

Moazzam Husain, *Putting Pakistan Right: Standpoints on the War on Terror, Energy, Transit Corridors & Economic Development* (USA: Moazzam Husain, 2016), 217.

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Putting Pakistan Right by Moazzam Husain is a set of deeply analysed articles which can help policy makers to draft the right policy options for Pakistan. Moazzam Husain, after graduating MBA from Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), worked with foreign corporations and has also served the government in various advisory roles. He has also been on the visiting faculty of two business schools teaching strategy and marketing. Presently, he runs an energy company in Karachi.

As mentioned in the introduction part by the author, this book is not an academic piece neither a journalistic perspective on socio-political events rather it is a combination of various opinion articles written by the author, published in Dawn from 2009 to 2015. The book is divided into five main parts discussing war on terror, the Middle East factor, regional connectivity and transit corridors, energy situations in Pakistan and the concerns in economic development of Pakistan. Each of these issues is further elaborated by the author in his opinion pieces that offers a deep insight into the fundamental issues that need to be overcome.

In the first part of the book, the writer has discussed different dimensions of 'War on Terror' starting from the attack on Sararogha Fort and unwanted and unjustified peace deals with Jihadis during the Operation Enduring Freedom. The author discussed general understanding of War on terror in Pakistan after assassination of Benazir Bhutto. He is of the view that "we are not clear on defining the War on terror" (p.16). In his article of May, 2009, the writer tried to raise a debate whether our policies on 'War on Terror' are effective and do we really know our enemy? In Feb, 2013, the writer added a thought that post-2014 is not an end to 'War on Terror'. In fact, the real 'War on Terror' was only about to begin.

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In the second part of the book, talking about the future of the Middle East, Mr Husain narrates that Arab Spring is the most important development of the century and if Pakistan do not respond to it the risk factor will be greater. Describing the situation of Syria, the author calls it a poisoned well for the region. Discussing the situation of ISIS, the author says that the emergence of ISIS hold implications for the world beyond Syria and Iraq and the world has no coherent strategy that how to tackle this monster.

In the third part of the book, while discussing regional connectivity and transit corridors, the writer emphasise on the fact that it is the right time to start bilateral trade with India. Pakistan should follow a good will strategy instead of strategic depth strategy in terms of developing relations with its neighbours. According to the author, for decades, Pakistan squandered its advantages bestowed on it by its geography. It is now the right time to play card wisely and enhance its regional connectivity through transit corridors. The writer asked the government to seriously take up the CPEC project in all aspects as it is now the lifeline of economic connectivity of Pakistan.

In the fourth part of the book, while discussing the energy issue in Pakistan, the writer mentioned that power issue cannot be dealt with separately from the water issue. The writer quoted the fact that resolving the energy crisis through temporary measurements like importing expensive LNG and generating energy through renewable sources will not solve the problem in longer run. Pakistan is endowed with large indigenous energy reserves and capacity to tap these resources but unfortunately Pakistan has not been able to untap this potential.

In the last part of the book, the writer discussed the issues related to economic development in Pakistan. The writer quoted that besides the effects of the War on Terror, energy shortages and regional isolation it is economic development that is needed on fast track for Pakistan. For economic development our leadership needed a clear vision. Giving a road to privatisation the author suggests that an economic turnaround can be brought about by unlocking value from assets. The writer further suggested measure like restructuring PIA, mass transit system for Karachi and steps needed to be taken in flood aftermath.

Putting Pakistan Right gives a detailed analysis of the problems of Pakistan between 2009 and 2015. As mentioned earlier, this book is a combination of various newspaper opinion articles which attracts the reader attention as no academic debate is involved in the analysis. This is easy to read and simple to understand book which enables the reader to understand the basic problems of Pakistan and possible solutions to them.