

**RESEARCH PAPER****Counter-Terrorism Strategies in Pakistan: Addressing the Menace of Terrorism****¹Ghulam Mujtaba Malik*, ² Dr. Saeedah Shah and ³ Naveed Ali Qadri**

1. PhD Scholar, Faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Szeged, Hungary
2. Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Sindh, Jamshoro, Pakistan
3. MPhil Scholar, Department of Criminology, University of Sindh, Jamshoro, Pakistan

Corresponding Author

gh.maujtaba@hotmail.com

ABSTRACT

This research aims to analyze fatalities caused by terrorism in Pakistan and assess the role of the National Action Plan (NAP) in countering terrorism and extremism. Terrorism has posed a severe threat to Pakistan's security, integrity, and socio-economic development, placing the country at the forefront of the global fight against terrorism. Data was collected from secondary sources, and analyzed through content analysis. From 2001 to 2020, terrorism events were categorized into three phases: low casualties (2001-2006), intensified counter-terrorism operations (2007-2015), and reduced fatalities (2017-2020). In total, 15,397 incidents resulted in 20,636 civilian and 7,318 security personnel deaths, while 33,236 terrorists were eliminated. The National Action Plan, anti-terrorist financing measures, and strengthening NACTA were pivotal strategies. Addressing the root causes of extremism requires education reforms, economic development, stricter anti-terror financing controls, enhanced inter-agency coordination, and sustained implementation of counter-narrative campaigns. These measures are crucial for minimizing terrorism and fostering lasting peace.

Keywords: Counter Violent Extremism, Federally Administered Tribal Areas, Intelligence Agencies, National Action Plan (NAP), National Counter-terrorism Authority (NACTA)

Introduction

Pakistan is at the forefront of the war against terrorism, and its society is experiencing devastating results in daily terrorist attacks, unrest, violence, and bloodshed. Pakistan has suffered immensely in terms of the human cost of conflict, economic devastation, and infrastructural destruction. The Economic Survey of Pakistan estimates that terrorism has cost the country \$126 billion (Javaid, 2022). Terrorism has also caused damage to Pakistan's schools, hospitals, and other facilities. Most of Pakistan's socio-economic environment is marred by illiteracy, sickness, insecurity, and injustice. Since September 11, 2001, Pakistan has been inextricably intertwined with the various components of the 'war on terrorism.' Some contend that Pakistan is a breeding ground for terrorist organizations (Nawab, et. al., 2021).

Nevertheless, it is undeniable that all of this mayhem has resulted in a substantial loss of innocent lives and economic money. These precarious circumstances foster the growth of terrorism (Nizami et al., 2018). Hence, this extremism leading to terrorism is the biggest threat to Pakistan's socio-economic and political development (Sabir, 2012). The global war on terror is not yet over, and terrorist footprints can be seen across the globe. According to Global Terrorism Index (2014), Pakistan ranks third among the countries in the index. The same report indicates that 82% of terrorist activity took place in five countries; Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nigeria, and Syria. Pakistan has been fighting its counter-terrorism war for the last two decades. The withdrawal of the Soviets revealed a Pakistani society that had been forced into one of violence and weaponization, plaguing Pakistan with the so-called 'Kalashnikov culture and 'Talibanisation' (Wadhvani, 2011).

Pakistan has fought its war against terrorism bravely and has reduced the threat to an extent; however, using terrorism as a tool for political advantages remains relevant. Ironically, Pakistan is represented as being on the front lines of the international struggle against terrorism, although it has been incorrectly labeled as a terrorist supporter (Nizami et al., 2018). International, regional, and local settings threaten Pakistan's physical and human security. Some of these are the product of rural and urban intolerance, extremism, militancy, and terrorism.

The country's social fabric has been damaged by Pakistan's cooperation with the United States in the War on Terror. The expansion of terrorism since September 9/11 has wreaked havoc on Pakistan's national security. Pakistan has suffered immensely in terms of the human cost of conflict, economic devastation, and infrastructural destruction. Over 83,000 individuals have died due to the calamity during the past two decades (Javaid, 2022). Hence the following research is based upon two primary objectives, which are to evaluate deaths and injuries caused by terrorism in Pakistan and also to understand how various state institutions are playing their role in the fight against terrorism and as well as extremism.

Literature Review

Terrorism in Pakistan is declining but by no means eradicated. According to Pakistan's National Counter-terrorism Authority (NACTA), terrorism incidents resulted in 357 deaths in Pakistan in 2020 (as of December 21), a significant rise from the previous year (Dawn, 2020). The frequency of terror acts and related fatalities has begun to rise again; sectarianism is on the rise, and the factors that contribute to the radicalization of the populace continue to exist and, in some cases, exacerbate the problem. Khan (2015) highlighted that Pakistan's human security faces complex regional, international, and internal dangers. A number of these are the result of prejudice, bigotry, militancy, and terrorism in rural and urban areas, as well as Pakistan's historical relationships with regional and non-regional powers, which led to sectarianism, ethnic conflict, and financial insecurity.

The resurgence of the Afghan Taliban since its nadir in the fall of 2001, the striking emergence and resilient footprint of the Islamic State Khorasan province, or ISK, in adjacent Afghanistan, and the rise of Hindu nationalism in neighboring India all indicate worsening extremism trends throughout South Asia. The fact that different organizations continue to enjoy exemption from state repression further complicates the situation. South Asia has recorded more terrorism-related deaths than any other region globally for the past two years, 2018 and 2019 (Global Terrorism Index, 2020). This is partially attributable to the notable drop in fatalities in the Syria and Iraq combat zones, but it demonstrates that terrorism in South Asia remains a significant problem.

The 2020 Global Terrorism Index prepared by Australia's Institute for Economics and Peace ranks Pakistan seventh (for most significant impact) in terms of measuring the impact of terrorism, immediately after Afghanistan, Iraq, Nigeria, Syria, Somalia, and Yemen (in that order), and followed by India, Congo, and the Philippines. Afghanistan, India, and Pakistan's continued presence in the top 10 categories is not a positive indicator of regional anti-terrorism efforts (Sinai, 2008). The intricate links between these three nations also play a role. Comparatively, according to the Global Terrorism Index, terrorism attacks have decreased in Pakistan since 2018, as the total number of terrorist incidents decreased from 369 (causing 543 deaths) in 2018 to 279 (causing 300 deaths) in 2019, bringing the number of terrorism-related deaths in Pakistan to its lowest annual level since 2006. The Global Terrorism Index has not yet made statistics for Pakistan in 2020 available. According to the South Asia Terrorism Portal (SATP), Pakistan experienced 319 occurrences related to terrorism in 2020.

Furthermore, Pakistan's CVE initiatives take a two-pronged approach: de-radicalization and counter-radicalization. The Pakistani Armed Forces proposed a rehabilitation program for youth susceptible to the ideology of the Taliban following the withdrawal of the TTP from Swat. Similarly, in conjunction with other non-governmental organizations, numerous initiatives were implemented in various regions of Punjab. TTP, Lashkar-e-Taiba, al-Qaeda, Jundullah, and the Haqqani network were among the militant groups residing in FATA whose hideouts were successfully destroyed by the operation Zarb-e-Azb launched by Pakistan's Armed Forces in Pakistan's tribal territories (Basit, 2015).

In 2013, the National Assembly of Pakistan enacted the 'National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) law and launched its first-ever security policy, the National Internal Peace Policy (NISPP), which aims to maintain security and stability in Pakistan and isolate terrorist organizations. Under NACTA, formulating Pakistan's National Counter Extremist Policy was a significant step (NCEP). It centered on the sources, challenges, reasons, and attitudes fostering extremism in Pakistan and the measures taken to combat it. The National Action Plan (NAP), which was proposed in 2014, effectively combats terrorist and extremist networks across the entire country where it was halting all internal and foreign financing by terrorist groups operating in Pakistan's northern regions (Makki, 2021).

Material and Methods

This study employed a secondary research method to analyze the scale of fatalities caused by terrorism in Pakistan and evaluate the effectiveness of the National Action Plan (NAP) in combating terrorism and extremism. Data were sourced from diverse secondary resources, including academic articles, interviews, case studies, newspapers, books, online resources, and government reports, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the topic. The collected data underwent content analysis, enabling the quantification and systematic evaluation of patterns, themes, and relationships within the information. Microsoft Excel was used to organize and visualize data, such as generating tables and figures for clarity. The research process was conducted from August to December 2022, focusing on synthesizing information about terrorism's human and economic toll, government counterterrorism strategies, and progress over three distinct phases (2001-2006, 2007-2015, and 2017-2020). The methodology provided an in-depth exploration of Pakistan's counterterrorism efforts and formed the basis for the study's results and recommendations.

Results and Discussion

According to the findings, the first objective of the research is to analyze the scale of disasters caused by terrorism in Pakistan. As a result, the information was gleaned from secondary sources, such as interviews, case studies, and contributions from various organizations and departments. The following data revealed that from 2001 to 2020, the annual number of civilians executed by terrorist actions was nationwide. These deaths occurred in all parts of the country. The data shed light on the number of terrorists who were killed as a direct result of kinetic operations carried out by Pakistani security forces. In addition to that, the data also included an analysis of the steps that the government has taken to combat terrorism.

According to the information in Factsheet on Pakistan CT efforts (2018) it was revealed that the annual occurrences of homicide and the number of civilians, security forces, and terrorist casualties. The data indicates that from 2001 to 2020, there were three stages of events.

During the first phase, which lasted from 2001 to 2006, overall casualties were lower across all categories; nonetheless, civilians and security personnel suffered more casualties than terrorists. During stage two, from 2007 to 2015, our counter-terrorism campaign against terrorists was at its height.

During this phase, all categories of casualties were at their pinnacle, and the state, through its kinetic and non-kinetic actions, could cause more casualties to terrorists. In 2009, the terrorists incurred the most deaths. Operations were in full swing in Swat Valley, FATA, and other country regions. 2009 was the peak year of this phase; during that year, a total of 1,665 terrorist incidents occurred, during which 2,154 civilians and 1,012 security forces personnel embraced shahadat, whereas 7,884 terrorists were killed, which dealt a significant blow to terrorists in the country; subsequently, terrorism in Pakistan began to decline.

During the third phase, which lasted from 2017 to 2020, the ratio of fatalities was significantly lower compared to the second phase. The country's general security situation improved, and terrorist attacks decreased.

During all three stages, there were 15397 terrorist occurrences in which 20636 civilians and 7318 security forces members embraced shahadat while 33236 terrorists were slain.

Table 1
Causalities Due To Terrorism

Nationwide Casualties	74,000	-
Economic losses due to terrorist incidents	\$ 123 Billion	-
Officers to soldiers casualty ratio	1 Out of 12	-
Military Causalities	23855	32 %
Civilian Causalities	50883	68 %
Martyred	17416	24%
Injured	33467	44%

Source: A Factsheet on Pakistan CT Effort. <https://embassyofpakistanusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Factsheet-on-Pakistan%E2%80%99s-CT-Effort.pdf>

The data in (table 02) depict terrorism-related losses. The country suffered greatly economically and in terms of people and resources. Pakistan suffered record levels of national casualties between 2001 and 2021. Pakistan has experienced extraordinary economic losses totaling \$123 billion over the last decade. Furthermore, military casualties occurred 32% of the time, civilian casualties 68%, martyrs 24%, and injured 44%.

Analysis of Measures Taken by the Government to Counter Terrorism

The Pakistani government took several kinetic, non-kinetic, and counter-narrative methods to fight the terrorists. Implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP), Actions on Anti-Terrorist Financing (ATF), and strengthening of the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) were the most significant counter-terrorism or counter-narrative measures taken by the Pakistani government to defeat terrorists and their narrative. The following section provides a detailed analysis of crucial NAP points and data presented in various tables.

Execution of Convicted Terrorists (ECT)

By the ECT, Pakistan put to death more than 450 individuals convicted of terrorism under the ATA and the PPC in a variety of provinces and regions across the country, as shown in (Table 03) below. Because of this execution, the myth that the state is weak and

unable to execute terrorists was disproved, and the fear of terrorists among the general populace began to decrease as a result. On the other hand, fear started to creep into the thoughts of terrorists, their supporters, and the people who helped facilitate their activities, and hence became terrified of the execution of convicted terrorists.

Table 2
Convicted Terrorist Execution

Task	Punjab	Sindh	KP	Bal	ICT	GP	AJK
Under ATA	54	16	1	1	-	-	-
Under PPC	329	2	5	6	-	-	2
Total	383	18	6	7	-	-	2

Source: A Factsheet on Pakistan CT Effort. <https://embassyofpakistanusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Factsheet-on-Pakistan%E2%80%99s-CT-Effort.pdf>

Operations against Armed Militias

Since the National Action Plan was first implemented, combing operations, search and cordon operations, and arrests have been carried out all over the country. These operations significantly reduced the amount of terrorist activity and compelled militants to leave their urban safe havens and return to their traditional hideouts, most of which were in FATA and Karachi. The fact that the security forces have made a large number of arrests is another indication that the state is sincere. The amount of weaponry displayed by armed militias was significantly reduced due to these activities. The data regarding combing, searching, and arrest operations against terrorists in various states of Pakistan are provided in (Table 03) below.

Table 3
Operation against Terrorists across Pakistan

Task	Pun	Sindh	KP	Bal	ICT	GB	AJK	FATA	Total
Combing	95,473	58,210	33,650	1,570	887	1,045	496	596	191,927
Search	3,361,761	116,600	2,887	15,096	12,090	3,700	4,611	162	3,516,907
Arrests	20,133	73,811	154,047	7,948	4,385	690	2,640	1,539	265,193

Source: A Factsheet on Pakistan CT Effort. <https://embassyofpakistanusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Factsheet-on-Pakistan%E2%80%99s-CT-Effort.pdf>

Countering Hate Speech and Extremist Content

There has been a significant crackdown on hate speech, and thousands of people all over the country have been arrested as a result. The most significant arrests were made in Punjab and KP, which successfully pursued the criminals. However, it was impossible to ban hate speech completely and the display of extremist material because militants chose to deliver hate speeches and write on walls at unsociable hours and in remote locations.

Table 4
Combating Hate Speech and Extremist Material

Task	Pun	Sindh	KP	Bal	ICT	GB	AJK	Total
Hate Speech	958	106	191	51	13	24	10	1353
Arrests	2042	64	327	48	4	35	8	2528
Misuse of Loudspeaker	10379	1027	6017	108	106	7	102	17746
Arrests	10989	803	6302	92	28	21	225	18458
Premises Sealed	41	-	-	25	-	1	3	70

Source: A Factsheet on Pakistan CT Effort. <https://embassyofpakistanusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Factsheet-on-Pakistan%E2%80%99s-CT-Effort.pdf>

Chocking Financial Resources of Terrorists

It was determined that one of the most important steps was to gather the necessary financial resources. Both Hawala and Hundi have been utilized as funding sources for terrorist organizations and the people who support them. According to the National Action Plan, particular measures have been put into place to put an end to the illegal movement of money from one place to another. Although there are still a few flaws in the system, it has been extremely influential in reducing the number of illegitimate financial routes. The conditions imposed by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) have also helped the government fight against the issue and stifle the financial resources of terrorists. The following is a list of significant efforts made by the government to cut off the financial resources that terrorists have access to:

Table 5
Chocking Finance of Terrorists

ACTIVITY/INITIATIVE	STATUS
Choking Financing for Terrorism (CFT) Units	Established
Task Force on CFT	Established at NACTA
Model law for the regulation of charities	In progress (Draft law under scrutiny in the standing committee of the parliament)
Asia Pacific Group Mutual Evaluation 2018	Preparations in Progress with Federal and Provincial stakeholders
1 Policy on Banking	2 Prepared and shared with the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP)

Source: A Factsheet on Pakistan CT Effort. <https://embassyofpakistanusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Factsheet-on-Pakistan%E2%80%99s-CT-Effort.pdf>

Establishment of Counter-Terrorism Force (CTF)

The government has established a Counter-Terrorism Force (CTF) in each province, which is a critical measure. The force has 11,000 troops spread across the country. Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT), Gilgit Baltistan (GB), Azad Jammu, and Kashmir are all included. Compared to the difficulties in that region, less force is used in Gilgit Baltistan. Given the strategic importance of Gilgit Baltistan as a result of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the involvement of hostile intelligence agencies (HIA) in attempting to destabilize the region, obstruct progress, and prevent CPEC from being commissioned, the government must deploy more CTF in Gilgit Baltistan. The authorized, deployed, and training CTFs in various provinces and territories are as follows:

Table 6
Counter Terrorism Force across Pakistan

Task	Pun	Sindh	KP	Bal	ICT	GB	AJK
Sanctioned Strength	5000	1000	2206	2000	1000	-	500
Present	4300	728	2080	1000	500	168	260
Under Training	-	-	-	-	500	-	-

Source: A Factsheet on Pakistan CT Effort. <https://embassyofpakistanusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Factsheet-on-Pakistan%E2%80%99s-CT-Effort.pdf>

Dealing Firmly with Sectarianism

Terrorists were able to strengthen their narrative by taking advantage of one of the instruments at their disposal, which was that occurrences related to sectarianism caused great damage to our society. The number of sectarian-related events, on the other hand, fell significantly as a direct result of the effective operations carried out by our law enforcement agencies. We may conclude from (Table 08) below that there was a high in sectarian-related occurrences from 2012 to 2014.

Table 7
Occurrence of Sectarianism

YEAR	INCIDENTS
2011	70
2012	185
2013	127
2014	176
2015	79
2016	127
2017	176
Total	687

Source: A Factsheet on Pakistan CT Effort. <https://embassyofpakistanusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Factsheet-on-Pakistan%E2%80%99s-CT-Effort.pdf>

Pakistan's Actions on Anti-Terror Financing

In addition to law enforcement measures, Pakistan has taken other legal, administrative, and regulatory steps to address the issue of terror financing. FATF's recognition of Pakistan's actions is a case in point. Some of the actions taken by the Pakistani government in this regard are highlighted below:

- The issuance of Statutory Regulatory Orders (SROs) by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) to ban persons and organizations when they are added to the UN sanctions list.
- The freezing of assets and imposition of financial sanctions by the SBP on the accounts of prohibited organizations and persons.
- SBP monitors the financial activity of questionable persons and organizations, and the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan gives directives (SECP).
- The barring of telephone numbers is associated with illegal fundraising and blocking unlawful websites containing hateful content.
- Travel restrictions for those with ties to prohibited organizations and businesses.
- Cancellation of Arms Licenses for Prohibited Individuals and Organizational Leaders

Since its establishment, Pakistan has been confronted with a chronic threat arising from terrorism, political instability, and the existence of separatist factions. Pakistan became entangled in the struggle against terrorism when it was enlisted by the United States to provide training, financial support, and weaponry to the Mujahedeen in their efforts to counter the Soviet forces (Mirza, 2021). Following the conclusion of the Cold War and the Soviet Union's withdrawal from Afghanistan, the individuals who were formerly independent fighters, but subsequently abandoned by the United States, underwent a transformation into individuals with terrorist inclinations, driven by specific political goals. This time signifies the commencement of Pakistan's engagement with the enormous task of counteracting terrorism, particularly in the aftermath of the events of September 11th and the presence of Osama bin Laden within its territorial boundaries. Pakistan's involvement in the War on Terror has rendered it susceptible to significant adversity as a target of terrorist activities (Wolf, 2020). Pakistan, despite its role as a key partner of the United States in the war on terror, has witnessed a notable increase in the prevalence of violent extremism. This has therefore led to widespread social disruption, civil disorder, and the perpetration of acts of terrorism. According to Holmes (2010), the increasing prevalence of extremism and terrorism on a worldwide scale calls for the implementation of initiatives aimed at mitigating this threat. One crucial element of these tactics involves

the reduction of extreme inclinations among the general population, necessitating comprehensive policy development and strategic preparation. These solutions encapsulate the notion of mitigating violent extremism (CVE). Nawaz (2016) highlights the grave predicament in Pakistan resulting from the presence of extremism, persisting after the implementation of major military interventions. It is imperative to prioritize the mitigation of the dissemination of extremist ideology. Neglecting to address this issue will not only endanger Pakistan's domestic security but also have repercussions on its bordering regions, perhaps resulting in an escalation of extremism and bloodshed in the vicinity.

Zahid (2017) has observed that a range of governmental measures have been put into effect in order to address the issue of violent extremism. These initiatives include the National Internal Security Plan (NISP), the National Action Plan (NAP), the Protection of Pakistan Ordinance (POPA), and the Anti-Terrorist Act (ATA). These techniques revolve around the implementation of de-radicalization initiatives, which include programs like the de-radicalization and Emancipation Program and the Navi Sahar program. These programs are designed to rehabilitate teenagers who have undergone training as suicide bombers. The introduction of the National Action Plan (NAP) was prompted by the horrific attack on the Army Public School in Peshawar on December 16, 2014, serving as an extra step to combat violent extremism. The 20-point National Action Plan (NAP) delineates the government's overall strategy in addressing the issues of counter-radicalization and counter-terrorism. The NAP encompasses a variety of suggestions, including the implementation of a counter-terrorism unit, the adjudication of terrorists in military tribunals, and a comprehensive reform of the criminal justice framework. One of the primary objectives of these measures is to address the need for reform in religious schools, often known as madrasahs, and to closely examine religious materials in order to combat the dissemination of hate speech and materials that contribute to different manifestations of violent extremism (Yaseen, 2018).

Furthermore, the National Action Plan (NAP) has various key objectives, including as the reformation of the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), the resolution of matters pertaining to Afghan refugees, the promotion of peace in Balochistan, and the successful execution of the Karachi Operation. Following the conclusion of the military phase of these endeavors, civilian leadership is actively engaged in preserving a favorable perception and sustaining the momentum of the NAP. The primary objective of this collaborative initiative is to enhance the government's efforts in countering violent extremism (Chughtai, 2013).

Pakistan has experienced considerable adversity as a result of terrorism and violent extremism and is resolute in its commitment to eliminate this threat. In order to accomplish this objective, it is crucial to expeditiously address fundamental deficiencies in administration, politics, the judiciary, and law enforcement. The implementation of such changes is of utmost importance in facilitating both kinetic and non-kinetic operations against terrorism and violent extremism, with the ultimate goal of eradicating this menace from the nation.

Conclusion

Pakistan is at the frontline of the anti-terrorism fight, and its society is suffering as a result of daily terrorist attacks, unrest, violence, and death and destruction. Terrorism has posed a significant threat to our country's security, integrity, and socio-economic development. Pakistan has suffered greatly due to terrorist incidents in terms of the human cost of conflict, economic devastation, and infrastructure destruction. As a result, the following research was carried out in order to analyze the fatalities caused by terrorism in Pakistan and to examine the function of the National Action Plan (NAP) in the fight against terrorism and extremism. The following article's data was gathered from secondary sources. According to the study's first objective, there were 15397 terrorist

occurrences in which 20636 civilians and 7318 security forces members embraced shahadat while 33236 terrorists were killed.

Furthermore, between 2001 and 2021, Pakistan suffered record national casualties due to terrorist activities. Pakistan has suffered \$123 billion in extraordinary economic losses. Concerning the study's second objective, the data revealed that the Pakistani government used various kinetic, non-kinetic, and counter-narrative methods to combat terrorists and their narratives. The most significant counter-terrorism or counter-narrative measures taken by the Pakistani government to defeat terrorists were strategies of the National Action Plan (NAP), Actions on Anti-Terrorist Financing (ATF), and the strengthening of the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA). Furthermore, the study provided a detailed examination of major NAP points, and finally, the study provided strategies for minimizing incidents of violent terrorism and extremism.

Recommendations

- The state must establish a forum or think tank dedicated to constructing, updating, and promoting the national story by the requirements of time and context.
- The state must develop a policy to encourage and support civil society organizations engaged in creating and disseminating the state's narrative.
- Pakistan Electronic Media Regularity Authority (PEMRA) must be able to restrict the media from promoting the national narrative and celebrating the cause of terrorists, particularly during prime time.
- Government and opposition must reach an agreement and enact the necessary legislation to implement agreed-upon policies and implement long-term reforms.
- A monitoring mechanism must be implemented, preferably under the NACTA, to monitor and restrict the operations of proscribed or prohibited organizations.
- Educating the general population in mosques and educational institutions about the radical Muslims who pose a threat to Muslim communities is equally important.

References

- A Factsheet on Pakistan's CT Efforts. (n.d.). *Embassy of Islamic Republic of Pakistan*.
- Basit, A. (2015). Countering violent extremism: Evaluating Pakistan's counter-radicalization and de-radicalization initiatives. *IPRI Journal*, 15(2), 44-68.
- Chughtai, M. W. (2013). The Impact of Rising Terrorism and Military Operations on Socio-Economic Culture of Federally Administered Tribal Areas Socio-Economic. *A Journal of Peace and Development*, 3(1), 18-32.
- Global Terrorism Index 2020: Measuring the Impact of Terrorism, *Institute for Economics and Peace, Sydney*.
- Index, G. T. (2014). Economic and peace organization.
- Javaid, U. (2022). Accomplishments and Challenges of Pakistan's Fight against Violent Religious Extremism: A Critical Analysis. *Pakistan Social Sciences Review*, 6(2), 705-720.
- Khan, M. M. (2015). Countering violent extremism in Pakistan. *Strategic Studies*, 35(4), 23-44.
- Madiha Afzal. (2021, January, 15). *Terrorism in Pakistan has declined, but the underlying roots of extremism remain*. Brookings.
- Makki, M., & Yamin, T. (2021). Securing Pakistan: Making Sense of the Fundamentals of Counter-Terrorism and Counter-Violent Extremism: Book Review.
- Miller, D., & Sabir, R. (2012). Counter-terrorism as counterinsurgency in the UK's war on terror. *Counter-terrorism and state political violence*, 12-32.
- Mirza, A. M. (2021, January 08). Pakistan has Contributed Significantly to the Fight against Terrorism. *The Diplomat*.
- Nawab, M. W., Yaseen, Z., & Muzaffar, M. (2021). South Asia and the US Global Counterterrorism Policy: Strategies, Challenges and Implications, *Journal of Indian Studies* 7(2), 313- 324
- Nawaz, S. (2016). *Countering Militancy and Terrorism in Pakistan*. United States Institute of Peace.
- Nizami, A. T., Hassan, T. M., Yasir, S., Rana, M. H., & Minhas, F. A. (2018). Terrorism in Pakistan: the psychosocial context and why it matters. *BJPsych International*, 15(1), 20-22.
- Nizami, A. T., Rana, M. H., Hassan, T. M., & Minhas, F. A. (2014). Terrorism in Pakistan: a behavioral sciences perspective. *Behavioral sciences & the law*, 32(3), 335-346.
- Number of Terrorism-Related Incidents Year Wise, Datasheet – Pakistan, *South Asia Terrorism Portal (SATP)*.
- Rail, G., Holmes, D., & Murray, S. J. (2010). The politics of evidence on 'domestic terrorists': Obesity discourses and their effects. *Social Theory & Health*, 8(3), 259-279.
- Sinai, J. (2008). How to define terrorism. *Perspectives on terrorism*, 2(4), 9-11.

- Wadhvani R. (2011) Essay On Terrorism In Pakistan: Its Causes, Impacts, and Remedies. *Civil Service Pakistan Forum*.
- Wasim, A. (2020, December 22). "Fazl among 20 politicians facing 'serious threats to life': minister," *Dawn*.
- Wolf, S. O. (2020). Contextualising Pakistan's Prime Minister's Parliamentary Eulogy of Osama Bin Laden. *South Asia Democratic Forum (SADF)*.
- Yaseen, Z., & Muzaffar, M. (2018). Extremism in Pakistan: Issues and challenges. *Journal of Politics and International Studies*, 4(1), 31-42.
- Zahid, F. (2017). Pakistan's CVE Programme: An Overview of Achievements and Challenges. *Counter Terrorist Trends and Analyses*, 9(6), 11-16.