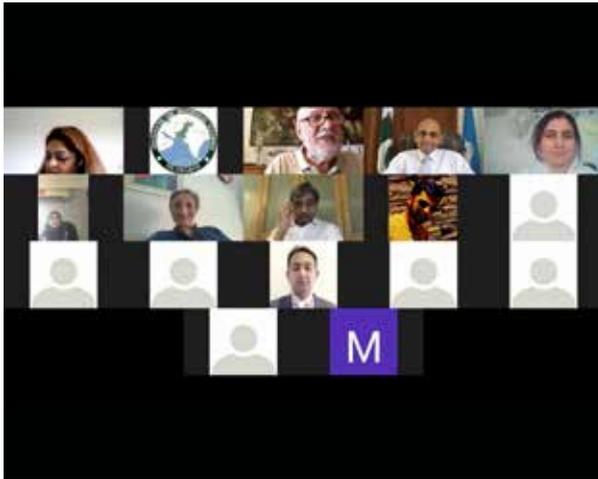




NEWSLETTER

JULY - SEPTEMBER, 2020



Webinar:

Intra Afghan Dialogue: Roadblocks and the Way Forward

25 June, 2020

Mr. Imtiaz Gul, Dr. Salma Malik, Mr. Muhammad Aamir Rana participated as speakers in a webinar organized by IRS. The purpose of the webinar was to initiate a debate over the possible outcomes of the recent intra afghan dialogue in the post- deal scenario. The speakers hoped for Intra Afghan dialogue to take place smoothly, however, they expressed caution against the spoilers of the process.

Shifting to new premises

22 July, 2020

Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi inaugurated new premises of IRS on 22 July, 2020. In a meeting with researchers at IRS the foreign minister endorsed the idea of promoting regional dialogue amongst South Asians Nations. He emphasized on building relations with Bangladesh.



Meeting with Foreign Minister

3 July, 2020

The research team of IRS held a meeting with Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi regarding the significance of the Institute in conducting research on the region of South Asia. Institute's research on micro level was appreciated. Institute's archives maintained from 1982 were also applauded.



Webinar:
***Border Clashes in the Himalayan Region:
 Stakes for Pakistan***

23 July, 2020

In a webinar the speakers Amb. Riaz Muhammad Khan, Gen. Asif Yaseen Malik and Dr. Mujeeb Afzal were of the view that the deadly clashes in the Himalayan region between India and China invited the worlds attention towards the disputed territory of Kashmir. Military advancement was not directed to India per se, however, it counterweights US sponsored Indo- Specific regime in the South Asian region, the speakers observed.



Webinar:
***The Possible Way Forward for Jammu &
 Kashmir***

27 July, 2020

Dr. Maleeha Lodhi, Major General (Retd) Muhammad Samrez Salik and Ambassador Aziz Ahmed Khan participated as main speakers in a Webinar arranged by IRS. They were of the view that abrogation of Articles 370 and 35-A with regard to the special status of Kashmir by the Indian government on August 5 is not only a breach of United Nations Security Council

Resolutions but also a flagrant violation of New Delhi's own constitution. Even pro-Indian parties in the occupied Kashmir protested against the withdrawal of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir.

Inhouse Discussion:
Abrogation of the special status of Kashmir

5 August, 2020

Researchers of IRS held an in-house discussion regarding the first anniversary of "the brutal fascist India's siege of Jammu and Kashmir". Discussion included the damage that this siege has caused economically and the various human rights violations committed by India in just the past year.

Participants shared that according to a report by The Forum for Human Rights in J&K (as published in Times of India), over 6,600 people, including minors, were arrested, including 444 political leaders under the J&K Public Safety Act, which allows detention for up to two years without trial. The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industries has estimated that the economic losses in the region amount up to \$5.3bn and almost half a million jobs had been lost since August last year. The participants noted that it was interesting that even Indian sources are now admitting that the Kashmiri involvement, that is the local involvement in terrorism, has immensely increased after 5th August 2019.





Webinar:
Pakistan’s Re-engagement with Bangladesh:
Expectations and Challenges
 13 August, 2020

Dr. Shahab Enam Khan, Mr. Mukhlesur Rehman (Bangladesh) and Dr. Rifaat Hussain (Pakistan) participated in a webinar, organized by IRS in purview of the telephonic conversation between Prime Minister Imran Khan and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. During the discussion, Islamabad’s peace initiative was appreciated.

The speakers urged in unison to move forward with a mission of peace and development in the region. The speakers also emphasized on uncapping the trade potential between the two countries.

Webinar:
Dynamics of Bilateral Relations amongst
South Asian States: A New Order in the
Making?
 16 September, 2020



Dr. Hu Shisheng, Dr. Li Jingfeng (China), Shakti De Silva (Sri Lanka), Rabibal Dhakal (Bhutan), Dr. Khadga K.C. (Nepal) Dr. Shaheen Akhtar (Pakistan) and Dr. Shahab Enam Khan (Bangladesh) participated in a webinar, in which

the entire region of South Asia was connected. Speakers unanimously opined that mutual development is the key to peace in the region. Therefore, instead of lingering on conflicting issues, it’s better to enhance economic relations to ensure mass level development.

IRS Publications



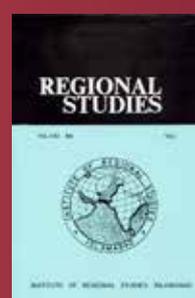
Selections from regional Press (Bi-monthly)



Spotlight



Focus



Regional Studies (Quarterly)



Conference Book (Yearly)