

Human Security Dynamics: Pakistan Sustainable Peace and Clutches of Terrorism

Muhammad Abbas Ashraf¹

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Abstract

National security has replaced human security, specifically in economic, food, health, and environmental interests, and mainly because of the terrorism fear of terrorism. Questions of human security and terrorism plague the Asian community, more so in the post-9/11 era. The people of the tribal areas of Baluchistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa can experience the acts of violence, crime, brutality, terrorist attempts and insecurity at any time. Countries such as Pakistan, Afghanistan, and India are never caught unawares of the possible eruption of conflict into severe danger of terrorism and instability, as other states are chilling in their calm atmosphere. Thus, weak states are substantially lacking and require scrutiny and dedication worldwide. Throughout history, as aggressive conflicts arose, security proved to be a distant dream. Equally, Pakistanis have been major losers in the case of terrorism. Human security can function as a methodical and deliberate form of defence for the entire community, which is fundamentally linked to various domains of individual security, group security, and societal security, rather than the methods used in the past to defend the individual against external aggression. The current article is grounded in content analysis. It focuses on the practices of human security to promote sustainable peace. It points out the risks of terrorism in Pakistan, and the results shows that basic human rights violations could be overcome with the immediate actions.

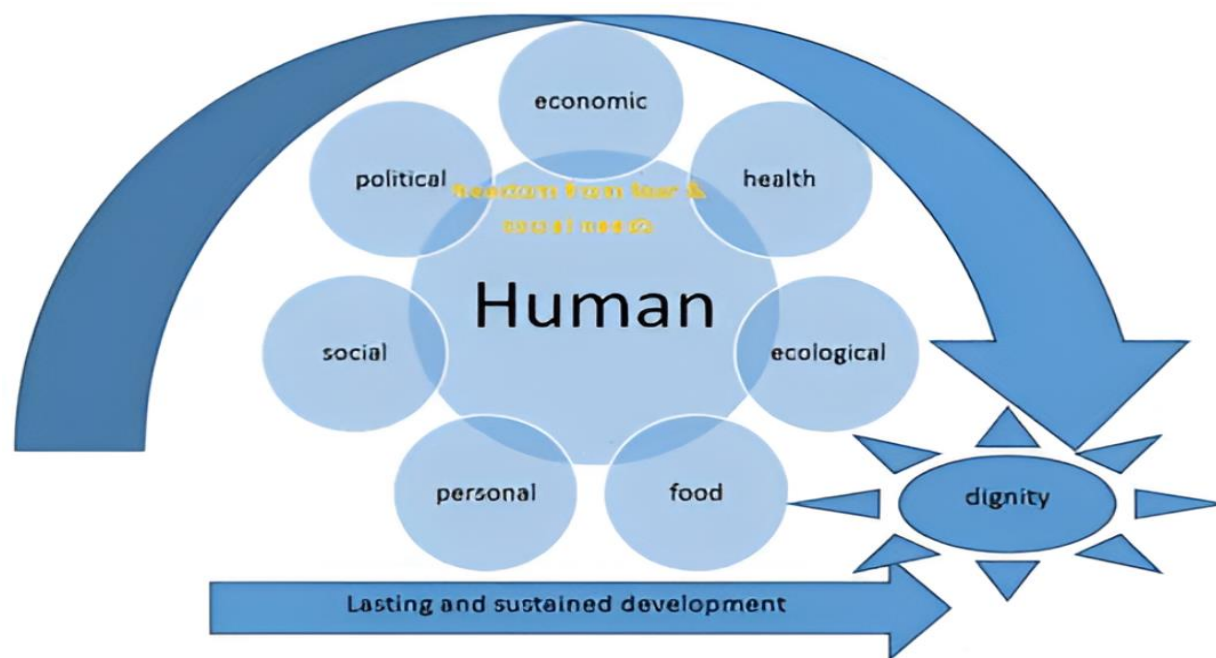
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Introduction

The concept of freedom from fear and freedom from want was incorporated into the idea of human security. It was through investigations that human security experts were able to bring out the importance of the security of individuals (Hudson, 2005). In the context of the concept of human security, Mahbub ul Haq introduced the idea to the UNDP in 1994, proposing a strategy and activities. This was shortly followed by the establishment of the UN Commission on Human Security in 2001, where human security was taken into consideration instead of state security. In addition, the Pakistani understanding of human security has brought out various aspects of individual security. Human security refers to the well-being of people against brutal and violent threats, as suggested by Paris (2001). Human security has been subdivided into various aspects or components owing to its new relevance in the world. All the elements are indicated in the subsequent Figure 1.

¹M.Phil. in Peace and Conflict Studies from the National Defense University, Islamabad. His research focuses on Afghanistan, including U.S. withdrawal, peace-building, and China's role in the peace process. He has presented at national and international conferences and received multiple merit scholarships. Email: abbasashrafckd@gmail.com



Figure 1: Human security elements

Security and Terrorism

Terrorism has been talked about in history, but there is no generally accepted universal definition. The notion transcended the concept of the Reign of Terror during the French Revolution (1789-1799). However, it later began to illustrate broader or more definite intentions, such as a criminal or political intention (Laqueur, 2001, p. 6). Also, terrorism is an extreme violence or a plan to accomplish political goals. A terrorist is a person who tries to further their views of life through a structure of forceful intimidation. The term terrorism has been widely defined as the psychotic, coordinated, or premeditated (as opposed to accidental, random or singular) act of spreading fear, disturbance, and an unstable condition in a particular locale. It can also be used to refer to a structured, threatening activity, especially on political grounds. The most commonly used terrorist groups are the nationalist groups that demand national self-determination and the revolutionary ones that are aimed at overthrowing a specific political authority. The greatest challenge to peace in Pakistan is terrorism. Because of the aspect of terrorism, the promotion of peace in the state has been a challenge.

Understanding security and terrorism is crucial as a consequence. Security is no longer purely a military definition, and the sovereign state is no longer regarded as a security guarantee. Therefore, the security threat is growing due to the fear-induced attacks in Quetta, Banu, Dera Ismail Khan, and Peshawar. The fear threat to the Pakistani regions, particularly in Baluchistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), is more imminent currently than at any point in the history of our nation. The threat was so imminent, in fact, that the Pakistani government deemed it necessary to establish a National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA). The principal principle of winning counterterrorism is to kill or capture as many terrorists as possible, avoiding the emergence of new ones. Although it may appear simple, it is also necessary to have widespread popular support and security across the board in a democracy. The priorities of different policy objectives can be

assigned to varying stages of the process of developing the response to terrorism. However, the gain in the short term should not come at the expense of long-term goals.

Taking sufficient time is essential to develop a comprehensive plan that achieves efficacy, Accountability, and a balance between security and political integration, especially since there is pressure to act quickly. In essence, a swift response is necessary. There are no necessarily good substitutes. This will require a strategic approach, with both short-term and long-term objectives. Otherwise, the selective application of specific tactics and policies can lead to a partial failure of a battle or even its prolongation, particularly in the absence of a nationwide strategy. Before developing an effective counterterrorism strategy, the threat must be adequately defined. Is it a domestic or a foreign group? Is it a religious or ethnic driven group? What is the overall motivation in the organisation? One of the priorities of the fight against terrorism is to reduce the support of terrorist organisations. To this end, it is essential to know the relevant and motivating recruiting factors.

The strategic importance of characterising some groups of people as terrorists or the other groups as guerrilla or revolutionaries should also be comprehended. Walter Laqueur, who is one of the most renowned authorities on the subject of terrorism in the world, points out that governments are not fond of bargaining with terrorists; they would rather strike fast. Most recently, as stated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, there was a terrorist attack on "five Chinese and one Pakistani killed in March 2024 in Besham, KP, in Pakistan (Ministry of Foreign Affairs). It was strategised in Afghanistan. In the awful circumstances, capitulation to terrorists will not occur, and a very vigorous attempt will be made to eliminate terrorism within the context of the democratic process and rule of law. Remember that the concept of terrorism is political. Whereas some security specialists define it as a simple word, others have perceived conceptual vagueness that makes it difficult to differentiate between the different types of violence. Anyway, the mark touches on the discussion and influences strategy decisions.

Military Role in Fighting Terrorism

The Pakistani military has made considerable efforts in fighting terrorism, and it also ensures the inner and outer safety of its borders and its inhabitants. Already, armed forces deployment against terrorism has been implemented in other parts of the state. The Pakistani commandos are well-equipped to operate in any military operation against the terrorists. Thus, the military employs modern weapons and tactics to eliminate enemy targets as quickly as possible (Wulf, 2005, pp.149-168). The military forces of Pakistan are being used to combat terrorism and offer security, as well, after the 9/11 attacks. It usually began in North Waziristan (NWA). Nationalistic movements, ethnic wars and suicide attacks have become fatal wars in certain parts of Baluchistan, as Charles Townshend (2018) described that ethnic, religious, and racial scandals are growing every day since 9/11. These conflicts have devastating consequences of organised crime, terrorism, illegal immigration, humanitarian crises, and regional instability, and that is why global institutions and states need to act militarily and politically to address them (Bryden & Fluri, 2003). The Pakistani army is engaged in the tribal areas to promote peace activities in ancestral areas and is experiencing numerous challenges. Traditional aspects of standard guard and discouragement are supplemented with skills to participate in struggle avoidance, harmony maintenance, peacekeeping, and re-establishing human security and order. Achieving a safe environment and a complete and inclusive post-conflict political and social order has taken the place of defeating and destroying an adversary as the primary goal of a military action. Peace consolidation often begins with the deployment of the intervention force. Rather than thinking and acting purely in military terms, soldiers must act

as mediators and negotiators, considering the political implications of their actions. Military forces should collaborate with international agencies in the development of complex peace operations in current times; nonetheless, as witnessed in the establishment of the Border Security Force, which was established to enhance security. On the same note, the recent breakthrough in the use of the so-called Drone Technology can also be used to secure our borders with Afghanistan and India. Beginning with a well-thought-out and designed maneuverability, drones can significantly contribute to meeting challenging tasks. With the world shifting towards the digital era, it is also possible that Pakistan can create a special Border Security Force Unit that would only comprise AI Drones. The chain of terrorist attacks has transformed our minds since the terrible terrorist act on Army Public School (APA) in Peshawar, and the counterterrorism approach of the Pakistani government, which is based on military operations. The possibility of military involvement in the prescription and discussion of counterterrorism policy is a key variable.

Final Operation Against the Terrorists

At a time, when the Zarb-e-Azb operation began to destroy the terrorist hideouts of Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and other terrorist groups, which were hiding in North Waziristan (NWA) (Javaid, 2015). The US, in an effort to reduce the terrorism threat, welcomed the move by the Pakistan Army to launch operations against the terrorist networks. It improved the overall security situation of Pakistan. The objectives of the law enforcement agencies in tackling the issue of terrorists in NWA were met one year following the operation Zarb-e-Azb. Terrorist activities in the country have significantly decreased. The success of Zarb-e-Azb yielded the desired results. Pakistan was not as peaceful and stable before the beginning of this operation. Even though Pakistan was a significant loser in this military action, the terrorist organisations were shattered to the core. Consequently, Zarb-e-Azb successfully disorganised terrorist groups and enhanced the security of people and enhanced the framework of sustainable peace in Pakistan.

Peace Prevails

Sustainable peace has become a dominant concept among both security practitioners and experts in discussions on ending war and achieving peace (Darby & Mac Ginty, 2003). However, "peacebuilding" has proven to be a more common issue in discourse on both high-level and mundane politics. Media organisations in Pakistan, the Middle East, the United States, Germany, France, Canada, and the United Kingdom, such as ARY News, GEO News, DAWN, CNN, Al-Jazeera, and BBC, emphasise the importance of sustainable peace more than they emphasise peacekeeping. The term sustainable peace is a term that is very common in the discussions of international politics today, as well as in numerous other scenarios, such as in Syria, Palestine, Nigeria, the Sudan, India, Pakistan, and occupied Kashmir, which is occupied by Indian military forces.

Media Role to Counter Terrorism

Electronic, print, and social media are assuming a significant role for those individuals or organisations involved in promoting sustainable peace within Pakistan. The role of social media in shaping social perceptions regarding conflict, hostility, torture, crime, and peace is growing at a very high rate. Television, Facebook, Twitter and Radio have been developed into compelling technological communication systems. They have played a vital role, albeit a relatively superior one, in this aspect. In Pakistan, the role of the media in its most basic and profound sense is the most vital role that any given technique available to people involved in peace operations can play

in total. Another trend is the massive impact of the mass media in creating the illusion of the population regarding pandemic, hostility, torture, earthquake, and sustainable speakeasers. Therefore, the state should find the strength of the popular opinion.

Nevertheless, the directors of programs of Pakistan Television Network (PTV) are not slacking about ensuring that the citizens are aware of the atrocities of war on terror in any part of their Baluchistan, NWA, D-I-Khan, and Bannu. Moreover, some of the successes in shaping the population's opinion, which ultimately led to the creation of Operation Zarb-e-Azb in 2014, can be attributed to these graphic descriptions. Their presence on their own channels has also played a significant role in shaping public opinion. It achieves this by regularly broadcasting violent and war-related shows that only act to shed light on the different fronts of the war on terror. Not as common, yet no less so, are the documentary movies that also strive to reveal the ugliness of war, along with the urgency of peacebuilding in the modern world. The abilities of the medium have been utilised by social, print, and electronic media to educate large audiences about the beneficial role and illustrate how creative and determined individuals can reach alternative methods of peacebuilding. Scholars, media experts, and security agents discuss the problems of violence and terrorist acts to draw the attention of young minds. It is undoubtedly the case that the Pakistani offices and media must take significant steps. The National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) was established in Pakistan in 2008 to promote a national discourse against terrorism and extremism. Concerning the official website, Pakistan has been struggling with the issue of terrorism for more than twenty years. Eighty-three thousand people have perished due to the curse of the state (see NACTA). It was made obvious many years ago that national peace could not exist without considerable operations in Wana. The operation was authorised by the military leadership in 2014, based on the recommendations of field commanders and intelligence reports collected from various sources. Government representatives believed that it would take no time to restore peace within the country once a significant military campaign was held.

Furthermore, the most effective ways of disseminating images of peace and peaceful conflict resolution, as well as images of bloodshed and violence, are perhaps through mediation. The mediators are also trying to transform the talks into a vehicle for establishing long-term peace. (Barash & Webel, 2009).

Mediation for Peace and Stability

Closely related to the legal system is the process of uniting parties through the use of the extensive field of mediation, which has evolved as an alternative to a legally approved categorisation. A third-party neutral approach is used, where neutral third parties help individuals come to a mutually beneficial negotiation. Although the profession of mediation, a proactive way of conflict resolution, is an age-old process in human civilisations, it has only recently become professionalised. As it stands, Pakistan boasts of numerous specialised mediation services that help to reconcile parties to conflict in any given context, including ethnic conflicts and family intervention, violence, torture, rape, murder, corruption, personal or family clash, revenge and acquisition of land, among others, all in an effort to promote peace. This work, particularly in regions affected by ISIS, is one of the most essential peacemaking systems that foster openness and confidentiality, where parties agree to cooperate to resolve their conflicts effectively by generating new approaches and scrutinising the issue closely as a team. However, there must be some level of distance that the mediators must promote. Mediation sources are a preferable choice for individuals who are ready to listen to sustainable peace. Although it has been the centre of

attention among the people, the majority of Pakistanis refer to it as something they want to have immediately.

Sustainable peace and gender have become more issues in Pakistan. The gender concern, which most of the Pakistani scholars admit to be an actual situation, can lead to catastrophic consequences to the social and political stability, as witnessed in the Wana and the NWA. The phenomenon of gender interactions is a significant subject of great importance in the present study on human security, terrorism, and sustainable peace. There has always been a school of thought among Pakistani scholars that the principal causes of organised violence are the patriarchal nature of societies and gender inequality. They attract attention to the fact that organised group violence has been relatively rare in the few areas that, in turn, have demonstrated significant cultural and spiritual preeminence in women. There is no consensus among the Pakistani anthropologists, historians, and sociologists regarding the details of these claims; however, it goes without saying that women are oftentimes the innocent and unintended casualties of violence and terrorism, becoming the victims of rape, torture, death, dehumanisation, and the inability to have a permanent home. Therefore, the advocacy of sustainable peace is a bright aspect for both women and men in Pakistan.

Conclusion

The multifaceted nature of threats has today led to the separation of human security into distinct elements or types. Such threats as terrorism, violence, crime, pandemic and climate change are increasingly complex, and we have minimal options to react to such threats in the immediate future. Under this connectivity, sustainable peace creates social justice and eliminates structural inequality. However, it also implies that even social justice, law and order, equality, and human rights may be part of the answer to terrorism as long as the causes that lead to terrorism are intolerance, domestic violence, injustice and poverty (Krause & Gutser, 2005). A lasting peace in Pakistan logically influences the policies and plans at all levels of a conflict. A comprehensive understanding of the concept is necessary to evaluate the impacts of sustainable peace, identify what works, and determine which approaches can be replicated in other regions. Most Pakistanis have come to believe that sustainable peace can exist and be realised within a reasonable time. The impact of war on terror has been well debated in most of the institutes within the Pakistani context; however, the policy framework has to be reorganised and reformulated. We are becoming increasingly convinced that sustainable peace is achievable, but institutions must devise means to attain and maintain it. Although we are not given many chances, when we decide to enhance the border security force to guard our soil against terrorist attacks in the near future, we may live in peace with honour. Pakistan has never compromised on human security standards, and now it could be assumed that they will be kept in the right direction with the aid of drone technology that is based on AI.

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