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## De-Radicalization for Pakistan Specially The Role of Youth In Promoting Peace and Tolerance

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### Abstract and



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# De-Radicalization for Pakistan Specially The Role of Youth In Promoting Peace and Tolerance

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## Abstract

"Acknowledgement ,tolerance and pardon .these are lessons for whole life ."Jessica Lange .(1)  
Radicalization is the mother of terrorism and extremism .Pakistan is a heterogeneous society with the sense of lack of patriotism since at the time of birth. Today,s society is crisis - ridden . The issue of terrorism .sectarian violence .extremism and insurgencies are the formidable challenges . The external and internal interference is key component to disrupt the Pakistani state . The radicalization is ingrained in roots of Pakistani society and it is reflected in foreign policy. The de-radicalization is really essential for Pakistani society .The 9/11 event is a turning point in the history of Muslim world ,and it leaded towards engulfing the gap between Muslim and western world .The issue of terrorism . sectarian violence and extremism are very sensitive and are flare up due to external and internal factors .The option of war is not a solution of terrorism There is a need of a socio- political strategy to eradicate the extremism at every level of society . The qualitative and descriptive research methodology will be applied in this research paper .The primary source interviews from youth and secondary sources i.e. books journals and magazines etc. .will be used .The religious-political approach will be adopted to assess the issues of radicalization and how to switch over towards peace and tolerance in a state . The various research questions will the part of research design .The objective of this research paper are that to highlight the causes of radicalization in Pakistan ,and deradicalisation is essential for the promotion of peace and tolerance in Pakistan . Apart from this ,to assess the role of youth for the promotion of peace and tolerance in Pakistan . Youth are the ambassadors of the state for the sake of promotion of peace .The youth involvement is essential to promote peace and security in the world .Islam is the religion of peace and security .Holy Prophet laid down the real example of tolerance. This research paper will deal that what type of strategy should be adopted to radicalize the state of Pakistan by probing the all possible internal and external factors . What types of steps should taken by youth as a change agent to promote peace and tolerance in Pakistani society .In the last, the results , discussions and original findings based on research about that how radicalization has been seeped in Pakistani society and what are counter measures to eradicate it. What are missions ,goal ,vision and practical to radicalize this state by promoting the peace and tolerance .

**Keywords:** Radicalization, Extremism, Tolerance, peace. Role of Youth.

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## **Introduction:**

'The security council encourages the role of youth to eradicate the violence and extremism. Their role should not be marginalized in capacity building and promoting peace .  
"(2)

According to institute of strategic studies ,the radicalization is a process in which, the individual switches from passiveness towards act state .The individual turns revolutionary and extremist .He wants to replace the new structure based on his totally different belief system .

The radicalism is an extreme ideology ,It breeds extremism in the society . Since 1980s , Pakistan is suffering due to these radical issues and thousands of innocent people have lost their lives .It is the outcome of ethnic ,linguistic and religious phenomenon .This issue was raised after Islamic Iranian Revolution 1979 .The fanatic people used the religion as a tool for terrorists activities .Unfortunately,Extremism and its fearful clouds have reigned over Pakistan since decades.These issues have weakened the social fabric of Pakistan .

The world is a global town .The earth planet is becoming unsafe day by day due to various perpetual conflicts ,human rights violations Jack of tolerance ,atrocities and injustice .The weapons are proliferating day by day ,and Kalashnikov culture is turning dominant day by day in third world countries .The youth is the asset of the society .The youth is energetic to play its key role in combating the terrorism .

## **Objectives :**

1. The objective of this research paper are that to highlight the causes of radicalization in Pakistan ,and deradicalisation is essential for the promotion of peace and tolerance in Pakistan
2. Apart from this ,to assess the role of youth for the promotion of peace and tolerance in Pakistan .Youth are the ambassadors of the state for the sake of promotion of peace .
3. To probe in to efforts to involve youth to make their appeal at global level and to the world leaders to create a safe and peaceful world .

## **Research Questions :**

1. What are major issues and challenges are confronted to the state of Pakistan in terms of security ?
2. How youth can be involved to eradicate terrorism and extremism from the society ?

The data collection takes place through secondary sources i.e. Journals ,newspaper, books ,reports, recorded interviews .

The data was prepared by thoroughly studying all the available material in form of books ,reports ,newspaper and internet websites . The web sketch was draft by giving proper shape to the research paper .The paper was divided in different segments or part .It includes introduction , objectives , literature review significance of study ,data analysis and conclusion .The data was arranged to fill these segments of research work .

The whole accumulated notes were studied and they were sorted out according to the requirement of research paper .The important themes and references were sorted out.

The data reduction stage plays a significant role in coding of the data .

During this phase the different themes are generated ,and these are elaborated according to research work demand .

The rational choice theory will be applied in this research work ,because the terrorists will select their by choice to inflict the harm to a particular person ,group and community The collective action theory will be applied in this research paper that there is a need to take joint action by involving youth to take such viable steps to combat terrorism, radicalization and extremism from society .The psycho- analytical model will also be applied in this research that psychological factors i.e fear , frustration and aggression leads extremism .The Greek philosopher Aristotle has pointed out that deprivation leads towards frustration leads towards aggression and aggression leads towards revolution .

This research work carries pivotal importance because Pakistan and Muslim world is confronting the issue of extremism and terrorism after 9/11. These internal factors are highly sensitive because these are corroding the national integration .Theses are providing base for various terrorist activities in the country . It is very essential to create an awareness among the community about sectarian issues, terrorism and extremism .The youth are the architect of this nation ,and they should contribute towards nation- building activities and eradicate the menace of terrorism ,which is the hidden enemy of this country .Pakistan is fighting against terrorism as a frontline state .

### **Literature Review :**

#### **Issue Of Extremism In Pakistan :**

"The issue of Extremism and sectarianism are the production of 1980s. The problem of sectarianism is damaging the social fabric of society .The external factor are also flaring up this issue by sensitizing between religious sects ."(3)

Pakistan is a first country which is created on the name of an ideology .The most of the founding father were secular in their approach . The nation-state was created on the name of Islam that Muslim community should lead their lives according to the teachings and tenets of Islam . Afterwards ,this state was developed as a radical and orthodox state .Pakistan is a multi-ethnic society with heterogeneous character .It is totally against the

religious values. The sectarian violence is one pinching issue of Pakistan, and it is also flare up due to external interference. The Shia-Sunni riots are very common in Pakistan. Most of ulemas and religious scholars are targeted by the terrorist. The Hazara community is major target of terrorists. The religious extremism is the formidable challenge in Pakistan. There are various forms terrorism in Pakistan. The target killing, suicide bombing is common at public places in inflict harm to public places and to the common public. Pakistan's image is highly tarnished at an international community. It is declared as a terrorist state in entire world and the 3rd dangerous country in terms of human rights violation after Congo and Afghanistan. The porous border i.e. Durand line also encourages the terrorists and extremism to indulge in criminal activities.

Mohammad Ali Jinnah's speech on August, 11, 1947, was suffice to create a sense that the centrist idea of religion was no more applicable as the basis of nationhood, But the succeeding ruling elites thoroughly puzzled that narrative in order to perpetuate their regimes.

The Zia's military regime promoted the religious extremism, sectarianism judicialization, fundamentalism radicalization and intolerance in Pakistani society. Pakistan is a highly concerned regarding internal security issues: extremism, sectarian violence and terrorism. The history of Pakistan is replete with numerous examples of extremism. The madrassas were established that promoted fundamentalism and extremism in Pakistan. The issue of security is always misunderstood and misperceived. The religious political parties, pressure groups are playing a key role in shaping national policies. The religion gives a lesson to promote peace and tolerance and discourages the extremism. It needs a great efforts and patience to eradicate extremism and terrorism. In Zia's regime, the Shia community protested against the zakat and Usher ordinance, because Shia demanded exemption from Zakat.

The General Pervez Musharraf doctrine of "Enlightened moderation" contributed to escalated the radicalization and extremism in Pakistan. Musharraf's government took the great stance to combat extremism. The Lal Masjid crisis is the worst in the entire history of Pakistan, that Musharraf hit the madrassas which are promoting fundamentalism and extremism. At that time the global landscape was shifted towards 9/11 terrorists attacks. Pakistan's foreign policy focus was on "war on terror".

### **Islam Is a Religion Of Peace :**

Islam is a global religion. Islam is a religion of peace and tolerance. The word Islam is derived from the word "silm", which means peace and reconciliation. This religion is for entire humanity. Islam is a supranational religion. The peace and tolerance are two elements of Islam. Holy Prophet laid down the practical example of tolerance while preaching the Islam. Holy Prophet tolerated the atrocities of infidels for the cause of Islam. Islam has given

ordain about holy war (jihad) ,when Islam is in danger ,and infidel forces posing damaging to Islamic values and norms .The suicide bombing is anti-Islamic ,and only terrorists forces using it for their heinous designs .The terrorists have no religion .Islam stands against terrorism .The various minority groups are almost 96% Muslims ,and other minorities are almost Christians ,Sikhs .Hindus ,Buddhists and Parsis etc .

Indeed, the Prophet is a prophet of compassion sent not just for humankind, but for all realms of existence. According to Holy Quran “

And We have sent you but as a mercy to the worlds. (Anbiya 21:107)(4)

Islam is the religion of peace and security .Islam abolishes all type of discrimination based on color, creed .language and sex .Islam fully ensures freedom of thought and expression and believes in tolerance .Islam inculcates to avoid tension .conflicts and tolerance towards other sects and minorities .According to Islam ,the greatest conquest is peace .Islam teaches fraternity ,brotherhood .equality and justice .It is a religion of kindness and mercy .Islam holds the human life in high esteem .

The concept of forgiveness exists in Islam .The concept of forgiveness is mentioned in verse 199 of Surah al-Araf that Islam is very liberal religion .It establishes high moral and ethical standards for the Muslim society .Islam wants to bring peace and tranquility in the entire world .It teaches the acceptance towards other religion and cultures .

The West has propagated a wrong agenda regarding Islam .There is no term in Islam like an Islamic terror .Such people are totally ignorant regarding golden principles of Islam .

### **Capacity Building Among Youth :**

"The youth should share their experiences with the commitment towards the society to support other to expel extremism in the atmosphere of hopelessness." Kofi Anan .(5)

The youth is very active and ambitious to work for national cause, The youth is a peace builder and can promote the peace and toleration on existing resources. It is essential to motivate them and provide with the tool and strategy that they turn as an effective change agent .They should have an easy access to their teachers, facilitators and other possible networks that they can contribute In conflict resolution. The youth should be facilitated at Individual and organizational levels that what type of challenges they are confronting and their best practices should be shared. The youth should learn the peace building skills through arts .sports ,media and developing personal relationships.

The youth capacity -building process will be fruitful .if the youth is given opportunities to work at local and national governments .The government should involve the youth in

polycymaking .The gap should be abridged between youth and government .It is essential to encourage young people to learn national and peace priorities.

The concept of youth Ministry and youth parliament is although practically materialized but it can strengthened youth to play their vital role in peace and conflict resolution .The youth councils should gain the trust of local government.

The youth should be involved in peace-building process under the counseling of elders and parents . The young needs guideline of seniors in peace-building measures .because they can not confront these challenges alone ."It is essential to bring together vision of young people by getting the advantage of old people in order to cope up the challenges of the modern world •"(6)

The youth should be empowered to acquire power and position in different departments. The youth peace-building projects should be accompanied by dialogue and cooperation of entire community. The youth should be involved in an awareness raising campaign about peace and conflict-management. The youth can contribute benefits for peace cause due to collaboration of community. This collaboration will enable youth to explore the common problems and found the strategy to tackle them .The monitoring and evaluation mechanism is required to promote peace-building initiatives by youth .The financial support is necessary to accelerate these activities .There is a need to conduct to interviews, surveys and focus group discussions to involve youth in peace -building process .The youth should be encouraged rather they should face the bad behaviors .The youth should be supported positively for their acts which they are performing for the promotion of peace and conflict .The young people feel marginalized when they are ignored at various platforms and they are not heard .The youth should be given awards ^certificates and economic incentives for their performances that they should be encouraged .The grievances of young people should be heard and they should be valued as human beings

The young people can easily offer acceptance ,while the old people are rigid and they are reluctant to accept change The young people are working within informal networks .They can develop maximum interaction with other people .

The civil society government and other stakeholders should elevate the role youth in reducing extremism and terrorism .The media should not portray the youth in shape of dacoits ,perpetrators or a mobile snatcher .It is a stark fact that behind juvenile delinquency the dangerous hands are involved which plays key role in exploiting youth .If the state is a real welfare state and it does not only believes to dictates the command to the state ,or the internal authorities should not be involved to lure the extremists .Then , no counterterrorism strategy can be succeeded .When there is genuine civil society to be flourished ,and people have the power of expression ,then in these circumstances the youth can play their role to combat terrorism .

### **The Role Of Youth In Eradication Of Radicalisation :**

"There is a need to train youth in schools, colleges and universities, and this process should be persistent, and in this way the youth can play a role for radicalization."(7)

The youth can play as a change agent to eradicate the extremism .The youth is an ambassador of peace .The youth can join various forums by creating an awareness among the masses about the issue of extremism .They are fully knowing that external and internal factors are contributing towards flaring up the issue of sectarianism .

The youth can understand that issue of religion is very sensitive, and radicalization is a direct product of an Islamic identity. The youth demand for peacebuilding is everywhere ,but it is not acknowledged .The youth should be provided with the opportunities to involve in decision-making process ,but their voices should be heard by the society ."(8)

There is need of the staunch support for integrating and uniting youth for combating terrorism and extremism from the society .It is really important to acknowledge the role of young men and women for the promotion of peace and security .In the recent years , the young people are highly affected by these terrorists incidents .The young innocent people are not only victimized ,but they are used for the purpose of suicide bombing as well .The plan of action needs to be implemented in a true sense to empower youth to take their part in eradication of extremism .

The youth have the creativity .potential and capacity to change the world .There is a need to built solid youth networks and to create their for a .and involve them in peace-building and prevention of violent extremism .United Nations secretary General youth Envoy has deployed youth for the promotion of peace justice security and development . .UN has prevent extremism .The economic empowerment of youth is essential to defeat extremism .Maleeha Lodhi also said that there is a need to involve youth in combating extremism and terrorism .The security council adopted the resolution to involve young men and women in peace-building and their contribution to post-conflict reconciliation. The framework should be framed for protection .prevention .participation and partnerships . The youth consists of 70% of population of Pakistan .and they are the major asset of this country .There is a need to follow the World Programme of Action for Youth and Global Forum on youth .peace and Security to involve the youth in peace building ..As a former Secretary General of the UN, Kofi Annan, explained :a society alienate its youth from playing a key role for its improvement ;it will soon bleed to die ."

It is a long process to eradicate extremism .It requires a long -term planning and strategy to eradicate extremism. There is a need to involve media (sixth pillar of state ), civil society .religious pressure groups and community should play its role to de-radicalize the



state of Pakistan .The legislative reforms , national capacity -building measures and effective implementation is required to achieve the goals .

The youth leaders should work closely with the community to eliminate extremism .It will be their great role in promoting peace and harmony in Pakistan.

The UN has pondered over the topic “Youth .Peace and security “.The youth should be provided with the opportunity to play their role in conflict prevention and resolution in order to promote the sustainable peace .The role of youth plays a key role by bringing the transforming change.

Youth is a priority for the United Nations’ youth empowerment is not a myth .but it is a reality .The youth should be empowered that it should accept existing challenges and it should adopt the ways and means to recognize .promote and support the role of youth to prevent extremism .The terrorism demands that all youth should be united and align their actions to pursue the goals to counter -terrorism .The office of Counter -Terrorism should implement the Global -Counter Terrorism Coordination Compact and support youth enragement .The youth can play a key role in maintaining peace and conflict resolution and they have the potential to change them .The youth can contribute their role to change the attitude of people towards religion , traditions and beliefs .They should develop their enthusiasm to defend the country’s borders from violence and extremism .The youth should equally develop leadership capacity and resolve peace and conflict problems at rural and urban levels and lay positive impacts upon community .The youth can play a vital role in peace and conflict resolution by making missionaries and NGO networks at grassroots level by acquiring education .The youth can develop the linkages among various minorities by patching up their old differences .They can create an awareness about sectarian issues. The youth should be involved in creating political awareness to reform bureaucracy that it should ensure safety ,good governance transparency .At an international level ,the youth is an ambassador of peace .They can easily be involved in cultural exchange programme and can promote peace in Pakistan .The youth should learn such type of new skills to manage with conflict and they should make such type of community lie with peace and harmony .The 21st century will be declared as century of peace and tolerance if the youth will be involved in conflict-management .

### **Recommendations:**

“Now is the time to make changes to the blunders we’ve made in the past, or we’ll pay the price forever,” Khadim Hussain, a security analyst, toldVGA.(9)

1. The youth should be involved to promote in inter-provincial .national and religious activities .There is a need of support of various stakeholders i.e NGO.s youth clubs .colleges and universities that they should be involved with interactive discussions with different sects and groups to pacify their

- extremist thoughts .The studies of peace and conflict should be included at masters, M.Phil and Ph.D studies .
2. The civil society should take initiatives to reform the curriculum ,and the social media should play a key role in promoting inter-sectarian harmony .tolerance in the society .
  3. The youth should be involved in different cultural activities .professional organizations .social and cultural clubs and sports organizations .
  4. The youth should be encouraged in participate in cultural activities .social clubs and sports organizations .The student unions should be involved in these extra-curricular activities to work for the cause of promotion of peace and security .
  5. The educational curriculum should be revised in this way that it should impart education to the students that they should be aware about extremism and terrorism .The curriculum should support the inter-sectarian harmony and tolerance towards other communities .
  6. The social media should play the active role in promotion of peace and tolerance among youth The social media should display such types of program to encourage the youth to participate in the promotion of peace and security within the community .The social media should play a positive role to encourage youth to turn as a mobilizer to achieve the real mission .
  7. There is a need to promote interaction among the youth at interprovincial and international level .It requires the support of civil society to take such type of initiative to involve youth in various discussions among the youth of different provinces ,sects ,religions and nationalities in order to overcome this misperception ,
  8. The universities and colleges should be involved to initiate such type of courses on peace and conflict resolution /that these courses enable youth to study the elements of peace and conflict and they can be involve youth in interactive workshops and platforms .
  9. The youth should be involved in policy -making and planning process .The youth should employ its efforts to promote youth as an active leaders and partners in peace process .
  10. The result of government's National Action Plan is not completely successful ,but it has aspect of failure too .The youth should be involved to implement these policies in a successful way.
  11. The education can prove to be effective to combat violent -terrorism from state .The intervention of state is essential to be shift a policy from broader international shift at state municipal to prevent terrorism .In the academic

institutions, the effective ideologies should be taught to train the students to work for the promotion of peace and harmony .

### **Conclusion:**

The Pakistan is multi-lingual jnulti-ethnic and multi cultural country .This nation-state was created on the basis of two-nation theory ,and it is a mirror through which Pakistanis identity is viewed . There are so many formidable internal issues are confronted to this state .These issues are more sensitive and dangerous than even external security challenges .which are emanating due to external interference . Pakistan is trapped in numerous internal problems .Theses issues were existing since the creation of this .state and afterwards these were flare up due to external interference . The de-radicalisation efforts in Pakistan have shown promise , but must go further in engaging families as well as the communities that radicals and ex- interests. The terrorism and radicalization are the formidable issues of Pakistan. The framework requires the involvement of police , educational institutions ,community organizations and community to eradicate it .The sustainable solution to combat terrorism to highlight gaps and fissures that clashes with national identity in Pakistan .The youth demands new ideas and actions to change this existing system in order to save this world .The youth Should innovate an unique strategy with commitment to eradicate extremism .

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