Are the US and China Doomed to Enmity?

on
Monday, 2 September 2019 at 5:00 pm
at
Connie Fan Multi-media Conference Room
4/F Cheng Yick-chi Building
City University of Hong Kong
Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon

Abstract
Relations between China and the United States have clearly gone downhill in the past few months. Is this a temporary blip caused by Donald Trump or a manifestation of deeper problems? This lecture will argue that fundamental structural factors are responsible for the recent deterioration in bilateral relations. It will evaluate the economic, political, cultural and strategic fault lines between the US and China, and identify the key driving forces among these factors.

Biography
Kishore Mahbubani is a Distinguished Fellow at the Asia Research Institute of the National University of Singapore, where he also served as the Founding Dean of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy from 2004 to 2017. Before that, he served in the Singapore Foreign Service for 33 years, notably as Singapore’s Ambassador to the UN and twice as President of the UN Security Council in January 2001 and May 2002. He has had postings in Cambodia (where he served during the war in 1973-74), Malaysia, Washington DC and New York. He was Permanent Secretary at the Singapore Foreign Ministry from 1993 to 1998. In April 2019, he was elected member of American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Mr Mahbubani has spoken and published globally. He has authored seven books: Can Asians Think?, Beyond the Age of Innocence, The New Asian Hemisphere, The Great Convergence (selected by Financial Times as one of the best books of 2013), Can Singapore Survive? and The ASEAN Miracle (co-authored with Jeffery Sng). His latest book, Has the West Lost it?, was published in April 2018.

He graduated with a First Class Honours degree in Philosophy from the University of Singapore under a President’s Scholarship. From Dalhousie University, Canada, he received a Master’s degree in Philosophy and an honorary doctorate. He has held visiting appointments at Columbia University, Harvard University and Fudan University, including a year-long fellowship at the Harvard University Center for International Affairs from 1991-1992. He was selected as one of Prospect magazine’s top 50 world thinkers in 2014 and as one of Foreign Policy’s Top Global Thinkers in 2010 and 2011. In March 2009, he was listed by the Financial Times among the Top 50 individuals who would shape the debate on the future of capitalism, and in 2011 was described by Foreign Policy as “the muse of the Asian century”.

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