

## Barnett\_Narrative Final

The main idea is to unpack and discount the overwhelming and chronic media emphasis on the so-called Global War on Terror, while at the same time explaining Pakistan's uniqueness in the trajectory of the following deep historical influences on present-day Pakistan:

- The medieval background of conversion in South Asia;
- The structural effects of being the last part of South Asia conquered by European imperialism;
- The serial redefinitions of Islamic belief, practice, and political application before and during the British Raj;
- Early modern reform movements within South Asian Islam
- The impact of British rule on the rise of communalism
- The cataclysm of Partition;
- Its role as whipping boy in the Cold War;
- And its current precarious ambiguity in the face of the various stripes of insurgency and ethnic conflict in the present day.