



CUSIT-brary

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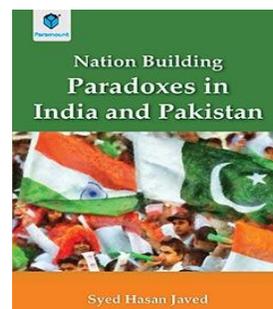
**City University of Science and IT
Peshawar**

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Book of the Month

NATION BUILDING PARADOXES IN INDIA AND PAKISTAN



The governing political elites in South Asia have failed to establish an ‘inclusive society’, at a time of profound global transformation and power shift. Even more unfortunate, Pakistan and India are bracing for yet another ‘lost era’ with their third generation gearing up for conflict. The chances of ‘sleepwalking’ into another conflict will always remain there. May be this time, both countries will walk into it, with their eyes wide open, but helpless. The ordinary people in South Asia have remained condemned to hope by those, who should have instead provided ‘solutions’ to them. India’s protracted struggle for geo-political domination, massive arms imports, resumption of threats and coercive diplomacy are ‘bad omen’ for South Asia’s future.

The continuation of misery, poverty, extremism, intolerance and hate in South Asia is not only baffling, but is a matter of serious concern to all of its inhabitants, and the international community at large. In his book, Ambassador Hasan Javed examines the factors contributing to malaise in South Asia, the enormous systemic/good governance challenges, as well as the opportunities.

AUTHOR DESCRIPTION

The writer has served as Pakistan’s Ambassador in Germany, Singapore and Mauritius. He worked in China for two diplomatic assignments for nearly a decade. He is the author of several books on China. Currently, he is Director Chinese Studies Centre, National University of Science and Technology (NUST), Islamabad.

Personality of the Month

Akbar Ahmed



Akbar Salahuddin Ahmed, (born. January 15, 1943) also known as **Akbar Ahmed**, is an American-Pakistani academic, author, poet, playwright, filmmaker and former diplomat. He currently holds the Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies and is Professor of International Relations at the American University in Washington, D.C. A former Pakistani High Commissioner to the UK and Ireland, Ahmed was a member of the Civil Service of Pakistan and served as Political Agent in South Waziristan Agency and Commissioner in Baluchistan. He also served as the Iqbal Fellow (Chair of Pakistan Studies) at the University of Cambridge as well as holding teaching positions at Harvard, Princeton, and the U.S. Naval Academy. An anthropologist and scholar of Islam, he received his PhD from the School of Oriental and African Studies in London. He has been called "the world's leading authority on contemporary Islam" by the BBC.

Ahmed received the Tamgha-i-Imtiaz (Medal of Excellence) and Sitara-i-Imtiaz (Star of Excellence) from the Pakistani government for academic distinction and the Sir Percy Sykes Memorial Medal by the Royal Society for Asian Affairs in London. He was also awarded the inaugural Purpose Prize in 2006 alongside Judea Pearl and is frequently named in the annual book, *The Muslim 500: The World's 500 Most Influential Muslims*, and was named a 2015 Global Thought Leader by *The World Post* and the Gottlieb Duttweiler Institute.

Career

Ahmed entered the Pakistani civil service in 1966. He graduated from Punjab and Birmingham Universities and later attended Cambridge University doing an MA. In 1978 Ahmed graduated with a Ph.D. in Anthropology at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. At certain points in his life Ahmed held important government positions such as Political Agent for the South Waziristan Agency/North West Frontier Province (1978-1980) and in Baluchistan was Commissioner for the three districts

(1982-1988) and Commissioner of the Sibi Division (1989). Ahmed was the founder and served as Director of the National Centre for Rural Development in Islamabad and also a Director of the Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, University Grants Commission in Pakistan. In 1988 Ahmed became the Allama Iqbal Fellow at Selwyn College, Cambridge for five years and by 1993 he was appointed as the first Muslim Fellow. He also was the first Pakistani to serve on the Council of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland. Ahmed has held professorships at several North American educational institutions. At Princeton University he taught there and served as a Visiting Professor at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. He also taught at Harvard University and was a Visiting Scholar at the Department of Anthropology. Ahmed was the First Chair of Middle East and Islamic Studies at the US Naval Academy, Annapolis, and a Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution. In 2004 Ahmed was named District of Columbia Professor of the Year by the Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. He also taught at the Quaid-i-Azam University in Pakistan.

In 1999-2000 Ahmed served as Pakistani High Commissioner (ambassador) to the United Kingdom, however was recalled back to Islamabad after 8 months of service and thought it had to do with his comments about the views of Muhammad Ali Jinnah on Islam. During this time he finished four projects called the *Jinnah Quartet* which were a scholarly study, graphic novel, feature film and a documentary film all named after the first Pakistani Governor General Muhammad Ali Jinnah in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Pakistan's founding. Ahmed's four part project series on Jinnah has won many international awards.

Research interests and literary works

Ahmed's research interests focus on Pashtuns and others including tribal groups, Muslim society and development anthropology. He has conducted anthropological fieldwork with Pashtuns in Afghanistan, undertaken comparative studies of Islamic social customs in Morocco, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia and researching global Islam alongside its impacts on contemporary society. Among his works on Pashtuns are *Millennium and charisma among Pathans* (1976) and his wide-ranging study *The Thistle and the Drone* (2013) that focuses on Muslim hill peoples in Pakistan, Yemen, North Africa and as far as the Philippines which

examines US drone operations in the Muslim world, its subsequent consequences and reputation of the USA being considered synonymous with the drone. Ahmed has criticized some anthropologists for studying "Muslim groups without reference to the Islamic framework". Other areas of research interest include Modernity and Muslims along with Islam and the concept of postmodernism in relation to Muslim societies, cultures, media and the West.

Ahmed has co-edited several books with other academics. He has authored many articles and more than a dozen books that have won awards such as *Discovering Islam* which became the basis for a six-part BBC TV series called *Living Islam*. Other books are *Postmodernism and Islam: Predicament and Promise* which was nominated for an Amalfi Award and *Islam Today: A short Introduction to the Muslim world* was awarded by the Los Angeles Times as the best non-fiction book of the year. Ahmed has written a biography of Muhammad Ali Jinnah, Pakistan's first Governor General, and a study *Journey into America: The challenge of Islam* based on fieldwork with American Muslims. He has also written plays like *Noor* and *The trial of Dara Shikoh* which have been published and staged for audiences. Ahmed's publications have been translated into other languages such as Indonesian and Chinese. Functioning between both worlds, through his writing and broadcasting Ahmed has attempted to bridge the Muslim-West world divide and encourage communication between both groups. He has expressed admiration of English translations of Islamic classics in assisting him to "discover the riches" of "Islamic cultural legacy" and "appreciate critically the beneficial impact of the West".

Interfaith dialogue

In the aftermath of 9/11, Ahmed initiated a series of studies that were published by the Brookings Institution Press covering issues regarding relations between Islam and the West. Ahmed has been engaged in a series of public dialogues across the US and abroad with Professor Judea Pearl, father of deceased reporter Daniel Pearl focusing on divisions between Muslims and the West and between Jews and Muslims. For their efforts, he and Pearl were awarded the first Purpose Prize by the Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington at the National Cathedral and Ahmed received the Herschel-King award for Interfaith Activism. He has also been appointed as a Trustee of the World Faiths Development Dialogue by the Archbishop of Canterbury and has received the 2002 Free Speech Award from the Muslim

Public Affairs Council based in Washington DC. Ahmed has received accusations of being "a Zionist conspirator" and close to the West however he has felt that "dialogue, harmony, communication and debate" are for Islam and the West the key issues of engagement.

Media Appearances and advisory roles

Ahmed has been interviewed by the BBC, PBS, NPR, MSNBC, "Think Tank," NBC Nightly News, CNN, CBS, Fox News, and other media organizations. In addition to The Daily Show and The O'Reilly Factor, he has made several appearances on the Oprah Winfrey Show.

He has also served as an advisor to President George W. Bush and Prince Charles on Islam. Ahmed has given lectures worldwide in places such as the US Congressional retreat in Greenbrier, West Virginia, the National Defense University in Washington DC, the State Department and the House of Lords in London.

Books

- *Journey Into Europe: Islam, Immigration, and Identity* (Brookings Press, 2018).
- *The Thistle and the Drone: How America's War on Terror Became a Global War on Tribal Islam* (Brookings Press, 2013).
- *Suspended Somewhere Between: A Book of Verse* ([Busboys and Poets](#), 2011).
- *Journey into America: The Challenge of Islam* (Brookings Press, 2010; Winner of the [American Book Award](#)).
- *Journey into Islam: The Crisis of Globalization* (Brookings Press, 2007).
- *After Terror: Promoting Dialogue Among Civilizations* Co-Edited by Brian Forst, ([Polity Press](#), 2005).
- *Islam Under Siege: Living Dangerously in a Post-Honor World* (Polity Press, 2003).
- *The Future of Anthropology: Its Relevance to the Contemporary World*; Co-Edited by Chris Shore, ([Athlone Press](#), 1999).
- *Islam Today: A Short Introduction to The Muslim World*; ([I.B. Tauris](#), 1998).
- *Jinnah, Pakistan and Islamic Identity: The Search for Saladin*; ([Routledge](#), 1997).
- *Islam, Globalization and Postmodernity* with Hastings Donnan; (Routledge, 1994).
- *Living Islam: From Samarkand and Stornoway* ([BBC Books](#), 1993).
- *Discovering Islam: Making Sense of Muslim History and Society*; (Routledge, 1988).
- *Postmodernism and Islam: Predicament and Promise*; (Routledge, 1992).
- *Resistance and Control in Pakistan*; (Routledge, 1991).
- *Pakistan: The Social Sciences' Perspective*; ([Oxford University Press](#), 1990).
- *Toward Islamic Anthropology: Definition, Dogma, and Directions*; (Vanguard Books, 1987).
- *Religion and Politics in Muslim Society: Order and Conflict in Pakistan*; (Royal Book Co., 1987).
- *Pukhtun Economy and Society: Traditional structure and economic development in a tribal society* (Routledge, 1980).
- *Pieces of Green, the Sociology of Change in Pakistan, 1964–1974*; (Royal Book Co., 1977)

Plays

- *The Trial of Dara Shikoh* (Saqi Books, 2009)
- *Noor* (Saqi Books, 2009)

Films

- *Journey into Europe* (Documentary, 2015)
- *Journey into America* (Documentary, 2009)
- [Jinnah](#) (Feature Film, 1998)
- *Mr. Jinnah: The Making of Pakistan* (Documentary, 1997)
- *Living Islam* (BBC Six-Part Series, 1993)

Application of RFID Technology in Libraries.

Introduction

RFID means “Radio frequency identification” i.e. The technology that uses radio waves to automatically identify individual items. The objective of any RFID system is to carry data in suitable transponders, generally known as tags and to retrieve data, by machine readable means, at a suitable time and place and to satisfy particular application needs

RFID is one of the most technologies being adopted by both Industry and academic world. Modern academic library is a place where millions of books advanced; periodicals, CDs,DVDs and other electronic reading materials are contained. It is a challenge to manage for librarians, managing such type of huge collection. FID technology is in use since the 1970s. RFID tags can be active, semi-passive and passive. It is a small device that can store information. Passive tags don't have internal batteries. RFID reader is a device that can receive and transmit a radio signal. It is built to encode data stored in the tag's microprocessor. Because of the higher cost, active and semi-passive RFID tags are used for valuable asset tracking. The passive RFID tags are used in RFID library management systems.

RFID library management, using RFID tags library, is easy and convenient. A RFID library management system consists of books, each attached with an RFID tag, RFID reader, computer network and software. Library staff handle lending, returning, sorting, tagging etc. of books, using RFID tags in this library system. A person can locate RFID library books marked with a RFID tags, using the RFID reader which identifies and locates the book. When the book is carried to the counter, the library staff can either activate or deactivate the electronic article surveillance bit in the book's tag. If a book is borrowed, then the surveillance bit is deactivated.

RFID LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Using RFID in libraries saves library staff's time by automat zing their tasks. An establishment that uses RFID library management saves a book reader, precious time that he would have been spent, waiting for his turn in a queue for borrowing or returning a book. Taking care of books and making them available to the book readers are important tasks.

Most of the library staff's time is spent in recording information of incoming and outgoing books.

Borrowing and returning of books can be fully automatized with the help of self check-in/out systems. This system involves installation of special software. A person using this system to borrow books, is presented with options on a computer screen. The person has to identify himself with a code, which is preferably a personal identification number, or any form of unique identity code. Books selected by the person are identified by the system's built-in RFID reader. And, the surveillance bit in the book

's tag is deactivated by the system. When a book is returned, the check-in/out system activates the surveillance bit.

Application in RFID Library Management System

1. Book Drops: The Book Drops can be located anywhere, within or outside the library. Possible remote locations outside the library include MRT/train stations, shopping centers, schools, etc.

This offers unprecedented flexibility and convenience of returning library items at anytime of the day, even when the library is closed.

2. RFID Transponder or Tagging: It is the most important link in any RFID system. It has the ability to store information relating to the specific item to which they are attached, rewrite again without any requirement for contact or line of sight. Data within a tag may provide identification for an item, proof of ownership, original storage location, loan status and history. FID tags have been specifically designed to be affixed into library media, including books, CDs, DVDs and tapes.

3. Counter Station is a staff assisted station on services such as loan, return, tagging, sorting and etc. It is loaded with arming/disarming module, tagging module and sorting module. Arming/Disarming module allows EAS (Electronic Article Surveillance) bit inside the tag of the library material to be set/reset so as to trigger/not trigger the alarm of the EAS gate.

4. The Patron self check-out station: It's basically a computer with a touch screen and a built-in RFID reader, plus special software for personal identification, book and other media

handling and circulation. After identifying the patron with a library ID card, a barcode card, or his personal ID number (PIN), the patron is asked to choose the next action (check-out of one or several books). After choosing check-out , the patron puts the book(s) in front of the screen on the RFID reader and the display will show the book title and its ID number (other optional information can be shown if desired) which have been checked out.

5. Anti-theft Detection: RFID EAS Gates is the anti-theft part of the Library RFID Management System using the same RFID tags embedded in the library items. Each lane is able to track items of about 1 meter and would trigger the alarm system when an un borrowed item passed through them. The alarm will sound and lights on the gate will flash as patron passes through with the un-borrowed library Material.

