

Press Release 11/3/04

## Leading Nonproliferation Expert to Speak in Los Alamos

Dr. Zia Mian, Pakistani-born physicist and antinuclear leader to discuss the causes and consequences of nuclear proliferation in Pakistan and South Asia

Where: The Community Room, 475 20th Street, Los Alamos, N.M

(adjacent and immediately east of Ashley Pond)

What: Public lecture, discussion:

"Pakistan and Proliferation: Causes and Consequences"

When: Tuesday, November 9th, 7pm

\*\*\*Free to the public, donations gratefully accepted\*\*\*

For more information contact Greg Mello (505)-265-1200

In speeches last month, Dr. Siegfried Hecker, former director of Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), named Pakistan as his top country of concern as a source of potentially catastrophic terrorism. Whether so, or no, what can be done about nuclear proliferation – in South Asia in particular?

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.

There could hardly be a more timely subject. Both presidential candidates agreed that nuclear proliferation is the greatest security threat to the United States, although their approaches to the problem differed somewhat. What do the U.S. presidential election results mean for prospects for controlling nuclear proliferation?

Dr. Mian's thoughtful and incisive message is of special importance in Los Alamos, which has both an active nuclear nonproliferation program and, of course, a much larger, active nuclear weapons program.

Join Zia Mian and other members of the Los Alamos Study Group as we explore these vital questions on November 9. There will be plenty of time for questions from the audience and discussion.

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