

# IPSnews

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Institute of Policy Studies is a non-government think tank dedicated to promoting policy-oriented research and human development.

## Quarter in Focus

The new year in the new office came up with fresh challenges and prospects, but the determination and hard work of Team IPS overcame the obstacles making the best out of the opportunities they brought.

The highlights of the quarter, among a variety of academic activities generating policy debates, were thought-provoking roundtable sessions on 'Pak-US relations under Trump' and 'FATA Reforms Package', lecture by international scholar Professor John L. Esposito on the topic of 'Islamophobia', launch of IPS Press' new arrival *Mushahidat-e-Zindagi* – authored by senior IPS associate and former chief economist of Pakistan, Fasih Uddin, and a grand open house interactive session on 23rd March with the founder chairman of IPS, Professor Khurshid Ahmad. Different aspects of the country's energy and economic concerns were deliberated in three other sessions.

IPS was represented by Lead Coordinator Irfan Shahzad in academic events in Iran and Kazakhstan, while two Chinese delegations – from China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR) and members of the Chinese Consortium that has bought 40 per cent shares in PSX visited IPS during the period.

Several local delegations including members of Balochistan Advisory Council for Education (BACE) also made visits to the Institute in the quarter.

IPS signed an MoU with Fatima Jinnah Women University (FJWU) to publish the research papers of their jointly organized conference recently in its flagship journal *Policy Perspectives*.

A special issue of *Policy Perspectives*, titled 'Pakistan and its Neighbors' came out during the period, whereas several reports were also published and disseminated by IPS in form of situation reports, policy briefs and recommendations.

IPS Press - the publishing arm of the Institute - in the meanwhile, participated in five major book fairs held in Islamabad, Lahore and Peshawar.



(L-R): Abdul Malik Mujahid, Professor Dr Anis Ahmad, Professor John L Esposito and Khalid Rahman

## 'Islamophobia, Islam & Politics'

In the world politics today, especially for the West, Muslims are too many to be ignored and too weak to be accommodated. As Islamophobia is on the rise, the only solution to the problem is that Muslims regain their strength, intellectual as well as institutional, and work towards positive engagement in the society.

These views emanated from a rich intellectual

discussion following a lecture of renowned American scholar of religion and international affairs, Professor John L Esposito at IPS on March 30, 2017.

The scholar is currently the president of the American Academy of Religion and a member of the E.C. European Network of Experts on De-Radicalization and the board of C-1 World Dialogue and an ambassador for the UN

*Continued on Page 02*

## 'Pak-US Relations under Trump: Bilateral, Regional and Global Scenario'



M Akram Zaki

A roundtable with the participation of a select gathering of experts and senior IPS associates extensively discussed the

future of 'Pak-US Relations under Trump' at length.

The sitting, which was held at IPS on February 27, 2017, was chaired by Institute's founding chairman and former senator Professor Khurshid Ahmad, and addressed by Ambassador (r) M Akram Zaki, senior IPS associate and former secretary-general foreign affairs, Air Commodore (r) Khalid

*Continued on Page 03*

## 'Energy Efficiency & Conservation Act 2016: Review of Implementation Strategy'

A roundtable held on January 26, 2017 to review the implementation strategy of National Energy Efficiency & Conservation Act 2016 was informed by Engr Asad Mahmood – who represented Hasan Nasir Jamy, the managing director of the newly established NEECA (National Energy Efficiency & Conservation Authority) in the policy dialogue – that the draft national policy for an integrated implementation approach following the much

awaited legislation would be shared with all the stakeholders for their feedback within the next couple of weeks.

The legislation has led to the formation of Pakistan Energy



Ashfaq Mahmood

*Continued on Page 02*

## ‘Evolving World Order: Implications and Opportunities for Pakistan’

A session titled ‘Evolving World Order: Implications and Opportunities for Pakistan’ was held at IPS on February 13, 2017. The session was addressed as keynote speaker by Abdullah Khurram from Johns Hopkins University, who is also a fellow at PoliTact, and strategic advisor at the Gulf State Analytics; while the other important discussants included Syed Muhammad Ali, senior research fellow, Centre for International Strategic Studies (CISS), Ambassador (r) Ayaz Wazir, Zaheeruddin Dar, CBI Expert & Trainer, Centre for International Entrepreneurship and Trade, Executive President-IPS Khalid Rahman, and the research faculty of IPS.



## Continued from Page - 01 - Energy Efficiency & Conservation Act 2016

Efficiency and Conservation Board (PEECB) – comprising 23 members including federal minister for water & power as chairman, federal secretary water & power as secretary and federal secretaries finance, petroleum and natural resources, planning, science and technology, industries, housing and works, climate change; provincial secretaries of designated departments, chairmen of OGRA and NEPRA, MD NEECA, nominee of FPCCI, and five members from private sectors as members – under which the NEECA has been established with the mandate and objectives to ensure sustainable development through conservation and efficient use of energy in all sectors of the economy; establish institutions, stipulate mechanisms and procedures for energy saving potential; and help mitigate adverse effects of climate change.

For complete report, visit: <http://ips.org.pk/whats-new/128-roundtable/2083-energy-efficiency-a-conservation-act-2016-review-of-implementation-strategy>

## ‘Implementation of FATA Reforms Package: Setting the Priorities’



(L-R): Afrasiab Khattak, Amb (r) Ayaz Wazir and Sardar Khan

In prioritizing the way forward for the implementation of FATA Reforms Package, approved by the federal cabinet on March 2, 2017, representatives of KP government, political parties, academia, media, political and human rights activists, elders from FATA and members of the civil society concluded that though there may be some flaws and paradoxes in the proposed reforms package, status quo was not certainly an option. They called for immediate constitutional and legislative measures to mainstream FATA and

expressed apprehensions that any further delay may provide opportunity to vested interests to sabotage this historic and critical move.

This was the crux of the conference titled ‘Implementation of FATA Reforms Package: Setting the Priorities’ held at IPS in collaboration with the Ministry of SAFRON on March 16, 2017.

For complete report, visit: <http://www.ips.org.pk/whats-new/77-in-house-session/2100-immediate-constitutional-measures-urged-for-fata-reforms>

## ‘Pakistan’s Energy Sector: Status and Prospects’



Syed Akhter Ali

Energy experts in a policy roundtable have urged the government to promote integrated long-term planning in the energy sector and check lacunas in the management and implementation capacity of energy projects, especially those related to CPEC.

Status and Prospects’, which was held at IPS on January 10, 2017, was mainly addressed by Syed Akhter Ali, who has remained a part of the policy and planning process until recently as member energy in the Planning Commission and was chaired by Ashfaq Mahmood, former secretary, Ministry of Water & Power. The key discussants included former federal secretaries and energy policy analysts Masud Daher and Salahuddin Rifai, and IPS associates Brig (retd) Said Nazir and Ameena Sohail.

For complete report, visit: <http://ips.org.pk/whats-new/92-seeminar/2074-pakistans-energy-sector-status-and-prospects>

The event titled ‘Pakistan’s Energy Sector:

## Continued from Page - 01 - Islamophobia, Islam & Politics

Alliance of Civilizations; also founded the Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding at Georgetown University and is its current director.

The topic of his ‘Dr Mumtaz Ahmad Memorial Lecture’ was ‘Islamophobia, Islam & Politics’. The event was chaired by Professor Dr Anis Ahmad, vice chancellor, Riphah International

University and was also addressed by Khalid Rahman, executive president of IPS, Dr Salman Sayyid, Research Fellow at University of Leeds and Abdul Malik Mujahid, an Imam and Muslim community leader based in Chicago.

For complete report, visit: <http://www.ips.org.pk/whats-new/92-seeminar/2108-islamophobia-islam-a-politics>

## ‘Pakistan Economy in a Transforming Global Economic Order’

As part of its ongoing fellowship program, IPS organized a lecture series by renowned economist Professor Dr Shahida Wizarat on the theme of 'Pakistan Economy in a Transforming Global Economic Order' from February 14-17, 2017, at its own premises as well as at three major universities of the federal capital.

Dr Wizarat is former director, Applied Economics Research Centre (AERC), University of Karachi, and currently dean of College of Economics and Social Development (CESD), Director Research and Chief Editor, Pakistan Business Review (PBR), Institute of Business Management (IoBM), Karachi.



Dr Javed Ashraf, Vice Chancellor, QAU, presenting a memento to Dr Shahida Wizarat

The first lecture of the series held at IPS, titled 'Challenges Faced by the Developing Countries and Our Response', on February 14, 2017, was chaired by Ambassador (r) M Akram Zaki, senior IPS associate and former secretary-general, Foreign Affairs.

The second lecture was at International Institute of Islamic Economics (IIIE), International Islamic University (IIUI), Islamabad on February 15, 2015 on the topic of 'Food Security – Global Scenario and Pakistan'.

'Economic Governance in Pakistan: Issues and Strategies' was the title of her next presentation held at the Islamabad campus of Bahria University on February 16, 2017.

The series of lecture rounded off with the repeat of the first lecture 'Challenges Faced by the Developing Countries and Our Response', this time delivered at the Department of Economics of Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU), Islamabad on February 17, 2017.

For complete report, visit:  
<http://ips.org.pk/whats-new/76-lecture/2090-lecture-series-on-pakistan-economy-in-a-transforming-global-economic-order>

## Dr Mahmood Ahmad Ghazi commemorated

IPS' Executive President Khalid Rahman participated in and addressed an international conference 'Ilm-o-Fikar, Taleem, Muashra aur Tamaddun ki Islami Tanaazur mai Tameer-e-Nau: Dr. Mahmood Ahmad Ghazi ki Khidmaat ka Ilmi Jayeza (Reconstruction of Thought, Education, Society and Civilization from Islamic Perspective: An Academic Overview of Services of Dr Mahmood Ahmad Ghazi)', which was organized by Da'wah Academy, International Islamic University, Islamabad (IIUI) on February 22-23, 2017.

Executive President-IPS presented a paper on the occasion titled 'Dr Mahmood Ahmad Ghazi aur Policy Studies ka Maidaan: Institute of Policy Studies ke Saath Wabastagi ke Tanazur Mai (Dr Mahmood Ahmad Ghazi and the arena of policy studies: In light of his association with Institute of Policy Studies), in which he paid tributes and shed light on the invaluable policy-oriented academic contributions of the scholar from the time of his formal association with the Institute.

For detailed brief, visit:  
<http://ips.org.pk/global-issues-and-politics/2099-pak-us-relations-under-trump-bilateral-regional-and-global-scenarios>

## Continued from Page - 01 - Pak-US Relations under Trump

Iqbal, senior IPS associate and analyst, and Executive President-IPS Khalid Rahman.

The other notable participations included Ambassador (r) Salman Bashir, Ambassador (r) Ayaz Wazir, Dr Waqar Masood Khan, former secretary finance, M Riyazul Haque, former additional secretary, Punjab, Barrister (r) Sadia Abbasi, Brig (r) Said Nazir, Air Commodore (r) Khalid Banuri, Saeed Ahmad

Qureshi, former deputy chairman, Zaheeruddin Dar, CBI Expert & Trainer, Centre for International Entrepreneurship and Trade and Ashfaq Mahmood, former secretary, Ministry of Water & Power

## ‘Armed Forces and National Development’



Dr Anjum Shahzad and Brig (r) Said Nazir

A session 'Armed Forces and National Development' was held at IPS on March 2, 2017. Addressed by independent researcher and analyst Dr Anjum Shahzad and senior IPS associate Brig (r) Said Nazir.

## National hero MM Alam remembered

On the occasion of the fourth anniversary of Late Sqr Ldr MM Alam - Pakistan's national hero and a world record holder from the Indo-Pak war of 1965 – IPS Press, in collaboration with Indus Cottage Libraries Network (ICLN), organized a book screening of 'Maya Naaz Hero: MM Alam' – a biography of the legend authored by journalist Rafique Shehzad - on March 18, 2017.

The event was addressed by Executive President-IPS Khalid Rahman, sister of MM Alam Dr Shaheena Awais, Group Captain SMA Hussaini, Agha Noor Mohammad Pathan, the book's author Rafique Shehzad, Naufil Shahrukh, GM Operations IPS and others.

## Two IPS associates awarded Tamgha-i-Imtiaz

Two senior associates of IPS – Professor Dr Javeid Iqbal, vice chancellor, Balochistan University and Professor Chen Jidong, former director, Pakistan Study Centre, Sichuan University – were conferred with prestigious national award 'Tamgha-i-Imtiaz' for their meritorious services for Pakistan by President Mamnoon Hussain on 23rd March 2017. Professor Dr Javeid Iqbal is an active member of IPS-National Academic Council since 2014.

**Sharing Insights** IPS encourages interaction with different national and international organizations and scholars to share their studies and exchange views on the subjects of mutual interest. A glimpse of such interactions in the last quarter is being presented here.

**‘Silk Road and Transport Diplomacy’**

Irfan Shahzad, Lead Coordinator IPS participated in an international conference titled ‘Silk Road and Transport Diplomacy’ organized by Tabataba’i University (Tehran) in Chabahar, Sistan and Balochistan province, Iran on January 25-26, 2017.



**IPS signs MoU to publish joint research with FJWU**

An MoU was signed between the Institute of Policy Studies and the Defence and Diplomatic Studies (DSS) Department of Fatima Jinnah Women University (FJWU), Rawalpindi on January 18, 2017, aimed at the publication of papers presented in an international conference titled ‘Peace and Security in Central Asia’ jointly organized by IPS and DDS-FJWU in IPS’ flagship journal *Policy Perspectives*.



Dr Saima Kiyani, chairperson, DDS-FJWU visited IPS to sign the MoU

Having agreed in principle for the publication of research papers in their meeting held earlier on April 19, 2016, the now-formal agreement will pave way for the two institutions to selecting, reviewing and editing the conference papers as per the standards followed by HEC recognized IPS’ biannual journal.

**Delegation from CICIR, China**

Terming CPEC a ‘scenario-changer’ for South Asia rather than being just a ‘game-changer’, Chinese experts on the region inferred emerging nexus between Pakistan, China and Russia to be a defining development for the region’s future.



They were deliberating at a session on ‘Trump’s South Asia Policy: Quadrilateral interaction between Pakistan, China, India and USA and Challenges to CPEC’, held at IPS on March 3, 2017. It was partaken by a three-member delegation from China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR) – China’s largest, oldest and most influential research institutes for international

studies, overseen by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China – which was led by Hu Shisheng, director, CICIR’s Institute of South, Southeast Asian and Oceanic Studies, China. IPS’ research faculty on the occasion included Executive President-IPS Khalid Rahman, Lead Coordinator Irfan Shahzad, Brig (r) Said Nazir and researchers Fareeha Sarwar and Waqar-un-Nisa.

**Gilgit-Baltistan to benefit from IPS’ research work**

Shereen Akhtar, Parliamentary Secretary for Education, Gilgit-Baltistan, visited IPS on March 19, 2017 and deliberated upon various matters of shared interests with Khalid Rahman, executive president IPS.

Akhtar expressed that the Gilgit-Baltistan government was interested in benefiting from the invaluable research work and years of experience that the Institute had to offer, stating “It is important to integrate the researchers’ work in policy designing for socio-economic development of the region.”

Khalid Rahman said on the occasion that Gilgit-Baltistan had better literacy rate compared to many other areas of Pakistan and by the provision of suitable platforms, this talent resource could be utilized efficiently for growth and prosperity of the country.



**Chinese Consortium**

A delegation of the representatives of Chinese Consortium, which has acquired 40 per cent stakes in PSX, visited IPS on March 17, 2017.



**‘Third Wave of Modernization in Kazakhstan’**

Lead Coordinator IPS Irfan Shahzad spoke on the ‘Third Wave of Modernization in Kazakhstan’ at a discussion session organized by the Embassy of Kazakhstan, Islamabad on March 17, 2017.

He contended that if implemented in letter and spirit, the measures announced in the third wave will take Kazakhstan several notches above the present level of development.

**Sharing Insights**

IPS encourages interaction with different national and international organizations and scholars to share their studies and exchange views on the subjects of mutual interest. A glimpse of such interactions in the last quarter is being presented here.

**IPS Press launches *Mushahidat-e-Zindagi* by former chief economist Fasih Uddin**



(L-R) Saeed A Qureshi, Sartaj Aziz, Prof Khurshid Ahmad, Fasih Uddin and Col. (r) Ashfaq Hussain

IPS Press – the publishing arm of IPS – launched the book *Mushahidat-e-Zindagi* - which was authored by former chief economist of Pakistan and senior IPS associate Fasih Uddin - in a ceremony organized on February 2, 2017.

The chief guest of the event was the current

adviser to PM on foreign affairs, Sartaj Aziz, who commended the writer for his gripping work, terming his recent publication a bedside table book that should be benefited from anytime both for acquiring the knowledge as well as to uplift the mood. He said that the author was

an accomplished individual who had served the country for years with his invaluable contributions. The vast amount of author's experience and observations, Aziz said, were duly reflected in his book which was not only an interesting read but also offered a host of lessons to learn from.

**Pakistan needs 'Water Leaders'**

"Moving towards completion of 70 years of its existence as an independent state, with water and sanitation sector problems at the core of its socio-economic underdevelopment, Pakistan is in desperate need of a water-focused leadership at all levels. Specially, the political leadership of the country needs to take up water and sanitation (W&S) sector as their top priority."

The message was released by IPS on World Water Day, that fell on March 22, 2017.

The Institute stressed that "the nation, together, has to rise up to this challenge of momentous proportions."

Irfan Shahzad, lead coordinator of the Institute, stressed that conservation and development of water resources becomes a national emergency.

**Educationists from Balochistan**

A delegation of BACE (Balochistan Advisory Council for Education) visited IPS on February 3, 2017, and had an interactive session on the role of think tanks in policy making as well as over the issues related to education policies at the federal and provincial levels, especially Balochistan.

**Teachers from Kurram Agency**

A group of teachers from Kurram Agency, FATA visited IPS on January 20, 2017 and had an interactive session with Executive President-IPS Khalid Rahman and other team members.

**Students of Al-Kauthar Islamic University**

The students of the English department of Al-Kauthar Islamic University, Islamabad visited IPS on January 23, 2017 as part of their exposure trip.

**Celebrating 'Pakistan Day' with Professor Khurshid Ahmad**



A family get-together (of IPS Team and Associates) cum interactive session with the

honourable founding chairman of IPS, Professor Khurshid Ahmad, was held on March 23, 2017 to celebrate 'Pakistan Day' and talk about his memories of the independence movement, the making of Pakistan and his life-long contributions for the country and the Muslim world.

Another significance of this get-together was that he was born on March 23, 1932 and it was his 85th anniversary.

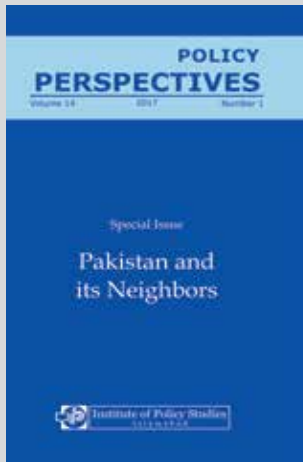
**Delegation of Imams and Khateebes**

Da'wah Academy, International Islamic University Islamabad facilitated an introductory session between IPS and a delegation of Imams and Khateebes on February 20, 2017.

**Exposure visit of college teachers**

A group of college teachers from across Pakistan visited IPS on March 8, 2017, as part of an exposure visit arranged by Da'wah Academy, International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI).

**Policy Perspectives (Vol. 14, No. 1) – Special issue on ‘Pakistan and Its Neighbors’**



Titled ‘Pakistan and Its Neighbors’, a special issue of *Policy Perspectives* – the peer-reviewed flagship journal of Institute of Policy Studies (IPS), Islamabad – has been published now and is widely

available for the readers.

IIPS has been pursuing the theme ‘Pakistan and Its Neighbors’ for past several years. Considering the wide-ranging bilateral, regional and global significance of the subject and its emerging dynamics, the Institute has now published its work on the topic in a single, comprehensive volume.

This issue takes a holistic view of all of Pakistan’s four land neighbors, the lone maritime neighbor, as well as its association

with regional cooperation organizations.

The first article ‘Pakistan and China: Partnership, Prospects and the Course Ahead’ covers the span of over six decades of persistent cordiality between Pakistan and China, and the recently added impetus to this relationship with the advent of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), and the extraordinary prospects brought forth with it.

The second article ‘Pakistan-India Equation: Determinants, Dynamics and the Outlook’ reiterates the need of a sustainable conflict resolution mechanism between Pakistan and India, assisted by third party mediation, in order to restraint the region from arm race and the threat of nuclear war, as well as to ensure a prosperous and peaceful future for South Asia.

The third piece ‘Pak-Afghan Ties: Evolution, Challenges and the Way Forward’ summarizes the profile of Pakistan-Afghanistan relations, identifies the challenges, envisages the prospects and proposes ways for narrowing the gap between existing and desired format of relationship.

The piece ‘Pak-Iran Relations: Evolving

Dynamics, Prospects and Approaches’ juxtaposes Pakistan-Iran relations in the changing regional balance of power from two angles: i) history of the bilateral relations, ii) present issues and concerns. It also makes plausible policy recommendations for strengthening the bilateral ties in the future.

‘The Maritime Neighbor: Pakistan’s Relations with Oman’ looks into the relationship of the neighbors connected through Arabian Sea rather than the land. The piece suggests that though Pak-Oman relations have generally remained cordial, they remain short of being as robust as the potential suggests, and should be cemented further by devising joint strategies.

The final piece ‘Pakistan and Regional Cooperation Organizations: Towards a Futuristic Approach’ studies Pakistan’s association with Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), and Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), stressing the need that the inter-organization cooperation and sub-regional initiatives should be further explored and fostered.

**Policy Briefs**

The following policy briefs were published during the quarter on IPS website ([www.ips.org.pk](http://www.ips.org.pk)) and were shared with relevant stakeholders. Please visit the website to access the publications or email [mairaj@ips.net.pk](mailto:mairaj@ips.net.pk) for further information or queries.

**Pak-US Relations under Trump: Bilateral, Regional and Global Scenarios**  
(Policy Brief)

**18th Constitutional Amendment: Oil and Gas - Impact on Exploration and Beyond**  
(Seminar Report)

**The Return and Rehabilitation of TDPs: Status and the Needed Approach**  
(Conference Report)

**Implementation of FATA Reforms Package: Setting the Priorities**  
(Policy Brief)

**FATA Reforms: Proposals, Consequences and Approaches**  
(Conference Report)

**Pakistan and Afghanistan: Towards an Ideal Bilateral Arrangement**  
(Conference Report)

**CPEC: Opportunities for Pakistani Businesses in a Bigger Picture**  
(Seminar Report)

**The Constitutional Status of FATA, Merger of FATA with KP: Issues & Strategy**  
(Conference Report)

**FATA Reforms Committee Report: The Way Forward**  
(Policy Recommendations)

**Brief on changing situation of Afghanistan (Urdu)**  
(Seminar Report)

**Enforced Disappearances: Dimensions of Agony**  
(Seminar Report)



**Institute of Policy Studies:** Nasr Chambers, Plot No. 1, Commercial Centre, MPCHS, E-11/3, Islamabad, Pakistan.  
Ph: +92 51 843 8391-3, Fax: +92 51 8438390, Email: [ipsnews@ips.net.pk](mailto:ipsnews@ips.net.pk), Web: [www.ips.org.pk](http://www.ips.org.pk), [www.ipsurdu.pk](http://www.ipsurdu.pk)  
Editor: Naufil Shahrukh, Asst. Editor: Farhan Syed, Layout: Asif Taimuri