



Department of Civics and Politics
Call for Papers
International Seminar
On
Shifting Sands in West Asia: Culture, Economy and Polity
March 12th to 14th, 2018

The present economic, social and political structures in the Arab World cannot possibly ever deal with the challenges of today, given the tens of millions of needy people and the limited state resources to care for them. The underlying drivers of many of the tensions that we see today in Arab's world were these unmet basic needs over several decades, which generated mass fear and vulnerability, which then translated into anxiety, exasperation, and finally desperation. Perhaps as many as 100 million of the 370 million Arab may fit into this category, and are still looking for possible ways to improve their lives.

The ongoing wars in half a dozen Arab countries means that the number of desperate families may be increasing due to refugee-hood, displacement, economic losses and injuries. The dynamic that drives uprisings and revolutions remains active, helping reconfigure future conditions, as more Arabs every year become increasingly anxious and sometimes desperate, about their capacity to ever live a normal middle class life. The promise shaped the first three generations of Arabs from the 1920s, but since the 1970s or so that promise of active citizenship and a decent life has been largely denied to a large number of Arabs.

The hard reality is that not a single Arab Country other than Tunisia today operates according to the principle of the consent of the governed. Not a single one. And this has been a situation in every Arab country for the past century, with minor and fleeting expectations. Nowhere else in the modern world has such a large number of people, comprising an entire political culture region in the world been subjected to sustained autocracy over a long period of time. The worse news is that in many of the Arab countries, including some of the wealthy oil states in the Gulf, and especially countries like Egypt, there has been a regression in political, cultural and social freedoms in the past five years. A continuing clampdown by the prevailing political and security forces has reduced the space for normal expression of political and social views, in a totally peaceful manner, in the media, in schools, in local

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cafes, and public events. All these issues played a role in the recent uprisings and consequent turmoil that we have experienced.

Historically, a fear of disintegration has long been deep-rooted in Turkey. The Turkish Republic was established in 1923 on the ashes of the Ottoman Empire which was divided and carved up following the allies victory after world war 1. Not unlike many other nations attempting a process of nation building, Turkey too found the issue of the rights of ethnic minorities as troubling, on various occasions even claiming that the Kurdish problem was the handiwork of foreign enemies keen to divide Turkey and create an autonomous state of Kurdistan. As a result, any fresh political initiative by Turkish government to resolve the Turkish Question must first persuade the people that the solution will not be the beginning of a disintegration process of Turkey in the present times. The questions of Culture, Economics and Polity will be dealt in West Asia in the present seminar

Focus of the International Seminar: - International Seminar is an academic exercise in discussing the emerging dynamics in West Asia and Turkey. The International Seminar aims at discussing the various issues linking up to the Resolution of making peace and security in the region. Nations with powerful militaries – Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, India, Turkey Syria, Libya and Egypt have been weakly guarded neighbors and fought low levels of wars against each other. There has been much rethinking of 'security' since the Arab spring, Iraq and Syrian crisis. In the last decade or so numerous debates have burgeoned on broadening or updating security, 'securitization' and 'de-securitization', future security agendas, methodological and epistemological issues in West Asia. This makes us necessary to discuss on Turkey and West Asia: Implications for India.

It is in the above context that the proposed International Seminar would like to discuss the following sub themes given below: -

1. Turkey and Arab World: Revisiting the History
2. Arab Spring and Its Ramifications
3. Turkey's Response to / Perspective on Arab Spring
4. West's Policy of Refugees With special reference to Syrian Refugees
5. Nuclear issues in West Asia
6. Turkey and ISIS
7. Syrian crisis and Gulf crises
8. GCC countries
9. India, Turkey and West Asia: Cultural bindings

10. India's Quest for Energy and Role of Turkey
11. India, Israel, Turkey and USA: The emerging synergy on Current Crisis in West Asia.
12. Indian Diaspora in West Asia
13. US Iran Nuclear deal
14. India Israel relations
15. Major power role in West Asia
16. Yemen Crisis and India
17. Oil Geopolitics and Economics in West Asia
18. Religion and Ethnic conflicts
19. Super power domination in the region
20. Role of UN in West Asia
21. Issues of National security in West Asia
22. Polity in West Asian Crisis
23. Regional conflicts in West Asia.

Contribution on any of the following themes can be deliberated-

Objectives of the International Seminar:- The Department of Civics and Politics initiates to provide a platform for the deliberations on the above themes. The chosen themes have gained importance as Turkey and West Asia has been undergoing a tremendous changing process in International relations in the Post-cold war scenario. The Three days exercise should be academic in context and professional in attitude, should be academically rewarding and personally gainful to the participants. The ultimate objective is to generate an in-depth understanding of Turkey and West Asia: Implications for India.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

<u>ABSTRACTS SUBMISSION DATES</u>	<u>JANUARY 15, 2018</u>
<u>NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE (EMAIL)</u>	<u>JANUARY 25, 2018</u>
<u>REGISTRATION COMPLETE FORMS</u>	<u>FEBRUARY 10, 2018</u>
<u>FINAL PAPER FOR THE CONFERENCE PROCEEDING</u>	<u>FEBRUARY 15, 2018</u>
<u>2018 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING FOR PAPERS AND ORGANIZING COMMITTEE</u>	<u>MARCH 10, 2018</u>
<u>2018 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE</u>	<u>MARCH 12 TO 14 2018</u>

Submissions

Abstract of no more than 300 words including key words should be submitted to khanliyaqat6@gmail.com on or before 15 January 2018

The following information is required in the following order

- Title of the Paper- Bold –faced and centered in upper/Lower case
- Name (s) of the author(s)-
- Affiliation(s) of the author(s)
- Address(es) of the author(s)
- Abstract of the paper
- Full paper