

## ABSTRACT

The increasing militancy in Pakistan from the past ten years has radicalized the roots of society in a unique manner. The element of religiosity, though not the only element has contributed as a major factor in the extension of militancy across Pakistan. In this context, militancy is a state of mind which has very rigid beliefs and negates any change which contradicts with their own set of beliefs. The use of force is core to militants. Pakistan has long been a victim of religious and sectarian militancy in Pakistan. The increasing ethno nationalistic tendencies in the wave of militancy have made it more complex.

The process of Islamization in the era of Zia ul Haq has polarized the society on religious lines. Moreover, the afghan war of 1979 accelerated the religious sentiments in Pakistan. The fall out of afghan war on Pakistan adversely affected Pakistan. The mushroom growth of madrassa, with immense foreign and internal funding resulted imbalance in the society.

The emergence of militant's outfits in the name of Islam expanded the sphere of militancy in Pakistan. The recruits were trained and equipped. The strong linkages among the militants groups within and outside Pakistan, has strengthen their base and goal.

After the debacle of 9/11, the new wave of militancy which started from the tribal areas of Pakistan and expanded in the main centers of Pakistan resulted in the killing of more than thirty five thousand innocent citizens of Pakistan. More than 2.5 million people were uprooted from, their homes, resulting in the largest movement of internally displaced persons in Pakistan. The counter militant measures taken by the government of Pakistan in the shape of military operation in FATA dismantled the base and hideouts of militants. The political representation and economic initiatives are major steps to reduce the alienation of the people of FATA from the main stream political process. But to win the hearts and minds of the people, a larger role is required by the stakeholders and the society as a whole.