

Public Lecture at ACKU

Chinese Outreach to Afghanistan



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Washington's growing weariness with its involvement in Afghanistan grates sharply with Beijing's steadily growing newfound engagement. This paper will analyze the factors pushing China into an ever-closer embrace of its neighbor than ever before in the last seven decades. These geo-political re-alignments would be analyzed in context of China's larger interests in the commercial, security and political arena in Afghanistan. It has been argued that a reconfiguration of China's geo-politics vis-à-vis. Afghanistan since 2009-10 has been profoundly shaped by evolving trajectories and power configurations, namely: the Indo-Pak equation; implications of a US military drawdown for the region; growing bonhomie between Russia, Pakistan and China; the challenge of drug proliferation and its inter-twining with pan-Islamist groups that could potentially have a bearing on troubles province of Xin-jiang. The paper will argue that Beijing's ever-tighter embrace of Kabul mirrors its larger interests in South and Central Asia and the realization of the need to engage with the trans-national nature of events unfolding in Afghanistan. The paper concludes by raising critical questions concerning current Chinese strategy in Afghanistan.

Date & Time

April 16, 2017

Monday @ 1:30pm

Afghanistan Centre at Kabul University

مرکز منبع معلومات افغانستان در پوهنتون کابل

Nation Building through Information-Sharing

