

MILITARIZING THE MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA

US-PAKISTAN ALIGNMENT: BUILDING ORGANIZATIONAL STRENGTH ON STRATEGIC LOSS

LUNCH TALK WITH DR. AYESHA SIDDIQA
FRIDAY MARCH 1 | NOON – 1:30 PM
KING 106 | LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

After fighting a war for almost two decades in Afghanistan, the U.S. is nowhere close to winning the conflict. The key source of help and challenge is Pakistan, with whom Washington has an alignment since 2001 to fight the war on terror. However, despite investing billions of dollars in economic and military aid, Pakistan does not seem to have delivered. It is not just about a difference of opinion between the two states on the future of Afghanistan, but also Pakistan's deep-set skepticism of the U.S. Pakistan's alternative partnership with China is one of the reasons for the continued lack of cooperation from Pakistan. This talk will lay out the power of the Pakistani military that lies at the bottom of the strategic disconnect.



AYESHA SIDDIQA is a research associate with the Centre for International Studies & Diplomacy (CISD) at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London. She is a PhD. in War Studies from King's College, London and author of two books: (a) *Pakistan's Arms Procurement and Military Buildup, 1979-99*, and (b) *Military Inc; Inside Pakistan's Military Economy*. She is currently working on another book on militancy and extremism in South Asia and its links with the Middle

East. She was the first Pakistan fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Centre for Scholars, a Ford Fellow, a Senior Research Fellow at Sandia National Laboratories and a Charles Wallace Fellow at St. Antony's College, Oxford. Dr. Siddiqa has also taught at the University of Pennsylvania and Johns Hopkins University.