



# Los Alamos Study Group

*Nuclear Disarmament • Environmental Protection • Social Justice • Economic Sustainability*

Press Release 10/22/04

## **Leading Nonproliferation Expert to Speak in Santa Fe**

Dr. Zia Mian, Pakistani-born physicist and antinuclear leader, to visit New Mexico; will discuss proliferation, disarmament, and the essential role of citizens

**Where: Cloud Cliff Artspace, 1805 Second Street**

**What: Public lecture, discussion: "The Election, the Empire, and the Bomb"**

**When: Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 7-9 PM**

**Donation: \$7.00 at the door**

For more information call Willem Malten (505-820-1974) or Greg Mello (505-265-1200)

In speeches this month, Dr. Siegfried Hecker, former director of Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), named Pakistan as his top country of concern for the potential of "catastrophic terrorism." Well, is it? Whether so, or no, what *can* be done about nuclear proliferation?

Dr. Zia Mian is an expert on Pakistani nuclear programs and their relation to South Asian society and politics and on nuclear proliferation in general. Dr. Mian, who is president of the Study Group, is an award-winning planetary physicist who has taught physics, sustainable development, and politics in Pakistan, at Princeton, and at Yale. A brilliant and engaging speaker, Dr. Mian has twice delivered the Mahatma Gandhi Lecture at Yale and just this past week, the Frederick Douglass Distinguished Lecture at DePaul University. He is as conversant in social theory, history, and politics as he is in physics and nuclear policy, and is a leading member of the liberal Pakistani intellectual community, working for democratic reform in his home country and the prevention of war in South Asia. He is active on the board of the NGO Committee on Disarmament at the United Nations and of the International Network of Engineers and Scientists Against Proliferation (INESAP), among other organizations. He teaches and conducts research at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University.

Dr. Mian's thoughtful and incisive message is of special importance in New Mexico, a state that is host to the two best-funded nuclear weapons facilities in the world, a state where weapons of mass destruction are now the largest industry in dollar terms. What is the role of citizens in preventing nuclear war? Are citizens actually powerless to act for their own security? Or if not, how can we act wisely and effectively? "What," as Lenin famously said, "is to be done?"

There could hardly be a more timely subject. Both presidential candidates seem to agree that nuclear proliferation is the greatest security threat to the United States, although their approaches to the problem differ somewhat. What do the U.S. presidential election results mean, then, for prospects for controlling nuclear proliferation? And what is the relationship between nuclear proliferation, nuclear disarmament, and nuclear power?

Join Zia Mian and other members of the Los Alamos Study Group as we explore these vital questions, which directly affect the destiny of our state, our country, and indeed of our planet, on November 10.

There will be plenty of time for questions from the audience and discussion.

Dr. Mian will also speak in Los Alamos on Tuesday, November 9, at the Community Room at 475 20<sup>th</sup> St., immediately east of and adjacent to Ashley Pond, at 7:00 pm. Further details about this event will follow in a separate press release.

\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\*