

1ST STRATEGIC WORKSHOP ON REHABILITATION AND DE-RADICALIZATION OF MILITANTS AND EXTREMISTS

REPORT ON A WORKSHOP ORGANISED BY
THE FATA SECRETARIAT CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT

18-19 MAY 2010
SINGAPORE



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18–19 MAY 2010
PEARL-CONTINENTAL HOTEL,
PESHAWAR, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF PAKISTAN

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR POLITICAL VIOLENCE
AND TERRORISM RESEARCH
S. RAJARATNAM SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

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This report summarizes the proceedings of the discussion sessions in the programme as interpreted by the assigned rapporteurs. Participants neither reviewed nor approved this report.

This programme adheres to a variation of the Chatham House Rule. Accordingly, beyond the speakers and papers presenters cited, no other attributions have been included in this report.

PREFACE

To assist Pakistan in building a national rehabilitation programme, the Government of Pakistan has engaged Singapore's International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) since 2008. ICPVTR staff held meetings throughout Pakistan to build support in laying the foundation for a rehabilitation programme. This included meetings with both political leaders and bureaucrats. Among the leaders briefed by Professor Rohan Gunaratna, the head of ICPVTR, on building a multi-faceted and an integrated rehabilitation programme was Pakistani Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani on October 15, 2008. Many leaders of Pakistan supported the idea of rehabilitation of terrorist inmates and detainees. Among them are Dr. Shoaib Suddle, the then Director-General of the Intelligence Bureau of Pakistan; Major General Muhammad Asif, Director-General, Military Intelligence of Pakistan; and Major General Mahmud Ali Durrani, the then National Security Advisor. ICPVTR shared with these leaders a milestone publication, "Winning Hearts and Minds, Embracing Peace" produced by the Singapore Religious Rehabilitation Group (RRG) as a benchmark to operationalize the concept of rehabilitation. Dr. Shoaib Suddle commended the efforts by the Singapore counterparts and the information reflected in the book as "priceless".

The vision of building a structured rehabilitation programme for inmates and detainees driven by terrorist and extremist ideologies was shared by Mr. Tariq Pervez, chairman of the National Counter Terrorism Authority of Pakistan, when he participated at the inaugural International Conference on Terrorist Rehabilitation held in Singapore on 24-26 February 2009. The paper was aptly entitled "Challenges

of Establishing a Rehabilitation Programme in Pakistan." Nonetheless, the initiative to launch the rehabilitation programme in Pakistan is a natural progression. No leader voiced their disagreement or reservations on the programme. However, Pakistan faced major obstacles. They lacked the resources and support to build a multi-faceted and integrated rehabilitation programme. With Pakistan stepping up its counter-terrorist and counter-insurgency operations, the government realized the urgency of establishing a rehabilitation programme. ICPVTR staff held meetings and discussions with all relevant parties, building awareness and increased understanding of the importance of a rehabilitation programme. There was also imperative support from the highest level of the security and intelligence establishment, including support from Lieutenant General Ahmad Shuja Pasha, the Director-General of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI); and Javed Noor, the Director General of the Intelligence Bureau of Pakistan.

Fortunately for Pakistan, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) understood the importance in supporting and building a rehabilitation programme in Pakistan. Retired U.S. Army Colonel Barry Shapiro, Civil Military Advisor FATA CBP Peshawar, Pakistan, a long time friend of ICPVTR, spearheaded this initiative to assist Pakistan in building a provincial level rehabilitation programme, together with Mr. Khalid Aziz, the former Chief Secretary of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and retired Pakistan Army Brigadier Javed Iqbal. Their leadership was central in the successful organisation of the "First Strategic Workshop on Rehabilitation and De-radicalization of Militants and Extremists" held on 18-19 May 2010 in Peshawar, Pakistan.

The workshop is a step forward in the right direction for Pakistan in its efforts to establish a structured rehabilitation programme. They must now work even harder as the journey towards a successful implementation of the rehabilitation programme is a long one requiring perseverance against many challenges ahead.

There are also pitfalls that Pakistan should avoid. They must be willing to share the same mindset that successful rehabilitation programme requires the integrated effort of all agencies in Pakistan and that the authorities and

community must come together and engage to provide long term solutions to rehabilitate the militants and extremists. They have to adopt a multi-pronged and comprehensive approach to set up the rehabilitation programme and once this is done the focus should then shift to the released detainees. This is also an important aspect in an effective and robust aftercare programme. Only then will the rehabilitation and de-radicalization programme be fully successful and Pakistan will have its own model to showcase to the rest of the world.



Prime Minister of Pakistan Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani and Intelligence Bureau Director General Dr. Shoaib Suddle met Prof. Rohan Gunaratna, Head of International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR), Singapore, to discuss issues on terrorist rehabilitation and community engagement on October 15, 2008. The Prime Minister was presented with a copy of the Religious Rehabilitation Group (RRG) Singapore publication entitled "Winning Hearts and Minds, Embracing Peace".

CONCEPT PAPER FOR 1ST STRATEGIC WORKSHOP ON REHABILITATION AND DE-RADICALIZATION OF MILITANTS AND EXTREMISTS

Introduction:

The Workshop was organized by a partnership between the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) Secretariat. The aim of the workshop is to assist authorities in the North-West Frontier Province (NWFP) and FATA Capacity Building Programme (CBP) to develop policy recommendations for programmes aimed at the rehabilitation and de-radicalization of extremists and militants as well as their supportive population centres and “at risk” groups. The CBP is assisted by a panel of international experts assembled by the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) in Singapore.

Purpose:

Radicalized militant extremists who are incarcerated rarely have an incentive to reform their extremist ideology. Thus, an effective programme to rehabilitate and de-radicalize them is critical so they can be reintegrated into mainstream society after renouncing their extremist ways. The NWFP/FATA authorities urgently require a policy that prescribes a process to rehabilitate extremists who are currently under detention so that they can be released with an assurance they will not continue to be a threat to the security and stability of the nation. Additionally, this policy needs to prescribe programmes that effectively counter backtracking and prevent the recruitment of individuals or groups most susceptible to extremist causes.

Project Description:

The workshop was designed to inform and shape opinions, as well as facilitate discussions that will lead to a consensus recommendation. There were two phases, each

completed in one day. The first phase of the workshop enabled a broad group of fifty Pakistani leaders from the NWFP/FATA to gain some background knowledge about successful rehabilitation, reintegration and de-radicalization programmes that have been conducted in other Muslim countries through academic presentations by relevant experts. These Pakistani leaders consisted of individuals from the local government, NGOs, civil society, local security services, media, public representatives, economists, educators, mental health professionals, and religious scholars. The second phase was conducted for a select group of no more than twenty-five key Pakistani leaders from the NWFP/FATA. This phase began with a panel of principal Pakistani officials who presented their own perspectives on a policy framework in their respective areas of expertise based on the material covered in the first phase. This phase concluded with the participants developing a draft policy recommendation.

Objective:

The objectives of the workshop are twofold:

- To provide useful and relevant information that enhances the knowledge of NWFP and FATA officials on issues related to the rehabilitation and de-radicalization of militant extremists
- To assist in formulating a policy recommendation for the Federal Government that includes programmes which are practical and can be implemented given the Pakistani local and political setting, advice on the agencies that should be set up to respond to the need for such rehabilitation and de-radicalization programmes, as well as the identification of resources required for them.

Methodology:

Phase One was the conference held during which a team of international subject matter experts conducted two panel presentations, each comprising of a moderator and three panelists. The moderator is a leading subject matter expert who framed the panel discussion with an overview of the problem and validated solutions. The three panelists then took turns to share their own experiences on the rehabilitation, reintegration and de-radicalization of detained militant and extremists. They also shared the challenges they have encountered, the lessons learned from their experiences, and alternative policy and programme options. Each panel presentation was followed by a discussion and a summary of presentations. A brief of the discussions was given to the attendees at the end of the workshop. The moderators and panelists for the conference were selected based on topics pertaining to community engagement, religion, education, psychology, prison systems and vocational training.

The second phase took place two weeks after the first. Participation was limited to a select working group of decision makers from the NWFP/FATA. An executive panel of principal officials and subject experts began by presenting their own perspectives on a policy framework in their respective areas of expertise based on the material covered in the first phase. It is imperative that the executive panel and the rest of the working group attended the first phase as well.

The working group was then divided into two smaller groups. One group was composed of participants from security services (military and law enforcement), judicial and penal systems, and related civil officials. The other was made up of civil officials from public sectors such as education, community engagement, religion, vocational training and mental health. Each discussion group was guided by a facilitator (an international SME) and group leader. Additionally, Mr. Hifzul Rehman, Secretary of Administration NWFP, as an expert on local government reform, acted as a facilitator for the discussion groups.

The objective of each discussion group was to formulate part of the policy recommendations for the specific aspects assigned, based on a framework derived from the executive panel. The discussion groups then met in a plenary session and each gave a brief description of their respective findings. The overall policy recommendation was assembled based on contributions from the individual discussion groups during the final plenary session, after adequate time was given to synthesize the findings of each group into a comprehensive policy recommendation. Then the executive panel was briefed on the comprehensive policy recommendation, followed by a critique session during which revisions were made to the final policy recommendation. This final policy recommendation was scheduled to be prepared no later than one week from the conclusion of the workshop.

Proposed workshop participants:

1. Chief Secretary NWFP
2. Additional Chief Secretary, FATA Secretariat
3. Additional Chief Secretary for Development, NWFP
4. Home Secretary NWFP
5. Commander 11th Corps
6. IG Frontier Corp, NWFP
7. Secretary of Local Government Department, NWFP
8. Secretary of Finance Department, NWFP
9. Secretary of Planning Department, NWFP
10. Secretary of Administration, NWFP
11. IG Police, NWFP Commandant,
12. Commandant Frontier Constabulary, NWFP
13. IG Prisons NWFP
14. Secretary of Law and Order, FATA Secretariat
15. Secretary of Planning, FATA Secretariat
16. Secretary of Administration, FATA Secretariat
17. DG PDMA, FATA Secretariat
18. Director General of Projects, FATA Secretariat
19. Political Agent Bajaur
20. Political Agent South Waziristan Agency
21. Commissioner, Malakand
22. Commissioner, D.I.Khan

REHABILITATION PROGRAMME IN SINGAPORE

Ustaz Mohd Feisal Mohd Hassan
Senior Analyst
ICPVTR/RSIS, NTU, Singapore



In his presentation, **Mohamed Feisal Mohamed Hassan** introduced terrorist rehabilitation and its practices globally through case studies from countries such as Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Malaysia and Indonesia. He emphasized the need to engage in rehabilitation efforts due to the depth of the radicalization problem today. He also introduced the scopes of terrorist rehabilitation which include the ‘four modes of rehabilitation’—religious/spiritual, psychological, social, vocational and creative arts therapy.

He emphasised the need to realize that rehabilitation efforts need to be tailored according to the needs of each country. Certain common principles could be shared. The importance is for the governments to identify key partners and the mechanism which will enable the effective operationalisation of the particular terrorist rehabilitation programme. This soft approach as an avenue for de-radicalization allows institutions, agencies and people from diverse backgrounds with different specialities to unite and work together. Such philosophy helps in nurturing a sense of belonging to one’s nation. He emphasised the importance of instilling this philosophy of winning hearts and minds.

As a case study, he presented the experience of the Singapore terrorist rehabilitation approach. In his explanation, Mohamed Feisal highlighted a multi-pronged approach undertaken in terrorist rehabilitation, involving

several different partners including the government and various sectors in the community.

He focused on the case study of the Religious Rehabilitation Group (RRG) made up of religious scholars. These scholars had volunteered after the first arrest of JI detainees in Singapore in Dec 2001, to assist the Singapore government in rehabilitating JI detainees and others who were consumed by violent jihadism. This realisation on the part of the Singapore government to engage the ulema is monumental. From the initial engagement of Ustaz Haji Ali Haji Mohamed and Ustaz Haji Mohd Hasbi Hassan with the JI detainees, both of them realised that the detainees upheld a distorted ideology, promoting violence as a means to establish an Islamic caliphate. Their oversimplistic paradigm was filled with hatred and anger. The JI detainees felt exclusive as they believed that they were chosen by God to represent the global Muslim *ummah*.

To rebut these ideologies, both clerics believed in the need to come forward and assist in correcting their ideological misunderstandings and to safeguard the security of the nation against such ideologies. Based on this realization, they volunteered to form the RRG. In the early formation period, the RRG carried out extensive research before writing its own counselling manual. Two manuals have been written so far. These provided guidelines for the counsellors to carry out the religious counselling. The manuals address three major themes: (i) understanding the present reality, (ii) correcting misunderstanding of Islamic concepts, and (iii) managing hatred and anger.

Counselling usually involves four steps. The first involves extricating the negatively imbibed ideologies from the detainees’ minds. The second is replacing them with positive and an alternative understanding of Islamic concepts. The third is when the Islamic intellectual heritage is introduced, before finally teaching them to exemplify what was taught to them into practice in a secular Singapore. The RRG also performs community engagement programmes where intellectual partnerships with academic sectors and different organizations from around the world were established. To serve this end further, the RRG also has its own website as a platform for discussions on issues of ideology.

Concluding his presentation, Mohamed Feisal highlighted the importance of religious rehabilitation to win the hearts and minds of these people. As for the endurance of an effective community engagement dimension, RRG continuously expands its circle of friends to counter radicalization by promoting and sharing ideas and views.

He stressed that terrorist rehabilitation is a long-term continuous learning process and it is difficult to draw a fixed timeline. As there are acceptable differences in opinions for understanding and practising Islam, the RRG's main concern is to tackle the misunderstood aspects of Islam that have been used to legitimize violence.

REHABILITATION PROGRAMME IN SAUDI ARABIA

Salim Mohamed Nasir
Senior Analyst
ICPVTR/RSIS, NTU, Singapore



Salim Mohamed Nasir spoke on Saudi Arabia's efforts in the rehabilitation of extremist radicals. He highlighted Saudi Arabia's counter-terrorism strategy commonly known as 'PRAC' (Prevention, Rehabilitation and AfterCare). After years of using military means to eliminate terrorists and achieving little success, the Saudi authorities began to recognise that a 'soft' counter-terrorism strategy to address the ideological justifications for violent extremism is pertinent in order to complement traditional security efforts to eradicate terrorism. PRAC is thus a holistic approach to undermine the appeal of violent extremism. It encompasses various programmes that address various aspects: 1) to discourage individuals from becoming involved in extremism; 2) promote the rehabilitation of detained extremists, their supporters and sympathizers from political violence; and 3) to provide aftercare programmes to prevent recidivism and to facilitate the reintegration of reformed extremists back into Saudi society after their release from custody. These programmes are premised on the notion that extremists are misguided believers of a violent radical ideology who have perverted the true message of Islam as they are not

legitimate scholars and knowledgeable authorities of religious doctrine.

In his presentation, Salim also provided a brief profile of the extremists who underwent the religious rehabilitation programme, including how they were recruited and radicalized by terrorist groups. Researchers have found that most of the extremists are single young men with criminal records and equipped very rudimentary understanding of Islam. Often, it is found that they did not have much formal education or proper religious instruction. The majority of these extremists have been radicalized through extremist books, tapes, videos and, more recently, the Internet. The Saudi authorities believe that an understanding of the typical profile of extremists and how they are radicalized is crucial in helping to correct the extremists' misinterpretation of Islam.

Salim further informed the participants that central to the rehabilitation programme in Saudi Arabia is the Counselling Programme which is conducted by the Advisory Committee under the auspices of the Ministry of Interior. The Advisory Committee further comprises four subcommittees, namely the Religious Subcommittee, the Psychological and Social Subcommittee, the Security Subcommittee and the Media Subcommittee. Salim detailed the complex process of religious dialogue, instruction, and psychological counselling that detained extremists in Saudi Arabia go through, as well as the extensive social support provided to the detainees and their families by clerics, counsellors and members of the four subcommittees.

Salim noted that the relative success of Saudi Arabia's PRAC strategy can be attributed to a number of factors. First, the Advisory Committee is able to draw on an extensive network of religious experts and scholars in Saudi Arabia

to assist them in the rehabilitation programme and religious instruction. The fact that religious scholars and the government are viewed as equals in maintaining social stability in Saudi Arabia also helps the religious scholars to present themselves as independent actors in the rehabilitation process and not appear that they are acting on behalf of the government. A second contributing factor is the size and capabilities of the Saudi security services. Coupled with fewer concerns about civil rights in the Kingdom, they have been instrumental in monitoring released detainees and countering terrorist threats.

Salim identified three major obstacles for the PRAC strategy to be implemented elsewhere, especially in non-Muslim countries. Foremost, authorities involved in the rehabilitation programmes may have to rely on a much smaller pool of Islamic religious experts and scholars and resources for the successful implementation of these programmes may be limited. Also, as religious experts and scholars are unlikely to be perceived as working independently of the government unlike the case in Saudi Arabia, they are most likely to suffer from a lack of credibility in the eyes of the detainees. Another disadvantage is the lack of an extended family structure, especially in the West where young terrorist offenders are second- or third-generation citizens with weaker family ties. Thus the use of family support in the counselling process will be minimal and the use of familial relations as controlling and monitoring mechanisms will be diminished. The lack of a comprehensive monitoring system, together with strong civil and human rights restrictions, may present another hurdle to a successful implementation of a de-radicalization programme.

In concluding, Salim was optimistic that Muslim-majority countries, with the presence of the extended family structure and security system that can provide a holistic support system, may study the Saudi model for transferable

applications. Although there may be a short supply of independent religious scholars as compared to Saudi Arabia, it may still be possible to run such programmes although not as extensively as the Saudi model. While the U.S. and other Western countries can play a critical role in providing support in implementing and running “de-programming” counselling programmes, Salim cautioned that a direct U.S. support may be counter-productive. It can provoke questions on the counsellors’ legitimacy and credibility. Bearing that in mind, the U.S. can still make positive contributions by providing discreet support in finance and training.

During the discussion, there was concern over recidivism rates but Salim opined that the seven- to eight-per-cent recidivism rate was considerably lower than the criminal recidivism rate, which could be around 20 to 25 per cent or even as high as 30 per cent. The Saudi rehabilitation programme, which is still in its infancy stage, still has room for improvement, and it would be unfair to demand higher standards for the programme than criminal rehabilitation work. He added that a comparison between the Singapore and Saudi rehabilitation programmes shows that the complementary roles of the government, religious scholars, the general public and families are important success factors. The major difference between the two programmes is that while it is culturally acceptable to provide material support for released detainees in Saudi Arabia, it is not necessarily so in Singapore. In both cases, the detainees lack proper religious knowledge and are more easily influenced by certain radical ideologies and drawn into extremist groups. Although it is difficult to measure the true response of the detainees, there are many other mechanisms to help the authorities decide whether an individual is ready to be released. The bottom line is that there cannot be a fixed period for rehabilitation as it depends on individual cases.

PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF RADICALIZATION

Malkanthi Hettiarachchi,
Clinical Psychologist



Malkanthi Hettiarachchi remarked that radicalization happens from within. The person is transformed by an ideology and wishes to live by it, promote it, and die for it. Therefore to de-radicalize, it is important to identify the essential components that radicalization fulfils: a sense of meaning, belonging, acceptance, purpose, value, being special, having power, dignity and respect, being a defender of the community/race/religion/ nation.

She stated that the reasons for radicalization are many. There is no singular explanation and several authors have contributed to this area. A person can be drawn to radical groups due to personal reasons, ideological reasons and/or social reasons. Significance is yet another important aspect, which can be personal, social, and ideological. Motivations can be collective, going beyond the individualistic and this makes it possible to sacrifice self, family and children in the pursuit of greater cause – a collective cause.

She asserted that clerics, teachers, community leaders, popular figures and peers have the capacity to help and

effect change. The military has the capacity to de-radicalize former cadres. They can help by building trust, rapport and a genuine relationship and engaging the 'other' – as a first step to effect change.

She also highlighted three major approaches to attitude change: 1) Cognitive/thinking (psycho-education, cognitive challenges, cognitive dissonance, cognitive restructuring); 2) Behavioural/action (through role play and reinforcement); and 3) Social (interpersonal interactions, acceptance, validation, and role modeling). The aim is to foster an alternative way of thinking and being; reconcile with the past and create new meaning/significance.

It is important to have a multipronged approach to de-radicalization and rehabilitation. The numerous areas that need to be simultaneously tackled are: 1) Educational needs (build the future), 2) Vocational needs (livelihood), 3) Cultural/ Religious needs (connected to values of one's heritage), 4) Community (nurture community and cohesion), 5) Sport/ Extracurricular activities (to develop the spirit of discipline and comradeship beyond ethnic/religious divide), 6) Social (build social skills, find acceptance and meaning in society) and 7) Psychological/Therapeutic (to reconcile with the past and find meaning in the future).

Assessment in general involves four essential components to determine change: 1) Interviews with the individual, 2) observation of the individual within the welfare/ rehabilitation centre, and 3) informal assessment such as behaviour records/education records/past history and formal assessments. The De-radicalization Survey is one such formal assessment used that measures a variety of aspects related to radicalization. The De-radicalization component within this survey particularly looks at extremist

thinking, support for violence, negative attitudes towards other ethnic communities, etc. Formal assessments help to provide an objective account of progress and also to inform if the rehabilitation components help to de-radicalize the individual.

In her conclusion she reiterated the importance of understanding the nature of radicalization to be able to de-radicalize. Adopting a multipronged approach to rehabilitation and developing systems to monitor and measure progress is vital. Reducing the factors in the form of political and military injustices that push people towards radicalization, providing skills to cope with

injustices, inoculating the community through community engagement programmes, providing opportunities for people to develop as individuals are some of the measures that were proposed. These ought to be complemented by setting up systems that will be spearheaded by well-motivated people. Concrete examples of such systems or programmes include the rehabilitation of detainees, community engagement programmes, and family intervention programmes. Active promotion of such programmes in the form of constant media and poster campaigns promoting values of non-violence and social cohesion is also imperative.

SRI LANKAN INITIATIVE IN REHABILITATION OF FORMER TAMIL TIGERS

Malkanthi Hettiarachchi,
Clinical Psychologist



Malkanthi Hettiarachchi began by highlighting that rehabilitation is essential because incarceration is a breeding ground for further radicalization. The state is convinced that ex-cadres need to be rehabilitated. The staff working within the centres also support the spirit and ethos of rehabilitation. The linguistics need to reflect this – with ex-cadres referred to as ‘beneficiaries’. The beneficiaries are individualised and personalised (giving value to each person) so that the beneficiary begins to see the ‘other’ as non-threatening, observing behaviour and values they want to be a part of and adopt. This also encourages them to realise the distorted images propagated and maintained of the ‘other’ by the terrorist organisation as being invalid.

It is essential when working with a captured or defeated group of people that one recognises it as an ‘opportunity’ to win over the individual. If the terrorist organisation won over civilians into their rank and file by demonising the ‘other’ and providing meaning and significance, then the body responsible for rehabilitation needs to look at reversing this process. Reversing this process involves being a role model that will break down the negative perceptions inculcated in the minds of the cadres. This does not happen by ‘telling’, ‘reassuring’ or ‘advising’ but happens through action/role modelling so that the cadres can ‘see’ for themselves and ‘feel’ for themselves that the demonised ‘other’ is not what was projected by the terrorist organisation.

She further emphasized that rehabilitation is about changing ‘Hearts and Minds’ through engaging the beneficiary in several activities that are transformative. Any effort at rehabilitation needs to address practical livelihood concerns (Hearts) that involve Education, Vocation, as well as Social Rehabilitation and Sports/Extracurricular activities. Attitudinal change occurs through countering the ideology (Minds) using counselling, creative therapies group work, mentorship/role models, community/reconciliation and family programmes. An essential part of rehabilitation is to engage the beneficiary in dialogue with relevant individuals and in group settings to facilitate transformation in thinking and to counter the separatist mono-ethnic ideology.

The components of rehabilitation are several. Educational rehabilitation provides the necessary basis to develop people for the future and foster development as well as counter the narrow and closed thinking promoted by the terrorist organisation. It also frees the person to think beyond the narrow ideology and to develop critical thinking. Vocational training is a practical aspect that helps to create livelihoods and exposes the person to the dignity of a vocation. Social rehabilitation helps to develop skills to function in society which would subsequently lead to social acceptance. Similarly social activities also help with integration. Cultural and religious rehabilitation involves dance, music, drama, poetry and folklore that emphasize valuable morals embedded in the culture and religion thereby promoting universal values. Psychosocial rehabilitation is to support beneficiaries to make the mental adjustment from having lived within a war situation and worked with an organisation that promotes terror to adjusting to civilian life in the community. It also helps the beneficiary to cope, adjust and reconcile with the loss of position and power and the loss of a sense of belonging to an organisation they believed in. It also helps the beneficiary to reconcile with a world view they believed in (of being persecuted and aspiring for separatism), and to embrace new family and community-oriented roles. The Mentorship programme involves people of influence such as artists, singers, educationalists, entrepreneurs, sports persons. It motivates beneficiaries to the possibilities and the opportunities available to achieve success irrespective of caste, race or religion. Exposure to role models and mentors is also essential to develop corrective thinking.

Monitoring and the follow-up of any rehabilitation programme is essential. This includes having recording and monitoring systems in place similar to a parole system, conducting ongoing risk assessments, holding supportive sessions to prevent recidivism and carrying out pre-emptive work based on the risk profile (closer monitoring of higher intensity support for high risk). To complement, a family integration programme to foster attachment to the family, community and nation is also necessary to eradicate the mindset preoccupied with an ethnic divide.

Within the Sri Lankan context the De-radicalization Survey is used to measure a variety of aspects related to radicalization. Some aspects measured violence and aggression, collective

and individualistic thinking, attitudes towards other ethnics and attitude towards the organisation. Follow-up is vital post-release to ensure that the rehabilitation work conducted within the centre is reinforced. Assessment is indeed one method that would help to inform the decision makers of how well the rehabilitation programme is progressing.

Rehabilitation is about fostering change in thinking and behaviour, supporting the beneficiary to develop an alternative view of the world and develop new meaning in life with a view to reintegration. Any successful rehabilitation programme is about finally reintegrating the beneficiary into society that will enable the individual to lead a productive life.

The challenge for rehabilitation is to foster change in thinking to achieve change in behaviour. For example the mainstream believes that they hold the standard and that Group X needs to change in order to be accepted into mainstream society. Group X believes that they are wronged, threatened and persecuted by the mainstream and thus resorts to terror. This is the challenge for rehabilitation - to achieve a cognitive shift/change in thinking.

In her conclusion, she elaborated on the essential aspects to consider. In setting up a rehabilitation programme, there has to be awareness in Pakistan that incarceration alone will not counter the spread of radicalization but it becomes a breeding ground to fuel radicalization. By holding ex-cadres with common criminals, the potential to develop more networks and recruits will increase. By having high risk, moderate risk and low risk cadres in the same compound also heightens the risk of further radicalization. For every detainee in custody there will be 5 to 30, if not more supporters, out in the community. Therefore if each detainee is supported through rehabilitation, the ripple effect of its positive impact is far reaching. While it is not possible to rehabilitate all ex-cadres, there is the need to rehabilitate as many as possible and allow for those rehabilitated to influence the rest. Peer learning is the most powerful learning tool available to human kind. In concluding her presentation, the presenter urged each and every in the audience to think in terms of rehabilitation and to start the process of rehabilitation in your own way. It is new territory for Pakistan and indeed for all present.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO COUNTER DEVIANT AND RADICAL IDEOLOGIES

Dr. Shanthikumar Hettiarachchi
Lecturer, De Montfort University, Leicester, UK



Shanthikumar Hettiarachchi in his presentation mentioned that community has been the recruitment grounds by militant groups to propagate their radical and deviant ideologies. Hence it is the same base which must be mobilised for de-radicalization and to set in motion a sustainable and carefully designed community engagement programme (CEP).

He asserted that community engagement is fundamental as a bottom-up strategy to convince the same community of its civic responsibility to avert the members of the community from being pushed to the social margins into political isolation and economic deprivation. FATA's current situation is self evident of such a scenario. A community engagement programme to reverse the situation could be a combined effort by the non-combatant military officers and civic authorities working side by side with the communities and their leadership.

Contextualising faith and practice at the community level alongside the fundamentals of Islam and the teachings of the *Hadiths* is a way to include both Muslims and non Muslims in nation building. Faith in Islam in no way could be just a manipulated ideology which is contrary to Islam. It is essentially a spiritual practice for transformation of community to engage in the common good – aspiring for peace and stability.

He further emphasized that community engagement must be a home grown model. It must be planned, devised, executed and monitored by the leadership of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) even though other international models of rehabilitation and peace keeping processes may be adopted and adapted. International players can be of help both in terms of development of ideas and resourcing the plans for rehabilitation work. They also need to understand the historical dimension of the KPP and draw support for the coalitions of local experts to deliver the plan of action.

It is important to attempt a micro project on community engagement at an *ad experimentum* level within the overall plan for rehabilitation work so that it could be further developed and eventually be a venture whereby local capacity is built up both to deliver and sustain the programme.

In conclusion, he stressed the need for CEP and its centrality in breaking the cycle of resentment suspicion and fear. It is an attempt to regularise the civic administration, build its capacity and work alongside the community leadership. CEP can win the lost confidence and must be seen to help and support civic life. It is vital to bring back national, provincial and local relationships and restore the dignity pride and prosperity as a nation.

YEMEN'S COMMITTEE FOR DIALOGUE

Shahzadi Beg

Human Rights Lawyer based in the United Kingdom



Shahzadi Beg presented an overview of the Republic of Yemen as an impoverished country where guns are considered to outnumber people and sectarian conflict is raging between the Shias and the Sunnis. It is however also regarded as one of the first Muslim states to consider and openly acknowledge dialogue with militants as a central component of any counterterrorism strategy. This unorthodox approach to deal with detained extremists and militants became known as the Committee for Dialogue. The programme is widely recognised as one of the very first efforts at prison-based de-radicalization. The public face of the Committee's efforts is Hamoud al Hitar, a former Supreme Court Judge.

Unlike other regional states, the Yemeni government not only allowed Yemeni nationals to return but also encouraged other foreign fighters to settle in Yemen. Foreign veterans of the Afghan war, the so-called Arab Afghans, were welcomed to Yemen, many of whom were permitted to settle there. Shahzadi Beg further explained that upon their return to Yemen, these fighters were co-opted by the regime and incorporated into security structures. She gave a historical

perspective of the development of these fighters and the emergence of terrorist attacks in Yemen.

Terrorism in Yemen escalated in 2000. In October of that year the American destroyer USS Cole was attacked in Aden as it was refuelling. The attack resulted in the deaths of 17 sailors. In October 2002, MV Limburg the French oil tanker was similarly bombed off the coast of Yemen in the Gulf of Aden.

From the bombing of Limburg in October 2002 until 2006, Yemen enjoyed a respite from terrorist attacks and it was during this period that the dialogue committee was established and it worked to engage with militants detained in Yemen.

At the time the relative lull in violence in Yemen and the absence of any major attacks by violent Islamists contributed to the belief that the dialogue process was working successfully. However, a number of factors contributed to the return of terrorism in Yemen, including the 2003 invasion of Iraq, the February 2006 prison breakout of Al Qaeda militants and the emergence of a new generation of extremists who continuously aim to forge violence in Yemen. Shahzadi Beg further added that the Iraq War and its invasion by allied forces has created greater argument for the extremists as they see the events as another injustice to an Islamic country where innocent women and children were killed. Increased radicalization has been accompanied by sizeable numbers of militants travelling to Iraq in order to fight against coalition forces. It is generally perceived that Al Qaeda's February 2006 prison break was at the onset of a split between the older cautious members of Al Qaeda in Yemen and a younger fraction radicalized through fighting in Iraq and committed to striking against the state and un-interested in negotiations with the state.

Following the September 11 terrorist attacks, the Yemeni government engaged in dialogue with all those arrested on suspicion of involvement with Al Qaeda. President Saleh in a public statement said:

“We have a group of young people who hold dangerous beliefs. Those people have not committed any crime but if we leave them on their own they could cause great harm to themselves and to the country. We need to talk to them”.

The Council of *Ulema* subsequently held meetings in September 2002 to choose members of the Committee. Some of the detainees did not recognise the legitimacy of the Yemeni *ulema* and considered them to be infidels. As a result of this and concerns about physical safety some of the *ulema* refused to become part of the Dialogue Committee.

On 15 September 2002 the Committee held its first meeting with five detainees described as the most intellectual and the most extremist of all Al Qaeda prisoners. At the first meeting the detainees stated that there were no legitimate *ulema* in Yemen because if they would not have been in prison if there were.

It was explained to the prisoners that the dialogue process was an all or nothing endeavour and that the detainees should attempt to convince the Committee members that their interpretation of Islam was the correct one and that the *ulema* would try to persuade the detainees that their understanding of Islam was the correct one.

It was mutually decided that the *Quran* and the *Sunnah* would form the basis of the dialogue. The *Hadith* provided an essential foundation for the dialogue sessions in light of the fact that the Prophet himself favoured dialogue wherever possible, even with his arch enemies.

In order to establish equality in the dialogue everyone present took an oath on the *Quran* to speak the truth and to respect each other's opinions. On that basis the detainees agreed to participate in the dialogue process. The swearing on the *Quran* was considered to be fundamentally important to legitimise the dialogue process.

The ethic and dialogue rules and guidelines were also included.

Ms Beg further described the proceedings of one of the first discussions that Yemen was not an Islamic state and the government was pro-Western. The Committee responded by bringing in copies of the Constitution and the penal law for the detainees to inspect. However, the detainees could find nothing that ran contrary to *Sharia* after examining the country's constitution and the penal law. Nor were the detainees able to find anything un-Islamic about Yemen's international Treaty obligations. They recognised that the Prophet had engaged in treaties with both Christians and Jews.

The Committee sought to prove that the Yemeni government was legitimate and that the head of State must be recognised as leader. A leader commands the obedience of the population.

Once the detainees accepted the legitimacy of the President they had to accept that obeying the head of State was an obligation. This was regarded as the breakthrough to effective disengagement of many detainees from terrorist activity.

Another important topic of discussion was the permissibility of killing non-Muslims. The detainees began from the premise that they were *kufr* and that such actions against them were allowed. Judge al Hitar replied that it was forbidden to spill blood regardless of religion. He elaborated by explaining that the Quran clearly states that killing can only be justified with a rightful reason related to circumstances of war or oppression where people are prevented from practising their religion and are driven out of their homes.

According to the government the detainees were well-treated during their incarceration and that this was a contributing factor to the success of the programme. Yemeni returnees from Guantanamo Bay did not participate in the dialogue process.

Detainees were required to sign a document testifying to their renunciation of their previous beliefs in order to be released through the dialogue programme. Detainees' families and tribal members were asked to vouch for the released individuals and be responsible for them.

Upon release from custody, participants in the dialogue programme were monitored by the authorities, typically for the probationary period of one year. This was done through a special committee within the National Security Bureau. Yemeni intelligence was charged with supervising the release of detainees. A number of those released through the programme were given positions with the military and security forces in order to better keep tabs on them. Some of the detainees were said to have spoken to others after their discharge in order to convince them that terrorism and violence is unacceptable in Islam.

Success of the programme

Shahzadi Beg discussed the Dialogue Committee's role in achieving several intended goals. These included getting the detainees to recognise the sovereignty and Islamic legitimacy of the Yemeni government and an assurance that they would abstain from committing violent acts within Yemen.

The government also sought to ensure that the detainees would not target Westerners or Western interests in the country. These were the primary deliverables that the dialogue programme sought to achieve. On these issues the dialogue Committee has achieved relative success.

One criticism of the programme was that the regime was less interested in actual ideological engagement and more interested with political expediency as it was under pressure to show the US that it was a reliable ally. This may be partially true although there is clear recognition that the nuts and bolts of the debates fell squarely within the parameters of religious ideology.

A number of critics have alleged that the dialogue process was hampered by the fact that it was undertaken in prison. This was said to have contributed to a sense of inequality

and an atmosphere un-conducive to dialogue, discussion and debate. Many of the detainees felt aggrieved that they had been arrested unjustly and further wronged in prison by the treatment they received.

Some felt forced into participating in the programme in order to be eligible for release from detention. Some felt that they should have never been detained in the first place. After release, many detainees had been promised employment opportunities and other forms of assistance. When some of these promises of after-care assistance went unmet some detainees felt even further victimised.

Independent observers considered that the dialogue process represented a unique innovation and that the dialogue process might have gone even further has a greater proportion of society been involved in the process perhaps in a public debate.

The programme was able to reform about 40% of the jihadists. Judge al Hitar recognised early on that although some detainees had memorised *suras* or verses of the Quran they found it difficult to interpret these very verses and could not in many cases referred directly to Sharia sources.

Historically the relationship between the regime and jihadists is a complicated one with many individuals playing a dual role. Despite this the government is generally considered to have lost control of Al Qaeda cells in the country. Since December 2009 after the failed attempt to blow up a Detroit-bound flight by the Nigerian born Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab the focus has once again shifted to Yemen and to Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula. He reportedly trained in Yemen and the attack was planned there.

His spiritual leader, the American Anwar Awlaki, – who was also the spiritual leader to Major Nidal Malik Hasan, the US Army medic who shot dead 13 people at a military base in Texas last November, is also suspected to be hiding there. The importance of his presence in global jihad is his ability to radicalize Muslim youth with his English language writings and online presence.

A further challenge exists between the younger generation aged between 16 and 24 which considers that violent jihad is permitted inside Yemen where the government has allied itself to the US and that it can also be undertaken in Iraq and Afghanistan where there is an illegal US occupation. What is clear is that there is a need for a wider public debate to open up dialogue on the legitimacy of fighting Jihad in both Iraq and Afghanistan. Yemen's relationship with the US has been made more complex by the latter making economic reforms a condition of aid. There is little recognition that parts of Yemeni tradition is stronger than religion.

An important indirect benefit of the programme was that some released detainees who had family or community support were able to provide high-value intelligence as a result of which Mohammed Al Ahdal, the alleged mastermind in the bombing of the USS Cole was captured.

Additionally, civil society since the dialogue began has started to debate in mosques not only on issues of terrorism but also on political and civil rights. The legitimacy of Yemen's private prisons run by tribal chiefs, also known as hostage prisons – to keep hostage the families of escapees; has been successfully challenged and abolished.

Nabil al Sofee, a former member of the Islamic party and the Muslim Brotherhood, now a chief editor of *The News* in Yemen stated:

“People will revise their ideas when they listen to rational debates which are well-reasoned and articulated. Mobilisation and radicalization only happens because of what goes on in closed rooms where people are isolated from the views of others. Despite the criticism, the programme should be extended to the millions out in the street who need to have a dialogue... Clerics mobilise people for *Jihad* and yet never go for *Jihad* themselves living in comfortable houses. For 10 years we only had one voice to speak on *Jihad*... no one looked into thinking of those who went to Afghanistan and the process by which they

were indoctrinated until now. The success of the dialogue programme is the fact that people are now beginning to debate how and why people have joined terrorism”.

Shahzadi Beg then shared an example of an Egyptian, Sayed Imam (Abdul Aziz al Sharif) regarded as the authority on jihad and mentor of Bin Laden and Zawahiri. He wrote a 10 part document called 'Rationalizing the Jihadi action in Egypt and the World' to 'counter' his previous work regarded as compulsive reading by jihadists was called 'The Master in making preparation for Jihad' which appeared in 1988 as the Afghan jihad was nearing its end.

Sayed Imam argued that to perform jihad is dependent on comprehension and ability, parental permission for the minors is required and dependents must be provided for. Indiscriminate bombing is not permitted; the lives and property of Muslims must be preserved. He further argued that it is treacherous to enter a Western country with its government's permission then to carry out bombings as the 9/11 hijackers did. He stated that neither fraud nor drugs could be used to fund jihad. He said there is no such thing in Islam as the end of justifying the means. His defection poses a monumental threat to Al Qaeda which accounts for a 200 page rebuttal of Sayed Imam's views by Ayman Zawahiri called 'The Exoneration' published shortly after Sayed Imam's revision.

In conclusion, Shahzadi Beg pointed out that while Sayed Imam's work is highly relevant for Pakistan and ought to be read and understood, he is tragically mostly unheard of. As Judge al Hitar acknowledged from the outset Jihadists have a value system and all terrorist operations are founded on an ideology. It would be difficult to overestimate the influence of the Yemeni initiative; its related counterterrorism efforts can be felt in different countries where attempts to debate ideology and critically engage detainees are now becoming standard practice.

SINGAPORE'S COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Salim Mohamed Nasir
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Salim Mohamed Nasir started his presentation on the Community Engagement Programme (CEP) in Singapore by telling the participants how the CEP came about. He mentioned that an important lesson from the London bombings of 7 July 2005 was that while there may have been a plan on what actions to take to maintain communal harmony after a terrorist incident, the outcome and reality on the ground was very different. Despite political and religious leaders issuing statements of unity and solidarity, hate crimes jumped by almost 600% in the weeks following the attack. What then would Singaporeans' response be if a terrorist incident occurred in Singapore and there was destruction and loss of lives? If, as in the London incident, the perpetrators were home-grown, the strain on communal relations is likely to be much greater in multi-religious, multi-ethnic Singapore.

He further explained that the 11 September 2001 attack in the United States and other subsequent attacks have

revealed a trend that terrorism is now largely linked to religious extremism. The terrorists use religion as a justification to commit violence against others. The arrests of Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) members for plotting bombings in Singapore in 2001 showed that Singapore can be a target of these terrorists as well. It also showed that there were Singaporeans who have been misled by these terrorists. The JI continues to pose a real threat to the Southeast Asian region. This was clearly portrayed in October 2005 by the three suicide attacks in Bali as well as subsequent attacks in Jakarta. Terrorism is a long term threat to Singapore, so there is a need to prepare ourselves to prevent attacks and to manage the consequences should there be an attack.

Experience in the U.K. and the U.S. has shown that besides the casualties and the physical damage, the social stability, trust, confidence and harmony amongst the people may also be threatened when terrorists strike. If terrorists successfully launch an attack in Singapore, they will not just want to kill people and destroy property. Their true intention is to create suspicion, tension and strife between the different racial and religious groups in Singapore.

He further added that a crisis such as a terrorist incident is a national problem, not solely attributable to any particular race or religion. Singaporeans must face any such crisis united as one nation and one people. He explained that the Community Engagement Programme was not just another anti-terrorist emergency planning effort. The programme has enabled the country to put the necessary systems in place to ensure that society stays strong and united during and after such a crisis, so that it can recover quickly, and as Singaporeans, they can continue to work, study and live together in peace and harmony.

In addition, he highlighted the fact that the CEP is supported by a defence framework – Total Defence, which was launched in 1984 to provide a comprehensive umbrella framework to bring together all Singaporeans in dealing with all kinds of threats and challenges. Its five pillars are military, civil, economic, social and psychological. The five pillars provide clear objectives towards protecting the Singaporean way of life. The CEP is an initiative that can be classified under the social and psychological pillars as it involves community leaders, inter-ministry agencies and grassroots organisations in managing and minimising inter-communal tensions.

Salim then explained that the CEP is a long-term effort to preserve social cohesion and harmony in the event of a terrorist attack in Singapore. It is about bringing together Singaporeans from different communities to strengthen inter-communal bonds. Through the CEP, the community will also be involved in response plans that will be activated if a terrorist incident occurs. These plans aim to help Singaporeans cope with the shock and to stay calm and resilient. Salim reiterated that a united society is not achieved by Government policy alone. The people's contributions are very important. Ideas and activities under

the Community Engagement Programme will come from the communities and be implemented by the communities. The Government will coordinate and support these efforts and create more opportunities for different communities to meet and know each other.

Salim informed the participants that the established networks would involve not just grassroots or religious groups, but also educational institutions like schools, polytechnics, ITEs, universities, as well as employers, unions, clan associations and the media. Since the launch of the CEP, many activities and initiatives undertaken by the various community groups have taken place. These cover the areas of (1) building awareness of Singapore's diversity and the need for racial and religious harmony; (2) building understanding and forging bonds; (3) involvement and participation from the community; as well as (4) building capacity to enhance social resilience.

In his conclusion, Salim reiterated that a crisis may lead to misunderstanding and tensions in Singapore's multi-ethnic, multi-religious society. The CEP thus seeks to keep it strong and united during and after a crisis, so that Singaporeans can continue to live together in harmony.

AN OVERVIEW OF PROJECT “SABAWOON”

Dr. Muhammad Farooq Khan



Muhammad Farooq Khan, an Islamic scholar and writer, presented the Project Sabawoon. He mentioned that it was started during the last phases of Operation Rah-e-Rast (SWAT) for the De-Radicalization and de-indoctrination of captured young suicide bombers. This was done to

re-introduce them into society as productive persons. Currently, the project has 84 students.

He described the striking features and patterns that were observed. More than 95% of the boys were between the ages of 13-19 years. They belonged to extremely poor families and were studying in government schools. They did not have any males as role models and they belonged to rural areas. The same percentage of these boys had only heard the Taliban version of Islam and had never heard anything negating Taliban's version. Hence, they were led to think that there is no *Shariah* law in Pakistan, that democracy was against Islam and that the implementation of *Shariah* is solely the duty of the Government. The boys also thought that *Jihad* can be declared by any group of pious Muslims and that the use of force is allowed for every pious person or group to eradicate vice. They also accepted the idea that the U.S. is an axis of evil which has declared

war against Muslims and that Pakistani rulers are stooges of the U.S. and are hence infidels.

Farooq then explained that the project embarked on the spirit of love, which is inculcated in the boys' minds and that the therapists are involved because of their love for Islam. The boys were educated on the laws of the Shariah, which means all the commandments of Islam, that also includes the state laws too. They are informed that 90% of the *Shariah* belongs to the individual and community and 10% to the state. They were also taught the following:

- The Pakistani constitution is fully in accordance with Islam;
- All the laws, except for one, are according to the teachings of Islam;
- Democratic system is in accordance with Islam;
- Jihad and qital do not share the same meanings and have differences in usage and terminologies;
- That armed struggle or war is the prerogative of the state only (this point was stressed highly);
- For an individual or a group, the only mode of struggle is non-violent struggle;
- The hadith, "Man Raa Minkum..." addresses only the people with legal authority;

- The U.S. is the enemy of some Muslim states, but not all;
- Their rulers are the collective reflections of their morals and conduct;
- The only way to oust occupant forces is through democracy;
- Militancy has inflicted a heavy toll on Muslims;
- Failure of Muslims is that they are lagging behind in education;
- Suicidal attacks are against the teachings of Islam;
- Suicidal attackers have never succeeded in achieving their goals.

Achievements

More than 90% of the boys now believe that war is the prerogative of the state and that the real struggle is non-violent and is instead peaceful struggle. They are also imbibed with the mindset that democracy and education are the panacea for Muslims and that militancy is not a solution.

Farooq concluded his presentation by stating that the impression about the U.S. and the West has not changed positively.

PROJECT "SABAWOON"

Dr. Fariah Parveen, NGO activist



Fariah Parveen that Sabawoon marks a new beginning for the youth of Malakand Division in an endeavour to create a brighter future for the affected youths. The project was

launched in September 2009 with 22 children housed in a rehabilitation facility for vulnerable youth in the Malakand Division. The desired objective of the programme was to launch Sabawoon as a pilot project with the aim of handing it over to an NGO in consultation with the GHQ and Provisional Government. The facility is currently managed by Hum Pakistani, a Lahore-based NGO.

She further elaborated that the Malakand Public School was chosen as a site for the rehabilitation facility for the Sabawoon project with an initial cost of PKR 4.4 million (USD 51 000). The different phases of the project ensured the development of classrooms, living rooms, mosque, auditorium inclusive of staff room and living quarters for staff. The induction programme was initiated in September 2009.

Fariah Parveen stated that 34% of the participants were voluntarily turned in by their parents while another 39% were apprehended and 25% surrendered before starting the programme. From the initial group, the centre found out that 50% (40) of the participants were categorised as low risk; 38% (45) to be of medium risk and 12% (12) to be on a high risk. (Figures in brackets denote number of participants.)

She explained that the participants had gone through a series of activities during their stay with militants and extremists. For example, they underwent military training where they went through physical fitness sessions and were taught to handle weapons, including how to fire them. They were also equipped with field craft skills as well as combat skills to act as foot soldiers. On top of that, they were capable of giving information to security forces, acting as administrative couriers. Finally, they were also trained to be suicide bombers. Most of these participants also showed signs of having been subjected to physical abuse.

Rehabilitation Programme

At the Centre the participants attended formal education modules affiliated with Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Board of Secondary Education with examinations held in March. They also attended the technical education modules affiliated with Khyber Institute of Technical Education as well as de-radicalization modules. Other aspects of rehabilitation were also introduced to the participants. These include the Familial Engagement Programme, physical training and sports, co-curricular activities and mental health programmes.

A total of 35 staff members are currently managing the facility, including a principal, 2 managers, 12 teachers, 2 psychologists, a social worker, a physical instructor, a doctor, a nursing assistant, 4 cooks, a general operator, 3 office boys, a barber, a laundry man and 4 sanitary workers.

The De-radicalization programme consists of weekly lectures by Dr. Muhammad Farooq Khan and his video

lectures. There is also a resident *Islamiyat* religious teacher and interaction sessions with family members on weekends.

The mental health component covers induction/screening, risk stratification, regular counselling sessions, behaviour modification and family counselling.

The reintegration process involves multi-dimensional and inter-sectoral collaboration. The shortlisting of deserving candidates is based on performance in education and vocational skills, psycho-social assessment and observation by specialists and community survey and familial engagement. The reintegration criteria are as follows:

- Low risk children are reintegrated first with the following variables in place:
 - Psychological adjustment
 - No association of family members with terrorists
 - No association with militants
 - No presence of militants in the community
 - Vocational skill and facilitate loans to start a small business if school is not an option
 - Availability of school/education

In her conclusion, Fariah Parveen described the following conditions set by the centre:

- Family has to agree that the child will report weekly to the local Law Enforcement Agency
- The student will either go to school, vocational skill training and or start a small enterprise (with the help of HP)
- After completion of 6 months, the reporting will be on a monthly basis
- The young person will not join *Lashkar* at any cost
- Should the young person not report, move away, without informing the centre, punitive action will be taken against the family/guarantor – the centre will hold in custody one family member until the whereabouts of the student are known

MILITANCY IN THE KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA (KP)

The IGP



The IGP started his presentation with the causes of militancy with direct reference to the 9/11 and the 'War on Terror', the spillover effect due to the "porous borders" as well as the internal factors attributing to the militancy in the region. The internal factors include the existing administrative system (the *Malaki System*), tribal norms and traditions, operational difficulties due to the terrain, role of *madrassahs*, lack of clear cut strategy, constraints of manpower, resources, equipment, socio-economic deprivation and the criminal nexus: kidnappings.

The IGP then shared the militant tactics and its effect on law and order and statistics on terror related activities (see *Appendix*).

The KP Police has also embarked on initiatives to counter the militants and these include the sensitization and public mobilization against the militants and the capacity building of the police force. Public mobilization comprised of the establishment of Community Police Force. The following incentives were also created – the formation of peace committees; *Musalihati* committees, increased quota in

recruitments in the Police Force; and the award of gallantry medals for bravery to civilians. Specialized units were also formed in the counter against militants. The specialized units are the Elite Police, Project Coordination Unit (PCU), Directorate of Counter Terrorism (DCT), Bomb Disposal Unit (BDU), Strategic Planning Unit within CPO, Directorate of welfare and Morale Affairs and the training of heavy weapons for these specialized units.

The IGP further explained that the recognition and award system is being deployed as part of its morale boosting measures and includes the *Shuhada* Package. He also explained the reasons for the continuation of suicide campaigns and measures to prevent them.

The IGP concluded with the following as the way forward for KP:

- The war on terror has to be contained and won or it will spread to major countries of the world.
- An emergency has to be declared for prevention of radicalization in all vulnerable areas/institutions. Similarly a dedicated well-funded programme for rehabilitation and de-radicalization is absolutely crucial.
- There can be no proper development or investment without a secure environment.
- Pakistan in general and KP and FATA in particular will seriously be affected.
- Law enforcement agencies have to be built up to a critical level for fighting the insurgency – equipment – technology – training – infrastructure development
- Provision of speedy justice.
- Economic development to improve social sector and creation of job opportunities like the conservation Corp of USA during the depression in 1930s.

YOUTH RADICALIZATION

**Shahzadi Beg, Human Rights Lawyer
Based in the U.K.**



Shahzadi Beg started her presentation with a summary of the 2-day proceedings.

She emphasized the creation of an environment in which rehabilitation programmes for militants in detention and de-radicalization programmes for the community can be undertaken.

She further elaborated on the characteristics of youth radicalized into militancy in Pakistan. The overwhelming majority of these militants are under the age of 25 and a substantial proportion is teenagers. Many of these individuals belong to the lowest social strata of the country with very poor families. The youth bulge in Pakistan has proven to be the most susceptible section of the society to be recruited. The destitution of many young men makes them believe that they have nothing to live for or everything to die for. This impoverished environment is being exploited by mere prayers of religious clerics in the militant groups who offer an easy narrative or easy solutions and a promise of sudden victory if one chooses to die for God.

Ms Beg shared more illustrations of a number of militants whom she has interviewed who claimed that martyrdom was obligatory. They were taught by those who recruited them that there could be no greater honour than the honour of serving God. Many were made to feel empowered by the given weapons and saw this as a rite of passage into manhood. In trusting the lethal weapons to young militants, the act was seen as endorsement of their moral and religious character and a source for pride for those who see themselves as holy warriors.

She then recounted an interview she had with a 14-year old boy from South Waziristan who had never been outside of his village. He was caught trying to detonate a suicide bomb at a military checkpoint. He kept saying that he had gone to Afghanistan on his suicide mission without realising that he was still in Pakistan. He drew a map to show the location, clearly demonstrating that he was not aware that the location was still within Pakistani borders. There was clear evidence that there was a lack of religious understanding as well as knowledge on geographical issues, with the minute information possessed probably as a result of brainwashing. This was also true with the other interviewees that she had encountered. All had worn the same thread and everything they said centred around the notion that the Pakistan army was an army of *kufrs* and that they did not even believe in God or even about being Muslims. The public beheadings especially of those suspected of being spies instilled fear in them.

Many militants Ms Beg spoke to talked about finding great purpose, cause and feeling that they wanted to belong to a militant movement. She reiterated the dominance of anti-American sentiments, with many of them saying that the NATO and the U.S. in Afghanistan were non-Muslim occupiers.

The U.S. together with Israel were seen to be aggressively against Muslims in different parts of the world and some said the U.S. was the enemy of Islam and they viewed Pakistan as its client state. Child soldiers were easily indoctrinated through building a sense of blind idolism and having the lack of ability to make rational and informed choices.

The interviews that she conducted provided strong evidence of long-term psychological damage to these children. Some were initiated into a movement by actually being asked to kill someone. Some were said that they were told to fire weapons at the age of nine. The boys interviewed were very remorseful and were traumatised by their actions

The boys provided insights into frightened and confused minds coupled with an overwhelming sense of insecurity about the future. Some were even victims of cross-sexual abuse resulting in an extremely complex sense of insecurity and an immense sense of betrayal as their trust were felt to have been breached.

Many find disclosure very difficult. Post-traumatic stress disorder in some cases was compounded with assumptions of other people's judgements. Complex issues evolve around identity and some avoid painful and uncontrollable memories of association.

She gave another example of one 14-year old interviewee and how he was recruited. The interview started with get-to-know questions about his family and how relaxed he was initially. The moment he was actually asked about how he was picked out by TTP, he started fidgeting with his hands. Ms Beg could not take her eyes off his hands as his body language spoke volumes. He was ashamed about what had happened to him. It was possible that his involvement and subsequent acts done to him was a result of neglect by his family.

He came from a poor background and they offered him a lift on the truck and they asked him whether he wanted to hold a weapon. Seeing how powerful they were, he started to gravitate towards what he saw as men who held guns and the prospect of having no one challenging him as a result.

There were no police officers nor army to challenge what they do. They began to groom him for a suicide mission. He has been in detention for 7 months and he was still unable to talk about what happened and was deeply traumatised. In general, the militants are aware that if those who were killed or incarcerated can be easily replaced by new and more determined young recruits.

Another example was a 15-year old boy, who in her opinion was extremely dangerous. She was at one point quite alarmed because the boy refused to watch television. They tried to persuade him through a lot of means to try to watch television and he would not do it. He became absolutely paranoid until they played the *azan* (call of prayer) on television. His eyes were just going left to right, frowning because he wanted to see it but he restrained from watching it because he thought it was a trick and that somehow they would try to trick him. The boy has been brainwashed to think that the television was the work of the Devil.

The extent of brainwashing was truly astonishing. These boys came from very rural areas with no exposure to the world beyond their village. It makes it difficult for one to attempt and persuade them that the religious perspective taught to them is incorrect and what they had done was actually unIslamic. No detainee can be expected to be turned around without believing in themselves and realising the extent to which they have been lied to. This is very important especially in the context of rehabilitation programmes because the understanding has to come from

themselves. This is to ensure a more sustained effect of deradicalisation. Ultimately, militants are aware that this could deprive them of the human capital to be used as their recruits.

Terrorist organisations and justifications for violence need to be discredited. Suicide attacks must be shown as a means by the organisations to indiscriminately kill innocent people. Disengagement from terrorism cannot be isolated. To understand how and why people leave terrorism behind, Ms Beg suggested the need to first understand how and why they join terrorism in the first place.

She recalled an incident involving a man who bombed the air force bus in September 08, 2007. The man left behind a letter which was found in a house. The letter read as follows:

“Dear Fatma, the Almighty has given us life and I am sacrificing my life for religion. The world is trying to wipe out Islam. One million Muslims have been killed in Iraq. The Islamic government of Afghanistan has been ousted. Muslims are being killed in every part of the world. In Pakistan, it was created in the name of Islam; true Muslims are being killed, detained or being handed over to infidels, America. What did the people do to deserve to be brutally killed and tainted in blood? In this situation, Islam is seeking sacrifice. This is the path of the Sahabat and it is the only way of salvation and promotion for Islam” (sic).

Shahzadi Beg reiterated the kind of mentality possessed by those who give up their lives for what they see to be bigger than them. Each recruit has a story to tell and boys as young as 10 and 12 were offered rides in pick-up trucks by members of the Taliban. She asserted that we need to

change our approaches and paradigms so that these boys will understand that there are better choices in life and that they can achieve their goals in life.

She then illustrated another example of a 19-year old boy who was married. After one week of marriage the girl left him and went to Canada where she had relatives. He tried to contact her but she did not want to be with him anymore. He got so frustrated that he could not keep his wife and he did not have a job. This eventually led to him joining a terrorist organisation. Later, they sent him on a mission to plant a bomb. He felt guilty that some of the *Mujahids* were killed. When he was asked why they were called *Mujahids*, he explained that one of them was carrying a copy of the Quran in his pocket. Ms Beg decided to pick up a piece of paper and said that she was holding a piece of the Quran and enquired if she had qualified to be a *Mujahid*. The man was absolutely distraught; he was inconsolable because it dawned on him what he had done to his life. On top of that, the people that recruited him were outside and he was in jail. He also realised that he killed a lot of people and the chances of him ever being released were absolutely bleak. This was the first time in his life he actually had time to think of the consequences of what he did.

Shahzadi Beg concluded her presentation by stating that well structured intervention measures striking the core of militants' ideology can significantly impact on the supply and demand of suicide bombers. The aim is to denounce the act of violence that has taken the innocents lives of both the victims and the perpetrators in what was seen as acts of martyrdom. There is a need to remind ourselves that military operations are short term. Only challenging the militants' religious ideology will reduce extremism and provide Pakistan with a proper brighter future.

THE WAY FORWARD

Khalid Aziz,
Former Chief Secretary of KP



The 2-day workshop ended with the following resolutions chaired by Mr. Khalid Aziz, former Chief Secretary KP. The steering committee has agreed on the vision, recommendations and the implementation strategy. The steering committee's vision is to create a functional society free from violence and integrated globally within the Pakistani cultural context. The following recommendations were also adopted:

- Review the current curriculum and infuse critical thinking into it
- Formulate a sound communication strategy to marginalise the militant ideology
- Create a rehabilitation programme for detained militants and the political will to implement it
- Build capacity of the legal judicial system
- Increase the capacity of law enforcement agencies and improve the governing system to effectively hold the area after withdrawal of the armed forces
- Create a governance structure that includes all the government departments to assist in implementation of policies
- Have an apex institution which has the capacity to coordinate all activities under the structure

For the implementation strategy, the following will be carried out:

- Cut down support of the community to the militants
- War is the State's prerogative
- For curriculum change – master trainers are needed to take up the task of de-radicalization through the revision of syllabus by incorporating the teachings of Islam into regular teachings
- Introducing critical thinking into the curriculum
- Training the Judicial Officers (Prosecutors) with militant laws
- Enhance the vocational component in communities to
- bring the livelihood cycle to normalcy
- Termination of implementation of parallel programmes within departments

For vocational, the following has been recommended:

- Increase employment opportunities
- Immediate increase of the current spending on vocational training by 10-15%
- The expansion beyond the district setup to include the Tehsils and union Councils
- The inclusion of stipends and interest free loans for those under the rehabilitation programmes from the government
- Providing alternative means of livelihood to include training and financial support

For Social Sector interventions under education and health, the following have been recommended:

Education

- Reform the national curricula to include critical thinking
- Access to education for all (MDG)
- Mainstreaming / reforming the madrassahs

Health

Build capacity for treating mental health and other psychological problems

- Primary Healthcare Services should provide access to the marginalised and victims of trauma
- Improve access by enlarging the role of non-governmental service providers in primary healthcare
- Community to play a bigger role in the management of primary healthcare

Other Programme Intervention to include the following:

- Proposed that a single line allocation be reflected in the next ADP of KPK and FATA for rehabilitation and de-radicalization programmes
- The implementation of a community engagement programme
- Encourage the early return and quick resettlement of IDPs with the restoration of infrastructure

CONCLUSION

“A war is not yet won until the defeated is made your friend”

Owais Ahmed Ghani,
Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Executive Summary:

The FATA Capacity Building Programme (CPB) was directed by USAID to conduct a conference and workshop on behalf of the FATA Secretariat. The purpose of the conference was to highlight the issues relating to rehabilitation and de-radicalization of militants and extremists in the FATA and KPK for a core group of selected FATA and KPK government officials as well as a broader group of community leaders. The purpose of the workshop was to assist the core group in developing a policy paper that detailed the necessary programmes, responsibilities and resources required by the FATA/KPK to proactively address the problem of rehabilitating militants and extremists as well as reduce radicalization of those portions of the community that either actively support or have the potential to support militant and extremist causes. The conference consisted of presentations on case studies of rehabilitation and de-radicalization programmes in Muslim and non-Muslim countries, as well as presentation focusing on the functional areas of rehabilitation and de-radicalization programmes. The workshop consisted on presentations by selected members of the Pakistani core group on their perspectives relating to rehabilitation and de-radicalization based on their areas of expertise, followed by a detailed discussion on the content of a draft policy document. The CPB was assisted by international subject experts assembled from the International Center for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) and South Asia Network on

Conflict Research (SANCOR), who have been engaged by the Government of Pakistan since 2008. ICPVTR and SANCOR staff have held meetings and conducted research throughout Pakistan to build support in laying the foundation for a rehabilitation programme.

Background

Radicalized militant extremists who are incarcerated rarely have an incentive to reform their ideology without an effective programme to rehabilitate them so they can be reintegrated into mainstream society without returning to their extremist cause. The FATA and KPK Provincial government urgently require a policy that prescribes a process to transform individuals who are currently under detention so that they can be released with relative assurance they will not continue to be a threat to security and stability of the nation. Additionally, the policy needs to prescribe programmes that effectively counter backtracking and prevent recruitment of individuals or groups most susceptible to extremist causes.

Workshop Highlights

The major imperatives for success of programmes for rehabilitation and de-radicalization emphasized during the conference phase were:

- Militants and extremists must be engaged through genuine dialog with credible interlocutors in order to alter their radical ideology.
- Rehabilitation and de-radicalization is a process that must be extended beyond the individual to include his or her family and community. Addressing ideological change in the individual without addressing his or her social support network cannot ensure continuity of the process.

- Rehabilitation and de-radicalization programmes are not stand-alone solutions, and must be part of a comprehensive government approach to address root causes of militancy and extremism.
- Current ongoing efforts in rehabilitation and de-radicalization in the FATA/KPK need to be consolidated into an overall programme in order to improve effectiveness, expand the participants, and increase international funding.
- Education reform, both secular and religious, must be undertaken by the government to ensure lasting ideological change that is necessary for stability.

Conference Phase

The conference phase on May 18th was designed to expose a selected core group of Pakistani leaders from the FATA/KPK, as well as a broader group of Pakistani government officials and community leaders from the FATA and KPK to academic presentations from subject matter experts who had conducted successful rehabilitation, reintegration and de-radicalization programmes in other Muslim and non-Muslim countries. These Pakistani leaders were drawn from the local government, NGO's, civil society, local security services, media, public representatives, economists, educators, and religious scholars. The conference phase consisted of two panel presentations. The first panel presentation consisted of case studies on rehabilitation and de-radicalization programmes Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Singapore and Sri Lanka. The second panel presentation focused on the functional areas of religious aspects, educational aspects, clinical psychology aspects, vocational training aspects and community engagement.

Workshop Phase:

The workshop phase on May 19th was designed to facilitate discussion to produce a policy recommendation for the Federal Government that includes implementable programmes, responsible agencies, and resources required to address the issue of rehabilitation and de-radicalization of militant extremists in the FATA and KPK. The workshop was restricted to selected core group of Pakistani officials who would draft the policy recommendation. The workshop phase began with a panel of principal Pakistani officials who presented their own perspectives on a policy framework in their respective areas of expertise, in context of the material covered in the conference phase. This included presentations

from the KPK Home Secretary, former 11th Corp Commander, .Inspector General KPK Police, Deputy Inspector General KPK Frontier Scouts, Vice Chancellor of Swat University, and Director of the Sabawoon Rehabilitation Centre.

Policy Paper Recommendation:

The policy paper outlines a recommendation for the KPK Provincial Government to institute programmes for rehabilitating detained militants and extremists and de-radicalizing their social support systems. A series of programmes designed to counter radical ideology and provide job skills to detainees, combined with community engagement designed to facilitate reintegration can turn a defeated adversary into a productive member of society. It recommends that these programmes, and linkages to existing development and reform programme, be guided by the Provincial Government Apex Committee, to ensure the coordination of all the concerned government agencies. The responsibility of programme implementation should rest with PaRRSA/PDMA, with emphasis on strengthening existing institutions and agencies rather than creating new one.

Conclusion

The project objectives for both the conference phase and workshop phase were adequately met. The guidance and criteria described by USAID and the ACS were adhered to. Despite scheduling delays, last minute invitations, last minute cancellations of presenters and participants, as well as unanticipated competing events, the workshop was well received. Adjustments were made to both the agenda and the participant list to accommodate the imposed changes. Participants who were invited in advisory role assumed more active leadership roles, presentations were combined where appropriate, and the planned division of the workshop into two syndicates (security and governance) was abandoned in favour of one combined discussion group. The flexibility and cooperative spirit of all involved; workshop organizers, presenters and participants, ensured the project requirements were met. The workshop is a step forward in the right direction for Pakistan in its efforts to establish a structured rehabilitation programme. They must now work even harder as the journey towards successful implementation of the rehabilitation programme is a long one and the need to persevere for Pakistan has many challenges ahead.

APPENDIX

Terrorism in KP at a Glance

<i>Offences</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>14.05.2010</i>
Suicide Bombing Cases	28	30	47	20
Improvised Explosive Device	205	201	210	44
Gun Battle / Direct Attack cases Missile, Hand Grenade attacks etc	126	293	470	55
Human Lives Lost (all)	409	603	1,020	366
Human Disabled (all)	1,015	1,315	2,910	798
Militants killed in combats with Police / FC	46	150	138	52

Source: Presentation Slides by IGP

Human Sacrifices in War against Terror 2007-2010

<i>Year</i>	<i>Persons Killed</i>				<i>Persons Injured</i>			
	<i>Police</i>	<i>Other LEAs</i>	<i>Civilians</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Police</i>	<i>Other LEAs</i>	<i>Civilians</i>	<i>Total</i>
2007	108	94	253	455	232	251	592	1,075
2008	167	77	409	653	318	174	885	1,377
2009	200	129	742	1,071	445	306	2,244	2,995
14.05.2010	49	43	298	390	134	99	588	821

Source: Presentation Slides by IGP

Year-Wise Terrorist attacks foiled by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police (Recoveries)

<i>Description</i>	<i>2007</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>14.05.2010</i>
No. of Cases Registered	75	94	116	36
Explosives Materials (kg)	122	52,366	5,898	94
Explosive Jackets	20	20	20	2
Hand Grenades / Dynamites, Detonators & Anti Tank Mines	190	481	14,301	86,366
Rocket launchers, Bombs, Missiles & Mortar Missile Shells	220	93	656	286

Source: Presentation Slides by IGP

Militants Killed / Injured in Encounters 2007 - 2010

<i>Year</i>	<i>Militants Killed</i>	<i>Militants Injured</i>
2007	43	9
2008	53	15
2009	91	34
30.04.10	32	12

Source: Presentation Slides by IGP

Daily Times (Pakistan)
NEWS COVERAGE

**TWO-DAY STRATEGIC WORKSHOP ON
DE-RADICALIZATION OF MILITANTS KICKS OFF!**

Tuesday, May 18th, 2010 – A two-day Strategic Workshop on “Rehabilitation and De-radicalization of Militants and Extremists” was held in Peshawar here Tuesday which was presided over by Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Owais Ahmed Ghani later in the afternoon. Organized by the FATA Secretariat, under the banner of FATA Capacity Building Project, the workshop was attended by Senior Government Officials, Political Administration, Foreign Dignitaries, Seasoned Policy Analysts, Civil Society Representatives, besides Inspector General Police Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Malik Naveed, US Consul General Candace Putnam and Secretary Administration and Coordination FATA Abid Majeed.

The principal aim of this one-of-a-kind policy dialogue was to find practical ways and means of reforming the ideology of radicalized extremists in an effort to rehabilitate them so that they could be reintegrated into mainstream society without returning to their extremist cause. Addressing the inaugural session, Former Chief Secretary Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Khalid Aziz underlined the urgency of a policy that prescribed a process to transform individuals who were currently under detention so that they could be released with relative assurance they would not continue to be a threat to security and stability of the national interest.

Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Owais Ahmed Ghani, while addressing the participants stated that since the problems in FATA were multifarious so a multidimensional approach was needed to tackle them. “Although we have accomplished significant success as far as counter insurgency measures in FATA are concerned, still a lot must be done in terms of initiating reconciliation with those who can be brought back to the mainstream society”, he added. In his concluding remarks, the Governor expressed optimism that with the help of much noble and strong tribal reconciliatory mechanisms (Jirga System) which were already in place in FATA, things were about to change for better.

Stretched over two phases, each one day in length, the first in the series had been designed to expose a broad group of leaders and policy makers from FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to case studies from subject matter experts who have successfully carried out such rehabilitation, reintegration and de-radicalization programmes in other conflict affected countries. These guest speakers hailing from Singapore, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Sri Lanka *were brought together on a single platform by the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) Singapore in partnership with the FATA Capacity Building Project.*

Dawn News (Pakistan)
NEWS COVERAGE

WIN HEARTS AND MINDS TO CURB MILITANCY

By Induswaters

Wednesday, 19 May 2010, PESHAWAR: Experts from different countries on Tuesday put their heads together to suggest Pakistan how to rehabilitate the militants and extremists fighting its security forces in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the adjoining tribal belt.

A two-day strategic workshop on rehabilitation and de-radicalization of militants and extremists which started here on Tuesday appeared to be the first attempt at official level for reintegrating such elements in the society.

Organised by the Fata Capacity Building Project, a US funded initiative being implemented in tribal areas, the workshop is aimed at assisting the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government and Fata Secretariat in developing policy recommendations for rehabilitation of militants.

This activity has been designed to enhance the knowledge of government officials and assist them in preparing policy recommendations for federal government. Experts from International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR), Singapore, covering rehabilitation programmes in different countries are acting as resource persons for the two-day activities, where senior military and civilian officials were taking part. Governor Owais Ahmed

Ghani, who presided over the first session of the workshop, told the participants that use of force was not the solution to curbing militancy. "It is only a mean to create space for other interventions to take place," he added. He said that increasing social fragmentation in Pakistan society because of sectarian, ethnic divides and socio-economic inequalities was causing intolerance, violence, uncertainty and lack of confidence among the people. Mr Ghani said the government had so far tackled militancy through military means. "The ideological aspects of the issue have not been addressed so far. It has to be done for winning hearts and minds. Time has come now to do this," he said.

He stressed the need for reconciliation process in the region. "The Pakhtun society has many noble and good traditions of reconciliation that need to be activated in the due course of time," he added. Earlier, former provincial chief secretary Khalid Aziz underlined the urgency of a policy that prescribed a process to transform and release the individuals, who were currently under detention, on the assurance of their relatives that they would not be a threat to the country.

Feisal Mohammad Hassan, Salim Mohamed Nasir of ICPVTR, Malkanthi Hettiarachchi, Dr. Shanthikumar Hettiarachchi and Shehzadi Beg presented case studies of rehabilitation programmes being run in Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Sri Lanka and Yemen respectively.

Daily Times (Pakistan)
NEWS COVERAGE

**EXPERTS ASK GOVERNMENT TO ADOPT
REHABILITATION STRATEGY FOR TERRORISTS**

**Speakers participate in last day of workshop on 'Rehabilitation and Reintegration of the Taliban'*

Staff Report

Thursday, May 20th, 2010: PESHAWAR: Experts specialising in reintegration of ideologically driven people recommended the government on Wednesday to adopt a rehabilitation strategy for detained terrorists.

The experts were speaking on the last day of a strategic workshop on 'Rehabilitation and Reintegration of the Taliban'. The speakers stressed upon the need for marginalising terrorist ideologies in the society. FATA Additional Chief Secretary Habibullah Khan, Ghulam Dastgir Khan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police Inspector General Malik Naveed, former Peshawar corps commander Lieutenant General (r) Hamid Khan, Malakand Commissioner Fazl Karim Khattak, Provincial Disaster Management Authority Director General Shakeel Qadir and former Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chief secretary Khalid Aziz also spoke on the occasion. They recommended that a sound communication strategy be formulated to tackle the influence of the ideology of terrorists.

The speakers also highlighted that a comprehensive strategy be adopted for promoting de-radicalization of the detained terrorists and revising the curriculum of various subjects in educational institutions. They also called for building the capacity of law enforcement agencies and improving the governance structure including that of government departments to assist the implementation of policies after the military withdraws from the terrorism-hit areas.

Earlier, Dr Farooq, a religious scholar, informed the audience about Sabawoon, a rehabilitation centre established by the army in Swat to rehabilitate the arrested terrorists. He said that because of their physiotherapy and religious counselling, a majority of the terrorists have been rehabilitated but warned that anti-US sentiments still persisted in their minds. Home Secretary Akbar Khan informed the audience about the laws, which dealt with the handling of terror suspects while Malik Naveed gave a presentation on the contributions of police in the ongoing war on terrorism. He said that this war had to be won or it would spread to other parts of the country. Naveed stressed for the provision of speedy justice and execution of development projects in the affected areas.

BBC
NEWS COVERAGE

Pakistan: Operation continues in Orakzai, 10 killed in Waziristan drone strike

1179 words

22 May 2010

09:13

BBC Monitoring South Asia

BBCSAP English

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Text of report by privately-owned Pakistan television Dawn News on 22 May; Words in double slant lines in English And let us learn about the latest situation of the operation in tribal areas from our bureau chief in Peshawar Zahir Shah Shirazi, who is joining us:

[Begin live relay] [Anchorperson Aftab Borka] Zahir, first, tell us about the situation in Orakzai Agency. What is the situation there now?

[Shirazi] Aftab, today at the Samdara area near Dabori, which is an important place in the upper Orakzai Agency and is known as the stronghold of Taleban, the security personnel claimed today that more than 15 militants were killed in a clash. Beside, two security personnel were also injured in the clash. Let me tell you here that the army has cleared several areas of Taleban in the central Orakzai beside lower Orakzai, but Taleban are still present in a big number in Dabori, Khiljo, Arghanjo, and Mamozai areas of the upper Orakzai and they are fighting the security forces. Let me also tell you here that more than 800 militants, including 200-250 foreign militants, have been killed in the operation in Orakzai Agency. The main reason for the stiff resistance in Orakzai Agency is stated to be the presence of mostly foreign militants, including Arab, Uzbek, Tajik,

and Chechen, who are fighting the Pakistani security forces under leadership of Mullah Tufan. So far, we can say that the security forces have got control of some areas of lower Orakzai, central Orakzai, and upper Orakzai during the operation, which has been going on for more than a month now. However, despite that the militants occasionally attack security check-posts and convoys of security forces. So, we cannot say for sure that the security forces have got control of the upper Orakzai Agency.

[Borka] Zahir, beside up to 10 people have been killed in a drone strike in North Waziristan. What details do you have about this?

[Shirazi] Aftab, we have observed for the first time that official and Taleban sources have confirmed and the Political Administration is also confirming that children and women were also killed in this drone strike. Earlier, no such confirmation was made at official level. So, we can say that in the drone strikes not only key Taleban and Al-Qai'da leaders but several children and women have also died in such strikes as most of the drone strikes are being carried out in residential areas as residential houses of these people are built adjacent to these seminaries. As a result many civilians have been killed, but until this day neither the US State Department nor Pakistani authorities or Political Administration have released such facts and figures that can give the idea about how many civilians have been killed in these [strikes]. Let me add here that the sentiments against drone strikes and anti-American sentiments are on the rise and we have observed in this area that religious extremism and pro-militancy mindset is on the rise to a great extent. Let me tell you in this connection that now the Pakistani Government, in collaboration with international agencies, has announced such a project that will help in taking steps to overcome the trends of pro-militancy mindset and militancy training. We can say

that the government is taking such an initiative to bring down the trends of militancy and religious extremism in the young people. Let us see a report which tells that how the government will take measures for bringing down the trend of extremism and militancy in the country:

After the 9/11, militancy and religious extremism spread rapidly in the tribal areas of Pakistan and several settled areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, including Malakand division. Not only the law enforcement agencies paid a heavy price for this but it also paralyzed the life of the people. No matter, what were the factors for this spread of militancy in Pakistan, but the negligence of government institutions helped a lot in its promotion.

[Khalid Aziz, former chief secretary of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, name and title identified from screen caption, in progress] These were marginalized people and groups who got out of educational system, the health system, and the livelihood system of the government. One reason or cause for militancy is this that the people being marginalized and not taken care of get annoyed with the government and carry out anti-government activities.

[Shirazi] In the two-day international conference held in the provincial capital recently, local and international experts presented their recommendations for negation of pro-militancy mindset and for rehabilitation and guidance of the young people involved in terrorism. The International Center for Political Violence and Terrorism Research, Singapore, will also assist the Pakistani institutions in devising a comprehensive strategy against militancy, which will prove an important step toward changing the pro-militancy mindset.

[Gen, retired, Hamid Khan, former corps commander of Peshawar, name and title identified from screen caption] Radicalization means a thinking has cropped up in their mind and which needs to be cleansed. Now that thinking [pauses] First you contained that thinking by the military operation. After containing that [thinking] you have to fight against their ideology or thinking and finish that.

To defeat that ideology you will have to take such actions which could defeat it.

[Shirazi] Experts also say that end of militancy is not possible with military operations. However, it needs a robust planning. They say promotion of positive thinking can prove helpful in stopping the inclination toward militancy.

[Gen, retired, Hamid Khan] You will have to teach people about the things they have been saying or the misinterpretation of Islam they have been doing. Various ways have to be adopted for that. The community will have to be included in that. Our clerics will have to be involved in this. In our schools and colleges such an education should be imparted which opens their [students] mind and they understand that what militants are saying is not right.

[Correspondent] Although the services of international experts have been obtained to give this project a practical shape yet they say that no project succeeds until it is not harmonious with national needs and interests.

[Khalid Aziz, in progress] that you review your policy and reintegrate these marginalized people and areas. A process should be initiated for the people who are in jails or at other places. Either there should be a legal action against them or if the legal action is not being taken they should be set free to go to their homes. And then engage those to solve their problems while remaining within the limits of government and society.

[Shirazi] Whether it is a military operation or any planning it will not be easy to root out militancy and extremism in the country without providing the sense of security through social and economic justice. Zahir Shah Shirazi, Dawn News, Peshawar [end live relay]

Source: Dawn News TV, Karachi, in English 0800gmt 22 May 10

Daily Today's Muslim Peshawar
NEWS COVERAGE

Pakistan: Win hearts and minds to curb militancy

Staff Reporter

396 words

20 May 2010

Daily Today's Muslim Peshawar

PMMUSP English

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PESHAWAR: Experts from different countries put their heads together to suggest Pakistan how to rehabilitate the militants and extremists fighting its security forces in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the adjoining tribal belt. A two-day strategic workshop on rehabilitation and de-radicalization of militants and extremists which started here appeared to be the first attempt at official level for reintegrating such elements in the society.

Organised by the Fata Capacity Building Project, a US funded initiative being implemented in tribal areas, the workshop is aimed at assisting the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government and Fata Secretariat in developing policy recommendations for rehabilitation of militants.

This activity has been designed to enhance the knowledge of government officials and assist them in preparing policy recommendations for federal government.

Experts from International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR), Singapore, covering rehabilitation programmes in different countries are acting as resource persons for the two-day activities, where senior military and civilian officials were taking part.

Governor Owais Ahmed Ghani, who presided over the first session of the workshop, told the participants that use of force was not the solution to curbing militancy. "It is only a mean to create space for other interventions to take place," he added.

He said that increasing social fragmentation in Pakistan society because of sectarian, ethnic divides and socio-economic inequalities was causing intolerance, violence, uncertainty and lack of confidence among the people.

Mr Ghani said the government had so far tackled militancy through military means. "The ideological aspects of the issue have not been addressed so far. It has to be done for winning hearts and minds. Time has come now to do this," he said.

He stressed the need for reconciliation process in the region. "The Pakhtun society has many noble and good traditions of reconciliation that need to be activated in the due course of time," he added.

Earlier, former provincial chief secretary Khalid Aziz underlined the urgency of a policy that prescribed a process to transform and release the individuals, who were currently under detention, on the assurance of their relatives that they would not be a threat to the country.

Feisal Mohammad Hassan, Salim Mohamed Nasir of ICPVTR, Malkanthi Hettiarachchi, Dr. Shanthikumar Hettiarachchi and Shehzadi Baig presented case studies of rehabilitation programmes being run in Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Sri Lanka and Yemen respectively.

Plus News Pakistan
NEWS COVERAGE

Pakistan: Problems in FATA are multifarious: Ghani

Staff Reporter

406 words

19 May 2010

Plus News Pakistan

PMPLUN English

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ISLAMABAD: A two-day Strategic Workshop on “Rehabilitation and De-radicalization of Militants and Extremists” was held in Peshawar here Tuesday which was presided over by Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Owais Ahmed Ghani.

Organized by the FATA Secretariat, under the banner of FATA Capacity Building Project, the workshop was attended by Senior Government Officials, Political Administration, Foreign Dignitaries, Seasoned Policy Analysts, Civil Society Representatives, besides Inspector General Police Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Malik Naveed, US Consul General Candace Putnam and Secretary Administration and Coordination FATA Abid Majeed, as stated in a press release issued by the Directorate of Information FATA Secretariat.

The principal aim of this one-of-a-kind policy dialogue was to find practical ways and means of reforming the ideology of radicalized extremists in an effort to rehabilitate them so that they could be reintegrated into mainstream society without returning to their extremist cause. Addressing the inaugural session, Former Chief Secretary Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Khalid Aziz underlined the urgency of a policy

that prescribed a process to transform individuals who were currently under detention so that they could be released with relative assurance they would not continue to be a threat to security and stability of the national interest.

Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Owais Ahmed Ghani, while addressing the participants stated that since the problems in FATA were multifarious so a multidimensional approach was needed to tackle them. “Although we have accomplished significant success as far as counter insurgency measures in FATA are concerned, still a lot must be done in terms of initiating reconciliation with those who can be brought back to the mainstream society”, he added. In his concluding remarks, the Governor expressed optimism that with the help of much noble and strong tribal reconciliatory mechanisms (Jirga System) which were already in place in FATA, things were about to change for better.

Stretched over two phases, each one day in length, the first in the series had been designed to expose a broad group of leaders and policy makers from FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to case studies from subject matter experts who have successfully carried out such rehabilitation, reintegration and deradicalization programmes in other conflict affected countries. These guest speakers hailing from Singapore, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Sri Lanka were brought together on a single platform by the International Center for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) Singapore in partnership with the FATA Capacity Building Project.

Daily Times
NEWS COVERAGE

**Pakistan: Ghani calls for reconciling with
'willing' militants**

Staff Reporter

379 words

19 May 2010

Daily Times

PMDAIT English

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PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Owais Ahmed Ghani pleaded on Tuesday "reconciliation" with militants willing to come into the mainstream. "Although we have accomplished significant success as far as counterinsurgency measures in FATA are concerned, however a lot still remains to be done in terms of initiating reconciliation with those who can be brought into the mainstream," Ghani said while addressing the opening session of the two-day "Strategic Workshop on Rehabilitation and De-radicalization of Militants and Extremists".

He stated that the problems in FATA were multifarious, hence a multidimensional approach was needed to tackle them, however, he added that sectarian and ethnic issues were as dangerous as militancy.

Ghani expressed optimism that with the help of the jirga system, things are "about to change for the better".

Organised by the FATA Secretariat under the auspices of the FATA Capacity-Building Project, the workshop was attended by senior government officials, the political administration,

foreign dignitaries, analysts, civil society representatives, besides Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Inspector General of Police Malik Naveed, US Consul General Candace Putnam and FATA Administration and Coordination Secretary Abid Majeed.

Urgent rehabilitation: "The principal aim of this one-of-a-kind policy dialogue is to find practical ways and means of reforming the ideology of radicalized extremists to rehabilitate them so they can be reintegrated into mainstream society without returning to their extremist cause," former Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chief secretary Khalid Aziz said. He added, "There is an urgent need for a policy that prescribes a process to transform individuals who are currently detained so that they can be released with relative assurance that they will not continue to be a threat to security and stability of national interests."

The first day of the two-day seminar had been designed to give exposure to a group of leaders and policy-makers from FATA and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to case studies of relevant subjects from experts who successfully carried out such rehabilitation, reintegration and de-radicalization programmes in other conflict-hit countries.

Guest speakers from Singapore, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Sri Lanka had been invited by the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research, Singapore to participate in the seminar in collaboration with the FATA Capacity-Building Project.

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NEWS COVERAGE

Pakistan: Experts on militancy to meet in Peshawar

Staff Reporter

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PESHAWAR: Experts on militancy, terrorism and deradicalization will meet in Peshawar this week to develop policy recommendations for the government, aimed at rehabilitating and reintegrating the Taliban and deradicalising their supportive population centres as well as “at risk” groups, the media has learnt.

“Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA urgently require a policy that prescribes a process to transform individuals who are currently under detention so that they can be released

with the relative assurance that they will not continue to be a threat to the security and stability of the nation,” the workshop organisers told the media. Additionally, this policy “needs to prescribe programmes that effectively counter backtracking and prevent recruitment of individuals or groups most susceptible to extremist causes”, they added.

The workshop, according to senior officials, suggests a shift in Islamabad’s policy on fighting terrorism, as the last eight years of operations against militants have yielded little results in containing the Taliban-linked movements. The USAID-funded FATA Capacity Building Programme is conducting the two-day workshop from May 18-19 in Peshawar and is being assisted by the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) in Singapore, the organisers said.





Workshop Participants



Speakers at the Workshop



During Q n A



Workshop Participants



Invited Guest Speakers with Mr. Khalid Aziz, Former Chief Secretary KP

About The International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR)

The International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR) is a specialist centre within the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. The Centre seeks to integrate academic theory with practical knowledge, which is essential for a complete and comprehensive understanding of threats from politically-motivated groups. Its research staff comprises functional and regional analysts from South Asia, Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia, Oceania, Africa, Europe, North America and the Middle East. The research staff is drawn from academia and government agencies and also includes Muslim religious scholars. The centre seeks to maintain its unique cultural and linguistic diversity. More than fifty percent of ICPVTR staff is Muslim.

Mission

ICPVTR conducts research, training and outreach programmes aimed at reducing the threat of politically motivated violence and at mitigating its effects on the international system.

Core Objectives

- To conduct sustained research and analyses of terrorist, guerrilla, militia, and extremist political groups and their support bases. To this end, the Centre collects and analyses literature seeking to politicize, radicalize and mobilize the public into supporting extremism and participating in violence.
- To identify the strengths and weaknesses of international, state and societal responses in managing the threat of political violence.
- To provide high-quality instruction and training for officials and future leaders engaged in combating terrorism and other forms of political violence.
- To advise governments and inform societies affected by political violence on how best to manage the current and evolving threat.

Core Projects

A. Database

The ICPVTR terrorism database – the Global Pathfinder – is a one-stop repository for information on current and emerging threats. The database consists of profiles of terrorists and terrorist groups, significant incidents, as well as profiles of training camps and individuals and institutions involved in terrorist financing. It also hosts primary and secondary documents including original documents collected from Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Bosnia, Kashmir, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines amongst others. Our special collection includes more than 250 videos recovered from Al-Qaeda training camps in Afghanistan, videos and training manuals from various conflict zones and over 400 jihadi websites.

B. Capacity Building

In addition to teaching courses at the Masters level, ICPVTR threat specialists conduct various levels of specialized courses for Singaporean and foreign law enforcement personnel from agencies like the military and police forces. The ICPVTR capacity building programme is geared towards providing world-class education and training for serving and future leaders in counter-terrorism.

C. Strategic Counter-Terrorism Projects

ICPVTR's strategic counter-terrorism projects include ideological, legislative, educational, financial, media, informatics and developmental initiatives. These strategic projects seek to create an environment hostile to terrorist groups and unfriendly to their supporters and sympathizers. ICPVTR seeks to build a norm and an ethic against politically motivated violence, especially terrorism.

As terrorists and extremists emerge from the community in which they live, the ICPVTR popularized the "Communities Defeat terrorism" in Singapore. Our staff actively participates in the work of the Religious Rehabilitation Group (RRG), which is engaged in counselling and rehabilitation of Jemaah Islamiyah detainees in Singapore.

For more information on ICPVTR, visit www.pvtr.org

About The S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS)

The S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS)

was established in January 2007 as an autonomous School within the Nanyang Technological University (NTU). RSIS' mission is to be a leading research and graduate teaching institution in strategic and international affairs in the Asia-Pacific. To accomplish this mission, RSIS will:

- Provide a rigorous professional graduate education in international affairs with a strong practical and area emphasis
- Conduct policy-relevant research in national security, defence and strategic studies, diplomacy and international relations
- Collaborate with like-minded schools of international affairs to form a global network of excellence

Graduate Training in International Affairs

RSIS offers an exacting graduate education in international affairs, taught by an international faculty of leading thinkers and practitioners. The teaching programme consists of the Master of Science (MSc) degrees in Strategic Studies, International Relations, International Political Economy and Asian Studies as well as The Nanyang MBA (International Studies) offered jointly with the Nanyang Business School and the NTU-Warwick Double Masters Programme which seeks to provide an educational platform articulating the economic, political, social and strategic influences impacting on Asia and the Western world. The graduate teaching is distinguished by their focus on Asia-Pacific region, the professional practice of international affairs and the cultivation of academic depth. Over 200 students, the majority from abroad, are enrolled with the School. A small and select Ph.D. programme caters to students whose interests match those of specific faculty members.

Research

Research at RSIS is conducted by five constituent Institutes and centres: the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS), the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR), the Centre of Excellence for National Security (CENS), the Centre for Non-Traditional Security Studies (NTS) and the Temasek Foundation Centre for Trade & Negotiations (TFCTN). The focus of research is on issues relating to the security and stability of the Asia-Pacific region and their implications for Singapore and other countries in the region. The School has three professorships that bring distinguished scholars and practitioners to teach and do research at the School. They are the S. Rajaratnam Professorship in Strategic Studies, the Ngee Ann Kongsi Professorship in International Relations, and the NTUC Professorship in International Economic Relations.

International Collaboration

Collaboration with other Professional Schools of international affairs to form a global network of excellence is a RSIS priority. RSIS will initiate links with other like-minded schools so as to enrich its research and teaching activities as well as adopt the best practices of successful schools.

For more information on the School, visit

www.rsis.edu.sg



S. RAJARATNAM SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

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