

India's Nuclear Over-Ambitions

By: Saman Choudary



India is building a highly modernized nuclear city in Karnataka, the operational scope of which is expected to be wide and critical to serve the future nuclear weapon program. Since India is utilizing a mix energy solution for its power

generation, the building of an exclusive nuclear city is alarming and deserve attention.

This so-called civilian nuclear city is to be completed in 2017. The absence of stringent monitoring mechanism on peaceful nuclear technology would rather facilitate India in creating thermonuclear bombs. Furthermore, India's unfettered access to NSG and, a favorable status granted by Australia, Canada and the US has demonstrated that international community seeks to enhance India's regional power status thereby encouraging a nuclear arms race in the region.

Upon the completion of the nuclear city, it would stand as the largest military run complex in the sub-continent. The buildup of this city clearly indicates the motivations of India to build up an over ambitious triad of nuclear forces and will add to the already existing remarkable nuclear

portfolio. This city would further upgrade the status of India as a nuclear power. With respect to this development, India has not provided any account to the public as well as to the international community. The nuclear city build up could play a significant role in the generation of extra stockpile of enriched uranium fuel in order to be used for building hydrogen bombs.

The North Korean test of hydrogen bomb is an indication of developing trends of nuclear arms race and clearly defines the failure of nuclear diplomacy of the US and other members of the UNSC. The ensuing assessment shows pursuance of an offensive nuclear policy by North Korea and India.



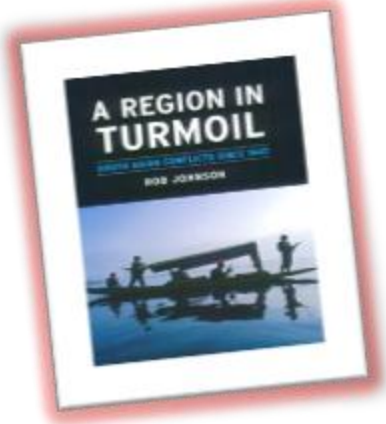
These Indian developments are alarming for the security of the region and would unsettle the Indian



neighbors creating the security dilemma for Pakistan and china. Pakistan and China would also take several counterproductive steps to contain these developments. The actions of India and the reaction of the neighboring states would fuel insecurities that could endanger the security of the South Asian region via nuclear arms buildup.

The Indian nuclear over ambition may well challenge the future of NPT and further erode the credibility of NPR. These ambitious developments by India are needed to be seriously looked upon and in order to ensure the stability of the region, Pakistan should uphold its nuclear developments for achieving effective deterrence Vis v India. Moreover, a stringent monitoring mechanism should be instituted by the international community to keep in check the Indian developments.

(New Addition to the Library)
A Region in Turmoil: South Asian Conflicts since 1947
By Rob Johnson



South Asia has been the setting for some of the century's most violent invasions, the Western world's bloodiest defeats, and a volatile geopolitical brew of religions, ethnicities, and nationalism that sends unsettling ripples through the global balance of power even today. *A Region in Turmoil* depicts the engrossing history of the individual conflicts that have engulfed the states of South Asia during the last half century. The book offers a new perspective on the area, drawing together the conflicts of South Asia and examining them in local and global contexts, from the end of the Western colonial empires through today's global efforts to combat terrorism. The twenty-first century opened with South Asia front and center on a turbulent political stage: the region is not only the designated frontline for the "war on terror" but also home to the newest nuclear powers, India and Pakistan. *A Region in Turmoil* addresses this critical contemporary crisis with an invaluable analysis of the region and its complex history, making it essential reading for historians, policymakers.

Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) Project: Viability for Pakistan

By: Sadaf Sultana



Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) or Trans-Afghanistan gas pipeline project was inaugurated on 13 December, 2015. The project is anticipated to achieve a milestone and alleviate energy deficits in South Asia. The key features of TAPI project includes trade promotion, peace building and help lessening tension in the region. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved 1.2 billion US dollars to strengthen the current energy projects in Afghanistan.

The construction of pipeline was started in 2010 and will be operational in 2019. When the pipeline will be completed, Turkmenistan will provide 1.1 trillion cubic feet of natural gas per year to Pakistan, Afghanistan and India for almost 30 years. The pipeline will not only transport gas

but will also be linking regions with unending border disputes and geo-political conflict – for instance, Kashmir dispute between Pakistan and India, as well as the conflict over the Durand Line that divides Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Ostensibly, the TAPI project is aimed to enhance economic cooperation between the signatories. For Pakistan, it is vital to participate in an energy related strategic project, so it could benefit in the fields of energy, natural gas and electricity. In reality, the completion of gas pipeline would help Pakistan meeting 1.3 billion cubic feet gas annual requirement from this project. Importantly, it will further add clean fuel, and thus help fulfilling 70% energy needs of Pakistan, while saving almost 1 billion \$ per year.



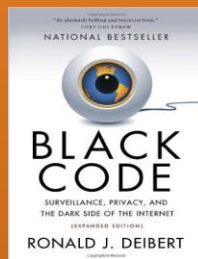
This project will contribute to socio-economic development of millions of people. Hence, the TAPI project holds strategic significance for all the stakeholders including Pakistan. The economic dividend of the project would ultimately transform the territory from Quetta to Multan, which in turn would grant Pakistan a lead role in negotiating the strategic issues in South Asia and beyond.

This project will help to eliminate load shedding and stimulate the development of certain other sectors of the economy. Through this project, Pakistan will become one of the four designers of the construction in the region of hydrocarbons infrastructure, which opens up an entirely new chapter of economic, political and military co-existence in the region. It confirms Pakistan's viability as a leading state to guarantee the supply of hydrocarbons to the country on consistance basis. TAPI project will help Pakistan to achieve the status of regional leader, managing to virtually unify Afghanistan, Pakistan and India in order to participate in a single energy project, ahead of the launch of a similar hydrocarbon project from Iran, following the lifting of international sanctions against Iran.

(New Addition to the Library)
***Black Code: Surveillance, Privacy, and the
Dark Side of the Internet***

By Ronald J. Deibert

Black Code takes readers on a fascinating journey into the battle for cyberspace. Ronald jots down the revelations of the Citizen Lab, regarding an espionage network affecting more than 100 countries. The investigation of Citizen Lab lifts the lid on the future contest in cyberspace. Ronald elaborates the multiplying forms of control hidden beneath the surface of internet and explains that how various powerful agents are competing for state and corporate control. The author argues that state cyber warfare is now a very real possibility along with the growing role of predatory cyber-criminal gangs that have made social media a stalking ground. Black code draws on first-hand experience of the citizen lab to illustrate that Governments and corporations are in collusion and are setting the rules of the road behind closed doors. It calls the readers to understand the game of big data and to act before the time slips through the grasp of internet users via the approach of distributed security and stewardship.



Reviving Afghan Peace Process

By Ali Rauf Jaswal

The Four Nation Consultations for immediate talks between Afghan Government and Taliban held in Islamabad on Jan 12, 2016, is a major step forward towards Peace Process in Afghanistan. Representatives from Pakistan, Afghanistan, U.S. and China participated in the Consultations. The delegation anonymously

agreed to resume the stalled dialogue between Afghan Government and Taliban.

International Community, specifically U.S. and China, is endeavoring hard to resume the Peace Talks between Afghan Government and Taliban, that was suspended after having few sessions between the two parties in July 2015 in Murree, due to the sudden emergence of a news revealing Mullah Omar's death couple of years ago. The talks were facilitated by Pakistan while China and U.S. participated as observers.



India has a very strong monopoly within the Afghan Regime and NDS. It has been reported that a faction of Afghan Security establishment is purportedly responsible for leaking the news of Mullah Omer's death at that moment in order to sabotage the whole process. India played a key role in damaging the Peace Process as India has invested huge stakes in

Afghanistan and because of its geo-strategic importance, it is trying to establish its own sphere of influence over the Afghan soil.

General Raheel's recent visits to U.S. and Afghanistan are of vital importance in terms of Peace Process in Afghanistan. Installation of peace and stability in Afghanistan is extremely important for Obama administration. President Obama pledged the withdrawal of forces and establishment of democracy in Iraq and Afghanistan during his election campaign. Moreover, when he took the office only Afghanistan and Iraq were going



through a vulnerable turmoil while contrary to stabilize Iraq and Afghanistan the entire Middle East has undergone a stern unrest.

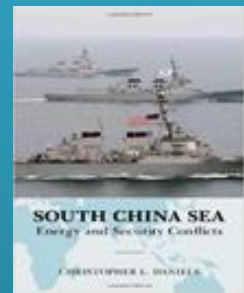
Pakistan has a key role in bringing the two parties to the negotiations. Pakistan still has considerable influence over the Taliban Leadership. U.S. and China has acknowledged the significant role of Pakistan in this regard and therefore pressing it hard to smooth the way for a peaceful Afghanistan. Furthermore, the peace and stability in Afghanistan is compulsory not only for the prosperity and stability of Pakistan, in fact it's a necessity for the Regional Peace and Security.

The next round of meeting will be held on 18th January in Kabul that will further consolidate the Afghan peace process

through the involvement of Quadrilateral Coordination Group (QCG) and the fate of the direct talks with the Taliban leadership as there is a divide between the groups on their representation in the future meeting.

(New Addition to the Library)
South China Sea: Energy and Security Conflicts
By Christopher L. Daniels

In South China Sea: Energy and Security Conflicts, foreign policy analyst Christopher L. Daniels analyzes the core causes of the dispute over territorial claims in the South China Sea, which separates some of the world's fastest-growing economies. Starting with the question of access to the billions of barrels of oil and trillions of cubic feet of natural gas presently thought to lie beneath the region's territorial waters and islands, Daniels considers the race for resources and military dominance along with the rapidly increasing domestic demand for electricity and industrial output of the regional players. Christopher takes on such troubling questions as the impact of this conflict on global oil and gas prices; China's growth both economically and as a regional military hegemon; and the recent, often rocky, international efforts to mediate the conflict. In addition to policy recommendations for peaceful resolutions to this emerging international challenge, the book includes maps, graphs, primary sources, and overviews of key players, individual and institutional in what may well be the next great conflict in East Asia.



PAKISTAN HOUSE

An Independent Institute of International & Cultural Affairs



Head Office

House No. 9-B, Street 12,
F-7/2, Islamabad,
Pakistan

info@pakistanhouse.net

Phone: +92 51 8732287 Fax: +92 51 8732286

