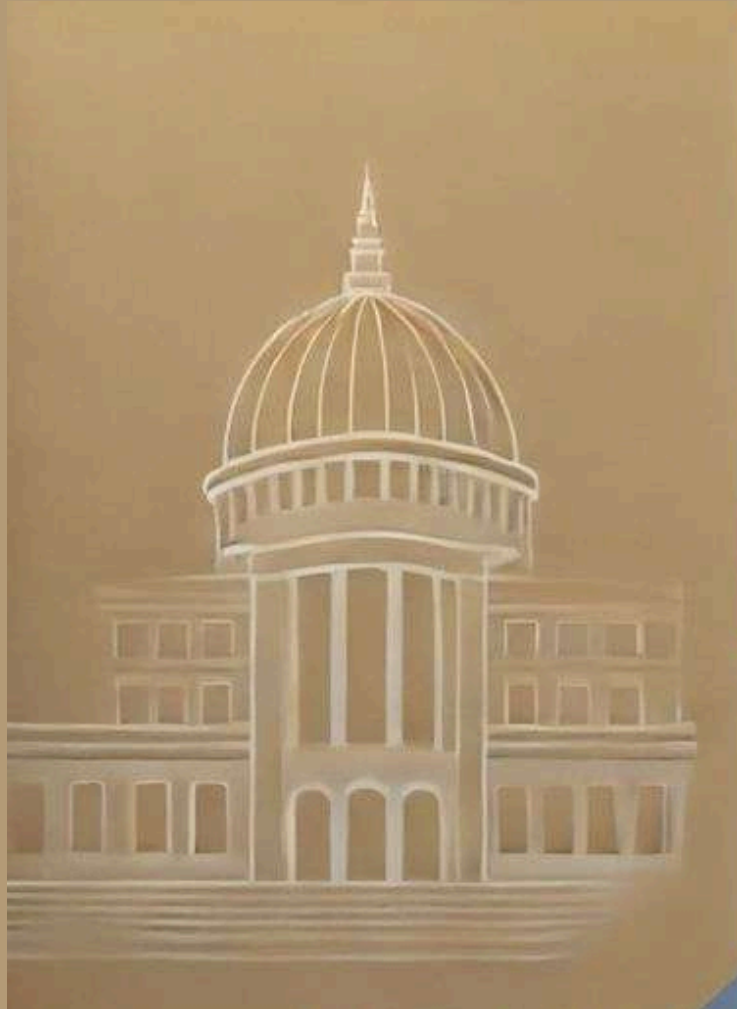




University Of The Punjab

THE POLITICAL PULSE

Department of Political Science Official
E-Magazine



**1ST
EDITION**

May 2025



DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE



New Campus. Punjab University, Lahore, Pakistan

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The Grand Aspiration

Political Pulse is a dynamic e-magazine that features informed political discourse, critical analysis, and thought-provoking discussions. Our mission is to provide readers with insightful commentary, in-depth analysis, and diverse perspectives on local, national, and international political affairs. We strive to promote a well-informed citizenry by delivering fact-based, unbiased, and intellectually stimulating content.

1

To enhance public understanding of key political issues, policies, and governance structures

2

To provide a platform for diverse political opinions and scholarly insights that encourage healthy debate and critical thinking.

3

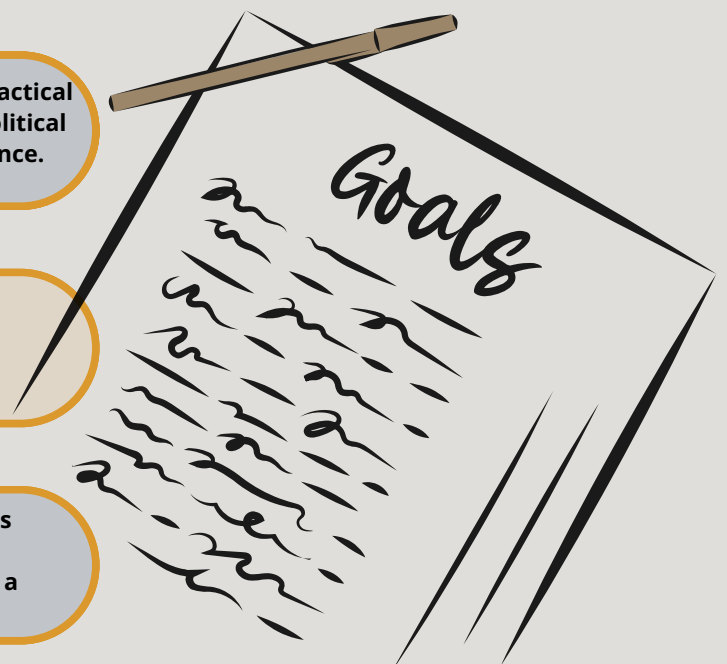
To connect academic research with practical policy discussions, making complex political theories accessible to a broader audience.

4

To bring forward perspectives from marginalized communities, fostering inclusivity and a holistic approach to political analysis.

5

Use modern digital tools and platforms to create engaging and interactive political content and effectively reach a global audience.



MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR

I would like to wholeheartedly congratulate the Department of Political Science on its new initiative of launching Political Pulse. I believe this English electronic magazine will be an indispensable tool for academic engagement, critique, debate, and so much more. I, as the President of this initiative, wish to appreciate the department for creating a niche where students, scholars, and even policymakers can interact with modern-day political and social phenomena. The University of the Punjab has always been the leader of the pack in academics and research. Political Pulse encompasses such vision by enabling an instantaneously responsive forum for the exchange of ideas that integrates the gap between the two and encourages scholarly writing on both national and international issues.

A magazine of such nature with the scope of covering policy and governance will undoubtedly provide beneficial perspectives that are needed to address the many scholarly issues in the world today. To the readers, contributors, and the editorial team of Political Pulse, I wish you and cherish every moment brought forth by this new initiative. I hope this step is continuously taken forward to help foster constructive critique, discourse, and help advance the realm of political science and other constituents of such an intricate field.



PROF.DR.MUHAMMAD ALI

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN FACULTY OF BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

I'm serving as the Dean of the Faculty of Behavioral and Social Sciences at the University of the Punjab, a prestigious institution renowned for its commitment to academic excellence, intellectual growth, and global development. The faculty of department of Political Science is dedicated to fostering a culture of critical thinking, innovation, and creativity. As a Professor of Political Science I emphasize a holistic approach to education, combining rigorous academic inquiry with practical engagement and community outreach. The main goal of Political Pulse Magazine is to equip students with the necessary knowledge, skills, and values to navigate the complexities of an ever-changing world. The Department of Political Science, a flagship department of its faculty, continues to play a vital role in shaping critical thinkers and future leaders. Students and professors at the Department of Political Science are consistently advancing their research, contributing to policy, and succeeding professionally, which highlights our goal of creating an academic community that is both intellectually stimulating and socially conscious. I encourage you to take advantage of the many educational opportunities offered by our teachers, participate in stimulating conversations, and help create a more knowledgeable society and forward-thinking.



PROF.DR.IRAM KHALID

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT

Political Pulse is an electronic magazine dedicated to engaging your mind and facilitating meaningful debates on important political, economic, security, geographical, climate change, and other social issues. I am greatly excited to introduce it. This magazine is more than just a publication. It is a forum where your ideas, analysis, and perspectives can lead and participate in debates, help frame opinions, and bring a more comprehensive understanding of the world. As students of political science and other fields, you are uniquely placed to relate to current issues, voice your opinion, and polish your writing and research skills. I urge all of you to contribute, be it in the form of articles, opinion pieces, fiction, book reviews, policy analysis, or interviews. Doing so will enhance the magazine's strength while simultaneously giving you academic and professional benefits.



PROF.DR.Rana Eijaz Ahmad

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Dear Readers,

It is with great enthusiasm that I welcome you to Political Pulse, our university's premier e-magazine dedicated to political discourse, analysis, and thought leadership. As the Editor-in-Chief, I am honored to lead a platform that amplifies student voices, nurtures critical thinking, and engages with the pressing political issues of our time. In an era where politics shapes every aspect of our lives, Political Pulse strives to provide insightful perspectives, well-researched articles, and thought-provoking debates. Whether you are passionate about international affairs, governance, policy-making, or political theory, this magazine serves as a space for intellectual exploration and meaningful dialogue. I encourage you to contribute your ideas, challenge perspectives, and be an active part of this growing community. Let Political Pulse be the medium where your voice is heard, your opinions are respected, and your insights inspire change.



Prof. Dr. Rana Eijaz Ahmad

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-FOUNDER

During a faculty meeting of the Department of Political Science, the Head of Department, Professor Dr. Rana Eijaz Ahmad, proposed the title **Political Pulse** for the department's official e-magazine—a suggestion that was met with unanimous and enthusiastic approval from the faculty. It was collectively recognized that there was a pressing need to provide students with a platform to express their thoughts, creativity, and intellectual insights. Our department has long been home to passionate and thoughtful individuals, and it was time their voices found a broader audience. Motivated by this vision, I took the initiative to bring Political Pulse to life — not just as a magazine, but as a vibrant platform for student expression.

As the co-founder, I feel deeply honored to witness the efforts of the editorial team, contributors, and faculty members in bringing this vision to life. A special thanks to our respected Head of Department, **Prof. Dr. Rana Eijaz Ahmad**, whose constant support and belief in student potential made this possible.

Let this magazine be more than just a publication — let it be a movement, a tradition, and a reflection of our collective commitment to academic excellence and civic responsibility. Wishing Political Pulse continued success in the years ahead.



Malika Shahzadi

FACULTY DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE



Prof. Dr. Rana Ejaz Ahmad
Chairman



Prof. Dr. Iram Khalid
Dean / Professor



Dr. Hasan Askari Rizvi
Professor Emeritus



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The Political Pulse



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Dr. Gulshan Majeed
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Associate Professor



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Mr. Ahmad Ali Naqvi
Lecturer

POLITICAL PULSE

Editorial & Design Leadership



President
Professor Dr. Muhammad Ali
VC



Patron in Chief
Professor Dr Iram Khalid,
Dean



Editor-in-Chief
Prof. Rana Ejaz Ahmad
Chairman



Managing Editor- in-Chief
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POLITICAL PULSE

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Riqqa



Sana Murtaza



Maryam Masood



Ali Khan



Qamar Shahzad



M.Hamza



Menahil Nadeem



Gultuba



Faeza Ashraf



Nawa Abbas



Haleema Ali Khawaja



Symbol of Excellence Department's Official Logo

The Department of Political Science is proud to introduce its official logo. The logo is a celebration of the rich heritage and legacy of the department, honoring the foundational work of those who came before. It represents a strong connection to the past, acknowledging the achievements, knowledge, and values that have shaped the department over time. This design serves as a tribute to the land where it exists and the department's commitment to preserving its traditions while continuing to inspire the next generation of thinkers, leaders, and changemakers. Logo signifies..



The triangle at the top represents stability and ambition, like the peak of a mountain. It signifies the pursuit of excellence and higher knowledge, encapsulating the department's aim to elevate students to the pinnacle of intellectual and leadership capability.



The two hands form a protective or supportive gesture, symbolizing the nurturing and guidance provided by the Department of Political Science. These hands represent the department's role in shaping and fostering the next generation of thinkers, leaders, and change makers. Emphasize the department's commitment to supporting students as they grow into individuals who will take responsibility for future societal and political advancements



Equal gender representation as the pillar of a society, forming a bridge that unites the nation. Symbolizing the department's commitment to fostering inclusivity and unity, key to shaping tomorrow's thinkers and leaders who embrace diverse perspectives.



The characters in traditional Punjabi attire reflect the department's deep connection to regional heritage, while staying relevant in a globalized world. They symbolize the department's vision to create change makers who are rooted in their culture yet equipped to lead on the global stage



Inspired by the Punjab Assembly's seats, this design highlights the department's role in nurturing the future leaders and policymakers. Just as these seats host decision-makers of today, the department molds students into critical thinkers and leaders prepared to govern tomorrow's world.



The five lines represent Punjab's five rivers, signifying the department's commitment to shaping political scientists who understand the geopolitical, economic, and governance impact of local resources. These rivers symbolize key themes like territorial integrity, resource management, and policy-making, all vital for creating the leaders and change makers of tomorrow.



The "ME" emphasizes individuality, resonating with the department's mission to shape students into thoughtful individuals. Through critical self-reflection and personal growth, these individuals evolve into impactful thinkers and leaders, ready to influence the future.



The "equals two" symbol illustrates the consequences of individual actions, mirroring the department's philosophy that every decision leads to outcomes that shape the world. This represents how the department equips its students to foresee and influence the outcomes of their leadership and policy-making decisions, shaping them into tomorrow's change makers



The two lines symbolize the actions of individuals and their ripple effect on society. The department instills in its students the understanding that Individual actions can lead to collective change, empowering them to become agents of transformation in tomorrow's world



Wheat, symbolizing growth and prosperity, also speaks to the department's role in cultivating intellectual harvests. By fostering knowledge and critical thinking, the department ensures students grow into the change makers of tomorrow.



The shield symbolizes protection, strength, and academic tradition, signifying the department's role in safeguarding knowledge and fostering intellectual rigor. The structure at the top of the shield resembles a historical building, representing the University of the Punjab's rich legacy and its role as a foundation for learning. This symbol reflects the department's commitment to upholding its prestigious history while preparing students to become the intellectual leaders and policy-makers of the future.



Both the Form and Color Pallet are a modern adaptation of the original University of the Punjab's Logo.

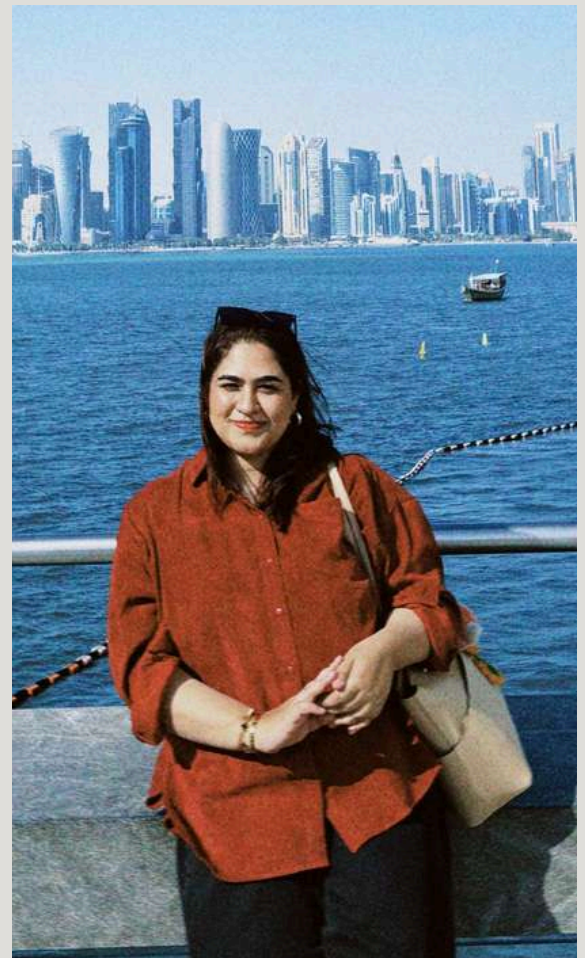


Symbol of Excellence Department's Official Logo

The Department of Political Science at the University of the Punjab is excited to unveil its official logo, a visual identity that encapsulates the essence of our academic vision, values, and commitment to excellence. This logo serves as a symbol of our department's dedication to fostering critical thinking, intellectual growth, and scholarly discourse in the field of political science.

The logo was thoughtfully designed by **Asma Tanvir**, a multidisciplinary artist and designer trained at the National College of Arts (NCA). Known for her innovative approach to design, Asma skillfully blends tradition with modernity, creating visuals that are not only striking but also deeply meaningful. Her work on the department's logo reflects our core values and aspirations, while visually representing the dynamic and evolving nature of political science.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Asma for her artistic excellence and creative vision in bringing our department's identity to life. Her contribution is a reflection of the innovation and passion that define our academic community. We encourage everyone to embrace the new logo as a symbol of our collective journey in academic excellence and intellectual engagement.



Asma Tanvir
Multidisciplinary Artist and Designer

Official Website Department of Political Science



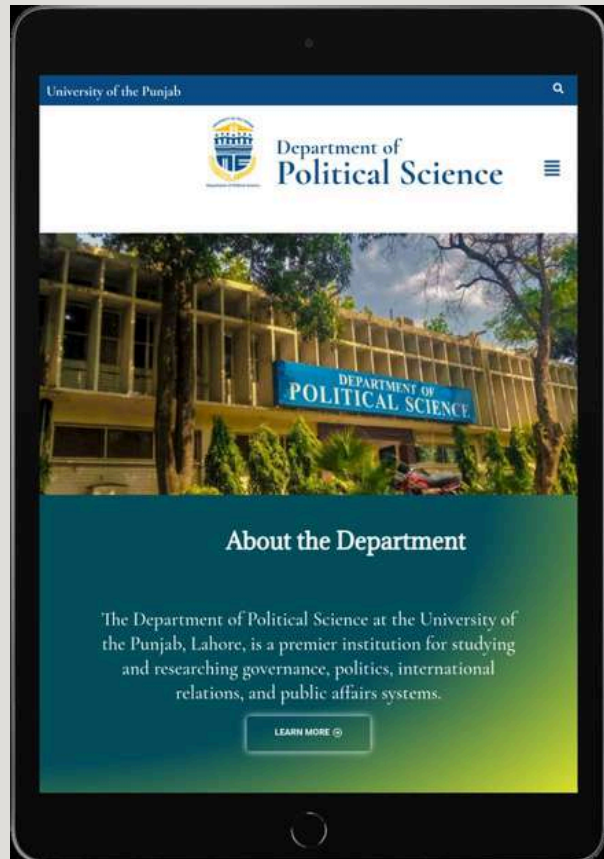
politicalsciencepu.pk

The **Department of Political Science** at the **University of the Punjab** is pleased to announce the launch of its official website, a comprehensive digital platform designed to serve as a one-stop hub for students, researchers, and faculty members. This initiative marks a significant step forward in enhancing accessibility to departmental resources, reflecting our commitment to academic excellence and research in political science. The **website** provides an in-depth overview of our vision and mission, emphasizing our dedication to fostering critical thinking and scholarly discourse. It features detailed faculty profiles, showcasing their expertise and research contributions, and a dedicated section for publications, including research papers, books, and scholarly articles. Additionally, students can stay informed about the latest departmental news, events, and academic activities.



Hamza Zafar
Web Developer

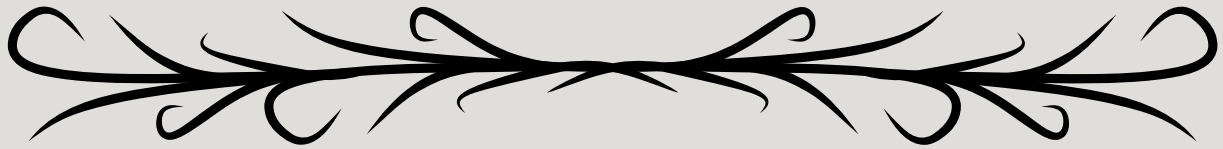
hz5059134@gmail.com



This milestone has been made possible through the tireless efforts of **Hamza Zafar**, a talented student who voluntarily designed and developed the website with great dedication. Under the guidance of **Prof. Dr. Rana Ejaz Ahmed**, Head of the Department, his work reflects the innovative spirit and commitment to academic progress that our department fosters.

We encourage students, faculty, and researchers to explore the website and benefit from this digital initiative. Stay connected with us as we continue to grow and evolve in the field of political science.

SUBMISSIONS





The Strategic Role of UAVs in Modern Warfare: Where does Pakistan stand?

Sundas Maqbool is Mphil Scholar at University of Lahore Sargodha Campus. She is currently serving as lawyer at District Bar Association Sargodha. The author is a contributor of numerous English and Urdu-language national and international publications

National security has been Pakistan's primary concern since its founding. Pakistan's path as an independent nation began with a sense of unease and a perceived danger from India, its rival and dominant neighbor. Decision-makers in Pakistan have always seen India's greater military and economic might as a serious danger to Pakistan's territorial integrity. Two interconnected forces have shaped Pakistan's foreign policy: the desire to strike a strategic balance with India and the existential threat from India. Since both India and Pakistan relied on traditional war fighting to accomplish their objectives, it has overshadowed their military conflicts. Nationalism has been the driving cause behind the struggle between the two nations from their inception. During the time of conflict, the Pakistan Army made an excellent use of both conventional forces and operational art. Kinetic and non-kinetic use of force in cyberspace is made possible by the expanded capabilities of armed forces. Operations in the new nonlinear and indefinite hybrid cyber battle space are made possible by the capabilities of the cyber era. Decision-makers, actors, and all kinds of manned and unmanned platforms in the air, on the ground, beneath the ground, in space, and cyberspace must be seamlessly integrated. Networking, time compression, data growth, the spread of autonomous and robotic systems, artificial intelligence, and cognitive computing are the primary developments transforming the cyber battlefield. In essence, the main responsibility of the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) is to support the army in any manner it can to accomplish its goal of dominance over Indian forces. To achieve this, however, the PAF must first establish a high level of air superiority over the land war regions and be well prepared to do so. Pakistan Air Force is working on

advancement in technologies while also working to improve existing systems. One of the main components of Pakistan's defence production strategy is rebuilding. The necessity for cost reductions in modernizing military equipment is what drives the refurbishment of weapons platforms and their internal electronic organs. The progressive plan for military technology development incorporates the rebuilding program. The T-series upgrade, coproduction, and indigenization strategy serve as the best examples of this strategy. Air Force engineers, mostly graduated from the College of Aeronautical Engineering, are serving at Pakistan Aeronautical Complex (PAC), Kamra.. Various types of specialized training are provided to the remaining Air Force employees, who are primarily technicians and tradesmen with expertise in working on engines, airframes, and avionics. In contrast, the civilians are enrolled in internal training programs. Basic skills are developed through on-the-job training programs at every Kamra factory. Employees here receive one-year training in skills including welding and testing methods. Chosen civilian employees are sponsored to study for engineering degrees at nearby polytechnics. Pakistan Air Force is equipped with the latest technologies and is working to improve them day by day. China has consistently helped Pakistan strengthen its military capabilities. In addition to providing Pakistan with UAVs, China has assisted Pakistan in developing its Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAVs). Unmanned Aerial Vehicle, or UAV for short, is an aircraft that does not have a pilot on board. UAVs can fly autonomously using pre-programmed flight plans or more intricate dynamic automation systems, or they can be remote-controlled aircraft (piloted by a pilot at a

ground control station, for example). Although UAVs are most frequently linked to military purposes, they are also utilized for a variety of other purposes, including firefighting, traffic monitoring, weather monitoring, search and rescue, and surveillance. The role of UAV aircraft has been eye-catching since 2014. UAV and counter-UAV operations have taken on a completely new dimension as a result of the conflict in eastern Ukraine from 2014 to 2016. There are several private or amateur UAVs operating in the battle in addition to drones with military-grade encryption and electronic defence requirements. Future operations battling hybrid threats will face both possibilities and difficulties as a result of this. With a variety of uses ranging from entertainment to border enforcement, surveillance, and research, UAVs are quickly becoming ubiquitous, which poses an indirect threat to security and safety. The public's unsupervised usage of drones raises several concerns, from privacy invasion to potentially fatal circumstances like failing to stay out of restricted airspace. Numerous attributes, such as role, range, weight, endurance, maximum altitude, wing loading, engine type, etc., can be used to categorize the wide range of UAVs. Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition, and Reconnaissance (ISTAR), Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle (UCAV), multipurpose, radar and communication relay, airborne delivery and resupply, and research and development are the military areas categorized by role. Unmanned aerial vehicles, a ground control station (CGS), and a communication link, which is typically utilized to conduct communications across various UAV system entities are the three primary components of an unmanned aerial vehicle system. The human element is at the center of a complex sociotechnical system that is represented by military operations utilizing unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), referred to as "drones. "Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) are "valuable assets in achieving a variety of strategic, operational, and tactical objectives, including kinetic-strike operations and ISR [intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance] missions. "Drones and remotely piloted vehicles (RPVs) are two further classifications for UAVs. The easiest way to describe a drone is as "an autonomous and



An automatic pilotless aircraft that carries at least a mechanism to sustain stable flight or its course will be programmed in some way." An RPV, on the other hand, is defined as "a pilotless aircraft that transmits mission-related data to a remote controller and reacts to its command and inputs." UAVs are used in Intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) missions to gather and distribute real-time data using high-resolution sensors for target identification and battlefield awareness at tactical and strategic levels. Examples of ISR include theater ISR, portable ISR systems, and small unit ISR. UAVs use their payload to engage a target in the attack role. Air-to-air and air-to-ground attacks, reactive or preemptive attacks, SEAD/DEAD (Suppression or Destruction of Enemy Air Defense) attacks, and other tactics are examples of attack missions.: UAVs are employed in combat support missions for training, fire support to ground troops, electronic attacks, communication relay, delay, early warning, and jamming. Many aspects of Pakistan's defence-industrial paradigm are suitable for developing nations' economic conditions. In the first place, it saves money. The acquisition of expensive foreign weaponry systems is not prioritized in the model unless it is necessary from a strategic standpoint. Rather, we have encouraged technological cooperation with other 'South' arms manufacturers, especially China and Turkey. Another aspect of Pakistan's defense industrial model has been rebuilding. Some developed nations are increasingly adopting this strategy, which aims to prolong the life of current weaponry systems while simultaneously saving money.



Let Afghan Girls Learn

Pashtana Murad is a writer and student based in Baluchistan. A student of MPhil Political Science at the University of Punjab, she writes for The Nation newspaper. Her interests lie in political analysis and social issues.

“Afghan women and girls deserve to be able to access safe spaces to learn, to be able to dream of bright, successful careers, and to have control over their futures”

Charles Davy, Afghanaid's Managing Director.

Since the Taliban took over in August 2021, women in Afghanistan have been facing various issues. According to the Global Gender Gap Report 2023, Afghanistan is at the lowest rank in terms of gender gap. Women in Afghanistan are bearing the brunt of the repressive rule of the Taliban, well exemplified in their policies towards this marginalized class of society. They have been subjected to various repressions and human rights violations, including a ban on women's education, restrictions on the freedom of movement and employment, suppression of their voices, health care issues, and political exclusivity. Such treatment has further deteriorated the situation of women in an already war-torn country. The Taliban have stripped women of even their basic right to education at all levels. The schools, colleges, and universities have been closed by the Taliban in all parts of the country. Depriving half of the population of their due right to education is likely to have serious repercussions on the lives of Afghan women, thereby impacting their social and economic role in society. Besides this, the Taliban have also restricted the free movement of Afghan women. A woman is forbidden to travel without a male member of the family accompanying her. Many women have been severely punished for doing otherwise. According to a report, the Taliban even warned the taxi drivers not to take a woman not accompanied by a male. Apart from this,

The Taliban have also restricted employment opportunities for women. Women are not allowed to do outside jobs. The beauty salons of the women have been closed by the Taliban, which resulted in the loss of about 60,000 women-owned businesses. This has further contributed to the economic crisis of Afghanistan, which is already in the doldrums. According to the International Labour Organization Report, female employment in Afghanistan fell 25 % in 2022 as compared to the previous years. This is very problematic not only at a social level but at the monetary level as well, as many women have lost the breadwinners of their families in the last two decades, owing to the war in Afghanistan by the Taliban. The political repression has continued against women in Afghanistan. Not a single woman is a member of the cabinet. Female journalists are also a soft target for the Taliban. About 80% of the women journalists between August 2021 to August 2023 have stopped working. Those still managing to work cover their faces in public. The Taliban have closed the “Hamisha Bahar Radio and TV” in Jalalabad, Nangarhar province, for holding journalism training workshops for males and females. Furthermore, the women have also been deprived of their right to protest and are subject to violence by the Taliban if found doing otherwise. According to the Amnesty International Report, female protestors have been tortured, arrested, detained, and forcibly disappeared.



The new draconian law “Promote Virtue and Prevent Vice” has been implemented in Afghanistan. The law aims to impose strict rules upon women according to their vision of Islam. The law states that a woman's voice must not be heard in public and she cannot recite poetry aloud. This law has further suppressed the voices of the women. After the Taliban take over, the women have also been facing various healthcare issues. The healthcare system in Afghanistan is on the verge of collapse and the scarcity of health facilities for women has further deteriorated women's health. The lack of access to essential health care has led to various diseases among women. The Taliban have also prohibited women from attending nursing courses. According to UN estimates, every two hours an Afghan woman dies during pregnancy or childbirth due to poor health facilities and the early marriage culture of the region. In addition, the ban on the use of contraceptives by the Taliban in 2023 further caused fatal consequences to women. Since the Taliban took over Kabul, many women have been facing psychological issues such as depression. This has led to an increase in the suicide rates among Afghan women.



According to a Washington report, in 2023, around 80 percent of the suicides in Afghanistan were committed by women. The United Nations has failed to prevent the widespread women's rights violations in Afghanistan. The United Nations has failed to prevent the widespread women's rights violations in Afghanistan. The UN's efforts to engage the Taliban have met with little success. The third round of talks conducted by the UN was held in 2024 in Doha with the participation of Afghanistan and 30 other countries. The Taliban were not included in the first set of talks held in May 2023 and then refused an invitation to the second round held in February 2024. The main agenda was to ensure human rights especially women's rights in Afghanistan. However, the UN's efforts to engage the Taliban have met with little success. The continuous women's rights violations in Afghanistan need serious attention from the international community and the global actors. There is a dire need to engage the Taliban diplomatically. And only through diplomatic means, the Taliban can be persuaded to ensure the fundamental rights of Afghan women in Afghanistan.



Social Media and its Impact on Political Campaigns

Isha Hamid is a student of International Relations at Punjab University, Lahore. She has a passion for writing on social, political, and developmental issues and has contributed articles to various platforms. She regularly takes part in academic competitions and youth initiatives.

Social media has transformed political campaigns, making it a key tool for politicians. Campaigns that were once confined to TV debates, newspapers, ads, and rallies now thrive on platforms like Facebook, Instagram, X, and TikTok, where voters engage, shape opinions, and mobilize support. The shift, on the one hand, has boosted political awareness but also raised concerns about misinformation, digital manipulation, and its impacts on democracy on the other. The shift from traditional media to digital media has reshaped the strategies of the campaign. Unlike TV ads and newspapers, social media allowed politicians to communicate their party's manifestos and strategies directly to the voters, bypassing traditional gatekeepers. Barack Obama's 2008 campaign marked a turning point, employing social media to engage young voters helping him secure 66% of the youth vote and raise record-breaking funds online. Since then, politicians globally have embraced social media as a cost-effective, far-reaching tool to shape public opinion. Social media has redefined voter mobilization, enabling politicians to engage diverse demographics, especially younger voters who consume less traditional news. The 2020 U.S. elections saw a record of voter turnout, driven in part by digital canvassing, influencer advocacy, and micro targeted ads. In Bangladesh, social media has also played a pivotal role in youth led movements. With live videos, Q&As, and direct engagement, campaigns have become more dynamic and participatory, making digital platforms an essential tool in modern political strategy. The impact of social media on elections can be better understood through recent case studies, where digital platforms have played a decisive role in shaping voter behaviour. United States (2024 Elections): Donald Trump and

Kamala Harris strategically leveraged social media to mobilize supporters, counter opposition narratives, and dominate public discourse. Their digital campaigns emphasized direct engagement, rapid response strategies, and targeted messages to voter perception.¹ Pakistan (2024 Elections): Social media emerged as a key battleground, with political parties using viral trends, digital activism, and aggressive online campaigns to sway public sentiment. While social media enhances political outreach, it also enables the rapid spread of misleading content. Political campaigns use data-driven targeting, sometimes blurring the line between engagement and manipulation. The 2016 U.S. elections saw concerns over digital interference, while India's elections have also faced issues of misinformation shaping public sentiment. As technology advances, social media's role in elections will deepen. AI, deepfake technology, and predictive analytics, allowing highly personalized messaging. However, these innovations also raise ethical concerns regarding privacy and fake information. Like wildfire, unchecked digital influence can spread rapidly, shaping narratives beyond control. Ensuring transparency and accountability in digital campaigns will be crucial in preserving democratic integrity. Social media has become a cornerstone of modern political campaigns, amplifying voices, and mobilizing movement while also giving rise to false narratives and online exploitation. The future of campaigning will not depend solely on technology but on how responsibly it is governed. Like a double-edged sword, social media can either empower democratic participation or be wielded for exploitation thus, striking the right balance is crucial.



RELIGIOUS EXTREMISM

Awais Zafar is a student, teacher, and writer. He teaches intermediate and undergraduate students while pursuing his Master's in International Relations from the University of Punjab. His articles have been featured in Roznama BBC and The Friday Times.

Religious extremism and fanaticism in our country are the fruits of seeds sown decades ago under state patronage, and their perpetuation continues to this day. For the ruling class, an ideal populace is mentally crippled, devoid of rational reasoning, and incapable of independent thought as such individuals cannot challenge their governmental status or performance. To achieve this objective, religion is often used as a political tool by the ruling elites to stir people's religious emotions and to cover up their incompetence and failures. Karl Marx described this aptly: "Religion is the opium of the people." Extremism, in the guise of religion, is often a consequence of the personal interest or malice of a particular group or individual, which goes unnoticed by most people due to its religious veneer. Reflecting on the religious incidents occurring in Pakistan, one can recall the Quranic assertion:

"If there were, in the heavens and the earth, other gods besides Allah, there would have been confusion in both (the heavens and the earth). Glory be to Allah, the Lord of the Throne, (High is He) above what they attribute to Him!" (Quran: 21:22)

Moreover, through such incidents of religious fanaticism and extremism, we try to justify that our Lord (Who is the creator of all creatures) derives satisfaction from having one group of humans subjected to

violence by another and then being killed—and we seek to please Him this way. Can parents ever allow their child to harm or kill another? Certainly not.. Even the fiery clerics shout from the rooftops that Allah loves His creation seventy times more than a mother. So, how could He desire such violence to be committed against His creation? Or do they think that a different god created others? To further understand religious extremism, consider a hypothetical scenario where a Muslim insults the gods of non-Muslims in a non-Muslim region, and then they, in turn, beat him to death. According to the followers of that belief, they did the right thing, and those who carried it out were their heroes because the insulted gods were theirs. Conversely, Muslims would see that person as a devout believer and a hero, and the non-believers as a brutal and cowardly mob that committed an atrocity. Applying the same principle, we should evaluate incidents occurring in Pakistan, and if we don't, it would be outright hypocrisy and double standards. Among the nearly eight billion people on this earth, there is likely no one who, upon genuinely believing their faith to be wrong, would stubbornly persist in it. Just as we assume we are on the right path, every person similarly feels they are on the right path. Therefore, followers of all faiths get offended when their beliefs are attacked. The majority of the world is like us: we are Muslims because we were born into Muslim families, which is not our achievement. Similarly, non-Muslims follow their religions because they were born into families of that faith, which is not their

fault either. Just as we consider our religion the truth and often don't even bother to listen to other religions, let alone investigate them, followers of different faiths also see their beliefs as true and don't delve into others. As long as this world exists, there will be differences in opinion, so tolerance becomes essential to maintain and sustain the social fabric. Islam also teaches us tolerance, as the Quran says:

"And (O Muslims) do not insult those whom they worship besides Allah." (Quran: 6:108)

However, the lack of religious tolerance in our society can largely be attributed to our Islamic historians, who, by ignoring the incidents of patience and tolerance, have presented war and bloodshed as the philosophy of Islam. We are now reaping the consequences of this. War and bloodshed may help capture territories and resources, but not hearts. To conquer hearts, one must exhibit high moral standards and nobility of character. In 2023, I (being a class teacher) received a phone call from the mother of a Christian student in Grade 9 at a prestigious educational institution in Lahore. She complained that her son was being harassed by his classmates, who kept asking him, **"Why don't you become a Muslim?"** and **"Why do you believe Jesus is the son of God?"**

Ah! The child, who lacked an adequate understanding and knew nothing about his religion, was being aggressively pressurized and preached by these evangelists, who themselves knew little about their religion. At that moment, a verse from Ahmed Nadeem Qasmi came to my mind,



which goes like this,

**"No end appears for this quest, Nadeem;
One Muslim among Muslims must be seen."**

Since these deeds of extremism are easily acknowledged and celebrated by the religious gatekeepers and the blindly following masses, akin to a person chasing a dog thinking it took his ear because someone told him so, our faith often surges in such situations. However, upholding moral integrity, which is regarded as every religion's core goal, is a challenging undertaking and is therefore frequently disregarded.



POLITICAL DEBATE & DISCOURSE: DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Atta ur Rahman Wazir is a final-year student of BS Political Science at the University of the Punjab. Hailing from Bannu, KPK, he is poised to bring fresh perspectives to the field of political science.

The Department of Political Science maneuvers as an intellectual center that fosters political discussions and academic debates among its students. The intensity with which students engage in debates is influenced by their cultural background, ethnicity, existing ideological frameworks, and personal interest level in topics like cultural and political dynamics. Baloch students, Gilgit minorities, Punjabis, and Pashtuns are among the ethnic groups that contribute to the variety of debating styles among the students at the university. Students present their ideas and select topics for discussion based on their cultural heritage and ethnic identity. Regional political dynamics, cultural history, and traditions create distinctive methods for political discourse within every ethnic group. Ethnically varied conversations often lead to emotional turbulence, turning gatherings into personal disputes rather than intellectual exchanges. Politically powerful Punjabi and Pashtun groups suppress smaller populations, preventing a range of opinions from being expressed. Participation. Discussions based on personal biases rather than arguments supported by facts are encouraged in Pakistan because there is no official framework for political debates. A well-functioning debate relies on forming arguments that maintain composure and persuade the audience. The Punjabi students

who originate from dominant political positions within bureaucracy deploy organized strategic methods when they participate in political dialogues. Students who engage with national institutions demonstrate professional argument skills that lead to their dominant roles within academic and political settings. However, despite their rich backgrounds in administration and institutions, Punjabi students often refrain from fact-based political debates due to a lack of pragmatic awareness or fear of institutional repercussions. Contrary to this, a fervent debating style and a resilient oral tradition are exhibited by Pashtun students, which are deeply rooted in loyalty and honor due to their cultural values and customs. Through historical associations with resistance and activism, Pashtuns communicate their discussions with powerful emotional expressions during the debates. The methodology of these students tends to become excessive due to their weak ability to use persuasive reasoning for building shared agreements. On the other hand, the Baloch students get involved in more hot-tempered discussions rather than using logical reasoning, which hinders productive conversations among the students. Baloch students maintain their aggressive political outlook toward the government based on their historical demands for self-governance. Their society

suffered many years of disenfranchisement, which caused their debates to focus strongly on political matters and identity issues. Like Pashtuns, their anger and rage display extremist behavior while giving arguments, thus preventing mutual understanding. In response, it triggers their opponent's arguments to appear as direct challenges, which motivates their debates to switch from constructive dialogue into aggressive engagements.

Moreover, the Gilgit students who participate in diplomatic political discussions center their dialogue around representational matters and constitutional rights, reducing attention to national political affairs. Their approach to international relations and regional autonomy does not contain enough actionable steps, making their political advocacy less successful at the national level. Students from Gilgit-Baltistan also don't actively engage as they feel deprived, misrepresented, and marginalized, restricting their participation in intellectual and academic discourses. Students become unwilling to participate in constructive dialogue because deep ideological disputes between nationalists and federalists or leftist and rightist factions create political divisions among students. These conflicting elements thus create obstacles that obstruct the promotion of balanced, inclusive political discussions in the department. Several steps should be taken to establish a constructive political environment that includes all students from different societies. The involvement of faculty moderators, academic advisors, and professors will help encourage respectful and thought-provoking debates.

Intercultural exchange programs will assist students in overcoming prejudices while they work with individuals from various ethnic backgrounds. Workshops on disciplined arguments and logical reasoning would also improve students' capacity to participate in productive conversations. Encouragement of involvement through academic reward schemes, such as extra points or certificates, will also encourage students to participate actively in debates.

Students can create strong arguments and engage in intellectual discussions beyond spoken debates by writing research papers, articles, and opinion pieces. Panels organized for political discourse should involve representatives from every ethnic and ideological background to establish an inclusive environment for political interaction. The Department of Political Science can create a platform that encourages intellectual debates, thus helping students to analyze political situations and their political subjects more constructively by implementing these strategies. Political science education needs to develop an environment that honors all viewpoints while conducting fact-based debates so students can enhance their abilities for successful national and international political dialogues.





Hostel Dairies: The Unfiltered Life at Punjab University

Kamlesh Lavha is a writer/student based in Umarkot, Sindh. He has a growing interest in writing, with a particular focus on reading books and crafting short articles. Though yet to be published, he continues to explore his passion for expression through words. He is currently studying in the 4th semester of a BS Political Science at the University Of The Punjab.

Staying at a hostel at Punjab University is much more than simply having a place to stay; it's an experience that affects students in unexpected ways. It's a journey filled with challenges, friendships, and memorable moments. From the quest for accommodation to dealing with daily hurdles, hostel life teaches essential lessons in independence, adaptability, and resilience. The first hurdle is obtaining a hostel room. With limited availability, only those who either excel academically, have good connections or meet specific criteria can secure a spot. The process involves numerous visits to the Hall Council, interactions with hostel staff, and a great deal of patience, often leaving students feeling exhausted and frustrated. Those who fail to get a room must look for alternative housing, sometimes resorting to informal arrangements through friends or student organizations, which can result in conflicts with the administration and even tensions among various student groups. Once students have moved in, hostel life transforms into an exciting adventure. The most prominent advantages are the proximity to classes and cost savings, but the true essence of hostel living is found in the friendships that form. Late-night tea sessions at the canteen, cooking and sharing meals, and engaging in profound conversations about politics and social issues become vital parts of daily life. Regular gatherings often evolve into poetry readings, musical jam sessions, and spirited discussions.

The hostel area comes alive in the evenings as students play cricket and badminton, or simply unwind after their studies. Nonetheless, hostel life also brings its own set of difficulties. One of the key lessons learned is how to handle finances. Many students receive a monthly allowance, but often, most of it is spent within days on outings and enjoyable meals. As the month progresses, borrowing money and food from friends becomes a common practice. Having a thoughtful roommate or generous friends can greatly alleviate the situation. New students often expect hostel life to be fun and straightforward, but the reality can be quite different. Even simple tasks like laundry and ironing can pose challenges. The food served in the mess tends to be repetitive, with biryani frequently mentioned as a complaint, leading to regular grievances and sometimes protests or strikes by councils. The summer can be especially tough due to insufficient cooling, with students discreetly using air conditioners despite the risk of penalties. When winter comes, new problems arise, as students cautiously use heaters while worrying about surprise inspections by the hostel warden. Water shortages are another persistent issue, with students often waiting in long lines to fill their bottles or hoping someone else becomes thirsty first so they can refill water for the group. Life in the hostel is filled with distractions that often pull students away from their studies. Spending too much time socializing, engaging in long discussions, and

Participating in late-night events frequently results in missed morning lectures. Their study routines are disrupted, and students usually recognise the significance of their academic responsibilities only when exams approach. Cramming for tests late into the night often leads to regret, with students wishing they had dedicated more time to studying earlier instead of rushing at the last moment. Fashion trends play a significant role in hostel culture as well. Many students exchange clothes with their roommates and friends, creating new outfits each day. It becomes common to rotate clothing to avoid wearing the same items too often. However, this practice can occasionally lead to chaos, as students search the entire hostel for their lost shoes or slippers, which are often borrowed by others. Late-night conversations can occasionally lead to unforeseen disagreements. Engrossed in profound discussions, students might lose sight of the fact that others are trying to sleep. Neighbors often voice their annoyance, urging them to tone down their noise. Despite the challenges, living in a hostel is filled with joyful and heartwarming experiences. Many students regularly visit the Student Teacher Centre (STC) not only to buy essentials like notebooks and cleaning supplies but also to relax and socialize. Some nights, financial constraints force students to go to bed without dinner, while other nights are alive with spontaneous tea gatherings, birthday celebrations, and social events that bring everyone together. Receiving a parcel from home is yet another treasured aspect of hostel life. When someone opens a package filled with homemade goodies, sweets, and biscuits, friends quickly gather to share in the joy. These moments create a sense of family within the hostel, transforming it into a second home. Another common scene is the playful teasing among hostel mates. One person frequently becomes the target of gentle jokes, with everyone joining in the laughter.

If any misunderstandings arise, they are promptly resolved thanks to the strong bonds formed in the hostel. Freshers also face light-hearted hazing from seniors, which usually involves harmless tasks or amusing challenges, ultimately enhancing their relationships and boosting the confidence of new students. Although hostel life is packed with excitement and adventure, it can occasionally cause students to lose focus on their primary academic goals. The distractions, enjoyment, and social gatherings can shift their attention away from their studies.



Nonetheless, over time, students learn to balance their academic responsibilities with their social lives. Residing in a hostel at Punjab University is not just about sharing a living space; it's an experience that promotes personal development. It teaches students essential lessons about friendship, patience, and resilience. It encourages them to venture beyond their comfort zones, helping them to become more independent and prepared for life after university. Even after graduation, the memories from hostel life remain vivid, aiding in their growth into wiser and more capable individuals.



King of Haldem

Zayna Rahman is a writer/student based in Lahore. At fourteen years, she was recognized by the LUMS Salaam Award competition. She was published in DAWN Books and Authors at the age of fifteen, previously being a regular contributor to its Young World magazine. She enjoys South Asian fiction and comics in her free time and is currently pursuing A Levels.

The smell of charred flesh filled the air around Karim. Deep crimson dripped starkly against his pale complexion. The riders charged past the collapsed huts, demanding his loyalty with their emblazoned swords aimed directly at him. **Karim** knelt, bowing his head in defeat. The riders reined in their horses. With his hands bound in leather, he was dragged away from the remnants of his village. His knees scraped painfully against the ground as they reached the castle. It appeared like a string of luminous white pearls shining under the relentless sun. Karim pledged his allegiance to the King. He served as his attendant, polishing the silver, the weapons, and sampling the food just enough to ignite an insatiable desire within him. Confined to the underground quarters, even the chickens experienced more freedom than he did. He felt mocked, undeserving of the floors he scrubbed and the boots he shined. Maram, the Head of Staff, would scrutinize Karim's work daily. **"Did you clean the stairs?"** "Yes, sir." **"And the armour?"** "Yes, sir." **"The bed?"** "Yes, sir." Karim never contested, as he lacked the education to have a personal opinion and was too naïve to distinguish right from wrong, even when he was the one wronged. His reputation rose swiftly. The King, having heard about his popularity, summoned Karim to his presence.

"Are you the boy from the West Village who pledged allegiance to me?" "Yes, sir." Karim nervously clutched his shirt, his eyes flicking between the king and the guards as if he awaited his fate. The King smiled. He informed Karim that his advisor had recently departed for business, and he urgently required a replacement. Karim's eyes sparkled as he was asked to take on this new responsibility. "Yes, sir." He nodded eagerly as the hefty silver brooch was pinned onto his shirt, and grazed his skin, drawing a drop of blood. He was given ceremonial robes and escorted down the hall to his new quarters. As he stepped out of the King's Hall, he noticed a man garbed in the same royal attire as his own. The man's crest was violently torn off, causing him to collapse onto his knees. Karim averted his gaze as the executioner swung the axe down onto the man's neck. The initial six months as an advisor were straightforward. Commit treason, and you will be executed. Be disobedient, and you will be thrown into the dungeon until you acquire the humility to apologise. Then you would face execution. It was only when the **King of Patras** came to visit that Karim encountered his first significant challenge. Patras requested a fifth of the East Coast land for his troops to gain an advantage over their mutual enemy, Pantheon.

In exchange, he offered gold and abundant crops. Karim was summoned to a private audience with the King. **‘I find this offer appealing.’** The King pondered. Patras had captured the King’s interest once gold was mentioned. “Yes, sir.” The King proclaimed his intent to accept the deal. Karim, unwittingly stepping forward, felt blushed, uncertain about what he was about to express. “Sir, the Pantheon is your supporter. They assisted you in attaining the throne. Is turning against them the best choice? Furthermore, you would be allowing Patras access to our borders.”

The King scowled. “How dare you!” The guards closed in on Karim, roughly pulling him from the Throne Room. He was shoved and slammed against the walls as they escorted him to the dungeons. Karim recalled his first day in the castle. He was thrust into a pitch-dark cell. Lying on the frigid stone, he realized what his brief purpose had been. He was intended to recite the same phrases daily, feeding the egos of the Royal Court and satisfying their insatiable hunger for power over individuals like him. People with nowhere to turn.

No family, no savior, no hope. After what seemed like weeks, Karim heard a commotion outside the dungeons. Karim jumped up, anxious. The gate swung wide. Men clad in blue Patras armour entered. “Eliminate the prisoners,” commanded a man with a blue feathered plume. “No! I am an advisor to King Trom. He knows me, he will show mercy.” Karim understood that the King rarely spared anyone. This was his destiny.

He might as well accept it. Nonetheless, his youth betrayed him as he clung to hope. Hope for compassion.



“Trom has been killed by the King of Patras. Haldem is now ours,”

The man declared. As the soldier behind him swung down his sword, Karim remembered the man on the execution grounds. Had he made the same error as Karim? Had he also voiced his concerns? Spoke the truth? Karim felt foolish. He would have met death with greater honor had he perished with his village. Swearing fealty to lunatics had transformed him into something inferior—something inhuman. Karim turned his gaze to the narrow slit in the wall he called a window. As the sword fell, he murmured a prayer that went unanswered.



Shrouded Silence: Gaza's Unheard Scream

Aleena Saif Ullah is a writer, poet, and scholar who holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science (Gold Medalist) and is currently pursuing an MPhil in International Relations. Passionate about socio-political discourse, she blends her academic insights with creative expression through poetry, reflecting a deep commitment to using both scholarly research and literary artistry to inspire thought, emotion, and change.

In Gaza's streets, where silence cloaks the pain,
The world's influential turn a deaf disdain.
Amidst the rubble, the cries, the despair,
Their silence haunts, a heavy air to bear.

For when it comes to Gaza, their voices fade,
Selective human rights, a charade they've made.
Fashionable activism, a trend to display,
While Gaza's plight is swept away.

Influentials speak of justice and right,
But when Gaza calls, they stay out of sight.
For politics and power dictate their stance,
Leaving Gaza's fate to chance.

Yet in the darkness, a glimmer remains,
In the hearts of those who refuse to feign.
For true activism demands more than words,
It requires action, to right the world's hurts.

So let us break the silence, speak truth to power,
For Gaza's people, in their darkest hour.
May their voices be heard, their rights upheld,
As the world's influential break free from their shell.

Let's find each other again

Let's forgive each other
for whatever happened in the past,
for the whispered words of anger
that bruised the night,
for the silence
That felt like a stone between us.

Let's forgive the unspoken thoughts,
The secrets are kept close to the chest,
The promises made
but never kept, left to wither
In the corners of our shared history.

Let's forgive the moments
We were too human,
too afraid, too proud,
to reach out a hand,
to say I'm sorry,
to say I need you.

Let's forgive each other
The way the sun forgives the night,
effortless and complete,
a new beginning
Every dawn.

Let's forgive each other
for the echoes that linger in our minds,
for the nights heavy with unspoken thoughts,
for the days we let slip by
without a touch, without a word.

Let's forgive the wounds
We didn't mean to inflict,
the careless moments,
the thoughtless remarks,
The walls we built are too high
to see over, too strong to break through

Let's forgive the tears
that fell in silence,
The Dreams Deferred,
The love that faltered,
The times we chose distance
over understanding.

Let's forgive each other
for being imperfect,
for being human,
for the fears that kept us apart,
For the pride that made us stubborn.

Let's forgive,
So we can remember
How to laugh without shadows,
How to hold each other
without hesitation,
How to walk forward
without looking back.

Let's forgive each other,
not because it's easy,
But because it's necessary,
because in the act of forgiveness
We find our freedom,
and in our freedom,
We find each other again.

Aleena Saif Ullah



THE GREATEST MINDS AND IDEAS OF ALL TIME

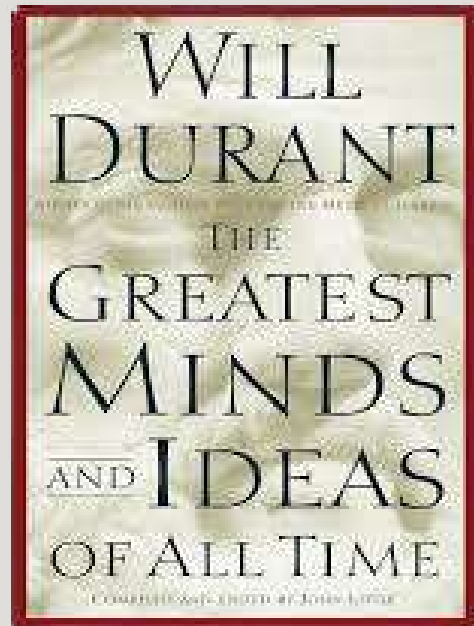
Author: Will Durant

Ayyan Ahmad currently completing LLB from superior college of law, Lahore

Will Durant, a renowned historian and philosopher, presents *The Greatest Minds and Ideas of All Time* as an intellectual compendium that encapsulates the essence of human civilization's most influential figures and events. This book is a testament to Durant's lifelong dedication to historical inquiry, offering a compelling synthesis of knowledge across multiple disciplines. With a lucid and engaging narrative, Durant explores the extraordinary contributions of great thinkers, poets, and historical milestones that have shaped human progress. Critically evaluating, Durant challenges the conventional glorification of historical figures. He argues that heroes are not divine beings but rather ordinary individuals with exceptional intellect, vision, and influence. He critiques society's tendency to deify these figures while neglecting the broader cultural and intellectual currents that shape history. Durant's perspective is a refreshing departure from traditional historiography, emphasizing that history is not merely a record of great leaders but a continuum of collective human endeavor. His philosophical reflection on life's meaning, particularly his call for youthful optimism, further enriches this discussion. Durant's selection of the ten greatest thinkers, ranging from Confucius and Aristotle to

Kant and Darwin demonstrate their commitment to intellectual history. His inquiry into the nature of thought and its transformative power aligns with his belief that civilization is fundamentally a product of human reasoning. This section is particularly valuable as it highlights how these thinkers dismantled superstition and laid the foundations for scientific inquiry, ethical philosophy, and modern governance. The inclusion of both ancient and modern figures reflects Durant's broad historical perspective, reinforcing the idea that intellectual progress is cumulative. By selecting poets such as Homer, Dante, and Shakespeare, Durant underscores the enduring power of literature in shaping human consciousness. His emphasis on poetry's historical and philosophical dimensions distinguishes this chapter from conventional literary criticism. Durant's argument that these poets serve as chroniclers of crises and cultural transformations highlights the symbiotic relationship between history and literature. His list, while subjective, is persuasive, demonstrating how poetry captures the moral and emotional landscape of civilizations. Durant's curated list of one hundred essential books serves as both a guide and a philosophical statement on the pursuit of knowledge. His selections span

disciplines such as history, philosophy, political science, literature, and science, providing a holistic approach to intellectual development. This chapter is particularly instructive for readers seeking a structured educational framework outside formal institutions. Durant's emphasis on self-education as a means of intellectual liberation resonates with his broader philosophy of knowledge as the cornerstone of civilization. Durant's definition of progress as the triumph of order over chaos and of purpose over matter is deeply philosophical. His enumeration of ten pivotal human advancements—speech, fire, agriculture, morality, tools, science, education, social organization, writing, and printing—demonstrates his belief in civilization as an evolutionary process. By framing these developments as peaks of human progress, Durant reinforces the idea that history is not merely a sequence of events but a narrative of human ingenuity. This chapter reflects his historiographical method, which seeks to uncover the deeper patterns underlying historical change. The concluding chapter provides a chronological framework for understanding key turning points in global history. Durant's selection of dates, from the introduction of the Egyptian calendar to the French Revolution, reflects his focus on intellectual and technological milestones rather than mere political events. This approach aligns with his broader argument that history is shaped not just by wars and conquests but by transformative ideas and innovations. His inclusion of figures such as Buddha, Socrates, and Gutenberg highlights the pivotal role of philosophical and scientific advancements in shaping



Human destiny. Will Durant's *The Greatest Minds and Ideas of All Time* is a masterful synthesis of intellectual history, philosophy, and cultural analysis. His ability to distil complex historical narratives into accessible and engaging prose makes this book a valuable resource for both scholars and general readers. By emphasizing the intellectual achievements that have shaped civilization, Durant offers a refreshing counterpoint to traditional histories focused on political and military events. His work serves as an inspiring reminder that the progress of humanity is driven not by power alone but by the relentless pursuit of knowledge, wisdom, and artistic expression. Durant's erudition and philosophical insight make this book a significant contribution to the study of history and civilization. It is a compelling read for anyone seeking to understand the intellectual forces that have shaped human progress, making it an essential addition to the library of any serious student of history and philosophy.



“The 33 Strategies of War”

by Robert Greene

Malka Shahzadi, a BS Political Science student at the University of the Punjab, is an avid reader and book enthusiast with a passion for exploring new ideas and perspectives. With a keen interest in personal growth and community service, she stays engaged with various organizations and initiatives.

"The 33 Strategies of War" by Robert Greene is a hefty book, but it's packed with ideas about how to think strategically. Imagine it as a toolbox filled with different tools, and each tool is a strategy you can use. Green claims that these strategies, although they are called war strategies for real battles, can be used in all kinds of situations, such as business, politics, or even applied to daily problems. It is divided into 33 chapters, each focusing on a variety of strategies. Think of it as 33 mini tutorials on how to become more strategic. Green uses historical stories to explain each strategy. He talks about famous characters like Napoleon, Sun Tzu, and even lesser-known but running people. These stories show how these strategies have been used in the past. One strategy may be deception. It's a way to trick others into thinking about one thing while planning something else. Another can consist of creating alliances and building your support. Another can be time and knowledge of when to hit and when to hold back. Green explains each strategy with simple terms, then uses historical examples to show how it works in practice. The book does not want to teach you to be aggressive or start a fight. It's more about understanding how power works and how to navigate situations strategically. It's about thinking several steps ahead and anticipating what other people might do. It's about understanding.

Human nature and how people are likely to behave in different situations. Now, because it's such a big book with so many different strategies, it can feel a bit overwhelming at times. This is not a book that can be passed in just a few days. This is like a guide that you can plunge into when faced with a particular task. You can find a strategy that seems the most important for your situation and see what Green says about it. Some people may see that Green focuses on conflicts and too cynical competition. He does talk a lot about winning and losing, and he doesn't shy away from discussing the darker aspects of human behavior. But the book isn't necessarily advocating for these things. It's about understanding them so you can prepare for them. "33 Strategy" certainly isn't the case for everyone. It is a dense and complicated reading that requires a particular intellectual curiosity. But if you want to learn more about strategy, power, and human behavior, it's a book worth considering. It may not be an easy read, but it leads to thoughts. This is a book that you can come back to over and over to find new ideas. This is like a navigation guide for life's difficulties, providing the basis for strategic thinking and making the best decisions. Whether you agree with all of Green's conclusions or not, this book will make you think about the world around you.



The Charismatic Leader; Quaid-e-Azam Mohammed Ali Jinnah and the creation of Pakistan

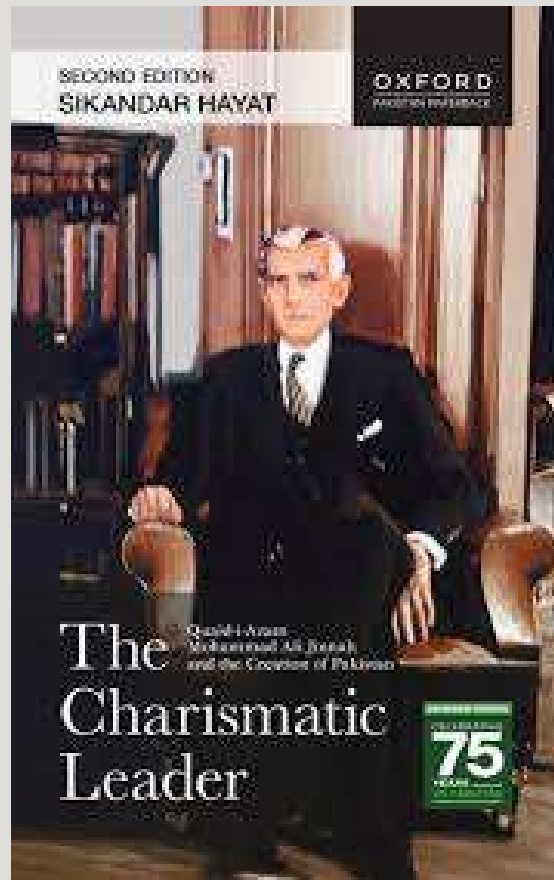
Author: Sikander Hayat

Nirmal Muneer holds an M.Phil. in History from the Department of History and Pakistan study, University of the Punjab, Lahore, and is currently an M.Phil. scholar in Political Science at the Department of Political Science, University of the Punjab, Lahore.

Dr. Sikandar Hayat, a distinguished Professor, Dean, Education Counsellor and Founding Editor of the Pakistan Journal of Social Sciences at Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad, is the author of *The Charismatic Leader: Quaid-e-Azam Mohammed Ali Jinnah and the Creation of Pakistan*. In this book, Dr. Hayat explores the Weberian concept of charisma, presenting Quaid-e-Azam Mohammed Ali Jinnah as a charismatic leader. He examines the personality traits of Jinnah, the dire circumstances faced by Muslims in pre-partition India, the leadership crisis, and Jinnah's role in politically mobilizing and organizing the Muslim community, ultimately leading to the creation of Pakistan. The central theme of the book is the crucial role of Jinnah as a charismatic leader of Indian Muslims during the Pakistan movement, particularly between 1937 and 1947. Dr. Hayat highlights how Jinnah confronted the political tactics of his adversaries and demonstrated a deep commitment to the concerns of the Muslim community and his absolute faith in himself and his cause. Dr. Sikandar Hayat has indicated some specific factors that have caused the Muslim community to think about their separate identity, including Hindu-Muslim tensions, British

Colonial rule, the minority status of Muslims, the weakening of British authority during wartime, the looming threat of Hindu majority rule and the shortcomings of traditional Muslim leadership. Building on this context, the author discusses the conceptualization and theorization of Weberian thoughts of charisma and charismatic leadership, outlining two perspectives. The first portrays a charismatic leader as possessing extraordinary, superhuman, or supernatural qualities. The second reframes charisma within an ascetic-rational framework. According to Weber, such a leader must be financially independent, exercise firm control over their personal staff, organizations, and administration, and exhibit a strong, rational commitment to their vision. Dr. Sikandar Hayat has mentioned some prominent scholars who recognize Jinnah as a charismatic leader, such as Professor Waheed-uz-Zaman, Sharif-al-Mujahid, R.J. Moore, Stanley Wolpert, etc. Khalid bin Saeed and Saleem M.M. Qureshi, however, are dissenters of Jinnah's charismatic political leadership. Several writers have imprinted multiple hypotheses about Jinnah, including the Saviour hypothesis, the Personal Power hypothesis, Vacuum hypothesis,

Personal Power hypothesis, Vacuum hypothesis, Congruence hypothesis, and Gandhi and Gandhi-dominated Congress hypothesis. Additionally, Dr. Hayat has engraved a detailed analysis of Jinnah's early life, his career and family, his struggle as a lawyer, his emergence as a great political leader, his active and effective participation in strengthening Indian Nationalism, and his crucial and clamorous performance in the Simla Conference, Khilafat Movement, Delhi Proposal, Nehru Report, Jinnah's 14 Points, Round Table Conferences, Elections of 1936-37, Pakistan Resolution of 1940, and the materialization of Pakistan as an independent state. The writer then highlights Jinnah's attributes that have instigated him to emerge as a charismatic leader. First, Jinnah was a man of self-confidence, crystal clear about his aims and objectives. He possessed impermeable organizational skills, political sense, and an extraordinary ability to identify problems and their efficacious solutions. Being a very well-articulated and calculated person, he eventually led the aspirations of Muslims. Furthermore, Sikandar Hayat elaborates on the Muslim situation in the subcontinent and discusses the communal, constitutional, and devolutionary aspects of the systemic crisis in detail. Dr. Hayat promulgates that there were no negligible conflicts between the two communities, Muslims and Hindus, and their communal relations were more complex and intricately based on demographic factors. Communism emerged as a dominant force in Indian politics, reinforcing Muslims' phobia of Hindu domination in the country, resulting in Hindu Shuddhi and Sangathan and Muslim Tabligh and Tanzim campaigns.



Gandhi underused the Hindu religion to stimulate Hindu Nationalism in India. In the constitutional problem, Dr. Hayat calls attention to the British tentative mindset about the difference between Islam and Hinduism that was not based on religious faith alone. It was the distinction of life, tradition, culture, history, ways of living, social patterns, as well as the articles of belief that constitute a community. Then Dr. Hayat deliberates on the Muslims' struggle for separate electoral reforms of 1909 and 1919, which were the Minto-Morley and Montague-Chelmsford reforms, respectively. Jinnah was the only leader who had these personal qualities and could establish a personal rapport with distressed Indian Muslims. Besides, Dr. Sikandar Hayat denotes the alarming situation of Muslims during the leadership crisis, especially from 1920 to 1935. At that time, leadership

It was composed of social elites, landlords, and Ulemas who were struggling to fill their bellies with the addiction to wealth and power. The conflict broke out between the traditional Deoband and modernist Aligarh because Ulemas were propagating traditional religious schools of thought and sectarianism in India. Then, Jinnah filled the gap in political leadership with his charismatic personality. Several traditional groups supported Jinnah because of his political consciousness and straightforwardness. Moreover, Dr. Sikandar Hayat traces the last important formula of Jinnah, which was 'A separate state of Pakistan.' Quaid-e-Azam had offered many formulas already, such as the Lucknow Pact of 1916 and the Fourteen Points of 1929, in front of Congress. In the late 1930s, Muslims' circumstances were becoming more and more desperate and extravagant due to the Congress rule in 1937-1939, when Congress won the elections of 1937. Due to the miserable condition of Muslims, in 1940, with the Lahore Resolution, Quaid-e-Azam postulated a separate state where Muslims would live without any domination or subordination of any community. Jinnah had set a goal in front of himself and set to work for the attainment of his cause. Similarly, Dr. Sikandar Hayat shows the political mobilization and organizational struggle of the Muslim population towards their goal. After Jinnah announced Pakistan's creation, he started re-organizing the Muslim League, and leaders arranged protests and processions and organized a feudalistic traditional system. It was a herculean task to deal with the provincial leaders of the Punjab and Bengal provinces. Jinnah was



deeply concentrated on his aim; therefore, he convinced provincial leaders due to his keen strategic planning. The mass mobilization campaign of the students, Ulemas, pirs, sajjadanashin, women, and other ordinary people participated with full enthusiasm.

To wrap up the last part of this book, Dr. Sikandar Hayat elaborates on the firm determination of Quaid-e-Azam towards his mission despite the hostility of the British government, Congress, Nationalist Muslim movements, and provincial leaders. In the elections of 1945 and 1946, the Muslim League, which was presided over by Muhammad Ali Jinnah, secured maximum seats in Muslim-majority provinces. On 14 August 1947, it was the realization of Jinnah's dream when Pakistan officially emerged on the map of the world. Long story short, the creation of Pakistan was impractical without the charismatic leadership of Quaid-e-Azam. Due to his charismatic leadership, the Muslims of India were able to breathe in an independent state. Jinnah looked carefully at the complications of the oppressed Muslims, conceived them, felt them, and worked for their solution. Ultimately, success was his destiny.



HINDUTVA: THE TRUTH BEHIND

Author: Iram Khalid

Malika Shahzadi, a BS Political Science student at the University of the Punjab, is a young leader and changemaker with a passion for community service and social impact. Through her involvement with various organizations and initiatives, she continues to inspire and make a difference.

Hindutva: The Truth Behind charts the rise of Hindutva, an extreme version of Hindu nationalism, and its influence on the political, social, and secular fabric of India. The book looks at the roots of Hindutva, its historical growth and how it has hijacked modern Indian politics, particularly in the era of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). The philosophy, born as a reaction to colonialism and the fear of foreign religions, has grown into a political and social movement that has influenced how Indian politics has evolved for over a century. Hindutva is presented as a political and cultural phenomenon of India, not confined to religious ideology. Hindutva has its origins in the colonial period, when leaders such as V.D. Savarkar formulated the notion of solidarity among Hindus in the face of foreign (especially Muslim and Christian) rule. Hindutva: Who is a Hindu? It was published by Savarkar. The definition of ideology as a culture and national identity, in contrast to the many alternate Hindu religious practices. This intellectual basis was the condition of possibility for the emergence of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), a paramilitary group whose raison d'être was to propagate Hindutva in 1925. The RSS was found to have played an important role in formulating Hindutva as a political discourse and... the BJP, in turn, utilised this ideology to amass ultra-Hindu support to win power by disenfranchising Muslims and another religious group.

As Hindutva moved from a purely intellectual concept to a political one, it became instrumental to the success of the B.J.P. at the ballot box. The BJP harnessed the power of Hindutva and successfully consolidated the Hindu vote base, especially in rural parts of the country, and became the dominant force in Indian politics. The mainstreaming of Hindutva into the BJP's programme represented a change in the political culture of India,

Where Hindu nationalism became, for the first time, the norm of its politics. This change has had deep consequences for India's secular identity, which the Constitution enshrines. The Constitution was authored by India's founding fathers to build a pluralistic and inclusive democracy. But the ascendancy of Hindutva has resulted in the corrosion of these secular moorings, and initiatives such as the saffronisation of education, the CAA and the National Register of Citizens (NRC) have demeaned religious minorities, especially Muslims and Christians. The book takes a look at these policies in the light of religious nationalism and argues that it is shaping the governance of India. The two measures have been criticized for excluding Muslims and changing the secular nature of the Indian state. These policies are part of a larger effort to steer India away from its secular constitution and toward a vision of a Hindu state, or Hindu Rashtra, the book argues. Hindutva campaign s Heightened hate between religious communities – majoritarian Hindutva policies of the BJP BJP's hate campaign has deeply frayed the bonds between religious communities, and between Hindus and Muslims in particular, and further alienated religious minorities. The book also foregrounds the emergent opposition to Hindutva by subaltern communities. Sikhs, Muslims, Dalits and those from northeastern India have rallied against what they see as a surge of Hindu majoritarianism. These resistance movements are considered vital in resisting the growing power and reach of Hindutva and in defending the pluralistic ethos that has characterized Indian society for centuries. It examines how these organisations have resisted the construction of a monolithic Hindu identity, which they consider as marginalising their own religious and cultural experiences. The resistance is depicted as a potent rival to the political and social supremacy of Hindutva and illustrates the significance of India's minorities in preserving the nation's pluralistic democratic heritage.

The global dimension of the rise of Hindutva is also covered in the book. As the policies of the BJP have raised questions about India's brand as a secular democracy, human rights groups, foreign governments and the international media have expressed alarm. Allegations of sectarian violence, religious persecution and marginalisation of minorities also attracted international opprobrium during the present regime. Using case studies such as the Gujarat riots, the CAA protests and the situation in Kashmir, the book illustrates how such developments have "hurt India's image in the world and sounded the alarm over the erosion of democratic norms and human rights in the country." The world, according to the book, is "alarmed by the rise of religious nationalism in India, and what it means for the democratic future of the country."

There is an analysis of the 2024 Indian general elections and how religion and caste have taken over the behaviour of a voter. The BJP's electoral campaign that emphasises religious symbolism and the politics of polarisation is cited as a major reason for the unsettlement of the Hindu vote. The deployment of religious narratives to construct a Hindu national majority, the book contends, has widened the rift between Hindus and religious minorities while cementing the BJP's grip on power. Scrutinising trends in voting behaviour, turnout and caste dynamics, the book reveals how Hindutva continues to dominate India's political discourse and electoral strategies. The BJP's victories in the elections highlight India's slide to religious nationalism.



Hindutva: The Truth behind finishes with an appeal to defend India's secular democracy against the religious nationalism surging up around it. The book contends that Hindutva, with its avowed aim of creating a Hindu nation, is dangerous, as it actively seeks to destroy India's remarkable diversity and undermine its secular and pluralistic constitution. The book calls for vigilance in defence of democratic principles of inclusion, pluralism and minority rights that have characterised India's political culture. It cites the need to guard against the inroads of religious nationalism, not only to preserve India's domestic social peace, but also to retain its place as a democratic and secular nation in the world. But in that, the book is not just a diagnosis of Hindutva's ascent but also a rallying call to those worried about the future of India's democracy, and its place in the world.

SISCA

"The Society of International Security and Contemporary Affairs"

The Society of International Security and Contemporary Affairs (SISCA) is a student-led initiative by the Department of Political Science, announced on 15-16 May 2024. SISCA is a volunteer team of students from a diverse range of semesters and subjects at the Department. SISCA organized and managed the Two-Day Hybrid International Conference on 'Democracy, Governance, and Sustainability' as its debut event and initiated a series of Chatham House Roundtables, virtual engagements, and participated in internships and academic workshops.

The rationale behind SISCA was to construct a cohort of students displaying distinct academic, intellectual, and managerial qualities concerning academic discourses at the Department. The aim was structured around a volunteer-centric approach to contributing towards debates on contemporary issues of national and international importance. Another aspect of this society is to allow students to socialize and interact with various internationally acclaimed scholars, practitioners, and professionals, as well as to engage with national and international organizations/institutions.

In a brief time since its formation, SISCA has been able to host/organize the following events:



Chatham House Roundtable with a panel of experts from the British High Commission on the impact of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's re-election on diplomatic relations within South Asia.



Capacity-Building Workshop organized by the Department of Political Science and SISCA in collaboration with the Strategic Vision Institute (SVI) titled “National Security Dynamics of Pakistan”, was held on 12th September, 2024. The panel of experts had Dr. Hasan Askari Rizvi, Professor Emeritus, Political Science; Mr Eijaz Haider, Senior Journalist; Dr. Naeem Ahmed Salik, Executive Director SVI; Dr. Muhammad Shareh Qazi, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science; Dr Nasir Hafeez, Director Research SVI.



With the collaboration of Institute for Educating Environmental Resilience and Governance (IEERG) and Women in Struggle for Empowerment (WISE) the Department of Political Science with SISCA organized a Two-Day Hybrid International Conference on 'Democracy, Governance, and Sustainability' on 15th and 16th May, 2024. This constructed a deep understanding of complex political and governance issues of Pakistan for students from diverse backgrounds.



With the collaboration of the Department of Political Science and Lahore Institute of Research and Analysis (LIRA), SISCA organized a two-week Internship program from 1st-10th July, 2024 on “Leadership and Management Course”, equipping students with the basic fundamentals of leadership and managerial skills.



Round-table Discussion with Air Commodore (Retd.) Khalid Banuri, Senior Advisor Training Rejuvenation, Pakistan Air Force Headquarters, and Dr. Salma Malik, Associate Professor, Department of Defence and Strategic Studies, Quaid-e-Azam University, titled “Nuclear Politics in South Asia” held on 15th November, 2024 explained the Enigma of Nuclear Politics in South Asian Region and its devastating impact on Regional Security.

This society envisions becoming a dynamic center for interdisciplinary collaboration, connecting students, policymakers, and subject experts on crucial discussions of strategic importance. As this society grows, it will cultivate academic partnerships with diverse research centers and academic networks, establishing itself as a critical platform to discuss emerging national and international issues. Through curated internships, strategically designed round-tables, and collaborative initiatives, this society will provide students with practical exposure, refining their intellectual abilities to address intricate and diverse real-world challenges in professional spheres. In the long term, SISCA seeks to sustain a cohort of sharp and forward-thinking students who will actively contribute to contemporary discussions and shape policy discourses, equipping them with the skills and insights required to understand both national and internationally emerging threats.

Honoring Excellence: Professor Dr. Muhammad Ali Decorates Political Science Faculty with Punjab University Badges

In a ceremony held at the University of the Punjab, Professor Dr. Muhammad Ali, VC University of the Punjab and Government College University Lahore, decorated the esteemed professors of the Department of Political Science with the prestigious Punjab University badge. This recognition highlights the faculty members' dedication to academic excellence and their contributions to the field of political science. The event showcases the university's commitment to acknowledging and rewarding outstanding achievements, fostering a culture of excellence and innovation within the academic community.



SPORTS GALA 2025

A Celebration of Passion and Team Spirit

The Department of Political Science at the University of the Punjab hosted its much-anticipated Sports Gala 2025 from February 10 to February 14. This event gathered students, faculty, and staff to celebrate sportsmanship and unity while showcasing athletic talents beyond academics. The inauguration ceremony featured **Prof. Dr. Rana Eijaz Ahmad**, Head of the Department, who highlighted the importance of co-curricular activities for developing well-rounded individuals. He remarked, "Co-curricular activities are as important as academics in fostering student discipline, teamwork, and leadership skills." The head of the department and faculty members participated in the cake-cutting ceremony. The head of the department led the cake-cutting ceremony, and faculty members participated in the festivities. Throughout the five days, students engaged in various sports, promoting friendly competition and camaraderie. The Sports Gala offered a refreshing break from academic life and underscored the need for a balanced educational approach that nurtures mind and body.

The Department of Political Science remains committed to organizing events that contribute to its students' holistic development. The Sports Gala 2025 exemplifies this dedication, leaving participants and spectators with unforgettable memories.



The Political Pulse



Book Launch:

NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL IN SOUTH ASIA: POSTURE

The Department of Political Science, University of Punjab, proudly hosted a remarkable book launch event to celebrate the extraordinary scholarship of Dr. Jaspal. The event was an enriching gathering of students, faculty, and academics from various departments, who came together for a stimulating discussion on South Asia's evolving strategic landscape. Dr. Jaspal was joined by a distinguished panel of scholars, including Dr. Hassan Askari Rizvi, Dean Dr. Iram Khalid, and HOD Rana Ijaz, who collectively emphasized the importance and relevance of the book. Their insights enriched the dialogue, highlighting the book's profound contribution to the discourse on regional security. Titled "Nuclear Arms Control in South Asia: Posture", the book explores critical concepts such as deterrence, compliance, and the arms race, while offering a comprehensive historical perspective on the region's arms control dynamics. Dr. Jaspal's work emphasizes the urgent need for a robust arms control framework, particularly as emerging technologies continue to shape the future of security in South Asia. The event was a timely reminder of the importance of continued scholarship and dialogue on the evolving security challenges in the region. The launch was a resounding success, sparking further conversations on the pressing issues of arms control, security, and cooperation in South Asia.





THE LEARNING DRIVEN LEADERSHIP: PROVEN APPROACHES TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS AND GROWTH

The Department of Political Science at the University of Punjab had the honour of hosting a distinguished lecture by Professor Dr. Alaa Garad on the topic “The Learning Driven Leadership: Proven Approaches to Achieve Success and Growth.” The session, led by Professor Garad, Pro-Vice Chancellor at Al Maktoum College of Higher Education, Scotland, offered valuable insights into the key principles of leadership and success. Professor Garad, a renowned scholar and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts (FRSA), shared his extensive knowledge on leadership approaches grounded in continuous learning and adaptability. Drawing from his experience, Professor Garad highlighted the importance of fostering a learning-driven mindset in leaders to overcome challenges, inspire growth, and achieve long-term success. His expertise in leadership theory and practice provided a unique perspective, motivating both students and faculty to embrace learning as a lifelong process to cultivate effective leadership. The lecture was well-received by all attendees and sparked engaging discussions on how these leadership approaches can be applied to various fields and contexts. We are grateful to Professor Dr. Alaa Garad for his inspiring lecture and look forward to more such enriching sessions in the future.



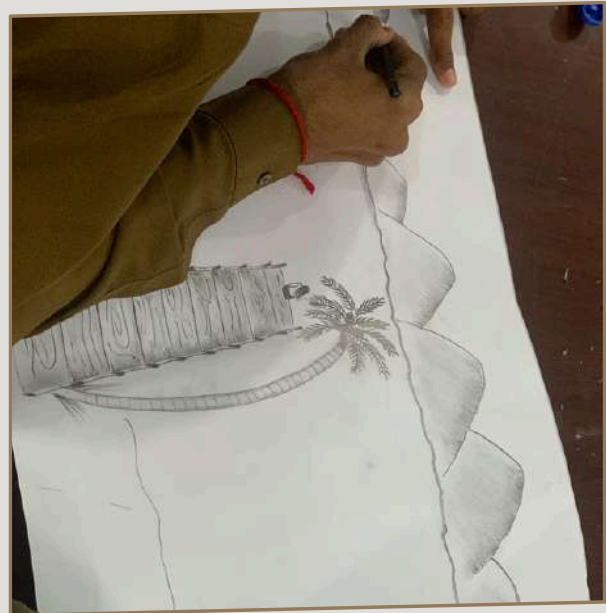


PEACE THROUGH ART

In a heartening display of unity and creativity, the Department of Political Science recently hosted a powerful event titled “Peace through Art”, led by Peace Ambassadors Akash Fatima, Asad Ullah Khan, and their dedicated team. This student-driven initiative transformed a simple art competition into a vibrant, multicultural celebration of peace, diversity, and mutual respect. Drawing participants from various departments and ethnic backgrounds across Punjab University, the event stood as a living testament to the belief that art knows no boundaries. Each canvas told a story of struggle, hope, resilience, and the universal desire for harmony. It was a moment where brushes became instruments of change, and colours became symbols of solidarity. The top three entries, selected for their profound expression and artistic brilliance, were awarded in a special ceremony. But beyond the accolades, every participant walked away as a winner, having contributed to a greater cause and engaged in a shared journey of peace-building. More than just an art show, the initiative created a platform where students connected across differences, collaborated through creativity, and celebrated unity in diversity. It was a reminder that in a world often torn by division, art continues to be one of the most powerful tools we have to bridge gaps, heal wounds, and inspire dialogue. Special thanks go out to the entire organizing team for their vision, hard work, and unwavering commitment. Their efforts not only brought this event to life but also lit a spark that will continue to burn in the hearts of many — a spark for peace, through the timeless language of art.



The Political Pulse



THE BEAUTY OF DIVERSITY IN PAKISTAN

In a time where unity through understanding is more critical than ever, the Peace Ambassadors of the Department of Political Science organized a powerful seminar on the theme “The Beauty of Diversity in Pakistan.” With a focus on national cohesion and cultural richness, the event offered a platform for meaningful dialogue and reflection.

The keynote speaker, Mr. Ahmad Ali Naqvi, a respected political scientist, delivered an insightful talk on the historical evolution and contemporary relevance of diversity in Pakistan. He painted a nuanced picture of the nation's multifaceted identity—one shaped by centuries of coexistence among ethnic, religious, and linguistic communities. Mr. Naqvi traced Pakistan's diversity back to its formative years, emphasizing the era before the partition of Bengal and the eventual creation of Bangladesh. During that period, bureaucrats and professionals moved between East and West Pakistan, facilitating a unique cultural and administrative exchange. This chapter of history, he noted, serves as a reminder of how deeply interconnected our stories once were—and can still be. “Diversity is our strength, but only when anchored in mutual respect and tolerance,” Mr. Naqvi emphasized. He cautioned against the dangers of ignoring or marginalizing differences, underlining that true national unity can only emerge from open communication and genuine understanding among various groups. A poignant moment during the session was the moderation by Asad Ullah, a student from Bajaur, whose presence and leadership served as a living embodiment of the very diversity being celebrated. His role highlighted the power of representation and the importance of inclusive spaces within academic and national discourse. Punjab University, with its vibrant student body representing all corners of Pakistan, continues to be a microcosm of the nation's diversity—a place where ideas converge, cultures blend, and mutual growth flourishes. The seminar concluded with a strong message: to unlock the full potential of Pakistan's diverse fabric, we must engage in active listening, shared learning, and open-hearted interaction. Only then can we build bridges that outlast divisions and nurture a more inclusive, united future. Special thanks are extended to the organizing team for their dedication and to Mr. Ahmad Ali Naqvi for generously sharing his time and wisdom.





BREAKING BARRIERS: COMBATING SOCIAL ISOLATION AMONG STUDENTS

In an era where digital connection often overshadows real-world interaction, the need to address student isolation has never been more urgent. In response, the Department of Political Science, in collaboration with student organizers, hosted a powerful event titled “Breaking Barriers – Combating Social Isolation Among Students.” This well-structured initiative focused on building a stronger, more emotionally intelligent student body. The event featured a dynamic expert-led session on stress management and personal development, equipping students with practical tools to navigate emotional struggles and academic pressure with resilience. Adding a unique edge, the event also included an interactive activity designed to break down social walls and build bridges among participants. Through guided group exercises, students had the opportunity to share, listen, and build empathy, reminding everyone that behind each face is a story worth hearing. This initiative was more than a mental health workshop; it was a call to the community — an invitation to foster deeper human connection, build self-awareness, and champion inclusivity across campus. “Breaking Barriers” stands as a commendable step toward cultivating a university culture that values openness, emotional well-being, and collective growth. In a world that often pushes us toward isolation, this event pulled students back to what matters most: each other.



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TACKLING TERRORISM TOGETHER: THIRD ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE PROMOTES COLLABORATIVE SOLUTIONS

Lahore, April 26, 2025 — The Department of Political Science, University of the Punjab, once again stood at the forefront of national discourse by hosting the Third One-Day Roundtable Conference on the theme “Pakistan Facing Terrorism: A Collaborative Approach Towards Facing off the Menace.” This critical event drew a diverse and engaged audience, including scholars, policymakers, journalists, decision-makers, faculty members, and researchers from across the country. Held within the intellectual halls of Punjab University, the conference became a powerful space for open, solution-oriented dialogue on one of Pakistan’s most persistent and urgent challenges — terrorism. Participants shared their perspectives on the root causes, evolving nature, and far-reaching consequences of violent extremism, while also proposing grounded, actionable strategies for countering the threat through collective effort. In a show of continued commitment to policy impact, the Department announced that a comprehensive report based on the conference proceedings will be compiled and formally submitted to the Prime Minister of Pakistan and the Chief Ministers of all four provinces, following the precedent set by the department’s earlier roundtable forums. This step underlines the department's growing role as a bridge between academia and state leadership. Professor Dr. Rana Eijaz Ahmad, the guiding force behind the initiative, extended his sincere appreciation to all participants. “Their insights,” he noted, “have been received with great respect and will contribute meaningfully to shaping informed, responsive public policy.” This event reflects the department’s long-standing mission: to serve as a hub of critical thought and national engagement, where experts, students, educators, and policymakers can confront the pressing issues of the 21st century. Through continuous dialogue and collaborative inquiry, the Department of Political Science aims to craft pragmatic, research-backed recommendations that empower leadership and benefit the nation at large.



The Political Pulse





A NEW CHAPTER IN ACADEMIC COLLABORATION: MOU SIGNED BETWEEN PUNJAB UNIVERSITY AND UNIVERSITY OF LAHORE

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was formally signed between the Department of Political Science, University of the Punjab and the School of Integrated Social Sciences, University of Lahore, marking a significant milestone in academic collaboration and institutional partnership. The signing ceremony, held with great dignity and mutual goodwill, was attended by key figures from both institutions. Professor Dr. Rana Ejaz Ahmad, Chairman of the Department of Political Science at the University of the Punjab, and Dr. Kishwer Munir, Chairperson of the School of Integrated Social Sciences, University of Lahore, put pen to paper, formalizing the partnership. Also present at the ceremony was Dr. Shabir Ahmad Khan, who contributed to the event's atmosphere of unity and shared purpose. The primary objective of the MOU is to foster joint academic initiatives, research collaboration, and faculty-student exchanges. Additionally, the partnership aims to facilitate the organization of seminars, workshops, and conferences, offering a platform for both students and faculty to engage in intellectual discourse and mutual learning. Both signatories expressed their optimism regarding the long-term benefits of this collaboration, with the shared goal of advancing political science education and research in Pakistan. The partnership is poised to strengthen inter-institutional relationships and further enrich the academic journey for all involved. As the ceremony concluded, both parties expressed their commitment to nurturing this promising relationship, pledging future collaboration and mutual support.





ALUMNI DINNER 2025: CELEBRATING OUR LEGACY, BUILDING THE FUTURE

The Alumni Dinner, held on Saturday, April 26, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the Department of Political Science, University of the Punjab, was a night to remember. The theme, “Celebrating Our Legacy, Building the Future,” resonated deeply with everyone in attendance, as alumni, faculty, and students gathered on the department lawn to celebrate the enduring bonds that continue to shape the future of the university. On behalf of the department, Professor Dr. Rana Eijaz Ahmad, Chairman of the Department of Political Science, expressed heartfelt gratitude to the alumni for their enthusiastic presence and spirited participation.

"Your warmth, energy, and unwavering connection to the department made the evening truly memorable."

He said. The event was marked by lively interactions among former classmates, teachers, and the new generation of students, demonstrating the strength and unity of the Punjab University community. The evening served as a testament to the enduring legacy of the department and the profound impact it has had on its alumni. Looking forward, the department is excited about continuing to nurture these connections and creating more opportunities for meaningful engagement in the future. The success of the event reaffirmed the importance of staying connected, not just through memories but through shared goals and aspirations. A sincere thank you to all alumni for making the Alumni Dinner a resounding success. The department is excited for the journey ahead and the opportunities to further strengthen these cherished ties.





Thank You for Reading!

We hope you enjoyed this edition of Political Pulse. As we wrap up this issue, we're already working on the next one, packed with more insightful analysis, thought-provoking commentary, and in-depth features.

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Punjab University Political Science Vision



**Department of Political Science,
University of the Punjab ,Lahore**



Department of Political Science official



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