

The Emergence of Stability – Instability Paradox in the South Asian Nuclear Environment

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The stability-instability paradox is a peculiar situation pertaining to the South Asian strategic environment. It is generally believed that nuclear states should not even try to initiate conventional type fighting since the fighting at conventional or sub-conventional levels could easily cross the nuclear threshold. A study by Paul Kapur, in 2007, reveals that nuclear proliferation in South Asia has increased the frequency of conventional and sub-conventional battles. *Dangerous Deterrent: Nuclear Weapons proliferation and conflict in South Asia* is the title of research that was carried out by Kapur in 2007. It is very pertinent to examine the data presented by Kapur to see why this peculiar co-relation exists in the region. This study is conducted as an interpretive research. According to Kapur's research, nuclear weapons have not only failed to deter effectively in terms of nuclear conflict in South Asia but also made deterrence more dangerous and nuclear conflict more likely to erupt. How deterrence works on Balance of Power is the issue examined in this context.

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