

**Name:** Christine Fair

**Title:** *Representing Pakistan's Security Threat: A View from Pakistan's Professional Military Publications*

**Abstract:**

I propose to investigate how Pakistan's army conceptualizes its internal and external threats. To do so, I will comprehensively and critically analyze Pakistan's major defense publications from each of their inceptions. A comprehensive understanding of how Pakistan's army represents its past and present threat environments *should* form the basis of US-Pakistan military-to-military relations and partnering. Unfortunately, the US government views Pakistan's security circumstances through the lens of contemporary US national security expectations. This has led to gross American misperceptions about what can be expected of Pakistan's army under real rather than optimal conditions. In turn, these US expectations foster ill-will and resentment within the Pakistan military which tires of being told to "do more." This study aims to attenuate this growing chasm between what the United States believes Pakistan can do and what Pakistan can likely do by producing a more robust, evidence-based understanding of how Pakistan's armed forces understands the security threats it confronts and how it can and should respond.

**Institutional Affiliation:** Georgetown University

**Time Frame:** 2 Months

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