

Short Reviews of Recent Books

Cooperative Security Framework for South Asia. *Edited by Nihar Nayak (New Delhi, Pentagon press, 2013), pp..256, Price ₹ 995/-, ISBN 9788182747050.*

The book under review has recognised the need to establish a Cooperative Security Framework (CSF) in South Asia and examined the possibility of establishing such a Framework. The concept of CSF implies 'security with' rather than 'security against' one's adversary as the only possible method of interaction in an interdependent world. Scholars and analysts from the South Asian region have been debating this issue for quite some time. In the ensuing debate so far the question whether South Asia could replicate other successful cooperative security models; such as that of the European Union (EU) and Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Many scholars felt that this was an onerous task , while others thought this is impossible to achieve given what is perceived as asymmetry in South Asia. Indian continent's size in the centre of South Asia with land and maritime boundaries with all the countries, except Afghanistan, its resources and growing international profile, troubled India-Pakistan relations, and mistrust among India's smaller neighbours are perceived as limiting factors for cooperation in South Asia.

However, with the passage of time, the security environment in South Asia has become further complicated. New issues such as: ensuring energy and environmental security, water related disputes, endemic poverty in the region, illegal migration etc have added to the complexity of the security environment. Consequently, today there is greater awareness and recognition among scholars and analysts of the urgent need to establish a common security framework in South Asia in the interest of peace and stability and the well being of the people of South Asia.

The present volume brought out by the Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses has focused on the theme of Cooperative Security Framework in South Asia. Scholars representing the eight South Asian countries have given their respective perspectives and the best way forward. Farooq Sobhan from Bangladesh has

put forward a thought provoking suggestion. In his words, "Thus a cooperative security framework that is independent of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) could serve as a body to facilitate confidence building measures, preventive diplomacy and conflict resolution" (p 36). Professor SD Muni of India was also of the view that a new multidimensional security framework had to be set-up that was not within the framework of SAARC.

However, the most commendable aspect of the book is the "Consensus Document" on the way forward; a blueprint for future cooperation. As rightly pointed out the need of the hour is to generate the necessary political will. In short, written in a lucid style and well documented, the book is a useful addition to the literature on South Asia.

Professor Nirmala Joshi

Net Security Provider : India's Out of Area Contingency Operations. By IDSA (New Delhi : Magnum Books Pvt Ltd, 2012), pp..84, Price ₹ 395/-, ISBN 9789382512004.

This book, laid out in nine chapters, deals with India's Out of Area Contingency (OOAC) operations. It analyses previous UN peacemaking, non-combatant evacuation, overseas humanitarian and disaster relief missions and military operations; and makes recommendations for future OOACs in line with Indian trans-border interests and responsibilities; even though the authors were without access to after-action reports, particularly of UN Peace Keeping Operations (UNPKO) and military operations.

Major recommendations include : evolving an OOAC Policy; establishing Emergency Directorate in Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and OOAC Directorate in HQ IDS; creating an inter-agency coordination organisation under the Prime Minister; enhancing MEA, Ministry of Defence (MoD) and Military Synergy; improving intelligence, situational awareness, communications, training, logistics and the like. The book is well researched, well referenced, smooth flowing and adds knowledge of nuances and challenges in conducting OOACs.

Taking this book as basis for future OOAC deliberations, issues requiring focus are : proposed synergy between MEA,

MoD and Military must also incorporate Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) controlling the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) linked with Global Information Grid; total integration of HQ IDS and MoD with MEA and MHA adequately interfaced; appointing CDS rather than voicing "as and when appointed"; survey of Indian diasporas abroad and countrywise evacuation plans; establishing a separate specialised OOAC force including civil affairs components funded over and above the defence budget.

Separate OOAC Directorate in HQ IDS is not warranted as DCIDS (Ops), a three star officer, coordinates OOACs. His office could be suitably augmented. The lift capability for military operations need not be restricted to military aircraft and vessels but must include commercial capacity as considered by Chinese Airborne Corps / Rapid Reaction Forces (RRF).

Akin to a chapter on dealing with strategic communications and perception management, there should also have been a major focus on Strategic Intelligence, which is missing. Covert Special Forces deployment to assist respective missions, as a tool for OOAC, perception management and shaping environment for military operations, are vital in the present day environment. Evacuation of Chinese nationals from North Africa is assisted by on ground Chinese Special Forces. We need to learn from deployment of Chinese Special Forces 'in guise of development projects' and Military Operations Other than War (MOOTW).

The book is recommended to be read by anyone interested in streamlining OOACs and dynamics of their impact on India's future.

Lieutenant General PC Katoch, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SC (Retd)

Revival of the Silk Route : Growing Role of India. By Mohammad Morin Alam and Willet Ali (New Delhi : Lancer's Books, 2012), pp.. 178, Price ₹ 495/-, ISBN 9788170951254.

The authors, both of University of Jammu, have done excellent work by writing on this contemporary topic. They have gone into the historical background of the ties between India and the Old Silk Route linking China with Euro-Asia; drawing on its cultural and socio-economic impact, they have also highlighted the linkages

between the 'impact of Indian civilisation, including spread of Buddhism', in the countries located on the path of the Silk Route.

The Post-1990s impact of the collapse of the Soviet Union; resulting in emergence of Central Asian States (CAS), strategic and economic interest of China, Russia; and the interests of regional powers like Turkey, Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and India have been highlighted. The hydrocarbon rich CAS have become a hub of international strategic interest, with China, Russia and other states, in which India also has great stakes.

With help of maps, the proposed expansion of Chinese communication links and pipelines, and interests of mineral rich but land-locked CAS have been shown. The proposed North South Corridor, Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) and Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipelines have been covered. India's quest for oil and gas from CAS and Iran, if need be by-passing Afghanistan and Pakistan, via Arabian Sea, from the new port of Char Bahar (Iran) to Mumbai, and the efforts of New Delhi to project her soft power in the CAS, have been covered.

India's growing role has been covered in Chapter 5. In conclusion, the authors recommend that as the shortest routes from India to CAS region and the Silk Route pass through Pakistan, Afghanistan, China Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) and Myanmar, India should improve her relations with these countries, especially Pakistan.

Readers may feel that the strategic importance of the region for America has been omitted. The likely future clash of interests between Russia with the expansion of NATO eastwards, and the increasing energy and security aspirations of China, could have been covered in detail. Also, the post-US withdrawal from Afghanistan scenario could also have been covered, as it will have an impact on all countries of CAS lying along the New Silk Route. These geo-strategic aspects have probably not been given due emphasis, the thrust being on socio-economic aspects.

The book is written in simple language, is well researched and has good bibliography.

Lieutenant General YM Bammi, PhD (Retd)

India's Neighbourhood : The Armies of South Asia. Edited by Vishal Chandra (New Delhi : Pentagon Press, 2013), pp..167, Price ₹ 795/-, ISBN 9788182747067.

India's neighbourhood has a profound impact in shaping its economic, foreign and defence policies. It is also a fact that the Army, as an institution, is a key component of power in a sovereign country. In the South Asian region, the armies of some of the countries have indeed played a key role in governance (i.e. Pakistan, Bangladesh and to some extent Sri Lanka). It is ironic that although India has been engaged in providing military training to defence personnel of most of the neighbouring countries, a negative perception of this country still persists. Thus it is necessary for military scholars, defence analysts and policy makers to study the structures, role, status and capability of these armies.

This short book gives an overview of the armies of seven countries in the region i.e. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Maldives, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. An attempt has been made to structure the chapters in a uniform manner, where necessary, issues of specific concern to that particular nation have been included. Some of the common issues covered include the security environment of the country, its geopolitical/strategic significance, geographical terrain, threat perception (domestic and external), origin/evolution of the army, its broad structure, civil-military relations, defence cooperation with other countries, people's perception of the army and future prospects. In multi-ethnic countries, the ethnic representation in the army vis-à-vis its percentage of total population have also been highlighted. Where necessary, statistics have been provided in the form of Tables/Figures.

The essays in this book are a very laudable effort by the team of authors to encapsulate the essentials of the evolution and role of the armies in India's neighbourhood. Due to restrictions of space, obviously one cannot expect a very detailed account, but the broad architecture has been extremely well covered, providing a good foundation for those interested in greater research. The book will be a valuable addition to military libraries.

Major General AJS Sandhu, VSM (Retd)

Additions to the USI Library for the Quarter – Ending Mar 2013

(The books reviewed in Oct-Dec 2012 issue have been added to the Library during this quarter but not shown in this list)

Afghanistan

Afghanistan from Enduring Freedom to Enduring Chaos? Implications for India by Anwesha Ghosh. New Delhi, Knowledge World, 2012. 103p., Rs.180, ISBN 9789381904336

Reconstructing Afghanistan : Prospects and Limitations. Edited by Arpita Basu Roy and Binoda Kumar Mishra. Delhi, Shipra, 2011. 285p., Rs.800, ISBN 9788175415485

Return of a King : The Battle for Afghanistan by William Dalrymple. London, Bloomsbury, 2013. 567p., Rs.799, ISBN 9781408818305

Arthashastra

Chanakya's : New Manifesto, To Resolve the Crisis Within India by Pavan K Varma. New Delhi, Aleph Book Company, 2013. 248p., Rs.295, ISBN 9789382277095

Contemporary Politics and Chanakya : How Chanakya Reincarnated Himself in Indian Politics by DS Yadav. New Delhi, Orange Books International, 2012. 264p., Rs.1995, ISBN 9788192306414

The Military Strategy of the Arthashastra by Harjeet Singh. New Delhi, Pentagon Press, 2012. 216p., Rs.695, ISBN 9788182746985

Autobiography /Biography/Memoirs

Durbar by Tavleen Singh. London, Hachette, 2012. 312p., Rs.599, ISBN 9789350094440

No Easy Day : The First Hand Account of the Mission that Killed Osama Bin Laden by Mark Owen. London, Michael Joseph an Imprint of Penguin Books, 2012. 316p., £ 12.99, ISBN 9780718177522

Wings of Fire : An Autobiography by APJ Kalam and Arun Tiwari. India, Universities Press, 2012. 180p., Rs.275, ISBN 9788173711466

China

China at War : An Encyclopedia. Edited by Xiaobing Li. New Delhi, Pentagon Press, 2012. 604p., Rs.1900, ISBN 9788182746114

China's Discursive Nationalism : Contending in Softer Realms by Bhavna Singh. New Delhi , Pentagon Press, 2012. 229p., Rs.995, ISBN 9788182746510

China Restored : The Middle Kingdom Looks to 2020 and Beyond by Eric C Anderson. New Delhi, Pentagon Press, 2012. 323p., Rs.995, ISBN 9788182746213

China's Space Capabilities by Anand V. New Delhi, Knowledge World, 2012. 78p., Rs.180, ISBN 9789381904220

China's Strategy in the South China Sea : Role of the United States and India by Saloni Salil. New Delhi, Knowledge World, 2012. 47p., Rs.165, ISBN 9789381904381

China in Ten Words by Yu Hua. New York, Anchor Books, 2012. 225p., \$15, ISBN 9780307739797

A Military History of China. Edited by David A Graff and Robin Higham. Dehradun, Greenfield Publishers, 2012. 324p., Rs.995, ISBN 9789381089095

Right Sizing the People's Liberation Army : Exploring the Contours of China's Military. Edited by Kamphausen Roy and Andrew Scobell. Dehradun, Natraj Publishers, 2012. 582p., Rs.795, ISBN 9788181581853

Civil Wars

Alliance Formation in Civil Wars by Fotini Christia. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2012. 343p., \$28.99, ISBN 9781107683488

Hizbullah's DNA and the Arab Spring by Joseph Alagha. New Delhi, Knowledge World, 2013. 371p., Rs.720, ISBN 9789381904398

Climate Wars

Climate Wars : The Fight for Survival as the World Overheats by Gwynne Dyer. Oxford, Oneworld, 2011. 297p., Rs.695, ISBN 9781851687428

Cyber Technology

Cyber Infrastructure Protection. Edited by Tarek Saadawi and Louis Jordan. Dehradun, Greenfields Publishers, 2012. 315p., Rs.995, ISBN 9789381089088

Economic Development – India

India Rising But Who Will Make It Happen by JN Rampal. New Delhi, Peacock Books, 2012. 176p., Rs.495, ISBN 9788124802694

Fiction

The Beautiful and the Damned : Life in the New India by Siddhartha Deb. New Delhi, Penguin Books India Pvt. Ltd. , 2011. 253p., Rs.299, ISBN 9780143418962

In the Valley of Shadows by Abhay Narayan Sapru. *New Delhi, Wisdom Tree, 2011. 170p., Rs.245, ISBN 9788183281843*

Foreign Relations – India

India - Japan : Towards Harnessing Potentials of Partnership. *Edited by Y Yagama Reddy. New Delhi, Kaveri, 2012. 259p., Rs.795, ISBN 9788174791337*

India and Southeast Asia : Exploring Possibilities of Cooperation. *Edited by Binoda Kumar Mishra. Delhi, Bookwell, 2012. 117p., Rs.400, ISBN 9789380574363*

India's Neighbourhood : Challenges in the Next Two Decades. *Edited by Rumel Dahiya and Ashok K Behuria. New Delhi, Pentagon Security International, 2012. 226p., Rs.995, ISBN 9788182746879*

Indo - Nepal Trade Relations 1846 to 1947 *by Vijay Kumar Tiwary. New Delhi, Gyan Publishing House, 2013. 292p., Rs.840, ISBN 9788121211345*

Indo - Pak Relations *by Muzaffar H Syed. New Delhi, Orange Books International, 2012. 371p., Rs.2150, ISBN 9788192306445*

China - India Economics Challenges, Competition and Collaboration *by Amitendu Palit. London, Routledge (Taylor and Francis Group), 2012. 192p., Rs.22239, ISBN 9780415824569*

In the National Interest : A Strategic Foreign Policy for India *by Rajiv Kumar and Santosh Kumar. New Delhi Books, 1910. 186p., Rs.450, ISBN 9789380740010*

Nepal as a Factor in India's Security During Post Cold War Era *by Sanjay Kumar. New Delhi, Mohit, 2013. 169p., Rs.600, ISBN 9788174456700*

Perspectives on Nuclear Strategy of India and Pakistan. *Edited by Mohammed Badru Alam. Delhi, Kalpaz Publications, 2013. 319p., Rs.950, ISBN 9788178359632*

Political Developments in Afghanistan : Implications for India *by KN Tennyson. New Delhi, Knowledge World, 2012. 302p., Rs.840, ISBN 9789381904060*

The Practice of Diplomacy : Its Evolution, Theory and Administration *by Keith Hamilton and Richard Langhorne. London, Routledge (Taylor and Francis Group), 2012. 317p., Rs.795, ISBN 978041549765*

Hinduism

Hinduism and Its Military Ethos *by RK Nehra. New Delhi : Lancer Publishers & Distributors, 2010. 481p., Rs.795, ISBN 9781935501237*

India – History

Accidental India : History of the Nation's Passage Through Crisis and Change by Shankar Aiyar. New Delhi, Aleph Book Company, 2012. 352p., ISBN 9788192328089

Imperial Identity in the Mughal Empire : Memory and Dynastic Politics in Early Modern South and Central Asia by Balabanlilar Lisa. New Delhi, Viva Books, 2013. 216p., 216p., Rs.1895, ISBN 9788130922676

Netaji in Europe by Jan Kuhlmann. New Delhi, Rainlight by Rupa Publications India, 2012. 281p., Rs.595, ISBN 9788129120847

Indian Armed Forces

Indian Air Force in Wars by AK Tiwary. New Delhi, Lancer Publishers & Distributors, 2012. 336p., Rs.795, ISBN 9781935501336

Insights into Indian Infantry Regiments : A Basic Fact Book by Anand Ballabh. Delhi, Forward Books, 2013. 262p., Rs.900, ISBN 9789381763117

Handbooks for the Indian Army : Rajputana Class Jats, Gujars and Ahirs (Archives in Indian Historical Reprints) by BL Cole and RC Christie. New Delhi, Three Rivers Publishers, 2012. 203p., Rs.695, ISBN 9788192227528

Military Costume and Accoutrements in Ancient India by Uma Prasad Thapliyal. New Delhi, Ajay Kumar Jain for Manohar Publisher and Distributors, 2012. 165p., Rs.695, ISBN 9788173049552

Intelligence – India

India's Spy Agencies : Shaken not Stirred by Sunil S Parihar. New Delhi, Manas Publications, 2012. 235p., Rs.595, ISBN 9788170494386

Iran

Nuclear Iran : The Birth of an Atomic State by David Patrikarakos. London, IB Tauris, 2012. 339p., £25, ISBN 9781780761251

Islam

Symbols of Authority in Medieval Islam : History, Religion and Muslim Legitimacy in the Delhi Sultanate by Blain H Auer. New Delhi, Viva Books, 2012. 237p., Rs.995, ISBN 9788130922652

Leadership

In Business and Battle : Strategic Leadership in the Civilian and Military Spheres. Edited by Charles Style, Nicholas Beale and David Ellery. England, Gower, 2012. 144p., £25, ISBN 9781409433774

Literature

From Hindi to Urdu : A Social and Political History by Tariq Rahman. New Delhi, Orient BlackSwan, 2011. 456p., Rs.725, ISBN 9788125042488

The Adventures of Amir Hamza : Lord of the Auspicious Planetary Conjunction by Ghalib Lakhnavi, Abdullah Bilgrami and Musharraf Ali, Tr. Farooqi. New Delhi, Aleph Book Company, 2012. 565p., Rs.495, ISBN 9789382277125

Management

The Power of Less : The Fine of Limiting Yourself to the Essential ... in Business and in Life by Leo Babauta. New York, Hyperion, 2009. 170p., \$ 16.99, ISBN 9781401309701

Nation Building – India

Peace and Democratic Society. Edited by Amartya Sen. New Delhi, Synergy Books India, 2012. 155p., Rs.395, ISBN 9789382059080

Politics of Nation Building in India by Shibani Kinkar, Chaube. New Delhi, Gyan Publishing House, 2012. 332p., Rs. 990, ISBN 9788121211437

National Security

Media and National Security by Rhea Abraham. New Delhi, Knowledge World, 2012. 85p., Rs.180, ISBN 9789381904213

Security Challenges From Naxalism by Shekhar Adhikari. New Delhi, Anubhav Publishing House, 2013. 400p., Rs.995, ISBN 9789380134482

Towards Dominating Indian Ocean by Anand Ballabh. Delhi, Forward Books, 2013. 224p., Rs.900, ISBN 9789381763186

Pakistan

Global Security Watch Pakistan by Syed Farooq Hasnat. New Delhi, Pentagon Press, 2012. 211p., Rs.695, ISBN 9788182746169

Eating Grass : The Making of the Pakistani Bomb by Feroz Hassan Khan. New Delhi, Foundation Books Pvt. Ltd., 2013. 520p., Rs.895, ISBN 9789382264620

Nuclear Pakistan by Shalini Chawla. New Delhi, Knowledge Word, 2012. 217p., Rs.820, ISBN 9789381904

Pakistan History and Politics 1947-1971 by M Rafique Afzal. Karachi, Oxford University Press, 2001. 490p., Rs.795, ISBN 9780195475159

Pakistan : A New History by Ian Talbot. New Delhi, Pentagon Press, 2012. 311p., Rs.895, ISBN 9789381506233

Pakistan's Nuclear Weapons by VN Veda. New Delhi , Knowledge World, 2012. 76p., Rs.180, ISBN 9789381904329

Photo Journalism

75 Years : The Very Best of Life. Edited by Robert Sullivan. New York, Life Books an Imprint of Time Home Entertainment, 2011. 224p., Rs. 2025, ISBN 9781603202121

Population

The Real Population Bomb : Megacities, Global Security and the Map of the Future by PH Liotta and James F Miskel. New Delhi, Pentagon Press, 2012. 248p., Rs.995, ISBN 9788182746701

River Courses – West Bengal

Atlas of Changing River Courses in West Bengal 1767-2010 by Kalyan Rudra. Kolkata, Sheuli Chatterjee Sea Explorers Institute, 2012. 132p., Rs. 3000, ISBN 9788192495804

Russia

Russia and the Central Asian Republics : Post Soviet Engagements by Sreemati Ganguli. New Delhi, Knowledge World, 2013. 137p., Rs.495, ISBN 9789381904312

Sino – Indian Border Dispute

Dividing Lines : Contours of India - China Discord by KN Raghavan. Mumbai, Platinum Press, 2012. 385p., Rs.345, ISBN 9789381836750

South Asia

China - South Asia Political Relation : A View Point of Nepal by HK Awasthy. New Delhi, Sumit Enterprises, 2013. 288p., Rs.1000, ISBN 9788184203530

Internal Security Threats in South Asia by Manan Dwivedi and Devaditya Chakravarty. Delhi , Kalpaz Publications, 2013. 263p., Rs.845, ISBN 9788178358871

Sudan – Oil Diplomacy

Sudan's Oil Diplomacy 1991-2003 by Sandipani Dash. New Delhi, Manak Publications, 2012. 317p., Rs.536, ISBN 9788178313009

Terrorism

14 Hours – An Insider's Account of the 26/11 Taj Attack by Ankur Chawla. New Delhi, Rupa & Co, 2012. 164p., Rs.195, ISBN 9788129120656

Headley and I by S Hussain Zaidi and Rahul Bhat. New Delhi, Harper Collins Publishers, 2012. 206p., Rs.350, ISBN 9789350295724

Militancy in Pakistan and Afghanistan : A Brief History Causes and Effects by SV Salahuddin. New Delhi, Pentagon Press, 2012. 183p., Rs.795, ISBN 9788182746541

Oil, Globalization, and Terror : The Petroleum Triangle by Steve A Yetiv. New Delhi, Pentagon Press, 2012. 241p., Rs.995, ISBN 9788182746763

Our Moon Has Blood Clots : The Exodus of the Kashmiri Pandits by Rahul Pandita. New Delhi, Random House India, 2013. 258p., Rs.499, ISBN 9788184000870

Travel

Highway 39 : Journeys Through a Fractured Land by Sudeep Chakravarti. New Delhi, Fourth Estate, 2012. 388p., Rs.450, ISBN 9789350293348

United Nations

United Nations and Global Conflicts Edited by Chanchal Kumar and Sanju Gupta. New Delhi, Regal Publications, 2013. 646p., Rs.2280, ISBN 9788184842302

War / Warfare

Cities Under Siege : The New Military Urbanism by Stephen Graham. London, Verso, 2010. 402p., \$ 34.95, ISBN 9781844673155

Fundamentals of Modern Warfare : An Exploratory Study by NB Mishra. Delhi, Forward Books, 2013. 240p., Rs.900, ISBN 9789381763155

1962 War : Supplying From the Air by M Sadatulla. New Delhi, Knowledge World, 2012. 128p., Rs.495, ISBN 9789381904299

Operation Barbarossa and Germany's Defeat in the East by David Stahel. New Delhi, Cambridge University Press, 2012. 483p., Rs.995, ISBN 9781107654181

The Twilight War : The Secret History of America's Thirty-Year Conflict with Iran by David Crist. New York, Penguin Press, 2012. 638p., \$36, ISBN 9781594203411

War : Past, Present and Future by Jeremy Black. Gloucestershire, Sutton Publishing, 2000. 310p., £20, ISBN 9780750923941

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