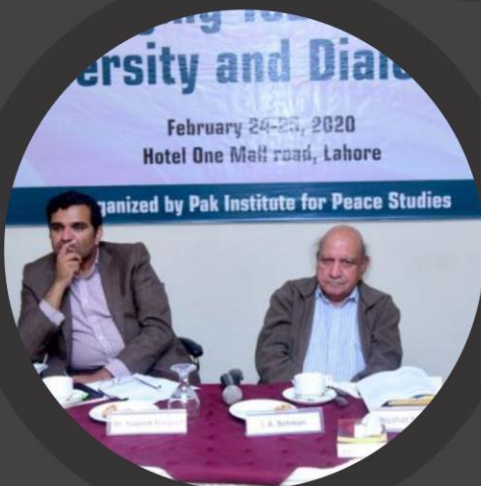




**Pak institute for
Peace Studies**



ANNUAL REPORT 2020



pips@pips.com



<https://www.pakpips.com/>



PAKPIPS



PakistanInstituteForPeaceStudies

PIPS Annual Report 2020

Outline

1. Institutional Developments

- 1.1 Staff
- 1.2 Capacity building
- 1.3 MoUs and collaborations

2 Programmatic Developments

- 2.1 Extremism and Counter-Violent Extremism (CVE)
 - 2.1.1 Empirical research
 - 2.1.2 Policy webinars on countering extremism (CE)
 - 2.1.3 Experience sharing and policy advocacy
- 2.2 Education for Peace and Inclusiveness
 - 2.2.1 Training workshops with teachers
 - 2.2.2 Teachers' sessions with students on critical thinking and diversity
 - 2.2.3 Engagement with teachers from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
- 2.3 Conflict, Peace and Security
 - 2.3.1 Research on conflict and peace
 - 2.3.2 PIPS digital database
 - 2.3.3 Periodic conflict and security reports
- 2.4 Regional Security and Strategic Studies
 - 2.4.1 Experience sharing and policy advocacy
- 2.5 Dialogue
 - 2.5.1 Dialogue Pakistan 2020

3 Publications

Annex-1: PIPS calendar of events (2020)

1. INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

1.1 Staff

The number of permanent PIPS staff members reached 10 towards the end of 2020 after the inclusion of four new members in December. With the exception of support and technical staff, all PIPS team members have at least a post-graduate degree in their respective fields. PIPS staff include the director research and programmes, one research analyst, two research fellows, one research officer, one IT manager, one media and event coordinator, one administration officer, one accounts manager, and one technical coordinator.

Profiles of PIPS team members can be seen here: <<https://www.pakpips.com/pips-team>>

Apart from those regular staff members, PIPS employed several field researchers, trainers, and resource persons in different regions of the country to carryout different measures including those linked to research and planned interventions.

PIPS Advisory Board in the year 2020 remained unchanged and the members included: Khaled Ahmed (Pakistan); Rubina Saigol (Pakistan); Dr Catarina Kinnvall (Sweden); Dr Khalid Masud (Pakistan); Ghazi Salauddin (Pakistan); Anooshe Aisha Mushtaq (Australia); Prof. Dr. Khalida Ghaus (Pakistan); and Dr. Syed Jaffar Ahmed (Pakistan).

The AB provided strategic guidance in matters related to PIPS mandate and policy orientation. That guidance also entailed recommendations for matters related to project implementation.

However, Director Research at PIPS, Muhammad Amir Rana, who also oversaw all the sections or departments, led the main decision-making body, or management team at PIPS in the light of AB oversight.

As in previous years, two types of evaluation were conducted at PIPS in the year 2020 to assess the staff performance: monthly, or assignment-based, process evaluations and an annual summative evaluation. Staff promotions and incentives were based on the results of these evaluations.

1.2 Capacity building

The Institute held regular internal training sessions, at least one in a span of three months. These sessions employed different methods such as lectures by senior researchers, as well as joint reading and discussion sessions. At the same time, organizational mechanisms, set forth in PIPS Manual of Procedures, were used to enhance the capacity of PIPS staff and the quality of output. That included internal skills analysis and assignment of tasks, and joint assignments by senior and junior members.

PIPS also facilitated its staff members' participation in various national and international seminars/conferences as well as capacity building and training events.

- Regular consultations with organizations and institutions with a common thematic focus in order to share experiences on research, policy advocacy and other programmatic areas.

1.3 MoUs and collaborations

Since its inception in 2005, PIPS has been in a continuous process of developing formal and informal linkages and collaborations with research and academic institutions that have a common thematic focus. It has entered into MoUs with different academic institutions, research centers and organizations, which can be seen here: <https://www.pakpips.com/mous-collaborations>

The objective has been to share mutual experiences, enhance the empirical and objective knowledge base of the issues related to conflict, insecurity and violence, etc., and to explore viable policy options for achieving peace and preventing/de-escalating conflicts in Pakistan and the wider region. Another underlying objective of this exercise has been to strengthen the institutional capacity at PIPS. Some area of PIPS collaboration with other institutes are listed below:

- Joint publications;
- Capacity building initiatives and mutual internships;
- Exchange of scholars and fellowships;
- Research collaborations;
- Holding of joint events such as conferences and seminars, etc.;
- Exchange of periodic and other publications; and

2. PROGRAMMATIC DEVELOPMENTS

Although Covid-19 pandemic significantly affected PIPS programmes and related activities in the year 2020, yet the Institute successfully implemented a range of measures under its mandated areas by employing alternative, Covid-proof strategies.

For instance, while some of the previously planned in-person meetings were altered to virtual platforms, others were held as planned using safe distance and other protective measures.

Pak Institute for Peace Studies conducted multiple measures in 2020 in the following broader themes with occasional overlapping:

- Extremism and Counter-Violent Extremism (CVE)
- Education for peace and inclusiveness
- Conflict, peace and security
- Regional security and strategic studies
- Dialogue

These implemented activities, which are elaborated in the following pages, oriented around research and analysis, policy advocacy, and awareness and training, etc.

2.1 Extremism and Counter-Violent Extremism (CVE)

Violent and non-violent extremism and

ideological radicalism as well as ways to prevent and counter them have been among the major areas of focus at PIPS since its establishment. Other main themes of programmatic and research orientation at PIPS have also been directly or indirectly linked to these two phenomena such as conflict analysis and peacebuilding; religion and conflict; internal and regional security; media for peace and democracy; and dialogue, etc.

After just two years of its establishment, PIPS had launched a multifaceted programme of understanding and countering violent extremism and radicalism in Pakistan in 2007, titled “PIPS De-radicalization Plan (2007-2013)”. The Plan encapsulated the related concepts of empirical understanding of radicalization and religious extremism, de-radicalization, and counter-radicalization. PIPS executed a host of activities linked to this progressive model traversing three levels: [i] Taking its basic input from empirical studies and surveys aimed at understanding the issue of violent extremism and radicalization, [ii] it underwent processes of knowledge creation and knowledge sharing to evolve certain strategies which were [iii] implemented at the final stage of de-radicalization and/or countering radicalization.

From 2013 onward, PIPS used the lessons it learnt from its implementation of the seven-

year De-radicalization Plan to develop and execute certain specific CVE interventions built around the concepts of dialogue, training and education, use of media, including social, for creating awareness among people, and production and dissemination of moderate and CVE literature and responses.

In recent years, these interventions have increasingly focused on creating moderate and CVE spaces in cyberspace using social media platforms as well as reducing the appeal of violent ideologies through awareness and advocacy campaigns and capacity building of vulnerable communities.

A brief description of PIPS' work on CVE and counter-radicalization in 2020 is given below.

2.1.1 Empirical research

❖ *Research study on NAP implementation status and outcome*

In second half of the year 2020, PIPS conducted a comprehensive appraisal of implementation status and impact of NAP actions. The outcome was published in form of a report that can be downloaded here: <<https://www.pakpips.com/article/6172>>

Besides mapping the NAP implementation status across Pakistan and evaluating its success and impact, the study also endeavored to informing and influencing the government's efforts on countering extremism and terrorism, including through

NAP, using local, empirical insights from across Pakistan.

The contents of the reports are listed below:

Contents

Executive summary

1. Introduction & methodology
2. Pre-NAP scenario or NAP baseline
3. NAP so far: successes and failures
 - 3.1 A review of NAP implementation
 - 3.2 Issues and challenges in implementation
 - 3.3 Impact evaluation
4. Political and policy orientation of NAP
 - 4.1 Relevance to countering extremism and terrorism
 - 4.2 Political will and policy sustainability
 - 4.3 Issues of control and ownership
5. Recommendation

As part of empirical data collection, six (6) **consultations** were held with over 100 experts and local resource persons across the country, on the NAP actions. These entailed five regional consultations including one each in Lahore, Karachi, Peshawar, Quetta, and Gilgit, and one national level consultation in Islamabad. The consultations were closed-door occasions, attended by the invitees only, and were structured to invite empirical and policy discussion.

General talking points in all consultation sessions oriented around how NAP has, has not, been instrumental in countering aspects of violent and non-violent extremism including those linked to hate speech, protection of minorities, communal or faith-

based violence, and dealing with banned and other religious extremist groups. Some specific NAP provisions are, however, grouped together in three following themes:

- Action against banned groups as well as violent sectarian groups
- Crackdown against hate speech and glorification of terrorists
- Checking persecution of and violence against minorities

Some specific themes of NAP actions also come under discussion in regional consultations, such as:

- The issue of facilitating reconciliation with Baloch insurgents (Quetta consultation).
- The post-FATA-KP merger situation and impact on militant violence and terrorism (Peshawar consultation).
- Forced conversions in interior Sindh and the status of Karachi operation and sustainability of its impact (Karachi consultation).
- Action against Punjab-based banned and sectarian groups (Lahore consultation).
- The status of NACTA (Islamabad consultation).

Meanwhile, *secondary data* on NAP implementation and its impact was mapped through desk research, exploring media reports, government records and academic and research material, where available.

2.1.2 Policy webinars on countering extremism (CE)

During last quarter of 2020, PIPS hosted a series of nine (9) extensive webinars with experts, subject specialists and representatives from policy circles to generate new policy and programme recommendations on countering extremism in Pakistan. The underlying objective was to strengthen the understanding of the nature and extent of the threat of religious extremism in Pakistan, and advocate effective countering/response actions.

Thus, the webinars not only evaluate the existing state- and society-level responses to extremism, but also generated new ones. On the whole, the webinars discussed a variety of topics and questions revolving around the issue of extremism and counter-extremism (CE). The focus was on five major themes: extremist ideologies and narratives; extremism trends in Pakistan; CE-related policy measures; the use of the criminal justice system to counter extremism and terrorism; and the de-radicalization process in Pakistan.

Timeline and themes of these webinars are listed below:

- First Webinar on Oct 16, 2020
Extremist Ideologies: Countering Extremist Narratives
- Second webinar on Oct 27, 2020
Education as counter action to extremism
- Third webinar on Nov 05, 2020
Violent Extremist Groups: Current Status and Scenarios

- Fourth webinar on Nov 11, 2020
External Dimensions of Pakistan's Terrorism Challenge
- Fifth webinar on Nov 17, 2020
National Action Plan 20 Points & Their Relevance to CE
- Sixth webinar on Nov 23, 2020
Strategizing Pakistan's CE Policy Options
- Seventh webinar on Dec 1, 2020
Revamping the Criminal Justice System
- Eighth webinar on Dec 4, 2020
Developing De-radicalization Programs in Pakistan
- Ninth webinar on Dec 10, 2020
The Expanding Madrassah Outreach & Its Impact

2.1.3 Experience sharing and policy advocacy

Key experience-sharing and policy advocacy events on peace, counter-extremism and harmony that organized during the year 2020, are listed below:

❖ *PIPS international webinar on*

“Covid-19 Pandemic and Responses from Religious Communities in South Asia”

PIPS organized the cited webinar on Friday, August 7, 2020, with the purpose to evaluate religious communities' responses to Covid-19 in South Asia and analyze their implications for religious harmony and bilateral relations among the South Asian nations.

The discussants included Mr. Sudheendra Kulkarni, founder of the Forum for a New South Asia, India; Dr. Qibla Ayaz, chairman of Council of the Islamic Ideology, Pakistan; Mr. Yubaraj Sangroula, executive director of Kathmandu School of Law, Nepal; Dr. Ranga Kalansooriya, regional director of International Media Support in Sri Lanka; Zillur Rahman, executive director of the Center for Governance Studies, Dhaka, Bangladesh; and Muhammad Amir Rana, director of Pak Institute for Peace Studies, Islamabad, Pakistan, who also moderated the discussion.

Key findings of the webinar included: “While Covid-19 responses by religious communities in South Asia have largely been encouraging, in some instances, however, minority communities and groups felt having been left out and also stigmatized. It is responsibility of religious and community leaders to propagate humanity and empathy among people so that marginalized groups are not discriminated in situations of crises such as the Covid-19 pandemic. At the same time, the governments should develop and make operational the existing platforms of regional cooperation and connectivity. Improved state-to-state relations and cooperation in South Asia will also help in strengthening people to people contacts, which are currently at a much lower level.”

For detailed report, visit:
<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/6081>>

❖ *PIPS hosting of*

“Global Initiative’s Network Against Organized Crime”

Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) continued to host the Network Against Organised Crime (NAOC) – Pakistan, which was launched in 2019 with the support of Resilience Fund floated by Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime, Geneva. Although based in Islamabad, NATOC is a nation-wide initiative aimed at facilitating creation of a national strategy on combating transnational organised crime in Pakistan including terror financing.

NAOC primarily comprises of renowned [retired] senior government officials – including Mr. Tariq Parvez, former coordinator NACTA, and Mr. Tariq Khosa, former Secretary Ministry of Narcotics Control, among others – particularly with a law enforcement background, which will bring in their own diverse networks across different tiers of government and police services.

In collaboration with the Global Initiative’s Resilience Fund, NAOC aims to build community resilience and influence public policy to combat organised crime. It has following four areas of focus:

- a) Eradicating drug problem in Pakistan
- b) Combatting terrorism and terrorism financing
- c) Curbing human trafficking
- d) Preventing cyber crimes

2.2 Education for Peace and Inclusiveness

Teachers stand as key pillar in any attempt of reforming education, which is essential to bring about inclusive society. They are the ones who communicate with students in a classroom; a sensitized teacher is open to diversity in the classroom. Realizing this, Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) has been engaging teachers of universities, colleges and higher secondary schools for tolerant, inclusive education, especially in pedagogy and curricula, since 2015. Key themes that are explored in such engagements are dominant narratives in educational discourse and their implications for peace and social cohesion; problematic areas in university/college curricula, textbooks and teaching; among others. Teachers have come from all over all over the country, including Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir, and from diverse disciplines, including Islamic Studies and Pakistan Studies – two subjects deemed compulsory at all levels of education in Pakistan. The mode of engagement has usually been sensitization workshops, training, and lately, critical discussions and dialogues with learned scholars.

PIPS engagement with teachers in 2020 is described below.

2.2.1 Training workshops with teachers

PIPS organized four (4) extensive training workshops with teachers from Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and AJK between

January and October 2020. On the whole, these workshops trained and sensitized as many as 119 teachers of universities and postgraduate colleges on issues linked to peace, harmony, critical thinking, coexistence and tolerance including in educational and pedagogical discourses.

- First two-day workshop was held on January 16-17 in Peshawar (for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa group) with 30 participants.
- Second two-day workshop was held on February 24-25 in Lahore (for central and south Punjab group) with 35 participants.
- Third one-day workshop was held on October 28 in Islamabad (for north Punjab and AJK group) with 24 participants.
- Fourth one-day advance-level workshop was held on October 29 in Islamabad (for combined Punjab and KP group) with 30 participants.

Event reports of these workshops including main findings can be seen on PIPS website, as described below:

- *Peshawar workshop:*
<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/5870>>
- *Lahore workshop:*
<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/5894>>
- *Islamabad workshops (combined reporting):*
<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/6133>>

Topics and themes of workshops:

- ❖ Religious extremism and its impact on society
- ❖ The role of gender in in peace and positive social changes
- ❖ The role of teachers in the promotion of peace and positive attitudes
- ❖ Role of religious scholars in promoting interfaith harmony
- ❖ Problems of non-Muslims in Pakistan
- ❖ Inter-faith dialogue and its social impact
- ❖ Significance of critical consciousness in the processes of education
- ❖ Changing dynamics of radicalization in Muslim societies
- ❖ Society, thinking patterns, national cohesion and expressions
- ❖ Thinking process, influences and the process of opinion making
- ❖ Politics, history & social consciousness
- ❖ Scientific method & Social sciences

Trainers and discussants:

- Dr Qibla Ayaz (Chairman Council of Islamic Ideology)
- I. A. Rehman, Human Rights Activist, Columnist, Former Chairman Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP)
- Dr. Muhammad Khalid Masud, Former Chairman, Council of Islamic Ideology
- Dr. Mehdi Hassan, (Chairperson of Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP))
- Dr AH Nayyer (Renowned educationist and scholar)

- Professor Fateh Muhammad Malik, Renowned educationist and scholar
- Muhammad Amir Rana, Director Pak Institute for Peace Studies, Islamabad
- Dr Rasheed Ahmed (Associate Professor Shaikh Zayed Islamic University, Peshawar)
- Harris Khalique, Secretary-General Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP)
- Zafarullah Khan, Former Executive Director of Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS), Islamabad
- Khursheed Nadeem, Executive Director, Organization for Research and Education (ORE)
- Dr Minhas Majeed Khan (Head of International Relations Department at the University of Peshawar)
- Dr Khadija Aziz (Head of Islamic Studies Department at the Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University, Peshawar)
- Romana Bashir (Rights activist; member of Punjab Commission for Status of Women)
- Dr. Yaqoob Bangash, Historian & Assistant Professor at Information
- Wajahat Masood, Columnist, Senior Journalist^[SEP]
- Yasir Pirzada, Columnist, Political analyst^[SEP]
- Dr. Ammar Khan Nasir, Deputy Director, Al-Sharia Academy, Gujranwala^[SEP]
- Sahaibzada Muhammad Amanat Rasul, Religious Scholar, Head of Idara^[SEP] Fikr-e- Jadeed, Lahore^[SEP]
- Muhammad Jawad, International Relations Department, Punjab^[SEP] University, Lahore^[SEP]
- Ms. Saira Rashid, Govt. Post Graduate^[SEP] College for Women, Sargodha^[SEP]
- Dr. Naseem Akhter, Chairperson Saraiki department, Bahauddin Zakariya^[SEP] University (BZU), Multan^[SEP]
- Dr. Zia ur Rehman, Professor, Department of Islamic Studies, Islamia University^[SEP] (IUB), Bahawalpur^[SEP]
- Dr. Naazir Mahmood, educationist and columnist
- Mujtaba Rathore, Executive Director, Islamic Research Institute of Social Sciences (IRISS), Islamabad
- Dr. Lubna Zaheer, Associate Professor, The University of Punjab, Lahore
- Dr. Salma Malik, Assistant Professor at the Department of Defence and Strategic Studies, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad

The purpose of these dialogue-cum-training workshops was to influence teachers and educational discourse in the country in support of inclusive, tolerant and harmony-supporting education. Another overarching goal was to understand the ways and policy options, which could be used to reform education, curricula and pedagogy in Pakistan.

2.2.2 Teachers' sessions with students on critical thinking and diversity

PIPS identified and selected 15 teachers among those 119 trained in workshops cited earlier to hold individual sessions with their students. The selected teachers conducted 15

in-house and online sessions with a total of 280 students in different regions with an aim to discuss how to promote critical thinking on social cohesion, respect for diversity and religious harmony.

Details on these Social Action Programs (SAPs) conducted by selected teachers at their institutions are given below.

Some of the teachers conducted social actions programs with their students in person, and others held online or virtual sessions

Teachers conducting SAPS	College/University	No. of Students
Mutahir Bashir	Khosar University Murree	13
Tahira Naz	GGDC NO.2 Hayatabad Peshawar	15
Rahat Gul	HoD Urdu Department, Govt Degree College Takhta Band Mingora, Swat	30
Dr. Lubna Zaheer	Punjab University, Lahore	12
Shahid Anwar	Govt. College Rawalpindi	21
Dr. Rafida Nawaz	Bahauddin Zakriya University, Multan	16
Amin Ullah Khan	Assistant Professor Government Post Graduate College Mandian, Abbottabad	13
Dr. Manzoor	Gomal University, DI Khan	10
Robina Naz,	Govt Post Graduate Girls College Swabi	22
Shagufta Javaid,	Dabgari Girls College, Peshawar	34
Waqas Ahmad	Lecturer, Govt Christian Inter College Raja Bazar	23
Dr. Malik Amanullah	Prof, Punjab University, Lahore	17
Dr Ayaz Qadeer	AP, COMSATS University Wah Campus	12
Munawar Hussain	AP, QAU, Islamabad	15

Zarqa Khalid	AP, Government Waqar-un-Nisa Post Graduate College Rawalpindi	27
--------------	---	----

2.2.3 Engagement with Teachers from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

In 2020, Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) engaged 180 teachers (including about 50 percent female) from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in as many as eight (8) training-cum-dialogue sessions to promote inclusive and harmonious education and curricula. These workshops were followed by 25 sessions of engagement with students by identified teachers from those trained in the workshops cited earlier. Details are as under:

Description of workshops	Date
First one-day workshop in Peshawar (35 participants)	12 February
2nd one-day workshop in Peshawar (35 participants)	22 February
3rd one-day workshop in Islamabad (14 participants)	05 June
4th one-day workshop in Islamabad (14 participants)	09 June
5th one-day workshop in Islamabad (14 participants)	10 June
6th one-day workshop in Islamabad (14 participants)	12 June
7th one-day workshop in Islamabad (14 participants)	15 June
Two-day advance level workshop in Islamabad	25-26 June
25 online training sessions with students (20 students in each session, 50 % women/girls student)	06 th -20 th of July

2.3 Conflict, Peace and Security

PIPS' exclusive focus on conflict, peace and security is reflected in the Institute's several periodic publications on conflict and insecurity in Pakistan, most of which are outcome of empirical research and planned interventions in the said areas.

Besides producing weekly and monthly online reports describing the level of conflict and insecurity in the country, PIPS also brings out an annual security report at the end of every year. These reports are widely disseminated in Pakistan and abroad and not only include casualty figures in terrorist/militant attacks, but also analyze actors and dynamics of conflict and violence, the terrorists' attack tactics and the security forces' response. The reports highlight the challenges thrown up by internal insecurity and their implications for Pakistan, and present in-depth analysis of the security landscape of the country, and of the factors of insecurity and violence besides highlighting strategic solutions to reduce the risk of insecurity and violence in the country.

Besides, PIPS also brings out its flagship publication, or research journal of *Conflict and Peace Studies*, at least once a year.

PIPS has also been consistent in conducting conflict assessment focusing different regions of Pakistan. So far it has conducted strategic conflict analyses of Gilgit Baltistan, Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and erstwhile FATA as well as Karachi and south Punjab.

2.3.1 Research on conflict and peace

❖ *PIPS research journal* “**Conflict and Peace Studies**”

The Institute published one special issue of its research journal *Conflict and Peace Studies* in January 2020. It largely provided a review of internal and regional security in the preceding year, i.e. 2019.

Contents of these two issues are given below.

Conflict and Peace Studies, Vol. 11, No. 1 (Jan-Jun 2019)

Foreword

1. Overview of security in 2019: critical challenges and recommendations
Muhammad Amir Rana & Safdar Sial
2. Security Landscape of Pakistan in 2019
Safdar Sial
3. Militant landscape of Pakistan in 2019
Muhammad Amir Rana
4. State responses: anti-militant operations
Safdar Sial
5. Profile: Militant landscape of Balochistan
Muhammad Amir Rana
6. The wave of suicide bombing in Pakistan (2007 to 2011)
Umer Farooq
7. CPEC security in 2019
Anam Fatima
8. 2019: Faith-based violence and other incidence
Najam U Din
Ershad Mahmud
9. The Baloch insurgency in 2019
Muhammad Akbar Notezai

Annexures
Timelines

2.3.2 PIPS digital database

PIPS has been striving since 2006 to develop a comprehensive database on conflict and security issues at national level through a continuous monitoring and documentation of each and every incident happening in the country on daily basis. In 2011, PIPS made this database online, and has since then been managing it successfully at its web portal <www.pakpips.com/app/database> through regularly updating data on incidents of violence and terrorism in Pakistan. PIPS digital database is anticipated to work as a baseline data and a permanent source of independent information for local, regional and international organizations and individuals to map militant and security landscape of Pakistan and carry out research and analysis on issues related to conflict, insecurity, violence and terrorism etc.

In PIPS database, the diversified info tracks containing details of terrorist and insurgent attacks, inter-tribal infightings and inter-tribal sectarian clashes, sectarian related terrorism, ethno-political violence, cross-border attacks and clashes, operational attacks by the security forces and their clashes with militants, kidnappings, and search and arrest operations by the law enforcement agencies are maintained on daily basis by monitoring the print and electronic media closely. Each and every incident is given special attention regarding its nature, casualties, tactics used by terrorist groups, their targets, weaponry they use and their capabilities. A strong follow up is also observed in every incident and case by

strong liaison with the PIPS correspondents in conflict zones as regards the day-to-developments on the incidents.

2.3.3 Periodic conflict and security reports

In 2020, PIPS continued to prepare and publish periodic conflict and security reports on its web portals, mainly on PIPS database website at: <www.pakpips.com/app/database> or <<https://pakpips.com/app/reports>>).

These reports identify the areas of conflict and flashpoints, document and explain incidents of violence and terrorism, outline developments on the terrorism and security fronts, and project the future scenario. The reports are categorized as under:

- ❖ ‘PIPS weekly conflict report’ covers Khyber Pakhtunkhwa including erstwhile FATA.
- ❖ ‘PIPS monthly security report’ covers the whole of Pakistan.
- ❖ ‘PIPS annual security report’ provides a comprehensive yearly overview of the insecurity and violence in the country and suggests policy recommendations.
- ❖ ‘Balochistan Watch’ and ‘Karachi Watch’ provide monthly update on conflict and insecurity in Balochistan and Karachi, respectively.

As in past years, in 2020 too, PIPS prepared 52 weekly conflict reports, 12 monthly security reports and an annual security report for Pakistan besides producing 12 monthly security monitors each on

Balochistan and Karachi. These reports contained comprehensive data on terrorist attacks, casualties, the areas and factors responsible for militancy, changing tactics and targets of militants, as well as government strategies and responses. They also discussed the state of political violence in Pakistan and the situation on its borders, with a view to facilitate an understanding of the security landscape of the country.

2.4 Regional Security and Strategic Studies

Although PIPS has been studying aspects of regional and South Asian security including strategic since its inception, it started to exclusively focus on regional security in 2013, which continued throughout the years in between to 2020.

As the study of threats is a key element of regional or international security, PIPS believes that empirical and context-bound understanding of critical and shared threats to security in South Asia is imperative to bridge the gaps among the states' conflicting perceptions of their respective security concerns. Besides striving to expand the empirical knowledge base of security threats, Pak Institute for Peace Studies has also developed a vast regional and global network for information sharing and research on some of the key security issues facing Pakistan and the wider region, which also have a profound impact on regional and global security.

2.4.1 Experience sharing and policy advocacy

❖ Special talk on

“Muslim Identities in Australia”

Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) hosted a special talk for eminent Pakistani Origin Australian Scholar Professor Samina Yasmeen in Islamabad on February 17, 2020 around the topic “Muslim Identities in Australia”. Professor Samina Yasmeen is Director of Centre for Muslim States and Societies and lectures in Political Science and International Relations in the School of Social Sciences, the University of Western Australia (UWA), Perth. She was on her visit to Pakistan to interact with academia, civil society and think tanks. In PIPS-hosted talk, she was joined by Prof Dr Qibla Ayaz, Chairman Council of Islamic Ideology, for an inaugural keynote address in the conference.

Detailed report of the event can be seen here:

<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/5855>>

2.5 Dialogue

PIPS has learned from its extensive engagement with diverse segments of the society that a continuous and concerted exercise of dialogue among them can significantly contribute to de-escalate the conflicts in Pakistani society particularly those existing at sociocultural, ideological, religious, sectarian, communal and ethno-political levels. Dialogue should also be made a constant practice in Pakistani society

to invite the elements that are having extremist tendencies with a view to engage them in discussions of vital significance instead of just ignoring them. Such efforts are expected to promote a trend where efforts could be made to settle the controversies among the people and bridge the gap between them instead of leaving it on their own to settle.

2.5.1 Dialogue Pakistan 2020

Fifty-eight (58) leading experts/speakers from politics, media, civil society, military, religious studies and academia gathered under one roof to discuss, deliberate, and dialogue the most pressing issues of the day. This was Dialogue Pakistan, 2020 organized by Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS).

Under its programmatic area of *Dialogue*, this was the 2nd Dialogue Pakistan organized by PIPS after its 1st successful Dialogue Pakistan event in 2019. ***Dialogue Pakistan 2020*** was held at Hotel Margala, Islamabad on January 25, 2020, wherein issues like, and related to, state, society, religion, constitutionalism, future of parliament, regional political landscape, freedom of expression, women rights, and student unions were exhaustively discussed by eminent scholars and experts.

The event remained jam-packed and included a total of 10 dialogue sessions that continued throughout the day.

Detailed report of Dialogue Pakistan 2020 can be seen here:

<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/5723>>

The findings and proceedings of the Dialogue were printed in form a report which can be downloaded here:

<https://www.pakpips.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Dilogue_Pakistan_2020.pdf>

Contents of the report on *Dialogue Pakistan 2020* are as follows:

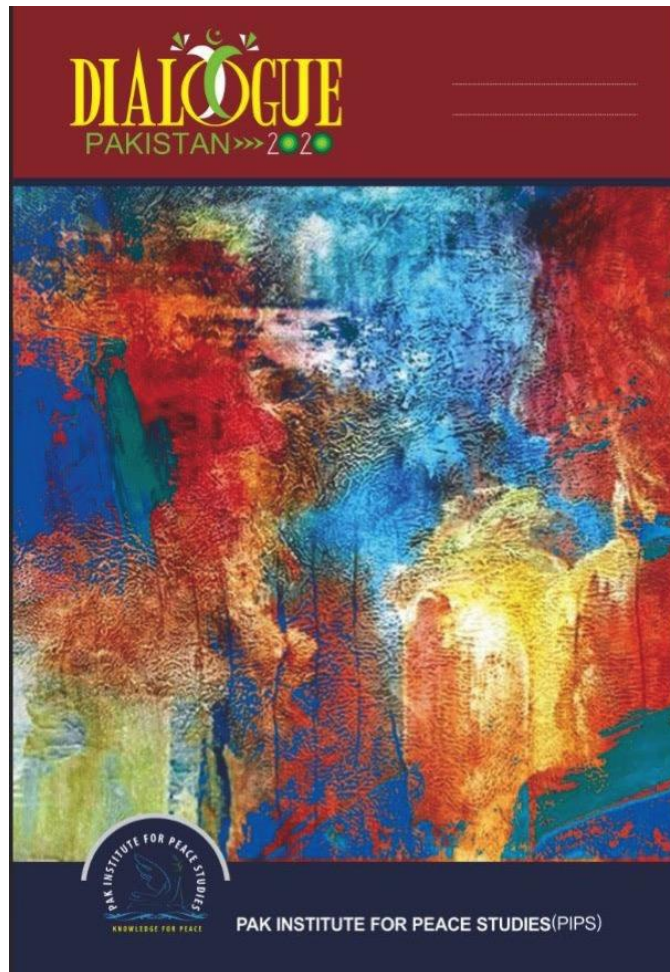
Contents

- Key findings & recommendations
- Executive summary
- Inaugural session
 - Keynote address of Khaled Ahmed
 - Keynote address of IA Rehman
- Dialogue 1: Future of parliament, constitution and democracy
- Dialogue 2: State, society and religion
- Dialogue 3: Have we won the war against terrorism?
- Dialogue 4: Is our environment conducive for creative expression?
- Dialogue 5: Economic instability and governance: Is 2020 the year of hope?
- Dialogue 6: Youth, student unions and emerging political trends
- Dialogue 7: Political and strategic landscape of South Asia: Is the region in a permanent state of change?
- Dialogue 8: Freedom of expression: Where does the problem lie?
- Dialogue 9: Women's rights movements: Is there any hope for end of gender discrimination?
- Dialogue 10: Dialogue among institutions: Needs and possibilities

PIPS intends to establish Dialogue Pakistan into a credible platform that would serve as a means of orienting the discourse of structured dialogue towards problem understanding and consensual action to address the shared challenges of polarization, insecurity and violence.

For that purpose in mind, PIPS has planned to hold Dialogue Pakistan in January every year.

3. PUBLICATIONS



Annex-1: PIPS Calendar of Events (2020)

Event description	Date	Venue
Workshop-1 on “The role of teachers in promoting diversity and dialogue”	January 16-17	Peshawar
Dialogue Pakistan 2020 (10 parallel one-day sessions of dialogue)	January 25	Islamabad
Special talk with Australian scholar Professor Samina Yasmeen on “Muslim identities in Australia”	February 17	Islamabad
Workshop-2 on “The role of teachers in promoting diversity and dialogue”	February 24-25	Lahore
Workshop-3 on “The role of teachers in promoting diversity and dialogue”	October 28	Islamabad
Workshop-4 on “The role of teachers in promoting diversity and dialogue”	October 29	Islamabad
15 teachers-led Social Action Programs with their students	December	Punjab and KP
First one-day workshop to train and sensitize teachers for inclusive and harmonious education	February 12	Peshawar
2nd one-day workshop to train and sensitize teachers for inclusive and harmonious education	February 22	Peshawar
3rd one-day workshop to train and sensitize teachers for inclusive and harmonious education	June 5	Islamabad
4th one-day workshop to train and sensitize teachers for inclusive and harmonious education	June 9	Islamabad
5th one-day workshop to train and sensitize teachers for inclusive and harmonious education	June 10	Islamabad
6th one-day workshop to train and sensitize teachers for	June 12	Islamabad

inclusive and harmonious education		
7th one-day workshop to train and sensitize teachers for inclusive and harmonious education	June 15	Islamabad
Two-day advance level training workshop with teachers in Islamabad	June 25-26	Islamabad
25 online teachers-led training sessions with students	July 6 to 20	-
Webinar on “Covid-19 Pandemic and Responses from Religious Communities in South Asia”	August 7	-
9 Webinars on countering extremism	Oct. to Dec.	-