Preventing Violent Extremism through Augmenting Community Resilience and Empowering Community Members in Swat

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Terrorism is the chronic issue of the hour. It is the disciplined practice of vicious activities like assassinating, slaughtering, mutilating, and frightening of the innocents to attain religious, fiscal, and political goals and to challenge the writ of the state. Leaders of the world promised to transform the planet by empowering community members and building community resilience (CR) against terrorism. This study concentrates on exploring building community resilience against terrorism, empowering community members and implementing strategies for strengthening community resilience. For data collection, a mixed method methodology was used. Means, STD deviation, Pearson correlation, and thematic analysis were employed for the analysis of the gathered data. The findings of the study were interpreted and recommendations were furnished accordingly. Study results were disseminated to all concerned through conferences and seminar sessions. It is predicted that after completion, the project team was in a robust position to start writing the report that concentrates on strengthening community resilience, which is the crucial goal of this project. The publication will contribute effectively to all stakeholders and society, particularly to the lower rungs of social order. Moreover, it is expected that this project will contribute to future research in the domain of community resilience. This project will also reveal the remarkable potential of archival research on community resilience.

Keywords: *Violent Extremism; Community Resilience; Community Empowerment; Leadership' Role; Community Role*

Introduction

In the last two decades, there has been an upsurge in political, religious, and ideological savagery and barbarity across the world. This has given rise to an almost ten times proliferation in terrorism-related deaths rate since 9/11. According to published figures, the death toll has progressively grown over the last 14 years, from 3,361 in 2000 to 11,133 in 2012 and 17,958 in 2013. The four terrorist groups mainly responsible for these deaths include the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS), Nigeria' Boko Haram, Afghanistan' Taliban, and al-Qaida in several parts of the globe. Radicalisation is the process by which a person or group comes to embrace more and more life-threatening political, social, or religious models that cast-off status quo, existing designs, and expressions of freedom of high-quality. Extremism is active antagonism to basic standards, comprising democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and reciprocated respect and broad-mindedness of diverse faiths and beliefs (Powell, 2011).

A community is a pool of persons and clusters having a joint concern or share a topographical zone. Community resilience (CR) in stopping ferocious radicalism denotes a paradigm shift from victimised misfortunes to prosperous change. Strengthening community resilience works best when it is based on trust and responsibility on the part of community members. CR is a weapon in the hands of the community contributors for fighting any kind of radicalism and fanaticism. The display of deference for anthropological civil liberties by the government gains community support against any kind of activism. Özbay and Özcan (2006)) presented a theory of Hirschi (1969) that robust family, community, and social links are central to counter violent extremism. Researchers proposed collective efficacy which is communal unity pooled through readiness to adopt concrete steps for bigger societies - as a crucial shielding dynamic in connection to vicinity brutishness (Sampson, Raudenbush, & Earls, 1997). Norris and Alegria (2008) presented the community resilience model which includes financial growth, info and communiqué, shared assets, and community capability. These theories form the theoretical framework of this research work.

Violent extremism is a threat to the whole world. The supreme means of violent extremism are communities. The death toll due to violent extremism is comparatively small compared to other types of violence (Kurzman, 2014). Leadership can play a better role to preclude violence with the full involvement of people for producing the spirit of proprietorship to this challenge and resolution of it. The best interventions for impeding violent extremism are strengthening interaction among people, initiating related programs, and harmonising communal and financial disorders that fortify links, plummeting imbalances and injustices, and augmenting community commitment (Mercy, 1993). Sampson, Raudenbush, and Earls (1997) branded a theory of collective efficacy - communal unity mixed with an alacrity to involve societies - a crucial shielding influence in connection to locale ferocity. The triumphant adaptation capability against perplexing and intimidating situations is called resilience (Masten, Best, & Garmezy, 1990).

A community is an ecological area where people live together. Relational features of community like perceptions of resemblance and closeness, common features like religion, ethnicity, and nationality have been given significance in social psychology (McMillan & Chavis, 1986). Community resilience is connecting a combination of interacted capabilities to a constructive path of working and reworking in society before intimidation or catastrophe (Norris & Alegria, 2008).

It is crystal clear that the old law enforcement tactics are not enough to combat radicalism, fanaticism, and VE. Now it is the need of the time that the community may be involved in the identification of VE, targeting the involved individuals and groups in these nefarious activities, and pinpointing the funding agencies and their movements. Numerous tactics can be used for eliminating VE like handling motivational instigation of extremists, raising awareness, sharing information, advancing a peaceful cultural atmosphere, focusing table talks, creating a tolerant attitude, and employing education and media roles in this regard. The grievances of the people may be addressed properly. These strategies are very crucial like addressing social discrimination and unequal job opportunities and arranging social programs for marginalised young ones to defeat communal, personal, political, religious and economic extremism.

The key aim of this research work is to probe implementing strategies for empowering community members and strengthening community resilience against life-taking activities from top-down and bottom-up approaches. Leaders and the community may play their constructive role in the eradication of terrorism from the minds of the young generation through educational awareness and the provision of basic amenities of life. The study is important as it focuses on community resilience against terrorism. It further clarifies the position of how to identify strategies for the implementation of SDGs, empowers members of the community to combat terrorism, and strengthen community resilience against this chronic menace that brings catastrophe to human beings.

Terrorism is the problem of today's world. Man is the greatest enemy of man. Materialism has replaced spiritualism. There are no ethical and moral standards in life. Man is the mirror of bias and bigotry. He is worshipping money instead of the creator of the world. For meagre and transitory things like land, money, and political prestige, he is killing his brothers. The leaders of the world are busy in this game of killing the innocents. They have established their big weapon factories and for sale to gain monetary benefits, they are seeking different points in the world to sell their weapons and get monetary benefits.

Now it is time to educate people about this menace and make them aware of the nefarious designs of the materialists. It is the proper time to collect members of the community, unite them, strengthen resilience against terror and save the young blood from induction into terrorist groups. Resilience may be individual or collective and has been investigated extensively (DuMont, Widom, & Czaja, 2007). Resilience factors for making communities resilient in times of harsh conditions have been ascertained (Gil-Rivas & Kilmer, 2016). Community

resilience is the capability to preclude happenings that extremely disturb communities like violence (Ahmed, Seedat, van Niekerk, & Bulbulia, 2004). Violent extremism is a weapon in the hands of violent extremists to induct young ones for their nefarious designs. Positivists must make the community impenetrable by plummeting latent susceptibilities and upholding defensive skills.

The research work has found that people are moving from a mainstream character to a life-threatening character due to the extremist attitude of others (Thomas & Sanderson, 2011). Terror and cynicism of the ruling classes and apprehensions of safety and reconnaissance and ethnic/religious reporting were predominantly the key factors for violent extremism (Zimmermann & Rosenau, 2009). The conceptual framework of this research work is to identify implementation strategies for building community resilience and empowering community members to come forward against terrorism as it destroys the whole of humanity.

Research problem

The purpose of this paper was to explore the causes of terrorism, strategies for implementation, strengthening community members against the menace, building community resilience, and investigating the role of the leaders and community in encountering violent extremism and vicious designs of the terrorists - the real enemies of humanity.

Research Objectives

The objectives of the study were:

1. To investigate the root causes of violent extremism in community members
2. To investigate the strategies for implementation to empower community members and strengthen CR with best solutions against terrorism
3. To examine social linking (social bonding and social bridging) between communities and institutions for building community resilience
4. To measure the role of leaders and community in preventing violent extremism

Research questions

1. What are the root causes of violent extremism in community members?
2. What are the strategies that may be implemented to empower community members and strengthen CR with the best solutions against terrorism?
3. What is social linking (social bonding and social bridging) between communities and institutions for building community resilience?
4. How do leaders and the community play their roles in preventing violent extremism?

Significance of the study

The study may be significant to bring changes in the existing policies to further strengthen community resilience against terrorism. It may be further significant for policymakers to recognise education and leadership's role in encountering terrorism and will review their policies to create awareness in the young generation against this menace to secure organisations and the whole society from nefarious designs of the terrorists, and to treat the cancer of terrorism. It may also be significant for instructors, analysts, bureaucrats, fathers and mothers, leaders, teachers, and learners to get guidance for CRVE. The study may likely show the right path to national curriculum makers to include topics related to counterterrorism in a course that brands the program more in effect, and is interesting and good-looking for leaders, followers, and leader-followers. Lastly, academic organisations may be able to produce authentic leaders, who sacrifice their energies for the welfare of human beings.

Ethical consideration

The research project will not put the respect and protection of autonomy, rights, and dignity at risk of the participants. They were informed of the utilisation of information gained from them. The respondent was in a position to participate in the study or decline. The authors or the reviewers were informed of the longer-term consequences of the research for their well-being. The research findings will not adversely affect society. The author has a social responsibility to contribute to the good of society. Respect, confidentiality, and transparency were handled properly. Loss of privacy, deception, trauma, legal liability, stigmatisation, professional credibility, physical safety, quality of review, originality, and other ethical considerations were taken into account. Cultural sensitivity was respected. Unanimously accepted language was used.

Literature Review

Norris and Alegría (2008) presented the community resilience model which includes financial growth, info and communiqué, shared assets, and community capability. These key components are very fruitful in mitigating violent extremism. Shared assets are the capability of the community members to gain profits through communal networking or social gatherings (Portes, 1998). Shared assets comprise the brains of a communal group based on beliefs and closeness within society; the ability of attachment to community grounded on a relationship with neighbours and community involvement based on engagement with organisations (Norris & Alegría, 2008). Accordingly, durable communal links within a community as well as ties to organisations are regarded as crucial to community resilience. Similarly, community competency reflects effective collaboration for the achievement of targeted goals. Community competency includes collective efficacy - combined accomplishment of goals and empowerment (Norris & Alegría, 2008).

Community resilience is based on the robust communal associations among members between members of the community and between organisations and community members (Chandra, Williams, Plough, Stayton, Wells, Horta, & Tang, 2013). Communal associations, communal groups, societal networking, shared assets, cataclysmic vigilance, team building in the community, engagement of marginalised individuals, and strengthening partnerships are keys to enhance community resilience (Pfefferbaum, Pfefferbaum, Nitiema, Houston& Van Horn, 2015). Social bonding (communal association between and within the community; same communal identities) social bridging (between groups having diverse communal identities but sharing common sense) and social linking (between communities and organisations) reduce hazardous dynamics linked with violent extremism.

It was proposed that collective efficacy is unity among people for the adaptation of strong steps against terrorism which is a crucial shielding dynamic in connection to vicinity brutishness (Sampson, Raudenbush, & Earls, 1997). Participation and collaboration on the part of contributors for strengthening real trust and teamwork can preclude terrorism. There is a significant relationship between discrimination experiences and violent engaging activities (Burt, Simons, & Gibbons, 2012). Negative sentiments like despair, relational resentment, and lack of coordination between individuals, community, disconnection from conservative customs, and, subsequently, weakened communal control and governing bodies are key factors to violent extremism.

Greater minority groups face a high risk of home violence due to financial differentiation (Piazza, 2011). A research study has posited that Muslims are facing severe political vehemence in Europe and the USA as they are different from natives. Bigotry is a rancorous loop, in which out-groups feel indignant, which stimulates a troublemaking attitude by a radical minority, which may bring escalation to in-group bias, which further aggravates outgroup whimper (Victoroff, Adelman, & Matthews, 2012). The Muslims showed an undesirable response to the programs of counter violent extremism in three cities of the USA because only Muslims were beleaguered unlawfully and their constitutional rights have been trespassed (Romaniuk, 2015; Weine, Cohen, & Brannegan, 2015). Counter violent extremism is getting less concentration and meagre funds as compared to other community issues like gang violence etc. (Schanzer, Kurzman, Toliver, & Miller, 2016). Accordingly, these apprehensions may be addressed for strengthening resilient communities by constructing genuine collaboration between communities and governing bodies.

Community resilience prepares people for encountering any kind of catastrophe (Pfefferbaum, Pfefferbaum, Nitiema, Houston& Van Horn, 2015). Chandra, Williams, Plough, Stayton, Wells, Horta, and Tang (2013) posit that social connections are increasingly important for community resilience against cataclysmic misfortunes. Identification in the form of race, ethnicity, and spiritualism is essential to community resilience against maladies and disorders, serves as a defensive shield, extenuating damaging influences of coercion (Hodge, Zidan, &

Husain, 2015). Fear of Islamic ideology pushes fundamentalism and extremism (Abbas, 2015). The gaps are lack of education, negligence of leadership, and aloofness in the community which strengthen terrorism. The present study aims to fill these gaps

METHODOLOGY

Mixed method research was applied. Mixed methods research design is the use of both quantitative and qualitative strands in a single study (Creswell & Clark, 2017). It is a synergistic approach (Halcomb, & Hickman, 2015). All working leaders of organisations and community members at different levels constituted the population. Simple random sampling and convenience sampling techniques were adapted for the selection of samples. The total sample was [567+30]. Highly structured questionnaires and in-depth interviews were used to collect data for analysis. Quantitative data was collected through questionnaires and in-depth interviews were used for qualitative data. Statistical techniques and thematic analysis were used for the analysis.

Questionnaires and in-depth interviews were used as research instruments to collect data from the concerned participants and informants.

Reliability and validity

Research tools were validated and corrections were made as directed by the experts. A pilot study was conducted with a sample of 140 respondents. Cronbach's Alpha test was employed to identify the reliability of the tool which was .79.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Mean was applied to analyse the collected data.

The Mean Score = 1.00 --- 1.50 = Strongly Disagree, 1.51---2.50 = Disagree, 2.51--- 3.50= Undecided, 3.51--- 4.50 = Agree and 4.51--- 5.00 = Strongly Agree

R. Q1: What are the root causes of violent extremism in community members?

Table 4.1 *Root Causes of violent extremism*

S. No	Statements	M	Std
1	Poverty/ Illiteracy are the main causes of VE	4.64	.679
2	Global Fiscal Greed is the reason of VE	4.69	.659
3	Ideological beliefs, injustices & grievances are the cause of VE	4.45	.666
4	Religious fundamentalism is the cause of VE	4.71	.465
5	socially isolation is the main reason of VE	4.74	.810
6	They have internalized martyrdom to die for the cause	4.63	.667
7	They show alienation from society and rejection of values	4.65	.765
8	Their commitment to ideology justifying violence	4.56	.697
9	They show the rejection of democratic society and values	4.59	.568
10	Feelings of hate, frustration, persecution force them for VE	4.77	.456
11	They are forced to violent extremism	4.69	.659
	Overall	4.65	.645

Table 4.1 expresses that respondents "strongly agreed" with all the statements of the root causes construct of VE having mean scores of 4.64, 4.69, 4.45, 4.71, 4.74, 4.63, 4.65, 4.56, 4.59, 4,77, and 4.69, which is within the range of 4.51 to 5.00 among leaders and community members. The overall mean score of 4.65 is within the range 4.51 - 5.00 and shows that all the participants strongly agreed with the construct of root causes of violent extremism. The mean scores further show that most of the leaders and community members believe that the root causes of violent extremism are poverty, illiteracy, global fiscal greed, injustices, grievances, ideological beliefs, religious fundamentalism, social isolation, rejection of democracy, extreme frustration, and martyrdom behaviour.

However, all the standard deviation scores reflect that all the partakers have to come together in their opinions about the statements of root causes of violent extremists.

R. Q2: What are the strategies that may be implemented to empower community members and strengthen CR with the best solutions against terrorism?

Table 4.2 Strategies for *CVE to strengthen community resilience*

S. No	Statements	M	Std
1	Significant community support for non-violence	4.81	.419
2	Re-interpretation of ideology less rigid, absolute	4.73	.440
3	Rejection of violence to obtain goals	3.54	.720
4	Involvement with non-violent, de-radicalisation related programs	4.53	.681
5	Strong cohesion is essential for community against VE	4.83	.388
6	Negotiation is proper strategy for CVE	4.26	.440
7	Targeted operations are a good strategy	4.84	.421
8	Militant networks must be broken	4.91	.427
9	Training centres should be abolished	4.93	.429
10	True Islamic picture may be presented	4.78	.418

11	Islamophobia may be eradicated	4.88	.425
12	Peaceful dialogue is the best strategy for global peace	4.76	.428
13	Ceasefire is essential for CVE	4.89	.447
	Overall	4.75	.468

Table 4.2 shows that respondents "strongly agreed" with all statements of strategies for CVE to strengthen the community resilience construct of violent extremism having mean scores 4.81, 4.73, 4.54, 4.53, 4.83, 4.26, 4.84, 4.91, 4.93.4.78, 4.88, 4.76, and 4.89, which follow the range from 4.51 to 5.00 among leaders and community members. The overall mean score of 4.75 is within the range 4.51 - 5.00 and shows that all the participants strongly agreed with the construct of strategies for CVE to strengthen community resilience. The mean scores further show that most of the leaders and community members posit that peaceful dialogue, ceasefire, Islamophobia eradication, the abolition of extremist training centres, finishing militant networks, strong social cohesion, a reinterpretation of ideology, and strong community support are the major strategies for CVE to strengthen community resilience.

However, all the standard deviation scores reflect that all the members have a unanimous outlook about the statements of strategies for CVE to strengthen community resilience.

RQ3: What is social linking (social bonding and social bridging) between communities and institutions for building community resilience?

Table 4.3 social linking between communities and institutions for building CR

S. No	Statements	M	Std
1	Political/moral motivation and Opportunistic involvement is essential to engage them	4.56	.685
2	Family or friends support them for positive engagement	4.74	.539
3	Transitional periods, group influence, and mental health impact their positive engagement	4.55	.677
4	Constructive political involvement is the best strategy for CVE	4.51	.751
5	Community support is essential for social linking	4.71	.847
6	Institutes should bring awareness for CR for CVE	4.65	.575
7	Strong leadership is necessary for social linking	4.81	.524
8	Need for group bonding and belonging to prevent the menace	4.68	.581
9	Social bonding is necessary between community and institutes	4.73	.538
10	Social bridging is necessary between community and institutes	4.61	.592
11	Educational institutes play the best role for CR	4.76	.601
	Overall	4.66	.628

Table 4.3 states that respondents "strongly agreed" with all statements of social linking construct having mean scores of 4.56, 4.74, 4.55, 4.51, 4.71, 4.65, 4.81, 4.68, 4.73, 4.61, and 4.76 which fulfill the criteria of the range from 4.51 to 5.00 among leaders and community members who strongly agreed with the social linking component of violent extremism. The overall mean score of 4.66 comes in the range 4.51 - 5.00 and shows that all the participants strongly agreed with the construct of the social linking of violent extremism. The mean scores further show that most of the leaders and community members articulate that moral motivation,

political motivation, family support, positive political involvement, community support, group influence, educational awareness, strong leadership, situational analysis, social bonding, and social bridging are common factors for social linking between institutes and communities for strengthening community resilience and give them a prominent place in society and engage them in constructive activities to prevent this terror and save humanity from further disaster.

However, all the standard deviation scores reveal that all the partakers have the same ideas about the statements of the social linking of violent extremists in constructive activities.

RQ4: How do leaders and the community play their roles in preventing violent extremism?

Table 4.4 *Role of leadership and community*

S. No	Statements	M	Std
1	Leadership and community show glorification of peaceful action	4.66	.668
2	Leadership and community discourage criminal opportunism	4.67	.660
3	Community members show commitment to a group ideology	4.70	.638
4	Leadership and community use moral perspective	4.78	.639
5	Leadership and community members bring them to a stream of life	4.59	.662
6	Leadership and community meet with family/friends against violent extremism	4.79	.662
7	Leadership use the Iron hand against criminal violence	4.69	.660
8	Leadership grant training for community resilience	4.72	.599
9	Leadership and Community show readiness to self-sacrifice and willingness to engage violent extremists in constructive activities	4.77	.669
10	Leadership and Community redress injustice and grievance and defend them against the threat	4.64	.596
11	Leadership and Community grant them an identity, meaning, dominance, belonging, comradeship & status in society.	4.58	.577
	Overall	4.69	.579

Table 4.4 delivers that respondents "strongly agreed" with the all statements of commitment and motivation construct having mean scores of 4.66, 4.67, 4.70, 4.78, 4.59, 4.79, 4.69, 4.72, 4.77, 4.64, and 4.58 which are within the range from 4.51 to 5.00 among leaders and community members. The total count of 4.69 comes in the range 4.51 - 5.00 and shows that all the participants strongly agreed with the construct of the role of leadership and community of violent extremism. The mean scores further demonstrate that most of the leaders and community members have a similar opinion that the role of leadership and community wish to discourage violent activities, and to show commitment to a group ideology.

However, all the standard deviation scores mirror that all the participants have common opinions about the statements of the role of leadership and community against violent extremism.

Table 4.5 *Pearson Product Moment Correlations between leadership and Community; and CR against Violent Extremism*

Correlations		Leadership and community	CR against Violent Extremism
Leadership and Community	Pearson Correlation	-	.521**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N		567
CR against Violent Extremism	Pearson Correlation		-
	Sig. (2-tailed)		
	N	967	967
**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).			

The large correlation between the IV and DV, $r = .521$, $n = 567$, $P < .000$, greater than .05 indicates the statistical significance of the results. Cohen (1988) suggests the following guidelines: low relationship (r=.10 to .29) average relationship (r=.30 to .49) high relationship (r=.50 to 1.0). According to this recommendation, there is high relationship (r=.521) of headship with community and CR against violent extremism.

Thematic analysis

The Clarke and Braun (2014) thematic analysis technique was employed for the analysis of data collected through interview protocol, following six steps i.e. familiarity with data by transcribing from audio recording, collating data with initial codes, searching for themes (emerged themes and sub-themes), reviewing themes, thematic mapping, defining and naming themes, and producing report/interpretation. The concourse building was made. Audio records were listened to again and again to get familiarity with the statements of the interviewees. Initial codes like RC, SCVE, SL, and LCR were collated for root causes, strategies for counter violent extremism, social linking, and leadership/community role. Themes were sought.

For upholding the secrecy of informants, the interviews were given codes as R1, R2…R10 for respondents one to ten in that order. The responses and the interpretation are given below:

Q- 1: What are the root causes of violent extremism in community members?

R 6 revealed that illiteracy and poverty are the main causes of violent extremism. R 5 stated US intervention is the most fundamental cause in the propagation of this peril. R 3 believed that hegemonic designs of the West are the causes of terrorism. R 7 contended that injustices in society to the poor caused terrorism. R 8 responded that the monetary avarice of the world leaders, particularly in the west is the main reason behind terrorism. He further told that this thing renovated the spirit of Jihad among the Muslim youths to take revenge and so on.

Q- 2: What are the strategies that may be implemented to empower community members and strengthen CR with the best solutions against terrorism?

R1 was of the view that political and peaceful dialogue and social integration are the best strategies to empower community members to counterterrorism. R 4 posited that true democracy is the best solution, community participation is necessary for community resilience. R 10 replied that Islamophobia eradication through peaceful actions is the best strategy. R 2 answered that reinterpretation of ideologies, complete ceasefire, and the abolition of training centres are the best strategies. R 3 commented that strong community support is the best strategy and so on

Q- 3: What is the social linking (social bonding and social bridging) between communities and institutions for building community resilience?

R 2 said that social bonding, social bridging, and social linking are necessary for countering violent extremism. R 9 described that educational awareness is essential for community resilience. R 3 told that de-radicalisation, positive political participation, and strong leadership are protective for augmenting social bonding and linkages to encounter violent extremism. R 5 narrated that educational provision and economic stability are the best things for strengthening community resilience and so on.

Q- 4: How do leaders and the community play their roles in preventing violent extremism?

R 7 exposed that leadership role is positive in bringing violent terrorists into the stream of life. R 4 replied that leadership may prefer peaceful action. R 6 responded that respect for humanity, respect for morality, and moral superiority may be safeguarded. R 3 answered that families' meetings, self-sacrifice for a better future, and social status of the people may be respected. R5 told that leadership and community jointly discourage criminal opportunism but also save innocent individuals. R 9 exposed that educational leaders may play their role as they teach students how to live in society and prepare them for peaceful life, remove prejudices of all kinds, broaden the mind, enlarge the vision, encourage intellectual wisdom, cultivate the capacity for clear thinking, and teach them their duties to other members of society.

Themes were reviewed repeatedly. Thematic mapping was made.

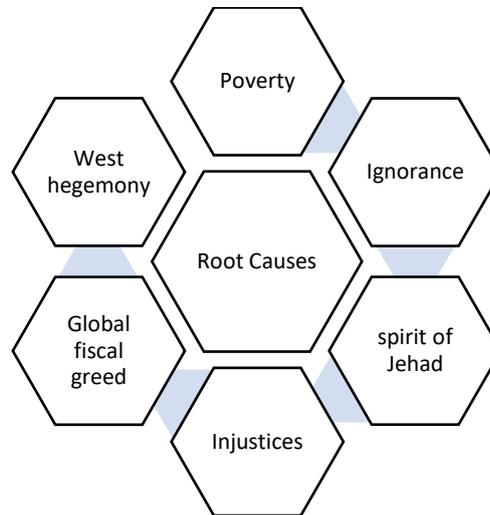**Figure 4.1 Thematic mapping of Root Causes Word Trees**

Figure 4.2 Thematic mapping of Strategies Word Trees

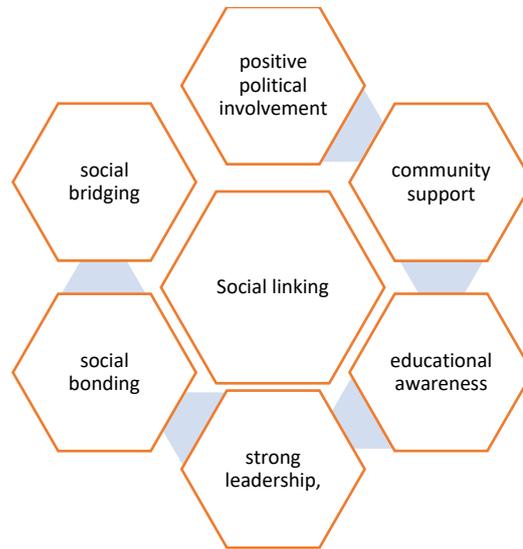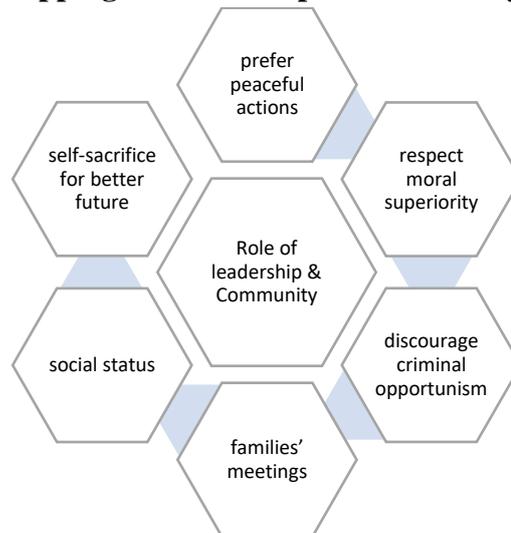**Figure 4.3 Thematic mapping of Social linking Word Trees**

Figure 4.4 Thematic mapping of Leadership & Community role Word Tre

After thematic mapping, themes were defined and renamed. Finally, interpretation was made accordingly.

Findings

Major findings of the study were:

1. There were eleven items in the root causes component of violent extremism. The overall mean score of 4.65 shows that all the participants strongly agreed with the construct of the root causes of violent extremism (Table 4.1).

2. There were thirteen statements on strategies where the overall mean score of 4.75 reveals that all the partakers strongly agreed with the construct of strategies against violent extremism (Table 4.2).

3. A total count of 4.66 of eleven statements displays that all the participants strongly agreed with the paradigm of the social linking of violent extremism (Table 4.3).

4. The overall mean score of 4.69 of eleven items expresses that all the participants strongly agreed with the concept of the role of leadership and community of violent extremism (Table 4.4).

5. The r-value (.521) which was significant at .000 showed significant large correlations between leadership and community; and CR against violent extremism (Table 4.5).

6. The major constructs like root causes; strategies against VE; social linking; and leaders and community role of quantitative data were backed by qualitative findings. Likewise, major themes that emerged from qualitative data were violent political extremism, authoritarian submission, authoritarian aggression, conventionalism, ethnocentrism, authoritarianism and anti-humanism, general fundamentalism, exclusionary fundamentalism, martyrdom attitudes, gender role attitudes, intolerance and ambiguity, psychological orientations of terrorists, depression, hysteria, masculinity-femininity, distrust, social isolation, hopelessness, normative beliefs about anti-Semitic aggression, Islamic fundamentalism, psychological causes of terrorism, violent extremism against the West, extreme hate for Americans, and ideological extremism.

Conclusion

The findings of the study collectively expose that the root causes of violent extremism are poverty, illiteracy, global fiscal greed, injustices, grievances, ideological beliefs, religious fundamentalism, social isolation, rejection of democracy, extreme frustration, and martyrdom behaviour. It was further concluded that most of the leaders and community members posit that peaceful dialogue, ceasefire, Islamophobia eradication, the abolition of extremist training centres, finishing militant networks, strong social cohesion, a reinterpretation of ideology, and community strong support are the major strategies for CVE to strengthen community resilience. Besides, it was deduced that most of the leaders and community members articulate that moral motivation, political motivation, family support, positive political involvement, community support, group influence, educational awareness, strong leadership, situational analysis, social bonding, and social bridging are common factors for social linking between institutes and communities for strengthening community resilience, give them a prominent place in society and engage them in constructive activities to prevent this terror and save humanity from further disaster. Furthermore, significant large correlations were found between leadership-community and community resilience against violent extremism

From the qualitative data analysis, it was determined that the respondents responded in the same way and supported the quantitative analysis results with a slight addition of violent

political extremism, authoritarian submission, authoritarian aggression, conventionalism, ethnocentrism, authoritarianism and anti-humanism, general fundamentalism, exclusionary fundamentalism, martyrdom attitudes, gender role attitudes, intolerance and ambiguity, psychological orientations of terrorists, depression, hysteria, masculinity-femininity, distrust, social isolation, hopelessness, normative beliefs about anti-Semitic aggression, Islamic fundamentalism, psychological causes of terrorism, violent extremism against the West, extreme hate for Americans, and ideological extremism.

Discussion

The present study has supplemented extensive points in the Pakistani context to earlier terrorism and violent extremism studies and has not only highlighted root causes of violent extremism, countering strategies against VE but has also uncovered the bridging of community and institutions against the menace, and also signified the importance of leaders and community in building community resilience to encounter this peril. The study further added to the violent extremism literature by documenting empirical support of the relationship between leadership and community role and CR against violent extremism. It was found that CR in preventing VE epitomises a paradigm shift from a disastrous retort approach, in which persons are prey to hard times, to an approach in which community members are agents of change.

It was also found that building CR works best when it is a community-oriented approach that achieves the trust of the community and permits them to become responsible citizens. It was also posited that the role of leaders and community members has paramount importance in building CR to encounter VE are in alignment with the study of Tadjbakhsh (2016) who contends thwarting and retorting to violent extremism and terrorism is not exclusively the task of the government. Locally affected communities should also be involved. Both top-down (leadership) and bottom-up (communities) resourcefulness is also essential. Communities have a carbon-based responsibility to safeguard their interests, claim their rights, and contribute to local and national solutions. Their degree of resilience is the measure of success for the nation. These findings are backed by the study of Tadjbakhsh (2016). It was concluded that the root cause of VE is poverty which was supported by the study of Subedi & Jenkins (2016) who posit that financial deficiency proposes a significant association between VE and economic inequality. Each person's background, grumbles, inspirations, and prospects may be investigated discretely to be able to develop an appropriate intrusion, adjusted to community circumstances.

It was found that top leadership played a positive and constructive role in the eradication of terrorism and bringing peace to Pakistan. This finding is supported by the study of Abbas (2015). It was concluded that community resilience can be built and improved by involving youth and other community members in positive activities like social work, employment, and sports activities to foster disaster. This finding is backed by the study of Gil-Rivas & Kilmer

(2016). It was found that poverty, economic differences, and domestic violence and terrorism can be overcome by building strong community resilience and this finding is supported by the work of Piazza (2011).

The way forward

An unprejudiced analysis of leaders and community members' expressions has professed that they were at home with the root causes of terrorism, countering strategies, social linking between communities and institutions, and the positive role of leadership and community members for building community resilience among youth against violent extremism. They are ready to eradicate this peril and try to contribute to the building of community resilience of their youth but several constraints compel them to deviate from the right action. The study points out the dire need for:

- The leadership to focus on the economic stability of the country to minimise the poverty of the people to save the future generation from indulging in violent activities and terrorism
- The educational leadership to focus on imparting quality education to the young ones to make them strong against any kind of danger and train them in the right direction to safeguard them to become stooges in the hands of terrorists.

Root causes

Strategies

1. Disastrous preparedness.
2. The greatest resource are communities themselves against violent extremism.
3. Social connection, social bonding, and social linking the best strategies.
4. Local empowerment.
5. What makes a community resilient to violent extremism? How can we build or enhance community resilience?
6. Complete involvement of a group of people to produce a nous of ownership of VE and its solutions.
7. People interaction, creating programs and social/economic conditions that make stronger bonds, plummet injustices and inequalities, and grow civic engagement.
8. Training and finances may be provided to community members to create productive activities for themselves.
9. Garnering public support to fight VE and creating awareness among people to be alert and vigilant about their surroundings is key to thwarting the evil designs of terrorists.
10. The philosophy of non-violence may be adopted and inculcated in the mind of people.

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Appendix

Table 1. Definitions of concepts used in the systematic review.

Concept   Definition

o   Extremism   Vocal or active opposition to fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs (Burt, 2012)
o   Terrorism   The unofficial or unauthorized use of violence and intimidation in the pursuit of political aims (Creswell, 2017)
o   Fundamentalism   Belief that there is one set of religious teachings that contains the fundamental, basic, intrinsic essential, inerrant truth about humanity and deity (DuMont, 2007)
o   Radicalisation   The process by which an individual or group comes to adopt increasingly extreme political, social, or religious ideals and aspirations that either reject or undermine the status quo or reject and/or undermine contemporary ideas and expressions of freedom of choice (Ahmed, 2004)
o   Authoritarianism   Unqualified submission to authority, as opposed to individual freedom of thought and action (Gil-Rivas, 2016)