Centre for West Asian Studies
School of International Studies

Course: **PhD**
Course No: **WA 634**
Course Title: *Conflict and Peace in West Asia & North Africa*
Course Type: Optional
Course Teacher: Prof. Aswini K Mohapatra
Credits: Four
Contact Hours: Four per Week
Evaluation Methods: Sessional Assignments & Semester Examination.

Objectives:

West Asia & North Africa (WANA) is one of the world's worst conflict zones. Apart from the Arab-Israeli conflict, which dominates regional politics, WANA is beset with a number of intra- and inter-state conflicts. While some of them fall in the category of high-intensity conflicts, others are either dormant or recurrent or protracted low-intensity variety. The course aims to provide students with an in-depth, interdisciplinary understanding of conflict-causation, conflict structure and process, and challenges to conflict resolution and conflict transformation.
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Learning Outcomes:

Given its interdisciplinary nature, the Course will enhance analytical skills among students to undertake research specific to WANA as well as in the field of conflict & peace study. Besides, familiarity with the conflict –resolution strategies will also enable students to explore career options in government, corporate sector, media outlets, think-tanks, NGOs and INGOs.

Course Content

Unit-I: Conflict Analysis

Conflict Structure; Conflict Process & Stages of Conflict Expansion

Unit-II: Conflict Resolution

Peace Making and Peace Building; Facilitation; Mediation & Negotiation;
Conflict Management & Conflict Settlement; Conflict Transformation; Post-Conflict
Reconstruction & Reconciliation

Unit-III: Conflict Formation in West Asia & North Africa

Historical Process of State-building; Weak-state Structure; National Identity Construction; Boundary/territorial Delineation; Dependency-structured Economy; Regional Power Configuration; External Penetration; Problem of Water Sharing

Unit-IV: Conflict Types and Actors

Intra-and Inter-State Conflicts: Civil War in Lebanon, Algeria, Syria & Libya; Kurdish Insurgency in Turkey; Iraq-Iran War & Iraq-Kuwaiti Conflict

Regional Conflicts: Arab-Israel & Cyprus

Unit -V: Conflict Prevention and Conflict Resolution in WANA

Oslo Peace Process, Al-Taif Peace Accord & International State-building in Iraq

Readings:

Ahari, M.E. (1996), ed., *Change and Continuity in the Middle East: Conflict Resolution and Prospects for Peace*, N.Y.: St. Martin's Press

Ajami, Fouad (2012), *The Syrian Rebellion*, Stanford: Hoover Institute Press

Alley, Roderic (2004), *Internal Conflict and the International Community: Wars without End?*, Aldershot: Ashgate

Askari, Hossein (2013), *Conflicts in the Persian Gulf: Origins and Evolution*, New York: Palgrave Macmillan

Ayoob, Mohammed (1995), *The Third World Security Predicament: State Making, Regional Conflict, and the International System*, Boulder: Lynne Rienner Publishers

Azar, Edward E**.** (1990)**,** *The Management of Protracted Social Conflict: Theory and Cases*, Aldershot: Dartmouth Publishing Company Ltd.

Ben-Dor, Gabriel and Dewitt, David S. (1987), eds., *Conflict Management in the Middle East* Lexington Mass

Bramsen, Isabel, Poder, Poul and Waever, Ole (2019), eds., *Resolving International Conflict: Dynamics of Escalation, Continuation and Transformation*, London: Routledge

Buzan, Barry (1983), *People, States, and Fear: The National Security Problem in International Relations*, Chapel Hill: University of N. Carolina Press

Cordell, Karl and Wolff, Stefan (2010), *Ethnic Conflict: Causes-Consequences –Responses*, Cambridge: Polity Press

Demmers, Jolle (2012), *Theories of Violent Conflict: An Introduction*, London: Routledge

Fisher, Ronald J. (1997), *Interactive Conflict Resolution*, Syracuse, NY: Syracuse Univ. Press

Freedman, Amy l. (2014), ed., *The Internationalisation of Internal Conflicts: Threatening the State*, London: Routledge

Gagnon, Chip and Keith Brown (2014), eds., *Post-Conflict Studies: An Interdisciplinary Approach*, London: Routledge

Jeong, Ho-Won (2006), *Peacebuilding in Postconflict Societies: Straggly and Process*, New Delhi: Viva Books Pvt Limited

Jones, Peter (1999), *Towards a Regional Security Regime for the Middle East: Issues and Options*, Stockholm: SIPRI

Joshi, Madhav and Wallensteen, Peter (2019), eds., *Understanding Quality Peace: Pecebuilding after Civil War*, London: Routledge

Karsh, Efraim (Spring 1990) "Geopolitical Determinism: The Origins of the Iran-Iraq War", *Middle East Journal*, vol. 44, no. 2, pp. 256 – 268

Lake, David A. (2016), *The Statebuilder's Dilemma: On the Limits of Foreign Intervention*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press

Milton-Edwards, Beverley and Hincheliffe, Peter (2001), *Conflicts in the Middle East since 1945*, London: Routledge

Mitchell, C.R. (1981), *The Structure of International Conflict*, London: Macmillan

Mohapatra, Aswini Kumar (1997), "Cyprus Conflict: An Overview" in R. C. Sharma and Stavros Epaminondas (ed.), *Cyprus: In Search for Peace and Justice*, New Delhi: Somali Publication

-------- (July 2015), "Armed Conflicts in the World: An Overview", *World Focus*, pp. 1-7.

Peleg, Ilan, ed. (1998), *The Middle East Peace Process: Interdisciplinary Perspectives*, Albany: State University of New York Pres.

Tibi, Bassam (1998), *Conflict and War in the Middle East: From Interstate War to New Security*, N. Y.: St. Martin's Press

Wallensteen, Peter, ed. (1998), *Preventing Violent Conflicts: Past Record and Future Challenges*, Uppsala: Uppsala University

Webel, Charles p. and Johansen, Jorgen (2012), eds., *Peace and Conflict Studies: A Reader*, London: Routledge

Yetim, Muserref (2016), *Negotiating International Water Rights: Resource Conflict in Turkey, Syria and Iraq*, New York: I. B. Tauris

Zartman, William I. (1995), ed., *Collapsed States: The Disintegration and Restoration of Legitimate Authority*, London: SAIS African Studies