



POST EVENT REPORT

International Seminar on

HUMAN SECURITY DISCOURSE IN 21ST CENTURY

& Launching Ceremony of

THE HUMAN SECURITY INSTITUTE

March 27th, 2021

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INTRODUCTION

With the advent of twenty-first century, the evolution in security discourse has led to novel conception of human security alongside the preexisting traditional notions of national security, which ought to ensure dignity and liberty of life at an individual level. The state of Human Security in Pakistan is marred with lack of a holistic approach towards adopting and resolving problems through the people-centric perspective of Human Security. Challenges pertaining to governance and security in Pakistan are multifaceted and have been historically dealt with a state-centric approach.

Pakistan is grappled with an immense challenge which ultimately threatens human security. Not only food & health security is at stake, but also other dimensions. Therefore, it is need of the hour to invest in the avenue of human security in Pakistan. In this regard, in line with the Government of Pakistan's vision of a secure, progressive, and prosperous Pakistani society, it is believed that the time has come to talk about devising more comprehensive and holistic approaches and policies for our people's well-being.

Henceforth, *The Human Security Institute Islamabad* is the first of its kind dedicated research-oriented organization that has been established to highlight the significance and relevance of the concept and practice of Human Security in Pakistan by honestly investing in research on the subject.

PROFILE OF THE GUESTS

Dr. Shireen M. Mazari

Federal Minister for Human Rights

Dr. Mazari holds a B.Sc.(Hon) from the London School of Economics, and a Masters, M. Phil and PhD, from Columbia University, New York, USA. Her PhD thesis was on Concepts of Hegemony & International Regimes: A Case Study of the International Trade & Nonproliferation Regimes. She was Director General, Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad. she also served as Secretary and President of the Federation of All Pakistan University Academic Staff Associations



(FAPUASA). She had been an associate professor at Quaid-i-Azam University She is the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Appointment of Chief Election Commissioner and Members of the Election Commission of Pakistan. She has been a member of the National Assembly of Pakistan since August 2018, and serves as a chief whip for Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf. Previously, she was a member of the National Assembly from June 2013 to May 2018. In 2009, Mazari was appointed as the editor of The Nation. She also hosted a weekly television show on the Waqt News. Dr. Mazari has also authored a book titled “The Kargil Conflict 1999 Separating Fact from Fiction”.

Dr. Sania Nishtar

Senator/SAPM

Senator Dr. Sania Nishtar is a member of the Senate of Pakistan. She is the Special Assistant of the Prime Minister of Pakistan with the status of Federal Minister. She has the Cabinet portfolio of Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety. She is the founder of Ehsaas, the Government's flagship social protection program, and leads its implementation. She also chairs the Benazir Income Support Program and the Government of Pakistan's Council on Poverty Alleviation.



Dr. Sania Nishtar is a member of the United Nations Global Alliance on Poverty Eradication. She is the former co-chair of World Health Organization's High-Level Commission on Non communicable diseases along with the presidents of Uruguay, Finland and Sri-Lanka. She is also a member and former chair of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on the Future of Healthcare and has recently chaired the U.S National Academy of Sciences Global Study on the Quality of Healthcare in low and middle-income countries. In addition, she also chairs the United Nations International Institute for Global Health's Advisory Committee. She has founded the NGO Heart file in Pakistan and has also previously served as a federal minister in the Pakistan government in 2013.

Shehreyar Khan Afridi

Chairman Parliamentary Special Committee on Kashmir

He received a master's degree in International Relations from the University of Peshawar. He served as the Minister of State for Interior from 31 August 2018 to 18 April 2019. He has been a member of the National Assembly of Pakistan since August 2018. Previously, he was also a member of the National Assembly from June 2013 to May 2018. He was also given an additional charge of the Ministry of Narcotics Control. He is serving as the Minister of State for States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON) since 18 April 2019. He is also a member of parliamentarians without borders.



Profiles of the Speakers and Moderator

Maj. Gen. ® Muhammad Samrez Salik

Major General Muhammad Samrez Salik was commissioned from Pakistan Military Academy with President's Gold Medal in March 1985. He is a graduate of Command and Staff College Quetta and National Defence University Islamabad. He completed his 34 years long meritorious service in October 2019. He served on command, staff and instructional appointments. His command assignments included, command of a regiment on Line of Control, of a brigade in North Waziristan/ Peshawar and of an Infantry Division in Balochistan. His staff experience included Assistant Private Secretary to Gen Pervez Musharraf, Chief of Staff of Lahore Corps and Vice Chief of General Staff at GHQ. His instructional appointments comprised Pakistan Military Academy and National Defence University.



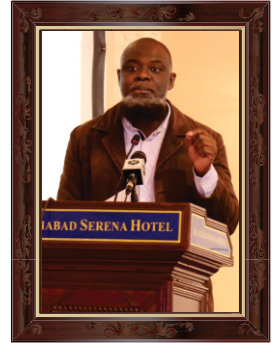
Dr. Salma Malik:

Dr. Salma Malik Works as Assistant Professor at the Department of Defence and Strategic Studies, Quaid-I-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan. She specializes in the areas of Conflict and Security Studies, and South Asian Affairs. She is an alumnus of the Uppsala University, Sweden, the Asia Pacific Center for Strategic Studies APCSS, Hawaii and Visiting Research Fellow, Sandia National Labs, New Mexico, USA.



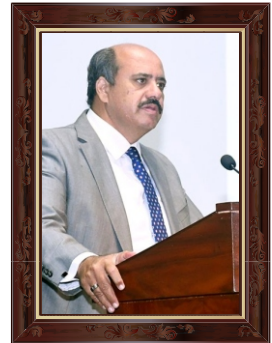
Dr. Bakare Najimdeen:

Dr. Bakare Najimdeen is HOD Peace & Conflict Studies, National University of Science and Technology, Islamabad. Dr. Bakare has an illustrious career in research with multiple publications. He specializes in Politics and International Relations, European Union Politics, Issues of European Muslims, Islamic Peace Studies, Regionalism and Global Politics.



Dr. Zafar Nawaz Jaspal:

Dr. Zafar Nawaz Jaspal is Professor at the School of Politics and International Relations, Quaid-I-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan, where he teaches various aspects of International Political and Defense Affairs; Nuclear/Missile Proliferation; National Security, Pakistan Foreign & Strategic affairs, etc. Dr. Jaspal was the Director of the School from October 5, 2012, to January 18, 2016.



Dr. Jaspal, as a Guest Speaker/Visiting Lecturer, had delivered and still continues to deliver lectures at many professional and training institutions including distinguished NATO School, Oberammergau, Germany; NATO Defense College Rome, Italy, Center of Excellence: Defence against Terrorism, Ankara, Turkey; National Security & War Courses of Pakistan's National Defence University; Intelligence Bureau Academy, Command and Staff College Quetta; Air War College, Karachi, and Foreign Service Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Pakistan. He holds PhD and M. Phil in International Relations and M.A. in Political Science.

Ms. Mahroona Hussain Syed

Ms. Mahroona Hussain Syed is a sociologist and a PhD scholar in Govt and Public Policy with a large number of publications to her credit in the fields of national security, Counterinsurgency, military sociology and regional stability and socio-economic development. She teaches at the National Defence University of Pakistan and currently an Advisor to THSI.



SESSION I: Inaugural Session

Welcome Remarks by the Director-General The Human Security Institute, Rafique Ahmed Qureshi

Director General, The Human Security Institute (THSI), in his welcome remarks stated that Human Security has become a central concept of global security. Almost twenty-five years ago, the concept of human security was introduced by Mehboob-ul-Haq, a Pakistani economist and an international development theorist. There are wide range of Human Security concerns from poverty, food security, to rule of law, citizen security, human rights, conflict prevention, gender, youth, climate change and the environment. Promoting human security has to be a common approach of global community to support countries in achieving development aspirations. It shares the same core principles as the concept of human development.



Human security is a people-centred approach, hence, the concept revolves around the importance of affording people “freedom from fear” and freedom from want” and hence “freedom from indignity” encompassed by seven dimensions of security i.e., economic security, food security, health security, environmental security, personal security, community security and political security. It is a modern phenomenon, a concept of global security, adopted by several countries after 1994. A number of international think-tanks and institutions are working on it for the sake of sustainable human development.

There is a serious dearth amongst Pakistan's research institutions on the relevance and essentialness of Pakistan's challenges to the notions of human security. In the absence of a dedicated institution, it is difficult its exploration to explore the room for improvement in state of Human Security in Pakistan through research and application. In the international arena, governments and research organization have been progressing through the notions of human security.

While considering the aforementioned aspects, the underpinning idea of *The Human Security Institute* is conceived. *The Human Security Institute (THSI)*, founded in 2020 with a vision to be a think tank of National and International competence working for the cause of Human Security at all cadres. THSI as a think tank will work to fulfill the lacuna with regards to Human Security and is committed to actively promote the perception of humanity while playing its dedicated role. As a non-profit venture, THSI commits itself to rethink Pakistan's problems through the lens of human security by inducing effective discussions around pertinent challenges. Therefore, I hope that with your cooperation THSI will emerge as a think-tank of national and international competence.

Speech by the Chief Guest of the Session:

Dr. Shireen M. Mazari

(Federal Minister for Human Rights)

Dr. Shireen M. Mazari, Federal Minister for Human Rights, congratulated The Human Security Institute (THSI) on its launch, and appreciated the efforts of the team for conducting the event on such an important topic. Dr. Mazari discussed the articles of United Nations that deal with the rights of an individual and human rights. She also informed the forum regarding the laws and treaties signed and ratified by Pakistan related to Human Rights.



Dr. Mazari reiterated the need to focus on the situation of human security in Pakistan. She highlighted some misconceptions revolving around the concept of national interest. The defense of the borders solely can't be considered as serving national interest, but, ensuring the rights of individuals and human development are part of national interest. She also mentioned the changing dynamics of war. The nature of war, according to Dr. Mazari, is becoming hybrid where the threat referent are individuals. Notion of security is not only of securing the state but the nation as well.

She emphasized that in order to create a sense of achieving human security, a strong national narrative is required. For this, the whole nation needs to be on the same page. In terms of human security, we must work to identify the gaps and protect the rights of individuals, especially of those that belong to minority communities. Only with an inclusive rights based approach, any government can achieve the greater sense of human security.

Dr. Mazari in her speech brought the focus on the role of non-state actors and civil society in ensuring human security and upholding the values of human rights. She argued that in a changed nature of security dynamics, it is not possible for a state alone to ensure the social protections of its citizens. Civil society plays a vital role in creating the environment where every person lives with dignity and free from any fear.

At the end, Dr. Mazari appreciated the timely launch of THSI for working on the subject of Human Security, and hoped that THSI will accentuated upon the realm of Human security dedicatedly through research and advocacy.

Inaugural Ceremony of The Human Security Institute (THSI)

The inaugural plate was revealed by the honorable chief guest, Dr. Shireen M. Mazari, Federal Minister for Human Rights



SESSION II: Human Security Discourse in 21st Century

Opening Remarks by Chair/Moderator

Maj. Gen. (R) Samrez Salik

General Semraiz Salik moderated the panel discussion and briefed the topic of Human Security. He talked about the importance of Human Security in 21st century and indicated that no country can progress by just focusing on traditional security. In context of Pakistan, he pointed out that in past the country's policies were overwhelmed by traditional security and non-traditional aspect were ignored. He gave the example of China who uplifted 500 million people from extreme poverty by focusing on Human Security. Security is what one perceives of it. He further talked about the non-traditional security aspects for Pakistan and the need to adopt the policies prioritizing Human Security.



Topic 1:

Changing Dynamics of Security Threats

by Dr. Salma Malik

Dr. Salma Malik appreciated the work of Pakistani renowned scientist Mehboob-ul-Haq as he gave the concept of Human Security in the United Nations Development Program. Dr. Salma focused on the prevailing situation of pandemic and its impact on Human Security. She also indicated the role of leadership and the blame game that worsens the situation to curb the spread of covid-19. Moreover, the role of governments in countering the covid situation was also of great importance and she suggested that the world community have to work together just like 'the club of Rome'. Moreover, as the covid-19 has affected every field of life and every entity so a person or a state alone cannot survive on its own, so a collective effort is required to achieve human security. The Survival of Humanity is dependent on the cooperation and collaboration of every actor. One of the solutions Dr. Salma proposed is the need to adopt equity-based resource distribution and not equality-based. At the end, she elaborated on multiple threats resulted from covid-19 and gave various suggestions to contain them. She also stressed the involvement of people in policymaking.



Topic 2:

Understanding the concept of Human Security

by Ms. Mahroona Hussain Syed

Ms. Mahroona pointed out various important factors of Human Security and barriers in achieving the defined goals. She indicated the lack of participation of a common man and indicated the value of the indigenous course to the subject. Moreover, she stressed that most of our ideas are borrowed from the west and we apply them in our country without considering the local contexts and factors. This is one of the main reasons that most of borrowed policies failed and its implementations did not bring anything fruitful.

She recommended that it is the need to indulge the natives in research for Human Security from different language backgrounds. Furthermore, she criticized the top-down approach in which decisions and policies are generated from a small top group and a majority of locals are neglected. Ms. Mahroona at the end suggested that we need to empower local government system, this will allow the discourse to come from our own people.



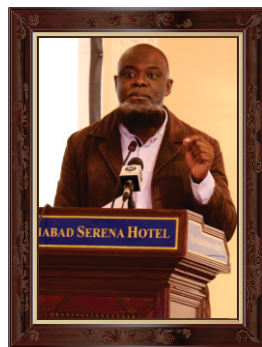
Topic 3:

Conflict Induced Human Insecurities

by Dr. Bakare Najimdeen

Dr. Bakare insights were very fruitful as he highlighted the nexus between conflicts and human security. He proposed that Human Security is individualistic and it's a matter of social contract between the state and people. He also indicated that Human Security is treated at the peripheral level. Foremost importantly, he talked about the essence of Human Security in terms of identity. Furthermore, he indicated the reasons for various conflicts and its reason.

Among the reasons he stated that it is against an individual's liberty and dignity to be treated inhumanely. He talked about the communal identities that are living in the west and the way they are treated. Dr. Bakare emphasized on supporting cultural and religious expression because its deprivation results in agitation and that leads to conflicts. Moreover, he also stressed on ameliorating the quality of governance that promotes equitable governance. In the end, Dr. Bakare suggested the need of a sustainable social contract to promote human security and prevent conflicts.



Topic 4:

Nexus between National Security and Human Security

by Dr. Zafar Nawaz Jaspal

Dr. Zafar Nawaz Jaspal talked about the traditional and non-traditional security paradigms of Pakistan. His focus was on the state-centric approach and considered it as an important institution in providing human security. Moreover, the growth of country is highly dependent on the development of Human Security. He emphasized that political, environmental, and economic security is highly dependent on Human Security, and it is obligatory for states to provide human security in order to progress. In the end he highlighted the need of a balanced approach between civil and military institutions. Dr. Zafar stressed that the strategic location of Pakistan requires military intake in the policymaking and it cannot be neglected.

Under considering the paradigm shift of the region it is necessary for Pakistan to adopt an approach that requires military and civil intake.



Speech by the Chief Guest of the Session:

Dr. Sania Nishtar

(Senator/SAPM)

Dr. Sania Nishtar Congratulated The Human Security Institute for its inauguration and appreciated THSI efforts in giving awareness regarding Human Security. She elaborated on the concept of Human Security and its significance for Pakistan. Dr. Sania explained traditional and non-traditional security aspects, as the former one is focused on state-centric approaches and later one is more attentive to an individual stic approach.



Human Security is focused on seven dimensions, Dr. Sania Nishtar proposed Demographic Security as the 8th dimension of Human Security. The world population is increasing exponentially and numerous issues arising as a result of it by adding the demographic Security Dimension many problems could be addressed. Moreover, as she is working closely with the government of Pakistan, she highlighted health security as a fundamental aspect of human security. Dr. Nishtar explained different governmental projects that are assisting in alleviating poverty and hence contributing in the realm of human security.

She highlighted the underpinnings of Ehsas program. Furthermore, she shared her analysis on the economic conditions of Pakistan and emphasized the importance of economic security. She added that economic security is one of vital components for a sovereign nation.

Most importantly, Dr. Sania Nishtar highlighted the importance of technology in modern times and suggested adopting advanced technological methods. Furthermore, she talked about the human capital and the young population of Pakistan, according to her countries can only progress if they invest in the human capital and resources.

In the end, she pointed out the importance of accountability in institutions as transparency in institutions is a bedrock for progress. Dr. Sania Nishtar thanked everyone and congratulate THSI for organizing such a successful event.

SESSION III: Closing Session

An Appraisal on the role of THSI in the realm of Human Security Shiraz Shaikh (Research Officer)

Mr. Shiraz Shaikh, Research Officer at THSI gave a formal presentation to the house, regarding the institute. In the presentation he described the overall journey of THSI as a non-profit venture from its conception as an idea till the day of its launching event.



During the presentation he apprised the house on THSI as follow:

◆ Vision:

- THSI aims to be a think-tank of national and international competence working for the cause of human security at all cadres.

◆ Mission:

- The Human Security Institute endeavors to advance with research and advocacy in a society where everyone deserves the right to live with freedom from fear and want and to live in dignity.

◆ Team:

- The team of THSI comprise of youth upon which the institute takes pride in

◆ Objectives:

- Global Affairs and Human Security
- Community Development and Human Security
- Refugees and Human Security
- Peace, Conflict and Human Security
- Environment Security
- Strategic tactics and Human Security
- Safe Indigenous Liberties
- Economic Affairs and Human Security
- SDGs under Human Security
- CPEC and Human Security
- Gender and Human Security
- Food and Health Security

◆ THSI looks Forward...

At the end of the presentation, it was also highlighted that THSI is looking forward to work together with all the key stakeholders in order to generate a comprehensive approach towards the realm of the Human Security

SUMMING UP THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DAY:

Amb. (R) Fauzia Nasreen

(Member Board of Advisory, THSI)

Former Ambassador, Fauzia Nasreen gave a brief recap of the event's first two sessions:

- Director-General THSI, Mr. Rafique Ahmed Qureshi, in the welcome remarks welcome all the guests, speakers and participants to attend the launching ceremony of The Human Security Institute.
- Dr. Shireen M. Mazari, Federal Minister for Human Rights, highlighted the need for a national narrative on the subject of human rights. She also argued about the importance of human security as complimentary to national security.
- In the panel discussion, respected Chair, Maj. Gen. (R) Samrez Salik talked about the changing security threats in the 21st century.
- The panel speakers included: Dr. Bakare Najimdeen, Dr. Salma Malik, Dr. Zafar Nawaz Jaspal and Ms. Mashroona Hussain Syed.
- The speakers engaged in a constructive dialogue where the concept of human security was understood in details, the changing dynamics of security threats were discussed, the impact of conflicts on human security and link of national security with human security were highlighted.
- Dr. Sania Nishtar, Senator/SAPM, talked at greater length about the importance of policies that cater human insecurities, like Ehsaas Program.
- Now we are moving towards the closing session of today's event.



SPEECH BY CHIEF GUEST:

Mr. Shehryar Khan Afridi

(Chairman Parliamentary Special Committee on Kashmir)



In his speech, Mr. Shehryar Khan Afridi, Chairman Parliamentary Special Committee on Kashmir, congratulated Director General THSI on taking the much needed initiative to establish an institution working solely on the topic of human security. Mr. Afridi also mentioned the changing dynamics of security on the global level. Talking about Kashmir, Mr. Afridi highlighted gross human rights violations perpetrated by Fascist Modi regime in

Kashmir. He said that women from the age of 13 to 80 years old are being subjected to rape. Since past 600 days the valley of Kashmir occupied illegally by India is under measures of extreme in-humanitarian crisis.

Security lockdown brought three new dimensions. One, while the Hindutva driven policies against Muslim minority have already diminished Nehruvian dream of secular democracy, 5th August 2019 has made international community realized that the Kashmiri freedom struggle has always been indigenous. There is a continuous human rights violation by Indian state and army against Muslims in Kashmir and revoking of the autonomous status is one such example. It has also reduced the political participation and role of local Kashmiri politicians. The promulgation of new domicile law in Kashmir in March 2020 is also another attempt to alter the Muslim dominating demography of Kashmir by providing rights of residence to non-Kashmiris who have lived for minimum 15 years or have attended high school in Kashmir. Kashmir is becoming a boiling pot that can have volcanic eruption at any point of time. There is food shortage, no media access, social media blackout, no access to education and basic rights of living, no proper health facilities. Three staff members are supposed to treat 96 patients of Covid-19 with limited or no supply or access to protective gears and may acquire masks once a week. There are only 215 ventilators to cater the need for life saving and urgent medical relief of 13 million population. By not providing sufficient medical care and preventive measures, Covid-19 is going to be another way or tool of India's genocide against Kashmiris.



Mr. Afridi also highlighted the hypocrisy of the west for its preferential treatment towards India despite its gross human rights violations not only in IIOJ&K but also with the minorities living in India. Whereas, Pakistan being a victim of terrorism itself, since joining the global war-on-terror, is subjected to policies of disadvantage. At the end, Mr. Afridi again reiterated the need of UN and world community to intervene and stop the ongoing genocide of Kashmiris by India.

Vote of Thanks by Director General THSI

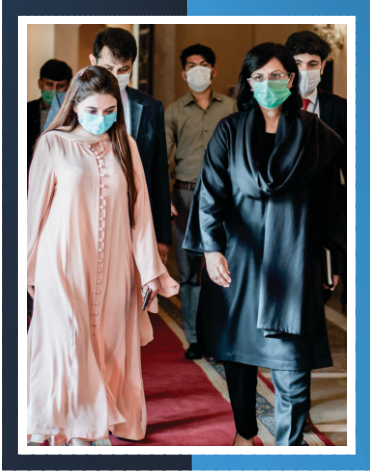
Rafique Ahmed Qureshi

At the end of today's event, I on behalf of The Human Security Institute (THSI) extend my most sincere thanks to our distinguished guests who took time out of their busy schedules to attend the International Seminar on Human Security Discourse in 21st century to scrutinize THSI's initiatives and the emerging phenomenon of "Human Security," which has emerged as a core theme in global security. I hope that you found the seminar informative and worthwhile. The primary goal of this international seminar was to bring together the galaxies of expert on the subject of human security in an open dialogue, under one roof to discuss the working for the cause of Human Security at all dimensions. In this regard, the Human Security Institute organized this international seminar to adapt existing paradigms through new ideas and policy inputs from prominent academics, practitioners, and policy experts in order to find more workable solutions for the issues pertaining to human security. I believe that our diverse and creative community of speakers and panellists provided in-depth insight, as well as, actionable and practical tools of engagement strategies, that could be effective for future endeavours. Your participation contributed to the success of the case, and your excitement and upbeat attitude made our time together productive. I wish you all the best and hope that you continue to be engaged with the THSI for future events as well.

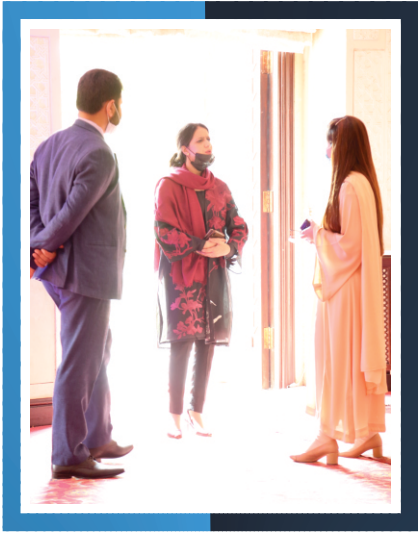
Thank you all.

GLIMPSES FROM THE EVENT













ABOUT THSI:

In 21st century, the discourse on security has evolved where along with the traditional concept of national security, the discourse on Human security has gained equal relevance in which life, liberty, and dignity of individual are to be respected and ensured. While taking this into consideration. The challenges facing Pakistan in terms of human security are multifaceted. The Human Security Institute aspires to provide the foundational basis for an integrated approach focused on various aspects of human security. By generating intellectual discourse and advocacy, THSI aims to highlight the issues of human security and provide sustainable solutions.

FOR FURTHER QUERIES

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