

THE FOREIGN SERVICE GROUP

- Central Texas –

WWW.TFSG.ORG

Dr. Jeremi Suri

Tuesday 14 August 2012

"The Long History of American Nation-Building: What Have We Learned?"

Our speaker suggests:

Books

**After the Taliban: Nation-Building in Afghanistan*, James Dobbins, Potomac Books, Washington DC, 2008, 179 pgs

State-Building: Governance and World Order in the 21st Century, Francis Fukuyama, Cornell University Press, NY, 2004, 160 pgs

**In the Graveyard of Empires: America's War in Afghanistan*, Seth Jones, Norton & Co., Reprint Edition, NY, 2010, 464 pgs

Inventing the People: The Rise of Popular Sovereignty in England and America, Edmund Morgan, Norton & Co., NY, 1989, 320 pgs

**Liberty's Surest Guardian: American Nation-Building from the Founders to Obama*, Jeremi Suri, Free Press, NY, 2011, 368 pgs

Henry Kissinger and the American Century, Jeremi Suri, Belknap Press of Harvard University, MA, 2009, 368 pgs

Websites

<http://www.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/>

<http://www.notevenpast.org/>

<http://nation-building.jeremisuri.net/>

<http://jeremisuri.net/>

Our members suggest:

Books

**Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty*, Daron Acemoglu & James Robinson, Crown, NY, 2012, 544 pgs

**The Next Decade: Empire and Republic in a Changing World*, George Friedman, Anchor, NY, 2012, 243 pgs

**Every Nation for Itself: Winners and Losers in a G-Zero World*, Ian Bremmer, Penguin, NY, 2012, 229 pgs

**Why the West Rules - For Now: The Patterns of History and What They Reveal About the Future*, Ian Morris, Picador, NY, 2010, 750 pgs

The Fate of Africa: A History of the Continent Since Independence, Martin Meredith, Public Affairs, NY, 2005, 770 pgs

**In The Shadow of the Sword: The Birth of Islam and The Rise of the Global Arab Empire*, Tom Holland, Doubleday, NY, 2012, 526 pgs

**Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*, Jared Diamond, Penguin Books, London, 2005, Revised 2011, 589 pgs

**The Origins of Political Order: From Prehuman Times to the French Revolution*, Francis Fukayama, Farrar Straus & Giroux, NY, 2011, 585 pgs

**Too Much Magic: Wishful Thinking, Technology, and The Fate of the Nation*, James Howard Kunstler, Atlantic Monthly Press, NY, 2012, 245 pgs

**Time To Start Thinking: America in the Age of Descent*, Edward Luce, Atlantic Monthly Press, NY, 2012, 292 pgs

**The Icarus Syndrome: A History of American Hubris*, Peter Beinart, HarperCollins, NY, 2010, 496 pgs

**Dead Aid: Why Aid is Not Working and How There is a Better Way for Africa*, Dambiga Moyo, Douglas & McIntyre Ltd, BC, Canada, 2010, 188 pgs

**How The West Was Lost: Fifty Years of Economic Folly – And The Stark Choices Ahead*, Dambiga Moyo, Farrar, Straus, Giroux, NY, 2012, 240 pgs

**Rebuilding War-Torn States: The Challenge of Post-Conflict Economic Reconstruction*, Graciana Del Castillo, Oxford University Press, USA, 2008, 436 pgs

**Security and Development in Global Politics: A Critical Comparison*, Joanna Spear and Paul D. Williams, eds., Georgetown University Press, Washington DC, 2012, 360 pgs

**Special Providence: American Foreign Policy and How It Changed the World*, Walter Russell Mead, Alfred A. Knopf, NY, 2001, 378 pgs

**A Problem from Hell: America and Age of Genocide*, Samantha Power, Basic Books, NY, 2002, 620 pgs

**The Frugal Super Power: America's Global Leadership in a Cash Strapped Era*, Michael Mandelbaum, Public Affairs, Penguin, PA, 2010, 212 pgs

**2048 Humanity's Agreement to Live Together: The International Movement for Enforceable Human Rights*, J. Kirk Boyd, Berrett-Koehler Publishers Inc., CA, 2010, 222 pgs

**Culture Matters: How Values Shape Human Progress*, Lawrence E. Harrison and Samuel P. Huntington, eds., Basic Books, NY, 2000, 348 pgs

**The End of Arrogance: America in the Global Competition of Ideas*, Steven Weber, Bruce W. Jentieson, Harvard University Press, MA, 2010, 210 pgs

**Politics and Strategy: Partisan Ambition and American Statecraft* (Princeton Studies in International History and Politics) Peter Trubowitz, Princeton University Press, NJ, 2011, 175 pgs

Articles

Keeping the Dream Alive, Time Magazine, 02 July 2012, pp 26-39

America the Overcommitted, Jeremi Suri, New York Times, 14 October 2011

Why the State Still Matters, Jeremi Suri, Global Brief, Spring Summer 2012, pp 12-16

America must remember it is not just any other country, Condoleezza Rice, Financial Times, 27 July 2012

A Nation Adrift From the Rule of Law, David Skeel, Wall Street Journal, 22 August 2012

Time to Get Crazy, Chris Hedges, Nation of Change
<http://www.nationofchange.org/time-get-crazy-1341316610>

Washington Memo: Conflict Resurfaces With Lessons on Nation-Building, Peter Baker,
http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/22/world/europe/22prexy.html?_r=1&emc=eta1

Transition to Democracy in the Middle East, Haviland Smith
http://www.unc.edu/depts/diplomat/item/2012/0106/ca/smith_transition.html

How Does Inequality Define the Health of a Nation?, Richard Wilkinson
<http://www.nationofchange.org/how-does-inequality-define-health-nation-1343406868>

Barnes & Noble Arboretum, Austin TX, suggests:

Books

**Horse Soldiers: The Extraordinary Story of a Band of U.S. Soldiers Who Rode to Victory in Afghanistan*, Doug Stanton, Scribner, NY, 2010, 770 pgs

**The Heart and the Fist: The Education of a Humanitarian, the Making of a Navy SEAL*, Eric Greitens, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2012, 352 pgs

**Paper Promises: Debt, Money, and the New World Order*, Philip Coggan, Public Affairs, 2012, 304 pgs

**The Great Reset*, Richard Florida, Harper, NY, 2011, 225 pgs

**After Empire: The Birth of a Multipolar World*, Dilip Hiro, Nation Books, NY, 2010, 348 pgs

A History of Civilizations, Fernand Braudel, Penguin, NY, Translation 1993, 600 pgs, first published in France in 1963, then in 1987

**American Creation*, Joseph J. Ellis, Vintage, NY, 2007, 283 pgs

Colossus: The Rise and Fall of The American Empire, Niall Ferguson, Penguin, NY, 2004, 386 pgs

**The Post-American World, Release 2.0*. Fared Zakaria, W.W. Norton, NY, 2008, Revised 2012, 314 pgs

The Ideological Origins of the American Revolution: The Enlarged Edition, Bernard Bailyn, Belknap, Harvard Press, MA, 1967, 1992, 396 pgs

**Plain, Honest Men: The Making of the American Constitution*, Richard Beeman, Random House, NY, 2009, 514 pgs

Miracle at Philadelphia: The Story of the Constitutional Convention May to September 1787, Catherine Drinker Bowen, Little, Brown, and Company, NY, 1966, 346 pgs

**Founding Myths: Stories That Hide Our Patriotic Past*, Ray Raphael, MJF Books, NY, 2004, 352 pgs

*This book is available as an e-book.

CDs

Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Fight Terrorism and Build Nations...One School at a Time, Greg Mortenson, Patrick Lawlor, David Relin, Tantor Media, 2006

Descent Into Chaos: The United States and the Failure of Nation Building in Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Central Asia, Ahmed Rashid, Brilliance Audio, 2012

EIS; Jeremi Suri; 14 August 2012; page 4