

# **Ajit Maan, Ph.D.**

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## **EDUCATIONAL RECORD:**

Doctor of Philosophy in Philosophy, University of Oregon, 1997

Master of Arts in English Literature, Kansas State University, 1990

Bachelor of Science in Mass Communications, minors in Psychology and English, North Dakota State University, 1987

## **CURRENT PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

Adjunct Professor, Joint Special Operations University, Sept 2021-present

Professor of Practice, Politics and Global Security, Arizona State University, March 2019-present

Founder and CEO of [Narrative Strategies](#), an award-winning think-and-do-tank focused on the non-kinetic aspects of CT, security, and defense. 2015-present

Member of the Brain Trust of the [Weaponized Narrative Initiative](#) at Arizona State University. Faculty, Center for the Future of War, Arizona State University. 2017-present

Columnist, *Homeland Security Today*, 2019-present

## **SELECT PAST EXPERIENCE**

Panel Speaker, International Association of Police Chiefs, “Narrative Strategies in the Critical Incident Tool Box,” August 13, 2021.

The Indigenous Approach, PYSOPS Interview:

<https://podcasts.google.com/feed/aHR0cHM6Ly9mZWVkey5idXp6c3Byb3V0LmNvbS8xMzg5MTc1LnJzcw/episode/QnV6enNwcm91dC> Jan. 29, 2021.

TRADOC interview, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S4kHqer9hqe> July 29, 2020.

Civil Affairs Podcast, <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/dr-ajit-maan-narrative-warfare/id1371006736?i=1000478015932>

Contributor, *Defense and Intelligence Norway*, 2017-2020

Panel speaker, Cyber Beacon Conference, “Terrorism and Cyber Security, National Defense University, Fort McNair, Nov. 13, 2019.

Keynote Speaker and Consultation, Sovereign Challenge, “The Human Dimension of the Commodification of Truth,” March 21, 2018

Keynote Speaker and Consultation, National Defense University, Abu Dhabi 2016

Vice-President, Research and Analysis, Enodo Global (population-centric risk assessment), 2015-2016

Partner and Director of Narrative Engagement, weSolve, (risk assessment, monitoring and evaluation) 2016-2017

Presentation: “Engaging Narratives: The New (Old) Domain, George Washington University, May 23, 2017

Affiliate Faculty, Union Institute and University, Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program, 2015-2018

Advisory Board, Narratives of Peace, PartnersGlobal. 2016-2018

Invited Affiliate Faculty at George Mason University’s [Center for Narrative Conflict Resolution](#) working in collaborate with the United States Army’s Irregular Warfare Group on a narrative braiding project designed to amplify the narratives of Syrian civilians caught in the cross-fire of regular and irregular warfare campaigns. 2015-2017

Consultation and Advisory, Akal Security, 2016

Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Narrative and Conflict* 2014-2016

Research Associate, International Studies, University of Oregon 2003-2004

Instructor, *Conceptions of the Self*, Lane Community College, 1999

Graduate Teaching Fellow, Humanities Program, University of Oregon, 1992-3

Grader, Department of Philosophy, University of Oregon, 1991

### **SELECT LIST OF PUBLICATIONS:**

#### **BOOKS:**

*Narrative Campaign Field Guide*, co-author, (Narrative Strategies Ink) 2021

*Plato's Fear*, (Narrative Strategies Ink) 2020

*Dangerous Narratives: Warfare, Strategy, Statecraft*, Ed. (Narrative Strategies Ink) 2020

[\*Introduction to Narrative Warfare: A Primer and Study Guide\*](#) (Narrative Strategies Ink)  
June 16 2018

[\*Narrative Warfare\*](#) (Narrative Strategies Ink) April 2018

“Narrative: The Critical Component of Counter-Terrorism Strategy” and “ISIS Is Not a Terrorist Organization” in [\*Jihadi Terrorism, Insurgency, and the Islamic State: A Small Wars Journal Anthology\*](#). Ed. Dilegge and Bunker. Small Wars Foundation. (chapters 29 and 33) Feb. 2017

[\*Soft Power on Hard Problems: Strategic Influence in Irregular Warfare\*](#) Ed. Ajit Maan and Amar Cheema. (Hamilton Books) 2016

[\*Counter-Terrorism: Narrative Strategies\*](#) (Roman and Littlefield) 2014

Foreword to [\*Representations of Internarrative Identity\*](#), Ed. Lori Way (Palgrave MacMillan) 2014

[\*Internarrative Identity, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, Placing The Self\*](#) (Roman and Littlefield) 2010

[Internarrative Identity](#) (Roman and Littlefield) 1999

**ARTICLES:**

[“ISIS-K and the Fight Between the Ears,”](#) *Homeland Security Today*, Dec. 13, 2021

[“Re-Writing the Ending: Afghanistan,”](#) *Homeland Security Today*, Sept. 30, 2021

[“The State of Narrative Warfare: Learning from Afghanistan in the War for Influence”](#)  
*Homeland Security Today*, Sept 10, 2021

[“Honoring the Promise”](#) *Homeland Security Today*, Aug. 31, 2021

[“Why the U.S. Must Lead in Covid-19 Diplomacy”](#) co-authors R.J. Cordes, Scott David, Sahil Shah, *Homeland Security Today*, Aug. 13, 2021

[“Why Force Protection Must Include Narrative Warfare Readiness,”](#) co-author, Paul Cobaugh, *Homeland Security Today*, April 10, 2021

[“Disinformation is Not the Problem and Information is Not the Solution”](#) *Homeland Security Today*, Feb. 6 2021

[“Refund the Police: How Strategy, Story, and Message Win Narrative Conflict”](#)  
*Homeland Security Today*, Dec. 18, 2020

[“Narrative Strategy: Creating the Target Audience”](#) *Homeland Security Today*, Dec.1, 2020

[“How We Must Battle Weaponized Narrative Wielded by Our Adversaries”](#) *Homeland Security Today*, Nov. 23, 2020

[“Reaching the Shadow” Accurately Framing Context as a Transformative Leader”](#)  
*Homeland Security Today*, Oct. 2, 2020

“Why Law Enforcement Needs a Proactive Narrative Strategy with Protests” co-author Frank Straub, *Homeland Security Today*, July 31, 2020

“The Intelligence We Need to Succeed at Influence” *Homeland Security Today*, June 15, 2020

“Make Collaboration Great Again to Confront Coronavirus Pandemic” *Homeland Security Today*, April 10, 2020

“Arm the Sheep to Counter Weaponized Disinformation Campaigns” *Homeland Security Today*, Nov. 13, 2019

“Defeat Terrorists by Dominating the Narrative Space” *Homeland Security Today*, April 22, 2019

“Plato’s Fear: The Power of Poetry Over National Security” *Homeland Security Today*, March 1, 2019

“ISIS Announces Establishment of Province in India” in *SOF News*, June 3, 2019.

“Defeat Terrorists by Dominating the Narrative Space,” in *Homeland Security Today*, April 22, 2019.

“Plato’s Fear: The Power of Poetry Over National Security” *Homeland Security Today*, March 1, 2019.

"Fighting the Fight We Are In," *Special Operations Forces News*, December 11, 2018.

“Complete Target Audience Analysis: Triggering the Unconscious to Counter Insurgencies" *Narrative Strategies Journal*, Nov.13, 2018, reprinted in *Defense and Intelligence Norway* November 19, 2018.

“Narrative Warfare”, *Real Clear Defense*, Feb 27, 2018

“The Fleeting Soft Power Opportunity in Yemen,” *Real Clear Defense*. Jan. 16, 2018 and *Defense and Intelligence Norway*, Feb. 2, 2018.

“Recruitment Narratives: Cutting Off the Legs Isn’t Enough,” *Defense and Intelligence Norway*. Jan. 16, 2018.

“Addressing Domestic Terrorism and the White Wing,” *Real Clear Defense*, Oct.3 2017.

“Battles Can Be Won with Kinetics, But Wars Are Won With Influence," *Real Clear Defense*, (reprinted in *The Briefing Room* and *Indian Strategic Studies*) May 23, 2017.

“Improving Our Predictive Capacities Against Attacks by Individuals,” *Defense and Intelligence Norway*. March 27, 2017.

“How Immigrants Can Help Us Understand American Identity,” *Foreign Policy*. March 2, 2017.

“How Narratives Impact Warfare” in *Defense and Intelligence Norway*, Jan. 19, 2017.

“What We Can Predict About U.S.- India Relations in the Coming Trump Years” in

*Foreign Policy*, Dec. 1, 2017.

“How Master Narratives Are Impacting Meta Narratives on Syria” in *Defense and Intelligence Norway*, Sept. 13, 2016.

“The Responsibility to Protect in the Context of State-Sponsored Terror” in *Defense and Intelligence Norway*, July 7, 2016

“How to Think About Orlando” (co-authors Joseph Trindal and Supreet Manchanda) in *Foreign Policy*, June 13, 2016.

“It is Past Time for the American Military to Open its Doors to Sikhs” in *Foreign Policy*, June 2, 2016.

“The Brussels Attack: What We Should Be Doing Differently” (co-authored with Supreet Manchanda) in *Defense and Intelligence Norway*, March 22, 2016.

“ISIS Is Not a Terrorist Organization” *Small Wars Journal*, Dec. 29, 2015.

[“Narratives Are About Meaning, Not Necessarily the Truth”](#) *Foreign Policy*, Dec. 3, 2015.

“Suicide Nets and Caste Conflict: Welcome to Business in India” *Medium*, Oct. 2015.

“Soft Power in the Green Corridor” (Co-authored with James Sisco) in *Indian Military Review*, Aug. 24, 2015.

“The Heart of the Common Man: The Battle Ground of Asymmetric Conflict” in *Indian Defense Review*, Aug. 19, 2015.

“Conflict Analysis: A Paradigm Shift to a Population-Centric Strategy” (co-authored with James Sisco) in *The Strategy Bridge*, July 29, 2015.

“U.S. Prisons Play a Role in Domestic Terrorism” in *Register-Guard*, July 29, 2015.

“Maoist Insurgency: A Strategy to Erode Popular Support” (co-authored with James Sisco) in *Indian Defense Review*, July 18, 2015.

“Narrative: The Critical Component of Counter-Terrorism Strategy” in *Small Wars Journal*, July 2015

“Use of Torture Feeds Islamic State’s Narrative” in *The Register-Guard*, Jan. 2, 2015

“Calls to Terror and Other Weak Narratives” in *Journal of Narrative and Conflict: Explorations in Theory and Practice*, April 26, 2015

“The Kill-Capture Approach Isn’t Working For Us: Narratives Do Better” (co-authored with James Sisco) in *Foreign Policy*, April 23, 2015

“Bad Intelligence and Hard Power” in *The Strategy Bridge*, May 10, 2015

“Women Are More Than Victims So It’s Time To Focus Security Strategies On Them” (co-authored with James Sisco) in *Foreign Policy*, May 14, 2015

“Sneaky Stories: Challenges to Moral Contraband” in *Philosophical Practice, Journal of the American Philosophical Practitioners Association*, July 2013

“Narrative Authority: Performing the Postcolonial Self” in *Social Identities: Journal for the Study of Race, Nation and Culture*, May 2007

“Post-Colonial Practices and Narrative Nomads: Thinking Sikhism Beyond Metaphysics” in *Sikh Formations: Religion, Culture, Theory*, Dec. 2005

#### **FORTHCOMING:**

“Decolonizing the Mind: Undermining the Psychological Assault of Terrorist Recruitment Narratives” in *Handbook of De-Radicalization*, ed. Stian Lid and Stig Jarle Hansen, Routledge,

#### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:**

Military Writers Guild  
Society for Terrorism Research  
Terrorism Research and Analysis Consortium  
American Philosophical Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Philosophical Practitioners Association  
Center for Narrative Therapy (Canada)  
International Society for the Study of Narrative  
CyberSpace Research Institute

#### **REFERENCES:**

Col. Joseph Funderburke  
Division Chief  
Strategic Engagements and Initiatives  
U.S. Special Operations Command

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