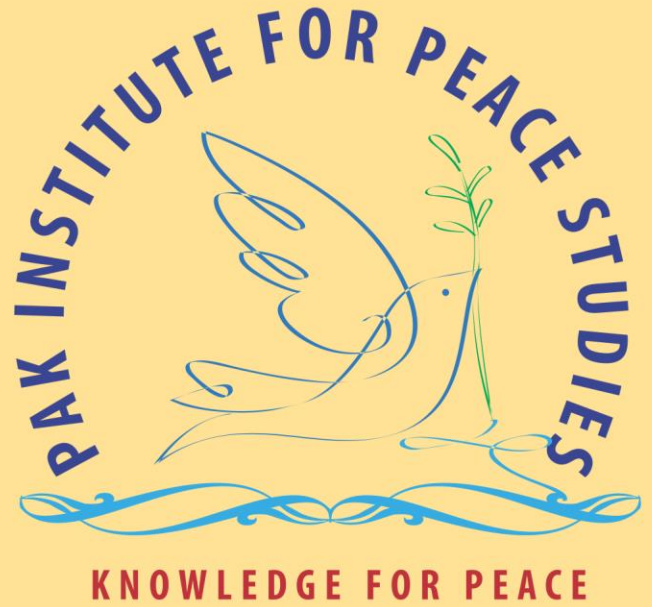


# 2015

# ANNUAL REPORT



PAK INSTITUTE FOR PEACE STUDIES

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**INSTITUTIONAL  
DEVELOPMENTS**

# 1 . INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

## 1.1 STAFF

By the end of 2015, a total of nine permanent staff members were part of the PIPS team that included director, research and programmes; a research analyst; a media and event coordinator; a project coordinator; two researchers; an administration manager; an I.T. and web manager; and an archivist.

The PIPS management team, headed by director research, was the main decision-making body of the Institute during the year.

The specialized classification of the staff members into five (5) broad categories continued in 2015: Research and Analysis; Database, Library and Resource Centre; Projects and Developments; Publication, Training and Event Management; and Administration and Finance.

PIPS evaluated its staff through two indicators, in 2015: on monthly or assignment basis, and on an annual summative basis. The evaluations assessed staff promotions and incentives.

## 1.2 INTERNSHIPS/FELLOWSHIPS

In 2015, PIPS provided short-term and long-term fellowships to the following individuals:

1. Mr. Ahmad Khan, a Ph.D. student in Strategic and Nuclear Studies, at the National Defence University, Islamabad. He did his M. Phil in in Strategic and

Nuclear Studies from NDU. He worked as “Researcher” at PIPS from 13 January 2015 to May 2015.

2. Mr. Muhammad Ismail Khan did Masters in International Relations from Boston University, USA. He joined PIPS as “Project Coordinator/Editor” on 1 April 2015.
3. Mr. Nawaf Khan did Masters in Human Resource Management from Army Public College of Management Sciences, Rawalpindi. He joined PIPS as “Researcher” on 9 June 2015.

## 1.3 CAPACITY BUILDING

In 2015, PIPS continued to enhance the capacity of its staff, using PIPS Manual of Procedures.

These included in-house sessions, internal skills analysis, independent assignment executions, and joint assignments by senior and junior members. PIPS also encouraged participation of its staff members in different national and international seminars and conferences held in 2015 on the themes relevant to PIPS mandated areas.

## 1.4 MOUS AND COLLABORATIONS

Since its inception in 2005, PIPS has been in a continuous process of developing formal and informal linkages and collaborations with

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research and academic institutions that have a common thematic focus. The Institute has entered into collaborations and signed memoranda of understanding with various organizations and institutions in one or more of the following areas.

- Joint publications; □
- Capacity building initiatives and mutual internships; □
- Exchange of scholars and fellowships; □
- Research collaborations; □
- Holding of joint events such as conferences and seminars, etc.; □
- Exchange of periodic and other

publications; and □

- Regular consultations with organizations and institutions with a common thematic focus □ in order to share experiences on research, policy advocacy and other programmatic areas. □

In 2015, the Norwegian Peacebuilding Resource Center (NOREF) offered PIPS the framework award in the portfolio of “trends”

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**PROGRAMMATIC  
DEVELOPMENTS**

## 2 PROGRAMMATIC DEVELOPMENTS

The Institute implemented a range of measures including research and analyses and other planned activities, as described later in the report, in the following seven major areas in the year 2015:

- Counter-Violent Extremism □
- Interfaith harmony and co-existence □
- Internal security □
- Regional security and strategic studies □
- Media for peace and democracy □
- Dialogue

### 2.1 COUNTER-VIOLENT EXTREMISM (CVE)

Pak Institute for Peace Studies had started a comprehensive De-radicalization Programme in 2007, which continued throughout the subsequent years. In 2015, it was re-shaped further, along the lines of Counter-Violent Extremism. This programme includes empirical and theoretical research on radicalization, religious extremism and the concomitant phenomena; implementation of counter-violent extremism measures and interventions in Pakistan's context; and sharing of knowledge and best practices with Pakistani and international scholars and policymakers. A brief description of PIPS' work on CVE in 2015 is described in the next pages.

#### 2.1.1 RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

##### i) PIPS research journal 'Conflict and Peace Studies'

PIPS published two issues of its biannual research journal of *Conflict and Peace Studies* in 2014; the journal was a quarterly publication until 2013. The contents of these issues are given below:

*Conflict and Peace Studies*, 2015, Volume VII, Issue I

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**2.1.2 EXPERIENCE SHARING AND POLICY ADVOCACY**

Some of the key experience-sharing and policy advocacy events on radicalization, religious extremism and the concomitant phenomena PIPS organized during the year 2015 are listed below:

i) **Dr. Khalid Masood's book launch**

On 3 December 2015, PIPS hosted book launch of "*Ummat-e-Muslima: DehshatkayGardaab Main (Islamic Ummah: In the Whirl of Terror)*". The book is written by Dr. Khalid Masood, a renowned Islamic scholar.

The event was attended by former foreign minister InamulHaq, German scholar Dr. Dietrich Reetz, Muhammad Amir Rana, chairman of madrassa board Dr. Amir Taseen, Dr. FazlurRehman, Dr. KhursheedNadeem, and others.

Details of the event can be found at: <http://www.pakpips.com/art.php?art=164>

**2.2 INTER-FAITH HARMONY AND DIALOGUE**

**2.2.1 Experience sharing and policy advocacy**

i) **Dialogues on social harmony**

In 2015, PIPS launched a comprehensive program to promote interfaith harmony and social cohesion in Pakistan that entailed certain measures aimed at educating the people and enhancing their understanding of the common, connecting socio-cultural aspects of the lives of followers of all religions living together in Pakistan.

The title of these workshops was "how to promote social harmony in Pakistan?"

The workshop engaged religious scholars and clergy, from all over the country, in a range of activities linked to the following two objectives:



- 1) To initiate academic and intellectual level debate among religious scholars and clergy on some of the legal issues in Islam which confuse religious discourse and public opinion about democracy and Constitution, or man-made legislation; □
- 2) To effectively respond to appeal of militant ideologies and violent Islamism, which propagate social disharmony.

A total of four (4) dialogue-cum-training workshops, with 168 young scholars of four different geographical locations, were held, which are briefly described as follows.

#### *First workshop*

The first debate was held on April 30, 2015 in Islamabad. Around 42 young scholars of all Islamic sects and members of Hindu, Sikh, and Christian communities, from Khyber Pakhtunkwa and FATA, attended the workshop.

Following participants spoke at the event:

1. Mr. Sabogh Syed, journalist;
2. Professor QiblaAyaz, academic;
3. Ms. Romana Bashir, peace building activist;
4. KhursheedNadeem, TV anchor;
5. Ammar Khan Nasir, religious scholar;
6. Saqib Akbar, Akhuwat Academy; and
7. Maulana Ahmed Yusuf Banuri, Darul-UloomIslamia, Banuri Town

Details of the event can be accessed at <http://www.pakpips.com/art.php?art=40>

#### *Second workshop*

On May 28, 2015, PIPS hosted a daylong workshop in Islamabad on “how to promote social harmony in Pakistan?” for young

religious scholars from Northern Punjab, Islamabad, Azad Kashmir, and Gilgit-Baltistan. As many as 29 young scholars of all Islamic sects and members of Hindu, Sikh, and Christian communities attended the workshop.

Following participants spoke at the event:

1. Mr. Sabogh Syed, journalist;
2. Professor QiblaAyaz, academic;
3. Ms. Romana Bashir, peace building activist;
4. KhursheedNadeem, TV anchor;
5. SahibzadaAmanatRasool;
6. Mufti Muhammad Zahid;
7. Saqib Akbar, Akhuwat Academy; and
8. Dr. RaghbirNaeemi

Details of the event can be accessed at <http://www.pakpips.com/art.php?art=26>

#### *Third workshop*

On August 3, PIPS held the workshop in Karachi, this time with participants from metropolitan city and other parts of Sindh. Around 41 young scholars of different religions and sects attended the workshop.

Following participants spoke at the event:

1. Mr. Sabogh Syed, journalist;
2. Professor QiblaAyaz, academic;
3. Ms. Romana Bashir, peace building activist;
4. KhursheedNadeem, TV anchor;
5. Dr. IjazSamdani;
6. Maulana Ahmed Yusuf Banuri, Darul-UloomIslamia, Banuri Town

Details of the event can be accessed at <http://www.pakpips.com/art.php?art=24>

#### *Fourth workshop*

On August 5, PIPS held the workshop in Lahore, with participants from Lahore and other parts of Punjab. Around 56 young

scholars of different religions and sects attended the workshop.

Following participants spoke at the event:

1. Mr. Sabogh Syed, journalist;
2. Professor Qibla Ayaz, academic;
3. Ms. Romana Bashir, Executive Director, Peace and Development Foundation;
4. Sahibzada Amanat Rasool; Principal Idarra Fiqare-e-Jadeed
5. Khursheed Nadeem, TV anchor;
6. Dr. Ijaz Samdani;
7. Dr. Dan Tidten, Head of Press and Cultural Section, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
8. Ammar Khan Nasir, Al-Sharia Academy, Gujranwala

Details of the event can be accessed at <http://www.pakpips.com/art.php?art=24>

**2.2.2 RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS**

PIPS released a comprehensive report on the progress on National Action Plan, the country’s counter-terror plan announced last year. The package, published as compilation of analyses in the research journal, also covered NAP’s points on inter-faith harmony.

**2.2.3 MEDIA PRODUCTIONS AND BROADCASTING**

The Institute also produced and broadcast certain television and radio programs with a view to create an environment that contributes towards reduction of pervasive misperceptions and misunderstandings about and discrimination against religious minorities, and faith-based violence. The need for developing and implementing this

measure was felt in the context that while the entertainment, cultural and awareness TV and radio programs are largely deemed as a way of introducing people to different shades and colours of society and present authentic and realistic display of socio-cultural life of the people, the content and format of such programs in Pakistan is exclusively set for the dominant Muslim community with almost no representation of socio-cultural, political and economic lives of the minorities. This despite the fact that people from different religions live in Pakistan side by side, share most of socio-cultural and other aspects of life, and also face similar threats and challenges in life.

**i) TV shows**

In 2015, PIPS hosted a special 10-series educative talk show, “Ao Baat Karein” (Let us Talk!), aimed at fostering debate around critical issues facing Pakistan, with the purpose of promoting inquiry and sharing diverse opinions.

In any episode, three panelists Dr. Khalid Masood, an Islamic scholar; Dr. Farzana Bari, women rights activist; and Mr. Amir Rana, PIPS director, would critically unpack a topic. The episode would also invite experts for their insight on the topic, thus further broadening the scope of the debate.

Most of the topics revolved around social harmony, inter-faith dialogue, constitutionalism, democracy in Pakistan.

All the episodes were aired on Capital TV, a leading TV channel, mostly in the month of Ramadan, the Muslim holy month of fasting. The episodes are also available online on a dedicated website at [www.baat-k.com](http://www.baat-k.com)

Below are the briefs of the episodes:

Episode	Details
Episode 1	There is a tendency among many Pakistanis to approach issues negatively. Panelists Khalid Masud, Farzana Bari, and Amir Rana try to assess the reason behind such thinking. The episode also shares

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Episode	Details
	<p>comments by experts on negative thinking. Dr. Anila Kamal, a psychologist, hints at link between failure and negativity; human rights activist Tahira Abdullah, on being realistic; columnist Haroon ur Rasheed digs at sensationalism in media; and political commentator Fawad Chaudhry blames politicians for negative thoughts.</p>
Episode 2	<p>This is the first part on understanding extremism in Pakistan. Khalid Masud, Farzana Bari, and Amir Rana, discussing at length the causes and solutions of extremism. Panelist and experts discuss at length the link of extremism with religion, poverty, education, and curriculum and suggesting remedies. Insights are offered by Ammar Khan Nasir and by Allama Amin Shaheedi.</p>
Episode 3	<p>This episode is the second part on understanding extremism in Pakistan. Khalid Masud, Farzana Bari, and Amir Rana, discussing at length the causes and solutions of extremism. Panelist and experts discuss at length the link of extremism with religion, poverty, education, and curriculum and suggesting remedies. Linguist Tariq Rehman delve upon extremism within secularists; Professor Qibla Ayaz, on perception towards extremism; poet Harris Khalique, on the role of literature; and writer Kishwar Naheed, on the dream to peace.</p>
Episode 4	<p>This episode unravels the work of nongovernment organizations, or NGOs in Pakistan. Whom do they represent? What has they brought in to Pakistan? Can they bring change? And what about the charges against them? These questions and several others are answered by panelists Khalid Masud, Farzana Bari, and Amir Rana. The episode also relays the messages of several NGO workers such as Ahmed Bilal Mehboob and Abid Qayyum Sulehri, while Abdul Qadoos Mahmudi expresses his concern on the work of NGOs.</p>
Episode 5	<p>In Pakistan, people often tend to blame external conspiracies for internal disorder. Why so? Panelists Khalid Masud, Farzana Bari, and Amir Rana discuss the causes and realities, sprinkled with rich interviews inside. Historian Dr. Mubarak Ali likens prevalence of conspiracies to lack of leadership, and scholar Zafarullah Khan terms conspiracy mantra as sick society's symptom. Results are widespread: I. A. Rehman, a leading public intellectual, notes problem inside are dumped outside; and Ahmer Bilal Soofi, international law expert, on how international law too is viewed suspiciously. Mufti Muneeb ur Rehman, a religious cleric, reminds that some foreign countries have admitted of conspiring against Pakistan.</p>

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Episode	Details
Episode 6	Panelists Khalid Masud, Farzana Bari, and Amir Rana explore pride in relation to societal traditions in Pakistan, posing a simple question: what is it that makes us proud? Nadeem Omar Tarrar points at diversity in Pakistan; columnist Wusutullah Khan, towards the spirit of giving; journalist Saleem Safi on the existence of family structure among Pashtuns, and former PPP minister Qamaruz Zaman Kaira hints at policy of reconciliation with every political force. Khushbakht Shujaat, Mufti Abdul Qawi, and Dr. Fauzia Saeed also share their insights.
Episode 7	This episode asks a simple question: as a state, how should our neighbours be? Panelists Khalid Masud and Amir Rana argue that neighbourly goodwill is a mutual feeling. Fresh insights are offered by General (Retd.) Talat asud, Zahid Saeed, AVM Shahid Latif, columnist Haroon Rasheed, and journalist ImtiazAlam. The explore Pakistan’s relations with Afghanistan, India, China and Iran – which, in turn, are linked to Pakistan’s relations with the Middle East.
Episode 8	In this episode, panelists Khalid Masud, Farzana Bari, and Amir Rana explore the trends of intolerance in society and digs deep to know why Pakistani society has grown intolerant. Linguist Dr. Tariq Rehman notes little tolerance towards on issues sanctioned as religiously excluded; anchor Khursheed Nadeem blames lack of dialogue; Farnood Alam and scholar Saqib Akbar blame sectarian perspectives; Bishop Dr. Ishaq calls for scholars to sit down.
Episode 9	In this episode, panelists Khalid Masud and Amir Rana explores different discourses in the country, wondering if conflicting narratives or absence of national narrative sow conflict. TV anchor Khursheed Nadeem hints towards the prominence of religious discourse. This was, by rulers to stay in power, activists Fozia Saeed. This episode also envisions alternative discourse. Journalist Saleem Safi points to the parliament as the right forum; Barrister Zafarullah Khan recalls the emergence of a human rights discourse. Tahira Abdullah also shares her insight.
Episode 10	In this episode, panelists Khalid Masud, Farzana Bari, and Amir Rana delve into the various divisions in Pakistani society, especially the relation of various identities in relation to the grand Pakistan identity. Insightful comments are offered by Romana Bashir, peace activist; Khursheed Nadeem, TV anchor; and Gen (Retd.) Abdul Qayyum.

Episode	Details
Episode 11	This episode explores how the extremists can be veered away from violence. Panelists Khalid Masoud and Amir Rana argue that co-optation or coercion could be applied on extremists, elaborating the details there. The episode also follows insights by Wusutullah Khan, a journalist; Khwaja Khalid Farooq; Mubarak Haider, while Tariq Parvez, former police officer, and General (Retd.) Ather Abbas share their understanding of attracting militants, the latter drawing from his experience of heading military's media arm when the military was confronting militants in Swat.
Episode 12	What has been the role of religious scholars in stemming or shaping extremism? Panelists Khalid Masud and Amir Rana explores answers to this question, as they also take into account the perceptive comments by leading scholars, Mufti Saeed and Abdul Qadoos Muhammadi, Rushaad Bukhari, AmmarNasir Khan, and Ameen Shaheedi. Discussants revolve around the links between politics and religion in Pakistan.

**2.3 INTERNAL SECURITY**

The focus of PIPS on internal security is reflected in its several periodic publications on conflict and insecurity in Pakistan. Besides producing weekly and monthly online reports describing the level of conflict and insecurity in the country, PIPS also brings out an annual security report at the end of each year. These reports are widely disseminated in Pakistan and abroad and not only include casualty figures in terrorist/militant attacks, but also analyze actors and dynamics of conflict and violence, the terrorists' attack tactics and the security forces' response. The reports highlight the challenges thrown up by internal insecurity and their implications for Pakistan, and present in-depth analysis of the security landscape of the country, and of the factors of insecurity and violence besides highlighting strategic solutions to reduce the risk of insecurity and violence in the country.

**2.3.1 RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS**

**i) PIPS digital database**

PIPS continued to update and upgrade its online database web portal (<http://san-pips.com/app/database>) in 2015, which was launched in 2011 to include data on incidents of violence and terrorism in Pakistan from 2006 onward. It is anticipated to work as a baseline data and a permanent source of independent information for local, regional and international organizations and individuals to map militant and security landscape of Pakistan and carry out research and analysis on issues related to conflict, insecurity, violence and terrorism etc.

In PIPS digital database, the diversified info tracks containing details of terrorist and insurgent attacks, inter-tribal infightings and inter-tribal sectarian clashes, sectarian related terrorism, ethno-political violence, cross-border attacks and clashes, operational attacks by the security forces and their clashes with militants, kidnappings, and search and arrest operations by the law

enforcement agencies are maintained on daily basis by monitoring the print and electronic media closely. Each and every incident is given special attention regarding its nature, casualties, tactics used by terrorist groups, their targets, weaponry they use and their capabilities. A strong follow up is also observed in every incident and case by strong liaison with the PIPS correspondents in conflict zones as regards the day-to-developments on the incidents.

**ii) Periodic conflict and security reports**

Also in 2014, PIPS continued to prepare and publish online its periodic conflict and security reports on its web portals. These reports identify the areas of conflict and flashpoints, document and explain incidents of violence and terrorism, outline developments on the terrorism and security fronts, and project the future scenario. The reports are categorized as under:

1. 'PIPS weekly conflict report' covers Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA.
2. 'PIPS monthly security report' covers the whole of Pakistan.
3. 'PIPS annual security report' provides a comprehensive yearly overview of the insecurity and violence in the country and suggests policy recommendations.
4. 'Balochistan Watch' and 'Karachi Watch' provide monthly update on conflict and insecurity in Balochistan and Karachi, respectively.

In 2014, PIPS prepared 52 weekly conflict reports, 12 monthly security reports and an annual security report for Pakistan besides producing 12 monthly security monitors each on Balochistan and Karachi. These reports contained comprehensive data on terrorist attacks, casualties, the areas and factors responsible for militancy, changing tactics and targets of militants, as well as government strategies and responses. They also discussed the state of political violence

in Pakistan and the situation on its borders, with a view to facilitate an understanding of the security landscape of the country. All these reports are available online in complete and abridged form at the PIPS web portal under heads of PIPS website at [www.pakpips.com](http://www.pakpips.com) and PIPS digital database web portal at <http://san-pips.com/app/database>

**iii) Special issue of research journal**

The second issue of *Conflict and Peace Studies* in late 2015 assessed the performance of National Action Plan. Authors contributed their insights into different points of the NAP. A consolidated report was presented, along with an executive summary and timeline of the actions on different points of the NAP. Several media outlets later quoted the journal. The table of content of the journal is shared above.

**2.4 REGIONAL SECURITY AND STRATEGIC STUDIES**

Although PIPS has been studying aspects of regional and South Asian security including strategic since its inception, it started to exclusively focus on regional security in 2013, which continued throughout the year 2014. Internal insecurity of states in this globalized world invariably impinges upon regional and international security and vice versa. As the study of threats is a key element of regional or international security, PIPS believes that empirical and context-bound understanding of critical and shared threats to security in South Asia is imperative to bridge the gaps among the states' conflicting perceptions of their respective security concerns. Besides striving to expand the empirical knowledge base of security threats, Pak Institute for Peace Studies has also developed a vast regional and global network for information sharing and research on some of the key security issues facing Pakistan and the wider region, which

also have a profound impact on regional and global security.

Since its inception, PIPS has worked extensively to map the threats to the security of Pakistan, South Asia and the world emanating mainly from the terrorist and militant groups, and analyzed the state practices and the potential for the states to counter such threats separately or jointly.

#### 2.4.1 RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

##### i) Research studies

In 2014, PIPS produced or administered following reports and analyses related to different aspects of regional security:

- Indo-Pak relations: views of Pakistan's political and religious parties  
By Ahmad Khan
- Silk route monitor: A review of developments on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor  
By Safdar Sial and Peer Muhammad

#### 2.4.2 EXPERIENCE SHARING AND POLICY ADVOCACY

##### i) International seminar on CPEC

On August 18, PIPS hosted an international seminar on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

A three-member delegation from China's Institute of Ethnic Minority attended the workshop. Members included the following:

1. Mr. Chang Bo, Institute of Ethnic Minority Groups, Development and Research, Beijing, China
2. Mr. Yu Xiaohui, Vice Researcher, Xinjiang Minority Groups Research Institute, China;
3. Mr. Wang Jianming, Researcher, IEMGDR, China

The seminar consisted of following three sessions:

- Inaugural Session
  - Session I: Economic & political perspectives
    - Sub-session 1: CPEC and changing economic dynamics in Pakistan
    - Sub-session 2: CPEC and political concerns in Pakistan
    - Sub-session 3: CPEC: Chinese perspective
    - Sub-session 4: Legal regimes and foreign investment in Pakistan
  - Session II: Security & geo-strategic perspectives
    - Sub-session 1: Security implications for Pakistan and Afghanistan
    - Sub-session 2: Changing geostrategic environment in the region:
    - Sub-session 3: Changing dynamics of militant threat: impact on internal and regional security
    - Sub-session 4: CPEC and Chinese security concerns

The chief guest of the event was Ambassador Inam-ul-Haq, former foreign minister of Pakistan, who also served as Pakistan's ambassador to China.

Following is the list of people who spoke at the seminar:

1. Mr. Muhammad Amir Rana, Director, Pak Institute for Peace Studies, Islamabad
2. Dr. Fazal-ur-Rahman, Executive Director, Pakistan Council on China
3. Mr. Hamayoun Khan, Assistant Professor, National Defence University, Islamabad
4. Mr. Muhammad Ismail Khan,

5. Mr. Peer Muhammad,
6. Mr. Shahzada Zulfiqar, researchers
7. Barrister Shahzad Akbar, Director/Founder, Foundation for Fundamental Rights;
8. Mr. Yu Xiaohui, Vice Researcher, Xinjiang Minority Groups Research Institute, China;
9. Mr. Azaz Syed, Security analyst;
10. Dr. Zafar Nawaz Jaspal, Director, School of Politics, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad;
11. Mr. Wang Jianming, Researcher, IEMGDR, China

Details of the event can be accessed at <http://www.pakpips.com/art.php?art=22>

#### ii) Book launch of “*You and Us*”

On November 25, 2015, Pak Institute for Peace Studies co-hosted a ceremony marking book launch on China-Pakistan friendship.

The book “*You and Us: Stories of China and Pakistan*” is a compilation of the stories of those friendship, penned by former Chinese diplomats and officials.

- Introduction and welcome note
- Remarks by Pakistani speakers
- Remarks by Chinese delegation members, including book’s author
- Chair’s remarks
- Chief Guest’s remarks
- Book presentation to the Chief Guest
- Souvenir presentation to the delegates
- Note of thanks

Opening the launch, PIPS’s director Muhammad Amir Rana welcomed the audience, which included the 10-member delegation from China, who had specially come in to attend the launch.

Following speakers shared comments on the book:

1. Mr. Inam-ul-Haq, Former Foreign Minister, Islamic Republic of Pakistan
2. Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed,
3. Dr. Rifaat Hussain, National University of Sciences and Technology
4. Lu Shulin, Former Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan;
5. Zhou Gang, Former Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan;
6. Zhang Shixuan, Former Reviewer of China Pictorial Publishing House
7. Ambassador Sun Weidong, Ambassador, People’s Republic of China to Islamic Republic of Pakistan
8. Mr. Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Planning, Reforms and Development

The chair of the event, Ambassador Lu Shulin, China’s former ambassador to Pakistan, started his speech in Urdu, saying he “deeply love Pakistan’s national language Urdu and greatly respect it.”

The chief guest of the event was federal minister for planning, reforms, and development, AhsanIqbal. He said Pakistan’s relations with China cut across three spheres - political, social and economic.

A 10-member delegation from China also attended the event. These included:

1. Lu Shulin, Former Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan;
2. Zhou Gang, Former Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan;
3. Madam Deng Junbing, Former Counselor of the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan, wife of Ambassador Zhou Gang;



4. Zhang Chunxiang, Former Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan;
5. Song Deheng, Former Political Counselor of the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan;
6. Wei Weikang, Former Counselor of the Chinese Foreign Ministry;
7. Shan Baoxiang, Former Cultural Counselor of the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan;
8. Zhang Shixuan, Former Reviewer of China Pictorial Publishing House and head of Urdu Language Team of People's Pictorial;
9. Sun Lianmei, Former Director of CRI Urdu Channel; and
10. Wang Nan, Senior Editor with People's Daily

Details of the event can be accessed at <http://www.pakpips.com/art.php?art=161>

## **2.5 MEDIA FOR PEACE AND DEMOCRACY**

PIPS has been working on and with the print and electronic media and journalists since its inception. This engagement with the media is rooted in PIPS' conviction in the key role that media can play in conflict de-escalation, counter-radicalization and democratization in society and promoting peace. This focus on Pakistani media has two elements. One is to carry out research studies on the role, capacity and narratives of media, putting more emphasis on journalists and media representatives, and secondly, to engage media persons in consultations and conduct training workshops with them with the aim of improving their understanding of the conflicts, democracy and human rights etc., and bridge capacity gaps.

PIPS carried out the following activities under its 'Media for Peace and Democracy' program in 2014:

### **i) Interactive workshop on "Reporting Conflict"**

On February 2, 2015, PIPS, in collaboration with the High Commission of Canada in Islamabad, conducted an interactive workshop, "Reporting Conflict".

The workshop noted that while journalists in Pakistan have the power to change narratives on conflict and influence public opinion, they often lack the required capacity and professional training to develop progressive approaches to analyze and report conflicts. The workshop was meant to build some of that capacity.

Around 40 journalists from all over the country attended the daylong workshop. The workshop was held in three interactive sessions:

1. Concept of conflict-sensitive reporting and practices in Pakistan;
2. Capacity issues in reporting conflicts; and
3. How to report an incident of terrorism.

Following journalists conducted the workshop:

- Mr. Iqbal Khattak, senior journalist;
- Mr. Azaz Syed, senior reporter, Geo TV;
- Mr. Zia ur Rehman, senior journalist and author "Karachi in Turmoil";
- Mr. Rana Jawwad, Bureau Chief, Geo TV, Islamabad

Details of the event can be accessed at <http://www.pakpips.com/art.php?art=42>

### **ii) Interactive workshop on "Human Rights Reporting"**

On February 3, 2015, PIPS in collaboration with the Canadian High Commission in

Islamabad conducted a training workshop on “Human Rights Reporting.”

The workshop aimed to impart training to journalists about the skills and education, on overcoming the constraints hindering their ability and capacity to report on human rights violations in Pakistan.

Around 40 journalists, media practitioners and experts attended the one-day workshop, to which the following speakers addressed:

- Mr. Zafarullah Khan, head of Center for Civic Education, Islamabad;
- Mr. AounSahi, senior reporter based in Islamabad;
- Mr. Afzal Butt, president of Federal Union of Journalists; and
- Mr. Shahzada Zulfiqar, senior journalist based in Quetta.

Senior journalist and anchorperson Ms. Nasim Zehra also shared her experiences of human rights reporting, as the guest speaker

Details of the event can be accessed at <http://www.pakpips.com/art.php?art=41>

## **2.6 DIALOGUE**

In the changing sociocultural context of Pakistan, there is evidence to suggest that an increasing trend of use of violence has gradually dominated the discourse of argument or dialogue in Pakistan. PIPS believes that a continuous and concerted exercise of dialogue between diverse segments can significantly contribute to de-escalate the conflicts in Pakistani society particularly those existing at sociocultural, ideological, religious, sectarian, communal and ethno-political levels. PIPS has been serving as a platform for dialogue and debate since its inception in 2006 with a view to promoting peace, tolerance and peaceful coexistence in Pakistani society.

### **i) Dialogues on social harmony**

In 2015, PIPS engagement with religious scholars in support of social harmony was exclusively focused on the element of dialogue. Four structured dialogues were held as part of this programme, which have been described earlier above.

### **ii) Discussion session with German scholar**

On November 27, 2015, PIPS hosted a discussion on “Pakistan between South and Central Asia: Bridge or Stumbling Block?” for a visiting German scholar, Dr. Dietrich Reetz, associate professor at the Department of Political Science at Free Berlin University, Germany. Gen (r) Talat Hussain, former defense secretary, moderated the discussion.

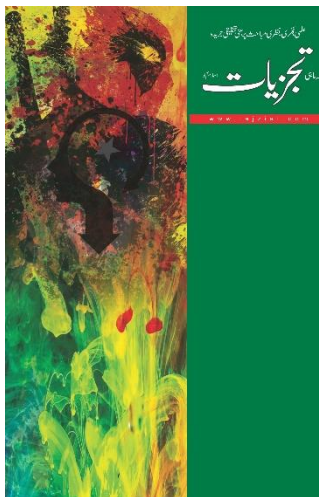
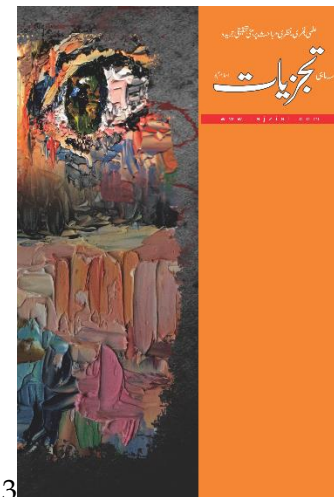
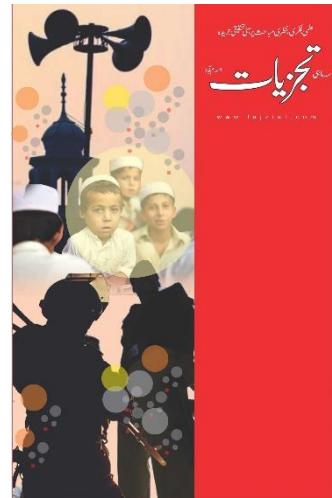
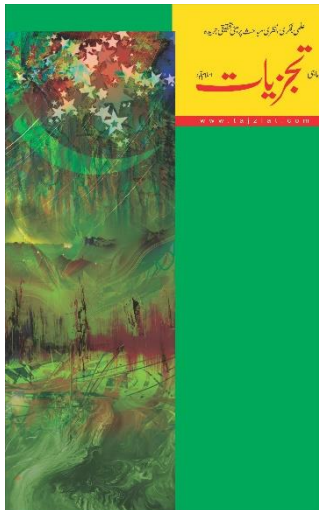
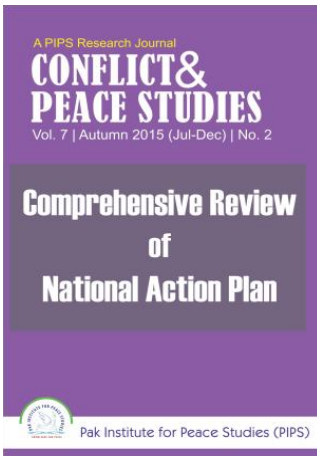
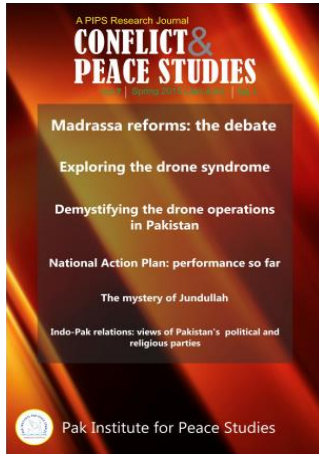
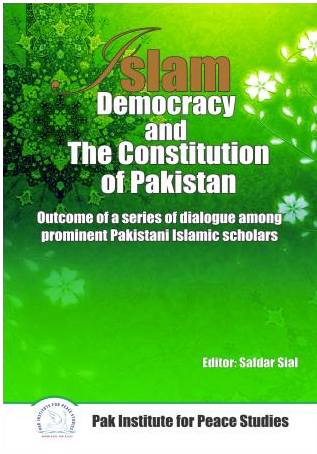
Sharing his insights, Dr. Reetz said the world is increasingly moving from Cold War binary to a multipolar world, which will give room to geo-economics instead of geo-politics. This phenomenal change has provided a market place for competitive projects. Pakistan should adjust its interests accordingly, he argued.

The session was attended by an audience interested in security affairs, including Mr. Imtiaz Gul, Center for Research and Strategic Studies (CRSS); Ambassador Khalid Saeed, former diplomat; and Ambassador Sherali S. Jononov, Tajikistan’s ambassador to Pakistan.

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**ANNEX 1:****PIPS CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

S. No.	Date	Place	Event Description
1.	2 February 2015	Islamabad	Training workshop to journalists on “conflict reporting”
2.	10 February 2015	Islamabad	Training workshop to journalists on “human rights reporting”
3.	4 May 2015	Islamabad	Workshop with young scholars from KP and FATA on social harmony in Pakistan
4.	6 June 2015	Islamabad	Workshop with young scholars from Northern Punjab, Islamabad, Azad Kashmir, and Gilgit-Baltistan, on social harmony in Pakistan
5.	1 July 2015	Islamabad	Discussion session with a delegation from Al-Azhar University, Egypt, on attaining peace
6.	11 August 2015	Karachi	Workshop with young scholars from Karachi, interior Sindh and Balochistan on social harmony in Pakistan
7.	11 August 2015	Lahore	Workshop with young scholars from Lahore and other parts of Punjab, on social harmony in Pakistan
8.	27 August 2015	Islamabad	International seminar on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor
9.	25 November 2015	Islamabad	Launch ceremony of a book on China-Pakistan friendship
10.	November 2015	Islamabad	Launch of Dr. Khalid Masood’s book on Muslim Ummah
11.	27 November 2015	Islamabad	Discussion session with German scholar from Free Berlin University