

PEACE PERIODICAL

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WELCOME

Centre for Critical Peace Studies at UMT is a trans-disciplinary research and advocacy forum for peace scholars from around the world, especially for scholars of the Global South (South Asia, South East Asia, Latin America, Middle East, and Africa). In line with the spirit of Peace Studies, the Centre is open for all interested scholars from multiple domains and disciplines.

The mission of the Centre for Critical Peace Studies is 'immanent critique', that is 'critique with the intent of reform of a real-world situation'. Drawing on the De-colonial / Post-colonial perspectives, one particular real-world situation that the Centre seeks to improve is North-centrism (Euro/ US centrism) of Peace Studies. By centering the problems of the South and by amplifying the voices of Southern scholars, the Centre aims to undo the epistemic hegemony of the West in the field of Peace and Conflict Studies / Security Studies and International Relations. It is hence named the Centre for Critical Peace Studies.

Our Peace Periodicals will update readers on CCPS activities and provide space for peace and security students and scholars to share their thoughts and perspectives. It will also include issue briefs, policy analysis, and timely debates.

CONTACT US

University of Management &
Technology
C-II Johar Town, Lahore-
54770, Pakistan

+92-42-111 300 200
ccps.dir@umt.edu.pk
<http://ccps.umt.edu.pk/>

EDITORIAL

Editor-in-Chief
Dr. Fatima Sajjad

Editorial Team
Nida Sheikh
Kulsoom Belal
Maira Asif
Areeba Younus





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UMT, Pakistan

Sohaib Ali

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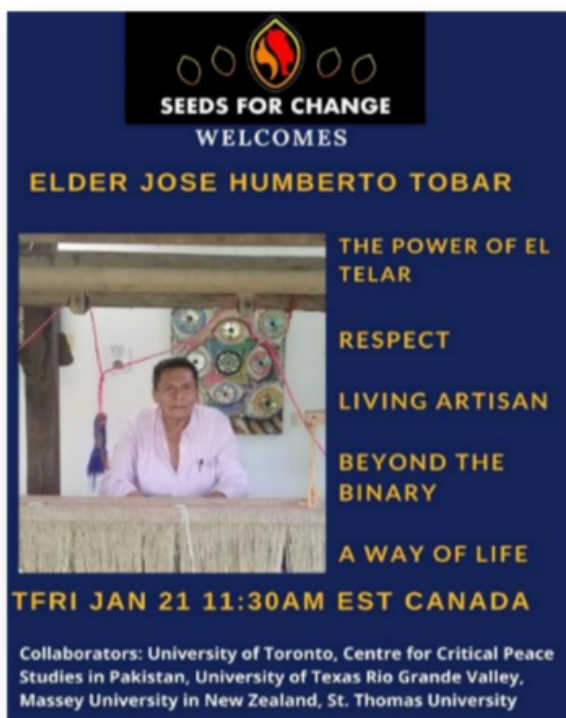
Specialist scientist
South African Medical Research Council
Professor at the University of South Africa



CCPS ACTIVITIES

Winter Series on Race, Racism, Settler Colonialism, Pedagogies of Oppression and Liberation (January 13, 2022)

CCPS in collaboration with SEEDS for Change, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, St. Thomas University in New Brunswick, the College of Education at the University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley, the University of Toronto Scarborough, and Massey University in New Zealand offered winter series on Race, Racism, Settler Colonialism, Pedagogies of Oppression and Liberation. This work is part of two initiatives: Learning Without Borders and Teaching Beyond the Binary. The seeds we share in community are political. This work is not for the likes, not-for-profit, not based on charity or vertical models. Through SEEDS for Change, these pedagogical lessons come from the land.



SEEDS FOR CHANGE
WELCOMES

ELDER JOSE HUMBERTO TOBAR

THE POWER OF EL TELAR

RESPECT

LIVING ARTISAN

BEYOND THE BINARY

A WAY OF LIFE

TFRI JAN 21 11:30AM EST CANADA

Collaborators: University of Toronto, Centre for Critical Peace Studies in Pakistan, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Massey University in New Zealand, St. Thomas University

The Practitioner's Racial Justice Hub – University of Toronto (January 14, 2022)

The Practitioner's Racial Justice Hub series as part of an initiative birthed through SEEDS for Change. CCPS in collaboration with leading faculty from the SEEDS for Change, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto, the University of Toronto Scarborough, Massey University in New Zealand and the University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley offered the series to Social Sciences students at University of Management and Technology.



SEEDS FOR CHANGE
INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE DOCUMENTARY SCREENING OF:

ILLEGAL

CONVERSATION WITH FILM MAKER AND PRODUCER LAZ AYALA WILL FOLLOW

FRI JAN 28 11:30AM EST CANADA

Collaborators: University of Toronto, Centre for Critical Peace Studies in Pakistan, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Massey University in New Zealand, St. Thomas University

CCPS ACTIVITIES

Director CCPS, Dr. Fatima Sajjad presented her paper in a workshop (RE) IMAGiNiNG PAKISTAN: STRENGTH THROUGH DIVERSITY (January 19, 2022)

Director CCPS, Dr. Fatima Sajjad presented her paper in a workshop organized on 19 January 2022 by Iqbal Akhtar, an associate professor in the departments of Religious Studies and Politics and International Relations at Florida International University. The workshop was the conclusion of a 5-month fellowship as a visiting foreign scholar at the University of Management and Technology. The fellowship was aimed at capacity building of Pakistani academics to reach a global audience with their research networks and publications. Dr. Akhtar's work on interfaith and interfaith dialogue presents new avenues to engage Pakistani citizens according to Quaid-i-Azam's vision of a religiously tolerant society



CCPS collaborated with DPSIR in organizing the MUN session and cultural show (Saturday) January 22, 2022

MUN session was organized first time in UMT by faculty and final semester students of BS International Relations. The session was mainly organized by Mr. Saad Naseer Malik, lecturer at the Department of Political Science and International Relations (DPSIR) in collaboration with the Centre for Critical Peace Studies (CCPS). Almost 200 Students participated from junior and seniors sections that were divided into four committees and were given different topics to discuss. The first committee was Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC) and the topic was assigned to them related to the Israel and Palestine Conflict: the recent attack on the GAZA strip. In which 12 delegates participated that were P5 states, India, Pakistan, KSA, Germany, Turkey, Jordan, and Palestine as Non-States actors. It carried out 5 sessions and come up with the Bi-National solution. Secondly, the topic was related to the Foreign Policy of Pakistan after the post-US withdrawal and recognition of the Taliban Regime under the committee of the General Assembly. In which 11 delegate states participated such as USA, Russia, Pakistan, India, China, KSA, UK, Turkey, France, Iran, and Afghanistan. It was concluded with a solution that recognition is must to bound Taliban regime under the jurisdiction of International Law to maintain regional and international security.

CCPS ACTIVITIES

Thirdly, the assigned topic was about the Regional Integration: CPEC in the context of post-US withdrawal under the committee of SOCHUM. In this Committee 11 delegate states participated and they were like USA, Russia, Pakistan, India, China, Australia, UK, Japan, France, Iran, and Afghanistan. Fourthly, this topic was related to Peace and Conflict Studies: Ukraine and Russia Conflict and its impact on the international level under the Committee of General Assembly. In this 8 delegate states participated and they were such as Israel, USA, Pakistan, KSA, UAE, Iran, China, Russia, Ukraine. In which some delegates were neutral and talked about the resolution, the USA criticized Russia, but Russia remained firm on its stance. Conclusively, after the observation of the chair, 20 best delegates were selected and opportunities to perform on Foreign Policy of Pakistan after the post-US withdrawal and recognition of Taliban Regime under the committee of Security Council. This session was performed in front of the Head of the Department of DPSIR, and the Supervisor of Security Studies. After session, students showed cultural diversity by wearing their cultural dresses and performing their cultural dance. Lastly, Chitral's rubab music was played.

Debate session organized by CCPS on Palestine and Kashmir issue (semester 8 students were involved in the debate) January 28, 2022

CCPS organized a debate session on Palestine and Kashmir issue. Final semester students of BS International Relations thoroughly analyzed the retrospect, contemporary debate, and future aspects of Palestine and Kashmir issue in the context of coloniality. Some points discussed in the debate include: Kashmir is a major flashpoint between two nuclear-armed rivals, India and Pakistan. The two countries were on the brink of nuclear war after a suicide attack in Kashmir in 2019. Violence along the DE-facto border in Kashmir is likely to continue to increase and India and Pakistan are unlikely in the near future to make efforts to resolve the conflict bilaterally. The contemporary scenarios are worsening for the Kashmiris in particular and are deteriorating for peace-building efforts between India and Pakistan. On the other hand, Palestine has undergone several political, economic and social transformations before and



CCPS ACTIVITIES

after the rule of the Ottoman Empire from 1517 till the end of World War I.

The area that later became Mandatory Palestine was divided into three administrative units: the district (sanjak) of Jerusalem, comprising the southern half of the country, and the two northern districts of Nablus and Acre. There was a khilafat regime and the Holy Mosque Aqsa was also in control of the Ottoman Empire. It invested a lot of money in the renovation of Masjid e Aqsa.



Certificate distribution, February 8, 2022

CCPS distributed certificates to students who attended courses; Teaching Beyond the Binary (Seeds for Change at University of Toronto), Global Campus Online Session (TUFS) and participants who served as volunteers of CCPS inaugural session.



CCPS ACTIVITIES

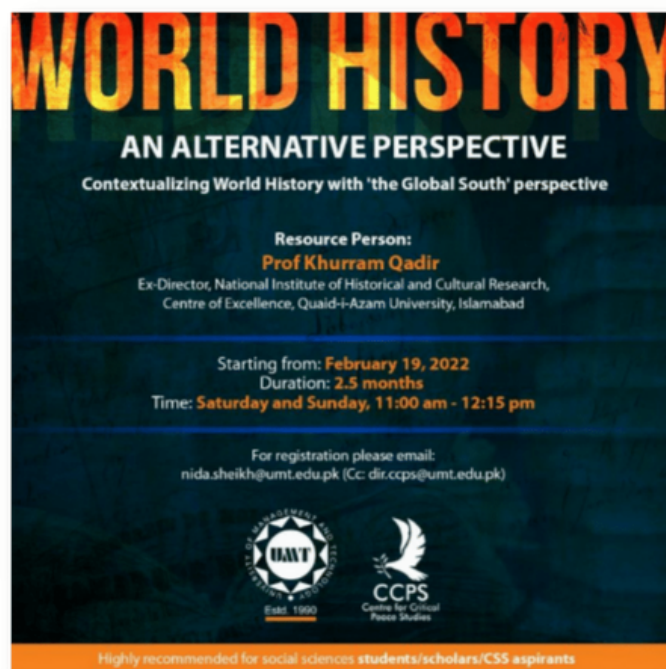
World History Seminar Series hosted by CCPS in collaboration with Dr. Khurram Qadir February 19, 2022

CCPS started a series of seminars on World History from February 19, 2022. Besides UMT, students from other universities: Punjab (PU), Government College University (GCU), Forman Christian College (FCCU), Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU), and Karakoram International University (KIU) have registered for the series. Furthermore, well-known faculty members of different universities in Pakistan expressed interest in the current series. Few names include Dr. Shahzeb Khan, Assistant Professor at the Institute of English Studies (PU), Dr. Amra Raza, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, and former Chairperson of the Department of English Language and Literature (PU), Dr. Faraz Anjum, Assistant Professor, Department of History (PU) Dr. Shabana Fayyaz, Professor - Defense & Strategic Studies, Quaid-i-Azam University.

The seminar series outlines a brief history of the world, challenging the current mainstream concepts of demography, time and space while seeking alternate methods of thought construction and epistemological formulation of ideas/perspectives of reality. Mainstream historians of past civilizations, living in different watersheds of spatial organization, used several forms of thought construction in addition to that

in use by the current mainstream which has abandoned and excluded all others from its tools in the quest of knowledge and understanding.

The talks in this series of seminars utilize these abandoned forms of epistemology and thought construction in addition to the current monopolistic "scientific" inquiry. They also introduce an alternate epistemic structure to create social knowledge in general and historical understanding in particular. Since the Pakistani audience is likely to be familiar with Muslim and South Asian history, and because the modern world is dominated by the Germanic-Nordic West, led by the Anglo-Saxon, English Speaking nations, the seminars contextualize focus more on contextualizing Muslim and South Asian History within the 21st Century situation of the anglicized world of today, in order to provide perspective to an essentially Pakistani audience.





WORLD HISTORY
AN ALTERNATIVE PERSPECTIVE
Contextualizing World History with 'the Global South' perspective

Resource Person:
Prof Khurram Qadir
Ex-Director, National Institute of Historical and Cultural Research,
Centre of Excellence, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad

Starting from: **February 19, 2022**
Duration: **2.5 months**
Time: **Saturday and Sunday, 11:00 am - 12:15 pm**

For registration please email:
nida.sheikh@umt.edu.pk (Cc: dir.ccps@umt.edu.pk)

 
UMT (Est. 1990) CCPS
Centre for Critical
Peace Studies

Highly recommended for social sciences students/scholars/CSS aspirants



INAUGURAL ISSUE FEEDBACK



Caroline Schoepf
Dept. of Sociology , Hong Kong Baptist University



Caroline Schoepf

to Director, walter, Asad, Dan, Shahnaaz, 伊勢崎, SOHAIB, Zahid, MUHAMMAD, Phoebe, Shahzeb, Richard, Phoebe, Iqbal, me,

Dear Fatima,

Thanks a lot for sharing this issue, it's amazing! You really have achieved a huge deal in a very short period of time!
I wish you lots of success for the future as well!

Warmly,
Caroline



walter mignolo <walter1654@gmail.com>

to Director, Asad, Dan, Caroline, Shahnaaz, 伊勢崎, SOHAIB, Zahid, MUHAMMAD, Phoebe, S

Deara Fatima, i join all the previous messages! It is an excellent issue in all its aspects.
Thanks you for sharing and looking forward to more, Walter



Dr. Shoaib Pervez
CoD Dept. of Political Science and IR , UMT



MUHAMMAD SHOAIB PERVEZ

to Director, walter, Asad, Dan, Caroline, Shahnaaz, 伊勢崎, S

thank you very much for sharing, looks great
shoaib



Dear Dr Fatima,

Thank you very much for the inaugural issue of the **Peace Periodical** and the small highlight of the UNESCO MGIEP SEL for Youth Waging **Peace** course.



CCPS reviewed the UNESCO course on December 20, 2021

UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP) expressed deep appreciation for comprehensively reviewing the UNESCO MGIEP "Social Emotional Learning for Youth Waging Peace" by CCPS Team Members

It would be wonderful if UNESCO MGIEP could contribute articles to future editions.



INAUGURAL ISSUE FEEDBACK

Dear Dr Fatima,

So happy to see this. You're doing such enviable work. Mashallah! More power to your efforts.

Best wishes,

Shahzeb



Richard Jackson

Director of the National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies (NCPACS)



Richard Jackson <richard.jackson@otago.ac.nz>

to Director, walter, Asad, Dan, Caroline, Shahnaaz, 伊勢崎, S

What an excellent first issue! Many congratulations!

Ngā mihi nui,

Nā Richard

Dear Director Fatima,

Greetings!

This is amazing! Thank you for sharing the "Peace Periodical". It is a very good platform for peace studies and a rich resource on peace and development in the region.

Congratulations!

Phoebe

Congratulations Dr Fatima

I liked the idea of the colored falcon with the olive branch for its logo, and your vision and your mission. Will surely give it a reading and spread it around.

Best of luck for all your efforts on the way to a **peaceful** future.

Kind regards

Saba Ali
Professor English
on Alumni Relations and Career Development (ARCD)
Department of Humanities
Editorial Newsletter
COMSA University Islamabad, Lahore



REIMAGINING GEOPOLITICS AFTER THE RUSSIAN INVASION OF UKRAINE

KULSOOM BELAL

Research associate at the Center for
Critical Peace Studies. She can be
reached at
kulsoom.belal@umt.edu.pk



UKRAINE

The world today is not the same as it was before February 24, 2022 when Russia attacked Ukraine. By launching a full-scale war against Ukraine, Russia has demonstrated its assertiveness and boldness in crossing the red line without fear of repercussions, as well as its capacity to engage in regional power rivalry. Hence, as the situation transpires, it invokes a series of significant questions about the future of geopolitics as well as peace and security dynamics in the region. This issue brief will investigate briefly the following questions: What ends Putin wants to achieve in Ukraine? Is it the metaphorical end to the unipolar parity of the United States? Is it the win for Russia and Putin and an opportunity to forge another “Soviet Union” or Putin will lose not only Ukraine but also Russia? How it will impact Europe, will it become a buffer zone between the US and Russia, or Russia will be able to polarize it? And last but not the least, what does the war portend for this region and Pakistan?

What ends Putin wants to achieve in Ukraine?

One, Putin wants to assure its interests and security in the region and the small powers such as the post-Soviet and Baltic states as well as the major powers in the region to understand and guarantee it. Putin asserts that Russia’s interests are as legitimate as those of the West and that the United States and Europe have been disregarding them which is true for the most part as the United States and Europe have rejected the Kremlin’s narrative of grievance growing most notably on the breakup of the Soviet Union and especially the separation of Ukraine from Russia.



Not only that, but Russia has been numerous times invaded by the West. In the twentieth century, during its civil war from 1917 to 1922, it was invaded by anti-Bolshevik allied forces, including some from the United States. During World War II, Germany invaded twice, resulting in the deaths of 26 million Soviet citizens. Putin has made a direct link between this past and Russia's current fears about NATO infrastructure nearing its borders, emphasizing Moscow's requests for security guarantees. Thus, for Russia, the fear is that Ukraine was being turned into "a springboard against Russia" and more specifically, a launching pad for NATO aggression. Given this backdrop, Putin's ultimate goal is to reverse the effects of the Soviet collapse, break the transatlantic alliance, and renegotiate the Cold War-era geographic settlement.


Putin also believes that Russia has an unalienable claim to a privileged interests area in the post-Soviet space. This means that its former Soviet neighbors should avoid joining any anti-Moscow alliances, such as NATO or the European Union and Putin made this demand clear in two treaties offered by the Kremlin on December 17: Ukraine and other post-Soviet countries, as well as Sweden and Finland, must swear to permanent neutrality and cease their pursuit of NATO membership. This would need NATO to return to its 1997 military posture and presence, which was in place when the Soviet Union split apart and will ensure Russia that pro-Russian governments are in power in countries bordering Russia, including, most notably, Ukraine.

What are the stakes for Putin to win the war? What are the consequences if he loses the war?

For Russia, victory in Ukraine could take various forms. It can come in the form of Russia's occupation of Ukraine as it happened with Crimea and Donbas region. It can also be in the form of a sustainable settlement or Russia could involve the installation of a compliant government in Kyiv. Russia's current strengths are its preeminent military power in the region, the support of regional allies such as China, Turkey, India, and Iran - the countries that seek multipolarity in the world and have shown, albeit tacitly a show of hand in their support to Russia, a Europe reliant on Russian gas and energy, a Russia that has reemerged in the world in the Putin era and can engage its foes in various hotspots, and finally, Russian influence and presence in the region. Alternatively, the defeat of the Ukrainian military, the negotiating of a Ukrainian capitulation, the crippling of the country, and regime change might essentially turn Ukraine into a failed state. All of this, however, will come at a high cost and obstacles for Russia.

One, to achieve the above, Russia will have to substantially subdue Ukraine and give it a devastating blow. Russia's activities will be scrutinized by the rest of the globe. Every war is a public relations struggle, and given the stronghold of the West on the international mass media, Putin's conflict in Ukraine has connected Russia with an unwarranted invasion on a peaceful neighbor, huge humanitarian misery, and numerous wars crimes. This will be an impediment to Russian foreign policy in the future at every turn.





Secondly, not seen at the moment happening in the world stage except in the economic sphere, the nexus of power against Russia, the United States, the European Union, and a number of countries—including Australia, Japan, Singapore, and South Korea—will join hands to show collective action against Russia and to Russia's defeat in Ukraine. Already, the United States and its allies and partners are imposing harsh costs on Moscow. Certainly, they can do more especially the United States by imposing the secondary sanction as it imposed on Iran.

Thirdly, given the scale at which Russia initiated the war, it seemed it will conduct a lightning strike or a blitzkrieg operation, all prepared to pound on Kyiv and decapitate the Ukrainian government. However, it has been two weeks, and Moscow appears to be no closer to imposing neutrality or establishing Russian suzerainty over Ukraine with the Ukrainian population showing resistance to the incursion. Even if Russia can establish a governmental framework in Ukraine, the question is whether it will be able to dominate the Ukrainian populace and preserve order in a country where the people are opposed to Russian rule and control. This is further confounded by the fact that Ukraine is huge in size and has a recent democratic history.

Furthermore, Putin's forces might become mired in a costly occupation of Ukraine and reduce a neighboring country to poverty and disorder. Simultaneously, there are chances that the incursion if turned into a long war can roll in Russia's slow economic decline and increasing global isolation. And, most importantly, Putin may lose the support of the Russian people and elites, on whom he relies to keep his power.


Is it an opportunity for Putin to forge another "Soviet Union"?

It's difficult to say how far Putin will go to achieve his goals while the scenario is still unfolding. Since taking office, Putin's main goal has been to persuade the West to treat Russia as if it were the Soviet Union, a power to be feared and revered, with unique privileges in its neighborhood and a say in every major international issue. Over the years, Putin has also shown and claimed that Russia has an unalienable right to a seat at the table when it comes to significant international decisions. The West must acknowledge that Russia is a member of the global board. Critically speaking, Putin has essentially achieved this goal after what he describes as the humiliation of the 1990s when a disintegrated Russia was obliged to conform to the plans of the US and its European allies. Today, Moscow wields veto power in the UN Security Council, and its status as energy, nuclear, and geographic superpower forces the rest of the world to consider its viewpoints. Following the 2008 conflict with Georgia, Russia upgraded its military and is now the preeminent regional military force with the ability to project influence globally.

Furthermore, Russia has established its power in another region, such as the Middle East. Russia shifted Syria's war trajectory, rescued Syrian President Bashar al-Assad from defeat, and then used military might to gain diplomatic pressure. Moscow has also increased its regional clout in many Middle Eastern war-torn countries and has kept Assad as a reliable partner for Russia's power projection.

What does it signify for the security of Europe?

The current situation between Russia and Ukraine is about far more than Ukraine's potential membership in NATO. In a nutshell, it is about the future of the European system formed after the fall of the Soviet Union. Weakening the transatlantic alliance might allow Putin to dismantle the post-Cold War international system championed by Europe and the US in favor of one more accommodating to Russia.



A new era for the United States and Europe will begin if Russia gets control of Ukraine or succeeds to destabilise it on a large scale. Leaders in the United States and Europe would be faced with the combined issue of rethinking European security while avoiding being pulled into a bigger conflict with Russia. This is already happening when Ukraine requests NATO to declare Ukraine a no-fly zone; the request was denied by both the EU and the US under the pretext of escalating the war. As a result, the two responsibilities—vigorously protecting European peace while cautiously avoiding military escalation with Russia—may not be mutually exclusive. If Russia uses military force to achieve its political goals in Ukraine, Europe will not be the same as it was before the conflict. Not only will the United States' primacy in Europe be questioned, but any belief that the European Union or NATO can maintain peace on the continent will be a relic from the past. Instead, Europe's security will have to be confined to safeguarding the EU's and NATO's core members. Ultimately, the EU and NATO will no longer be able to pursue ambitious policies beyond their own boundaries if they are regarded to be under the influence of Russia.

The end of unipolarity for the United States?

After the Obama administration, the United States seems to be divided and inconsistent regarding its foreign policy. The Trump administration trumped about pulling the US from NATO and halting its funding while the Biden administration is trying to cobble and repair the relations between the EU and the US. Both Putin and the EU can hardly predict the situation after 2024 and that makes the United States an unreliable partner for the EU and also show the weakness of the US in pursuing a consistent policy in the world.

Secondly, the states in the EU, the main ally of the US in the world, are dealing with their own domestic issues and challenges and hardly demonstrate the capability or wether to hamper the Russian incursion in its backyard, let alone going into the loggerhead. The new German government is still finding its political feet, while France and the Baltic states are struggling with domestic instability. Furthermore, because gas and energy are the lifeblood of Europe's economy and society, the EU's energy dependence on Russia gives Russia additional clout over the continent. The Kremlin is well aware that the energy issue has the potential to polarise European countries.

Another critical aspect of the problem is that the US has significant commercial equities in Europe. With commerce in products and services exceeding \$1.1 trillion in 2019, the European Union and the United States are each other's major trade and investment partners. A well-functioning, stable Europe complements American foreign policy in areas such as climate change, nonproliferation, global public health, and managing tensions with China and Russia. If Europe is destabilized, the United States will find itself in a far more isolated position in the globe.

What does the war portend for the region and Pakistan?

A bigger conflict in Ukraine would have the unintended effect of Russia and the US encountering each other as foes in other regions of the world, and as we know from Cold War history, the Third World would be their playground. The nuclear threshold might maintain the conflict at a low level, allowing for proxy warfare in the Middle East and Africa, as well as other Third World nations, to punish them for supporting the opposing bloc.

Given the mounting economic complaints, catastrophic losses, and other challenges resulting from the Afghan conflict, Pakistan must establish a neutral balance to pursue its strategy while guaranteeing peace and security both inside and beyond the area in the changing regional context.





THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN YEMEN

KULSOOM BELAL

Research associate at the Center for Critical Peace Studies. She can be reached at kulsoom.belal@umt.edu.pk

Yemen, on the Arabian Peninsula's southern tip, continues to be the world's greatest humanitarian disaster. Yemen's civil war began in 2015, following conflicts between Yemeni government troops supported by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, as well as other major power allies, and the Houthis, also known as Ansar Allah, backed by Iran. The purpose of this article is to raise awareness of the facts on the ground in Yemen and to comprehend the dire humanitarian situation.

Major Statistics about the Humanitarian Crisis

Yemen's situation has worsened since turmoil erupted in late March 2015, making it one of the poorest countries in the Middle East. According to the UNHCR website, the eight years of war have displaced over 4 million people, with 20.7 million in desperate need of humanitarian aid. In all, 66 percent of the population is in desperate need of aid. Half of Yemen's health facilities have been closed or destroyed, and the nation is on the verge of a large-scale famine, with about 50,000 people living in famine-like circumstances and 5 million more in danger of going hungry by 2022. Yemen was already the most dangerous country in the world before the present catastrophe. Even before the current crisis, Yemen was the most vulnerable country in the Middle East. It ranked among the world's worst in malnutrition rates and half of its population was living in poverty, without access to safe water.

Internally displaced Yemenis are the most vulnerable to food insecurity, with 2.6 million people out of a total population of 4 million experiencing life-threatening food shortages. According to studies, displaced families are four times more likely than the rest of Yemen's population to succumb to starvation. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated their position, as have a resurgence of avoidable illnesses like cholera, diphtheria, measles, and dengue fever that had been eliminated elsewhere in the globe.

Right now the biggest challenge the world needs to remember and act to is the threat of a large-scale famine, conflict, crumbling services, and long-term displacement. Six years of intensive conflict have brought the nation to the verge of economic collapse, with barely half of the country's health institutions completely operational and more than half of the people unable to satisfy their basic necessities due to a lack of water and resources. According to reports, over 16 million people may go hungry this year, with half a million already experiencing famine-like circumstances.

Fleeing Yemenis

Since the start of the conflict, more than four million Yemenis have been forced from their homes, although the great majority have remained within the nation. Yemen has the fourth-highest number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the world, behind Syria, Colombia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Many internally displaced people have been in exile for more than two years, putting a strain on their limited resources and exposing them to increasingly severe conditions. In Yemen, over 66 percent of IDPs reside in unsafe areas with severe food shortages, as well as a lack of water, healthcare, and sanitation facilities. Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 epidemic and the fear of a future famine in the country, their condition has grown even more difficult. Despite the violence, Yemen is home to around 135,000 Somali and Ethiopian refugees and asylum seekers, making it the world's second-largest host of Somali refugees.

Yemen Refugee Camps and Settlements

- In Yemen, nearly 41,000 individuals were displaced in the first half of 2021.

- In April, 7,000 individuals were relocated due to heavy rainfall and flooding, with 75 percent of them being internally displaced.
- One in every four displaced Yemeni households is headed by a woman or girl, with 20% of those under the age of 18 years old.
- Around 66 percent of Yemen's internally displaced people live in hazardous conditions, with widespread food shortages and a lack of essential amenities.
- Kharaz refugee camp was home to roughly 9,500 refugees and asylum seekers as of September 2021, the majority of them were from Somalia and Ethiopia. Women and girls made up more than half of the group.

Effects on Yemeni children and women

The problem is disproportionately affecting women and children. They make up 79 percent of the displaced population, and their situation is becoming increasingly tough. Since the battle began, at least 10,000 children have been murdered or injured, and many more have been recruited to fight. Internally displaced children number around 2 million. Access to education and health services has also been affected due to the destruction and closure of schools and hospitals. Over two million youngsters are out of school, putting them at an even greater risk. Meanwhile, Yemen is experiencing one of the greatest food crises in the world, with roughly 2.3 million children under the age of five suffering from severe malnutrition. 400,000 of them are projected to suffer from severe acute malnutrition and may die unless they receive immediate treatment.



At least one kid dies every ten minutes from avoidable illnesses, and one out of every four children in some sections of the nation is now critically malnourished. In addition, by 2021, more than 2.3 million children under the age of five may be suffering from acute malnutrition. Without immediate care, tens of thousands of more children are at risk of severe acute malnutrition and perhaps death.

Coming to women, one in every four displaced Yemeni households is now headed by a woman or girl, with 20% of those under the age of 18 years old. Due to established societal traditions, they are obliged to take on the task of supporting their families while also dealing with inequity, restricted access to assistance, and other impediments. Many people can no longer afford basic meals due to high inflation and a lack of job possibilities, putting them in danger of famine, gender-based abuse, exploitation, and early marriage. According to UN projections, over a million pregnant and breastfeeding women are expected to suffer from acute malnutrition in the coming years.



Radicalization in South Asia: Contexts, Trajectories, and Implications

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South Asia is at a crossroads. Democracy in South Asia is strong but history shows that its countries have been swinging between illiberal democracy, autocracy, and military-backed dictatorships. Pluralism and the very socio-political fabric of this region are under serious pressure.

This book, *Radicalization in South Asia: Contexts, Trajectories, and Implications*, edited by Mubashar Hassan, Kenji Isezaki, Sameer Yasir, is a collection of eleven chapters focusing on religious radicalization in five Asian locations: India, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, and Bangladesh.

The book opens with three chapters on India. The first chapter posits that Indian Maoism has no innovative political strategies to counter contemporary Indian capitalism or the dynamism of the Indian state. Its military strategy has also become obsolete and it is difficult to enlist average people for such a dangerous war with the technologically superior state. Their restricted territorial locality too has alienated them from vast sections of people, and their struggles against capitalist exploitation and non-class oppression. One can debate the relevance or failure of Maoism globally but its appeal amongst the poor and deprived sections cannot be ignored.

The second chapter describes how Kashmir's syncretic culture had been traditionally passed on to young Kashmiris, helping them reject radical and violent influences at least to an extent. The chapter also discusses how social media is undermining traditional socialization patterns and interpersonal relationships.

The third chapter brings forth how anti-India narratives are increasing not just in Pakistan but also in Bangladesh, based on an analysis of existing terrorist propaganda literature. The chapter also analyses strategic communications around terrorism in India's foreign policy, especially as the stability of domestic politics and the democratic environment in Bangladesh is significant to India.

Radicalization in South Asia

Context, Trajectories and Implications



Edited by
Mubashar Hassan
Kenji Isezaki
Sameer Yasir



Chapter Four starts the second section of the book with an analysis of the macro-level political, religious, and ideological contexts for radicalization in the Maldives and the relationship between Salafism and radicalization which is not unidirectional but locally contextual.

Chapter Five offers a comprehensive plan on countering radicalization in Sri Lanka which emerges from majoritarianism and marginalization with policy action, domestic reform, and regional and global engagement including employment generation, education and language sector reforms, and better urban planning.

Chapter Six presents a model of de-radicalization and rehabilitation of male youth extremists in Pakistan based on the Pakistan Army's collaboration with a voluntary organization. The model uses a holistic approach including corrective religious instruction, mainstream education, vocational training, and recreation with post-reintegration monitoring to ensure zero recidivism along with lessons for replicating this model in other parts of the world.

Chapter Seven similarly explores the interesting premise of how higher education systems are unable to prevent young people from embracing extremist ideologies, especially since 9/11, given the fear-driven anti-radicalization policies and the market-driven neoliberal policies in higher education in Pakistan.

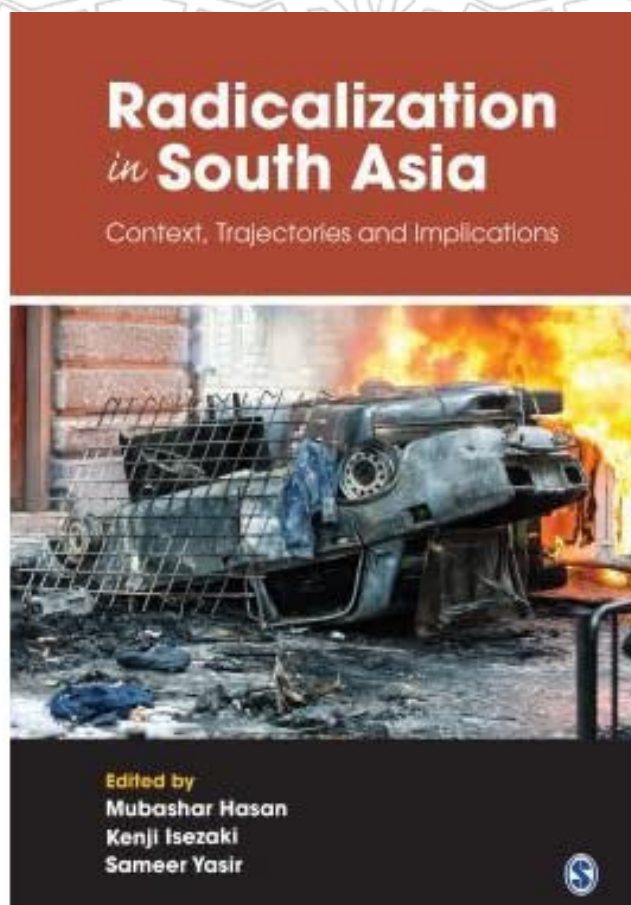
The last four chapters focus on Bangladesh. Chapter Eight investigates the role of madrasas in radicalizing Bangladeshi youth and debates on the madrasa's autonomy versus their secularization along with discussions on Islamophobia and Bangladesh's own war on terror.

Chapter Nine explores a hitherto little explored topic of why women join terrorist outfits. This chapter offers the inputs of law enforcement officials, civil society, and academicians regarding the gendered dimensions of security and how women's socio-economic indicators interact with socio-political grievances, relationships with religious radicals, and indoctrinated beliefs.

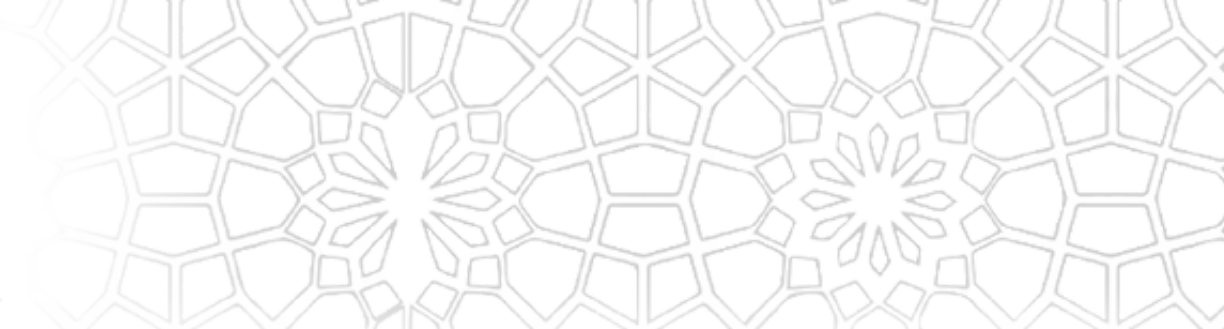
Chapter Ten explores ways of exposure and expression of radicalization among urban Bangladeshi youth with an in-depth analysis of the push and pull factors like alienation, the crisis of identity, and religious globalization.

Chapter Eleven, the final chapter of the book, gives a critical overview of Bangladesh's responses to increased terrorism by analyzing not just its counter-terrorism operations but also its counter-narrative campaigns, de-radicalization goals, and counter-radicalization policies.

Illiberalism and nationalism are global phenomena today, yet radicalization, in particular, geographies has diverse trajectories, best understood with context-specific local knowledge. The editors have carefully combined select, innovative premises backed with fresh, indigenous, perspectives, resulting in a comprehensive analysis of a transnational phenomenon.



This book is a diverse, dynamic read due to its expert analysis, research, and case studies. Its insight into the ideologies and human behaviors associated with radicalization makes it a useful reading not just for academicians, practitioners, and policymakers but even laypersons interested in an introduction to conflict studies. This book not only situates radicalization with reference to multiple factors like violence and extremism but also posits that rather than cut and dried models or patterns, radicalization is best understood as a cohesive set of multiple intersecting issues like grievances, ideologies, and support structures, giving the common man's understanding of radicalization an academicians's informed, balanced and holistic backing.



South Asia has witnessed radicalization around diverse extreme ideologies. This includes both political extremism and radicalization through religious and cultural differences. This volume is a handy book to understand these phenomena in one go. Based on case studies, it also helps to understand the malaise in its local context as the contributions are based on the dynamics of the specific regions.

There are fault lines and there is fundamentalism – we need to develop policies, laws, and programs that identify not just the law and order aspect of radicalization but also the socio-economic and psychological roots that are often ignored in a martial zest to try and exterminate it. The book is insightful as it unravels the context of radicalization in each country, emphasizing the specificities of the complex local politics, thus avoiding sweeping generalizations. This book is timely as the region is facing challenges of diverse radicalizations. It is also a move away from the literature on radicalization that focuses mostly on the Middle East and Europe. It has new perspectives on the causes and context of radicalization, from the local and psychological to the global and structural. It offers guidance to policymakers and practitioners and is an important contribution to both the literature and practice on radicalization.

Reviewer: Ms. Meghna Vesvikar, Asst. Prof.
College of Social Work, Nirmala
Niketan, India
meghnavesvikar@gmail.com



Guns, Germs, and Steel

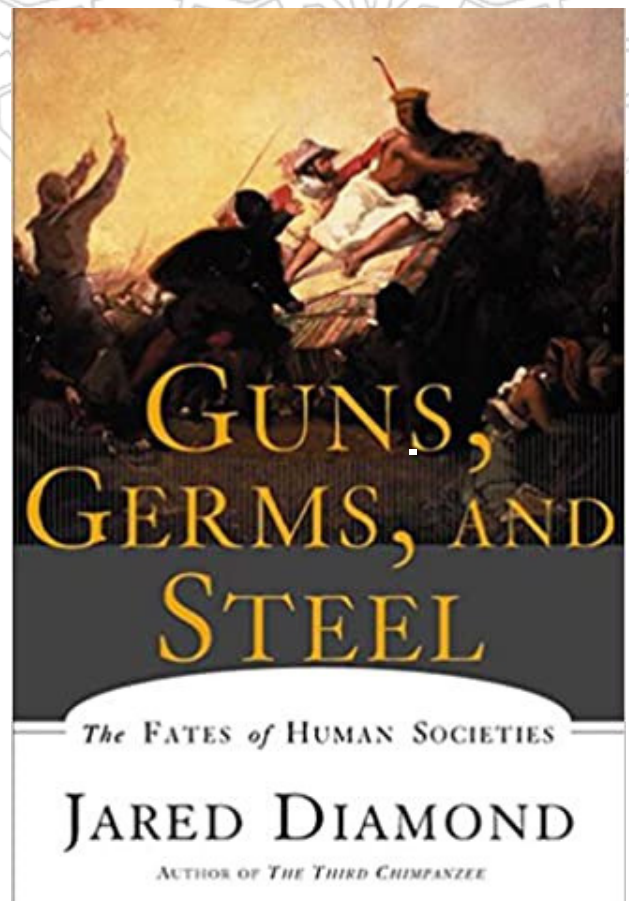
ISBN 978-0099302780

Book Review by: Mohsin Ali Baig


Jared Diamond's 'Guns, Germs, and Steel', published in 1997, Britain is a non-fiction book aimed at giving answers and uncovering some of the major dynamics involved in societies' development. In the beginning, Diamond proclaims that more than any intrinsic drive, it was the question from an African individual named "Yali", on seeking to discern the mystery behind Eurasia's unprecedented development, which essentially directed him to write the book.

The book largely spins around narrating and explaining some of the substantial reasons behind the Eurasian continent's notable progress and historical dominance over Africa and other societies of the world. Subsequently, it revolves around the melody of giving answers to the questions like why societies are divided as they are today. What factors made some societies/regions in particular Eurasia more developed and advanced than others like Latin America and Africa. Throughout the book, Diamond argues why some nations (Eurasia) developed and progressed more than others and more specifically under what dynamics that disparity occurred.

In the initial part of the book, Diamond centers his arguments on the notion of 'geographical determinism', that how Eurasia always had access to ample reservoirs of mineral resources, plentiful water supply, and appropriate climate for the growing of valuable crops like wheat, rice, and barley than other societies. Similarly, his conjecture taking the advantage of the East-West axis over the North-South is decisive. Chiefly, because of the apt environment, and encouraging geographical network, migration took place smoothly, trade and communication became unflustered, which, significantly, became the vehicle for the spread of their ideas, culture and ultimately steered their societies towards development and prosperity. While on the other parts of the world extreme environment and geographical terrain, largely in the African and Latin



American continent were relatively inhospitable to grow crops and settle societies for too long. Correspondingly, he maintains that it was the promising topography that not only led the native Europeans to domesticate more prized animals i.e. horses, upon which initially they traveled, and then spread their culture and ideas robustly and conveniently. Diamond further adds that fertile land for farming, raw materials like iron and wood, advantageous mammals like horses for traveling, cows for plowing, sheep and pigs for meat, and domestication empowered them to linger on their livelihood with significant lenience. Consequently, vast access to the trade of treasured goods also assisted them to expand across Africa, Latin America, and Asia with much greater control, (Jackson 2016).

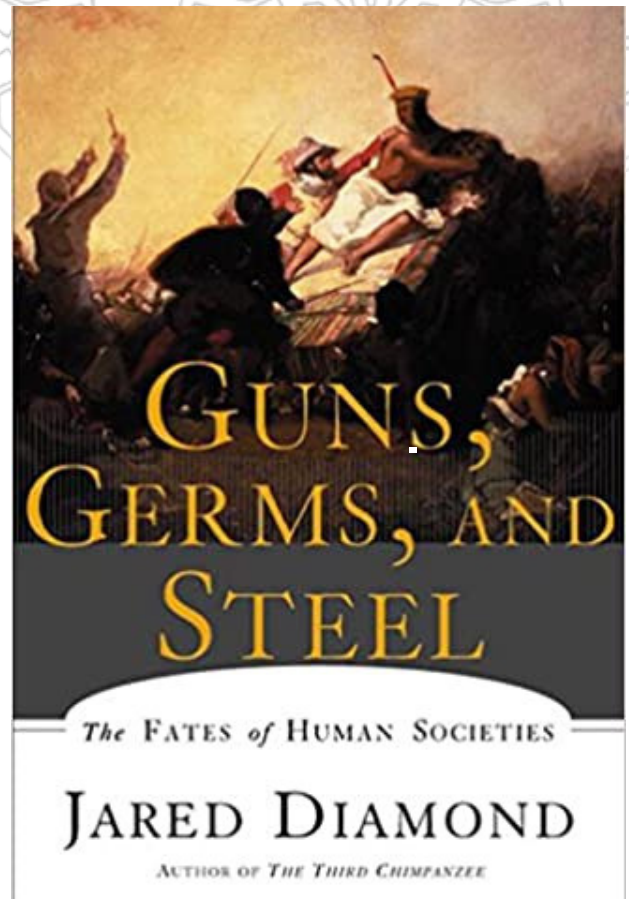


Further, the grounds Diamond makes in the middle part of the book are substantially conspicuous. For instance, his revelatory stand on the foundation of the development of Eurasia like the presence of domesticable animals and plants/crops along with the abundance of natural resources is appealing and well supported by historical events.

Subsequently, the existence of surplus food crops not only favored Eurasian societies' sustenance but also led to their unfettered expansion. Subsequently, this paved the way for them to build their armies to subdue indigenous societies elsewhere diplomatically and forcefully, allowing them to shape into kingdoms and eventually to mighty empires to rule over the world.

Astoundingly, more than the role of science, Diamond, in his book, has deemed that it was mere incidental 'good fortune' of the Eurasian continent and the subsequent wit of native Europeans that became the major determinant in their progress. Subsequently, the book is fascinating and thought-provoking in a sense that, unlike the revisionist narrative, the author in his book has attempted to uncover and falsify the ever-present hysteria on the racial superiority of whites. Instead, he has maintained that all the people have originated from a single African region with the same biological qualities and capabilities for creativity and critical thinking. Thus, it was the development of guns, germs, and steel that ensured that Europeans settled the Americas, Oceania, and Southern Africa, eliminating or subduing local populations which were unable to resist them, (Tomlinson T, 1998).

In addition, Diamond has referred to germs as being the deadliest weapon in history to ever exist. In explanation, he has expounded the chronicle that, with the spread of trade and travel between societies, different diseases also traveled. Subsequently, the native Europeans were able to build immunity against various contagious diseases long before the African and Latin American societies, largely because of their close association with domesticated



animals. Consequently, this polarized spread of diseases to the Latin American and African continent was devastating, as it led to the death of millions of natives and the extermination of many indigenous societies.

Contrarily speaking, throughout the book, Diamond has maintained a precarious stance in his arguments which for many people/scholars might strike conflictual and biased. He has evidently snubbed to extend due acknowledgment to the inventors/pioneers of Eurasia and their credentials which after all made the basis for their development. To put it shortly, it was substantially due to the native Europeans' wit, willingness, and vision that consequently made their development in political, economic, and cultural spheres imaginable and attainable.





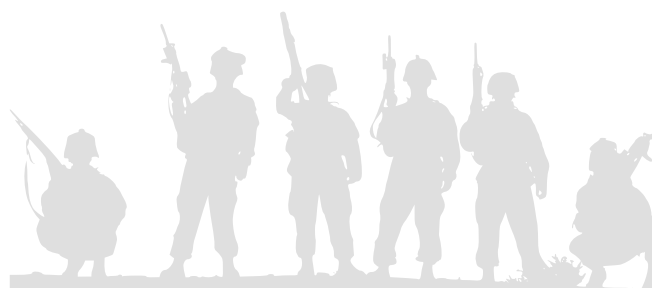
Similarly, he has been unable to give due emphasis to the vitality of institutions for the development of societies, which has given his critics a premise to base their arguments against his assumptions. 'History followed different courses for different peoples because of differences among people's environments, not because of biological differences among peoples themselves' (p.25). However, it seems astounding that, as an evolutionary biologist, Diamond seems unaware that different environments are caused by natural selection, biological differences among populations, (Rushton P, 1997).

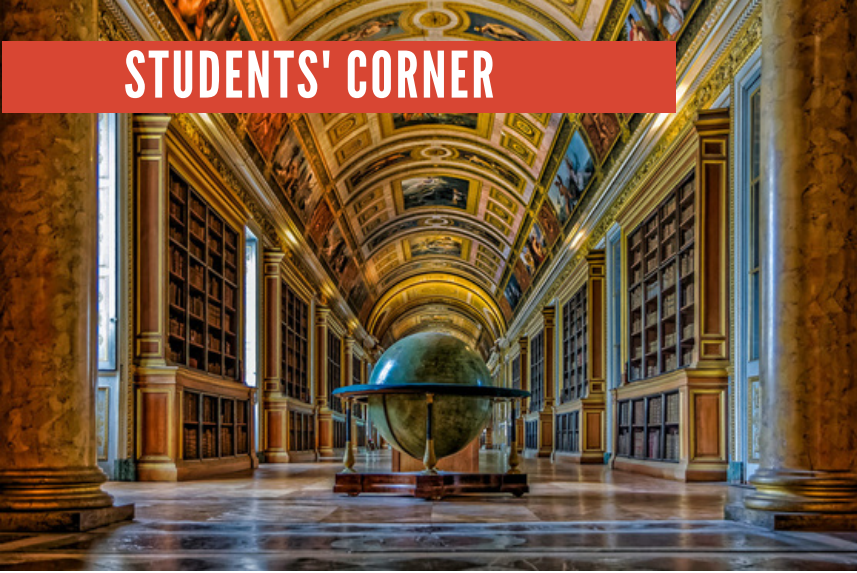
Although in his book he has slightly considered the important role of economics and politics for development, some would argue that Diamond has understated their place in history, placing too much emphasis on the mantra of science and geography. He has in an abridged manner put enough emphasis on the positive and negative effects of exceptional individuals or pioneers who led the process of unprecedented progress. Subsequently, he has unfairly overlooked to shed due light on the importance of ideology, religion, and culture which have equally driven and influenced (positively or negatively) states/societies' development and their underdevelopment in history, (Fenigsohn H, 2011).

All in all, the book 'Guns, Germs and Steel' justifies the geographical and environmental factors that shaped the modern world. A worth reading book for those who are interested in history, trends and dynamics of societies and civilizations development, and most importantly the importance of geography in determining the fates of societies and states.

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The hunter-gatherer cultures were the forerunners of the modern world. They hunted separately but ate together. Families formed after the individual, and tribes emerged after the assembly of families. Mesopotamia, which was located along the Tigris and Euphrates in what is now known as Iraq, was the first civilization founded by the union of tribes. This civilization was known as the "cradle of civilization" because three further civilizations arose from it between 3500 and 1500 BCE. Which are Sumerians, Babylonian, and Assyrian. Ancient Egypt's early civilization lasted 3500 years along the Nile River, but it came to an end with the birth of the Roman Empire. These civilizations introduced two key features in the world that were agriculture, which gave the potential to developed urban life and the development of writing which helped them to save the existence of their life in the world.

During the emergence of the Bronze Age, the Chinese Civilization was established during 1600BCE. The earliest civilization in South Asia emerged at the Indus River Valley which today forms the region constituting Pakistan, was flourished between 2600 to 1900BCE.

Various civilizations emerged in the period around 1000BCE, which is called the Period of Classical Antiquity, in the Mediterranean Sea region. The Etruscan culture spread, but during this period most significant developments were the emergence of ancient Greece and Roman civilizations.

HISTORY OF MODERN WORLD

Bilal Hamza

Undergraduate student enrolled in BS International Relations at the University of Management and Technology, Lahore. He can be reached at F2018188097@umt.edu.pk

However, Ancient Greece always concentrated on the development and later on formed the foundations of western cultural civilization. It made making colonies in Asia and the southern parts of the Balkans during 800-600BCE. Ancient Rome upended the Roman monarchy by bringing into power an oligarchic republic which later developed into a vast empire. This empire was vast spanning the Eastern Mediterranean across North Africa and also most of Europe.

When the classical period of the world reached its peak in development and advancement in the 5th century, the crisis that mired it began its degeneration. . This crisis was caused by nomadic people. They destroyed the entire civilization. It was the Dark Ages in Eurasia because these nomadic people were not just killing people but destroying all the writings of the ancient people and their agriculture too. This Dark Age stretched from the Mediterranean to China. The power of the Greeks and Romans had weakened. In all of the civilizations only China successfully coped with the invaders. Europe was invaded by the Barbarians. The most fierce of these invasions were by the Mongols invaders who emerged from Asia during 1206 and 1405, their empire was having unequal scope and range in the entire world. The Mongol Empire spread from Eastern Germany to Turkey and went down till the Persian Gulf. It means that the supreme command was the Mongols. They changed political organizations in Asia and Europe. The accession through Europe to Asia and Far East Asia has opened again.

Rise of the West

The process of modernization began in 1500 when a European-based civilization became the only dominant civilization in the world. Non-western societies came to join European civilization to develop their political, economic, and cultural structures. In the 15th century, the age of discovery and age of exploration begins. Because the nomadic people just destroyed every single thing in Eurasia. After that, the Portuguese, the Spanish, and finally British, French, and Dutch focused on the discovery of the new world. The economic motivation of Europe became stronger and they found a direct route to reach India and Far East Asia to create a trading empire in the region with the main focus being on tea, cane sugar, tobacco, precious metals, slaves, etc. They transported 8 to 10.5 million Africans to America to work as slaves. These ideas made Europe politically, culturally, and socio-economically strong.

The establishment of sovereign states with the central government is also a political key factor in the rise of the West during the 16th to 17th centuries. The factor occurred when the treaty of Westphalia was signed in 1648 which brought an end to the thirty years of war and started an era of peace in the region. This was the biggest war in European history. Later the advantage of sovereign states brought political and economic stability in the world. New technologies and inventions came into Europe. The breakdown of feudalism and capitalist societies in Europe raised the socio-economic dimensions. Industrialization took place in Europe in the mid of 18th century later spread to North America and throughout Western and Central Europe in the 19th century. Industrialization altered the diet and living standard of Europe which had a massive impact on the world's population.

The renaissance brought many changes in the cultural term. It started during the Middle Ages, all destroyed art, culture, etc. was rediscovered, which changes life in Europe in terms of philosophy, politics, art, and science.

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CALL FOR CONTRIBUTION

We are pleased to announce that CCPS is now accepting contributions for the upcoming issue of the Peace Periodical. We invite research-based working papers, opinion pieces, book reviews, and issue briefs from established and budding scholars and practitioners of peace (see the themes listed below).

We also invite contributions for participants' corners. Participants can send essays/information pieces/poetry/artwork (sketch, painting, photography with captions) on the themes listed below.

- 1.** Intractable conflicts of Palestine and Kashmir
- 2.** Peace and Conflicts in the Middle East
- 3.** Peace and Conflict in Africa/ Latin America/ South and Southeast Asia
- 4.** Education in the Global South
- 5.** Education in the Muslim world/ Pakistan
- 6.** Countering/ preventing violent extremism
- 7.** Peace Studies/ Conflict Resolution
- 8.** Critical Peace Education
- 9.** Critical Security Studies
- 10.** Decolonial / Post- Colonial Perspectives in Social Sciences & Humanities
- 11.** Subaltern Studies/ Southern Theory/ Autonomous Social Sciences
- 12.** Epistemic Violence/ epistemic injustice
- 13.** Peace Psychology/ Peace Sociology
- 14.** Human Security / Human Rights
- 15.** Intra/Inter-Civilizational Dialogue
- 16.** Religion in International Relations
- 17.** History of the Modern World



CALL FOR CONTRIBUTION

- Working Papers
3000-5000 words – APA/Harvard referencing style
- Opinion
1200-1500 words
- Book Review
1000-1200 words
- Issue Briefs(on the contemporary issue)
2000 words
- Participants' Corner
 - Essays (800-1000 words)
 - Information pieces on peace/decolonial/ postcolonial scholars and ideas/historical pieces (600-800 words)
 - Poem/Poetry
 - Sketch (High Resolution and JPG images)
 - Painting
 - Photography
- Deadline: You are requested to send soft copies of their articles/contributions to nida.sheikh@umt.edu.pk
- (Cc: dir.ccps@umt.edu.pk)





“For me, forgiveness and compassion are always linked: how do we hold people accountable for wrongdoing and yet at the same time remain in touch with their humanity enough to believe in their capacity to be transformed?”

bell hooks