

DURAND LINE

DURAND LINE IS A SIGNIFICANT GEOPOLITICAL BOUNDARY THAT HAS SHAPED THE RELATIONS BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN THE LATE 19TH CENTURY. THIS BORDER, DRAWN BY BRITISH COLONIAL AUTHORITIES, DIVIDES THE PASHTUN TRIBAL AREAS AND HAS BEEN AT THE CENTER OF NUMEROUS POLITICAL AND TERRITORIAL DISPUTES. UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT, THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT, AND ITS LASTING IMPACT ON REGIONAL STABILITY IS ESSENTIAL FOR COMPREHENDING SOUTH ASIAN GEOPOLITICS. THIS ARTICLE EXPLORES THE ORIGINS OF THE DURAND LINE, ITS IMPLICATIONS ON AFGHANISTAN-PAKISTAN RELATIONS, AND THE ONGOING CONTROVERSIES SURROUNDING ITS RECOGNITION. ADDITIONALLY, IT EXAMINES THE SOCIO-CULTURAL AND SECURITY CHALLENGES THAT PERSIST ALONG THIS DEMARCATION. THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS PROVIDE A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE DURAND LINE'S HISTORY, GEOPOLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE, AND CURRENT STATUS WITHIN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.

- HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE DURAND LINE
- GEOPOLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE
- CONTROVERSIES AND DISPUTES
- IMPACT ON LOCAL POPULATIONS
- SECURITY CONCERNS AND BORDER MANAGEMENT
- INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE AND RECOGNITION

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE DURAND LINE

THE DURAND LINE WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1893 AS A RESULT OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN SIR MORTIMER DURAND, A BRITISH DIPLOMAT AND CIVIL SERVANT, AND AMIR ABDUR RAHMAN KHAN OF AFGHANISTAN. THE BOUNDARY WAS INITIALLY DRAWN TO DELINEATE THE SPHERES OF INFLUENCE BETWEEN BRITISH INDIA AND AFGHANISTAN, PARTICULARLY TO PROTECT BRITISH INTERESTS FROM RUSSIAN EXPANSION. THIS DEMARCATION STRETCHED APPROXIMATELY 1,600 MILES, SLICING THROUGH TRIBAL LANDS PREDOMINANTLY INHABITED BY PASHTUN COMMUNITIES.

ORIGINS OF THE AGREEMENT

THE PRIMARY MOTIVATION BEHIND THE DURAND LINE AGREEMENT WAS TO CREATE A BUFFER ZONE BETWEEN BRITISH INDIA AND THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE. THE BRITISH SOUGHT TO SECURE THEIR NORTHWESTERN FRONTIER BY FORMALIZING A BORDER THAT SEPARATED THEIR COLONIAL TERRITORIES FROM AFGHANISTAN. THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED UNDER DIPLOMATIC PRESSURE AND WITHOUT EXTENSIVE CONSULTATION WITH THE AFFECTED TRIBAL GROUPS, WHICH LATER FUELED RESISTANCE AND DISCONTENT.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

THE DURAND LINE DELINEATED THE BORDER BY MAPPING OUT SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES AND TRIBAL TERRITORIES. THE AGREEMENT GRANTED BRITISH AUTHORITIES CONTROL OVER AREAS TO THE EAST OF THE LINE WHILE AFGHANISTAN RETAINED SOVEREIGNTY TO THE WEST. IMPORTANTLY, THE TREATY STIPULATED THAT THE BORDER WAS TO BE RESPECTED BY BOTH PARTIES, ALTHOUGH THE VAGUE WORDING ABOUT THE PERMANENCE OF THE BOUNDARY LEFT ROOM FOR FUTURE DISPUTES.

GEOPOLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE

THE DURAND LINE REMAINS ONE OF THE MOST CONTENTIOUS AND STRATEGICALLY IMPORTANT BORDERS IN SOUTH ASIA. IT NOT ONLY DIVIDES TWO MODERN STATES BUT ALSO BISECTS ETHNIC AND TRIBAL REGIONS, COMPLICATING NATIONAL IDENTITIES AND POLITICAL ALLEGIANCES. THE LINE'S GEOPOLITICAL RELEVANCE CONTINUES TO INFLUENCE AFGHANISTAN-PAKISTAN RELATIONS AND REGIONAL SECURITY DYNAMICS.

STRATEGIC LOCATION

LOCATED ALONG THE RUGGED MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN OF THE HINDU KUSH AND SULAIMAN RANGES, THE DURAND LINE SERVES AS A CRITICAL FRONTIER. IT ACTS AS A GATEWAY FOR TRADE, MIGRATION, AND MILITARY OPERATIONS, MAKING IT A FOCAL POINT FOR BOTH COOPERATION AND CONFLICT. CONTROL OF THIS BORDER REGION HAS IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNTERTERRORISM EFFORTS AND REGIONAL INFLUENCE.

INFLUENCE ON AFGHANISTAN-PAKISTAN RELATIONS

THE DURAND LINE HAS BEEN A PERSISTENT SOURCE OF TENSION BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN. AFGHANISTAN HAS HISTORICALLY REFUSED TO RECOGNIZE THE BOUNDARY AS AN OFFICIAL INTERNATIONAL BORDER, CITING THE COLONIAL NATURE OF ITS ESTABLISHMENT. THIS NON-RECOGNITION AFFECTS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, BORDER MANAGEMENT, AND CROSS-BORDER MOVEMENT POLICIES.

CONTROVERSIES AND DISPUTES

THE DURAND LINE'S LEGITIMACY AND RECOGNITION REMAIN HIGHLY DISPUTED. AFGHANISTAN'S STANCE HAS LED TO ONGOING DIPLOMATIC FRICTION, WHILE PAKISTAN INSISTS ON THE BORDER'S VALIDITY BASED ON HISTORICAL TREATIES AND INTERNATIONAL LAW. THIS DISPUTE HAS HAD A PROFOUND IMPACT ON BILATERAL RELATIONS AND REGIONAL STABILITY.

NON-RECOGNITION BY AFGHANISTAN

AFGHANISTAN HAS CONSISTENTLY REJECTED THE DURAND LINE AS A LEGITIMATE INTERNATIONAL BORDER, ARGUING THAT THE AGREEMENT WAS IMPOSED UNDER DURESS AND IS THEREFORE INVALID. AFGHAN GOVERNMENTS HAVE MAINTAINED CLAIMS OVER TERRITORIES EAST OF THE LINE, WHICH HAS LED TO PERIODIC BORDER CLASHES AND DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS.

PAKISTAN'S POSITION

PAKISTAN VIEWS THE DURAND LINE AS A LEGALLY BINDING BORDER INHERITED FROM BRITISH INDIA. THE PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF RESPECTING ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARIES TO ENSURE SOVEREIGNTY AND SECURITY. PAKISTAN HAS ALSO TAKEN STEPS TO REGULATE AND FORTIFY THE BORDER IN RESPONSE TO SECURITY CONCERNS.

BORDER INCIDENTS AND CLASHES

THE DISPUTED STATUS OF THE DURAND LINE HAS RESULTED IN FREQUENT SKIRMISHES BETWEEN BORDER SECURITY FORCES, LEADING TO CASUALTIES AND HEIGHTENED TENSIONS. THESE INCIDENTS OFTEN STEM FROM MISUNDERSTANDINGS, DIFFERING INTERPRETATIONS OF THE BORDER, AND MILITANT ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION.

IMPACT ON LOCAL POPULATIONS

THE DURAND LINE DIVIDES ETHNIC PASHTUN TRIBES, SPLITTING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES ACROSS TWO COUNTRIES. THIS DIVISION HAS HAD SIGNIFICANT SOCIAL, CULTURAL, AND ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES FOR THE LOCAL POPULATIONS LIVING ALONG THE BORDER.

TRIBAL DIVISIONS AND IDENTITY

PASHTUN TRIBES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE DURAND LINE SHARE LANGUAGE, CUSTOMS, AND KINSHIP TIES. THE ARTIFICIAL BORDER DISRUPTS THESE CONNECTIONS, COMPLICATING IDENTITY AND ALLEGIANCE. MANY TRIBESPEOPLE CONSIDER THE BORDER IRRELEVANT, CONTINUING CROSS-BORDER MOVEMENT DESPITE OFFICIAL RESTRICTIONS.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHALLENGES

THE BORDER REGION IS CHARACTERIZED BY UNDERDEVELOPMENT, LIMITED INFRASTRUCTURE, AND ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS. THE DIVISION HAS HINDERED TRADE AND ACCESS TO RESOURCES, CONTRIBUTING TO POVERTY AND INSTABILITY. ADDITIONALLY, RESTRICTIONS ON MOVEMENT AFFECT EDUCATION, HEALTHCARE, AND FAMILY REUNIFICATION.

LIST OF KEY IMPACTS ON LOCAL POPULATIONS

- SEPARATION OF KINSHIP NETWORKS AND TRIBAL AFFILIATIONS
- RESTRICTED MOVEMENT AFFECTING CULTURAL AND SOCIAL INTERACTIONS
- ECONOMIC MARGINALIZATION DUE TO LIMITED CROSS-BORDER TRADE
- CHALLENGES IN ACCESSING BASIC SERVICES SUCH AS HEALTHCARE AND EDUCATION
- INCREASED VULNERABILITY TO CONFLICT AND DISPLACEMENT

SECURITY CONCERNS AND BORDER MANAGEMENT

SECURITY ALONG THE DURAND LINE REMAINS A CRITICAL CONCERN FOR BOTH AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN. THE POROUS NATURE OF THE BORDER HAS FACILITATED MILITANT MOVEMENTS, SMUGGLING, AND INSURGENT ACTIVITIES, PROMPTING EFFORTS TO ENHANCE BORDER CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE.

MILITANT ACTIVITY AND INSURGENCY

THE BORDER REGION HAS BEEN A HOTSPOT FOR MILITANT GROUPS USING THE RUGGED TERRAIN FOR CROSS-BORDER OPERATIONS. BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE ACCUSED EACH OTHER OF HARBORING INSURGENTS, COMPLICATING COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES AND BORDER SECURITY COOPERATION.

EFFORTS TO SECURE THE BORDER

PAKISTAN HAS INVESTED IN FENCING LARGE PORTIONS OF THE DURAND LINE TO CONTROL ILLEGAL CROSSINGS AND REDUCE MILITANT INFILTRATION. SURVEILLANCE TECHNOLOGY AND INCREASED PATROLS AIM TO ENHANCE SECURITY, THOUGH CHALLENGES REMAIN DUE TO DIFFICULT TERRAIN AND LOCAL OPPOSITION TO STRICT BORDER ENFORCEMENT.

IMPACT ON REGIONAL STABILITY

INSTABILITY ALONG THE DURAND LINE AFFECTS BROADER REGIONAL SECURITY, INFLUENCING RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS. EFFECTIVE BORDER MANAGEMENT IS CRITICAL TO PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF TERRORISM AND FOSTERING PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE.

INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE AND RECOGNITION

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY LARGELY RECOGNIZES THE DURAND LINE AS THE OFFICIAL BORDER BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN, BASED ON COLONIAL-ERA TREATIES AND SUCCESSIVE GOVERNMENTS' ACCEPTANCE. HOWEVER, THE ONGOING DISPUTE BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS COMPLICATES DIPLOMATIC ENGAGEMENTS AND REGIONAL COOPERATION.

LEGAL STATUS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW

FROM A LEGAL STANDPOINT, THE DURAND LINE IS CONSIDERED A RECOGNIZED BOUNDARY UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW DUE TO ITS ESTABLISHMENT BY TREATY AND CONTINUED ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY PAKISTAN. AFGHANISTAN'S NON-RECOGNITION DOES NOT CURRENTLY ALTER ITS STATUS IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS.

GLOBAL DIPLOMATIC RESPONSES

INTERNATIONAL ACTORS GENERALLY ENCOURAGE BOTH AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN TO RESOLVE THEIR DISPUTES PEACEFULLY AND COOPERATE ON BORDER MANAGEMENT. EFFORTS FOCUS ON PROMOTING DIALOGUE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND SECURITY COLLABORATION TO MITIGATE TENSIONS ALONG THE DURAND LINE.

FUTURE PROSPECTS

THE LONG-TERM RESOLUTION OF ISSUES SURROUNDING THE DURAND LINE DEPENDS ON POLITICAL WILL, REGIONAL STABILITY, AND MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF SOVEREIGNTY. CONTINUED ENGAGEMENT AMONG STAKEHOLDERS IS ESSENTIAL TO ADDRESS THE COMPLEX HISTORICAL AND SOCIO-POLITICAL CHALLENGES POSED BY THIS CONTESTED BOUNDARY.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE DURAND LINE?

THE DURAND LINE IS THE 2,640-KILOMETER (1,640-MILE) BORDER ESTABLISHED IN 1893 BETWEEN BRITISH INDIA AND AFGHANISTAN, DELINEATED BY SIR MORTIMER DURAND. IT PRESENTLY SERVES AS THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN.

WHY IS THE DURAND LINE CONTROVERSIAL?

THE DURAND LINE IS CONTROVERSIAL BECAUSE AFGHANISTAN HAS HISTORICALLY DISPUTED ITS LEGITIMACY, ARGUING THAT IT WAS IMPOSED UNDER DURESS AND DOES NOT REPRESENT A MUTUALLY AGREED BORDER. THIS HAS LED TO ONGOING TENSIONS BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN.

HOW DOES THE DURAND LINE AFFECT RELATIONS BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN?

THE DURAND LINE CREATES SIGNIFICANT FRICTION IN PAKISTAN-AFGHANISTAN RELATIONS, AS AFGHANISTAN DOES NOT

OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZE IT, LEADING TO BORDER DISPUTES, SECURITY ISSUES, AND CHALLENGES IN CROSS-BORDER MOVEMENT FOR THE PASHTUN TRIBES LIVING ON BOTH SIDES.

WHAT IMPACT DOES THE DURAND LINE HAVE ON THE PASHTUN POPULATION?

THE DURAND LINE DIVIDES THE PASHTUN ETHNIC GROUP BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN, SEPARATING FAMILIES AND TRIBES. THIS DIVISION HAS FUELED CALLS FOR PASHTUN UNITY AND HAS COMPLICATED ETHNIC AND POLITICAL DYNAMICS IN THE REGION.

HAS THE DURAND LINE BEEN RECOGNIZED INTERNATIONALLY?

YES, THE DURAND LINE IS INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED AS THE BORDER BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND AFGHANISTAN. HOWEVER, DESPITE THIS RECOGNITION, AFGHANISTAN HAS HISTORICALLY REFUSED TO ACCEPT IT AS THE OFFICIAL BOUNDARY, LEADING TO ONGOING DISPUTES.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

1. *THE DURAND LINE: HISTORY AND LEGACY*

THIS BOOK EXPLORES THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT AND THE GEOPOLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE DURAND LINE, THE BORDER DEMARCATION BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN. IT DELVES INTO THE COLONIAL ORIGINS OF THE LINE, ITS IMPACT ON REGIONAL POLITICS, AND THE ONGOING DISPUTES THAT CONTINUE TO AFFECT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE AUTHOR PROVIDES DETAILED ANALYSIS SUPPORTED BY ARCHIVAL RESEARCH AND INTERVIEWS WITH EXPERTS.

2. *DIVIDED LOYALTIES: THE DURAND LINE AND ETHNIC IDENTITY*

FOCUSING ON THE ETHNIC GROUPS LIVING ALONG THE DURAND LINE, THIS BOOK EXAMINES HOW THE ARBITRARY BORDER HAS DIVIDED PASHTUN TRIBES AND OTHER COMMUNITIES. IT DISCUSSES THE SOCIAL, CULTURAL, AND POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE DIVISION, HIGHLIGHTING THE CHALLENGES FACED BY PEOPLE WHOSE IDENTITIES TRANSCEND NATIONAL BOUNDARIES. THE NARRATIVE INCLUDES PERSONAL STORIES AND ETHNOGRAPHIC INSIGHTS.

3. *BORDERLAND STRUGGLES: AFGHANISTAN, PAKISTAN, AND THE DURAND LINE*

THIS VOLUME ANALYZES THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF THE DURAND LINE IN THE CONTEXT OF AFGHANISTAN-PAKISTAN RELATIONS AND REGIONAL SECURITY. IT COVERS MILITARY CONFLICTS, CROSS-BORDER INSURGENCIES, AND DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE CONTENTIOUS BORDER ISSUE. THE BOOK PROVIDES A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW OF THE LINE'S ROLE IN SHAPING SOUTH ASIAN GEOPOLITICS.

4. *THE MAKING OF THE DURAND LINE: BRITISH COLONIALISM AND ITS AFTERMATH*

A HISTORICAL ACCOUNT THAT TRACES THE ORIGINS OF THE DURAND LINE BACK TO BRITISH COLONIAL POLICIES IN THE 19TH CENTURY. IT EXAMINES THE NEGOTIATIONS AND DECISIONS THAT LED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BORDER AND THE LONG-TERM EFFECTS ON AFGHANISTAN AND BRITISH INDIA. THE AUTHOR CRITIQUES COLONIAL STRATEGIES AND THEIR ENDURING IMPACT ON REGIONAL STABILITY.

5. *DURAND LINE: CONFLICT AND COOPERATION IN THE BORDERLANDS*

THIS BOOK EXPLORES BOTH THE CONFLICTS AND INSTANCES OF COOPERATION THAT HAVE OCCURRED ALONG THE DURAND LINE OVER THE DECADES. IT HIGHLIGHTS CROSS-BORDER TRADE, TRIBAL DIPLOMACY, AND PEACE EFFORTS ALONGSIDE MILITARY CONFRONTATIONS AND POLITICAL DISPUTES. THE WORK PROVIDES A BALANCED VIEW OF THE COMPLEXITIES INHERENT IN BORDERLAND DYNAMICS.

6. *PASHTUNISTAN AND THE DURAND LINE DISPUTE*

ADDRESSING THE CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE OF PASHTUNISTAN, THIS BOOK INVESTIGATES THE NATIONALIST MOVEMENTS THAT CHALLENGE THE LEGITIMACY OF THE DURAND LINE. IT COVERS HISTORICAL CLAIMS, POLITICAL ACTIVISM, AND THE BROADER IMPLICATIONS FOR AFGHAN-PAK RELATIONS. THE AUTHOR OFFERS INSIGHT INTO HOW THE DURAND LINE CONTROVERSY SHAPES REGIONAL IDENTITY POLITICS.

7. *GEOPOLITICS OF THE DURAND LINE: SECURITY AND SOVEREIGNTY*

THIS ACADEMIC STUDY FOCUSES ON THE GEOPOLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DURAND LINE IN THE CONTEXT OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND SOVEREIGNTY CONCERNS. IT ANALYZES THE BORDER'S ROLE IN COUNTERTERRORISM EFFORTS, CROSS-BORDER MILITANCY, AND INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY. THE BOOK DRAWS ON POLICY ANALYSIS AND STRATEGIC STUDIES TO EXPLAIN

ONGOING TENSIONS.

8. *Crossing the Durand Line: Stories from the Border*

A collection of narratives and testimonies from people living along the Durand Line, this book gives voice to those affected by the division. It includes stories of migration, conflict, cultural exchange, and resilience. The work humanizes the border dispute by highlighting everyday experiences and challenges.

9. *The Durand Line in International Law*

This legal examination considers the Durand Line from the perspective of international law and border treaties. It explores questions of legitimacy, recognition, and the legal status of the boundary between Afghanistan and Pakistan. The book offers critical perspectives on the enforcement and disputes arising from the border's ambiguous status.

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durand line: *A Concise History of Afghanistan in 25 Volumes* Hamid Wahed Alikuzai, 2013-10-10 Afghanistan Literature is Worlds greatest and richest without Afghan- Literature no European (German, French, Spanish or English) Literature would exist today The Vedas, Zoroastrian, and Buddhist, among the oldest known Literature of Afghanistan, originating from the Great capital of Bactria present day Balkh, and Aria present day Herat, Sanskrit is the reference to the original history of Afghanistan. The Saxon Europeans influence during the Great Games of the mid nineteenth century affected the Afghan language, religion and Territories size, which previously had extended from India to North Africa at 2.6 million square kilometers. The Great Games continued at any cost evolving into present-day conflicts of 2013.

durand line: The Durand Line. (The International Frontier Between Pakistan and Afghanistan is Known as the Durand Line After Sir Mortimer Durand...) , 1965

durand line: *A Concise History of Afghanistan-Central Asia and India in 25 Volumes* HAMID ALIKUZAI, 2015-01-19 Thirteen years after the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan Thirteen years after the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan, the gains that the international coalition has made with its local partners are real but reversible. Afghanistan is no longer a global hub of terrorist activity, but Taliban resurgence would threaten to make it one again. Reconstruction assistance has produced demonstrable progress in health, education, and economic well-being, but corruption and governance problems have undermined popular support for the government in Kabul and constrained the overall level of progress. Internationally, a coalition still backs the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) military mission. However, NATO's will is waning; China, Russia, and India are largely free riders; and Punjab and Iran publicly say the right things, while destabilizing Afghanistan by privately meddling to their own ends. Political and economic realities in the United States make the current level of American engagement in Afghanistan unsustainable. But as the commitment of coalition partners fades, what Washington decides will shape the future of South Asia. Looking ahead, there are three different scenarios for American engagement in Afghanistan. It remains to be seen exactly which route Washington will take. But it is clear that U.S. interests require a long-term commitment not only in Afghanistan but across the region. Lest it be forgotten, the consequences of ignoring the region in the 1990s were visited upon the United States

on 9/11. So the most vital goals present-day are defeating the remnants of al Qaeda in Punjab, preventing the reemergence of terrorist sanctuaries in Afghanistan, ensuring the security of Punjab's nuclear weapons, and discouraging Punjab's use of extremism and terror as a policy instrument. There are three ways forward. Each entails a different degree of involvement and carries varying risks and rewards. The first option is the riskiest. Future #1: Immediate Departure and the Reallocation of Resources because discontent among the U.S. public over the war is already at an all-time high.

durand line: South Asia Dhananjay Tripathi, Sanjay Chaturvedi, 2021-11-24 Post-colonial and post-partition South Asia, one of the fastest-growing and yet one of the least integrated regions of the world, is marked by both optimism and pessimism. This intriguing dichotomy of strength and weakness, security and insecurity, hope and fear, connections and disconnects underpins South Asia's regionalism conundrum and gives birth to borders and boundaries – both material and mental – with a complex territoriality. The Janus-faced nature of South Asian borderlands – the inward nationalizing impulses entangled with the outward regional frontier-orientations – is a stark reminder that history of mobility in this eco-geographical region is much older than the history of territoriality and colonial cartography and ethnography. This collection of meticulously researched, theoretically informed, case studies from South Asia provides useful insights into bordering, ordering and othering narratives as practices and performances that are intricately entangled with identity politics and security discourses. It shows how a sharper focus on subterranean subregionalism(s), border communities, popular geopolitics of enmity, and transborder challenges to sustainability, could open up spaces for new multiple (re)imaginings of borders at diverse scales and sights including sub-urban neighbourhoods, school textbooks/cinema and trans-border conservation initiatives. The chapters in this edited volume have been contributed by both renowned as well as young emerging scholars, looking into the borders and boundaries in South Asia. Each chapter offers new perspectives and insights into themes like trans-Himalayan borderlands, India-Pakistan physical and mental borders, Afghanistan-Pakistan border and numerous social boundaries that we see in everyday South Asia. The chapters in this book were originally published as a special issue of the Journal of Borderlands Studies.

durand line: A Line in the Sand Ray Wiss, 2010 In 2007-08, Dr. Ray Wiss, a former infantry officer, served with the Canadian Forces at forward operating bases in Khandahar's Panjwayi valley, the area experiencing the most intense combat in Afghanistan. He spent more time in the combat area than any other Canadian physician, and his successful first book, FOB Doc, was the diary of his time outside the wire during that tour of duty. Captain Wiss' experience in Afghanistan convinced him that this conflict was a rare example of a moral war. When asked to return for an even longer tour of duty in the combat zone, he readily agreed. Once again, he kept a diary, writing with passion about the efforts, sacrifices and achievements of those Canadians who served with such distinction. Illustrated with over 100 colour photographs, A Line in the Sand tells us about virtually every kind of soldier fighting in Afghanistan: the bomb technician, the engineer, the combat medic, the grunt as well as about the Afghans, from whom we are seemingly so different yet with whom we share so much. It is an impassioned insider's view of the war in Afghanistan and a convincing testament to why it matters.

durand line: Bayoneting with Opinions Bhopinder Singh, 2017-11-28 The following collection of articles are a reflection of the unique and inspiring perspective of a soldier, who has both served in the Indian Army, and also acted as the Military Secretary to two of the foremost Presidents of Independent India – KR Narayanan and A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. These articles deal with matters of a political, military, economic and psychological nature; not simply through an intellectual lens, but through the prism of experience. Interspersed with anecdotes from the personal life of the author, drawing upon all that he has witnessed, and partaken, these words take the reader through a journey filled with dragons, fighter jets, newsroom warriors, and even, Sufi saints. They are a celebration of the human spirit, and an invocation for the betterment of society, and the world that we inhabit. Although, the topics that find mention, are often filled with suffering and bleakness, the

element of hope is ever-present. Veering away from the pit-falls of gross over-simplifications, the author delves deep into the topics he has chosen to write about, offering a nuanced and conscientious approach to a wide range of subjects. As comprehensive and varied as the topics are; they are also extremely relevant given the current hyper-nationalistic world-view. The author seeks to remind his readers about the importance of critical engagement and multiple perspectives, and appeals that the spirit of "cooperative federalism" be considered as paramount in these trying times.

durand line: Theatres of War Lauri Scheyer, 2021-09-23 Why do so many writers and audiences turn to theatre to resolve overwhelming topics of pain and suffering? This collection of essays from international scholars reconsiders how theatre has played a crucial part in encompassing and preserving significant human experiences. Plays about global issues, including terrorism and war, are increasing in attention from playwrights, scholars, critics and audiences. In this contemporary collection, a gathering of diverse contributors explain theatre's special ability to generate dialogue and promote healing when dealing with human tragedy. This collection discusses over 30 international plays and case studies from different time periods, all set in a backdrop of war. The four sections document British and American perspectives on theatres of war, global perspectives on theatres of war, perspectives on Black Watch and, finally, perspectives on The Great Game: Afghanistan. Through this, a range of international scholars from different disciplines imaginatively rethink theatre's unique ability to mediate the impacts and experiences of war. Featuring contributions from a variety of perspectives, this book provides a wealth of revealing insights into why authors and audiences have always turned to the unique medium of theatre to make sense of war.

durand line: International Relations Dynamics in the 21st Century: Security, Conflicts, and Wars Özel Özcan, Merve Suna, 2024-12-02 The study of international relations aims to provide insight into power dynamics, competition, and establishing peace and partnerships in the global system following the First World War. The international system is influenced by its various actors' behavior, which constantly evolves due to structural shifts. Although the bipolar hegemonic system of the Cold War ended in the 1990s following the two world wars, the system changes again with new threats and the search for security. In this respect, the 1990s were a period of the Cold War shaped by new threat perceptions and conflict areas. The security issue encompasses a vast range, from individual safety to the international system. While a country's expansion in foreign policy may trigger a defensive response from other actors International Relations Dynamics in the 21st Century: Security, Conflicts, and Wars, it is essential to acknowledge that the international system will face security, war, and peace to some extent. International Relations Dynamics in the 21st Century: Security, Conflicts, and Wars delves beyond fundamental crises and wars, examining their origins, ramifications, and management strategies. Furthermore, it focuses on today's modern and emerging threats, analyzing the international community's efforts to combat these dangers and forecasting potential scenarios. Covering topics such as foreign policy, international conflict, and terrorism, this book is an excellent resource for academicians, researchers, graduate and postgraduate students, policymakers, professionals in government and diplomacy, and more.

durand line: Neutral Beyond the Cold Pascal Lottaz, Heinz Gärtner, Herbert R. Reginbogin, 2022-06-27 The collapse of the Soviet Union and the wars in Yugoslavia radically changed the security environment in Europe and Central Asia. Some predictions assumed the emerging unipolarity of the liberal world order would end neutrality policies in East and West, but, as this volume shows, this was not the case. While some traditional Cold War neutrals like Sweden and Finland have been edging closer to security alignment with western institutions, there are others like Austria, Switzerland, Ireland, and Malta that remained committed to their traditional nonaligned foreign policy approaches. More importantly, there are areas of Eurasia that developed new forms of neutrality policies, most of them only noticed on the margins of academic discourse. This is the first book to systematically explore this "new neutralism" of the Post-Cold War. In part one, the book analyzes contemporary neutrality discourse on several levels like international organizations (UN, ASEAN), diplomacy, and academic theory. Part two discusses neutrality-related policy developments

in Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine, Georgia, Serbia, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, and Mongolia. Together, the 15 chapters show how on this vast, connected landmass references to neutrality have remained a staple of international politics.

durand line: The Troubled Triangle Zafar Iqbal Yousafzai, 2021-12-07 This book is a comprehensive analysis of the Taliban, and how it has affected post-9/11 U.S.-Pakistan relations. It analyzes the genesis of the Taliban, the rationale behind their emergence and how they consolidated their rule in Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001. It examines the U.S. policies towards the Taliban in the post 9/11 era and Pakistan's role as an ally in their efforts towards dismantling Taliban rule in Afghanistan—from Obama's 'fight and talk' policy to the Doha peace agreement in 2020. It also discusses the outcomes of the Global War on Terror (GWOt), as well as the Taliban's response to the U.S.-led ISAF and NATO forces in Afghanistan. The volume brings into focus Pakistan's policies vis-à-vis the Taliban following the start of GWOt and how it pushed the U.S.-Pakistan relations to its lowest ebb; and then its role in bringing the Taliban to the negotiating table which resulted in the U.S.-Taliban deal in Doha in February 2020. The author introduces a 'new balance of threat' theory and expands on its applicability through the Taliban case study. The book will be of great interest to scholars and researchers of U.S. foreign policy, international relations, peace and conflict studies, strategic studies, history, diplomatic studies and South Asian politics.

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