

## The grand chessboard

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APROPOS of your incredibly courageous reporting of Dr Mubashar Hasan's views in your article, 'US preparing to invade Pakistan' (Nov 22), I have to sadly say, 'Precisely!'

This seems to be the first time that someone from within Pakistan has seen glimpses of the neo-con plan on the 'grand chessboard' for Pakistan — at least publicly — one that was already publicly made known in 1996 by Zbigniew Brzezinski, the principal architect of 'CIA intervention in Afghanistan' in 1979 and the subsequent Soviet invasion, both entirely deliberately and causally crafted, by Brzezinski's own admission two decades later in 1999, by the Jimmy Carter administration of which he was the erstwhile National Security Adviser.

As of late, I have seen at least six redrawn maps of Pakistan. The 'arc of crises', defined, since the Berlin Wall fell, to redraw these borders in precisely the same interests as Mubashar Hasan notes as reported in your article: "... It wanted an elected government of millionaires under civil and military establishment to serve its interests and those of millionaires in Pakistan...", except it is not only true for Pakistan but in the entire 'arc of crises'.

All of it is together serving the ruling interests of a handful of very elite billionaire ruling class worldwide in the natural culmination of this pyramid path into a one world government by the world's ruling elite on the top. We already see the world's financial control in their hands — and these already transcend national boundaries — money can already come and go across geographies in the fleeting of a butterfly's wings, and most of the developmental economics and national policies of nations in the entire global South are already entirely beholden to western arm-twisting institutions like the WB and the IMF and their sister organisations.

We are merely seeing the baby-steps being played out today as well as in the near foreseeable future, and Pakistan is the heart of the matter in all these baby-steps — the only nuclear armed state that can change the tables overnight on the grand chessboard were it to acquire a truly independent government working in the interests of its own people. This will never be allowed to happen willingly in any nation, least of all in Pakistan, as should be obvious to anyone with half a brain.

If there was a statesman like Zulfikar Ali Bhutto alive today and in any position of national leadership, we may have seen interesting alliances and mutual defence pact treaties with our neighbours coming into existence. ZAB was, after all, whatever one might think of him — as a tyrant or saviour — the first person since the invention of modern nation-states to bring together all the Islamic countries in Lahore in an amazing summit in 1974 which is what actually sealed his fate.

The pursuit of the 'Islamic bomb' was merely the icing on the cake as promised by Henry Kissinger — ZAB would have been removed as all globally nationalist leaders who have thought of 'independence from hegemony' have always been removed, lest the trend becomes contagious and a global example for emulation by the have-nots!

So felicitations to Dr Mubashar Hasan on his courage to speak loudly what should be entirely obvious to all unco-opted peoples on this planet. The real issue is — and we already know the ailment whether or not some have the courage to express it — what is the remedy and who will beard the hungry lion, the self-described 'hectoring hegemons' on the 'grand chessboard'?

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