



**RESEARCH PAPER**

**Issues of National Integration in Pakistan with Reference to  
Balochistan**

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**ABSTRACT**

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The main focus of this paper is to investigate the issues which cause problems of National Integration in Pakistan with special perspective of Balochistan. Pakistan is a state where people having with various cultural, social, ethnical, lingual, racialism, caste and regional issues. All of these factors are caused the problems of national integration in Pakistan. Historical research approach has been applied to understand the issues of national Integration. National Integration has been supportive technique to shield the basic privileges or autonomy of community. Additionally, National Integration is a firm growth, where contrary divisions of society, offered with identical viewpoints, and the same privileges to enjoy numerous facilities, bear without any biasness. Moreover, for the formation of National Integration, role of federal body as facilitator may enhance the development of National Integration in Pakistan, especially in Balochistan Province

**Introduction**

In view of S.N. Panda, "National integration is a psychological phenomenon, a feeling of oneness that raises above all narrow and divisive tendencies and makes for genuine patriotism and progress".

National integration, basically, a feeling, in which the community/ nation of any state, assume themselves as live with one another, having the sentiments of oneness, unity, compassion, without any discrimination of race, ethnicity, regional boundaries, etc. It is experience of casual distinctiveness among the general public of any state. No matter, nation bears any caste, belief, region, lingual issues, they considered themselves that "They Are All One". This type of spirit makes the feelings of national integration. As per the Education Commission Report,

“National Integration includes a confidence in nation’s future, a continuous rise in the standard of living, development of feeling of values and duties, at good and impartial administrative system and mutual understanding”.

Pakistan is a country facing the dilemma of national integration since its independence as many leading factors were existing. This study will focus or highlight the causes which are obstacle in smooth keeping of national integration in Pakistan. Balochistan is a region where this issue is arising. Balochistan carries significant position coz of its precious and priceless natural resources or in addition with minerals. Geographically, Balochistan is located at South-West of Pakistan having boarder with neighboring states, i.e. Iran and Afghanistan, then its weightage become more boosts up after Gawadar Port, who gets extreme value for Pakistan among other states of the world. Earlier, British Government takes great benefit of this constituency after using Balochistan while calling it as “Buffer Zone”. British Government controls this region with the help of Sardars in Balochistan. Furthermore, the same method has been repeated up till 1947, however, certain uprisings occurred to create sovereign Balochistan. (Wolpert, 2000).Noraiee stated that the Balochistan, Afghanistan or Iran has been the states that appeal to Russia and British Govt. (Noraiee, 2015). The reason behind this appeal is that the Balochistan lies at the region which has significant position in Pakistan, i.e. business junctions among “central asia or south asia, south-west asia, so the British Govt. plan its strategies to looked the regional importance and geo politics.

### **What is National Integration**

“The important task faced by the leaders of post independent states of Asia and Africa is to create a national identity out of diverse regional, linguistic and cultural identities” (Jahan, 1974). Developed and under-developed countries of the globe, are suffering with the phenomenon of National Integration, at the same time. The developed countries adopt such strategies and make a planned administrative structure, which is in favor of their nation and the concept of national integration has been achieved, so far, but if we look the condition of under-developed countries about this issue they do not adopt such plans, lack of planned policies, which are accepted by all the ethnical, lingual, sectarian or racial groups. Ultimately, the idea of achievement of national integration has been failed. A group of people/community in a country who disagree the policies and strategies of Government initiate rebellion activities against the state, is a major risk in the way of national integration. It is necessary to elaborate the proper definition of these two terms: i)- Nation ii)- Integration

“Nation” is a stable historically evolved community of a territory, common economic life and a common psychological make-up either independent or struggling to be independent (Khan, 1983). A community lived in a particular region with mutual problems, thinking, social values, and fiscal issues, distribute the traditions of being one. That community or a group of people struggled for

attaining their goals or purposes. "The nation refers to an entity that has social and cultural, rather than legalistic, overtone" (Paddison, 1983). On the other hand, cultural values play a vital role in creating the feeling of individuality. One thing more, that is examined, a mass of people who have anger feelings, are distinguished for their self-identification rather than their state identification. "A nation is a group that desires self-government through an independent state" (Neil, 2007). According to J. Sodaro, Nation is a crowd of people, and they suppose to be as one, at the reason of mutual personalities/ thinking (Sodaro, 2001).

In the Dictionary of Political Thought, "Integration means, different groups within a jurisdiction may have the same rights in law that nevertheless enjoy unequal privileges and desperate social, educational and recreational institutions, integration is the process, where by all such institutions are made available to all members of the state regardless of creed, race and origin with the intention of forming a unified civil society within the jurisdiction of a unified state" (Scruton, 1982). It has been a practice, in which various divisions of Society, with the same prospects, took pleasure in different facilities with no such type of favoritism or biasness, having chance to grow particular social individuality. To make a sense of national integration in a state, it becomes important to generate a proper plan on state level that will make sure to all the ethnic, social or other groups etc. for their self-identity. One thing is also necessary to elaborate about this phenomenon that is people must provide the chances to take part in state Political System, then they considered themselves as a main and powerful part of state.

It may be suggested that a blend of various ethnical, lingual, social factions into a compound form is integration. "A consensus on ends, values and myths among participating groups is necessary for the establishment of a lasting organization aiming at the eventual formation of a national community" (Rai & Malick, 1989). Now, national integration becomes a gigantic issue for the researchers of this era and this matter sketched out many findings. They conclude that to maintain national integration in a region there is need to grow or develop a system or hierarchy that people will follow. To achieve these results, there must be a smooth and peaceful maintenance of division of resources, planned policies, regional integrity and equal distribution of sources among all the federating units. As far as Pakistan is concerned, feudal and sardari system, uprisings, political struggle, raise this issue. Pakistan is trying to establish national integration through social, political, economic, ethnic, lingual policies. To establish these policies, there is need to give more powers, resources to the regions/provinces for national integration.

Frederic Grare has made three important explanations about those factors that led to need of unity or revolution in Balochistan:

### **Expropriation**

Balochistan flopped to took the advantage with its major natural resource, gas, if critically examine just 04 regions have been completed the task of provision of natural gas. Then the administrative body stated that the gas stores will maltreat by 2012, it is the requirement to bore and find wide discovery of this natural reservoir. The skilled persons related to this field pointed out and present their report about the facts and figures of the natural resources of Balochistan, i.e., "6 Trillion Barrel oil and 19 Trillion Cubic Feet Gas"(Grare, 2006). The Balochi's intends to save these reservoirs and do not want any interference of Govt. in this matter, so this cause the issue of National Integration. Moreover, they want to equal distribution and equal rights like other providences.

### **Marginalization**

Balochies have a few participations in construction of the "Gawadar Port" which is a mega project of the federal govt. The advantage of this port has been directly linked with the people of Balochistan but there is a lack of development in this regard due to non cooperation of the Balochies. It also connects with Karachi but none of the attempt has been made by the people of Balochistan. Furthermore, there is no professional institute just because of the selfishness of Balochies. They do not establish a shopping place although having enough space. The major reason of all these annoyingness is that the Balochies thinks that the Govt. prefers the people of other provinces, i.e. sindhies and Punjabis. Only a few numbers of balochi are employing at Gawadar Port, which is also under the central govt. The main factor of this is also lack of trust of Balochies on govt. if Baloch people show some trust, the employment issue may be erased very quickly, which is also a main reason of national integration in Pakistan.

### **Dispossession**

Government eager to create armed command post at following major insightful districts at Balochistan: i)- At "Sui", by its Gas generating mechanism ii)- At "Gwadar", by its' Port iii)- At "Kohlu", The Capital of the Marri Tribe

Where most of the extremists' separatists are exists. Already, the Balochies assumes that the Punjabis take possession of their region, they realized themselves down-and-out with these developments. To follow these issues, the Balochies thinks a Casus Belli, leads the insistence for sovereignty. As Islamabad deemed the sources of Balochistan as national assets. Balochi people insisting that all of the resources should be utilized by the only Balochies. The un-necessary military deputation is also the cause of national integration.

## **Theoretical Framework**

The issue of national integration in Pakistan has become prominent as Balochistan's leadership did not accept the policies of federal Government. They have been trying to make their hegemony in their region without any interference of government the phenomenon has been initiated from independence. Balochies drive the movement in last years of British govt. at sub-continent. In 1947, they have been surprised with insertion of Balochistan with Pakistan. The central govt. wants to wipe out the sovereignty of Sardari system from Balochistan and hold all of their authority into their hands. Central administrative body desired to comprehend the integrity of Balochistan into Pakistan. This is the reason that there have been clashes between Balochistan and Government in: i)- 1948 ii)- 1958 iii)- 1962 iv)- 1973-77

Currently, about 55,000 Balochies fight with Pak army groups. Same situation has been seen during 1973. This has been 1960's, when balochi separatist group got their strange distinctiveness; remember its extremism up to date. While the military, during 1962 conflict, start to enhance their hold in Balochistan. 1963, 22 sites having various areas, wrap a huge assortment of the province, a place that has been associated with "Mengal Group" at south and "Marri Group" in north. All of this has been handled by many "Volunteers" they urge the other people towards the operation against the central govt. Afterly, this has been turned into "Baloch Peoples' Liberation Front (BPLF)".

The active political balochi leaders intend to track the way of Marx and Linen's state freedom movement. Under the control of "Sher Muhammad Mari's" Balochies have been provoked and they do the assignment about 2 years which became the main organization/function of uprising in 1973. Pakistani Govt. stated that the balochi issue is outcome of selfishness of a number of balochi leaders who did not want the progress of Balochistan. Around 28 Balochi leaders, who have their influence in Balochistan, clearly declared their aggression again the Central Govt. "Bhugtti, Marri and Mangal" tribes' Sardars shows openly their mutiny again the Govt. On the other hand, "Khair Buksh Marri or Ata Ullah Mengal" shows strong resistance in these manners: i)- Marri looks at the problem from an almost exclusively military angle. ii)- Mengal has limited forces at his disposal and is therefore naturally inclined to negotiate".

After the clash, during 1970's, main tendencies show the Balochi movement that has been appeared slowly in following conditions:

"Ghouse Bakhsh Bizanjo" a Balochi leader, established a new party, named "Pakistan National Party (PNP)". They demand for wide regional sovereignty that may not be under controlled the central govt. various policies have been launched in favor of balochi people and against the central govt. This party tried to won the heart of the balochi people and urge them for balochi nationalism. After the death of Ghouse Bakhsh Bizanjo his party turned into "Baloch National Party (BNP)".

“Nawab Khair Baksh Marri” has been taken as the sardar of “Baloch Liberation Army (BLA)”. During 1980’s, a secret or underground armed group has been made. This has been liable in violation and encounter with govt. They stressed for established strong and autonomous Balochistan, including Balochistan’s border with Afghanistan or Iran.

Another Balochi sardar “Ata Ullah Mengal”, lead the “Baloch National Movement (BNM)”, He was a sardar of 2<sup>nd</sup> most popular sardar of Balochistan. His significant position in history of Balochistan is as initiator the insurgency during 1973. After this insurgency, he went to London and initiates another party named “Sindh Baloch Pashtun Front (SBPF)”, this party will represent the Sindhi, Pathanas, and also Baloch associations. This party claimed for change of Pakistan in a federation where every province has the privilege to with draw with the central govt. In 1996, the Baloch National Movement (BNM) combined with Pakistan National Party (PNP). Afterwards, the Sardars of Baloch National Movement or Pakistan National Party made another party called “Baloch National Party (BNP)”.

One more highlighted figure of Balochistan revolution movements is, “Sardar Akbar Bhughti”, head a group consisted around 10,000 ethnic agitators. During 2005, Pakistani govt. focused on Dera Bhughti region or at Sardar Akbar Bhughti. At that time, aggression become more increased in whole Balochistan particularly, un-troubled regions of Balochistan.

Government of Pakistan argues that all the issues in Balochistan are just because of cruelty, greed of the Sardars of Balochistan. They don’t even want peace and prosperity in region only for their benefits and interests. They (“Marri, Bhughti, Mengal tribes”) spread their hold in whole Balochistan through their rebellion activities and influence, especially in “Makran” division. “Khair Buksh Marri or Ata Ullah Mengal” has been more extremist tribes while “Mengal” limit his circle up to small amount of rebellion group but intend for dialogue. Marri see the issues from the armed forces point of view and Bhughti distinguished to utilize the armed troops, respectively. Balochi factions are not only restricted in ethnic regions while in whole Balochistan. The ethnic tribes destroyed the life of Balochies as they have not proper facilities of health, education, and economics and so on. Here are some factors which are creating national integration in Balochistan:

### **Problems of National Integration**

Here are major problems of national integration in Pakistan with a reference to Balochistan:

#### **Autonomy**

Regional integrality, power, autonomy or independence has been the main types of sovereignty/autonomy. Requirement for absolute freedom, integration

with authority is the right to any province. But unfortunately the main issue of national integration in Balochistan is non-provision of sovereignty to Balochi govt. When Balochies insist for voting and request for provision the rights to local level but the central govt. always neglect the demand and requirement of this issue. Then the issue becomes raised for autonomy and clashes arose at the region. Sabir (2010), Nabi and Shaikh (2010), Pasha (2012), Mustafa (2012) and Rahman, Khan and Gill (2014) have discussed in detail the impact of 7<sup>th</sup>NFC Award on fiscal arrangements between federation and provinces and among provinces of Pakistan.

### **Distribution of Natural Resources**

Distribution of natural resources among the provinces is a dilemma of the national integration. Balochistan is province having natural gas, gold, copper, oil, and chromites. Although having the rich natural resources, the Balochies experience the uneven distribution due to lack of interest in province. No provision of Govt. post and technical education, deprivation in every walk of life, none contribution in Govt. strategies etc. Although, the central body always stated that the fiscal and administrative issues has been resolved in Balochistan, in form of "Aghaz-e-Haqooq-e- Balochistan, 18<sup>th</sup> amendment and National Finance Commission (NFC) Award", this have been unproductive or not in favor of Balochistan. Presently, progressive question about the structured of "Gawdar Port" being key transport centre with Dubai. This plan have been launched 2001 or applied by Chinese Government. Moreover, the Balochies completely neglected from this plan. Having natural resources, Balochistan is Centre of "Pakistan, Iran and India Gas Pipeline", it become time to time by Balochi armed forces showing their disparity with Government.

### **Ethnicity**

Balochies never fulfilled their demand for participation in political affairs of state, along with army. Often, it happens that the Balochi council did not fulfill their period due to the selfishness of central government policies. Then this factor push the ethnicity in the region and the Balochies wants their right of representation in central government, too. In 1999, armed force action by General Pervaiz Mushraf, raised the feeling of hostility in Baloch. Shortage of participation of Balochies in military and supremacy of Punjab is the major issue of ethnicity in Balochistan and increase of hatred feelings with Punjabis. Though move change in command to army to civil government of Asif Ali Zardari reduces the tension somehow or the other, in 2009-2010, the intervention makes worse the aggression. Punjab govt. always blames the Balochistan as an issue. Presently, armed attack in "Waziristan" (Balochistan) marked as "Anti-Terrorism Mission".

### **Lingual Issue**

Insistence to protect and promote the Balochi language and norms against Urdu become an issue to national integration. Negligence the demands of Balochies for their language, promotion of the Balochi culture traditions made

great disputes. "Cultural symbols serve as instruments of forging group cohesion and legitimating group demands".

### **Islamic Radicalism or Terrorist Associations**

Variety of radical factions i.e. "Al-Qaida, Tahreek-e-Taliban, Quetta-e-Shura-e-Taliban" have been energetic in Balochistan (Ahmed, 1996). The movements of the terrorist factions are too suspected and create problematic situation. The geographical position of Balochistan or deficiency of operative fiscal matters exist in Balochistan and create lawless situation having sign of religion. "Hazarra Shia" migrate en-route of Afghanistan become martyr of sect based aggression. Around 8-10 million Hazarra communities occupied in Afghanistan and many of them migrate to Balochistan for their life security but they are attacked many time in Balochistan on the basis of radicalism or Islam. As per a survey report of Zahid Gishkori, "More than 450 Shia and Hazarras were injured in over 110 sectarian attacks between 2008-2011, and more than 400 Shias and Hazaraz lost their lives as a result of such aggression" (Gishkori, (2012).

### **Conclusion**

National Integration, only rely on Socio-Economic progress and political stability in the region. Particularly, the historical background of Pakistan and general history of the globe, narrates that uneven division/allotment of resources either natural or other, and favoritism in political and administrative manners of central government always destroyed the state. For getting the national integrating, peace, prosperity in Balochistan, it is important to launch political, social, fiscal policies in Balochistan. The important initiative to develop the prosperity in Balochistan is to re-instate the confidence of Balochies. It is the preference of central govt. to start dialogue with the Sardars, and tribal leaders of ethnic groups of Balochistan.

### **Suggestions and Recommendations**

To build the feeling of national integration, central govt. should have to stress on the given points:

- Most important suggestion is that the central govt. should launch the strategies to divide the proper natural resources, economic policies, among all the province, no element of biasness should be there for hatred feelings.
- To launch the policies according to the region and the temperament of the people of Balochistan, so that the idea of national integration may arose in the said province.
- There must be proper representation of Balochies in the federal govt. so that they will consider themselves as a part of Pakistan.
- Political and legal unsteadiness is also major cause of national integration.



- The central govt. should overcome the terrorism activities of terrorism groups in Pakistan, for this purpose strengthens and tough policies may be introduced for terrorists.
- The government admits that they ignore the Balochistan in previously, now there is requirement to sort the actual complaints of the people in form of fiscal progress and socially in Balochistan.
- All the main and profitable schemes of the government in Balochistan must be accessible to local people of Balochistan, so that they may also participate in mega schemes of government like other provinces.
- The law implemented institutes, should take necessary measures to overcome the activities across the border with Afghanistan. Especially, when they cross the border for unlawful activities.

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