

Imran Aslam is a senior journalist from Pakistan and is currently the president of GEO TV Network, where he oversees content for GEO News, GEO Entertainment, Aag (a youth channel) and GEO Super (Sports).

Aslam was born in Madras and had his early schooling in Chittagong and Dacca in then East Pakistan. He graduated from Government College, Lahore. He subsequently studied at the London School of Economics (LSE) and School of Oriental & African Studies where he read Economics, Politics, and International Relations. He left Pakistan after a brief incarceration during which he suffered a period in solitary confinement and was subjected to torture in Baluchistan. At that time he was working on a dissertation on the political evolution of Baluchistan.

Aslam moved to the United Arab Emirates and worked as the Director of the Royal Flight of Shaikh Zayed Bin Sultan-Al- Nahyan, where he was tasked to single handedly set up a fleet of luxury aircraft for the personal use of the President of the UAE. This is what he describes as the "Arabian Nightmare" of his life. The job enabled him to travel extensively and meet with some exciting political passengers. He woke up one morning from this unreal job and moved back to Pakistan to pursue a career in Journalism.

In 1983 Aslam became the Editor of the Star, an evening newspaper that was to blaze a trail in investigative journalism during the days of General Zia-ul-Haq. Working with a wonderful team described as "typewriter guerillas" the Star was the samizdat of Pakistan journalism in those oppressive days. The line was crossed time and time again and finally Aslam was given the choice: "soft pedal or resign." He resigned.

For the next two years Imran earned a living by writing advertising jingles and working in the theatre and on television. He became the resident playwright of the Grips Theatre, and wrote and adapted over 15 plays for children with a covert political message. He also translated Dario Fo's political satires for the stage. For TV Aslam wrote serials like Khaleej, Dastak, Bisaat and the evergreen Rozy, an adaptation of Tootsie. He continues to write plays on the current situation in Pakistan and his satire is 'a must see event on the theatrical calendar'. Hard hitting and acerbic, the plays have lampooned society, its leaders and the foibles of international politics and culture. Aslam has also acted on the stage and television and has played the lead in a docudrama on the life and letters of Mr. Jinnah, which awaits release.

Aslam returned to journalism in 1990 when he helped found The News, Pakistan's leading English language newspaper. He served the paper as Chief News Editor, Editor and Senior Editor. The News is published simultaneously from Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad and London. It is noted for its investigative journalism and exposes.

He was part of the team that launched GEO, which has become a channel that changed the media landscape in Pakistan as the New York Times put it. GEO launched on 14 August 2002 with Aslam as its President. The network has taken a position on sensitive societal and political issues and has helped to enlarge the space for discussion, dissent and debate. The network was shut down for over two months when General Musharraf imposed his emergency. It was an attempt to strangulate the network financially. GEO refused to kneel or come to heel.

Aslam is a political analyst and commentator and is often heard on leading international TV channels in that capacity.

He is married and lives with in Karachi with his wife Fareshteh, the well known cricket Journalist, and son Aryaan.