Pakistan clarified

Once a failed state, forever a failed state. That, in a rough synopsis would apply to Pakistan over the last three-quarters of a century, after its independence from British India. It actually was more a secession from British India than independence from England. The separation, on the eve of independence from India, was exerted under the slogan of Muslim autonomy and safety. Behind that movement with a religious call for action, to an extent in conjunction with the colonial administration, were the big feudal lords and the high brass in the military.

Kevin Evans

Electoral dynamics in Indonesia

This volume contains an incredibly valuable treasure trove of insights that delve beneath the legality of Indonesia’s electoral system. In doing so it shines a light on the good, the bad and the ugly ways people win elections in this country. As for the good, many of the tactics and strategies deployed would be quite familiar to candidates elsewhere in the world in both new and established democracies. Building campaign teams, information networks, contact points and understanding community needs are the nuts of bolts of functioning democracies anywhere.

Kevin Evans
produced an anthropological study on how control over resources, particularly land, allows the landed elites to keep the impoverished rural population under their thumb and resources, particularly land, allows the landed elites to keep the impoverished rural population under their thumb and

A powerful nexus, including NGOs

Although capitalism has pervaded Pakistan, it operates through the grain ‘California of Pakistan’) requires the co-operation of

Congress, but the controlled access by the wealthy to public resources, particularly land, allows the landed elites to keep the impoverished rural population under their thumb and

New forms in an old straightjacket

In the introduction, Martin vertes: “It is a world inhabited by absentee landlords with vast estates, large retinues of servants, called mazdoor, cattle rustlers, criminals, politicians, mistresses and unscrupulous farm managers, bureaucrats and

Martin also is an anthropologist but his book has many

The problems which face Pakistan, Ali argues, emanate from the uneven landholding patterns which also allows a disproportional control over state resources.

The key ugly issue revealed in virtually every case study was the dangerous penetration of money into electoral politics. The money used to corrupt the machinery of state, particularly the police, was to be a dominant factor in the electoral process. The public, the voters, were spectators to an electoral system which would affect the rich.

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