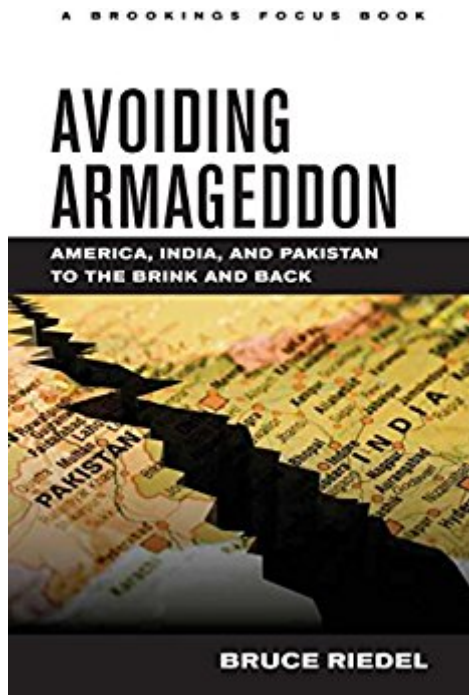




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# Avoiding Armageddon: America, India, And Pakistan To The Brink And Back (Brookings FOCUS Book)



## Synopsis

India and Pakistan will be among the most important countries in the twenty-first century. In *Avoiding Armageddon*, Bruce Riedel clearly explains the challenge and the importance of successfully managing America's affairs with these two emerging powers and their toxic relationship. Born from the British Raj, the two nations share a common heritage, but they are different in many important ways. India is already the world's largest democracy and will soon become the planet's most populous nation. Pakistan, soon to be the fifth most populous country, has a troubled history of military coups, dictators, and harboring terrorists such as Osama bin Laden. The longtime rivals are nuclear powers, with tested weapons. They have fought four wars with each other and have gone to the brink of war several times. Meanwhile, U.S. presidents since Franklin Roosevelt have been increasingly involved in the region's affairs. In the past two decades alone, the White House has intervened several times to prevent nuclear confrontation on the subcontinent. South Asia clearly is critical to American national security, and the volatile relationship between India and Pakistan is the crucial factor determining whether the region can ever be safe and stable. Based on extensive research and Riedel's role in advising four U.S. presidents on the region, *Avoiding Armageddon* reviews the history of American diplomacy in South Asia, the crises that have flared in recent years, and the prospects for future crisis. Riedel provides an in-depth look at the Mumbai terrorist attack in 2008, the worst terrorist outrage since 9/11, and he concludes with authoritative analysis on what the future is likely to hold for America and the South Asia puzzle as well as recommendations on how Washington should proceed.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Bruce O Riedel does not need any introduction. His experience speaks in the book. So far as narration of facts and conclusion drawn are concerned, they are impeccable. But the last portion where he displays that India should make more concession is unreasonable. The net sum of the book is: "Pakistan is a rogue state, it cannot be reformed but India should make more compromises". Why? Are we under some kind of debt to Pakistan? 22% population went away with 30% of our land,.

A great book. There's so much happening in it that it sometimes reads like a work of fiction. I'd call it a must read for anyone interested in the history of the never ending conflict between India and Pakistan. A good read, that educates as well...a rare occurrence. Should warn a potential reader that it can occasionally get confusing, as there's so much going on

It's a great analysis of a fractured relationship between the three countries and made more interesting because of the inside knowledge the writer shares in many circumstances described in the book. I was absorbed in the book but felt some of the ideas on the way forward at the end of the book were a bit 'American' It's a great book though and will recommend it to anyone interested on the subject.

I loved this book from page one ...it is very detailed and pacy as well. Author's deep understanding of the issue is evident here. The book is written in a very methodical way. Authors's sense of chronological events is also commendable.

He doesn't know the facts properly, working with presidents doesn't make you a historian. He has less knowledge of the actual facts. He should not look one side of the picture.

This book gives a great insight to the present issues in the sub continent while paying a very close attention to the history and whats causing these behavioural patterns. Terrific analysis!

Finally the US has seen through these guys. Honest views in the book. Accepts us shortcomings. Do read for a view on South Asian politics

An excellent insiders narrittive of events in South Asia and Americas relations with India and Pakistan. It's an eye opener.

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