

Dear Sir/ Madam,

You will be pleased to know that the Deptt. of Defence and National Security Studies, P.U. Chandigarh is organizing two day National Seminar on “**Emerging Security Scenario in AF-Pak Region: Implications for India**” in collaboration with ICSSR North-Western Regional Centre, Panjab University, Chandigarh on 9th & 10th March 2016.

The sub-themes of the seminar are:

1. Geopolitical and Geostrategic Significance of the Af-Pak region.
2. Security problems of the Af-Pak region – The Non-Traditional dimensions.
3. Afghanistan, Pakistan and their neighbourhood – past, present and future.
4. India’s stakes and security concerns in the Af-Pak region.
5. U.S., Af-Pak Region and Global War on Terror (G.W.O.T.); Implications on Regional Peace, Security and Stability.
6. Any other topic related to the main theme

We shall be highly grateful if you could give your consent for participation and contribute your views on any of the sub-themes mentioned above. The department will look after your hospitality needs during your stay in the university. It is also requested that the same may please be circulated amongst the Faculty Members and Research Scholars of your institution/department. Brochure giving details about the seminar is also attached herewith.

With Warm Regards

Dr. Jaskaran Singh Waraich

Chairperson Department of Defence and National Security Studies (DDNSS)

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**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE AND NATIONAL SECURITY STUDIES
PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH**

Organizes

National Seminar on “Emerging Security Scenario in AF-Pak Region: Implications for India”

(In Collaboration with ICSSR North-Western Regional Centre, Panjab University, Chandigarh)

(9th – 10th March 2016)

CONCEPT NOTE

In the aftermath of 9/11, Afghanistan & Pakistan came into focus in US Coalition led Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) and Islamic Fundamentalism. The volatile region in which this war is being fought is usually referred to as Af-Pak region.

A new phase in the history of this region began in the light of these developments, which brought this region once again in the limelight. The then Pakistan regime choose to sideline (or at least seemed to sideline) the Taliban and side with US by providing full support to them in conduct of their military operations. Today after around one and an half decade of the commencement of war on terror related operations in this theatre, peace still remains a mirage.

The geographic location of this region makes it an area of immense strategic importance. To its north are the resource-rich central Asian republics, to its east is China and India, towards its west is Iran and lastly towards its south are the global oil supply routes emerging from the Persian Gulf through the Strait of Hormuz and merging into the Arabian Sea.

Trends in the recent past suggest that the various nations, including the US, China, India, Russia, Iran etc., will continue to play a dominant role in this region due to the their strategic compulsions. These nations are engaged in a competition to overshadow each other in their role and influence over the Af-Pak region so that their respective national interests are secured. The eyes of the whole world remains fixed on this region in anticipation of how the future of this region will unfold.

India being in immediate neighborhood of this turbulent region has vital security concerns and serious stakes in this region. Keeping this fact into consideration, India has actively been involved in re-building war-torn Afghanistan by providing substantial aid and implementing major infrastructural projects in that country. With Pakistan, India

shares a vast land border which starts from the state of J & K and stretches till Arabian Sea in the south. India's relations with Pakistan have been in a state of constant flux. Despite having fought four wars with Pakistan and being a victim of proxy war/ state sponsored terrorism for more than two decades, India has always tried to improve and establish friendly relations with Pakistan.

The relationship between regional peace and economic progress are well known. No nation can remain isolated from the prevailing circumstances/environment in the neighbourhood. The frontier states in the north-western part of India share a long border with Pakistan. Any adverse development in the Af-Pak region has direct or indirect bearing on these states. Thus it becomes pertinent for us to carefully monitor and influence the security environment of this region. The degree of conventional and sub-conventional threats that India faces would be inversely proportional to the political and internal stability of the Af-Pak region.

OBJECTIVES

1. To highlight the historical and geostrategic significance of Af-Pak region.
2. To discuss the role of extraneous powers in the new great game of the Af-Pak region.
3. To bring out the emerging security trends in that region and its impact on regional peace, security and stability.
4. To visualize security scenario in Af-Pak region post I.S.A.F. withdrawal.
5. To examine the impact of the ever-growing security turmoil in this region on the North-Western region of India.
6. To generate fresh ideas and to evolve policy options for securing India's interests in the Af-Pak region.

SUB-THEMES OF THE SEMINAR:

1. Geopolitical and Geostrategic Significance of the Af-Pak region.
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4. India's stakes and security concerns in the Af-Pak region.
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Important Dates

Abstract Submission &
Participation Confirmation Deadline: till 15th January, 2016
Full Paper Submission Deadline: 10th February, 2016
Conference: 9th – 10th March, 2016

Abstract Submission

Abstract not more than 500 words, should be submitted as per the deadline.

Submission of full length Research Paper

The Seminar invites original theoretical and empirical research papers. The paper should be typed in Times New Roman, font size 12 with 1.5 line spacing and the title in 16 font size and should also include the abstract and brief bio-data of paper presenter. APA style should be strictly followed for references. All selected papers will be published in Seminar proceedings (with ISBN).

The full paper should be of 3000 to 5000 words.

The paper should be sent by email to:

dnssnationalseminar2016@gmail.com

dnssnationalseminar2016@yahoo.in

Registration fee:

Faculty Members/ Research Scholars with Fellowship Rs. 1000/-
Students/ Research Scholars without Fellowship Rs. 500/-

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The Program detail will be sent to the confirming participants through email.