

## **Abstract**

Violence is an act inflicting psychological and physical harm to humans. It has been prevalent in most societies. Political violence is its extended form. Its spectrum is large and impetus too. Generally in political violence protests, processions, demonstrations, arson, attacks, gherao jelaos, strikes take place. Bomb blasts, target killing, suicide attacks, insurgencies and uprising also fall within the ambit of political violence. Violence that existed in Lahore between 2001-2010 was in the form of suicide attacks, bomb blasts, general protests etc and hence it was largely a political violence.

Conceptual framework of “political violence in Pakistan” contains interpretation of violence particularly of political nature. Allusions to violence that occurred in Lahore particularly after 1947, has been added. Here, literature review regarding books, articles, material from internet search engines has also been added.

The present study has been done with an investigative approach. Theoretical observations have been supported by the statistical data obtained from reliable sources. In this regard, the major incidents of violence that took place in Lahore between 2001-2010 are included and interviews of the people holding responsible positions in society have been conducted to unearth facts about prevalence of violence in the city. Deductive method has been used for the study of topic, i.e. political violence – a case study of Lahore.

Thesis has been divided into 8 chapters. Chapter 1 contains Introduction to the thesis, Statement of the Problem, Significance of the Study, Hypothesis, Objective of the Study, Structure of the Thesis, Sources, Research Design and Data Collection Techniques. Chapter 2 deals with Conceptual Framework and Literature Review. In chapter 3 Historical Background of Violence has been discussed. Chapter 4 sheds lights on the Kind and Causes of Violence. Chapter 5 covers a brief description of Western and Islamic concept of human rights and their violation on account of violence. Chapter 6 is the Case Study, i.e. “Political Violence in Pakistan (a Case Study of Lahore, 2001-2010)”. The demography of Lahore, definitions of political violence and major incidents of violence in Lahore between 2001-2010 have been included here. It also includes the costs of violence and violence related scenes. In chapter 7 Conclusion, Suggestions and Recommendations to reduce

and eradicate the violence have been discussed. Viable strategy and measures have been suggested to shun violence in all its forms and manifestations. In the end, there are Appendices consisting of Interviews (Coded), References as well as Bibliography.