

## **The Indus Delta: Rethinking the Raison d' Etat of the Last Frontier**

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*What government has to do must be identified with what the state should do (Michel Foucault).*

### *The Birth of Biopolitics*

In this paper, I argue that the bureaucratic discourse of “the last frontier” is a salient trope in the State representation of the Indus Delta region, located currently in the southern Pakistan.

I present here social and cultural history of the Indus Delta to show how the region, far from being a desolate frontier, is an integral part of the broader world.

The State is present in the form of police, local revenue personals (*tapidar, daroga*), coastguards, Navy and Pakistan Marines. Formal State has always been present in the Delta but at the national level, the area is considered as remote territory, forgotten in the wider picture of the state.

Michel Foucault argues, “the state is at once that exists, but which does not yet exist. Raison d' Etat is precisely a practice, which places itself between a state presented as given and a state presented as having to be constructed and built” (Michel Foucault , 2008 –page 4). What we understand through this argument with reference to the concept of raison d' Etat of the state is that their exists life and people no matter whether the state exists or dose not yet exist enough. Shifting logics of state to legiblaze to mark or to unmark space does not diminish life in its own complexity and neither can it cease market economy.