



Newsweek

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Newspaper Item

Singh's War

No mercy for the Maoists.

Newsweek Reporter's Ordeal in Iran

On June 21, reporter Maziar Bahari was roused out of bed and taken to Tehran's notorious Evin prison—accused of being a spy for the CIA, MI6, Mossad...and NEWSWEEK. This is the story of his captivity—and of an Iran whose rampant paranoia underpins an ever more fractured regime.

Zakaria: In AfPak, India Is the Real Prize

A relationship Obama should nurture.

Bearing Witness to Totalitarianism

They warned him not to talk. When Maziar Bahari was finally freed after 118 days in an Iranian prison on phony espionage charges, he was instructed never to speak of what had happened in jail. If he told his story, his interrogator said, he would be hunted down. "We can put people in a bag no matter where in the world they are," the interrogator said. "No one can escape from us."

Manmohan Singh On Afghanistan, Pakistan and China

Wearing a white kurta and a blue turban, India's Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, 77, appeared relaxed on the eve of his state visit to Washington, which takes place this week. Many Indians worry that the Obama White House, unlike the previous two American administrations, may tilt toward China instead of India. Singh sat down in his Delhi residence last week to discuss with NEWSWEEK's Lally Weymouth how he believes India and the United States can work together to further their strategic partnership and why he believes it is critical that the U.S. not leave Afghanistan. Excerpts:

Medvedev Is Reinventing the Red Army

How Medvedev plans to reform the military—and why Obama should not be worried.

A Q&A With Liberia's Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

When Ellen Johnson Sirleaf was elected Liberia's president in 2005, she inherited a country wrecked by civil war and began to transform it. Today, school enrollment is up 40 percent, Monrovia has power and running water, and trade in diamonds and timber is up again. NEWSWEEK's Jina Moore met recently with the former World Bank economist to talk about terrorism, the resource curse, and Obama's Africa agenda.

Khamenei Will Be Iran's Last Supreme Leader

The clerical establishment has become so sick of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei that they will not replace him when he dies.

Obama's Man in China: Ambassador Jon Huntsman

Well before the Chinese welcomed Obama, his ambassador was showing them how an American politician works a crowd. And they love it.

American Hubris Is China's Gain

According to its CEO Lloyd Blankfein, Goldman Sachs is doing "God's work." This quote, care of the LondonTimes(though delivered in irony, according to Goldman Sachs) was met with bewilderment at a Chinese business conference in Lisbon last week, where foreign CEOs and government officials were dumbstruck by the hubris. Many of the attendees blame Wall Street bankers like Goldman for the global financial meltdown and think the U.S. is doing a bad job of cleaning up the mess. "Do you think those quotes were made up?" asked one incredulous Latin American participant. But America's diminished position in the world was even better illustrated by how quickly the Blankfein banter faded and talk turned to China's growing clout. Goldman Sachs itself is now predicting that Chinese GDP will overtake that of America by 2027. This year, China has surpassed the U.S. as the world's largest generator of investment capital, around \$2 trillion compared to America's \$1.4 trillion, according to economist John Ross. Much Chinese cash is pouring in to Africa and Latin America. Amadou Hott, CEO of Nigeria's UBA Capital, said his country's future was "now more tied to the East than the West." China's growth is the reason that Latin America and Africa, for the first time in modern history, haven't been the worst hit by a global downturn. During one session in Lisbon, a Chinese entrepreneur was asked to offer advice to Barack Obama on the eve of his visit to Beijing. The answer: Get your daughters a Mandarin tutor.

My Turn: Detained Hiker's Brother Awaits News

There are certain crises that always loom as possibilities: a chronic illness in the family, strife in a relationship, a car accident. To have a brother detained in Iran, with no way to contact him and little information about his legal status or the conditions in which he's held, is not one of them. Never would I have imagined putting my Ph.D. research on hold to lobby for my brother's release from Evin Prison; I didn't expect to move back to my parents' house at the age of 30, either.

As Obama Arrives, China Suffers an Identity Crisis

On the eve of Obama's visit, China reveals an identity crisis.

Chinese Sea Turtles Return Home

China has launched a concerted effort to bring home top talent from the United States.

Soldiers of Fortune

How the Israeli Army became the most prolific innovation engine on earth.

The Beijing Hotspots Obama Won't Visit

The places Obama won't visit on his first trip to China.

A Q&A With Afghanistan's Ashraf Ghani

U.S. President Barack Obama and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown recently warned Afghan President Hamid Karzai, who was reelected in a fraud-ridden election in August, that he risks losing international support unless he radically overhauls his corrupt and incompetent administration. Ashraf Ghani, Karzai's former finance minister turned presidential rival, is often mentioned as someone who could help him meet the tough new benchmarks imposed by Afghanistan's foreign backers. Last week Ghani met with NEWSWEEK's Ron Moreau and Sami Yousafzai in his suburban Kabul home to offer his outlook on Afghanistan and discuss his plans. Excerpts:

Pablo Escobar's Son Tells His Story

He's got quite a story to tell. After Pablo Escobar died in a hail of bullets in Medellín in 1993, 16-year-old Juan Pablo Escobar fled with his mother and sister to Ecuador, beginning a long journey of resettlement that brought them all over South America and Africa, and ultimately to Argentina, where he changed his name and became an architect. Now that the international media frenzy has begun, Marroquín knows his life of anonymity is over. In Colombia, the film's release on Dec. 10 is expected to be a watershed cultural event; 30 prints have been ordered, unprecedented for a documentary. "I don't think anyone can prepare for something like this," says Marroquín. "My only conviction is for this film to be a message of peace."

America Should Focus on India, not Pakistan

By all rights, the United States and India should be bound together by the shared tragedies of 9/11 and last year's terrorist attacks in Mumbai. India's size, economic-growth trajectory, and rising power as a stable, secular democracy in a dangerous part of the world ought to make it a key U.S. partner. Instead, Washington's single-minded focus on India's much smaller unstable neighbor, Pakistan, in carrying out the war on terror has increasingly strained its relations with New Delhi. To India's dismay, the U.S. has looked the other way while much of the \$10.5 billion in military hardware and cash subsidies provided to the Pakistan Army for use against the Taliban has been diverted to building up arms capabilities targeted at India. Equally disturbing is that Washington has given only perfunctory support to India in pushing Pakistan to prosecute the perpetrators of the Mumbai attacks.

Barton Biggs on the Next Emerging Market

Winds of change are sweeping Syria.

A Chinese Dissident Artist's Plea to Obama

An artist explains why Barack Obama should be talking about human rights during his first visit to China this week.

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Palin and Being 'Palinized'

Women, politics, and the media.

Domestic Terror: The Worry About Homegrown Plots

Why recent events point to a potentially worrying radicalization of disaffected American Muslims.

Charles Peters on Afghanistan, Taxes, and Jobs

I will be 83 next month, and I find myself wanting to get across a few things I've learned during these years. Most people seem not to know them; many of my contemporaries appear to have forgotten them.

Hearts and Minds Makes Sense

Two fathers of fallen soldiers weigh in on the war.

Zakaria: Can America Still Innovate?

Innovation is as American as baseball and apple pie. But some traditions can't be trademarked.

How Sarah Palin Hurts the GOP And the Country

Obama knows the long odds against a right-wing populist winning the presidency, no matter how good she looks in a skirt (or running clothes), brandishing a gun. He shouldn't be too cocky, however, because the death of the center is ultimately a problem for him and the whole country. If the Palinistas seize the GOP, they probably cannot take the White House. But their brand of no-prisoners partisanship sure can tie up Congress.

Sarah Palin's Political Instincts: Hitchens

But the problem with populism is not just that it stirs prejudice against the "big cities" where most Americans actually live, or against the academies where many of them would like to send their children. No, the difficulty with populism is that it exploits the very "people" to whose grievances it claims to give vent.

Why Women Are Losing Faith in Obama

Why Obama is losing women.

Environment: How Much Is a Tree Worth?

Think a tree is just a tree? Think again. A new United Nations study puts dollar signs on the services nature provides.

What We Can Learn From 'Sesame Street'

For 40 years it has taught children diversity and the alphabet, but what else should we be teaching them?

How the Government Should Support Local Farms

A small farmer on how the government can help rebuild the infrastructure he needs to survive.

Hasan Was Both Unstable and a Fundamenatlist

The question about Nidal Hasan isn't whether he's a mental-health victim or a terrorist. He has shades of both, so let's not reduce him to a caricature.

Despite Funding Boost, Parks Still Hurting

Despite President Obama's increase in funding, the country's national parks face a substantial deficit and massive infrastructure problems.

Fort Hood: A Wounded Soldier Speaks

A victim of the Fort Hood shooting speaks about his experience, his fallen friends, and the desire to serve his country in Afghanistan.

Senator Kerry: Vietnam Could Not Have Been Won

Let me be clear: more than 58,000 American troops died because they were sent into battle based on false assumptions, flawed goals, and faulty strategies. Yes, we adopted smarter tactics near the end, but by then the die was cast. History has definitively branded Vietnam for the mistake it was—no one should believe that the deaths of nearly 60,000 Americans and at least 1.5 million Vietnamese were somehow not quite enough.

Rereading Vietnam May Help Prevent Same Mistakes

Unraveling the mysteries of Vietnam may prevent us from repeating its mistakes.

Should We Sentence Teens to Life in Prison?

But should we lock up teens for life?

Why Politics Could Be Behind American Homicide -- Kelley

The surprising roots of homicide.

Will Supreme Court Outlaw Juvenile Life Sentences?

The U.S. is the only country that sentences juveniles to life in prison without parole. Will the Supreme Court declare it unconstitutional?

Before McChrystal: Historical Troop Requests

Gen. Stanley McChrystal will soon hear word on 40,000 reinforcements for Afghanistan. But how have his predecessors fared? When they've asked for more troops, have they gotten them? And has fulfilling their requests made a difference? A look back:

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Obama: First Pacific President?

Inflation is not only a monetary matter.

How Barack Obama Is Like Ronald Reagan

For inspiration, Obama looks to Reagan.

Palin and Being 'Palinized'

Women, politics, and the media.

Intelligence Squared: Debating Obamanomics

Is Obamanomics a boon or a bane? A debate over the president's policies.

The Terrorist Myth In North Africa

America wants to expand the war on terror to Northern Africa. It shouldn't.

Education Reform From the Union Point of View

What do teachers' unions think about being vilified by everyone from Newt Gingrich to Al Sharpton?

The Legal Fight Over God's Secular Title

The fight over God's secular title.

Senate Likely to Thwart Stupak Amendment

Abortion-rights activists were not caught unaware on the anti-abortion-funding amendment to the House health-care bill, and they are likely to stop it in the Senate.

Rudy Giuliani vs. the Federal Courts

Giuliani should know better than to impugn the capabilities of federal courts.

The Case Against Holds on Political Nominees

The obscure Senate procedure that is getting in the way of governance.

As Obama Arrives, China Suffers an Identity Crisis

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How Sarah Palin Hurts the GOP And the Country

Obama knows the long odds against a right-wing populist winning the presidency, no matter how good she looks in a skirt (or running clothes), brandishing a gun. He shouldn't be too cocky, however, because the death of the center is ultimately a problem for him and the whole country. If the Palinistas seize the GOP, they probably cannot take the White House. But their brand of no-prisoners partisanship sure can tie up Congress.

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Why Palin Matters to Obama—And to You

Richard Nixon sensed trouble. Seated in the Cow Palace in San Francisco at the GOP convention in 1964, he listened as Barry Goldwater said: "I would remind you that extremism in the defense of liberty—is—no—vice." A 41-second ovation ensued. Then Goldwater continued: "And let me remind you also—that moderation in the pursuit of justice is no virtue." As Rick Perlstein reconstructs the scene in his book *Nixon*, Nixon reached over to keep his wife, Pat, from rising politely with the crowd. Later Dwight Eisenhower called the Goldwater speech an offense to "the whole American system." The crowds did not care: Goldwater was one of their own, riding in from Arizona to take the GOP from the Ikes and the Rockefellers.

Why Women Are Losing Faith in Obama

Why Obama is losing women.

Obama's Health-Care 'Reform' Doesn't Come Close

Why the health-care bill isn't reform.

Clift: Both Parties Abandon Women's Rights

The only party worse for women than Democrats is Republicans.

Amid Tensions, Japan Already Won America's Respect

Barack Obama hasn't even arrived yet, but Yukio Hatoyama, Japan's new prime minister, has already gotten everything he wanted from the president.

Here Are the Actual Afghan Strategies on the Table

President Obama is finalizing a decision on a way forward in Afghanistan. Here's what different decisions would mean, and why any of them could ultimately come up short.

How the Government Should Support Local Farms

A small farmer on how the government can help rebuild the infrastructure he needs to survive.



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