

POST-NATO DRAWDOWN IN AFGHANISTAN AND REGIONAL
SECURITY: POST-CONFLICT SOCIAL RECONSTRUCTION
THROUGH PEACE EDUCATION

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Peace is a basic human need but, unfortunately, in parts of the world, violence is a major cause of suffering for the inhabitants. Further, trouble in one country causes instability throughout the region. The history of Afghanistan is full of instability and, for the past few decades, the volatile situation has adversely affected its neighbours, especially Pakistan and China. In the post-NATO drawdown, Afghanistan's security is at stake, which is alarming for the whole region. This study is an attempt to analyse this situation, particularly regarding how a comprehensive peace education process can help promote regional security. The last part of the paper, which focuses mainly on mechanisms to initiate a peace education process, is the outcome of a ten-year-long field survey in which a large number of people were interviewed. The paper argues that, in addition to various other measures, there is an urgent need to initiate a comprehensive and integrated system of peace education in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and China via a network of peace education centres.

BACKGROUND

It is estimated that over one hundred million people died due to wars¹ during the twentieth century, and in the twenty-first century, violence, intolerance, and terrorism are frequently overarching themes, ruining the lives of millions of people around the globe. South and Central Asia are among the most

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