Recent Politics and Current Affairs - December 2018

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Federalism in Pakistan: The Question of Provincial Autonomy in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan in the post 18th Amendment Era / Mohammad Ozair and Irfan Khan

International Institute for Research and Dialogue, International Islamic University, Islamabad, Pakistan 2017

Includes Index; Bibliography

9789697576098 \$ 30.00 / null 400 gm.

Federalism in Pakistan: from pre-partition to post-partition; the content of 18th constitutional amendment: a critical appraisal; Balochistan: from pre-partition to post partition; issues, grievances and state's response; political-economic relations and issues between Centre and Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa after 18th amendment; conclusion

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Existential Question for Pakistan: Policy and Governance / Iftikhar Ahmad

Mener La Mode (MLM) Publishing, Pakistan 2017

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Pakistan Countering Terrorism: Challenges and Prospects / Husnul Amin and Maryam Siddiga

International Institute for Research and Dialogue, International Islamic University, Islamabad, Pakistan 2017

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Why Pakistan does not have a counter-terrorism narrative?; the authority of Ulama and the problem of anti-state militancy in Pakistan; Pakistani women's struggle against violence and extremism; re-visiting counter terrorism strategies in Pakistan: an analysis of the National Action Plan; politics of counter-terrorism and the 21st constitutional amendment in Pakistan; Pakistan's military operations: the counter-terrorism strategy (2001-2013), prospects and implications; militancy and counter-militancy: impact on Pakistan's foreign policy; conclusions and the way forward conclusions and the way forward.

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Civil-Military Equation in Pakistan: Perception and Reality / Maj Gen (R) Shaukat Iqbal, HI (M)

Paramount Books (Pvt.) Ltd., Pakistan 2017

xx, 212p. Includes Bibliography 9789696373209 \$ 28.00 / HB 500 gm.

Civil-military relations is the study of how the military interacts with the state and society. The management of civil-military relations is a key to effective governance, particularly in states undergoing the transition to democracy like Pakistan. Military is generally held in high esteem in Pakistan owing to its strong nationalistic character, keeping the arch rival India at bay despite the qualitative and quantitative differential and impressive performance in nation-building tasks. However, there is a perception that due to its perpetual stay in national polity, the civil-military relations are somewhat strained. Due to the authority and position it enjoys, perception of 'military elitism' has also emerged in the public, which draws criticism both locally and from abroad. The book is first of its type which gives out true picture of civil-military equation and suggests a pragmatic and viable options to keep this equation balanced for strengthening of our beloved country Pakistan. Civil-military relations is the study of how the military interacts with the state and

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Indifference in the Times of Extremism: Articles written in the Past, Present and of the Future / Mahmood Shaam

Paramount Books (Pvt.) Ltd., Pakistan 2017

xii,304p. 9789696373063 \$ 30.00 / HB 550 gm.

A line borrowed from the different articles written over many years construct a collage and a mosaic of ideas that the book presents:

It is a pity we suffer from the very diseases the Father of the Nation had pointed out in the very first year of our existence. Our society badly suffers from a deeprooted structural imbalance. This imbalance has been manifested time and again but no serious effort has been made to repair this manufacturing defect. We need to examine whether individuals here were responsible for their sad plight or society failed to create opportunities and the right environment for the individual to exist.

Our society exhibits a general trend to follow the herd. Fresh ideas, bold initiatives and new thoughts have stopped emerging. This denial of self-hood, disrespect for individuality and humiliation by the state, the government and society drives individuals to nothingness, indifference and makes them feel there is no purpose to their lives. Creativity is a must for the growth of individuals and the society.

We have turned into a society of imitators, impostors and mimics. Our attitude as individuals or as a group at the national level is casual and encourages ad-hoc thinking. We want to live for the moment; we have no confidence in the moments yet to come.

yet to come.

Political parties formulate broad-based alliances for temporary interests and gains. They increase their strength and influence, but for the same reason they weaken from within. Different powers are at play in Pakistan. Every power has to play its role in its sphere, but if there is a vacuum lies in some part of society, the other part is likely to stretch itself to fill the vacuum.

Pakistan was still only three years old, and danger was being felt that some elements were undermining the s tate in the name of religion. Today, this disease is 55 years old, and acute. Terrorism has been at its extremes in the past few

Pakistan was still only three years old, and danger was being felt that some elements were undermining the s tate in the name of religion. Today, this disease is 55 years old and acute. Terrorism has been at its extremes in the past few years. This juncture of history is teeming with disputes, crisis and clashes but at the same time it offers countless opportunities. History tells us that such decisive crossroads have appeared before also but instead of seeing the objective, we were swept away in a flood of emotions. To dwell on the past or discuss it is an exercise in futility. Our destiny should be very different from the on-going events. We must decide our destiny, determine our goals and devise means that will lead us towards them.

We should be active and united to stop these forces of darkness. The wheels of history always trundle forward. Time is very short. Think - shake your conscience out of its slumber.

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Nation Building Paradoxes in India and Pakistan: A Diplomat's views of systemic and good governance challenges and opportunities / Syed Hasan Javed

Paramount Books (Pvt.) Ltd. 2018

xvi, 208p.

9789696374091

\$ 35.00 / HB

460 gm.

The governing political elites in South Asia have failed to establish an 'inclusive society', at a time of profound global transformation and power shift. Even more unfortunate, Pakistan and India are bracing for yet another 'lost era' with their third generation gearing up for conflict. The chances of 'sleepwalking' into another conflict will always remain there. May be this time, both countries will walk into it, with their eyes wide open, but helpless. The ordinary people in South Asia have remained condemned to hope by those, who should have instead provided 'solutions' to them. India's protracted struggle for geo-political domination, massive arms imports, resumption of threats and coercive diplomacy are 'bad omen' for South Asia's future.

The continuation of misery, poverty, extremism, intolerance and hate in South Asia is not only baffling, but is a matter of serious concern to all of its inhabitants, and the international community at large. In his book, Ambassador Hasan Javed examines the factors contributing to malaise in South Asia, the enormous systemic/good governance challenges, as well as the opportunities.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=463825

Political Leadership, Military Interventions and Democratization in Turkey and Pakistan / Irsa Shafiq

Iqbal International Institute for Research and Dialogue, International Islamic University, Islamabad, Pakistan 2018

x, 284p. Includes Index 9789697576166 \$ 30.00 / null 420 gm.

The quest for democratization in civil-military nexus; theoretical perspectives on civil-military relations; paradigmatic shift in civil-military pattern- a case study of Turkey; the unequal equation of democratization & bonapartism- a case study of Pakistan; Turkish lessons for Pakistan's ordeal; conclusion.

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The Challenge of Transforming FATA : The Role of Governance / Arif Mahmood Khan – Lt. Col. (R).

Iqbal International Institute for Research and Dialogue, International Islamic University, Islamabad, Pakistan 2018

xvi, 222p.

9789697576135

\$ 30.00 / null

350 gm.

Historic perspective; governance challenges and economic review; prevailing security environment; analysis, conclusions and recommendations.

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