

ISAS Public Lecture Series



**Neither Transition nor
Transformation:
Hybridization of Civil-Military
Relations in Contemporary
Pakistan**

a talk by

Ejaz Hussain

Independent political and defence analyst

What is the nature and character of civil-military relations in contemporary Pakistan? Is Pakistan going through democratic transition, as the media and certain scholarship portray, or experiencing structural transformation within the state (institutions)? What do the contours and consequences of contemporary civil-military relations inform us about the degree of democracy and the level of political and socioeconomic development in current context and the foreseeable future? These questions are central to the talk which takes a theory-guided view of the recent empirical developments with respect to the emerging patterns of interaction among civilian and the military, the issues related to civilian control of the military, the dynamics of democratization and, above all, the hybridization of civil-military relations. In order to measure democratization, understand domestic- in particular the country's counterterrorism strategy- and foreign policy of the present (civil) government in Pakistan, it becomes pertinent to explain the intricacies of civil-military relations, for the latter has not only remained at the center of politics, democracy and security throughout the country's history but also carries potential to provide, on the one hand, with conceptual tools to explain motives and motivation behind crisis and coup and, on the other, empirical insights for policy formulation.

About the Speaker

Ejaz Hussain holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Heidelberg University (2010). Before this, he did an M.A. in International Relations from Quaid-i- Azam University (2003) and another M.A. in Asian Studies from Lund University, Sweden (2006). Ejaz authored *Military Agency, Politics and the State in Pakistan* (2013) besides having published on Pakistan's domestic politics, foreign policy and civil-military relations in peer-reviewed journals. His media commentaries have appeared in the BBC, Dawn, Express Tribune, The First Post, Newline, The Friday Times, Global Times and Daily Times. Moreover, Hussain is DAAD and Fulbright Fellow and currently is a visiting scholar at the Institute of International Studies, UC Berkeley. Previously, he worked at COMSATS, Islamabad, and Forman Christian College, Lahore. Presently, he chairs the Department of Social Sciences at Iqra University, Islamabad.

Thursday, September 7, 2017
5 - 6:30 pm
10 Stephens Hall (ISAS Conf. Room)

Event Cosponsor: The Berkeley Pakistan Initiative

Event is free & open to public. Information at 510-642-3608 or southasia.berkeley.edu