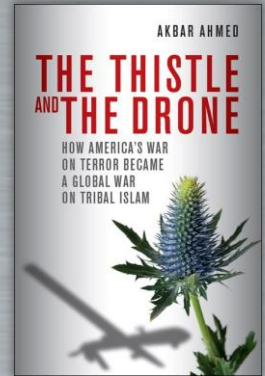


Lord Sheikh invites you to the launch of *The Thistle and the Drone*
by renowned author, diplomat and scholar, Akbar Ahmed

THE THISTLE AND THE DRONE

Committee Room 3
House of Lords
Parliament Square
London SW1A 0PW

27th June, 2013
Thursday
18:30 – 20:00



The United States declared war on terrorism in the wake of the 9/11 attacks. More than ten years later, the results are decidedly mixed. In *The Thistle and the Drone*, Professor Akbar Ahmed, argues that the use of drones has actually exacerbated the already-broken relationship between central governments and the tribal societies on their periphery. At this important meeting the author will talk about his book and exchange views with a panel of experts on his central theme that the US-led war on terror is being seen by some as a global war on tribal Islam as well as regional and security concerns.

Welcome and Introductions: **Lord Sheikh**

Chair: **Rita Payne**, President Commonwealth Journalists Association

Keynote: **Prof. Akbar Ahmed**, Ibn Khaldun Chair of Islamic Studies at American University, Washington, DC and author of *The Thistle and the Drone*

Panel:

Douglas Barrie, Senior Fellow for Military Air Space, IISS

Owen Bennett-Jones, Journalist and author of *Pakistan: Eye of the Storm*

Irfan Husain, Journalist and Author, *Fatal Faultlines: Pakistan, Islam and the West*

Vijay Mehta, Author of *The Economics of Killing* and Peace Campaigner.

Closing Remarks: **Lord Sheikh**

Vote of Thanks: **Rita Payne**

Access via Cromwell Green entrance. Please allow at least 15 minutes to pass through security

For more information about the event, please contact: Rita Payne -
rita.payne@commonwealthjournalists.org

For RSVP: Vijay Mehta - vijay@vmpeace.org