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**Enhancing Security and Stability in Afghanistan - December 2018
Pentagon Report on Afghan War U.S. Status, Strategy, and Objectives, Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) Financing**

Springer

This collection of essays--written by pioneering Chinese journalists and Western experts--explores how transformations in China's media--from a propaganda mouthpiece into an entity that practices watchdog journalism--are changing the country. In detailed case studies, the authors describe how politicians are reacting to increased scrutiny from the media, and how television, newspapers, magazines, and Web-based news sites navigate the cross currents between the market and the CCP censors.

Liquid Crystal Colloids

Oxford University Press
International Economics and Development: Essays in Honor of Raúl Prebisch provides information pertinent to the developments in the field of international economies as it relates to the problems of the

underdeveloped countries. This book provides a brief biography of Professor Raúl Prebisch and his many contributions to international economics. Organized into eight parts encompassing 22 chapters, this book begins with an overview of the influence of Prebisch on Latin American international development policy. This text then examines the problem that has always been of real concern to the U.N. since the creation of the organization, namely, the social and economic development of underdeveloped countries. Other chapters consider the problem of economic development of the countries newly involved in the process of growth. This book discusses as well the relationship between stability conditions of real and monetary models of international trade. The final chapter deals with the characteristics of underdevelopment. This book is a valuable resource for economists. *Changing Media, Changing China* Oxford University Press, USA
This monograph is concerned with the development and implementation of

nonlinear mathematical techniques for feedback control and shape design of robot manipulators whose links have considerable structural flexibility. Several nonlinear control and observation techniques are studied and implemented by simulations and experiments in a laboratory setup. These techniques include integral manifolds in singular perturbation theory, nonlinear input-output decoupling, nonlinear observers and sliding control. The study of dynamic properties and control techniques for flexible-link manipulators can also be a framework for designing the mechanical shape and material of these systems such that improved properties can be achieved in order to facilitate the control problem. Therefore, structural shape optimization is considered as a means of improving the dynamic behaviour of flexible-link manipulators. Clonal Forestry I
Academic Press
Clonal forestry has come of age. Basic techniques in genetics and biotechnology of other organisms are generally applicable to forest trees.

However, there are some differences, in particular in the juvenile- and maturation-related regeneration. Examined here are crucial topics of juvenility, maturation and rejuvenation in clonal propagation of trees. In addition, the genetics of clones, population biology of clonal deployment, propagation and field testing of clones, clone identification, clonal physiology, regeneration and variation in plant tissue cultures, the role of somatic embryogenesis in clonal forestry, and recent developments in biotechnology, including the molecular structure of trees and gene transfer are covered in depth.

Flexible Manipulators

OECD Publishing

Imagine that you are living in a country that does not recognize you as a citizen in spite of the fact that your people have maintained a continuous existence there for several centuries. If that was not enough of a traumatic experience, consider that because of your racial, ethnic and religious identity other ethnic groups that are fighting the brutal military regime in your country for their self-determination and human rights consider you as "settlers"

from a neighboring country. It must be your worst nightmare when you realize that half of your people (almost 2 million) have been forced to take asylum or refuge outside, and you may be the next in line to seek a way out of this living hell of xenophobia, discrimination, intolerance, racism and bigotry. The victims are the Rohingya people of Burma (Myanmar). Because of their religion, race, ethnicity, color and language they are the most discriminated and persecuted people in our planet. Some argue that they are also one of the most forgotten. The Myanmar military regime has denied their citizenship rights, claiming that they are illegal settlers from nearby Bangladesh who have moved into Arakan during the British occupation of Burma in the 19th century. Is there any truth to such allegations? Does the military junta apply the same litmus test against all ethnic and religious groups in matters of citizenship? What is the basis for a nation's claim to self-determination? Must a people wander in the wilderness for two millennia and suffer

repeated persecution, humiliation and genocide to qualify? How about the rights of a minority community to survive with their culture and traditions intact? Do they need to be 'children' of a 'higher' God to qualify? What makes the children of a 'lesser' God to be forgotten and denied the same treatment and privilege that was granted hitherto to other nations? For much of its history, Burma has been ruled by military. As has once again been demonstrated recently they are brutal, savage and tyrannical. They have ignored people's verdict in the election and imprisoned leaders and workers of the democracy movement. They cannot be guarantors or protectors of human rights of anyone, let alone religious and ethnic minorities. Do you know that the Rohingyas - face cruel restriction on marriage and those married without government authorization are paraded naked on the streets? - Are restricted from traveling outside their villages? - Have no legal right to own land or property? - Are restricted from getting education, finding work, getting medical and health care? -

Are subjected to land confiscation, forced eviction and destruction of homes, offices, schools, mosques, shops, etc., and face religious persecution on a daily basis? - Are victims of staged riots, forced starvation, arbitrary taxation, extortion, arrest, torture and extra-judicial killings? - Are forced to do slave labor for establishment of government infrastructure, new Buddhist settlements, pagodas and monasteries on evicted lands with the government intent of changing the landscape and demography of Arakan? - Are forced to convert to Buddhism &/or worship Buddha? Do you know that when it comes to the Rohingya people, the Burmese government doesn't uphold any of the Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights? Nothing can excuse us from the criminal silence that we practice in not voicing our concern about the plight of the Rohingya people. "The Forgotten Rohingya" makes a strong case for mobilizing concerned citizens of our globe to ease their sufferings. The author analyzes origin of the Rohingya people and offers ideas to solve their

problem. The author also discusses problems of xenophobia and racism, which are so rampant in this country of many races, ethnicities and religions. He also analyzes the role of Daw Suu Kyi and failure of Burma's orange revolution. *International Economics and Development* Forgotten Books
This publication is the second in a series of lessons learned reports which examine how the U.S. government and Departments of Defense, State, and Justice carried out reconstruction programs in Afghanistan. In particular, the report analyzes security sector assistance (SSA) programs to create, train and advise the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) between 2002 and 2016. This publication concludes that the effort to train the ANDSF needs to continue, and provides recommendations for the SSA programs to be improved, based on lessons learned from careful analysis of real reconstruction situations in Afghanistan. The publication states that the United States was never prepared to help create Afghan police and military forces capable of

protecting that country from internal and external threats. It is the hope of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR), John F. Sopko, that this publication, and other SIGAR reports will create a body of work that can help provide reasonable solutions to help United States agencies and military forces improve reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan. Related items: Counterterrorism publications can be found here: <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/catalog/counterterrorism> Counterinsurgency publications can be found here: <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/catalog/counterinsurgency> Warfare & Military Strategy publications can be found here: <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/catalog/warfare-military-strategy> Afghanistan War publications can be found here: <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/catalog/afghanistan-war> *The Forgotten Rohingya: Their Struggle for Human Rights in Burma* S. Chand Publishing
This much-needed monograph presents a systematic, step-by-step approach to the continuum modeling of flow phenomena exhibited

within materials endowed with a complex internal microstructure, such as polymers and liquid crystals. By combining the principles of Hamiltonian mechanics with those of irreversible thermodynamics, Antony N. Beris and Brian J. Edwards, renowned authorities on the subject, expertly describe the complex interplay between conservative and dissipative processes. Throughout the book, the authors emphasize the evaluation of the free energy--largely based on ideas from statistical mechanics--and how to fit the values of the phenomenological parameters against those of microscopic models. With *Thermodynamics of Flowing Systems* in hand, mathematicians, engineers, and physicists involved with the theoretical study of flow behavior in structurally complex media now have a superb, self-contained theoretical framework on which to base their modeling efforts.

Flexible-link Robot Manipulators Wiley-VCH

The Handbook of Liquid Crystals is a unique compendium of knowledge on all aspects of liquid crystals. In over 2000 pages the Handbook

provides detailed information on the basic principles of both low- and high-molecular weight materials, as well as the synthesis, characterization, modification, and applications (such as in computer displays or as structural materials) of all types of liquid crystals. The five editors of the Handbook are internationally renowned experts from both industry and academia and have drawn together over 70 leading figures in the field as authors. The three volumes of the Handbook are designed both to be used together or as stand-alone reference sources. Some users will require the whole set, others will be best served with one or two of the volumes. Volume 1 deals with the basic physical and chemical principles of liquid crystals, including structure-property relationships, nomenclature, phase behavior, characterization methods, and general synthesis and application strategies. As such this volume provides an excellent introduction to the field and a powerful learning and teaching tool for graduate students and above. Volume 2

concentrates on low-molecular weight materials, for example those typically used in display technology. A high quality survey of the literature is provided along with full details of molecular design strategies, phase characterization and control, and applications development. This volume is therefore by far the most detailed reference source on these industrially very important materials, ideally suited for professionals in the field. Volume 3 concentrates on high-molecular weight, or polymeric, liquid crystals, some of which are found in structural applications and others occur as natural products of living systems. A high-quality literature survey is complemented by full detail of the synthesis, processing, analysis, and applications of all important materials classes. This volume is the most comprehensive reference source on these materials, and is therefore ideally suited for professionals in the field.

The Philippine Economy Springer

This unique report was issued in December 2018. The principle goal of the South Asia Strategy is to

conclude the war in Afghanistan on terms favorable to Afghanistan and the United States. Over the past 16 months, the United States and its partners have used military force to drive the Taliban towards a durable and inclusive political settlement. There have been some notable developments - the Eid al-Fitr ceasefire and the support for peace from the broader Islamic community - which threatened the legitimacy of the Taliban and may represent leading indicators of success. The Special Representative for Afghanistan Reconciliation (SRAR) has reinforced U.S. diplomatic engagements with Afghans, neighboring states, and interested parties in the broader region. Increased military pressure on the Taliban, international calls for peace, and the new SRAR's engagements appear to be driving the Taliban to negotiations. While an array of challenges remain-Afghan political stability, Afghan security force capacity, and regional spoilers-the combination of military escalation and diplomatic initiative have made a favorable political settlement more likely than at any time in recent

memory. This compilation includes a reproduction of the 2019 Worldwide Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intelligence Community. Executive Summary * Section 1 - Strategy and Objectives * 1.1 U.S. Strategy in Afghanistan * 1.2 U.S. Objectives in Afghanistan * 1.3 U.S. Counterterrorism Mission * 1.4 NATO-led Resolute Support Mission * 1.5 Indications of Progress * Section 2 - Threat Assessment * 2.1 Importance of Afghanistan-Pakistan Relations * 2.2 Current Security Conditions * Section 3 - Overview of the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces * 3.1 ANDSF Roadmap * 3.2 ANDSF Size, Posture, and assessment * 3.3 Capabilities * Section 4 - Ministry of Defense and Afghan National Army * 4.1 Ministry of Defense * 4.2 Afghan National Army * Section 5 - Ministry of Interior and Afghan National Police * 5.1 Ministry of Interior * 5.2 Afghan National Police * Section 6 - Financing the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces * 6.1 Holding the Afghan Ministries Accountable * 6.2 U.S. Contributions * 6.3 International

Contributions * 6.4 Afghan Government Contributions The current military situation inside of Afghanistan remains at an impasse. The introduction of additional advisors and enablers in 2018 stabilized the situation, slowing the momentum of a Taliban march that had capitalized on U.S. drawdowns between 2011 and 2016. The Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF) remain in control of most of Afghanistan's population centers and all of the provincial capitals, while the Taliban control large portions of Afghanistan's rural areas, and continue to attack poorly defended government checkpoints and rural district centers. The ANDSF have continued to excel in offensive operations; the bulk of their casualties have come in defense of isolated checkpoints, command posts, and bases. The ANDSF, with U.S. and coalition support, have limited new Taliban territorial gains and quickly regained control of population centers when attacked. The intensity of the fighting and level of bloodshed on both sides has risen as both sides vie for leverage at the negotiating table.

Global Tea Breeding

John Wiley & Sons
 Global Tea Breeding: Achievements, Challenges and Perspectives provides a global review on biodiversity and biotechnology issues in tea breeding and selection. The contributions are written by experts from China, India, Kenya, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Turkey, Indonesia, Japan, Bangladesh, Korea, Nigeria, and etc., which countries amount to 90% of the world tea production. This book focuses on the germplasm, breeding and selection of tea cultivars for the production of black, green and Oolong teas from the tea plant, *Camellia sinensis* (L.) O. Kuntze. It can benefit the tea breeders in the global tea industry, as well as the breeders of other woody cash crops like coffee and other sub-tropical fruit trees. Liang Chen is a Professor and Associate Director at National Center for Tea Improvement, Tea Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (TRICAAS), Hangzhou, China. Zeno Apostolides is a Professor at the Department of Biochemistry, University

of Pretoria, South Africa. Zong-Mao Chen is the Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering and a Professor at the Tea Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Hangzhou, China.

Hepatitis and Liver Cancer

Independently Published
 An examination of all major facets of the Philippine economy and development policy, this title looks to the past and to the future using approaches that are descriptive, analytical, interpretive and comparative. It assesses trends since the 1980s, identifies major policy issues, and provides a balance sheet of achievements and deficiencies.

Physical Properties of Liquid Crystals Springer Science & Business Media
 Hepatitis B and C cause most cases of hepatitis in the United States and the world. The two diseases account for about a million deaths a year and 78 percent of world's hepatocellular carcinoma and more than half of all fatal cirrhosis. In 2013 viral hepatitis, of which hepatitis B virus (HBV) and hepatitis C virus (HCV) are the most common types, surpassed

HIV and AIDS to become the seventh leading cause of death worldwide. The world now has the tools to prevent hepatitis B and cure hepatitis C. Perfect vaccination could eradicate HBV, but it would take two generations at least. In the meantime, there is no cure for the millions of people already infected. Conversely, there is no vaccine for HCV, but new direct-acting antivirals can cure 95 percent of chronic infections, though these drugs are unlikely to reach all chronically-infected people anytime soon. This report, the first of two, examines the feasibility of hepatitis B and C elimination in the United States and identifies critical success factors. The phase two report will outline a strategy for meeting the elimination goals discussed in this report.

Yvain John Wiley & Sons
 □ For B.Sc. and M.Sc. Students of Different Indian Universities as per UGC Model Curriculum. □ This is revised edition of the book "Plant Biotechnology". □ Several new topics such as Aquaporins, Artificial intelligence Automation in Micropropagation, Biochips, Green House, Hydroponic, Inteins,

Nanotechnology, Space Biotechnology, Supercritical Fluid extraction, etc. have been included in this revised. □ This edition provides latest information on the frontier area of biotechnology.

Biotechnology and Biodiversity U.S.

Independent Agencies and Commissions
This book "Biodiversity of lianas" under the series "Sustainable development and Biodiversity" is unique as it covers a wide array of topics in this subject covering all continents and will constitute a valuable reference material for students, researchers and forest managers who are concerned with biodiversity, forest ecology and sustainable development of forest resources. It contains peer-reviewed chapters from leading academicians and researchers around the world in the field of Plant Ecology, Taxonomy and related areas of Biodiversity Science but, centered on Lianology and includes original research articles, case studies and reviews (regional and global) in biodiversity, ecology and phytogeography and conservation of lianas

from temperate, subtropical and tropical forests. The interest in lianas has increased over the last two decades. The ultimate goal of this book is to provide an insight into the patterns of liana diversity, distribution, the role of lianas in structuring forest community, and functional ecology (carbon uptake, ecosystem services, dynamics and invasion), biotechnological tool for conservation of lianas and finally summarizes the significance and the need for conservation of lianas in the changing global environmental scenario. Handbook of Liquid Crystals, High Molecular Weight Liquid Crystals Springer

In the nematic liquid crystal phase, rod-shaped molecules move randomly but remain essentially parallel to one another. Biaxial nematics, which were first predicted in 1970 by Marvin Freiser, have their molecules differentially oriented along two axes. They have the potential to create displays with fast switching times and may have applications in thin-film displays and other liquid crystal technologies. This book is the first to be concerned

solely with biaxial nematic liquid crystals, both lyotropic and thermotropic, formed by low molar mass as well as polymeric systems. It opens with a general introduction to the biaxial nematic phase and covers:

- Order parameters and distribution functions
- Molecular field theory
- Theories for hard biaxial particles
- Computer simulation of biaxial nematics
- Alignment of the phase
- Display applications
- Characterisation and identification
- Lyotropic, thermotropic and colloidal systems together with material design

With a consistent, coherent and pedagogical approach, this book brings together theory, simulations and experimental studies; it includes contributions from some of the leading figures in the field. It is relevant to students and researchers as well as to industry professionals working in soft matter, liquid crystals, liquid crystal devices and their applications throughout materials science, chemistry, physics, mathematics and display engineering.

Biodiversity of Lianas

National Academies Press
Maria-Carmen Guisan,

professor of Econometrics, University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain sets out in the footsteps of economists like Nobel Prize Laureate L R Klein, who pioneered macro-econometric modeling. Included are articles of eminent experts wh Biaxial Nematic Liquid Crystals Gulf Professional Publishing

This first volume in the series is based on part of a course that I taught in various state and private institutions during 1979 and 1980. It was concerned with the design and control of stationary, articulated robots operating as non-feedback systems. This book (which is devoted to the statement and understanding of problems rather than their solution) presents a review of some of the work, started in 1972, of the team involved with robotics and biomechanics at the Automation Laboratory at Montpellier, in association with the French National Centre for Scientific Research. I am greatly indebted to Professor A. Liegeois, the guiding light of the team, to A. Fournier, E. Dombre, W. Khalil, P. Molinier and P. Borrel who have

contributed so much to the progress made in this field. The second volume will describe the present state of the knowledge of robotic systems which are able to perceive the environment, to a greater or lesser extent, and to react appropriately. Such robots will be able to perform the function required of them, in spite of unpredictable, limited changes in the environment. The third volume will deal with teleoperations, the branch of robotics characterized by the necessary and almost permanent presence of a human operator at the controls. The fourth volume will be concerned with technological components of robots and further volumes will discuss robotic languages and programming methods, decision autonomy and artificial intelligence and, finally, the computer-aided design of robots.

International Science and Technology Co-operation Towards Sustainable Development Springer Science & Business Media

Flexible Multibody Dynamics comprehensively describes the numerical modelling of flexible multibody dynamics systems in space and

aircraft structures, vehicles, and mechanical systems. A rigorous approach is followed to handle finite rotations in 3D, with a thorough discussion of the different alternatives for parametrization. Modelling of flexible bodies is treated following the Finite Element technique, a novel aspect in multibody systems simulation. Moreover, this book provides extensive coverage of the formulation of a general purpose software for flexible multibody dynamics analysis, based on an exhaustive treatment of large rotations and finite element modelling, and incorporating useful reference material. Features include different solution techniques such as: * time integration of differential-algebraic equations * non-linear substructuring * continuation methods * nonlinear bifurcation analysis. In essence, this is an ideal text for senior undergraduates, postgraduates and professionals in mechanical and aeronautical engineering, as well as mechanical design engineers and researchers, and engineers working in

areas such as kinematics and dynamics of deployable structures, vehicle dynamics and mechanical design.

Flexible Multibody

Dynamics Springer

This collection of work represents the scientific contributions of numerous Australian experts assembled for the Net Ecosystem Exchange Workshop held by the CRC in Canberra, 2001. It presents views and analysis of the major eco-physiological factors that affect carbon exchange and features these using a range of biospheric models.

Reconstructing the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces: Lessons from the U.S. Experience in Afghanistan

Oxford University Press

This book brings together the many concepts and discoveries in liquid crystal colloids contributed over the last twenty years and scattered across numerous articles and book chapters. It provides

both a historical overview of the development of the field and a clear perspective on the future applications in photonics.

The book covers all phenomena observed in liquid crystal colloids with an emphasis on experimental tools and applications of topology in condensed matter, as well as practical micro-photonics applications. It includes a number of spectacular manifestations of new topological phenomena not found or difficult to observe in other systems. Starting from the early works on nematic colloids, it explains the basics of topological defects in ordered media, charge and winding, and the elastic forces between colloidal particles in nematics. Following a detailed description of experimental methods, such as optical tweezing and particle tracking, the book eases the reader into the theoretical part, which deals with elastic deformation of nematic

liquid crystals due to inclusions and surface alignment. This is discussed in the context of basic mean field Landau-de Gennes Q-tensor theory, with a brief explanation of the free-energy minimization numerical methods. There then follows an excursion into the topology of complex nematic colloidal structures, colloidal entanglement, knotting and linking. Nematic droplets, shells, handlebodies and chiral topological structures are addressed in separate chapters. The book concludes with an extensive chapter on the photonic properties of nematic dispersions, presenting the concept of integrated soft matter photonics and discussing the concepts of nematic and chiral nematic microlasers, surface-sensitive photonic devices and smectic microfibers. The text is complemented by a large bibliography, explanatory sketches and beautiful micrographs.