

Center for International Studies - Albuquerque International Association present

Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Terrorism: An Insider's Look

By Nicholas Schmidle

October 2 (Friday) 2009, 3:30 PM, Albuquerque Museum of Art and History

Nicholas Schmidle lived in Pakistan and Afghanistan for two years and went places that no one else dared to go. His journeys and his reporting ultimately resulted in his expulsion from Pakistan, but he has brought back, in the words of the *New York Times Book Review*, a “treasure chest of stories.” Come listen to him describe his experiences inside of some of Pakistan’s most dangerous places – from the Red Mosque in Islamabad to the Swat Valley to the villages outside of South Waziristan. His discussion not only promises to be unique and informative, but surprising too, as Schmidle delves beyond the headlines to share his analysis of Pakistan, the return of the Taliban and al-Qaeda, and the United States’ prospects for success fighting insurgents based along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border.

A *New York Times Book Review* named his book *To Live or to Perish Forever: Two Tumultuous Years in Pakistan* “Editor’s Choice.” Nicholas Schmidle takes readers to Pakistan’s rioting streets, to Taliban camps in the North-West Frontier Province, and on many surprising adventures as he provides a contemporary history of a country long riven by internal conflict. With intimacy and good humor, Schmidle narrates what was arguably the most turbulent period of Pakistan’s recent history, a time when President Pervez Musharraf lost his power and the Taliban found theirs, and when Americans began to realize that Pakistan’s fate is inextricably linked with our own.

Nicholas Schmidle is a fellow at the New America Foundation. Schmidle writes for the *New York Times Magazine*, *Slate*, *The New Republic*, *Smithsonian*, and the *Virginia Quarterly Review*. In 2008, he received the Kurt Schork Award for freelance journalism based on his reporting in Afghanistan and Pakistan. He speaks Urdu and Persian. Schmidle is a graduate of James Madison University and American University.

Please send your check to CFIS/AIA, PO Box 92995, Albuquerque, NM 87199 by September 30, 2009. \$15 – AIA members; \$19 – non-members. For details and updates please visit www.abqinternational.org or call 856-7277.

In collaboration with Santa Fe CIR