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Article:	Social Solidarity and Public Vigilance Pertaining to Terrorist Activities in Peshawar, Pakistan
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ABSTRACT

Terrorism is one of the most crucial and gravest issues in the global world including Pakistan. Different factors contribute to the outgrowth of terrorism but the most significant events of the Iranian Islamic revolution and civil war in Afghanistan were responsible for the genesis of religious and transnational based terrorism in Pakistan. The current research explored the role of social solidarity and public vigilance in combating terrorist activities in Peshawar city. The researchers developed a research hypothesis by using positivism as a research paradigm. The quantitative research lens were employed and respondents were selected by utilizing adaptive sampling to conduct surveys in different areas of Peshawar city that were affected due of terrorist attacks. The sample size comprises 384 respondents. The sample was selected based on the proportion of eyewitnesses and survivors from four strata. The self-administrated questionnaire aided to collect data from the field. The gathered data were analyzed by using SPSS. In crux, social solidarity and public vigilance are weaker among inhabitants of Peshawar to tackle terrorist activities.

Keywords: Neo-Terrorism, Social Solidarity, Public Vigilance, Counterterrorism, Peshawar

1. Introduction and Literature Review

Terrorism is the most menacing issue in the global world including Pakistan. Terrorism is derived from the Latin word "terror" which means great fear. Terrorism is the systematic use of violence to intimidate governments or societies to achieve certain rational goals. There are two major types of terrorism which are the old and new styles of terrorism. Neumann and Hsu (2012) explain two forms of terrorism on the base of the structure, aim, and method of the terrorist acts i.e. old and new terrorism. Giddens (2006) identified Neo-terrorism as grounded on the religious and transnational ideology that is differing from an old version of terrorism. He gives the old and new versions of terrorism based on their nature that prevails in society. Ferguson et al. (2005) further explain the nature of terrorism which is grounded in transnational, political, and religious ideologies.

Religion was not a contentious subject before 1980 but two major events in history that were responsible to induce the neo-terrorism in Pakistan on a religious basis. After the Iranian Islamic revolution in 1979 came forth the issue of sectarian violence through different militant groups specially Sipah-e-Sahaba against Shiite Muslims. Another important event that provoked terrorism in Pakistan was the Soviet and Afghan War. The civil war attracts many Mujahidin from all over the world in the name of jihad in Afghanistan against the Soviet Union. Pakistani military and foreign intelligence agencies including American CIA trained the Mujahedeen who execute subversive activities during and after the Afghan War. After the Afghan war, Pakistan nurtured and flourished these Mujahidin groups against India between the periods of 1990 to 1996 in Jammu Kashmir on the same strategic mind that used to make Taliban in Afghanistan (Rana, 2005; Abbas, 2005; Hussain, 2007)

After the event of 9/11 in New York, Counterterrorism activities starts against the Taliban in Afghanistan and Pakistan supports the USA in the regime of General Pervez Musharraf. Another major event that aggravated extreme forms of terrorism in Pakistan was based on two aspects, Pakistan's government started the war against jihadi groups after the event of 9/11 with the support of the USA and another USA trying to capture Al -Qaeda through the support of Pakistan's Government. Many so-called mullahs started brainwashing innocent people and inserting extremist thoughts against Pakistan in the name of Sharia and jihad, in 2004, the Lal masjid event inflamed these jihadi groups against the government and the murder of Akber Bugti in Baluchistan. All these events lead to extreme forms of terrorism in different regions of Pakistan especially FATA, KPK, and Baluchistan in the name of religion (Musharraf, 2006; Hussain, 2007; Khan, 2007; Rashid, 2008; Amir, 2009)

Neo-Terrorism is the most crucial and gravest issue that is faced by Pakistan nowadays. The major causes of terrorism are categorized as political (Non-democratic Setup, Improper Government, and absence of law and order), Socio-economic (Injustice, illiteracy, poverty, food insecurity, unemployment, and dissatisfaction), Religious (Religious intolerance and role of Madrasahs) and historical external factors (Afghan Civil War and Iranian Revolution). Neo-terrorism is transnational and religious-based terrorism that prevailed in Pakistan that leads to both positive and negative consequences. The previous researchers identified that pathetic economic structure; social fermentation and a political system based on religious ideologies were responsible for the inducement of terrorist attacks in the different regions of Pakistan. The roots of Terrorism are strengthened and flourished because of a defective infrastructure of the society (Hudson, 2002; Ferdous, 2009; Gilani et al., 2023).

Hussain (2010) narrates the root causes of terrorism historically which were poverty because of the economic recession in Zia's regime, the Civil war in Afghanistan, and the weak political structure of Pakistan. Wajahat (2013) explains the different infrastructural issues that lead to terrorism in Pakistan on dangerous grounds which are deteriorated condition of economic structure, poverty, mismanagement of resources, lack of accountability, dissatisfaction, injustice, instability of political structure, uncertainty of future, inequality, unemployment, corruption, inflation, food insecurity and overpopulation etc. Azam (2009) also states that the main reasons behind this insurgency/terrorism are political unrest, poverty, unemployment, and personal interests. He states that terrorism ruined the infrastructural beauty of Pakistan. These activities create fear and uncertainty in the individuals of the affected areas and endanger the social integrity of Pakistan.

Terrorism creates economic and tourism setbacks, a lack of foreign investment, a lack of social harmony in the region, an air of uncertainty, social fermentation, and endangering national integration and the image of Pakistan. Terrorism gradually affects the social fabric of Pakistani structures like a termite. They narrate that terrorists attack adversely affect foreign investment in the economy and trading activities. These activities influence the individual's social life to create uncertainty, a lack of confidence in government, and educational advancement of the individuals and communities. The NWFP Department of Education reports that education for students has been severely affected because of damaged or destroyed schools. That includes 65 percent of the schools and nearly 150,000 students have been deprived of education, while 8,000 female teachers are without jobs due to the insurgency. Terrorism affects the tourism industry of Pakistan which leads to 44 million dollars lost because of these activities. Pakistan gives the human cost of these terrorist attacks including 21,672 Pakistani losing their lives in different bomb blast activities and 2,795 Pak army soldiers embracing martyrdom while combating terrorism in different regions of Pakistan (Afridi,2013; Asad, 2015).

The Pakistan army launched an operation against Al-Qaeda in Waziristan because of the minor clashes raised between Islamic Militants and tribesmen that lead Waziristan operations like Operation Enduring Freedom (2001-2002), Operation Al Maizan (2002-2006), Operation Zalzal (2008), Operation Sher Dil, Rah-e-Haq and Rah-e-Rast (2007-2009) and Operation Rah Nijat (2009-2010). The operation of Rah-e-Rast against the Taliban was launched to clear the Taliban from Waziristan. In 2012 new government set out and starts negotiations with the militants to resolve this issue but failed so the Pakistan army commences Zarb-e-Azab operation in Waziristan against the Islamic militant, including the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, Jundallah, al-Qaeda, the East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM), the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU) and the Haqqani network. The operation of Zarb-e-Azab was officially started on 15 June 2014 to clear Islamic militant groups from North Waziristan, up to 30,000 soldiers take part in this operation. The major purpose of this operation is to flush out all foreigners and local Islamic militants from Waziristan who causes terrorism. After the commencement of this operation led different attacks on the army by these militants including the 8 June attack on Jinnah International Airport in Karachi, the 16 Dec APS Peshawar Attack, the 15 March Church Attack, and the 18 Sep attack on PAF Base Badaber area in Peshawar, etc. (Abbas, 2005; Hussain,2007).

Afridi (2013) explains the challenges faced by Pakistan which is to create enormous resources to enhance the productive capacity of the economy by repairing damaged infrastructure and to produce a favorable and safe investment climate for investors. Another challenge is to settle the IDPs in the affected areas because of military operations. The Government has a big challenge to control the insurgency and interference of other agencies that create an air of fear and uncertainty in Pakistan. Pakistan faces another issue to sustain the trust of the nation and create regional and social harmony among different regions.

Wajahat (2013) Political turmoil allows instigating of terrorism in Pakistan. Counter-terrorism and sound policies are required to combat terrorism. There are numerous challenges faced by Pakistan nowadays including Pakistan's public opposition to the war on terrorism, nuclear credibility, Islamic identity, the fear of the threat of militants taking over politically as well as its nuclear assets, credibility crisis in general, political dysfunctionality that might lead to a military coup, weak law enforcement and the sometimes questionable role of radicalized Pakistani Diaspora. Pakistanis should not lose hope and should stand united against the scourge of terrorism. Pakistan is among the bravest and the greatest nations in the world. Pakistan has paid a heavy price in the war against terrorism and rendered more sacrifices than any other nation.

Kearns and Forrest (2000) have described social solidarity has five dimensions. (1) Common values and a civic culture: sharing the same set of values and being committed to the political system (2) Social order and social control: having mechanisms that retain social order and, other and more subtle means than coercion and repression; (3) Social solidarity and reductions in wealth disparities: having formal and informal institutions that reduce large inequalities. (4) Social networks and social capital: having lots of interactions. (5) Territorial belonging and identity: strong adherence to a certain territory.

The Government should devise an effective remedial strategy to combat terrorism and minimize the counter effects of terrorism. In the first stage, the government must strive to stabilize the troubled areas with the support of the local people. In the second stage, civil society conducts an awareness campaign related to terrorism to enable the public of victimized regions. In the last stage but not least, the public should develop social solidarity through belongingness, social networking, and interdependence recognizing their role and responsibilities as a citizen. Personal experience, awareness campaigns, and mass media create vigilance among dwellers related to threats of terrorism. These strategies support law enforcement agencies to take quick action related to any terrorist activity.

There are many research studies conducted on the issue of terrorism but the current research is dealing with the challenges of terrorism encountered by Pakistan. This research was inquiring about the influence of terrorists' attacks on common citizens of Peshawar city and survivors' life as well. The current research explored the role of social solidarity and public vigilance regarding the combating process of terrorist incidents in Peshawar, Pakistan. The researchers have explored the influence of terrorist acts on public life. They also investigate how terrorist acts are associated with the social solidarity and public vigilance of inhabitants living in Peshawar City.

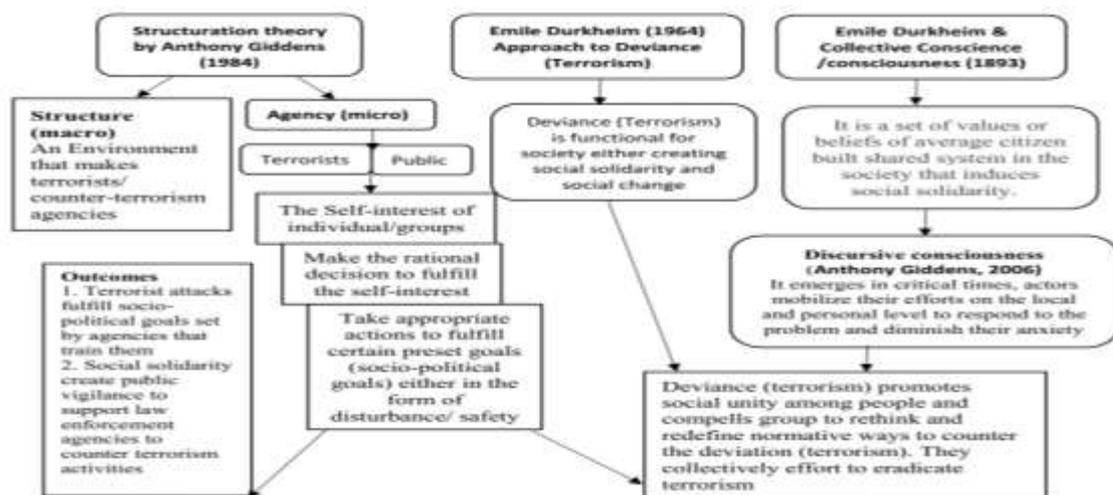
1.1.The Significance of the Study

The present research has an applied and theoretical contribution. The previous researchers did not discuss social solidarity and public vigilance concerning counter-terrorist activities. This

research will provide literature for future research and add new information to the existing literature regarding this issue. The findings and results of this study are valuable and beneficial in social sciences, especially in criminology, law, social theory, and sociology. The present research has provided information that will be helpful for lawmaking and enforcement agencies to tackle terrorist incidents in Pakistan.

1.2. Theoretical inspirations for the study

The researchers applied structuration theory (1984) and discursive consciousness theory by Anthony Giddens (2006) to elaborate on the role of social solidarity and vigilance at the macro and micro levels to counter terrorist attacks in Peshawar. Social solidarity induces vigilance among dwellers for their involvement in tackling terrorist activities in Peshawar. Durkheim (1964) explained the functional role of deviance that induces social solidarity and collective consciousness (1893) to solve the problem and issues of society through integrity. Deviance (terrorism) promotes social unity among people and compels groups to rethink and redefine normative ways to counter the deviation (terrorism). They collectively make an effort to eradicate terrorism from the social structure of KPK, especially in Peshawar city.



1.3. Hypotheses

Ho: There is no association between social solidarity and vigilance among dwellers for tackling terrorist activities in Peshawar.

H1: There is an association between social solidarity and vigilance among dwellers for tackling terrorist activities in Peshawar.

1.4. Conceptualization and operationalization

The present study involves two constructs i.e. social solidarity and public vigilance. Social solidarity is the beliefs and sentiments that are common to the average members of society. People ready to execute collective actions Durkheim 1947; Martindale, 1971 & Naletova et al., 2016 gave four dimensions belonging/ civic culture, civil Society/ social networks, citizenship / collective conscience, and social order/social control. The researchers have chosen two dimensions: belongingness (territorial identity, affiliation, interconnectedness, social networking) and collective consciousness (interdependence, cooperation, consciousness about malpractice) to measure social solidarity among inhabitants of Peshawar by using indicators. On the other hand, public vigilance is the action or state of

keeping careful watch for possible danger. Individuals alert, especially to the danger of any activity (Webster, 2018). Security Spotlight (2018) offers different tactics to identify terrorist attacks through nonverbal cues, odd group behavior, and individual consciousness.

2. Methods And Materials

The cross-sectional survey research design and quantitative research lens were employed to investigate the current research phenomena. The universe is confined to Peshawar city because the majority of the terrorist attacks have been reported from this place. The population comprised both males and females in the study universe i.e. Peshawar city. The sample shall be selected from different strata (APS School Staff, church staff, Hotel Staff, Agricultural Directorate staff, residents & Shopkeepers). These strata were selected by utilizing Adaptive sampling (Proportionate Stratified random & purposive) sampling to survey different areas of Peshawar city (APS School on Warsak Road Peshawar, All Saints' church in Kohati gate in old city Peshawar, Meena Bazar, Qissa khwani bazaar in Peshawar, Pearl Continental Hotel Peshawar, and Peshawar Agricultural attack) which were affected due of terrorist attacks. The researchers have selected a population from different groups based on a proportion of eyewitnesses and survivors such as APS school staff, agricultural Directorate employees, Meena, and qissakhwani Bazar shopkeepers, PC hotel staff, All Saint church staff, church visitors and residents near the area of the terrorist incident. I don't understand all this. The sample size was comprised of approximately 384 respondents including males and females by using Cochran's proportion estimation formula (1977) for an infinite population written as $n = \frac{Z^2pq}{e^2}$ for an infinite population. The Structured survey questionnaire is utilized as a tool of data collection which includes close-ended responses. The researcher have used a scoring index of a five-point Likert scale to measure the response to social solidarity and public vigilance. For computing variables, individual responses are added and then recorded into lower, medium, and higher categories. Pre-testing is the prior condition of data collection. In this process, after the construction of a questionnaire, 10 to 15 were distributed among respondents of the selected universe for data collection, to get those filled to check the reliability of the questionnaire. Shortcomings and errors were corrected before the collection of the final data. Data is analyzed using SPSS. Both univariate descriptive test and bivariate cross-tabulation are performed between the dependent variable in a row and the independent variable in the column and you only provided column wise percentages.

Theoretical, philosophical and Methodological foundations of research

Ontology (nature of reality) Terrorism is an observable phenomenon, tangible reality and their consequences such as social solidarity and public vigilance can be measured at a macro level that contributed to tackling process of terrorist activities in Peshawar city of Pakistan		
Objective reality Macro-level	Inductive research	Cross-sectional research
Realism		
Epistemology (The philosophy of reality/ knowledge) (Realist standpoint) Observable social phenomena build effective knowledge to understand the consequences of terrorist incidents on dwellers of Peshawar city.		
Research philosophy (overarching term relating to the development of Reality/ knowledge and nature of reality/ knowledge)		
Realist (it is possible to work within positivist)		
Research Paradigm & Theoretical Inspiration (Positivist) (structuration theory & discursive consciousness by Anthony Giddens and deviance theory & collective consciousness by Emile Durkheim supports the research)		
Methodology (how knowledge gained through different procedures and set of practices) Quantitative		
Methods (tools and techniques used to gain knowledge) Self-administered survey		
Tools for data collection (Researcher administrated questionnaire)		
Sampling techniques (adaptive (proportionate random stratified & purposive) sampling)		
Universe (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Peshawar) Population (both male and female) Police officers, army officials and six strata's (APS School Staff, church visitors, church staff, Hotel Staff, Agricultural directorate staff, residents near terrorist attack & Shopkeepers) from the study universe.		
Sample Size (384 (division is based on the proportion of a sample from each stratum) for survey Univariate & Bivariate Analysis (SPSS)		

Ethical Concerns

The current research strictly follows all ethical concerns related to research. The recent research was current and not plagiarized. The researchers have made the research study and questionnaire comfortable for participants of fieldwork which may not cause any distress while conducting research. The researchers considered protection measures for herself/ and the participants while taking the decisions regarding the research project. We kept the privacy and confidentiality of the participant's information provided to me in this research process. The researchers have taken care of the sentiments of participants while filling out the questionnaire. The researchers have provided an opportunity for respondents to freely discuss this issue and give their opinion.

3. Results and Findings

The Researcher have used analyzed the collected data by using SPSS version 22. Both univariate descriptive statistics and bivariate cross-tabulation is performed. The purpose of running cross-tabulation between the independent variable i.e. social solidarity and the dependent variable i.e. public vigilance is to find out the association between both variables. Both univariate frequency tables and cross tabulation is provided in separate tables. Frequency distribution of socio-demographic variables and both independent and dependent variables in a single table and also provide total as well.

Table 1: Socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents (n=384)

Variables	Frequency (%age)	Variable	Frequency (%age)
Gender		Qualification	
Male	204 (53.1)	Illiterate	162 (42)
Female	180 (46.8)	Literate	222 (58)
Age (in years)		Area of residence	
18-30	116 (30.2)	Kohati gate	99 (25.7)
31-45	105 (27.3)	Warsak road	91 (23.6)
46-60	92 (23.9)	Old city	114 (29.6)
Above 61	71 (18.4)	Hayatabad	80 (20.8)
Status at the time of the terrorist incident		Effect of the terrorist attack on your life	
School Employee	(12.2)	Physical	121(31.5)
Church visitor	44(11.4)	Psychological	66 (17.1)
Church employee	15(3.9)	Emotional	53 (13.8)
Hotel employee	35(9.1)	Social	55 (14.3)
Agricultural directorate employee	35(9.1)	Economic	89 (23.1)
Roadside common person	53(13.8)	Effect of the terrorist attack on a community	
Residents near the terrorist attack area	77(20)	Fear	111 (28.9)
Shopkeeper	78(20.3)	Social solidarity	103 (26.8)
		Vigilant behaviour	95 (24.7)
		Intention to eradicate terrorism	75 (19.5)
Total	384 (100)	Total	384 (100)

Results in Table 1 indicate that the majority of the respondents who participated in the present study are male (53.1%) and literate (58%). In addition, the proportion of young respondents is higher and about 18.4% of the respondents reported their age above 61 years. However, area wise distribution of the sample does not vary significantly. About 31.5% of the respondents reported that they are affected physically by the terrorist attack and about 23.1% reported economic consequences. Results also claimed that the majority of the respondents reported a higher level of social solidarity (27%) while the majority of the respondent reported a lower level of public vigilance about terrorism (Table 1).

Table 2: Social solidarity pertains to tackle terrorist activities in Peshawar.

S.No	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
1	Lower	90	23.4%
2	Medium	130	33.8%
3	Higher	164	42.7%
	Total	384	100

The above table shows that the majority of the respondents (42.7%) said social solidarity is important to tackle terrorist acts in Peshawar.

Table 3: Public Vigilance with reference to tackle terrorist activities in Peshawar.

S.No	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
1	Lower	149	38.8%
2	Medium	125	32.5%
3	Higher	110	28.6%
	Total	384	100

Table 3 shows that majority of the respondent (38.8%) reported low level of public vigilance related to terrorism in Peshawar.

Table 4: Bivariate cross tabulation between social solidarity and public vigilance pertaining to tackle terrorist activities in Peshawar (Base=384)

Public vigilance	Social solidarity			Total
	Lower	Medium	Higher	
	F (%age)	F (%age)	F (%age)	F (%age)
Higher	13 (10)	39 (30)	76 (60)	128 (33.3)
Medium	26 (20)	50 (40)	39 (30)	115 (30.0)
Lower	89 (70)	39 (30)	13(10)	141 (36.7)
Total	128(100)	128(100)	128(100)	384(100)

Bivariate cross-tabulation between the independent variable i.e. social solidarity and the dependent variable i.e. public vigilance indicated a strong positive association. The majority of the respondents who reported lower social solidarity (70%) indicated lower public vigilance. On the contrary, public vigilance of terrorism is higher among the majority of the respondents who reported a higher level of social solidarity. Results also indicated a straight curve from bottom left to top right which indicates a continuous and straight increase in the level of public vigilance with the increase in social solidarity (Table 4).

4. Conclusion

The findings of the current study justify the theoretical foundation of the research. The current study revealed that social solidarity and public vigilance are significant factors to counter terrorist activities in Peshawar. Results claimed that the majority of the respondents reported a higher level of social solidarity (42.7%) while the majority of the respondent reported a lower level of public vigilance pertaining to terrorism. Bivariate cross-tabulation between social solidarity and public vigilance showed a strong positive association. The majority of the respondents who reported lower social solidarity (70%) indicated lower public vigilance. On the contrary, public vigilance pertaining to terrorism is higher among the majority of the respondents who reported a higher level of social solidarity which indicated that an increase in social solidarity higher the level of public vigilance related to terrorist activities.

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