Conference Booklet



19th Asian Security Conference

Combating Terrorism: Evolving an Asian Response

(March 6-8, 2017)

Organised by



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ABOUT IDSA

The Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) is a non-partisan, autonomous body dedicated to objective research and policy relevant studies on all aspects of defence and security. Since its inception, IDSA has served as a forum to debate important aspects of national and international security. Its mission is to promote national and international security through the generation and dissemination of knowledge on defence and security-related issues.

IDSA was established as a registered society in New Delhi on November 11, 1965. The initiative for setting up the Institute came from then Defence Minister Shri Yeshwantrao Chavan, who was one of the Institute's founding members. Over the last forty-plus years, IDSA has played a crucial role in shaping India's foreign and security policies, including with respect to nuclear weapons, military expenditure, and conventional and non-conventional threats to India.

IDSA has a well-qualified multi-disciplinary research faculty drawn from academia, defence forces and the civil services, and which represent a diversity of views. Research at the Institute is driven by a comprehensive agenda and by the need to provide impartial analyses and policy recommendations. IDSA's journals, monographs, briefs, and books are the principal mediums through which these analyses and policy recommendations are disseminated.

The IDSA website offers in depth insight into the working of the Institute with a user friendly interface. Regular updates on the events at IDSA can be found in the Media Briefs and IDSA News pages.

Research Centres

- East Asia
- West Asia
- South Asia
- Military Affairs
- North America
- **Internal Security**
- Europe & Eurasia
- Strategic Technologies
- Non-Traditional Security
- Nuclear and Arms Control
- Southeast Asia and Oceania
- Defence Economics & Industry
- Africa, Latin America, Caribbean & UN

ABOUT ASIAN SECURITY CONFERENCE

The Asian Security Conference (ASC) is a major calendar event of the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), New Delhi which is organized in early spring each year. Since 1999 when the conference was first held, it has become an important forum for debating issues relating to Asian Security. The ASC provides an opportunity for policy makers, scholars and security analysts, both from India and abroad, to share their views on the security challenges facing the continent.

The contemporary strategic context is increasingly defined by the rapid growth of major Asian economies and the rapidly increasing interest the major powers are evincing in the region. It has also resulted in a perceptible shift in power to the Asian continent. While the emerging power shift is full of promise and opportunities, there are important concerns that cannot be ignored. Asia's statesmen face a variety of challenges, which, if ignored or viewed with less concern, could lead to further instability and insecurity in the region. In this backdrop the ASC looks at various emerging trends and changes in the Asian security context and forms a platform for discussion and debate. The ASC serves as the best available vehicle in the Asian region for developing and channeling astute and effective public policy on defence and security. It can also be regarded as an important academic platform for scholars to discuss new ideas and theories.

Previous Asian Security Conference (ASC)

- Securing Cyberspace: Asian and International 2016: Perspectives
- 2015: Asian Security: Comprehending the Indian Approach
- 2014: Emerging Strategic Trends in Asia and India's Response

- 2013: Emerging Trends in West Asia: Regional and Global **Implications**
- 2012: Non-Traditional Security Challenges- Today and Tomorrow
- 2011: Towards A New Asian Order
- 2010: Asian Strategic Futures 2030: Trends, Scenarios and Alternatives
- 2009: The Changing Face of Conflict and Evolving Strategies in Asia
- 2008: Asian Security in the 21st Century
- 2007: Evolving Security Dynamics in Southeast Asia -Emerging Threats and Responses
- 2006: Changing Security Dynamic in West Asia: Relevance for the Post 9-11 Systemic
- 2005: Changing Security Dynamic in Eastern Asia: Focus on Japan
- 2004: United Nations, Multilateralism and International Security
- 2003: Asian Security and China in the Period 2000-2010
- 2002: Asian Security Strategies in a Period of Uncertainty
- 2001: Reshaping Asian Security
- 2000: Asia's New Dawn the Challenges to Peace and Security
- 1999: Asian Security in the 21st Century

CONCEPT NOTE

Combating Terrorism: Evolving an Asian Response

Asia, with close to sixty percent of the world's population, has suffered disparate political, nationalist, religious, ideological, ethnic, sectarian, and state sponsored violence for decades, if not centuries. The world's geo-economic pivot may have shifted to Asia, but the repercussions of every day violence and terrorism are becoming an impediment in the realisation of the Asian Century. Violent extremism comes in the way of socio-economic development and inclusive growth, amplifying and widening fissures caused by failures of governance. Historical roots of militancy (insurgencies, separatist movements, etc.) in many countries of Asia have provided the context for local grievances to be exploited by larger ideological frameworks of global extremist movements.

The resurgence of violent extremist movements we are witnessing today has evolved in sophistication with the advances in technology, communication, and the complicated web of terror finance. Threats that were earlier contained within national boundaries have now become transnational and ideational challenges, which respect neither state sovereignty nor existing governance structures. While the challenges confronting Asia and the global order have multiplied, a cohesive response to them has remained elusive. With countries in the region constructing frameworks of cooperation to combat terrorism, it is time to exchange ideas on countering violent extremism, which will define an Asian approach to this issue. A global regime built on a strong foundation of effective regional practices is bound to find wider acceptability.

Twenty years since it first submitted a proposal for the adoption of the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT), India has revived its efforts to secure a global consensus in the UN General Assembly in the fight against terrorism. India's attempts have received traction

as the world seems to be in a state of constant terror, with an increase in the footprint of global terrorist groups, especially in the West and South West Asia. Having been subjected to and resisted such acts against humanity, India is engaged in persuading responsible governments across the world to take a more united stand on the matter.

There is a global consensus in principle that there is no 'good' or 'bad' terrorist. It is for this reason that India, has through the Convention, sought to identify an acceptable definition of terrorism that all 193 members of the UNGA would be able to adopt legally; to ban all terror groups and shut down terror camps regardless of their objectives; to prosecute all terrorists under special laws, and to make crossborder terrorism an extraditable offence worldwide. To build an Asian consensus on the issue, India has also repeatedly suggested that violent extremism needs to be delinked from religion, ethnicity or identity. Recognising the transnational nature of terrorism today, India has been pushing for a global regime on terrorism that enforces concepts of - assigning responsibility and ensuring accountability.

The inconsistencies in the global war on terror have been exploited by extremist groups to advance their narratives and ideologies and ensured that ecosystems nurturing terror continue to flourish. Ironically, even countries which have been victims of frequent terror attacks have shied away from pushing for a more global response to the threat owing to geo-political pressures and rivalries. The embryo of building such response exists in frameworks like the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) that sets standards with respect to combating money laundering and terrorist financing, the Egmont Group, which is an informal network of Financial Intelligence Units (FIU) and through instruments such as the 'United Nations Security Council committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning ISIL(da'esh) al-gaida and associated individuals groups, undertakings and entities'. These however, do not yet provide an effective global response for reasons of national expediency. Terrorist

groups recruit globally and strike across national boundaries, yet nations have a fragmented approach in meeting this challenge India seeks a more coherent approach on the part of the entire international community.

It is with this direction in mind that IDSA aims to take the first step of comprehending the Asian response to "Combating Terrorism" in the region. In this context the 19th Asian Security Conference will focus on the theme, "Evolving an Asian Response" to this complex issue. We aim to focus on the following themes over multiple interactive sessions:

- Evaluating the norm building efforts in countering global terrorism, understanding the geo-political realities and defining the Asian and global response to terrorism.
- II. Identifying ideologies and drivers fuelling this transnational resurgence of extremist violence, with an eye on the role of terror finance in exacerbating conflict in the region
- III. Examining how technology is changing the nature of conflict and the rising challenges there-in to Asian security.
- IV. Assessing the threat of terrorism in Asia: From South West Asia, to the extended outposts in South Asia and South East Asia.
- V. Forecasting challenges that lie ahead, debating the absence of effective counter-narratives, and building upon a reservoir of best practices of counter terrorism efforts by countries in the region.

The conference will explore these subjects through the course of the following interactive sessions.

- Norms & The Global War on Terror: Challenges for Asia
- New Wave of Global Terror: Ideas, Resources and Trends

- The Age of 'Instant Terror': Technology, the Game Changer
- Regional Perspectives The West Asia Conundrum: Unraveling geopolitics & global response
- Regional Perspectives South and South East Asia: The Growing Spectre of Terror
- Constructing effective counter-narratives: The need for a global response
- The Asian Response to Combating Terror: The Way Forward

Inaugural Session: Special Address

Theme Elaboration

1. Norms & The Global War on Terror: Challenges for Asia

It has taken the world decades of terrorism and insurgency to understand that escalation of violence is linked in a large part to failed politics, governance, and economic development. The set-backs of the global war on terror and the rise in the number vulnerable and failing states since 9/ 11, have shown that the civil causes of violence are so deep that no defeat of extremist movements alone can hope to bring any lasting form of security and stability. It has been argued that if extremist violence and its many manifestations are to be defeated then states need to be accountable to both their people and the global order. This lack of accountability, coupled with the absence of clarity, consistency, and enforcement in global norms to tackle terrorism have been impediments to an effective response. In addition, shifting goalposts and the pressures of geopolitics have proved to be counterproductive to efforts aimed at building a global counter-terrorism regime. Since September 11, international terrorism has emerged on the top of national and international security agendas necessitating international alignment and cooperation on an unprecedented level. Yet, the question that has plagued all counter-terrorism efforts since has been the viability of this cooperation in the absence of a basic agreement on the

common denominator - the definition of terrorism. This inaugural session seeks to address the following questions:

- What are the challenges that constrain the global response to counter terrorism? What are the implications for Asian Security?
- How is regional geopolitics shaping state responses?
- Why is global response to terrorism in some geographies different from others?
- What role does India see itself playing in the shaping of a global regime on counter-terrorism? What norms does it seek to build and to what end?
- Assessing support for the adoption of Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism

2. The New Wave of Global Terror: Ideas, Resources, and Trends

Terrorism is a dynamic phenomenon that develops over time, gradually changing its shape and manifestations. It is carried out by various organisations in the service of different ideologies. There is growing recognition now that the dominant form of transnational terror today is not motivated by nationalist grievances or separatist goals. Instead, the current threat confronting the world today is of terrorism motivated by political objectives that uses religion as an instrument to justify violent activities against civilians. These groups are motivated by what they perceive as a divine command and apocalyptic world view. Religious appropriation of the recent wave of attacks across the world, by the current poster child of extremist violence, the Islamic State or Da'esh and its many imitators globally is case in point. Fuelling this resurgence is the many reincarnations of the means of terror finance, taking refuge sometimes in the guise of state sponsored policy or enjoying the patronage of non-state actors. This session will take on these challenging questions and identify:

- Who are the actors driving the new wave of global terror and what are their motivations?
- What are new ideas/ideologues that make extremist

violence so attractive to recruits? Is there is a shift in narrative?

- What is driving the increase in 'Lone Wolf' Attacks?
- What explains the constant supply of foreign fighters and women pursuing religious extremism?
- What are the future trends and threats- both home grown and international that will demand global attention?
- How effective is the fight against the financing of terror? Can we enforce accountability?

3. The Age of 'Instant Terror': Technology, the Game Changer

The most lethal weapon in the arsenal of extremist groups today is technology. The internet is the largest and most ungoverned space in the world. Its unprecedented reach, instant connectivity, anonymity, resourcefulness, and interactiveness along with low cost of access make it the most potent tool in extremist hands. Innovations in technology and the advent of social media have furthered the scope of instant dissemination of propaganda, strengthened informal networks of online recruitment and radicalisation and worryingly made brutal violence a fashionable tool to install fear in the hearts and minds of a global audience. Social media feed into 24x7 global news cycles, which amplify these messages further and inadvertently end up endorsing and branding these extremists groups as the face of global terror. This session will seek to address the questions on:

- The use of technology to 'brand' global terror
- Innovations in online radicalization, recruitment and mobilization
- Cyber security and Terrorism: Addressing evolving threats
- Social Media: Impact, challenges and opportunities for counter terrorism efforts

- Technology and Intelligence: Opportunities for global co-operation
- 4. Regional Perspectives The West Asia Conundrum: Unraveling Geopolitics & Global Response

The rise of Da'esh has been an unprecedented event in the geopolitics of the West Asian region, despite the region being a being a burning cauldron for many terrorist movements for the last several decades. Having captured territories in Iraq and Syria, Da'esh has challenged the existing regional political order by trying to redraw boundaries in the volatile region. It has spread its tentacles far beyond its captured borders, subsuming terror groups across the world eager to bandwagon with its brand of terror. With the conflict spilling over to many countries, it has instigated an unparalleled refugee crisis that the world is still trying to grapple with. Regional actors have taken initiatives, but there is an absence of a collaborative action on the ground strong enough to defeat the terror group .The existing unease, competition, and rivalry among the countries of the region and the interests of extra regional powers have been a hindrance in building up a united front against Daesh. The activities of the United States and Russia have a critical bearing on the geopolitics in West Asia. This ses-sion will explore the West Asian conundrum in all its complexity and assess the impact on the global war on terror.

5. Regional Perspectives - South and South East Asia: The Growing Spectre of Terror

The terrorist threat to South and South East Asia has never been as acute as it is today. South Asia - home to more than one-third of humanity, has more terrorist groups and terrorists, than any other part of the world. More lives have been lost in this region to terrorist attacks than anywhere else in the world. Meanwhile, South East Asia since the 1990s, is battling the residual challenge posed by sub-state militant extremism which has risen in reaction to both the force of modernization pursued by many Southeast Asian governments and the political influence of radical Islam.

Some states in both these regions face a threat to their existence if terrorism is not contained. The developments in Afghanistan-Pakistan and West Asia will have complicated the situation further The story of counterterrorism efforts so far have been that of individual countries crafting distinct strategies to deal with a problem which has long ago gone transnational. Attempts at crafting a regional approach have been few and ineffective. This session will examine national and international government responses to extremist movements in the region, expanding terrorist sanctuaries and homegrown ter-rorist networks, funding and support from international organisations and governments, military and policing strategies, and the success and failures of hearts-and-minds campaigns.

6. Constructing Effective Counter-Narratives: The Need for a Global Response

The field of counter terrorism has expanded from the traditional focus on covert action to preventive measures that dissuade individuals from subscribing to arguments of violent extremists. To that end, states have developed tools to prevent radicalisation of vulnerable populations in an effort to win hearts and minds. These include promoting interfaith dialogue and breaking down cultural bar-riers between communities. Although attempts have been made by several governments to develop a credible narrative to prevent international terrorism, there has been a failure to thwart the appeal generated by violent extremist groups. This session will address the following questions:

- Does the current counter narrative account for the variances in the demographic and socio-economic composition of its audience? Would producing tailormade narratives result in greater outreach?
- Is the negative perception of governments amplifying this challenge? Are there other actors who would be more successful in propagating a counter narrative?
- Does the narrative address different aspects of the radicalisation process?

- Has the international community been able to shift gears from producing defensive to preventive propaganda? What are the shortcomings of the dissemination strategy being employed?
- Have there been cases of success even if limited that can be studied to further our understanding?

Valedictory Session

7. The Asian Response to Combating Terror: The Way Forward

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

DAY 1: Monday, March 6, 2017

09:15-09:45	Registration		
09:45-10:30	Inaugural Session		
	Welcome Address by Shri Jayant Prasad, Director General, IDSA		
	Inaugural Address by Shri Manohar Parrikar, Hon'ble Raksha Mantri		
	Vote of Thanks by Maj Gen Alok Deb, SM, VSM (Retd), Deputy Director General, IDSA		
10:30-10:45	Tea/Coffee Break		
10:45-11:15	Keynote Address H.E. Mhd. Hanif Atmar (Afghanistan) National Security Advisor, Afghanistan		
11:15-13:00	Session 1: Norms and the Global War on Terror: Challenges for Asia		
Chairperson:	Dr. Pratap Bhanu Mehta, President, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi		
Maj Gen Mahmud Ali Durrani (Pakistan)	Developing a Common Denominator to Fight Terrorism in Asia		
Mr. Abdel Bari Atwan (UK)	Geopolitics of Islamic Jihad		
Mr. Praveen Swami	Invisible Jihad: Challenges for India and Asia		
Mr.Ehsan Monawar	Countering Terrorism in the AfPak: Past, Present and the Road Ahead		
(Afghanistan)			

13:00-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-15:30 Session 2: The New Wave of Global

Terror: Ideas, Resources and Trends

Shri G.K Pillai, Former Home Chairperson:

Secretary, Government of India

(Jordan)

Mr. Baker Atyani Hostage taking as a Tool of Terrorism and Methodology of Negotiations

Dr. Waiel Awwad The Terrorism Industry and its Global

Expansion

Ms. Lamya Haji Bashar (Iraq)

Women and Da'esh

Mr. P. K. Dash

Economics of Terror: The Indian

Experience

Dr. Christine Fair (US)

Women in Lashkar -e- Taiba: When Terrorism is a Family Affair

15:30-15:45 Theme Address Shri Gulshan Rai, Chief

of Cybersecurity, Government of India

15:45-17:15 Session 3: Age of 'Instant Terror':

Technology, the Game Changer

Dr. Arvind Gupta, Deputy NSA, Chairperson:

Government of India

Dr. Anne

Speckhard (US)

Breaking the ISIS Brand: Trajectories into and out of Terrorism & the Social

Media Recruitment of ISIS

Mr. Madan

Oberoi

Darknet and Cryptocurrencies - Technology

as an Enabler for Terrorism

Mr. Saikat Datta Technology and Intelligence in

Counter Terrorism

Mr. Sanjeev

Singh

Online Radicalisation and India's CT

Efforts

Ms. Manjula

Sridhar

Tackling Malicious Profiling Online:

The Indian Experience

17:15-17:30 Tea/Coffee

DAY 2: Tuesday, March 7, 2017

09:45-10:00 Tea/Coffee 10:00-12:30 Session 4: Regional Perspectives -The West Asia Conundrum: Unraveling Geopolitics and Global Response Chairperson: Shri Sanjay Singh, Former Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India Dr. Vladimir I. Russia's Views on Radical Islam Threat in Sotnikov (Russia) Central Asia Mr.Mustafa El Countering Terrorism in the Maghreb: Sagezli (Libya) Implications for Global Security Dr. Prabha Rao al-Qaeda and the Arab Peninsular Dr. Frank A Brief Survey of Total Strategic Ledwidge (UK) Failure: NATO in Western Asia Mohammad The Threat of Extremism in West Asia: Hossein Shojaei The Iranian Experience Dr. Eitan Shamir What After Counter-Insurgency? (Israel) Raiding in Zones of Turmoil Lunch Break 12:30-13:30 13:30-16:00 Session 5: Regional Perspectives -South and South East Asia: The **Growing Spectre of Terror** Chairperson Dr. Sanjay Baru, Distinguished Fellow, USI. Lt. Gen. Chowdhury Countering Terrorism: Perspectives from Hasan Sarwardy Bangladesh

Dr. Ayesha A 9/11 for South Asia?

Siddiqa (Pakistan)

(Bangladesh)

Dr. Ma Xiangwu (China)	China's Experience in Countering Terrorism/Violent Extremism: Policy, Achievements and Challenges
Gen. Daya Ratnayake (Sri Lanka)	The Sri Lankan Defeat of Terrorism: Lessons for Evolving a Regional Response for Combating Terrorism
Dr. Kumar Ramakrishna (Singapore)	The Evolving ISIS Threat to Southeast Asia
16:00-16:15	Tea /Coffee Break
16:15-18:15	Session 6: Constructing Effective Counter-narratives: The Need for A Global Response
Chairperson	Mr. Syed Asif Ibrahim, Indian Prime Minister's Special Envoy on Countering Terrorism and Extremism
Lt Gen S. A. Hasnain	Crafting a Narrative for Kashmir
H.E. Ahmad Badreddin Hassoun (Syria)	Effective Counter Narratives for Deradcalisation
Dr. Adil Rasheed	The Deconstruction of the Jihadist Narrative
Dr. A.R. Anjaria	Use of Quran and Fatwas to Enable Change
Dr. Kalbe Sadiq	Narrative for Countering Jihad

DAY 3: Wednesday, March 8, 2017

Tea/ Coffee 10:00-10:15

Valedictory Session - The Asian 10:15-13:00

Response to Combatting Terror: The

Way Forward

Chairperson: Commodore C. Uday Bhaskar,

Director, Society for Policy Studies

(SPS)

Panellists: tbc

Round up comments DG, IDSA, Shri Jayant Prasad

Lunch (End of Conference) 13:00

Profiles of Participants A Abstracts

Inaugural Address

Shri Manohar Parrikar

Hon'ble Raksha Mantri



Shri Manohar Parrikar is the Defence Minister of India. Before taking charge as Raksha Mantri, he was the Chief Minister of Goa from March 2012 to November 2014. His first term as a Chief Minister of Goa was during the year 2000 to 2005. Shri Parrikar was born in Mapusa, Goa in 1955. He is an alumnus of IIT-Bombay. IIT Bombay awarded him with the title of Distinguished Alum in 2001. As a Defence Minister, he has been deeply engaged in the modernisation of the Indian Armed Forces.

Welcome Address

SHRI JAYANT PRASAD

Director General Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi



Shri Jayant Prasad is Director General, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi. He was India's Ambassador to Afghanistan, Algeria, Nepal, and the UN Conference on Disarmament, Geneva. At headquarters, in the Ministry of External Affairs, he served as Special Secretary (Public Diplomacy), and Head of the Americas and the Multilateral Economic Relations Divisions. He was Rapporteur of the U.N. Commission on Human Rights, Geneva (1986-87), Fellow at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University (1998-99), member of U.N. Secretary-General's Advisory Board Disarmament Matters (2005-07), and Visiting Scholar, Center for the Advanced Study of India, University of Pennsylvania (2014-15). Before his 37-year public service career, he was lecturer in history, St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi, after completing his studies at Modern School, St. Stephen's College, and Jawarharlal Nehru University.

Keynote Address

H.E. MOHAMMAD HANIF ATMAR

National Security Advisor to President Ashraf Ghani, Afghanistan



Mr. Mohammad Haneef Atmar served as one of Afghanistan's leading Ministers during his terms in office as the Minister of Interior (2008-2010), Minister of Education (2006-2008) and as Minister of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (2002-2006). He was one of the youngest members of the cabinet and became a thorough leader in shaping numerous development, education and security policies and programs for Afghanistan. Having served as a high level advisor to various international organisations, he is now the National Security Advisor of Afghanistan. In this role, he has emerged as one of Afghanistan's most articulate voices for progressive change, conflict resolution and accelerated development. Mr. Atmar holds advanced degrees in Public Policy and Information Technology from the University of York and has written and spoken extensively on security, peacebuilding, politics, humanitarian aid and the role of non-governmental organizations.

Vote of Thanks

MAJ. GEN. ALOK DEB

Deputy Director General Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi



Maj Gen Alok Deb, SM, VSM (Retired) was commissioned in the Indian Army in 1977. He is a combat veteran of the Kargil war and has commanded an Artillery Division. He has served in all types of operational environments in India and also abroad as a UN peacekeeper. He is a graduate of various military institutes of higher learning in India and has earned two M Phil degrees in defence and strategic studies during his service of over 37 years. He has been writing on defence and security related matters in various journals and websites over the last few years.

Session 1

Norms and the Global War on Terror: Challenges for Asia

Monday, March 6, 2017

11:15-13:00h

Chairperson

Dr. Pratap Bhanu Mehta

President, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi



Pratap Bhanu Mehta (born 1967) is an Indian academic. He is the president of the Centre for Policy Research, a New Delhi-based think tank. The Centre for Policy Research is one of India's most distinguished think tanks. He was a Professor at NYU Law School's Global Faculty. He has previously Visiting Professor of Government at Harvard University; Associate Professor of Government and of Social Studies at Harvard, and for a brief period, Professor of Philosophy and of Law and Governance at Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Maj. Gen. Mahmud Ali DURRANI

Former National Security Advisor, Pakistan



General Durrani was commissioned in the Pakistan Army in 1961 and retired as a major general in 1998. In June 2006 he was appointed as Pakistan's Ambassador to the United States of America for a period of two years. Following his assignment in Washington D.C. he was appointed as the National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, with the rank of a Federal Minister; a post he held till January 2009. He specializes in military strategy, defence production and international security issues. General Durrani is the author of a book titled "India and Pakistan - The Cost of Conflict and the Benefits of Peace", published by John Hopkins University, USA in 2000.

DEVELOPING A COMMON DENOMINATOR TO FIGHT TERRORISM IN ASIA

General Mahmud Ali Durrani

To fight terrorism it is important that all nations are able to agree on a common meaning and definition of terrorism. So far even the UN has not been able to agree on a universally acceptable definition of terrorism. It is often said that one-man's terrorist is often another man's freedom fighter. I have presented four attributes of a terrorist, which will probably help the conference in developing a definition, for terrorism. The terrorist main instrument is illegal violence generally directed against unarmed civilians. The terrorist's objective is to terrorize the population and create inertia within the government with a view to forcing their agenda. A brief presentation of Pakistan's fight against terrorism has been covered to draw out universal lessons; these lessons will be useful in helping the region to draw out a few common denominators. The reasons why Pakistan and India have failed to cooperate in terrorism have been covered. The two main reasons for this lack of cooperation are, firstly the existence of territorial disputes and secondly the existence of serious mistrust. I have concluded the discussion by presenting a few guidelines in the form of common denominators which if agreed to by all nations will support our common objective of destroying terrorism in the region.

Mr. Abdel Bari Atwan

Editor-in-chief, Rai al-Youm, an Arab world digital news and opinion website



Abdel Bari Atwan is the editor-in-chief of Rai al-Youm, Arabic Independent newspaper. The established author, broadcaster and former editor of al-Quds al-Arabi was born in a refugee camp in the Gaza Strip two years after the Nakhbah. Having left to Jordan in 1967, Atwan has lived most of his life in exile. He is the author of The Country of World, The Secret History of al-Qaeda, After bin Laden and Islamic State: The Digital Caliphate.

GEOPOLITICS OF ISLAMIC JIHAD

Ahdel Bari Atwan

This presentation will consider a specific aspect of the geopolitics of the jihadi phenomenon: the extent to which specifically in the Arab world -- it is influenced and conditioned by state actors in pursuit of their domestic and/ or regional interests, agendas and rivalries. There is a long history of Arab states and/or Western governments supporting Islamist groups, and in some cases their jihadi offshoots, to serve their objectives. During the so-called 'Arab Cold War' in the 1950s/60s, conservative pro-Western Arab regimes sponsored the Muslim Brotherhood, especially, as a way of countering emergent anti-imperialist republics and the popular appeal of Arab nationalism which they viewed as a threat to their power - and to extend their influence in Muslim societies and communities further afield. So did Western intelligence agencies. Even Israel at one stage encouraged the emergence of religious movements among Palestinians in the hope of undermining the PLO. Afghanistan in the 1980s was the best-known case of actively nurturing such groups, notably those which spawned al-Qaida, as anti-Soviet proxies. Yet in almost all cases, political and ideological factors eventually turned them, or their offshoots, against their former benefactors. Western military intervention played a fundamental role in empowering - in Iraq, Libya, Syria and elsewhere - these groups by creating conditions of state collapse, lawlessness, social dislocation and economic misery, enabling them to flourish, recruit aggrieved locals and attract jihadis from other countries (some of which were glad for the opportunity to be rid of them). The Arab Spring of 2011 added or rather accentuated the sectarian aspect of this phenomenon. Faced with popular challenges to their misrule, some Arab regimes sought to gain legitimacy by posing as champions of Sunnism against resurgent Shiism, and stoking sectarian feelings to that ends. They needed to be 'more Sunni' than the Islamists, who they saw as the main potential threat to their rule, and against whom they used an often confused combination of confrontation and co-option. This has been reflected in both domestic and foreign policy (in relation to Iran), and also in the sponsorship by the Gulf states (now the main players in the Arab affairs after the eclipsing of traditional leading countries Egypt, Syria, Iraq and others like Libya and Yemen) of jihadis in other countries. This has a major bearing on the on-going conflicts in Syria, Libya and Yemen and complicates endeavours to resolve them peacefully.

Mr. Praveen Swami

National Editor (Strategic and International Affairs), The Indian Express



Praveen Swami is National Editor for Strategic and International Affairs at The Indian Express, one of India's most respected investigative newspapers. He writes on regional security and intelligence issues. He has earlier worked as Resident Editor of The Hindu in New Delhi, as National Security Analyst for CNN-IBN television and Firstpost.com, and as Diplomatic Editor of The Daily Telegraph in London. He is the author of India, Pakistan and the Secret Jihad: the Covert War in Jammu and Kashmir, 1947-2002, published by Routledge in January, 2007. The book was written while he was a Jennings Randolph senior fellow at the United States Institute of Peace in Washington, D.C., in 2004-2005. His other work includes a 1999 book, The Kargil War, chapters in several edited volumes, and papers in journals including The India Review, Contemporary South Asia, the CTC Sentinel of the Combating Terrorism Centre at West Point, Faultlines and the South Asia Intelligence Review. In addition to his work as a journalist, Mr. Swami is currently working on a series of short stories on the conflict in Kashmir, as well as a book on the jihadist movement in India, both scheduled for publication in 2017.

INVISIBLE JIHAD: CHALLENGES FOR INDIA AND ASIA

Praveen Swami

Ever since news first surfaced, in the summer of 2014, that four Indian nationals had made their way to fight with the Islamic State in Syria, there has been a growing debate over what impact global jihadist movements might have the future of Islamist terrorism inside the country. Though the numbers of Indians involved in foreign terrorist organisations is small, this debate marks a significant departure from the traditional consensus that global Islamism had little impact on jihadism in India. For example, then-Prime Minister Manmohan Singh had, in 2005, expressed pride that no Indian had been found fighting in the ranks of al-Qaeda. The emerging consensus holds that international developments do hold out a threat, though its intensity and scale is still disputed.

In this paper, I shall argue that both the old consensus, and the emerging one, represent fundamentally flawed ways of understanding the processes at play in India. The issue is not, nor has been, whether Indian jihadism is autonomous of foreign developments. Instead, I place Indian jihadism in context, tracing its growth and evolution from the 1980s to show that Indian jihadists have from the outset seen themselves as part of a broad world-historical flow of events, tapping and informing transnational ideological currents to shape their modes of praxis.

Thus, Indian jihadists see themselves neither as tools of Pakistan, nor of new entities like the Islamic State: in their own vision, they are independent actors, seeking to realise an historical destiny.

Indian jihadist groups, I further seek to show, understand that acts of violence do not in themselves further the Islamist political agenda, or hasten the disintegration of the Indian state. Terrorism in India last, including its Maoist variant, claimed less than 1,000 lives; traffic accidents a staggering 150,000 plus.

The project, instead, is to use violence as a catalyst to to bring about a broader sundering of Muslim from Hindu, a sharpening of group boundaries and identities that will eventually lead to apocalyptic religious war. This war, it is hoped, will lead to the triumph of neoconservative Islam and the re-establishment of the Caliphate.

While this enterprise may seem somewhat disconnected from the real world, India's long history of communal hostilities raises real concerns that jihadi violence could, under certain circumstances, create enabling circumstances for war. It is to this challenge that India's political and security system must respond.

Mr. Ehsan Monawar

Counter Terrorism Expert, Afghanistan

Ehsan Monawar is an Afghan-American security sector specialist with over 18 years of background in security and counter terrorism, with 4 years dedicated operational experience in Afghanistan working with the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) under the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) from 2002 - 2006. Mr. Monawar provided on the ground expertise to SAIC (Science Application International Corporation) during the development of the National Security Council. Based on his successes, Mr. Monawar was tasked by JTTF to resolve complex security challenges in the most remote and challenging tribal areas of Afghanistan. Following his tenure and achievements in Afghanistan, Mr. Monawar was provided with an honorary position at New York City (NYC) detective unit for JTTF. During his time with the unit, Mr. Monawar was involved in counter terrorism, threat financing, and high value targeting. In 2006, Mr. Monawar resigned from his efforts with ITTF due to the organizations focus outside of Afghanistan. Over the next decade, Mr. Monawar has worked with communities throughout the country to develop a path toward peace and stability.

Subject: Countering Terrorism in the AfPak: PAST, PRESENT AND THE ROAD AHEAD

Session 2

The New Wave of Global Terror: Ideas, Resources and Trends

Monday, March 6, 2017

14:00-15:30h

Chairperson

SHRI G. K. PILLAI

Former Home Secretary, Government of India



Shri Gopal Krishna Pillai (born March 14, 1949) is an Indian Administrative Service (I.A.S) officer and the former Home Secretary of India. He studied at Bishop Cotton Boys' School, Bangalore and St. Joseph's College, Bangalore, and later obtained an M.Sc from IIT, Madras. He belongs to the Kerala cadre of the 1972 batch of I.A.S. He held diverse positions in the state government of Kerala such as - District Collector of Kollam from 1982 to 1985, Special Secretary for Industries, especially the traditional industries of cashew, coir and handlooms, Secretary of Health and Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister of Kerala.

Mr. Baker Atyani

Veteran journalist from Jordan, covering conflict zones in Asia



Mr. Baker Atyani is a veteran journalist, covering conflict zones in Asia for the past 18 years. He is an expert on militant groups in Asia. He has produced numerous documentaries, articles, and investigative stories and was the last journalist to interview Osama Bin Laden before 9/11. He was kidnapped by one the sub factions of "Abu Sayyaf Group" in Sulu Islands in south of the Philippines while working on a documentary on the Conflict in Mindanao Islands in the Philippines. Baker spent 18 months in the jungles of Sulu from 12 June 2012, till he got his freedom back on 04 December 2013. He is currently Al-Arabiya News Channel Senior International correspondent, and the channel's expert on South and South East Asia Affairs. He has been honored by Al Arabiya News Channel and MCF with "Exceptional Courage in Journalism" awards. The UN honored him in December 2013 for his contributions as a journalist.

HOSTAGE TAKING AS A TOOL OF TERRORISM AND METHODOLOGY OF NEGOTIATIONS

Baker Atyani

Taking hostages and kidnapping is a very old behavioral pattern. But in the last two decades, incidents of hostage taking have rapidly increased across the world where an action, earlier essentially adopted by traditional criminals, or revolutionist movements had now become a frequent practice by more evolved Islamic militant groups.

The goals of hostage takers or kidnappers vary from trying to achieve certain political, social gains to financial benefits through hostage situations.

In this paper the author will talk about his own case and experience as a hostage held for 18 months by the Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG) in southern Philippines.

ASG has made 7.5 million US dollars in 2016 only out of kidnapping. Why do ASG militants kidnap? How do they kidnap? Who is helping them? How local communities, politician, Government officers are sometimes involved. The author will also speak about the process of negotiation, how he saw it from inside, how ASG would negotiate, what are the elements that would keep the hostage alive in the hands of his captors. The author will also give his thoughts on the best potential strategy to counter kidnapping in southern Philippines.

Dr. Waiel S.H Awwad

Writer and South Asia Political Analyst



Dr. Waiel is a writer, political analyst and South Asia based Journalist since 1979 and has traveled extensively in most of South and South East Asian countries. As a war reporter he covered Sri Lanka, Kashmir, Afghanistan, West Asia and Gulf Region. Dr. Waiel was detained in Afghanistan before the fall of Taliban government and was also captured in an ambush during the American invasion of Iraq in 2003 while he was embedded with American Troops. He served as President of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of South Asia (FCC) for two terms 2003-2005 and 2013-2015 and as a President Emeritus for FCC South Asia. In 2104 he was awarded the 5th Rajiv Gandhi Excellence Award for his work as the best journalist from overseas.

THE TERRORISM INDUSTRY AND ITS GLOBAL EXPANSION

Waiel Awwad

The turmoil in the Middle East has been on for decades, which exacerbated with the discovery of oil and gas. The social injustice, lack of distribution of wealth, low economic growth, anti-West policy feeling, rise of hatred and political unrest led to instability and rise of religious fundamentalism. This was compounded with the interference of the West in the internal affairs of this region because of its natural resources and the creation of Israel in the heart of the Middle East. The region was subjected to division, internal fighting and military intervention for a regime change. The external folly has led to the creation of ISIS and other radical militant groups and fundamentalism by promoting political Islam and sheltering all Islamists and radicals in their own homeland and later sent them back to their respective native country to promote Jihadist culture and radicalism. This led to the growth of international terrorism from being regional and many countries now are vulnerable to terrorist activities. Al Qaeda established its presence in Iraq and Syria during the American occupation of Iraq. Al Qaeda took full advantage of the war on Syria and sent its terrorists to recruit and establish its presence. The amount of human loss and killings left behinds millions dead and dispersed .A real human tragedy of the 21st century unfolded. The world woke up to the menace of terrorism only when it started to backfire on them. Terrorist acts started in many European capitals by their own citizens, returnees from Syria and Iraq. It was then decided to end the menace and massacre in Syria. However, the hypocrisy of the US and the West never changed as the US is now fighting ISIS in Mosul in Iraq but supporting it in Syria. The war on terror will intensify as the ISIS losing ground in Syria and Iraq, it will spread its wing to other regions and with bomb squads experts ,suicidal volunteers and new weapons the interest of more nations will be at risk. The wave of terror is spreading horizontally, hence the only way is to fight jointly. What is the global implication of the diminishing of ISIS in the region? What are the lessons Asia can learn to tackle this menace and outbreak of terrorism?

Ms. Lamya Haji Bashar Тана

Public advocate of the Yazidi community, Iraq



Lamya Haji Bashar is a survivor of sexual enslavement by the Da'esh and has become a spokesperson for women afflicted by the groups campaign of sexual violence. She is a public advocate for the Yazidi community in Iraq, a religious minority that has been the subject of a genocidal campaign by Da'esh militants. On 15 August 2014, Da'esh slaughtered all the males in the village of Kocho, Haji Bashar's hometown. Following the massacre, women and children were enslaved: all young women, including Haji Bashar, and her sisters were kidnapped, bought and sold several times, and exploited as sex slaves. She was sold five times among the militants and was forced to make bombs and suicide vests in Mosul after Da'esh militants executed her brothers and father. Haji Bashar tried to flee several times before finally escaping in April 2016 with the help of her family, who paid local smugglers. On her way over the Kurdish border, and while racing towards Irag's government-controlled territory with Da'esh militants in pursuit, a landmine exploded killing two of her acquaintances while leaving her injured and almost blind. Luckily, she managed to escape and was eventually sent for medical treatment in Germany, where she was reunited with her surviving siblings. Since her recovery Haji Bashar has been active in raising awareness of the plight of the Yazidi community and continues to help women and children who were victims of Da'esh enslavement and atrocities.

SUBJECT: WOMEN AND DA'ESH

Mr. P. K. Dash

DG, NACEN



Shri P.K. Dash belongs to 1985 batch of IRS (C& CE) and is currently working as DG, NACEN. Prior to NACEN assignment, he was Pr. ADG, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Mumbai Zonal Unit, for over 4years. During the three decade long career in Government, he has worked both India and abroad, with exposure to almost all areas of indirect taxation, enforcement and international cooperation. From Oct' 2003 to Aug' 2007, he worked as Indian Customs Attaché to WCO at Brussels.

During his eventful career, he has received several commendations and awards, the most notable being - (1) the Presidential Award for "Specially Distinguished Record of Service" on the occasion of Republic Day, 2002; (2) UNEP Award for Environment protection for the year 2014, for highest Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) seizure in the world; (3) Under his leadership, DRI MZU was adjudged Best Zonal Unit for its overall performance for FY 2013-14 and 2014-15, consecutively.

His special interest work areas are Enforcement and Training, in which he has spent nearly half of his working years.

Subject: Economics of Terror: The Indian

EXPERIENCE

Dr. C. CHRISTINE FAIR

Associate Professor, Peace and Security Studies Program Georgetown University, USA



Dr. C. Christine Fair is a Provost's Distinguished Associate Professor in the Security Studies Program within Georgetown University's Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service. She previously served as a senior political scientist with the RAND Corporation, a political officer with the United Nations Assistance Mission to Afghanistan in Kabul, and a senior research associate at USIP's Center for Conflict Analysis and Prevention. Fluent in English, Hindi, Urdu and Punjabi, Dr. Fair is a frequent commentator in print as well on television and radio programs. Her research focuses on political and military affairs in South Asia.

WOMEN IN LASHKAR-E-TAIBA: WHEN TERRORISM IS A FAMILY AFFAIR

C. Christine Fair

In this paper, I present results derived from research from my forthcoming book on how LeT recruits and motivates women for the organization. Cultivation is women is critical to the LeT mission for several reasons. First, women are necessary to recruit other women to their cause with the explicit hope that other women will in turn recruit other women. Second, women are important-if overlookedmembers of this group because of the inordinate influence that women have over their families generally and sons in particular. To this end, LeT has a branch of the organization which is specifically dedicated to women. Unfortunately, the role of women tends to be overlooked by CT and CVE experts who tend to focus their resources upon "men of military age." This is likely an oversite with dangerous consequences.

Theme Address

Dr. Gulshan Rai

Chief of Cybersecurity, Government of India



Dr. Gulshan Rai is the National Cyber Security Coordinator, Government of India. Dr. Rai has over 25 years of experience in different areas of Information Technology which include Cyber Security, e-Governance, Legal Framework and the Information Technology Act for e-commerce, and several related fields. His previous assignments include Director General, CERT-In (Indian Computer Emergency Response Director General, STQC Directorate (Standardization, Testing & Quality Certification) and Head of Department of E-Security and Cyber Law Division in the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

Session 3

Age of 'Instant Terror': Technology, the Game Changer

Monday, March 6, 2017

15:45-17:15h

Chairperson

Dr. ARVIND GUPTA

Deputy NSA, Government of India



Dr. Arvind Gupta is a career diplomat and the current Indian Deputy National Security Advisor. Dr. Gupta belongs to the 1979 batch of the Indian Foreign Service. Over the course of his career, he has served in various capacities at Indian diplomatic missions in Moscow, London and Ankara. He joined the National Security Council Secretariat shortly after it was set up in 1998 and served there till 2007. Prior to taking charge as Director General, he held the Lal Bahadur Shastri Chair on National Security in the IDSA from 2008 to 2012.

Dr. Anne Speckhard

Director of the International Center for the Study of Violent Extremism (ICSVE), USA



Dr. Anne Speckhard, Ph.D. is Adjunct Associate Professor of Psychiatry in the School of Medicine, Georgetown University, and Director of the International Center for the Study of Violent Extremism (ICSVE). Dr. Speckhard has been working in the field of counter-terrorism and psychology since the 1980's and has extensive experience working in Europe, the Middle East and the former Soviet Union. Dr. Speckhard has interviewed over 500 terrorists, their family members and supporters in various parts of the world including Iraq, Jordan, Turkey, Gaza, West Bank, Chechnya, and many countries in Western Europe. In 2007, she was responsible for designing the psychological and Islamic challenge aspects of the Detainee Rehabilitation Program in Iraq to be applied to 20,000 + detainees and 800 juveniles. She is a sought after counter-terrorism expert and has consulted to NATO, OSCE, foreign governments and to the U.S. Senate & House, Departments of State, Defense, Justice, Homeland Security, Health & Human Services, CIA and FBI and frequently appearing on CNN, BBC, NPR, Fox News, MSNBC, CTV, and in Time, The New York Times, The Washington Post, London Times and many other publications. She is the author of seven books including: Talking to Terrorists: Understanding the Psycho-Social Motivations of Militant Jihadi Terrorists, Mass Hostage Takers, Suicide Bombers and "Martyrs", Fetal Abduction: The True Story of Multiple Personalities and Murder, Bride of ISIS.

Breaking the ISIS Brand: Trajectories into and BACK OUT OF TERRORISM AND THE SOCIAL MEDIA RECRUITING OF ISIS

Anne Speckhard

Last year through the International Center for the Study of Violent Extremism, a nonprofit research org, Dr. Speckhard started the ISIS Defectors Interviews Project-Breaking the ISIS Brand. In that project she and her colleagues interviewed 40 ISIS defectors from Syria, Western Europe, Central Asia and the Balkans and 12 parents of those who went to ISIS, most captured on video. Her team has been editing the videos into short video clips to load on the Internet to fight ISIS's online recruiting. The videos are subtitled in the 21 languages ISIS recruits in 24/7 and being focus tested and placed in ISIS Telegram chat rooms. This talk will be about trajectories into and back out of terrorism and how ISIS is winning in the digital battlefield-and how to fight back. ICSVE is dedicated to breaking the ISIS brand and flooding the Internet with counter narratives to fight with what ISIS is saying about the "Caliphate" being the utopian panacea for all problems. The project has also been lauded by the White House, the U.S. Senate, U.S. State Department and many foreign governments as well as been covered by the Washington Post, in Time magazine and in many other news networks and print outlets.

Dr. Madan Oberoi

IPS Former Director of Cyber-Crime, Interpol, Singapore



Dr. Madan M. Oberoi is an Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of 1992 batch. He is a Fulbright Scholar in the area of "Cyber Security" from University of Washington. He also holds a PhD in the area of cybercrime from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi. He also holds a Master's Degree in 'Management and Systems' from IIT Delhi.

Till last month he was deployed as Director Cybercrime in INTERPOL with global jurisdiction.

Dr. Oberoi has worked as Inspector General of Police, Deputy Inspector General of Police and as Superintendent of Police with Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), where he has headed the Cyber-Crime Cell. He has also held many important posts in Delhi Police. In his last posting with Delhi Police, he was heading their Special Cell, which is responsible for Anti-Terror Operations.

Subject: Darknet and Cryptocurrencies -TECHNOLOGY AS AN ENABLER FOR TERRORISM

Mr. Saikat Datta

Director, Centre for Internet & Society, India



Mr. Saikat Datta has been a journalist and a researcher on issues related to terrorism, Intelligence, Special Forces and cybersecurity. His book on India's Special Forces was released in May 2013. He is currently an editor with a news website and a Director with Centre For Internet & Society, a research organisation.

TECHNOLOGY AND INTELLIGENCE IN COUNTER TERRORISM

Saikat Datta

Soon after the fall of the twin towers in New York on 9/11, the US directed much of its global counter terrorism efforts in trying to hunt down terrorists online. A mushrooming of private agencies added impetus to sovereign efforts to look for radical elements operating online, via chat rooms or using emerging technologies to communicate and plan terror attacks. In some ways, the Al Qaeda, which loosely translates into 'The Base' was the first global conglomerate of its kind, drawing in different nationalities into an outfit driven by a single ideological mooring. Such a global phenomenon led to a leveraging of technology to achieve social networks and secure communication technologies that not only allowed safe communication, but also the ability to spread ideology and serve as a lightening rod for radicalised elements across the globe. As more people came online, the birth and proliferation of social media facilitated such movements. The emergence of good encryption, based largely on open source software, as well as easy availability ensured safer communication and greater adoption of technology as a means to facilitate a global terror footprint. As the GWOT (Global War on Terror) progressed, the Al Qaeda and it's affiliates morphed and split, producing new entities, such as the emergence of the ISIS out of the AQAP (Al Qaeda-Arab Peninsula). Today, ISIS affiliates, such as the IS-KP (Islamic State-Khorasan Province) replicates the global networks that was first established by the Al Qaeda. This produced new kinds of challenges where the existence of the internet and the dark net became the new means for proliferation of not just ideology, but also capabilities. Learnings from one part of the globe could now be securely transmitted and downloaded far away, rendering international geographical and time boundaries meaningless. From an enforcement and CT (Counter Terrorism) perspective this has given rise to a global surveillance regime, as well as the start of a new global technology race, as well as the emergence of challenges in terms of International jurisdiction and coordination between multiple stakeholders. However, as this paper will show, while challenges posed by technology are new, the answers to countering them lie in traditional means, which have been discarded in a bid to adapt to new technologies. This creates a paradigm where the radicals will always retain the edge over the sovereign. This paper will also argue how the omnipresent surveillance regime is actually antithetical to good intelligence and CT practices, therefore ensuring a lag in response to old and new challenges.

Mr. Sanjeev Singh

Addl DG (anti-Naxal Operations), Madhya Pradesh Police



As Inspector General (Investigation) at the National Investigation Agency (NIA) since 2010, Mr. Sanjeev Singh have led investigations into the most significant cases of terrorism in India. These cases span the entire spectrum of terrorist threats in India - Jihadi terrorism, left wing extremism, north-eastern insurgency and terrorist financing. Notable amongst these are the Patna / Bodh Gaya blasts (2013) and the David Coleman Headley case. He directly led investigation of Pathankot attack case and Bahadur Ali case and led Indian team when Pakistan team visited India in March, 2016. Mr. Singh also chaired the India-Bangladesh Joint Task Force on Fake Indian currency notes which has streamlined and strengthened the law enforcement cooperation between the two countries.

Subject: Online Radicalisation and India's CT **EFFORTS**

Ms. Manjula Sridhar

Founder ArgByte - a cybercrime analytics software



Ms. Manjula Sridhar is the Founder of *ArgByte* a cyber crime analytics software. She is a techie with 2 decades of work experience in tech industry with specific focus on networks and security. She has been founder and CTO of Aujas Networks and has worked with many MNCs such as Lucent, Bosch, Huawei and Arcot. An Engineer by education, She did her M.S from IIT Chicago. She is a mentor at Indian Institute of Bangalore's Incubation centre and MS Accelerator. She is a fellow at iSpirt a think tank for Indian Entrepreneurship and runs iKenStartup a bootcamp for early Entrepreneurs.

TACKLING MALICIOUS PROFILING ONLINE: THE INDIAN EXPERIENCE

Manjula Sridhar

Fake profiles are a persistent and growing menace in online social networks as well many community driven software and Internet centric applications. As businesses and individuals embrace social networks, digital transactions the line between business and personal life, physical and online world is getting blurred. Sybil attacks as proliferation of fake profiles is sometimes known as, reduces the trust quotient of a network and can be a source of many anonymous malicious activities directed at individuals, communities and states. They can also be an effective social engineering platform and can be used as step 0 for banking frauds and other data and identity theft issues. Artificial Intelligence can be a great tool for detecting and flagging these fake profiles across borders and enables real time responses. This article looks at the current available techniques, methods, models and datasets for enabling this.

Session 4

Regional Terspectives - The West Asia Conundrum:
Unraveling Geopolitics and Global Response

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

10:00-12:30h

Chairperson

SHRI SANJAY SINGH

Former Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India



Shri Sanjay Singh an alumnus of Delhi University, joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1976. He has served in Indian Missions in Mexico, Germany, Ghana and France and in the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi as Director in the Office of the External Affairs Minister and Joint Secretary and Head of Division dealing with Latin American Countries and later Establishment. From October 1997 to June 2001, he was India's Consul General in Ho Chi Minh City and from July 2001 to August 2004, Deputy Chief of Mission in Paris. He held charge in the Ministry as Joint Secretary and Additional Secretary (Gulf) from March 2005 to March 2009. He was India's Ambassador to Iran from March 2009 to March 2011. He took over as Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs in March 2011 and retired in end April 2013.

Dr. Vladimir I. Sotnikov

Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Eastern Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences



Dr. Vladimir Sotnikov is International Affairs expert at the Institute of the World Economy and Foreign Relations and the Institute of Oriental Studies at the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS). Mr. Sotnikov is a highly experienced expert in nuclear non-proliferation, nuclear disarmament, nuclear energy and nuclear safety and security with extensive experience and knowledge of forecasting of global and country-specific political and business risks and systemic analysis of global and regional international affairs including conflict resolution and crisis management in South Asia, Near East and MENA with expertise in international terrorism, Radical Islamist Jihadism and possible nuclear terrorism

RUSSIA'S VIEWS ON RADICAL ISLAM THREAT IN CENTRAL ASIA

Vladimir I. Sotnikov

Today post-Soviet Central Asian countries are facing problems caused by old security challenges and the emergence of completely new threats. These threats may hamper the future of secular statehoods in the region and present a serious obstacle to modernization.

One of the old security challenges is the aggravation of the situation in neighboring Afghanistan where crisis phenomena continue growing. The most dangerous threat is posed by the concentration of militants in northern Afghanistan on the border with Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

The threat posed by radical Islam is not only ideological and political in that it challenges secular statehood, it has a military dimension, too. Specifically, ISIS has listed Central Asia and Afghanistan as Wilayat Khorasan. It is actively penetrating Afghanistan, exploiting the split in the Taliban after the death of its leader Mullah Omar and actively using the flow of funds from the Middle East. According to Al Jazeera, Taliban militants are paid ten times as much as ISIS mercenaries - \$700 vs. \$70 per month.

Russia is vitally interested in fighting Islamic radicalism in Central Asia. Its further spread is linked to the potential growth of many cross-border threats (terrorism, drug trafficking, uncontrolled migration, etc.). In the migration context, the security of Russia's metropolitan areas (above all Moscow) largely depends on where Russia and the entire international community will be able to render effective support to Central Asian countries in countering the growing threat of radical Islamism

Mr. Mustafa El Sagezli

General Manager of The Libyan Program for Reintegration & Development



Mr. Sagezli is the General Manager of the Libyan Programme for Reintegration and Development (LPRD), a project for the reintegration, demobilisation and disarmament of Libyans. As General Manager of The Libyan Programme for Reintegration and Development (LPRD), Mustafa has overseen the establishment, management and execution of Libya's ex-combatant reintegration programmes, which has served over 162,000 beneficiaries to date. Mustafa has twenty years experience of entrepreneurship in the IT sector and four years of experience in politics, public management, social services management and SME's development.

Subject: Countering Terrorism in the Maghreb: IMPLICATIONS FOR GLOBAL SECURITY

Ms. Prabha Rao

Senior Fellow at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi.

Ms. Prabha Rao has a master's degree in Law. After having served as a journalist with Indian Express between 1980 and 1982, she joined the Indian Police Services (IPS), Karnataka Cadre. She has held several posts in Law and Order, Investigation and Intelligence. Currently she is a senior fellow at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses and is working on Terrorism in South Asia.

SUBJECT: AL-QAEDA AND THE ARAB PENINSULAR

Dr. Frank Ledwidge

Former Military Intelligence Officer who served in Iraq, Afghanistan And Libya



Senior Lecturer in Strategic Studies and Law of Armed Conflict for the University of Portsmouth at the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell Dr. Ledwidge is a fully qualified and experienced barrister with a strong record in provision of excellent advice on justice and rule of law reform in conflict and post-conflict zones, most recently Libya and the Somali Region of Ethiopia. He is the author of two bestselling, well-reviewed and controversial books on Britain's recent wars, in all of which he has served in one front line capacity or another. In 2016 he delivered one of the annual Darwin Lectures at Cambridge University. As a senior reserve military officer, Dr. Ledwidge served several combat tours in the Balkans and Iraq and retired as head of the most deployed unit in the Royal Navy.

A Brief Survey of Total Strategic Failure: NATO IN WESTERN ASIA

Frank Ledwidge

In 2006 Tony Blair said that 'the future of world security will be decided in the Afghan desert'. A decade later, such declarations ring hollow. At all levels, grand strategic across to the tactical, NATO's approach to what was once called 'the war on terror' in Western Asia has resulted in complete failure. The approach taken in Afghanistan may be seen as an exemplar for the West's effort in Western Asia as a whole. Bereft of historical or political awareness and beguiled by an internal narrative of proficiency in 'counterinsurgency', the US and particularly the UK entered an area of which they had little understanding; they elected to fight a military campaign against a political problem. In so doing they failed either to engage regional powers constructively, or indeed set a sensible and achievable political strategy. They set up and supported a state with all the cosmetic accoutrements of government but none of the substance. This acted in fact as a vertically integrated organised crime structure, a fact well-recognised by most Afghan citizens. The military campaign was best by acute confirmation bias; evidence that strategic failure was almost inevitable was totally ignored in favour of a constant stream of fictional 'good news'. This occurred at all levels. In the key region of Southern Afghanistan, the UK required bailing out (as it had been in Iraq) by US forces who found themselves equally bewildered. NATO forces then defaulted to a 'kill-capture' approach led by special forces - a tactic again derived from Iraq. This was termed a 'strategy'. This had the entirely predictable result of further dislocating an already chaotic political environment. After the expenditure of over a trillion dollars and tens of thousands of dead, much of Afghanistan remains in insurgent hands. The same applies in Iraq.

Mr. Mohammad Hossein Shojaei

Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of The Islamic Republic of Iran, New Delhi

SUBJECT: THE THREAT OF EXTREMISM IN WEST ASIA: THE IRANIAN EXPERIENCE

Dr. EITAN SHAMIR

Senior Research Fellow, Begin Sadat Center for Strategic Studies, Israel



Dr. Eitan Shamir is an Associate professor at the Political Studies Department, Bar Ilan University and a Senior Research Fellow with the Begin Sadat Center for Strategic Studies (BESA Center). Prior to his academic position, he was in charge of the National Security Doctrine Department at the Ministry of Strategic Affairs, Prime Minister Office. He is the author of Transforming Command: The Pursuit of Mission Command in the US, UK and Israeli Armies, Stanford UP, 2011. His most recent book (ed.) is *Insurgencies* and Counterinsurgencies: National Styles and Strategic Cultures, Cambridge UP, 2017, (with Prof. Beatrice Heuser). Shamir has published many articles in leading journals and various book chapters on the topics of military strategy and national security. Shamir has been interviewed in some of Israel's leading media outlets and in the international media. He holds a PhD from the Department of War Studies, King's College London.

WHAT AFTER COUNTER-INSURGENCY? RAIDING IN ZONES OF TURMOIL

Eitan Shamir

This paper argues that the option of a military raid is becoming more relevant in the contemporary strategic environment. Two developments lead to this conclusion: the increase in the number of failed states and subsequently ungoverned areas; and the Western inadequate response in the attempts to create zones of stability with clear strategic addresses. The efforts for state building in Iraq and Afghanistan have failed, and the US and its allies have realized that foreign interventions, even after the commitment of much treasure and blood, are ineffective. This means that the West must adapt its strategic thinking to the new developments and devise ways to deal effectively with the situation. This article explores the concept of strategic raid and elaborates on its theoretical underpinnings. The raids discussed here are military operations conducted in order to weaken and/or deter a non-state actor, at least temporarily. In the absence of diplomatic and economic leverage, the aim is limiting the actor's ability to harm others. The use of force is designed to degrade the military capabilities of the non-state adversary and to influence its resolve. Subsequently; it discusses a few historical examples of raiding strategy and then analyzes two contemporary cases, Israel and the US, in order to demonstrate the utility of raids today. Finally, the relevance of raiding strategy for other states in the contemporary strategic environment is discussed.

Session 5

Regional Terspectives - South and South East Asia: The Growing Spectre of Terror

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

13:30-16:00h

Chairperson

Dr. Sanjaya Baru

Distinguished Fellow USI



Dr. Sanjaya Baru is a member of the governing board of CPR and an honorary senior fellow at the Centre. He also serves as Director for Geo-economics and Strategy at the International Institute for Strategic Studies. From May 2004 until August 2008 Dr Baru was the official spokesman and media advisor for the Prime Minister of India. Dr Baru has had a long career as a journalist, serving as editor of the Business Standard, chief editor of the Financial Express, and associate editor of the Economic Times and the Times of India.

Dr. Baru has taught at the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations in New Delhi, in the department of economics at the University of Hyderabad, and at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy in Singapore. He has served as a member of India's National Security Advisory Board and of the India-ASEAN Eminent Persons Group. Dr Baru has published extensively on economic and strategic policy in India and abroad. His books include The Strategic Consequences of India's Economic Performance (Routledge, 2007) and The Accidental Prime Minister (Penguin, 2014).

Lt. Gen. Chowdhury HASAN SARWARDY

Commandant, National Defence College, Mirpur, Bangladesh

Lieutenant General Chowdhury Hasan Sarwardy, BB, SBP, BSP, ndc, psc, has taken over as the Commandant of National Defence College (NDC), Bangladesh 19 February 2015. Lieutenant General Chowdhury Hasan Sarwardy received gallantry award 'Bir Bikrom' for displaying indomitable courage during a counter insurgency operation in the Chittagong Hill Tracts where he was injured with enemy bullet but captured their camp without fearing his life.

Subject: Countering Terrorism: Perspectives FROM BANGLADESH

Dr. Ayesha Siddiqa

Former bureaucrat and Political commentator, Pakistan



Dr. Ayesha Siddiga is currently a research associate with the SOAS, University of London South Asia Institute. She is a Ph.D. in War Studies from King's College, London and is an author of two books on Pakistan's military: (a) Pakistan's Arms Procurement and Military Buildup, 1979-99 and (b) Military Inc, Inside Pakistan's Military Economy. She was the inaugural Pakistan fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Centre for Scholars, a Ford Fellow, a research fellow at the CMC, Sandia National Laboratories, and a Charles Wallace fellow at St. Antony's College, Oxford. Her current work pertains to radicalism and militancy in Punjab and Sindh.

A 9/11 FOR SOUTH ASIA?

Ayesha Siddiga

The terror attack in the US in September 2001 seems to have changed American security establishment's perception towards internal threat. Consequently, terror groups like Al-Qaeeda and others were identified and battled. However, I make the following two arguments in my paper. First, that such a shift is harder to visualize in South Asia due to the manner in which cost of conflict is calculated. Second, that in Pakistan's case various terror attacks may not tantamount as a 9/11 that forces its security establishment to shift its policy on terror. In fact, the shifting geo-political situation in the region does not allow for disengagement. In South Asia terror as a policy approach is here to stay for the foreseeable future.

Dr. Ma Xiangwu

Functionary, Communist Party of China



Currently a functionary of the Communist Party of China, Dr. Ma has extensive research experience in International Security, Military Affairs and Terrorism. His articles on the same are regularly published in journals and newspapers in China. Dr. Ma has been a visiting professor in various universities across the world. His area of expertise is 'The New Form of Chinese and International Terrorism: Trends, Geopolitics and History'

Subject: China's Experience in Countering TERRORISM/VIOLENT EXTREMISM: POLICY, ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

GEN. DAYA RATHNAYKE

Former Commander of Army, Sri Lanka



General Daya Ratnayake is the only military officer in the Armed Forces of Sri Lanka who had been awarded with gallantry medals for the most number of times.

He has also held the appointment as Chief of Staff of the Sri Lanka Army and had the privilege of becoming the first Commissioner General of Rehabilitation in Sri Lanka, responsible for rehabilitation of hundreds of LTTE combatants.

He also held the appointment as Military Spokesman for the Ministry of Defence, Senior Intelligence Officer at the Operations Headquarters at Ministry of Defence, Commanding Officer of the Sri Lanka Military Academy, Chief Instructor in the Military Intelligence School Chief Instructor of the Army Training School. He was also the Senior Intelligence Officer in charge of the Northern Peninsula during 1991-1992.

General Daya Ratnayake has graduated from the National Defence University, Beijing, People's Republic of China and Defence Service Command and Staff College, Dhaka, Bangladesh and is currently reading for a PhD at Kotelawala Defence University

THE SRI LANKAN DEFEAT OF TERRORISM: LESSONS FOR **EVOLVING A REGIONAL RESPONSE FOR COMBATING** Terrorism

Gen Daya Rathnayke

Terrorism continues to be a critical nontraditional threat second to only natural and manmade disaster. It is primarily of intra state nature encompassing almost every nation to a lesser or greater extent in the south Asian and south East Asian region. The 9/11 attack on the USA, signaled the advent of ideological and religious inspired terrorism in to the international environment better "transnational terrorism".

Outcomes being mixed, a very few countries in the world could claim victory. The defeat of terrorism in Sri Lanka, a rare feat by any standards, provides rich learning experience on terrorism by an internationally networked non state actor, the LTTE, and a determined government response Further, the strategies, concepts and principles applied, innovated and adapted successfully have implications not only on national counter terrorist ventures but also on transnational counter terrorism responses. The challenges confronting nations; victims of national and transnational terrorism are, as to how to develop integrated cooperative regional responses, an imperative for winning the fight. A contentious example and critical area in this regard is the question of sanctuaries or safe havens.

This paper focuses on identifying learning experiences from the Sri Lankan conflict that could contribute to the formulation of a robust regional response mechanism to terrorism. It also highlights the positive effects that could have being brought about during the conflict, had a regional response mechanism being in place.

Dr. Kumar Ramakrishna

Head of Policy Studies and Coordinator of National Security Studies Programme in the Office of the executive deputy chairman, RSIS, Singapore



Dr. Kumar Ramakrishna is a tenured Associate Professor, Head of Policy Studies and Coordinator of National Security Studies Programme in the Office of the Executive Deputy Chairman, at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Singapore. His current research interests include British propaganda in the Malayan Emergency; propaganda theory and practice; history of strategic thought; and counter-terrorism with a focus on radicalization.

In July 2015 he served as a member of the External Reference Group for the United Nations Secretary General's draft Plan of Action for Preventing Violent Extremism. In "recognition of the international contribution" he has made to research into violent extremism, in January 2016 he was also appointed as an honorary Visiting Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for the Resolution of Intractable Conflict, based at Harris Manchester College, Oxford University, UK. His book, Radical Pathways: Understanding Muslim Radicalization in Indonesia (2009) was identified by Perspectives on Terrorism in May 2012 as one of the top 150 books on terrorism and counter-terrorism as well as "an important and insightful case study on the pathways to extremism and violent jihad in Indonesia". His recent books include Islamist Terrorism and Militancy in Indonesia: The Power of the Manichean Mindset (2015), Original Sin? Revising the Revisionist Critique of the 1963 Operation Coldstore in Singapore (2015) and Singapore Chronicles: Emergency (2016).

THE EVOLVING ISIS THREAT TO SOUTHEAST ASIA

Kumar Ramakrishna

The presentation discusses the ISIS threat to Southeast Asia in terms of the factors of returning foreign fighters; organized indigenous militant networks that are coordinating operations with ISIS as well as self-radicalized lone wolves. The presentation will show that 'hard' law enforcement measures targeting the physical threat of ISIS are necessary but inadequate. These must be integrated with 'softer' measures seeking to neutralize the effects of various other drivers fuelling the ISIS threat - especially its virulent ideology.

Session 6

Constructing Effective Counter-narratives: The Need for a Global Response Tuesday, March 7, 2017

16:15-18:15h

Chairperson

SHRI SYED ASIF IBRAHIM



Shri Syed Asif Ibrahim is an Indian diplomat and a former director of the Intelligence Bureau, the main internal intelligence agency of India. He held the position of director from 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2014. He is an Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Madhya Pradesh cadre and belongs to its 1977 batch. In June 2015, he was appointed as Indian Prime Minister's special envoy on "Countering Terrorism and Extremism" with a charter to liaise with governments of West Asian countries, and Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Lt. Gen. S. A. Hasnain

Former GOC 15 Corps, Srinagar, Fellow, Vivekananda International Foundation and Member. Governing Council, Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, India



Lieutenant General Syed Ata Hasnain, is a retired Three-Star General of the Indian Army. His last assignment in service was as the Military Secretary of the Indian Army. Prior to that, he commanded an Army Corps in the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir, amongst other appointments. Gen Hasnain introduced the Scholar Warrior concept to the Indian Army and after superannuation has extensively promoted the necessity of incorporating military intellectualism and strategic culture in India. In this regard he is a popular speaker at corporate events. Among the companies that he has addressed include Deloitte, Ashok Leyland, Larsen & Toubro (Design), Amdocs Pune, Atoc and Sanofi Pasteur

CONSTRUCTING AN EFFECTIVE NARRATIVE FOR I&K

Ata Hasnain

The standoff between India and Pakistan over Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) is a truly hybrid one involving several external and internal dimensions for India. Pakistan's use of sponsored terror and proxy war as a weapon to pressurize India, in a strategic environment with a nuclear backdrop, makes for a veritable tinderbox situation. The 28 year old complex proxy war with huge geopolitical implications for the South Asian region has had a dynamic progression. The hung situation today is reflective of hybrid conflicts where the sub conventional, the people's alienation and low intensity military exchanges, all combine to become the narrative. India has had the military situation firmly under its control, limiting infiltration, reducing the residual terrorist strength and preventing freedom of operations to anti nationals. However, the sorely missing dimension has been the 'all of government approach' which is an essential element in countering the narrative of alienation of the population. This paper and the related talk will focus on how an alternative narrative can be created and alienation countered through a policy of effective engagement, the employment of the information domain, the enhancement of the human factor and most importantly bringing a balance in the employment of hard and soft power.

H.E. AHMAD BADREDDIN HASSOUN

Syrian grand mufti



H.E. Hassoun is the Grand Mufti of Syria since 2005. Ahmad Badreddin Hassoun was born in Aleppo, Syria. His father, Muhammad Adeeb Hassoun, was also a sheikh. He has five children and ten grandchildren. Hassoun studied at the University of Islamic Studies, where he graduated as Doctor in Shafi'i figh. Hassoun took office as Grand Mufti of Syria in July 2005 after the death of Ahmed Kuftaro Hassoun is a frequent speaker in interreligious and intercultural events, and his pluralistic views on interfaith dialogue (between different religions or between different Islamic denominations) has sparked criticism from stricter visions of Islam.

Subject: Effective Counter Narratives for DERADCALISATION

Dr. Adil Rasheed

Research Fellow, IDSA India



Dr. Adil Rasheed is a senior fellow at the IDSA and an expert in West Asia stretegic affiars and counter terrorism. Before joining the IDSA, Dr Adil Rasheed was Senior Research Fellow at the United Service Institution of India. He served at the Abu Dhabi-based Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research for eight years (2006-2014) and was Editor (Newsdesk) and political commentator at the Dubaibased daily Khaleej Times from 2000 to 2005. He has authored the book ISIS: Race to Armageddon (2015).

THE DECONSTRUCTION OF THE JIHADIST NARRATIVE

Adil Rasheed

My presentation will focus on the jihadist narrative, its mythmaking and propaganda techniques, the causes for its increasing resonance, and then the need to develop a plethora of counter-narratives - religious, political, historical, tactical, humorous and sarcastic, subliminal etc. to counter the menace of radicalization. However, the speech will start with a basic understanding the meaning of the word 'narrative' and recent studies on 'political narrative' and 'jihadist narrative' and the various technical methods used for constructing and deconstructing a narrative.

Dr. A.R. Anjaria

President, Islamic Defence Cyber Cell of India and Member, Advisory Council, Jama Masjid, Delhi.



Dr. A.R. Anjaria has been a social worker and a crusader against terrorism. Currently the president of the Islamic Defence Cyber Cell and a Governing Council member at the Jama Masjid at New Delhi, Dr. Anjaria is the author of 'Islam, Peace and World Religion'.

SUBJECT: USE OF QURAN AND FATWAS TO ENABLE CHANGE

Dr. Kalbe Sadiq

Founder, Tauheedul Muslimeen Trust



Dr. Kalbe Sadig is an internationally renowned Islamic scholar, thinker, reformer, educationist and preacher. He is known for his inclusive and broadminded interpretation of Islam. After becoming a religious leader he made several successful attempts at making education available to the deprived section of the society. He founded the Tauheedul Muslimeen Trust on 18 April 1984 with an aim to give educational assistance and scholarships to needy and poor students.

Subject: Narrative for Countering Jihad

Valedictory Session The Asian Response to Combating Terror: The Way Forward

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

10:15-13:00h

Chairperson

COMMODORE UDAY BHASKAR

Director, Society for Policy Studies (SPS)



C. Uday Bhaskar, a retired Commodore who served in the Indian Navy, is one of India's leading experts and outspoken critics on security and strategic affair. Commodore Bhaskar is currently the Director of the Society for Policy Studies (SPS), an independent think-tank based in New Delhi, India. He has the rare distinction of being the head of three think tanks during his career - the earlier two being the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) and the National Maritime Foundation (NMF). He is a columnist, editor, and contributor of numerous research-articles on nuclear and international security issues to reputed journals in India and abroad.

Conference Team

SHRUTI PANDALAI

Associate Fellow, IDSA



Shruti Pandalai is an Associate Fellow at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, primarily working on issues closely related to India's national security and foreign policy. Attached with the military centre, she has worked on projects requiring research and recommendations for the National Security Council Secretariat, Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Home Affairs. India's strategic thought and practice, India's military history - the wars of 1962 and '65 and their impact on contemporary foreign policy, Emerging challenges to national security and Forecasting and scenario projection are some of themes she has worked on at IDSA. She has also published widely on the subject of Media and National Security at IDSA, which looks at the larger issues of strategic communication in diplomacy and conflict resolution in India. Previously, Shruti was a broadcast journalist, a News Anchor and Senior correspondent with a leading national English news network specialising in international affairs. She contributes columns/ op-eds/blogs to leading national and international publications on matters of national security & foreign policy .She has most recently been honoured with the IDSA President's Award 2015 for her research paper on India's 1965 war with Pakistan and how it shaped the geo-politics of the south asian subcontinent. She is part of many emerging leaders for aincluding the New America Foundation's South Asia 2020 initiative, "The Asian Forum of Global Governance 2017 organised by the ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius, Germany and the Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi and was also among the first batch of Raisina Young Fellows participating in the annual Raisina Dialogue 2017. She is an alumni of St Xavier's College Calcutta, The Asian College of Journalism, Chennai and The Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy, SOAS, University of London.

SHIBANI MEHTA

Research Intern, IDSA



Shibani is an intern with the Military Affairs centre at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. She is a postgraduate in International Relations from the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Singapore. Her research interests lie in the conceptualization of violence and religiously-motivated extremist movements. While doing her Masters, she worked as a communication coach at the LCC CommCube, NTU. Shibani sees herself pursuing a doctoral degree in a couple of years.

NIKHIL RAJ AGGARWAL

Research Intern, IDSA



Nikhil is an intern with the Internal Security Centre at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. He holds a Masters degree in International Relations from the School of Social Sciences at the University of Manchester. He is currently researching on the use of language to define conflict and its impact on counter strategies. Before coming to IDSA, Nikhil worked and lived in Gabon, West Africa for a year, as a social impact analyst for an overall development project - GRAINE, of the Government of Gabon, which is working towards achieving the sustainable development goals, as defined by the United Nations.

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