

Press Release From The Human Rights Commission Of Pakistan.

THE NISAR OSMANI AWARD FOR COURAGE IN JOURNALISM FOR AHMED RASHID

21/03/2001

The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) has decided to award the Nisar Osmani Award for Courage in Journalism to Ahmed Rashid for his widely acclaimed study, "Taliban." The rise of the Taliban in Afghanistan is one of the most significant phenomena in modern history, with a multidimensional impact not only on the countries around Afghanistan, most notably Pakistan, but also on global political trends. Ahmed Rashid spent many years studying the Taliban. During his numerous journeys through Afghanistan he followed the Taliban's military operations, interviewed their commanders and political leaders, assessed the external contributions to their success and analysed their likely impact on the region's life and politics. Throughout this search he faced serious hazards to his life. The finished work, which has already been translated into several foreign languages, has contributed to the entire world's understanding of the Taliban movement. It is also an outstanding testimony to courageous pursuit of journalism.

The award will be presented to Ahmed Rashid at a ceremony in Lahore on March 25, 2001 at 2 pm at the HRCP.

I.A.Rehman, Director HRCP.

