

THE PHENOMENON OF VIOLENCE IN PAKISTAN: UNDERSTANDING CAUSE AND EFFECT

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INTRODUCTION

Religiously motivated extremism and violence in Pakistan since 1947.

Public conversation and discourse about religion.

Much of Present happenings has roots in Past.

Freedom for religious minorities; Christians, Hindus, Sikhs.

Some Muslim clerics seems to be denying religious freedom to other faiths.

SECTARIANISM

What is a sectarian conflict?

Role of Different schools of thoughts and their followers

Phenomenon of religious extremism

Intolerance leading towards violence

Internal and external factors

Challenges of sectarian violence

UNDERSTANDING CAUSE AND EFFECT

Militancy as proxy

Sectarianism and social exclusion

Islamization

Military action and inaction

Role of media

WAY FORWARD

Legislation is required.

Revision of textbooks is required.

Accountability of print and electronic media.

Cost of violence needs extra elaboration.

Taking ownerships of situations by the governments and citizens.