



Afghan, Pakistan Cartels Survived Empires. Now They Are Drowning Indian Ocean Region In Drugs

Praveen Swami | 28 May 2023

“Like their colonial-era ancestors, smugglers are the economic backbone of impoverished communities in Afghanistan and Pakistan.”

Read More: <https://theprint.in/opinion/security-code/afghan-pakistan-cartels-survived-empires-now-they-are-drowning-indian-ocean-region-in-drugs/1598666/>

Afghanistan: Costs and Concerns of The Taliban as a Security Provider

Kabir Taneja | 5 June 2023

“Before engaging with the Taliban on counterterrorism, the global community needs to realise that this move will have both political limitations and repercussions.”

Read More: <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/afghanistan-costs-and-concerns-of-the-taliban-as-a-security-provider/>

The Islamic State and the Taliban's Counter-terrorism

Antonio Giustozzi | 12 June 2023

“Overall, the Taliban have been quicker at taking on the mantle of counter-terrorism than many thought they would, but the IS remains a highly adaptive organisation that will likely defy attempts to destroy it.”

Read More: <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/southasia/2023/06/12/the-islamic-state-and-the-talibans-counter-terrorism/>

Imran Khan's Ill-Fated Revolution

Husain Haqqani | 12 June 2023

“Pakistan is adrift in a sea of troubles. Its economy is in a tailspin. GDP growth in the past year shriveled to only 0.29 percent. Annual inflation has soared to 36 percent, and annual inflation in food prices stands at a whopping 48 percent.”

Read More: <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/pakistan/imran-khans-ill-fated-revolution>

Is The Party Over?

RUmair Javed | 12 June 2023

“With inflation showing no signs of easing up, and levels of public scepticism at establishment meddling in political affairs remaining extremely high, the PTI is still in a better position than its competitors to capitalise on these concerns.”

Read More: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1759302>

Uncovering The Ghost Terror Masterminds Of ISI and Their Future Proxy War Strategy In Kashmir

Masroor Khan | 1 June 2023

“Whether Imran Khan wins or the establishment triumphs, Pakistan, like a snake swallowing its tail, is consuming itself.”

Read More: <https://usanasfoundation.com/uncovering-the-ghost-terror-masterminds-of-isi-and-their-future-proxy-war-strategy-in-kashmir>

Don't Ban PTI

Pervez Hoodbhoy | 3 June 2023

“The PTI is visibly crumbling. Each passing day sees senior members deserting their supreme leader. Those who have always served power were terrified once the establishment made May 9 into Pakistan’s September 11. Smarter members have already jumped overboard.”

Read More: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1757625>

Implications of Pakistan’s Terror Tagging of Political Opponents

Abdul Basit | 5 June 2023

“Charging political protesters under counterterrorism laws, even as extremist outfits are allowed to march in support of the military, will undermine Pakistan’s Democracy.”

Read More: <https://www.thefridaytimes.com/2023/05/17/nab-imran-khan-al-qadir-trust-case-exclusive/>

Is This PTI’s Final Curtain Call?

Nasir Jamal | 18 June 2023

“What is clear is that the work on winding down ‘Project Imran’ has been set in motion”

Read More: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1760353>

There’s No ‘Political Solution’ to Myanmar’s Crisis

Jordan Eriksson | 7 June 2023

“Two years after the military coup, the conflict in Myanmar continues to intensify and the international community appears powerless to affect meaningful change. Global institutions, regional organizations, and neighboring countries continue to look for a “political solution” to Myanmar’s crisis, with calls for “peaceful” dialogue ad nauseam.”

Read More: <https://thediplomat.com/2023/06/theres-no-political-solution-to-myanmars-crisis/>

Ethnic Reconciliation in Sri Lanka: Another Missed Opportunity

Roshni Kapur | 9 June 2023

“The end of the civil war opened the space for genuine reconciliation, transitional justice, power-sharing and devolution of powers. Since many promises have once again not been fulfilled, the Tamil community is convinced that the establishment lacks the political will to resolve this issue or that the President’s efforts are motivated by political and economic reasons.”

Read More: <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/ethnic-reconciliation-in-sri-lanka/>

Three things to watch as Bangladesh's National Election season heats up

Geoffrey Macdonald | 15 June 2023

“It's been 15 years since Bangladesh had an election that was widely considered legitimate—it needs one now to reset its political system.”

Read More: <https://www.usip.org/publications/2023/06/three-things-watch-bangladeshs-national-election-season-heats>

Why Nepalis Are Fighting on Both Sides of the Russia-Ukraine War

Birat Anupam | 17 June 2023

“A long tradition of serving in foreign militaries and a lack of options at home has drawn young Nepalis into the conflict.”

Read More: <https://thediplomat.com/2023/06/why-nepalis-are-fighting-on-both-sides-of-the-russia-ukraine-war/>

Saudi Arabia-Iran ties set to redefine West Asia's geopolitical landscape

Anil Trigunayat | 11 June 2023

“One of the most important developments in recent times has been the thawing of ties and reestablishment of diplomatic relations between arch-competitors Saudi Arabia – leader of the Islamic world – and Islamic Republic Iran which apart from intra-regional geopolitical and geo-economic contestations were equally confronting one another in the inter-religious Shia-Sunni divide.”

Read More: <https://www.deccanherald.com/international/world-news-politics/saudi-arabia-iran-ties-set-to-redefine-west-asia-s-geopolitical-landscape-1226718.html>

The Middle East: Impact of Afghanistan and Ukraine Crises on Key Regional Trends

Ivan Bocharov | 8 June 2023

“The Taliban's (an organization whose activities are banned in the Russian Federation) rise to power in Afghanistan in August 2021 and the conflict in Ukraine have both had an impact on regional trends in the Middle East.”

Read More: https://russiancouncil.ru/en/activity/publications/the-middle-east-impact-of-afghanistan-and-ukraine-crises-on-key-regional-trends/?bx_sender_conversion_id=9127429

Hobbled Economic Prospects in Central Asia

Catherine Putz | 6 June 2023

“Emerging economies are “struggling just to cope,” the World Bank says. The latest Global Economic Prospects report notes slight improvements but many risks.”

Read More: <https://thediplomat.com/2023/06/hobbled-economic-prospects-in-central-asia/>

Why China Is Emerging as a Main Promoter of Stability in the Strait of Hormuz

Abdullah Baabood | 24 May 2023

“Because of its reliance on the Gulf region for much of its oil and gas, China has a strong interest in preserving security in the region, an early example of which was its mediation of the recent Saudi Arabia-Iran reconciliation.”

Read More: <https://carnegie-mec.org/2023/05/24/why-china-is-emerging-as-main-promoter-of-stability-in-strait-of-hormuz-pub-89829>

BRICS expansion and a message to the West

Dnyanesh Kamat | 1 June 2023

“Extending membership to Riyadh would signal the bank’s interest in challenging the West’s monopoly over global financial institutions and represent a counterweight to rich-country clubs such as the Group of Seven, which are seen as neocolonial structures, especially in the Global South.”

Read More: <https://asiatimes.com/2023/06/brics-expansion-and-a-message-to-the-west/>

REGION IN PICTURES

The Heads of State of Central Asia and the President of the European Council met in Kyrgyzstan and participants discussed the situation in Afghanistan in addition to exchanging views on general issues of security, connectivity, climate, digital, and critical raw material, according to the joint press release.



Pic Credits: - The Frontier Post

Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, left, meets with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing on June 14, 2023, at the start of a three-day visit to China.



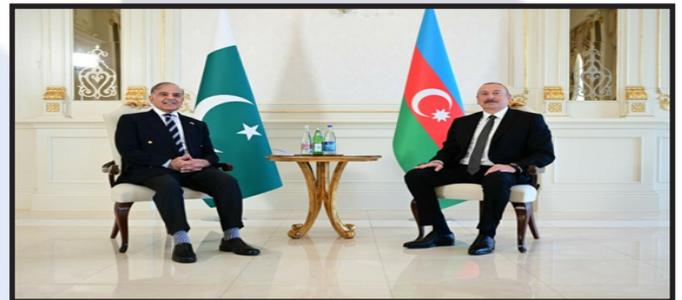
Pic Credits: Al Jazeera

The Quad summit lasted only for 47 minutes in Hiroshima, but the leaders addressed all the critical issues facing the Indo-Pacific and came out with solutions to counter the emerging threat on submarine internet cables, cyber-security and sea-lanes in the region.



Pic Credits: Hindustan Times

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif meets Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev during his two-day official visit. This is the first visit of the prime minister after assuming office.



Pic Credits: Dawn



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NOTE: **Regional Opinion and Trends** aims to capture prevailing opinions in South Asia and West Asia.

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