

## **Abstract**

Baloch national movement in its various manifestations is perhaps one of the primary contradictions being faced by the multiethnic society, and the federal structure of Pakistan with potentially existential consequences for the state itself- the roots go back in the colonial period. Historically, Baloch nationalism has remained a by-product of colonial legacy which has been the prime source of determination for the Baloch youth to strengthen the political and social structure within Balochistan since the very inception of Pakistan- Balochistan as her largest and strategically crucial piece of land has remained the hotbed of unrest situations. The movement itself and the actors involved in it have evolved corresponding to fundamental internal and external changes in the region or globally. The study probes into the nature of the role of Baloch youth in general and Baloch student organizations in particular as their representative and organized face, in the political landscape of Baluchistan regarding the Baloch national movement with an exclusive emphasis on BSO (Baloch Student Organization) and its splinter groups. It argues that from the formal inception of student organizations in the 60's to the present insurgency and partly through it, their role has been escalating both due to their own extraordinary activism and the gradually diminishing role of the relatively popular tribal elite in the face of time. The shift has been aided by the absence of a local bourgeoisie and a relatively weaker middle class and civil society; and has brought the youth in general and the students particularly in the forefront of the present insurgency and Baloch national struggle.