

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

1. Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja is author of, “Shaking Hands with Clenched Fists: The Grand Trunk Road to Confidence Building Measures between Pakistan and India.” This book is the first ever factual and academic account of Pakistan’s position, interest, and perspective to forge peace with India at different conjectures of history.

2. Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja is an Assistant Professor at the National Defence University (NDU), Islamabad, where she has been a faculty member since 2008. She has served a distinguished career in academia, with more than a decade long teaching, research, and administrative experience. Asma received her Doctorate in South Asian Studies from the Institute of South Asian Studies, Martin-Luther-University, Halle-Wittenberg Germany, and MPhil in Defence and Strategic Studies from Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad.

3. Her participation in NDU’s research and academic pursuits has been mutually valuable. A diligent academic, Asma had the honor of being the team member to establish Pakistan’s first ever *Department of Peace and Conflict Studies* at NDU in 2008. A frequent media commentator, Dr Khawaja has authored and presented in conferences worldwide numerous research publications, monographs, a book and book chapters. Her areas of interest include peacebuilding, conflict resolution, regional and global integration and geopolitics, and Pakistan-India relations. Her active participation in the activities of knowledge community include: Crisis Management Course at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS), Hawaii, USA; IVLP Fellowship on Security and Foreign Policy; Rotary Peace Fellowship and representation of Pakistan at its Global Innovative Peacebuilding Conference in Bangkok; ICRC Fellowship; DAAD Fellowship; and the Ambassadorship of Global Peace Index at the Institute for Economic and Peace. She is the recipient of Presidential Gold Medal of Merit and the alumni achievement award by APCSS.