



PAK INSTITUTE  
FOR PEACE STUDIES

*Knowledge For Peace*



PIPS Accomplishments during 2008

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## 1. Institutional Developments

### 1.1. Organizational Structure

Practical steps were taken to expand, refine and specialize the PIPS team during 2008 to manage the increasing workload efficiently. The number of PIPS staff members was raised to 24 till end of the year including PIPS Correspondents in the conflict zones. The field researchers are in addition to this team, who are engaged time to time for different programmes. During 2008 the PIPS Board of Directors (BoD) introduced a specialized hierarchy of the staff into various sections to deal with diversified interventions and projects undertaken by the Institute. Currently there are 9 specialized sections working in the Institute with [exceptional] inclusion of some staff members into more than 1 sections:

1. Projects and Development
2. Security and Conflict Research
3. Database
4. Radicalization Research and Awareness Campaign
5. Media and Human Rights
6. Research and Analysis
7. Web Magazine and IT Section
8. Publication and Event Management
9. Admin and Accounts

A manager having his own team of associates is heading each section. The size of each team is based on range and scope of responsibilities under its respective section. Although all these sections are working independently yet they have strong “support-and-share” channels of coordination, and report directly to the Director Research, who is heading the PIPS Executive Committee.

Three new members were included in the PIPS Advisory Board during 2008:

1. Dr Adam Dolnik, Director Research Programs and Senior Research Fellow at Center for Transnational Crime Prevention (CTCP) at the University of Wollongong, Australia.
2. Miss Catrina Kinnwall, Head Asian Studies Programme at Department of Political Science, Lund University, Sweden.
3. Miss Shabana Fayaz, Associate Professor at Strategic Studies Department, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad.

### 1.2. Capacity Building

In order to make its second tier leadership more productive and efficient in terms of research and analysis PIPS launched a comprehensive training programme for its staff members during June-August 2008. The PIPS engaged Mr. David Hansen, a research fellow at the Faculty of Humanities, University of Oslo, Norway in June 2008 and he conducted three training workshops with PIPS staff on research methodology and report writing. The research analysts and Director research at PIPS then conducted two more in-house training workshops with researchers in July 2008 to share their field experiences with them. Extensive practice exercises followed these orientation sessions where PIPS researchers were given individual and collaborative tasks to develop research designs, conduct research and write reports. This exercise continued till end of year and some of the outcomes were included in the PIPS research journal Conflict and Peace Studies.

Besides engaging external field researchers for surveys and interviews, PIPS also encouraged its staff members to go to the field to conduct surveys and interviews on its ongoing projects. “Human rights reporting in Pakistani media,” Understanding phenomenon of radicalization in Pakistan,” and “Mapping the Pakistani madrassas” were some projects in 2008 for which the PIPS researchers also

collected primary data. Moreover there were regular performance review and guidance sessions, and incentives for staff members during 2008.

A PIPS researcher also visited the International Centre of Political Violence & Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore for a 2-week long Research Analyst Training from 14 January to 25 January 2008.

### **1.3. Internships**

Two types of internship programmes, short-term and long-term, were launched at PIPS during 2008 for local and international students.

As many as 36 students from two departments of Quaid-e-Azam University (QAU), Defence and Strategic Studies (DSS) and International Relations (IR), were engaged by the Institute as interns from November 22 to December 22, 2008. The students were divided into three groups and engaged with PIPS researchers to work in three distinct areas of database management, primary data collection and writing research papers. PIPS director Muhammad Amir Rana distributed certificates among the students after they finished their assignments. An event was held at QAU on December 22 for this purpose. The DSS chairman Dr. Riffat Hussein and associate professor Miss Shabana Fayyaz facilitated the ceremony.

Mr. Mehmud Naqi, a graduate from Toronto University, Canada joined PIPS as research assistant in September 2008 and worked on human rights issues for one month.

Miss Daniela Zaharia, a postgraduate student at Institute of Pedagogical Psychology, Galati, Romania completed her 3-week internship programme with PIPS on January 15. She worked on psychological factors of radicalization.

## **2. Programmatic Developments**

### **2.1. Research and Advocacy**

During 2008 the Institute accomplished various research and analysis studies in its core thematic areas. The research work was carried out either independently or with the help partners. Besides long-term research initiatives, PIPS has carried out numerous short-term research studies, surveys and analyses on various issues. Some of the important PIPS research projects accomplished and/or launched during 2008 were as follows:

#### **2.1.1. 'Understanding Radicalization in Pakistan'**

The PIPS launched various empirical research initiatives during 2008 to understand phenomenon of radicalization in Pakistan. All these studies were planned, designed and (or being) carried out by the Radicalization Research and Research and Analysis sections independently but with interdisciplinary coordination and collaboration. Some broader areas in focus were as under:

- i. Evolution of radicalization in Pakistan: A historical perspective.
- ii. Understanding and analyzing the patterns, trends and levels of radicalization in Pakistani society.
- iii. Patterns and trends of radicalization at societal level in Islamabad: A case study.
- iv. Evolution of counter-terrorism legislation in Pakistan.
- v. Impact of Radicalization at various societal levels in Pakistan.
- vi. Radicalization in Pakistani youth: A case for group studies.

Some outcomes were published in the first two issues of the PIPS research journal Conflict and Peace Studies: Oct-Dec 2008 and Jan-March 2009.

### **2.1.2. Awareness Campaign: A De-Radicalization Programme**

The PIPS launched a multifaceted de-radicalization programme during 2008 under the banner of “Awareness Campaign for Peace”. The programme included certain interventions at societal and media levels that included: building partnerships with moderate Islamic scholars to produce and disseminate ideological and counter-argument responses; civil society and community interventions; engaging media and academia to better understand the issue and create awareness about it; and using community radio to give ‘peace’ messages.

#### ***i. Media workshops***

To highlight the threat of radicalization and terrorism, and to promote moderate and conformist ideologies in a wider matrix of peace, PIPS launched its awareness campaign with ‘media workshops’ during 2008. The rationale for initiating this campaign by engaging the media community was justified on the ground that media’s understanding and reporting of the issues has direct bearing on the public opinions. A useful discourse with media community on radicalization has not only helped journalists understand the issue properly but also enhanced reporting and dissemination utility impacting the perceptions of the people positively.

Three details of PIPS media workshops on radicalization held in 2008 are as under:

#### **1. Media Workshop in Peshawar:**

A full day media workshop on “Radicalization in Pakistan” was organized at Peshawar on August 21, 2008. More than 30 senior journalists from print and electronic media from North-Western Frontier Province (NWFP) and Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) were present at the occasion. The PIPS team presented ‘orientation on radicalization and its threats’, ‘linkage between radicalization, extremism and terrorism’ and ‘government response to counter terrorism’. The audiences also shared their experiences and views. The second session was reserved for expert opinions of the experts and reflections of the participants. After an in-depth discussion on the subject and its related issues, participants shared their reflections. The participants also made suggestions to address the problem and to minimize the threats to the journalists’ safety and security working in the conflict zones.

#### **2. Media Workshop in Islamabad:**

PIPS successfully held 2nd workshop with media persons in a local hotel in Islamabad on October 9, 2008. Zafar Abbas, Resident Editor Dawn, chaired the first session while Wusatullah Khan, BBC Correspondent in Islamabad, and Zafar Ullah Khan, Director Center for Civic Education, chaired the second and third sessions respectively. As many as 30 journalists from print and electronic media participated the one-day long workshop.

About 75% participants were of the view that “the way Pakistani media has glorified the radicals and militants has not only emboldened the radical groups and organizations but has also caused an increase in the trend and level of radicalization in Pakistani society. The media must not lose sight from the fact that if the radical forces win in the country, their first target can be the media itself.”

#### **3. Media Workshop in Lahore:**

Qazi Javed, Resident Director, Pakistan Academy of Letters, Lahore, Hussain Naqi, National Coordinator for HRCP Core Groups and Bilal Sufi, Director Research Society of International Law (RSIL) chaired the first, second and third sessions respectively of the PIPS third media workshop on

radicalization in Lahore on November 25, 2008. More than 25 media representatives and journalists attended the workshop.

“The radical groups and radicalization are undermining the norms and values of tolerance, co-existence, peace and pluralism in Pakistani society”, “The war against extremism and terrorism is our own war. It is not others’ war” and “Radicals don’t abide by laws of the state” were some points in discussion, which were largely agreed upon.

## **ii. Peace Talks**

Peace talks are part of the PIPS campaign to generate understanding of and awareness about threats to peace and security in Pakistan. The 2008 theme for peace talks was “defining phenomenon of radicalization in Pakistani context”. Many renowned academics and scholars were engaged to discuss the issue in its diversified perspectives including socio-cultural, psychological, linguistic, political, religious, economic and historical. As many as five sessions of peace talks were held during 2008 whose detail is given in the following table:

### PIPS Peace Talks during 2008

<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Speakers</b>
9 September	PIPS office	<p><b>1. Dr. Mumtaz Ahmed</b> He has been serving at Hampton University, Brookings Institution. He was a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences’ “Fundamentalism Project.” Presently he is the Executive Director, Iqbal International Institute for Research and Dialogue, International Islamic University, Islamabad.</p> <p><b>1. Mr. Zafarullah Khan</b> Mr. Zafarullah is a senior journalist and Director Center for Civic Education, Pakistan.</p>
30 October	PIPS office	<p><b>Professor Javed Iqbal</b> He is professor of psychology at International Islamic University, Islamabad.</p>
20 November	PIPS office	<p><b>Dr. Akhlaq Ahmed</b> <i>He is Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, International Islamic University, Islamabad.</i></p>
27 November	PIPS office	<p><b>Dr. Tariq Rahman</b> Dr. Tariq Rahman is one of the prominent scholars in Pakistan and leading experts on the subject of radicalization. Currently he is heading the National Institute of Pakistan Studies (NIPS), Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU) Islamabad.</p>

22 December	Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad.	<p><b>1. Dr. Riffat Hussein</b> He is Chairman at Department of Defence and Strategic Studies (DSS), Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad.</p> <p><b>2. Miss Shaban Fayyaz</b> She is Associate Professor at the DSS, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad.</p>
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### **iii. Production and Dissemination of Moderate Islamic Literature**

As part of its de-radicalization campaign, the PIPS built partnerships with moderate religious scholars during 2008. The aim was to produce moderate Islamic literature to counter radical ideologies being spread by radical groups by distorting the true messages of Islam. The outcome was disseminated to the people across Pakistan through booklets (Urdu), pamphlets and peace stickers throughout the year.

### **iv. FM Radio Campaign for Peace Messages**

The PIPS believes community radio is 'interactive' and has diversified advantages over other media as it is accessible to those whose voices and presentations are either marginalized by or misrepresented in mainstream media. Being a model of participatory communication, it consolidates and expands the public sphere.

There are many FM radio channels in conflict zones, including Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and North West Frontier Province (NWFP), mostly being used by the radical groups to influence the people. To counter hate radios and disseminate messages of peace, the PIPS launched FM radio campaign in different cities across Pakistan during the last month of 2008 with theme of 'innovative/moderate thought'. The more interventions at the level of community radio are part of the PIPS de-radicalization programme 2009.

#### **2.1.3. Media**

The PIPS sees the role of media very important due to its innate potential for contributing to conflict resolution. It functions as a channel of communication that counteracts misperceptions. It frames and analyses the conflict, identifies the interests, defuses mistrust, provides safe emotional outlets, and more. The PIPS focus on Pakistani media during 2008 had two dimensions:

1. The Institute carried out two empirical research studies on Pakistani media during 2008:
  - a. "Understanding the Patterns of Human Rights Reporting in Pakistani Print and Electronic Media" (see section 2.1.4)
  - b. Radicalization and Media: Who Influences Whom and How in Pakistan". (A part of the study has been published in PIPS research journal Conflict and Peace Studies, Issue Nov-Dec 2008; Number: 1.)
2. The PIPS worked with Pakistani media persons and journalists to generate awareness on radicalization. A series of PIPS media workshops during 2008 was successfully managed where journalists, particularly from conflict zones, were told about the PIPS research findings on radicalization and were encouraged to share their views on the issue. [see section 2.1.2. (i)]

#### **2.1.4. Human Rights and Democracy**

'Human rights and democracy' is PIPS' key programmatic theme. The Institute successfully completed a comprehensive empirical research study exploring patterns of reporting on human rights issues in Pakistani print and electronic media. Besides interviews, the study undertook a comprehensive survey with journalists and general public across the country (see section 2.2.2.). The study focused on these key areas:

- a. Public perceptions of media reporting on human rights (HR) issues
- b. Journalist's capacity to understand, investigate and report rights issues
- c. Treatment of HR issues in media and patterns of reporting and analysis
- d. Environmental factors affecting HR reporting
- e. Effectiveness, quality and range of HR reporting
- f. Suggestions to improve reporting on HR

A part of the study will be published in PIPS research journal Conflict and Peace Studies, Issue Jan-March 2009; Number: 2.

**Human Rights Workshop:** To enhance understanding of human rights of the PIPS staff, a one-day workshop was held at the Institute's premises on November 6 in Islamabad in collaboration with Sungi Development Foundation. Jhune B. Pacis, a human rights activist from Philippine was the principal speaker/trainer.

**PIPS Dialogue on Election 2008:** The Institute arranged a dialogue on Elections 2008 on 8 February to discuss the prospects of democracy, and political future of the country. Dr. Sohail Mahmood – Professor and former Head of the Department of Politics & International Relations, International Islamic University, Islamabad – addressed the sessions at PIPS office in Islamabad.

**A Dialogue on Balochistan:** The PIPS arranged a dialogue on Balochistan on June 27 at its premises to discuss state-society relationships in light of conflicts in Balochistan. The discussants included former Senator Sanaullah Baloch, Muhammad Usman Advocate from Balochistan, Dr. Aysha Siddiq Agha, author of the Military Inc., Dr. Sohail Mahmood, professor at the Department of Politics and International Relations, International Islamic University Islamabad, Dr. Nazir Hussain, Professor, and, Shabana Fayyaz, Assistant Professor, Defense & Strategic Studies, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad.

#### **2.1.5. Research Journal**

Pak Institute for Peace Studies launched its quarterly research journal Conflict and Peace Studies in last quarter of the year. The initial thematic focus of the journal was set on radicalization in Pakistan as part of PIPS awareness campaign for peace. The research papers in the first issue were as under:

1. "Radicalization and Media: Who Impacts whom and How in Pakistan"? by Muhammad Azam.
2. "Jihadi Print Media in Pakistan: An Overview" by Muhammad Amir Rana.
3. "Poverty and Militancy" by Safiya Aftab.
4. "Evolution of Counter-Terrorism Legislation in Pakistan" by Saba Noor.
5. "Exploring the Mindset of the British-Pakistani Community: The Socio-cultural and Religious Context" by Safdar Sial.

The second issue will be available within first week of March 2009.

### **2.1.6. Conflict and Security Section**

The Conflict and Security Research section, established at PIPS in October 2008, is an effort to evolve a team of experts on inter-state and intra-state conflicts, and security challenges in South Asia. The desk has been put in place to carry out research-and-analysis on conflicts, keep track of all major developments in this regard and initiate some local and regional peace-building programmes in collaboration with its South Asian partners.

The desk also undertakes the security analysis at local and regional level taking initial input on events and incidents from the Database Desk. Pakistan Security Report 2008 was a yearly outcome in addition to its weekly conflict reports on FATA and NWFP, and monthly security reports on Pakistan and South Asia.

## **2.2. Surveys and Reports**

### **2.2.1. Radicalization Surveys**

As many as 4 comprehensive surveys were launched by PIPS in 2008 to measure different aspects of radicalization in Pakistan through prescribed full-length questionnaire forms. These surveys were designed to collect primary information from across the country for the research areas specified under section 2.1.1. Two surveys had been completed during 2008 whereas the remaining two will be completed during first quarter of 2009.

### **2.2.2. Human Rights Reporting Surveys**

#### **i. Media survey**

To understand the media narratives and journalists' understanding of human rights reporting in Pakistan, the Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) conducted a survey with journalists and media representatives during July and October 2008. The purpose was to comprehend the patterns, quality, treatment and scope of media reporting on human rights issues, and explore the capacity of journalists regarding well-informed, investigative, rights-based journalism. A homogenous sample of 108 print and electronic media journalists from Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar, Quetta and Islamabad was selected for survey. The questionnaire contained close-ended as well as open-ended questions. The findings of the survey are available at PIPS web portal: <http://www.san-pips.com>.

#### **ii. Public Survey**

A public survey, similar to media, was conducted with a representative sample of 221 people in the same cities to have public perceptions of human rights reporting and their experiences.

### **2.2.3. Elections 2008 Survey**

This survey conducted by the Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) before the February 2008 elections targeted two groups: registered political party workers and voters. The objective of this exercise was to identify some of the key determinants of political behaviour in Pakistan. It also explored the nature of party affiliation, levels of grassroots participation in political parties' internal affairs and the rationale of political activism. In the case of voters, the survey made an attempt to gauge the factors that do—or do not—influence their decisions.

The two questionnaires drafted for this survey were limited in scope but concise. The sample size was restrictive as far as political activists were concerned. However, it was doubled in number for the voters' survey.

The survey covers all provinces of Pakistan as well as the federal capital area of Islamabad, which is clubbed here with its twin city of Rawalpindi. Nonetheless, a majority of respondents belonged to the province of Punjab, which corresponds to its overall population ratio vis-à-vis the rest of the country.

#### **2.2.4. Commentaries and Analysis**

The Institute produced dozens of commentaries, analysis and reports on contemporary issues and developments during 2008 in Pakistan, in particular, and South Asia, in general. The range of writings covered Election 2008 in Pakistan, counter-terrorism responses, ideological responses, war on terror, peace and democracy, security and related developments in NWFP and FATA, Baloch insurgency, Marriott blast, Mumbai attacks, democracy and peace in Nepal, insurgency in Sri Lanka, Iran-Pakistan-India gas pipeline, separatist movement in China, Pak-Afghan relations, democracy and security in Middle East, and Pak-US relations etc.

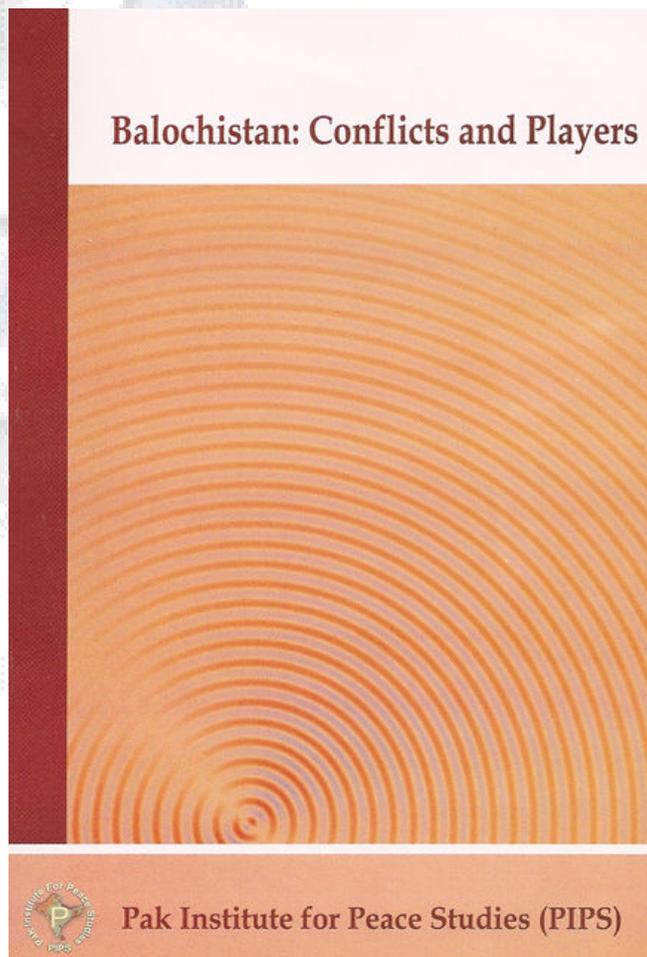
### **3. PIPS Publications (2008)**

#### **1. "Balochistan: Conflict and Players"**

This research study is an attempt to cover various aspects of the conflict in Balochistan. An effort has been made to document and compile information on the key issues, events, personalities and society of Balochistan.

The key sections of this study are as under:

- Baloch Land, People and History
- Tribes, Culture and Insurgencies
- Constitutional and Administrative System
- A Political Profile: Parties and Leaders
- Geo-Strategic and Economic Significance
- 2007: Year of Terrorism and Insurgency
- Conflict Resolution and Management



## 2. “Conflict and Peace Studies”

The first issue (Oct-Dec 2008) of the Pak Institute for Peace Studies research journal, ‘Conflict and Peace Studies’, is a significant milestone in the short history of PIPS, a fledgling research and advocacy think tank born in January 2006. This research journal is a step towards exploring and examining the roots of conflicts which are shaping the new security and peace challenges for the world.

The issue contains two studies on the media and radicalization, their correlation and impact on the society. Another study explores the link between poverty and radicalization. Government responses to terrorism form the basis of a study offering an overview of the evolution of counter-terrorism legislation in Pakistan. Finally, a research report endeavors to map the roots of radicalization among the British-Pakistani community in context of their socio-cultural and religious background.



## 4. International Trainings/Exchanges/Visits

Ø PIPS researcher Mujtaba Rathore visited the International Center of Political Violence & Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore for a 2-week long Research Analyst Training from 14 January to 25 January 2008. The training course included the presentations of ICPVTR research staff focusing the research design and methodologies and global terrorism.

Ø Miss Laila Bokhari, a PIPS Advisory Board member and a political analyst and researcher with the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI), visited the Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS), Islamabad, on March 25, 2008. She discussed with the PIPS team the phenomenon of radicalization in Pakistan and prospects of de-radicalization.

Ø A British Muslims’ delegation visited PIPS in June. Purpose of the visit was to have an introduction of the Institute and its ongoing projects. Another purpose of their visit was to seek ways

to remove misconceptions existing in the West, in general, and in Britain, in particular, regarding Pakistan and the Muslims. The delegation also expressed their desire for having new ideas to develop a better understanding and correct the country's image in the West. Among the delegation were Mohammed Imran, Muslim Youth Helpline; Zareen Roohi Ahmed (Head of Muslim Engagement at Waterhouse Consulting Group), Adeeba Malik (Chief Executive of QED-UK), Azeem Ibrahim (Chairman European Commerce and Mercantile Bank), Shaheen Taj (Founder and Director All Wales Saheli Association) and Mockbul Ali (Islamic Issues Adviser in Foreign & Commonwealth Office).

Ø Mr. Peter Bergen, renowned counter-terrorism expert and a member of PIPS Advisory Board, made a visit to PIPS head office in Islamabad on 14 July 2008. Eason Jordon, CEO AfPax, accompanied him. Mr. Peter Bergen briefed PIPS team on "American Perspective on Afghanistan and FATA".

Ø Mr. Anatol Lieven, Professor at the Department of War Studies, Kings College, London visited Pakistan Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) on September 5, 2008 and gave a lecture on "American Policy towards South Asia."

Ø Mr. Stephan Tankel addressed a session on "Radicalization in the West" on December 24 at the PIPS premises. Mr Stephen is an Associate Fellow at the International Center for the Study of Radicalization and Political Violence (ICSR), King's College London.

Some other research professionals, academics, journalists and diplomats who visited the Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) during 2008 from across the world were as under:

- Barmark Pazhwak, Program officer (Afghanistan), United States Institute for Peace (USIP).
- Sarah Ladbury, a well-known UK scholar.
- Mariko Peters, Member of Parliament of the Dutch Green Party.
- Zouhaier Dhaouadi, Ambassador, Embassy of Tunisia in Islamabad.
- Christiane Hieronymus, Head of Division (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Pakistan), Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany.
- Dr. Jochen Hippler, a famous political analyst.
- Rick Barton, Senior Advisor, CSIS, Washington.
- Stig Toft Madsen, a renowned Danish researcher associated with the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies.
- Maria Kuusisto, Analyst, Asia, EurasiaGroup, London.