



**CENTRE FOR  
INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIC STUDIES  
AJK**



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# Who We Are

Centre for International Strategic Studies (CISS AJK) is an autonomous, non partisan, and multidisciplinary research institution aspiring to achieve academic excellence in the field of Strategic Studies with special focus on Jammu & Kashmir.

## Mission

To forge international linkages and collaborations in making our research audible and visible to international influencers, alongside the projection of Pakistan's Interests and narratives by offering opportunities for knowledge sharing.

## Vision

To make the Kashmiri voice audible and visible on National and International forums to lead the discourse on Kashmir Conflict and strategic issues, and to contribute as a platform for Track-1.5 & Track-2 Diplomacy through dialogues and academic engagements.

## Editorial Board

**Chief Editor**

**Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja**

**Editor**

**Dr. Shahid Hameed**

**Asst Editor**

**Tayyaba Khurshid**

**Designed &**

**Composed by**

**Engr Sehrish Basharat**

## Outreach

### The Evolving Operational Environment in South Asia and Imperatives of Strategic Communication

Research Officers Syeda Tahreem Bukhari and Shahzad Akram headed by Director Research Dr. Shahid Hameed attended a lecture by Former Joint Chief of Staff Gen (R) Zubair Mahmood Hayat on "The Evolving Operational Environment in South Asia and Imperatives of Strategic Communication" at CISS Islamabad on January 26, 2023.



### Visit to Jammu Kashmir Liberation Cell (Feb 21, 2023)

Director CISS AJK Dr. Shahid Hameed and Research Officer Ali Hamza visited Jammu Kashmir Liberation Cell and discussed measures to enhance mutual collaboration between JKLC and CISS AJK on Feb 21, 2023.



### Paper Presentation at UCP, Lahore (15-16 March 2023)

Research Officers Zohaib Altaf, Dr. Abida Rafique and Research Assistant Nimra Javed presented their paper titled "Impact of Climate Change on Hard Power : Implications for National Security of Pakistan" on International Conference on Climate Change: Challenges and Responses organized by Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Central Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan on 15th and 16th March 2023.

### Traditional and Non-Traditional Security Imperatives for Pakistan (March 18, 2023)

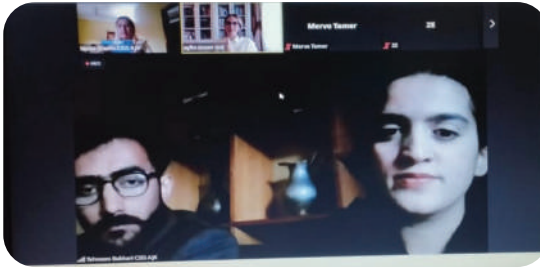
On March 18, 2023, Dr. Shahid Hameed, Director Research and Muhammad Shahzad, Research Officer, participated in one-day national conference on "Traditional and Non-Traditional Security Imperatives for Pakistan", which was organized by the University of Karachi in collaboration with CISS, Karachi.



### Recreational Trip to Gari Habib Ullah (March 2, 2023)

CISS AJK provides a suitable working environment for the growth and development of young researchers. In order to improve personal development of researchers, CISS AJK arranged recreational trip on March 2nd, 2023 to Gari Habib Ullah.





### Paper Presentation at "Securitized World Order and New Security Spaces" (24-26 March 2023)

Research Officer Syeda Tahreem Bukhari, Research Assistant Abdul Basit, and Research Officer Nazia Sheikh presented their Research Paper titled 'Integrated Deterrence and Strategic Stability in South Asia' at the Global Strategy Conference 2023 - "Securitized World Order and New Security Spaces" on 24 – 26 March 2023 at Istanbul, Türkiye (Hybrid).

## Workshops



### Research Methodology in Social Sciences

CISS AJK Organized Two-Days Workshop on "Research Methodology in Social Sciences". The workshop was conducted by Dr. Waqar, Asst. Professor at University of Chakwal on Feb 8, 9 2023. He introduced students to the professional nature of Research Types, Methods and Techniques of Conducting Qualitative and Quantitative Research with practical use of SPSS.

### Economic Diplomacy

On Feb 17, 2023, Researchers from CISS AJK attended two days spring school on "Economic Diplomacy" organized by IPRI. The spring school was an initiative to understand the basics of economic diplomacy emphasizing on the role of diplomatic practices to enhance trade and investment and ensure economic security of state.



## In-House Discussions



### Kashmiris' Inalienable Right to Self-Determination

On January 5, 2023, Kashmir State & Society team highlighted the struggle of Kashmiri people for their right to self-determination for several decades. Kashmiri people should be allowed to determine their political future through a free and fair plebiscite, as promised by the United Nations Security Council in 1948.



### **Future of Arms Control**

On January 11, 2023 Research Officer Zohaib Altaf and Research Assistant Nimra Javed highlighted emergence of new technologies, such as autonomous weapons systems, cyber weapons, and hypersonic missiles, which are changing the nature of warfare.

### **Pakistan's Commitment towards Kashmir issue**

On Feb 5, 2023 CISS AJK celebrated Kashmir Solidarity Day. Kashmir State & Society Team highlighted Pakistan's commitment and unwavering support towards Kashmir cause.



### **Environmental Threats and Prospects for Cooperation in South Asia,**

On Feb 14, 2023, Research Officers Qurat ul Ain and Ali Hamza highlighted that the environmental threats in South Asia are significant, but there are opportunities for cooperation among countries in the region to address these challenges and promote sustainable development.



### **Strategic Stability: A Critical Review of Pakistan's Response to Indian Strikes on Balakot**

On February 27, 2023, Research Officer Syeda Tahreem Bukhari and Research Assistants Abdul Basit, Hira Bashir and Tayyaba Khurshid discussed the onset of Balakot crisis and Pakistan's response to Indian surgical strikes in Balakot. They also brought forward its overall impact on strategic stability on the regional chess board.



### **International Women's Day and Role of Kashmiri Women,**

Research officers Qurat-ul-Ain and Saba Ghulam Nabi discussed the role of Kashmiri women and paid tribute to all the women struggling against discrimination and inequity. The team celebrated women's day with a pledge to become voice of those who are deprived of their basic rights and face violence and inequity.





### Economic Security of AJK: Prospects and Way Forward

A research presentation was conducted by Research Assistant Tayyaba Khurshid on March 21, 2023. She highlighted financial capacity of AJK and underscored its huge potential for economic diversity. The economic security of AJK can be fostered through investing in infrastructure, promoting tourism industry, improving governance mechanism, opening small and medium sized enterprises and adopting innovative agricultural practices.



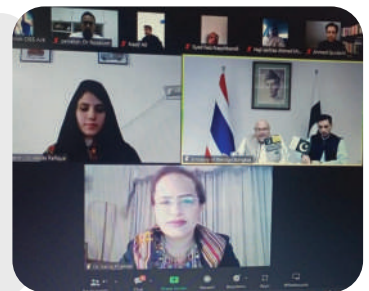
### Azm-e-Noou: Long Live Pakistan

CISS AJK celebrated the Pakistan Resolution Day on March 23, 2023. Dr. Asma Khawaja spoke on the relevance of "Two Nation Theory" while highlighting the discrimination faced by Muslims in India and IIOJK. The RO Zohaib Altaf spoke on "Role of Nuclear Technology to Strengthen Pakistan". RA Tayyaba Khurshid spoke on the "Role of Women in Pakistan's Progress."

## Webinars

### Commitment of Pakistan for the Kashmir Cause

On Feb 4, 2023, Embassy of Pakistan in Thailand organized a webinar to pay tribute to the commitment of Pakistan for the Kashmir cause. Dr. Asma Khawaja was the guest speaker. The session was moderated by Research Officer Dr. Abida.



### Observe Kashmir Solidarity Day

On Feb 5, 2023, CISS Sindh organized a webinar to observe Kashmir Solidarity Day. Dr. Asma Shakir Khwaja highlighted the silence of International Community on the oppression faced by innocent Kashmiris for past 7 decades. She reiterated Pakistan's firm support with Kashmiri people in their fight for freedom and their indigenous right of self-determination as per UN resolution.

## Seminar

### Climate Change Mitigation and Role of Nuclear Energy

On Feb 17 2023, Team CISS AJK, headed by Executive Director Dr. Asma Khawaja, attended the seminar organized by CISS Islamabad. The seminar was titled "Climate Change Mitigation and Role of Nuclear Energy" and DG IAEA Rafael Mariano Grossi attended the session and lauded Pakistan's Nuclear Energy and Safety Measures of Nuclear Plants as "World Class." The conference highlighted the role of nuclear energy in mitigating climate change as nuclear power provides clean and cheap energy and currently contributes to eight percent of Pakistan's energy mix with six operational nuclear power plants. Dr. Asma Khawaja met with DG IAEA and discussed the importance of nuclear energy in mitigating climate crisis.



## Lectures

### Understanding Extremism and Adopting an All-Inclusive Approach towards Peace Building in Society

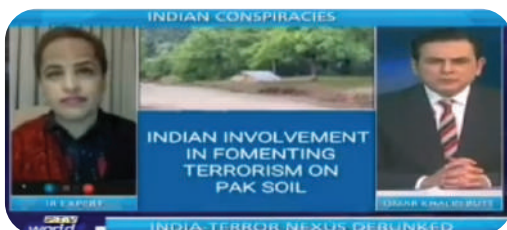
On January 30, 2023, RO Syeda Tahreem Bukhari delivered lecture on "Understanding Extremism and Adopting an all Inclusive Approach towards Peacebuilding in Society" at Salamti Fellowship Program on "Empowering Young Voices for Peace and Tolerance" organized by Shoor Foundation for Education & Awareness.



## CISS AJK in Media

### Such Bat Nusrat Mirza k Sath (January 01, 2023)

Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja appeared on the Such News show "Such Bat Nusrat Mirza k Sath" on January 01, 2023 to discuss the Indian atrocities in Illegally Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.



### News Room (January 4, 2023)

Executive Director Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja appeared on the PTV World's show "News Room" on January 4, 2023, to discuss the recent remarks of the Indian Foreign Minister Jai Shankar and a strong rebuttal from the Foreign Office of Pakistan.

### Views on News (February 7, 2023)

Executive Director Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja appeared on the PTV World's show "Views on News" and gave her opinion on "India raises defence budget to \$72.6bn amid tensions with China. India sparking arms race in the region".





### In the Memory of Kashmiri Martyrs (February 11, 2023)

Executive Director Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja, appeared on AJK Television's special show "In the Memory of Kashmiri Martyrs" on February 11, 2023 to pay tribute to the Kashmiri martyrs. She discussed the sufferings of Kashmiri people in IIOJK and also appreciated the struggle of Kashmiris and their fight for freedom from oppression and tyranny.



### News Room (February 23, 2023)

Executive Director Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja, appeared on the PTV World's show "News Room" on February 23, 2023, to highlight the importance of Kashmiri Women's Resistance Day and to discuss the immense sacrifices of Kashmiri women in Illegally Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

### SUNO FM 89.4 "BAKHABAR KASHMIR" (March 9, 2023)

Research Officer Dr. Abida Rafique was invited as a speaker on SUNO FM 89.4 "BAKHABAR KASHMIR" a special transmission commemorating International Women's Day. She discussed significant problems pertaining to Kashmiri women empowerment along with highlighting the efforts and accomplishments of women in many areas on March 9, 2023.



### Views on News (March 13, 2023)

Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja appeared on "Views on News" show of PTV World on March 13, 2023. The topic of discussion was "India's democracy on the verge of collapse. US panel slams Modi's actions in Gujarat".

### FM 93.00 'Pasban-e-Watan' (March 23, 2023)

Nimra Javed represented CISS AJK on AJK Radio FM 93.00 in the Program 'Pasban-e-Watan', on March 23, 2023. She shed light on the efforts of Pakistan Army since the inception of the country, and highlighted its role in ensuring welfare and wellbeing of Pakistan and its people. She also paid tribute to the martyrs of Pak Army, discussed the importance of two nation theory while exhibiting love of Kashmiris for the Pakistan Army.







### News Room (March 24, 2023)

On March 24, 2023, at News Room Dr. Asma Khawaja analysed Rahul Gandhi's imprisonment, and his disqualification from Indian Parliament. She further highlighted India's drift into Electoral Autocracy and its impact on Indian politics

## Capacity Building: Certificate Courses

Sr No.	Title	Organizer	Attendees
1.	Research Methodology workshop	CISS-AJK	Research Team
2.	Strategic South Asia	Stimson Center	Abdul Rehman
3.	Strategic South Asia	Stimson Center	Ali Hamza
4.	Introduction to Digital Journalism	Reuters	Tayyaba Khurshid
5.	Deterrence in South Asia	Stimson Center	Rimsha Malik
6.	Quest for sustainable Blue growth under preserved environment with special reference to Pakistan	IOI Online Ocean Academy Course (Pakistan)	Tayyaba Khurshid
7.	Strategic South Asia	Stimson Center	Qurat-ul-Ain (in progress)
8.	Strategic South Asia	Stimson Center	Nazia Sheikh (in progress)
9.	Strategic South Asia	Stimson Center	Syeda Tahreem Bukhari (in progress)
10.	Restoring Deterrence: Coercion & Crisis in Southern Asia	Stimson Center	Abdul Rehman (in progress)
11.	Economic Diplomacy	IPRI	Ali Hamza, Moneeb Mir, Abdul Rehman & Tayyaba Khurshid
12.	Restoring Deterrence Coercion & Crisis in Southern Asia	Stimson Center	Tayyaba Khurshid

## Research Papers

**Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja**

1. Power Realignment in South Asia-An Outcome of BRI (CPEC) (Margalla Papers, June 30, 2022)

**Zohaib Altaf**

2. China's Foreign Policy Shift From Belt and Road Initiative To Global Development Initiative: Impacts On Maritime Geopolitics Of The Indian Ocean Region (Margalla Papers, Feb 08, 2023)

## Op-Ed

**Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja**

1. تحریک آزادی کشمیر: دہشت گردی یا حریت پسندی (Hilal Urdu, Feb 9, 2023)

**Dr. Shahid Hameed**

2. What US Left Unfinished in Afghanistan (Strafasia, January 30, 2023)
3. Strategic Communication and Counter-Disinformation Insurgency in Pakistan (Strafasia, March 23, 2023)

**Syeda Tahreem Bukhari**

4. US Lessons From Afghanistan and Implications For South Asia (Pakistan Today, January 20, 2023)
5. BBC Documentary and Western Hypocrisy (Pakistan Today, January 31, 2023)
6. AMAN Exercises 2023 (Pakistan Observer, February 16, 2023)
7. Pakistan Once Again in Limelight (Pakistan Observer, February 19, 2023)
8. The Balakot Saga (Islamabad Post, February 26, 2023)
9. Between The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea (Pakistan Observer, March 17, 2023)
10. AUKUS and The U.S Integrated Deterrence Approach (Modern Diplomacy, March 18, 2023)
11. No Power on Earth Can Undo Pakistan (Pakistan Observer, March 25, 2023)

**Zohaib Altaf**

12. Political Instability's Impact on Security (Daily Time, January 10, 2023)
13. Precision Medicines & National Security (Daily Times, January 25, 2023)
14. Why Indian Military's Embrace of AI Risks Sparking Nuclear Disaster (South China Morning Post, February 18, 2023)

**Ali Hamza**

15. Book Review: Tomorrow The World: The Birth of U.S. Global Supremacy (Paradigm Shift, January 09, 2023)
16. Extended Deterrence and Korean Peninsula (Global Village Space, January 10, 2023)
17. Sino-Russian rapprochement and its limits in Ukraine (Global Village Space, February 08, 2023)
18. Adding to The Conflict: Discovery of Lithium Reserves in Jammu and Kashmir (Daily Pakistan, February 15, 2023)
19. QUAD, AUKUS, and China's Possible Response (Global Village Space, March 05, 2023)

**Qurat ul Ain**

20. Pakistan's Climate Crisis a Security Problem (Dispatch News Desk, January 26, 2023)
21. American Perceptions of Sino-Russian Relations (Dispatch News Desk, January 30, 2023)
22. Indo-Pak Relations Through Human Security Prism (Pakistan Observer, February 21, 2023)
23. Arms Race Between Russia and US in 21st Century (Dispatch News Desk, March 01, 2023)
24. Setting tone for the improvements in Pakistan's economy (DND, March 30, 2023)

**Muhammad Shahzad Akram**

25. Cyber Terrorism a Case of ISIS Social Media Strategy (Global Defense Insight, January 9, 2023)
26. Understanding the Political Economy of Iran (Global Village Space, January 11, 2023)
27. Top Five Cyber Crimes in 2023 (Modern Diplomacy, January 12, 2023)
28. Estoian Cyber Model and Pakistan (Strafasia, February 07, 2023)
29. Bollywood's Anti-Muslim Agenda (Global Village Space, February 21, 2023)
30. Cryptocurrency Governance (Pakistan Today, February 27, 2023)
31. US-China Competition in Outer Space (Pakistan Observer, March 09, 2023)
32. Cyber-Warfare and Pakistan Maritime Security (Stratheaia, March 08, 2023)
33. International Political Economy of The Persian Gulf (Mazedan, March 14, 2023)
34. Anti-Muslim Content and Its Counter-Measures (Pakistan Today, March 17, 2023)

**Dr. Abida Rafique**

35. 5th January Self-Determination Day, Will The World Acknowledge? (Daily Parliament Times, January 05, 2023)
36. A Dichotomy of Pakistan Economy: The way Forward (Daily Asian Sun, January 12, 2023)
37. Pakistan's Bilateral Economic Linkages and Defence Cooperation with Turkey (Pakistan Observer, February 11, 2023)
38. IAEA Visit To Pakistan: Hope for a Better Future (Modern Diplomacy, February 18, 2023)
39. Discovery of Lithium Reserve in Kashmir: New Complications in Resolution of Disputed Land (Modern Diplomacy, February 22, 2023)
40. Indo-US Civil Nuclear Deal: Fear of Arm Race in Asia (Pakistan Observer, February 26, 2023)
41. Balakot Incidence: Implications For South Asia (Modern Diplomacy, March 01, 2023)
42. Elongated Trauma of Kashmiri Women (Pakistan Observer, March 10, 2023)

**Nimra Javed**

43. Economic Turmoil & Emerging Security Issues (Pakistan Observer, January 09, 2023)



44. Davos Forum 2023: Artificial Intelligence and Economic Prospects (Daily Parliament Times, January 24, 2023)
45. Pakistan Navy , an Anchor of Peace (Pakistan Observer, February 13, 2023)
46. Genetative AI & Its Implications for Pakistan (Pakistan Observer, February 15, 2023)
47. Future Potential of Fusion Energy (Modern Diplomacy, February 28, 2023)
48. Iran-Saudi Deal :Prospects for the Region (Modern Diplomacy , March 23, 2023)

#### **Abdul Basit**

49. Chinese Ingress into The Arabian Peninsula (Global Affairs, January 24, 2023)
50. Pakistan:A Responsible Nuclear State (Global Village Space, March 01, 2023)

#### **Abdul Rehman**

51. Bollywood Anti-Muslim Agenda (State View , January 31, 2023)
52. Prospects of Mahasheer Angling Tourism in AJK (Daiy Parliament Times , February 26, 2023)

#### **Moneeb Jaffar Mir**

53. To 'Defeat' Terrorism, Pakistan Must Counter its Entrenched Ideology (The Cradle.co, January 18, 2023)
54. Passing The Buck in The Asia Pacific (The Nation , January 28, 2023)
55. Using Soft power in Afghanistan (The Nation, February 23, 2023)
56. Unravelling of the NPT based Order (The Nation, March 29, 2023)

#### **Hira Bashir**

57. Minorities Rights in India & Western Hypocrisy (Pakistan Observer, January 08, 2023)
58. Analyzing The Development of Autonomous Weapons (Global Village Space, January 28, 2023)
59. American's Autonomous Weapons Policy (Modern Diplomacy , February 17, 2023)
60. Nuclear Energy and Human Development(Pakistan Observer , March 02, 2023)
61. Balakot Misadventure and Edification for India (Daily Country News , March 03, 2023)
62. Global Challenges and Failed G20 Talks (Pakistan Observer, March 09, 2023)

#### **Saba Gulam Nabi**

63. The 75 Years of UNSC Resolution Dimmed Rays of Hopes For Kashmir (Parliament Times, January 5,2023)
64. Exigency of Kashmir Studies: An Analysis of the Curriculum of Secondary School Certificate (SSC) and Higher Secondary School Certificate (HSSC) in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (Country News , February 26, 2023)
65. International Women Day: The Silence of Authorities Over the Plight of Kashmiri Women (Daily Parliament Times , March 07, 2023)

#### **Nazia Sheikh**

66. Saudi Arabia Joining BRICS: A Strategic Game Changer (Pakistan Today, January 17, 2023)
67. Worrying about The Women's Right Scenario in Afghanistan, What Can be Done (Daily Islamabad Post, January 30, 2023)
68. Altering The Indus Water Treaty ( The Nation, February 19, 2023)
69. India Issued New Digital IDs in Jammu Kashmir,Surveillannce Concerns (Modern Diplomacy , February 20, 2023)
70. G-20 Schedule in Jammu Kashmir and India's Bluff Game (Modern Diplomacy , March 12, 2023)
71. Saudi-Iran Rapprochrment and Pakistan (Modern Diplomacy, March 17, 2023)

#### **Rimsha Malik**

72. Impact of Climate Change on Food Security in Pakistan (Pakistan Observer, January 07, 2023)
73. Zero Waste Lifestyles (Pakistan Today, January 08, 2023)
74. Climate-Induced Destruction and Geneva Conference (Pakistan Observer, January 24, 2023)
75. Cyber Deterrence is it Possible (The Nation, February 12, 2023)
76. The Battle Over Data (Pakistan Osbserver, February 22, 2023)
77. The Balakot Crisis: Strategic Restraint Who? (Pakistan Observer, March 01, 2023)
78. The Ballon Incident and Evolution of Espionage. (Pakistan Observer, March 04, 2023)
79. Countering Indian Disinformation(Pakistan Observer, March 10, 2023)
80. Pakistan's Complacency in Hybrid Warfare and Cyber Security (Pakistan Observer, March 25, 2023)

#### **Tayyaba Khursid**

81. A Lost Opportunity: Spy-Balloon Saga (Modern Diplomacy, February 15, 2023)
82. Pakistan's Security Quagmire (Pakistan Today, February 21, 2023)
83. Pakistan: A Responsible Nuclear Weapon State (Pakistan Today, February 28, 2023)
84. Human Trafficking: A Global Security Concern (Modern Diplomacy, March 07, 2023)
85. A Gendered Perspective towards Security and Violence (Pakistan Observer , March 09, 2023)
86. Women and Pakistan:A Critical review (Pakistan Observer, March 13, 2023)
87. US Cyber Policy 2023:Countering Russia and China(STRATHEIA , March 22, 2023)

# Our Research Team



Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja  
Executive Director



Dr. Shahid Hameed  
Director Research



Zohaib Altaf  
Research Officer



Tahreem Bukhari  
Research Officer



Ali Hamza  
Research Officer



Qurat Ul Ain Shabbir  
Research Officer



Nazia Sheikh  
Research Officer



Shahzad Akram  
Research Officer



Saba Gulam Nabi  
Research Officer



Moneeb Mir  
Research Assistant



Dr. Abida  
Research Officer



Nimra Javed  
Research Assistant



Abdul Basit  
Research Assistant



Tayyaba Khurshid  
Research Assistant



Rimsha Malik  
Research Assistant



Abdul Rehman  
Research Assistant



Hira Bashir  
Research Assistant



05822922322



admin@cissajk.org.pk



CISS AJK King Abdullah  
Campus Chattar klass  
Muzaffarabad



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