

Don't trust Musharraf

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Re: Musharraf's Moderation, Daniel Pipes, Sept. 21.

Daniel Pipes appreciates Pervez Musharraf's verbal promise to help spread a "moderate view" of Jews within Islam. What he should bear in mind is that Mr. Musharraf specializes in making verbal assurances which diametrically oppose his actions. He "verbally" assured the global community that Pakistan would not allow nuclear weapons to proliferate, while A.Q. Khan sold designs to Iran and Libya. He verbally assured the United States of full co-operation against al-Qaeda; evidence shows that this has not transpired. And he has spent his whole career verbally assuring neighbouring India of his commitment to peace, while allowing madrassas and terror camps to proliferate.

I would advise Mr. Pipes and the Jewish community not to raise their hopes too much. Mr. Musharraf has gained billions in American aid in return for his supposed co-operation. Undoubtedly, what he hopes to gain from the Jewish community is damaging burgeoning ties between India and the Jewish community, while giving up little in return other than empty words.

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