

Pashtun Identity and Geopolitics in Southwest Asia

Pakistan and Afghanistan since 9/11 *By Iftikhar H. Malik*

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Innovative study which brings together Pakistan and Afghanistan as two inseparable entities for the first time.

"Tied together by policy making circles for strategic purposes and referred to in modern day geo-political parlance as Af-Pak, the region widely known as South West Asia has a rich cultural past and civilizational commonalities which have been aptly brought out in this important new contribution by one of Pakistan's most accomplished and prolific scholars." —Ali Usman Qasmi, Lahore University of Management Sciences

This is an excellent piece of research that is ideal for academics, students, journalists and general readers interested in the field. Professor Malik's highly sophisticated and scholarly style makes for enjoyable reading and his book is a welcome and much-required addition to the field. —Imran H Khan Suddahazai, 'The Muslim World Book Review', 39:4, 2019

This book juxtaposes vital issues of Pashtun identity, state formation, Taliban on both sides of the Durand Line, Frontier Crimes Regulation, security prerogative and the civil societies of Pakistan and Afghanistan, which since 9/11, have been posited in a rather precarious geopolitics.

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Introduction; 1. Gandhara Lands: Wrestling with Pashtun Identity and History; 2. Imperial Hubris: The Afghan Taliban in Ascendance; 3. Masculinities in Conflict: Western Pedagogy and the Return of the Afghan Taliban; 4. Understanding Pakistan: Geopolitical Legacies and Perspectives on Violence; 5. Locating Civic Sentiments and Movements in Pakistan: Stalemated Cycle, or a Way Forward?; 6. The United States and Pakistan: Friends or Foes!; 7. The European Union and Southwest Asia: Perceptions, Policies and Permutations; Conclusion: Pashtun Troubled Lands, Uncertain Southwest Asia, or a New Beginning

About the Author

Iftikhar H. Malik is Professor of History at Bath Spa University and a historian of South Asia, Political Islam, and Muslim Diaspora communities.

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