments have therefore found hardly any champions among the elected representatives. Given that the gains would occur sometime in distant future and would be diffused throughout the economy the credit for success would be preempted by the party in opposition in power at that time strengthening its chances of getting reelected. This disconnect between the timing of political and economic gains and losses thus leads to the maintenance of status quo.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=847582>

History

Lahore Fort: UNESCO World Heritage Site In Lahore / Kamran Lashari & Tania Qureshi

Lahore, Pakistan: Heritage & Urban Regeneration in Lahore Fort Project,

360p.

9789697120864

\$ 195.00 / HB
3270gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=862231>

Revisiting The Durand Line: Historical and Legal Perspectives / Lutfur Rehman
Islamabad, Pakistan: IPS Press, Institute of Policy Studies, 2024

xxxii, 231p., 22cm

Include Index & Bibliography

9789694488363

\$ 50.00 / HB

405gm.

This book recounts the history leading to the 1893 Durand Line Agreement between Ameer Abdur Rahman of Afghanistan and British Indian official Sir Henry Mortimer Durand to establish a frontier between Afghanistan and British India. The account continues to the independence of Pakistan in 1947, when the demarcation became a source of tension between Pakistan and Afghanistan, and the way the dispute has unfolded since the return of the Taliban in 2021. This book is unique in that it contains all the maps exchanged in Kabul in November 1893, while primary data have been extensively used to explain the real and true perspective of this border. The author has also cited relevant international laws to establish the Durand Line as the legal and perennial border between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=862232>

Law

Separation of State Powers In Pakistan / Dr. Zia Ullah Ranjah
Karachi, Pakistan: Amjad Press, 2023

xxvi, 312p.

Include Bibliography

9789698372675

\$ 50.00 / HB

485gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=862233>

Law And Politics In Pakistan: 3rd Edition, Fully Revised & Updated / Fazul Sulieman Kazi
Third Fully Revised & Updated Edition

Karachi, Pakistan: Royal Book Company, 2024

xxxiv, 548p.

Include Index

9789694075426

\$ 70.00 / HB

560gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=862316>

Understanding The Power Of Ballots In Pakistan: (A Manual of Election Laws in Pakistan) /
Hamood-Ur-Rehman Khan Niazi

Lahore, Pakistan: Lords Law Book House, 2024

xvi, 758p.

Include Index

\$ 75.00 / HB

1160gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=862482>

Parliamentary Practice and Working of Legislatures in Pakistan / Muhammad Anwar Sulehri
Pakistan: Muhammad Anwar Sulehri (Self publish), 2019

892p.

9789692343800

\$ 100.00 / HB

1360gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=862698>

Literature

Ghazal Cosmopolitan: Ghazals and Essays on the Culture and Craft of the Ghazal / Shadar
Zeest Hashmi

Lahore, Pakistan: Folio Books, 2023

viii, 100p.

9789697834440

\$ 25.00 / PB

160gm.

"A marvelous interweaving of poetry, scholarship, literary criticism and memoir: it is wise, welcoming, and a delight to read. There are poems here that are memorable in any context: Qasida of 700,000 Years of Love one among those for me. I wish Agha Shahid Ali were still with us to read Shadab Zeest Hashmi's work."

– Marilyn Hacker

"Written with a poet's grace and "love of the turning word," Shadab Zeest Hashmi's Ghazal Cosmopolitan is a gift that enriches our literature with her elegant and intimate knowledge of the Ghazal, Qasida, and the riches of Urdu, a polygenetic language that grew from centuries of migrations, trade routes, conquests, empires. With a literary heritage of cultural exchange that naturally "empowers and praises the plural," hers is a much-needed cosmopolitan poetics generous, generative and timely."

– Eleanor Wilner

"Reminiscent of Bly's Leaping Poetry, this book, Ghazal Cosmopolitan, is a celebration of, and a love letter to, the language of the world and its "polygenetics." With an amalgam of lyric essay, poetry, and clear-eyed literary criticism, Shadab Zeest Hashmi writes a primer on the Ghazal and Qasida poetic forms that should enter every classroom. Hers are a mind and a spirit that disarm monolithic attitudes. She opens us onto the heterogeneous origins of the word."

– Fady Joudah

"In Ghazal Cosmopolitan, a smorgasbord of aesthetic pleasures viewed through the prism of the majestic Ghazal, Shadab Zeest Hashmi has launched a compelling argument for the cosmopolitan appeal of a beautiful poetic form, one that is unique in its economy and lyrical sweep, its reach of the mysteries of the Universe, the Israr e Azal-all in the space of two lines."

– Azra Raza

"An evocative tribute to the nese and beauty of Urdu, this book introduces the contemporary American manifestations of the Ghazal form, acting as a bridge between the eastern and western traditions of literature. Hashmi keeps the reader engaged and wonderstruck by delving into the complexities of Urdu poetry without turning didactic.

Above all, this collection is a celebration of how fine writing can overcome boundaries and expand the scope of human experience."

– Raza Rumi

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=865123>

Gender, Sexuality And Feminism In Pakistani Urdu Writing / Amina Yaqin
Lahore, Pakistan: Folio Books, 2023
xvi, 320p.
Include Indexs & Bibliography
9789697834457
\$ 25.00 / PB
335gm.

In this book, the author critically interrogates the construction of gender, community and nation in the work of progressive women poets. The book combines the study of nation and community through a close engagement with Urdu literary culture in the twentieth century and particularly the work of pioneering literary women. It argues that gender and sexuality become fixed signifiers in the trauma of partition and the formation of the post-partition Islamic nation. The story of literary women in Pakistan taking up the mantle of public poets thus has to be understood in relation to the history of reform, anti-colonial resistance and a transnational Islamicate culture. The book examines the presence of feminist thought in the work of progressive women poets charting their interrogation of the clash between secular and sacred values and the increasing split between liberal and Islamic nationalism. The book suggests that through their writing and experiences, women have negotiated sacred and secular spaces to move beyond a community that is subservient to nationalist ideology.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=865350>

Forgotten Kings: The Story of the Hindu Sahi Dynasty / Changez Saleem Jan
Lahore, Pakistan: Folio Books, 2023
xxii, 176p.
9789697834556
\$ 25.00 / PB
270gm.

'This Hindu Sahiya dynasty is now extinct, and of the whole house there is no longer the slightest remnant in existence. We must say that, in all their grandeur, they never slackened in the ardent desire of doing that which is good and right, that they were men of noble sentiment and noble bearing.'

People and their acts of bravery are often lost to the annals of history. But what of mighty lineages? Generations of kings and the lands and people they fought for? What of kings who fought against their own people?

The Hindu Sahi kings, to whom honour and pride were more important than their own survival, fought a near 150 year rear-guard action as they continued to be pushed east from Kabul, their original homeland, changing their capitals and defending themselves from their own countrymen.

The last of their house had the misfortune of confronting the juggernaut that was Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni. Where obedience to the Sultan would have allowed their house to endure, their honour would have them confront him over and over.
But who were they?

This book tries to piece together their story from the limited sources that are available from an age where historical sources were few and, in the case of the Sahis, mostly from the point of view of their enemies.

This is the story of a dynasty that represented a resurgent Hindu faith in a land that was long dominated by Buddhism but also coincided with the arrival of the Muslims.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=865780>

Politics / Current Affairs

The Dark Side Of Journalism: The Culture and Political Economy of Global Media in Pakistan and Afghanistan / Syed Irfan Ashraf
Lahore, Pakistan: Folio Books, 2023
xiv, 324p.
Include Index & Bibliography
9789697834501
\$ 25.00 / PB
305gm.

The Dark Side of Journalism provides a local journalist's perspective on the role of "fixers" local journalists hired to help global media outlets report on wars over the past four decades. Fixers enable global media to access news about al-Qaida and the Taliban in distant regions and dangerous caves on Pakistan and Afghanistan's borders. Their risky pursuits have led to unprecedented death rates of local reporters during the U.S.-led war on terror. The Dark Side of Journalism illustrates both the essentiality of fixers to global news production, as well as their utter dispensability.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=866000>

Politics, Economy And Society: Essays On Pakistan And Beyond / Bilal Zahoor, Fahd Ali, Abraham Shah
Lahore, Pakistan: Folio Books, 2023
vi, 258p.
Include Index
9789697834594
\$ 30.00 / PB
290gm.

The defining characteristic of the ongoing century is that it is a century of crises. We're living in times when most phenomena, paradigms and systems are referred to with the prefix 'post'. The century of crises, in this sense, is a century of anti-climaxes, implosions and exhaustion. What are these phenomena, paradigms and systems that are experiencing descent? How are they generating a multiplicity of crises? And how are these crises, at many levels, mutually constituted?

This volume highlights and makes visible those connections amongst crises operating both at global and local levels. From the discontents of global capitalism to the limits of liberal democracy to the various facades of the climate crisis to the ruins of global governance and financial architecture, the book takes note of systemic failures and fissures. At the same time, the volume brings up the questions of alternative economic and political visions, indigenous feminisms and South-South alliances amongst others and thus takes note of repairs and reconstructions. Bringing together enterprising young thinkers, Politics, Economy and Society speaks to a wider audience of students, researchers and general readers.

'Politics, Economy and Society, brilliantly edited and put together by Bilal Zahoor, Fahd Ali and Abraham Shah, covers a range of critical essays on some of the most important twenty-first-century concerns. A very welcome addition to progressive literature, the book provides insights into the multi-pronged discontent thrown up by neo-liberal capitalism.'

-Kaiser Bengali, Economist.

'An intriguing conversation amongst a younger generation of academics, activists and development practitioners on challenges Pakistan faces in a world confronted with tense global geopolitics and trials of nature.'

-Ayesha Siddiqa, author of *Military Inc.: Inside Pakistan's Military Economy*.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=856277>

Fall Out: Power, Intrigue And Political Upheaval In Pakistan / Salman Masood
Lahore, Pakistan: Vanguard Books, 2024

xx, 180p.

9789694026626

\$ 50.00 / HB

465gm.

"Fall Out" delves into the tumultuous journey of Imran Khan's transition from a tenacious opposition leader to the prime minister from 2014 to 2018, and his complicated relationship with the Pakistani military since then. It charts the fall of Nawaz Sharif, influenced by the Panama Papers scandal, and the role of former army chief, General Qamar Javed Bajwa, in the Hybrid Project/Rule, revealing the changes he went through while in power. The book underscores the persistent unpredictability in leadership decisions, both military and civilian, that leads to a constant state of crisis in Pakistan, underlining the crucial need for institutional stability. A familiar yet ever-changing tableau of power, "Fall Out" is an incisive exploration of Pakistani politics.

"Salman has been one of the keenest observers of Pakistan and South Asia for more than two decades. This book distills the tumultuous events of the past decade into one sharp focus."

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=859242>
