

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 year 2020 for IPS ended with an eventful quarter. The salient among its academic activities were its primary research projects: *Forced Conversion or Faith Conversion: Rhetoric or Reality* and *Barriers and Drivers of Solar Prosumage: A Case Study for Pakistan*. Alongside producing insightful briefs and media content on various policy issues, the Institute also held consultative sessions with relevant stakeholders and experts on its ongoing research projects.

A talk by former Prime Minister and veteran political leader of Afghanistan Engr. Gulbuddin Hekmatyar was another highlight of the quarter, whereas the issues like Durand line and 19 years of US' presence in Afghanistan were discussed in separate sessions, with the latter also featuring the launch of new IPS Press publication *Afghanistan: Mulla Umar se Ashraf Ghani Tak* authored by former ambassador Syed Abrar Hussain.

The Institute's initiative of 'Understanding Africa' featured a detailed session accentuating Pakistan's role in UN peacekeeping missions in Africa, while analysts and foreign policy experts contemplated over the matters like recognition of Israel, Basic Exchange Cooperation Agreement between the US and India, and the challenges for new US president-elect Joe Biden in other sittings.

IPS continued to highlight Kashmir cause not only with the twelfth meeting of its Working Group on Kashmir (IPS-WGK), but also through the presentations of its Executive President in the events organized by Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) and the Legal Forum for Oppressed Voices of Kashmir (LFOVK).

IPS LEAD – the Learning, Excellence and Development program of IPS - organized a session 'Brainstorming Research Ideas: Media Studies' in collaboration with Riphah Institute of Media Sciences, held a sitting in continuation of its ongoing series 'The Living Scripts', and hosted an exposure visit of student leaders, also imparting them two-day training on leadership skills. The induction of 'Non-Resident Fellows' in IPS' research team was another significant step taken during the quarter, taking on-board senior academics from different universities as part of its 'Indigenizing Policy Research in Pakistan Initiative'. IPS Press entered into an agreement with Kube Publishing (UK) to enable the readers in Pakistan and Afghanistan to buy low-priced reprint editions of all books of the popular UK-based Islamic publisher. Another book titled *Faraib-e-Na-Tamam* by renowned diarist Jumma Khan Sufi was also brought forth.



Only a sovereign Afghan government can avert another civil war after US withdrawal: Gulbuddin Hekmatyar

The only durable solution for peace in Afghanistan is that the US should withdraw its troops and a non-aligned, independent and sovereign government should be formed by Afghans in light of their beliefs and traditions without any interference; otherwise the country would slither into another civil war, warned veteran Afghan politician and Hizb-e-Islami's supreme leader Eng. Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

He was addressing a large number of foreign

policy analysts, practitioners and journalists at his exclusive talk organized by IPS on October 21, 2020, at the conclusion of his three-day official visit to Pakistan on the invitation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The forum was chaired by EP-IPS Khalid Rahman and moderated by Amb (r) Syed Abrar Hussain. Pakistan's special envoy for Afghanistan Amb (r) Muhammad Sadiq was also present on the occasion.

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'Exploring Religious Conversions: A Discussion on IPS Baseline Study'

Religious conversion is a very complex phenomenon having several dimensions associated with it. There is a need to approach this much-hyped issue in Pakistan from diversified angles, not only looking at it from the religious perspective, but also incorporating the socio-economic, historical, political and other important factors blended with it.

This was the general consensus among the participants of the webinar titled 'Exploring Religious Conversions: A Discussion on IPS



Baseline Study', which was organized by IPS on December 17, 2020.

The objective behind the discussion was to obtain critical feedback from a panel of national and international field experts over the

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Energy experts call for a national drive to foster solar prosumage growth



Mirza Hamid Hasan

A solid and broad consensus among key stakeholders for curbing coal-based power generation in Pakistan and diverting 60 per cent of the total energy mix to renewable energy by 2030 was stressed by energy experts at a consulta-

tive meeting held on December 21, 2020.

The session, which was held to discuss IPS study on barriers surrounding Distributed Generation was chaired by Executive President IPS Khalid Rahman, moderated by former Secretary, Ministry of Water and Power Mirza Hamid Hasan, and addressed by Asad Mehmood from National Energy Efficiency Conservation Authority (NEECA), Aftab Ahmad Awan from Planning Commission of Pakistan, Neshmiya A. Khan, Hamza Butt and Maryam

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IPS' Non-Resident Fellows for 2021



Dr Tughral Yamin

Dr Abdul Saboor



Dr Maliha Zeba Khan

Dr Faisal Javaid

Aimed to promote policy-oriented research, dialogue and human development in Pakistan in an 'indigenous' framework, and building a policy research community, IPS has taken another initiative to launch a Non-Resident Fellowship (NRF) program with effect from December 2020. The program seeks to take on-board 10-12 senior academicians and research supervisors from various universities of Pakistan and connect them with the government to bridge the policy-research gap. These NRFs will remain associated with IPS for a renewable period of one year. They would also be engaging their research students to work on themes and research topics decided in consultation with the relevant stakeholders in the policy circles. The esteemed academics who have so far joined the Institute's NRF program include: Dr Tughral Yamin, associate dean, Centre for International Peace and Stability Studies, National University of Science and Technology (CIPS-NUST); Dr Abdul Saboor, professor and HoD, department of economics, Pir Meher Ali Shah University of Arid Agriculture, Rawalpindi; Dr Maliha Zeba Khan, assistant professor, department of international relations, National University of Modern Languages (NUML), and Dr Faisal Javaid, assistant professor, department of international relations, Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science and Technology (FUUAST), Karachi.

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Only a sovereign Afghan govt....

Hekmatyar said Afghans invested about \$20 billion in other countries including Turkey and the Gulf states during the war. He suggested that Pakistan should facilitate Afghan investors and businessmen thus enabling them to bring their investment to Pakistan. The facilities he termed essential in this regard include permission to open bank accounts, buy property on the basis of Afghan passports and long-term visas like those provided by certain European countries.

For further details, visit: <https://www.ips.org.pk/a-talk-by-eng-gulbuddin-hekmatyar/>

Afghan Peace Process | Spoilers will be the biggest losers in end game: Ambassador (r) Salman Bashir



L-R: Ambassador (r) Abdul Basit, Ammara Durrani and Ambassador (r) Salman Bashir

Amb (r) Salman Bashir, Pakistan's former Foreign Secretary has said that the international and regional spoilers conspiring against the Afghan peace process would themselves be the biggest losers in the end game.

He was addressing the launch of Pakistan's former ambassador to Afghanistan, Amb (r) Syed Abrar Hussain's memoirs *Afghanistan: Mulla Umar se Ashraf Ghani Tak* recently

published by IPS Press – the publishing arm of IPS – which also included a roundtable discussion on the recent developments in Afghanistan after 19 years of US invasion.

Chaired by EP-IPS Khalid Rahman, the session held on October 9, 2020 was addressed, among others, by Amb (r) Abdul Basit, Amb (r) Ayaz Wazir, Brig (r) Said Nazir, Air Cdr (r) Khalid Iqbal, Ammara Durrani, senior research fellow, Jinnah Institute, Afghan scholars Prof Haroon Khatibi and Naseer Ahmed Naveedi from Center for Strategic and Regional Studies (CSRS), Kabul, Dr Adnan Sarwar Khan, former dean, Peshawar University, and senior journalists Faizullah Khan (ARY) and Naimat Khan (Arab News).

For further details, visit:

<https://www.ips.org.pk/book-launch-of-afghanistan-mulla-umar-se-ashraf-ghani-tak-dialogue-19-years-of-the-us-invasion-of-afghanistan/>

Pakistan to gain nothing by accepting Israel - IPS RTC

Issues as delicate as the recognition of Israel must be addressed in line with the popular opinion and sentiments in Pakistan and through parliamentary debates, as such a measure taken against the national ideology and policy environment will create chaos in the country. It was also deplored that the debate initiated on the issue in the policy arena by some vested interests is untimely and counterproductive as it does not present any vision and proactive plan to benefit from such a major foreign policy shift. Rather, Pakistan does not seem to gain anything by accepting Israel in material terms in the security or economic arena except causing a casualty of its own national ideology, which is the real binding force of the Islamic republic.

This was the crux of a roundtable titled 'UAE's recognition of Israel and its implications for the Middle East and Pakistan' which was held at IPS on December 22, 2020. The session was

chaired by EP-IPS Khalid Rahman, and addressed by Amb (r) Javed Hafeez, Amb (r) Tajammul Altaf, senior IPS associate, Brig (r) Tughral Yamin, associate dean,



Amb (r) Javed Hafeez

Centre for International Peace and Stability Studies-National University of Science and Technology (CIPS-NUST) and IPS fellow, Brigadier (r) Said Nazir, senior IPS associate, Naufil Shahrukh, GM-IPS and other members of the Institute's research faculty.

For further details, visit:

www.ips.org.pk/uaes-recognition-of-israel-and-its-implications-for-the-middle-east-and-pakistan/

Half-cooked decision over the status of GB could create complications: Working Group on Kashmir

The twelfth meeting of IPS' working group on Kashmir was held with special reference to the status of Gilgit-Baltistan on October 26, 2020.

The meeting was chaired by EP-IPS Khalid Rahman and participated by Farzana Yaqoob, IPS associate and general secretary, IPS-Working Group on Kashmir (IPS-WGK), Amb (r) Syed Ishtiaq Hussain Andrabi, Amb (r) Tajammul Altaf, Adv Nasir Qadri, international law expert from Legal Forum for Oppressed Voices of Kashmir (LFOVK), Sheikh Tajammul-ul-Islam, director, Kashmir Media Service and GM-IPS Naufil Shahrukh, among others.

Sharing his views on the recent decision taken by the GoP to grant provisional provincial status to the region of Gilgit-Baltistan, Rahman opined that the steps reflected the aspirations of the local populace, he was however critical of the way the announcement regarding the status of



L-R: Sheikh Tajammul-ul-Islam and Adv Nasir Qadri

GB was made, stressing that the issue was very sensitive in nature and hence demanded a much better strategy with improved homework, careful political discussions, well-devised mechanisms and prior agreement of all concerned stakeholders, the absence of all of which could create issues in the future.

For further details, visit:

www.ips.org.pk/twelfth-meeting-of-ips-working-group-on-kashmir/

Understanding Africa | Webinar discusses Pakistan's role in UN peacekeeping efforts in Africa



International Peace and Stability Studies-National University of Science and Technology (CIPS-NUST), and Centre for Asian African Studies (CAAS), Bradford-UK, as part of the Institute's 'Understanding Africa' project.

The session was chaired by EP-IPS Khalid Rahman, moderated by Dr Tughral Yamin, associate dean, CIPS-NUST

Pakistan's noteworthy contributions for UN peacekeeping missions across the world, especially Africa, provide an opportune area to strengthen its diplomatic and trade relations with the countries provided with the support.

The thoughts were shared in a webinar titled 'Pakistan's role in UN peacekeeping missions in Africa', which was jointly organized on December 24, 2020 by IPS, Centre for

and non-resident fellow at IPS, and addressed by Brig (r) Mirza Salim Baig, Brig (r) Imran Rasheed and Brig (r) Azam Agha from NUST, Islamabad.

The speakers shared their eyewitness accounts of Pakistan's contributions in UN peacekeeping missions in Africa in the form of three case studies.

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/pakistans-role-in-un-peacekeeping-missions-in-africa/

Not easy for Joe Biden to undo divergent decisions taken by Trump: Experts

Deliberating on the challenges that lay ahead for the newly elected US president Joe Biden, speakers at a session held at IPS were concordant that it may be difficult for the new president-elect to change or reverse some of the divergent measures taken by the Trump administration during his tenure.

The thoughts were shared in a session titled 'Challenges for President-elect Joe Biden: Expectations and Implication for the World and South Asia', which was held on December 1, 2020. The session was chaired by EP-IPS Khalid Rahman, whereas the panelists included Amb (r) Tajammul Altaf, senior research fellow at IPS, Brigadier (r) Tughral Yamin, non-resident fellow at IPS and associate dean, Centre for International Peace and Stability Studies-National University of Science and Technology (CIPS-NUST), and Sr Analyst Air Cdr (r) Khalid Iqbal.

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/challenges-for-president-elect-joe-biden-expectations-and-implication-for-the-world-and-south-asia/

Pakistan urged to stay vary of the joint Indo-US ambitions vis-à-vis BECA

Pakistan needs to be watchful of the growing partnership between India and the US, especially vis-à-vis BECA (Basic Exchange Cooperation Agreement) which aims to embolden the former to keep a check on the region. The development demands Pakistan and China to fortify their relations further by exploring more avenues of mutual cooperation – not least in the defence and strategic domains, while elevating their bilateral ties from transactional to operational ones.

The views were expressed in a session 'Basic Exchange Cooperation Agreements: Implications for South Asia, Indo-Pacific, China and Pakistan' which was held at IPS on November 24, 2020. The session was chaired by Executive President IPS Khalid Rahman, whereas the speaker's panel included IPS Research Fellows Ambassador (r) Tajammul Altaf and Dr Tughral Yamin, and Sr IPS Associates Brigadier (r) Said Nazir and Air Comodore (r) Khalid Iqbal.



Amb (r) Tajammul Altaf

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/basic-exchange-cooperation-agreements-implications-for-south-asia-indo-pacific-china-and-pakistan/

Afghanistan urged to look beyond settled issue of Durand Line to boost relations



The Afghan narrative on the Durand Line was crafted to lay claim on Pakistan's Pashtun belt despite the fact that the treaty was willingly signed by Amir of Afghanistan Abdur Rahman Khan, and the border was duly demarcated

under the supervision of Afghan and British officials, making Durand Line a settled matter which now both countries need to look beyond.

This was stated by experts of Pak-Afghan affairs at a roundtable conference titled 'Pak-Afghan Relations and the Durand Line Issue' organized by IPS on November 13, 2020.

The keynote speakers included well-known author Juma Khan Sufi, researcher and historian Dr Lutfur Rahman and Amb (r) Ayaz Wazir. The roundtable was chaired by Khalid Rahman, EP-IPS, and moderated by Brig (r) Said Nazir .

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/pak-afghan-relations-and-the-durand-line-issue/

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Community rehabilitation urged by reforming health & agriculture sectors of Pak

Pakistan consumes 6.5 million tons of fertilizers annually which is not only destroying its soil and water table but also exacerbating environmental degradation. This abuse of fertilizers has affected the quality of soil over the years, resulting in the decreased level of agricultural yield.

The concern was voiced by Dr Mubashir Bhatti, a renowned entrepreneur and member National Commission for Human Development (NCHD), while highlighting the growing threat of food insecurity and its impact on agriculture in Pakistan during his talk on December 4, 2020.

The session was chaired by EP-IPS Khalid Rahman and participated by Amanullah Khan, former president, Rawalpindi Chambers of Commerce and Industries (RCCI), Zaheeruddin Dar, economic policy analyst, Dr Abdul Saboor from Pir Meher Ali Shah University of Arid Agriculture, Rawalpindi, and GM-IPS Naufil Shahrukh, among others

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk

Energy experts call for....

Arshad from World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Zeeshan Ashfaq from World Wind Energy Association Pakistan (WWEA), Mushtaq Gaadi from Quid-i-Azam University, and Dr Azhar Lashari and Haneesa Isaad from Rural Development Policy Institute (RDPI). The briefings were delivered by IPS' energy team including Naila Saleh, Hamza Naeem and Sara.

Terming solar prosumage as an irresistible and most promising solution to simultaneously advance renewable energy uptake vis-à-vis addressing the chronic bottlenecks plaguing the national power sector, the speakers discussed at length how several barriers including regulatory bumps at inter-connection phase, low trust in technology, difficulties in accessing finance, and inertia at the level of distribution companies (DISCOs)—were collectively restricting solar PV growth in the country.

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/energy-experts-call-for-a-national-drive-to-foster-solar-prosumage-growth/

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.

Presentations on 'Barriers and Drivers of Solar Prosumage' at NEPRA, AEDB and GIZ



Siddique, director (Licensing) and Shahid Munir, assistant director (Tariffs). On behalf of AEDB, Atif Shehzad, director Net-Metering and Solar Thermal attended the presentation whereas the discussion with GIZ was participated by its technical advisors Muhammad Saeed and Asif Fareed.

The Institute's team, which was led by GM-IPS Naufil Shahrukh, and comprised researchers Naila Saleh, Sara, Hamza Naeem and Wali Farooqui, delivered insightful presentations on the topic, highlighting the status of renewable distributed generation in Pakistan, demonstrating the current progress that has taken place so far on net-metering in the country, and detailing the obstacles hampering its growth in the country. The participants endorsed the need of having an immediate solution to the identified barriers for more efficient distributed generation in the country. They also agreed to collaborate to the cause in a bid to ramp up the share of renewable energy in Pakistan.

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk

The team of IPS Energy, Water and Climate Change program visited the headquarters of NEPRA (National Electronic Power Regulatory Authority), AEDB (Alternative Energy Development Board), Ministry of Energy (Power Division) and GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) in Islamabad on November 26 and December 8 & 3, 2020 respectively and held interactive discussions on its recent study 'Barriers and Drivers of Solar Prosumage: A Case Study of Pakistan'. NEPRA was represented in its meeting by Imtiaz Hussain Baloch, director general (Licensing), Dr Irfan Yousuf, consultant, Renewable Energy, Muhammad Rafique

'Poverty, Religion and Development in Pakistan'

Executive President IPS Khalid Rahman delivered a lecture titled 'Poverty, Religion and Development (in Pakistan) – Islamic Concept of Combating Poverty' on October 23, 2020 in a three-day training course 'Poverty Reduction Strategies: Sustainability Issues and Way Forward'. Organized by Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development (AHK-NCRD) from October 19-23, 2020, the training was attended by various senior and middle level officials belonging to government, non-government and academic sectors from across the country. In his detailed presentation delivered on the occasion, Rahman maintained that Islam attempts to eradicate poverty through a consolidated system to Zakat and Ushr.



For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/

EP-IPS in ISSI seminar on understanding India's hegemonic aspirations



IPS was represented by its Executive President Khalid Rahman in a seminar 'Understanding Hindutva Mindset and Indian Hegemonic Aspirations', which was organized by India Study Centre of the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) on December 16, 2020.

Alongside EP-IPS, the session was addressed most notably by the President of Pakistan Dr Arif Alvi and Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Shibli Faraz.

Speaking on the occasion, Rahman highlighted various reasons behind the rise of RSS-BJP including Modi's 12-year regime in Gujrat that aided the rise of polarization in the country, as well as the post-9/11 circumstances that led to increasing trends of Islamophobia across the globe.

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/

IPS' presentation at CII on 'Rhetoric of Forced Conversion'



A three-member delegation from IPS visited Council of Islamic Ideology (CII) on November 25, 2020 and participated in an interactive discussion on the issue of forced conversion in Pakistan.

The visiting delegation comprised IPS research team members Syed Nadeem Farhat, Ghulam Hussain Sufi and Hafiz Usama Hameed, whereas the participants from CII included the session's chair Dr Ikram ul Haq, secretary, CII, Dr Inamullah, DG, CII, and the Council's senior research faculty.

Sufi delivered a presentation on the occasion titled 'Rhetoric of Forced Conversions in Pakistan: Legal and Policy Implications', which was based on an IPS study. He apprised the participants over how local and foreign NGOs twist facts and figures pertaining to faith conversion taking place mainly in Sindh, in order to pose the element of threat, fear and force behind the phenomenon. Even the incidents of voluntary conversion to Islam by adult and mature women, according to the presentation, were projected either as underage cases or as forced conversions following an abduction by local Muslims that was facilitated by Muslim clerics. These stories were then being used to malign the state, society and religious as well as cultural norms of Pakistan.

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/ips-presentation-at-cii-on-rhetoric-of-forced-conversion/

IPS in LFOVK's conference on Kashmir

EP-IPS Khalid Rahman participated as a chief guest in a conference 'Kashmir's Prolonged Military Occupation: Lessons from History and Way Forward', which was organized by Legal Forum for Oppressed Voices of Kashmir (LFOVK) on October 23, 2020.

Held at the completion of 73 years of Indian military occupation of Jammu and Kashmir, the conference aimed at discussing sensitive issues with respect to recent development in the occupied region, while discussing at length the possibilities of legal and political solutions alongside.

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/ep-ips-partakes-in-lfovks-conference-on-kashmir/

Human Development

The Institute's human development activities are carried out under 'IPS LEAD' (Learning, Excellence and Development Program) that aims at promoting knowledge economy for individual, organizational and societal excellence.

'Brainstorming Research Ideas: Media Studies'



As part of its initiative of 'Indigenizing Policy Research in Pakistan', IPS LEAD – the Learning, Excellence and Development program of IPS organized a session titled 'Brainstorming Research Ideas: Media Studies' in collaboration with Riphah Institute of Media Sciences (RIMS) at the latter's premises on October 14, 2020.

The session, which was attended by M.Phil. and MS students of media and communication studies, was addressed by Khalid Rahman, executive president IPS, Kashif Hafeez, CEO Pulse Consultant, and emerging filmmaker Talha Aslam.

Rahman, in his keynote speech, talked to the students about the role that media plays in shaping different narratives and molding public opinions, effectively making a strong impact on the society both directly and indirectly.

Hafeez, while talking to the students through an online link, criticized the overwhelming commercialization of content in Pakistani media, stating that the phenomenon is not only ruining creativity and originality but can also be seen compromising our values and norms at times.

Aslam spoke about the power, influence and impact of social media in today's world, stating that the digital world provides opportunities for everyone to make their mark.

He shared some valuable research ideas and tips with the students, while urging them to make optimal use of social media by producing content which may leave a positive impact in the minds of the viewers, and in turn becoming useful for the society in general.

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/brainstorming-research-ideas-media-studies/

Exposure visit and training of student leaders

A group of central executive body members of a national student organization (IJT) visited IPS on December 28-29, 2020 and attended a two-day training session on leadership traits and skills. The workshop was conducted by Executive President IPS Khalid Rahman, who imparted tips on how to realize one's potential and how to unleash one's leadership qualities.



For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/workshop-on-leadership-with-young-activists/

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Exploring Religious ...

Institute's baseline study 'Forced Conversions or Faith Conversions: Rhetoric and Reality', which critically reviews the existing literature and reports over the occurrence of this extensively publicized issue in Pakistan, and is supplemented with some ethnographic insights of the researcher and his first-hand interviews with relevant entities.

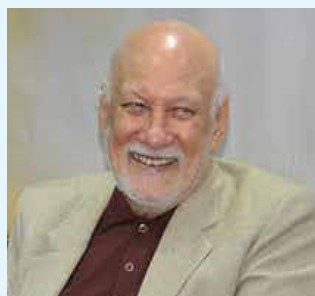
The session was chaired by EP-IPS Khalid Rahman, and addressed by Ghulam Hussain Sufi, research fellow at IPS and the author of the baseline study, Michel Boivin, senior research fellow, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris, France, Dr Julien Levesque, head researcher, Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities (CSH – New Delhi), France, Prof Dr Sumeet Mhaskar, associate professor, Jindal School of Govt. and Public Policy, Jindal Global University, New Delhi, India, Dr Saeed Ahmed Rid, assistant professor, National Institute of Pakistan Studies (NIPS), Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU), Islamabad, and Dr Nazeer Mahar, executive director, The Research Initiative, Pakistan, whereas comments from Dr Nathaniel Roberts, a socio-cultural anthropologist from Göttingen, Germany, and an award winning author for a book on his research on South Indian slums, were read out by Sr IPS Research Officer Syed Nadeem Farhat.

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/exploring-religious-conversions-a-discussion-on-ips-baseline-study/

The Living Scripts | An oral history project to record life and times of veteran civil servants



Saleem Sethi



Aziz Ahmad Khan

Aimed at acquiring tacit knowledge from experienced practitioners of civil services and imparting it to the audience as a food for their thought, IPS LEAD - the learning, excellence and development program of IPS - is organizing a series of sessions titled 'The Living Scripts'. The idea behind the initiative is to pursue accomplished personalities and eminent

individuals of national stature, providing them a window to share invaluable experiences and knowledge from their personal and professional lives.

The sessions held within this quarters featured Saleem Sethi, former secretary, Finance, Balochistan and AJ&K, additional secretary, Finance, and secretary, Economic Affairs Division, Govt. of Pakistan, on October 28, 2020 and Aziz Ahmed Khan, Pakistan's

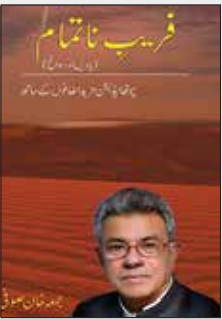
Former Ambassador to Afghanistan and Former High Commissioner to India, on November 20th and 27th, 2020. Among others, these regular monthly sessions at IPS are being attended by a number of young policy researchers and CSS aspirants.

For further details, visit: <http://www.ips.org.pk/ips-lead/the-living-scripts>

Publications

IPS Press is the publishing, bookselling and distributing arm of Institute of Policy Studies, Islamabad. Along with the Institute's own research, it also publishes the scholarly work of individual authors and institutions independently.

Faraib-e-Na-Tamam



Author: Juma Khan Sufi
Language: Urdu
Edition: 4th
Year: 2020
Binding: Hardback
Pages: 735
ISBN: 978-969-448-791-5
Publisher: IPS Press
Price: PKR2400 / USD40

Authored by renowned diarist, scholar and expert on Pak-Afghan affairs Juma Khan Sufi, the updated fourth edition of the title

Faraib-e-Na-Tamam has been published by IPS Press. The book reveals how Kabul and Delhi have been hands-in-gloves in instigating violence and secessionist movements in Pakistan, while maintaining that 'Pashtunistan' card was concocted by the Kabul during Zahir Shah's rule to have an excuse for interference in Pakistan. It also exposes how Kabul and Delhi developed a nexus to support sub-nationalists in Pakistan and how nationalist figureheads from Sindh, Balochistan and the former NWFP received monetary and arms support from Kabul and Delhi in their efforts to destabilize Pakistan.

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/faraib-e-natamam/

▶ IPS TV | New Videos
www.youtube.com/ipstv

- ▶ Should Pakistan recognize Israel? – EP-IPS Khalid Rahman concluding a discussion
- ▶ An exclusive talk by Engr. Gulbuddin Hekmatyar (Former PM of Afghanistan)
- ▶ Spoilers will be the losers in end game of Afghan peace process: Amb (r) Salman Bashir
- ▶ Amb (r) Abdul Basit on intra-Afghan dialogue / Recent IPS Press' publication on Afghanistan
- ▶ Amb (r) Abrar Hussain addressing the launch of his book *Afghanistan: Mulla Umar se Ashraf Ghani Tak*
- ▶ Amb (r) Ayaz Wazir at the book launch of *Afghanistan: Mulla Umar se Ashraf Ghani Tak*
- ▶ Historian Dr Lutf ur Rahman sharing insights from his research on Durand line issue
- ▶ Juma Khan Sufi on 'Pak-Afghan Relations and the Durand Line Issue'
- ▶ 'The Philosophy of Allama Iqbal in the Contemporary Context' – Dr Abdul Rauf Rafiqui
- ▶ Pak needs to present its narratives in int'l media effectively: Sr Researcher Ammara Durani
- ▶ EP-IPS Khalid Rahman on the role of media in shaping narratives
- ▶ Interview of Sr IPS Associate Ambassador (r) Tajammul Altaf
- ▶ 'The Living Scripts' with Aziz Ahmed Khan (Pakistan's former High Commissioner to India)
- ▶ 'Community rehabilitation through reforming Health and Agriculture sectors of Pakistan' – Dr Mobashir Bhatti
- ▶ Emerging Filmmaker Talha Aslam speaking at the session 'Brainstorming Research Ideas: Media Studies'

Kube Publishing, UK to publish books in Pakistan via IPS Press

An agreement signed between Kube Publishing (Leicester, UK) and IPS Press – the publishing and bookselling arm of Institute of Policy Studies, Islamabad – will enable readers in Pakistan and Afghanistan to buy low-priced local editions of all books of the popular UK-based Islamic publisher. The agreement signed by Haris Ahmad, CEO, Kube Publishing and Naufil Shahrukh, GM-IPS on November 2, 2020 has also authorized IPS Press

to exclusively import and distribute all Kube titles in the assigned territory.

The first title to be published under this arrangement is the Pakistan edition of *Revive Your Heart: Putting Life in Perspective*, authored by renowned Islamic scholar and motivational speaker Nouman Ali Khan.

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/kube-publishing-uk-to-publish-books-in-pakistan-via-ips-press/

RESEARCH

Forced Conversions or Faith Conversions: Rhetoric and Reality



The narrative of 'forced' conversions of the minority communities to Islam in Pakistan has echoed nationally and internationally over the past several years, resultantly showing the country in a bad light. IPS initiated a baseline study titled 'Forced Conversions or Faith Conversions: Rhetoric and Reality' to look into the issue and understand its dynamics. It is hoped that this study will help to understand how the fabrication of facts is taking place and how certain daily life events are portrayed as

organized crimes and propagated out of proportion. It recommends that no policy decision should be based merely on the basis of some reports prepared by certain organizations and interest groups in order to safeguard the rights and dignity of everyone.

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/forced-conversions-or-faith-conversions-rhetoric-and-reality/

Barriers and Drivers of Solar Prosumage: A Case Study of Pakistan

Despite the launch of net-metering facility in 2015, its growth has remained significantly low in Pakistan. The study 'Barriers and Drivers of Solar Prosumage: A Case Study of Pakistan' seeks to identify and assess challenges as well as drivers that discourage/encourage solar prosumage uptake.

For further details, visit: www.ips.org.pk/barriers-and-drivers-of-solar-prosumage-a-case-study-of-pakistan/

Forthcoming



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