

**WAR ON TERROR AND ITS EFFECTS ON HEALTH COMMUNICATION AND
POLIO ERADICATION IN PAKISTAN**

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ABSTRACT

Polio is a disease which has eradicated by the United Nation (UN) member's countries except three countries Nigeria, Afghanistan and Pakistan, in this article the researchers studied the Pakistan's health communication situation as a case study about polio and war on terror relation and its implication on social and humanitarian consequences. This is a library method study to read few selected articles, books and publicity nature messages and its effect on public to counter the current contradiction which is facing by polio workers to give the vaccine to the children for protection from polio disease. This is the qualitative approach study to read out polio and war on terror related articles and interviewed the cross conspiracy arguments from the doctor and polio refusal parents. The given questions were answer in this article in the light of natural, health and social aspects of people to counter the current argument in indecisive nature people and polio refusal parents.

Keywords: Polio, Health communication, Pakistan, War on Terror, Public behavior.

INTRODUCTION

Violence against Health Communication is the side part of "war on terror" the right wing religious extremist worker play a rhetorical role in the terrorism. On the ground in Pakistani society the pro-Talib, anti-Talib and Centre thought people suffering by terrorist attack. This

violence has a many shapes, like threaten via phone, letters, missing person, kidnapping, *bhatakhor*i, target killing, hand granite attack, bomb blast, car bomb, suicide attack, mortar bullet, and cutting thoughts tolerated by the people of Pakistan. The era after 9/11 is crossed the limit of violence on every side in Pakistan. There is no benefit in violence or terrorism for local people as human being, especially in Pakhtuns areas. Children were see this era more violence on every side of human life, even the human lives, wild life, were effects by the violence. The violence against Health Communication and education were recorded by the media, social sector, NGOs and governmental organization that the majority of Pakhtuns were died in this time the situation was discussed in this articles. The Pak Army, Frontier Core, Police, Federal and Provincial Ministers, Members of Legislatives Assemblies of National and Provincial lost their lives during the war on terror. There are the numerous events were recorded but side by side the militant were targeted and threaten the Health Communication national and international organization workers. The mostly violence recorded in the Pakhtuns areas like FATA, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Karachi and Baluchistan.

The Health Communication which is very vast topic but the polio as a case study because the Polio is a main stream diseases which paralyze the children, caused by disability and death of the millions children's in the world from 1884 to till now. Polio eradication program were started by the international organization worldwide all the world UNO members countries announced himself polio free countries even India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor-Leste recently announced their countries polio free in 2014. Unfortunately Pakistan, Afghanistan in this region were not achieve polio free goal because these two countries are facing 'war on terror' Pakistan and Afghanistan fighting the global world war against the terrorist organization al-Qaida and Tehriki Taliban Pakistan (TTP). Militant were targeted the Health Communication side especially polio therefore the violence against polio is the part of the 'war on terror'. This area have the foreign terrorist therefore the drone attack and heavy artillery operation were faced by the Bajaur, Mohmand, Khyber, Orakzai, Kurram, South Waziristan and North Waziristan Agencies, also the Pakistan history's heavy operation "Zarb-e-Azab" were faced by the north Waziristan agency.

The war on terror destroyed 53000 lives in Pakistan the Pakhtuns population are died 31400 in war on terror. Polio, terrorism, illiteracy and jihadi groups are affected the Pakhtuns population and their area. Now it is understood that Pakhtuns area want to live as human being Pakhtuns need to educate, literate, de-radicalize and developed for their bright future. The historical and geographically position can't leave Pakhtuns to live as peaceful with world nations. Non-violence thought were introduced by the Pakhtuns' leader Bacha Khan in 1938 in Pakistani area. The non-violence thought were ignored by Pakistani government and its elites. The war has two ways one is violence and another is non-violence, the nonviolence is more powerful its wants patient, tolerance and love. The loving language and behavior is more powerful form the hate. Also Islam teaches us the way of love and non-violence.

War on terror also knows as Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) this word used by President Bush after 9/11 that al-Qaeda (Usama Bin Ladin) found guilty in World trade centre attack in USA. NATO attacked on Al-Qaeda in Afghanistan Mula Umar supreme leader that time he leaded Taliban in Afghanistan as the ruler of Afghanistan. Due to heavy air strike and bombing on Taliban and al-Qaida fighters, these Jihadis came in to Pakistan. Pakistan played a vital role in this war which known as front line state and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) in known the front line province in "war on terror" against the Taliban and al-Qaida fighters.

METHODOLOGY

The qualitative approach was used for this scholarship, the library reading methodology were used in this article, the qualitative approached method is a good way to analyse the few points in previous relevant literature to make argument more academic this method were used in this article. The previous relevant literature was studied and few professional doctors were in-depth interviewed. The annual reports of polio eradications organization was studied and analyzed to elaborate the scholarly argument in the further academic discussion.

VIOLENCE IN PAKISTANI SOCIETY

Pakistan is a front line state in "war on terror" in this era violence in Pakistan started by the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). Talib is Pashto word which means Students of the mosque, religion of Islam, but in cultural perspective those students who learn the Quran or Hadis knowledge in Mosque Pushtun's calling him Talib. The Madrasa culture promoted and exaggerated during the "Afghan war or cold war" era by USA. The Madrasa is not the Pashto language term this is an Urdu language word.TTP accepted the numerous bomb attacked

responsibility in Pakistan they were attacked on Pak Army, Police, civil society, religious and public spaces, and Political parties. This is the darkest era of Pakistan history also the Pakhtuns culture because in this era both sides killing faced by the Muslims of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Taliban cuts the throats of people and claimed that they did this for Islam sovereignty. Islam teaches us the way of tolerance, law, and following of the peace making. There are many types of violence faced by local population but in this era Taliban crossed all the border of violence they played the football on security forces constables' heads. This video clip was seeing by the numerous people on social media website page "Facebook".

After the 9/11 Pakistani people and government were faced numerous destructive attacks in this era but some event became a high profile case on international and national media. These cases get human attention on high level. Like Ex-Prime Ministers Benazir Bhutto Attack, Mehran airbase, Kamra airbase, Peshawar airport, Karachi airport, Punjab's Governor, Federal and Provincial Ministers, MNA's MPA's, professors, doctors, opinion leaders, elders, Pak Army officers, APS Peshawar, Bacha Khan University, Agriculture Institute Peshawar and many more. Furthermore the left wing political parties' leaders and workers are targeted and kidnapped by the militant groups.

Pakistan using the word for this era war against terrorism. But the people of right wing and religious were confuse that Taliban play a vital role against USSR in Afghan War era, the few terminologies were famous in masses like "Pak army not Martyred said by Jumati Islami Amir Munawar Hassan; Cahudry Nisar and Imran Khan Statement; the peace talk were droned by USA, MulanaFazlRehman said "the American targeted dead dog will be considered martyred". Mulana Sami-ul-haq considers himself the father of Taliban. The right wing leaders PTI Chairman and Minister of Interior, Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan said in live press conference that the militant have 35 groups and he said that militant have 60 groups and Pakistan has 26 intelligence agencies. In this situation they were going to attack on airbases, airport etc. Nisar admitted that the week communication between intelligence agencies and confused previous jihad perception making situation hard. He said that Pakistan right wing political parties worker is pro-Talib and left wing political parties' worker are anti-Talib. Pakistani is 97% Muslim population but all are confused that what they do in this matter. So the Pakistani people feel himself unsecure in this situation which they faces in the country. Pakistani people facing kidnapping, target killing, bomb blast, suicide attack,

bathakhori, corruption etc. South Asia Terrorism Portal collected the data which found on web on (03 July, 2014):

“Fatalities in Terrorist Violence in Pakistan 2003-to till 29 June 2014 is the total number 53000: Civilians 19105, Security Force Personnel 5817, and Terrorists/Insurgents 28078”(satp.org, 2014).

The fatalities in terrorist violence in Pakistan area wise PK 12955, FATA 18445; Punjab 1656; Sindh 5701; (South Asia Terrorism Portal) humanitarian lost is more than other provinces is high in FATA and PK. The 31,400 are Pakhtuns were died in war on terror. The data of polio is also is high ratio in KP from other provinces of Pakistan. But in another report which was presented in supreme court (from the 2001 to 2008) by the top spy agencies reflected that:

“Pakistan has lost 49,000 lives, which was reported as 40,000 earlier. A significant number of 24,000 civilians and troops got killed in terrorist attacks since 2001 to 2008. In addition, the insurgency and Talibanization in the tribal and rural areas resulted in a death toll of more than 25,000 people since 2008 (Report of the attorney for Intelligence Agencies in Court). Additionally, the armed forces have also been suffered through 15,681 casualties in combat with militants in tribal during 2008 and 2009, where later year was declared the deadliest. It was brought in notice of the court that army was called for help by the local administration and law enforcement agencies because of their inability to control the insurgents in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. The report also reflects that 5,152 civilians died and 5,678 injured in suicide attacks and bomb blasts since 2008. In response, 3,051 militants were also killed and 1,228 injured during operations. The reports reveals that 235 suicide attacks, 4256 bomb blasts and 9257 rocket attacks took place respectively in the preceding five years added with the killing of 200 plus and locals from peace committees (Lashkars), volunteers and chieftains where the injury toll was recorded as more than 275. Such a harsh period also experienced the damage of a significant number (1030) of schools and colleges in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in 2009-2013(Raja, 2013).

In the context of the above text that the violence against Health Communication and education is the same thought were fitting with the Pakistani government. The security

forces, ruling political parties are under the threat like Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said that “the judges can use masks during the decision against terrorist” this sentence shows that how much violence facing by Pakistani. The violence against polio is the one part of ‘war on terror’ this is not the violence against polio but the right wing political religious leaders and its workers are got in this era against the government to create the problems for the government.

HEALTH COMMUNICATION

Medical, Surgical, Diagnostic, Psychology, Psychiatry these all fields have its own specialization in their field. World Health Organization (WHO), UNEICEF, Save the Children, UNDP, ICRC, and many international organizations are working in Pakistan under the charter of UNO in the field of Health communication. Health communication is a very vast phenomenon of human life. This is very difficult to explain in few sentences but the physical and psychological problems of the human being come in health communication. These all problems have impact on human life. Health Communication is the problems of adult’s *children* and women it is too much difficult process that Health Communication is a short term.

“Health-care facilities and other organizations should consider including in their vaccination programs vaccines to prevent meningococcal disease, typhoid fever, and polio for health-care personnel (HCP) who have certain health conditions or who work in laboratories or regions outside the USA where the risk for work-related exposure exists.”(cdc.gov, 2014)

There are many problems in Pakistan like poverty, illiteracy, militancy; lack of awareness is big problem in this region. After the 9/11 Pakistan’s problems increased that the religious extremist started the violence against the state. On this behalf Pakistan faces many problems, adults, women, children and so many all the problems linked with each other. The Health Communication is a very comprehensive field but in the violence against polio workers and security guard who secure the polio staff were targeted by the militant. Polio especially a children disease which comes in Health Communication, the polio vaccine, polio disease; its impact on children, rumors and propaganda against polio, the religion role in militancy,

cultural and social problems, Pakistan political and religious role is a complicated conspiracy in war on terror.

POLIOMYELITIS (POLIO)

Poliomyelitis (polio) is among the contagious viral diseases that mostly victimizes the children. Such virus has a strong tendency of transmission predominantly through faecal-oral route and/or might transmit through contaminated food and water that reproduces in the intestine, where it becomes able to invade the nervous system and cause paralysis (WHO, 2014). At the initial stage, it is symptomized itself in the form of fever, headache, neck's stiffness, fatigue, vomiting and limbs' pain. Resultantly, it less likely induces paralysis that is more likely hazardous and permanent. The disease is still cureless with an exception of prevention through immunization. Polio virus cannot be cured, rather might protect and controlled before its occurrence. In this context, the planning and strategy for eradication of such evil usually circulates around preventive measures to avoid the virus through immunization of children and stop its spread.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Polio is not a new disease; it has caused sufferings since time immemorial. The available history dates back to the Egyptian period and the carvings might be seen having crippled pictorials. The first known outbreak in history has its roots in the USA in the early 19th century. This disease has turned in to an epidemic from an endemic situation in the early 20th century and has therefore got in to limelight. Now, the world has started seriously thinking about the control measures of the disease as it has started leaving demoralizing effects on the family lives(Lam, 2005). The poliomyelitis virus has plagued humanity since its earliest inception. Egyptian wall paintings depict the agony of polio sufferers, Walter Scott wrote of a "severe teething fever" that afflicted him in childhood. Often permanently paralyzed in the worst affected limbs, polio wreaks the worst damage on the group most commonly affected: children. In 1988, a thousand children a day were paralyzed by the disease. Today, global eradication is tangibly close. Read on for the history of polio and the steps taken on the path to its final eradication.

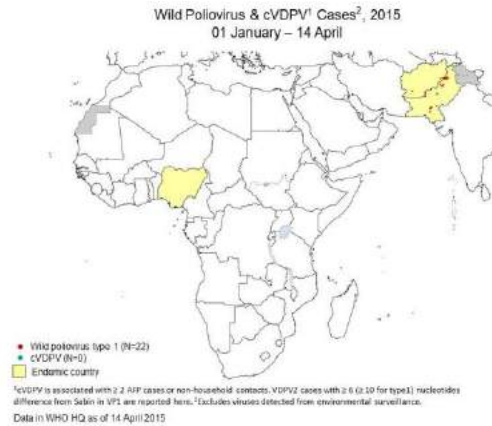
In 1950's and 1960's has given a new lease of life to those who have lost hopes with the invention of vaccines against this infectious disease. The use of Injectable Polio Vaccine was started in the USA in 1955 after being licensed in the same year while the use of Oral Polio Vaccine was started in 1961. Cuba has successfully launched mass vaccination campaigns in 1960's and were able to eradicate the disease in the same decade, followed by other countries in the American region (Marcello M et al., 2008). Due to its gravity WHO Assembly in 1988, unanimously approved a resolution to eradicate polio by year 2000 (WHO, 2016). Pakistan needs to eradicate the polio and protect their children from the polio virus.



Representation of a Polio victim, Egypt, 18th Dynasty

POLIO: A SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS ISSUE IN PAKISTAN

In order to tackle the issue of Polio, efforts have been made on global level since 1988 through the resolution of World Health Assembly for alleviation of the disease. Such achievements and struggle resulted in an alarming reduction in frequency of cases for almost 99 percent since the GPEI was launched, in 2014 only 3 countries in the world remained polio-endemic: Nigeria, Pakistan and Afghanistan. As the poliovirus is more and more geographically limited, surveillance becomes increasingly important for ensuring that it cannot spread unchecked (CDC, 2014).



In comparison to the data taken in 2013 and 2014 in Nigeria; 06 cases of WPV were recorded in 2014 compared with 53 cases in 2013. Similarly, the situation in Afghanistan was degraded with a doubled increase in 2014 (28 cases) compared with 14 cases in 2013. In such a run, Pakistan remained at the largest Polio virus-stricken country in the world by recording 306 cases in 2014, which was an estimated 230% increase in cases in comparison to the preceding year 2013(Edna K.et al., 2014).

NATIONAL SITUATION (PAKISTAN)

Pakistan is among three strongly-stricken countries of Polio transmission in the world along-with Nigeria and Afghanistan. In response, Pakistan has persevered to alleviate the wild transmission of the virus, which was desperately proliferating some two years ago. During the last two years, a well-organized program was launched to initially handle the unrestrained transmission and then tackle the clandestine challenges that were intended to interrupt the process of eradication. The frequency of victimized children that were paralyzed by the fatal virus was successively abated that were recorded as 306 cases in 2014, 54 in 2015, 20 in 2016 and only 2 in 2017. Currently, the program seems to be progressively on right direction that intends to abrogate the gap in immunity and interrupt its hasty transmission.

In order to access the success in eradicating the polio virus, the Pakistan Polio Eradication Program redeployed the designed goal from ‘coverage’ to ‘no-missed child’ that led to inspirational results. In context, ratio of missed children (unvaccinated during campaigns) abated to almost 4 percent in 2016. Currently, the news is quite ecstatic and optimistic that the achievements made so far are worthy enough to eradicate the virus in areas where it still exists. Presently, it is assumed through authentic sources that the virus still survives in three sanctuaries including Karachi, Peshawar (and suburbs of Khyber Agency) and Quetta. In response, a campaign of high quality is intended and prosecuted to ensure that every unvaccinated (missed child) is found, vaccinated and reassured to hinder the virus’ proliferation.

In this regard, the National Emergency Plan (NEAP) 2016-17 intends to impede the virus’ transmission and advance the people’s immunity to confront polio virus in the country. This program entails a multipronged planning is under consideration to detect the affected children and respond instantly. The success of such program might be felt and ascertained that almost all stakeholders including political parties, the government, community, parents,

professionals, religious leaders and pediatricians are at the single page with no contrasting or offending ideas. In addition, the program launched elegantly through data (qualifying authenticity and comprehensiveness) along-with real-time risk assessment for vaccination of the complete target population who are left unvaccinated.

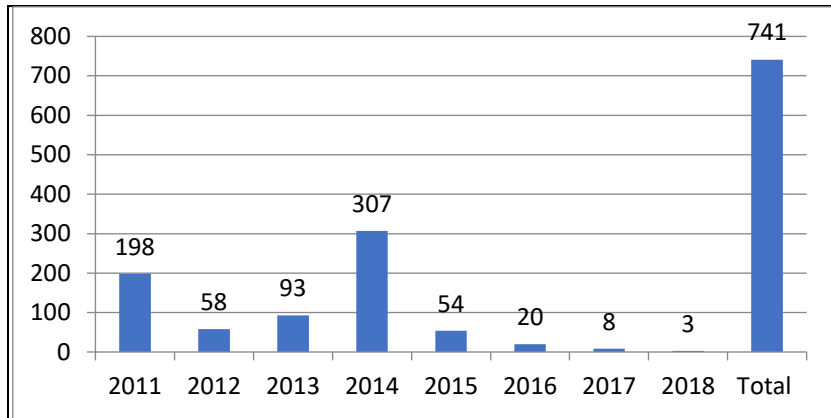
Furthermore, the program is extended and accessible to almost the complete target population of children through several innovative approaches like community-based vaccination, support of Pak-Army (by enabling the access to almost half million missed children in North Waziristan) and high-risk mobile population strategy. In this context, a devoted network of 250,000 Health Protectors (*SehatMuhafiz*) are striving who are selected from local communities and equipped with training for motivation of people in polio immunization in the country. Still there exists (a very low but significant number i.e. 0.05%) parent who refuse the vaccination.

The program predominantly utilizes to methods including IPV (combination of inactivated polio vaccine) and OPV (Oral Polio Vaccine) to enhance the children's immunity at the age of 4 to 23 months both at low and high risk districts. Both the IPV and OPV equip the children to strong protection against the virus whereas IPV and OPV give strength to immunity through blood and gut respectively (PP, 2014).

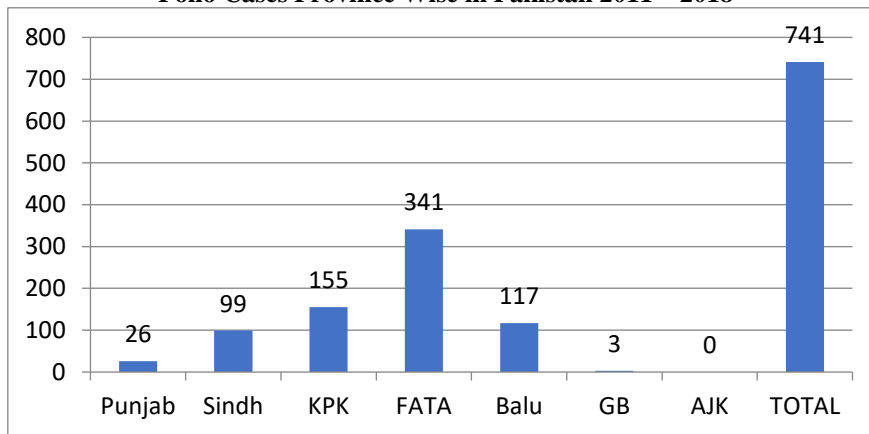
DISTRIBUTION OF POLIO CASES IN PAKISTAN (2011-2018)

PROVINCES	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
Punjab	9	2	7	5	2	0	1	0	26
Sindh	33	4	10	30	12	8	2	0	99
KPK	23	27	11	68	17	8	1	0	155
FATA	59	20	65	179	16	2	0	0	341
Baluchistan	73	4	0	25	7	2	3	3	117
Gilgit-Baltistan	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
AJK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	198	58	93	307	54	20	8	3	

Yearly Distribution of Polio Cases in Pakistan from 2011-2018.



Polio Cases Province Wise in Pakistan 2011 – 2018



RELIGION, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL FEATURES

As human being two things for social control, culture and religion. Culture makes us to organize the social and humanitarian aspect in the society and the religion prepared us for prepare a life according to God given platform which called religion. There are many religions in the world all the religions teach us the “God rights and human rights”. Allah Says in Quran: Surah Number 2: Al-Baqarah (The Cow) Verses 30.

When your Lord said to the Angels: 'I am placing on the earth one that shall be My Deputy,' they replied, 'Will You put there one that will do evil and shed blood, when we have for so long sung Your praises and sanctified Your name? He said: 'I know what you do not now'. (Zayid, 1980)

When lord wants to create human being angels criticized the creation of human being as human being they will spread disorder and shed blood. So this is clear that those who spread the disorders and destruction in earth they will not keep the honor of lord. But unfortunately Muslim are following the God rights and do not care about the human rights. The data showed that the violence against Health Communication is 126.19% of total in Pakhtuns' area. Those people who died during this era their relatives wives, children, mothers, fathers, sisters, and brothers etc. These all are victims, who have social and financial problems. Pakhtuns are in his own country stay in camps and in tents in more than 45C° temperatures on earth for what purpose because they want to get their country developed, peaceful and facilitated from Health Communication. The ratio of education, Health Communication, is high in Punjab, but the illiteracy, unawareness, violence in Pakhtuns area. Why in one country the GDP of provinces have a difference? Because Pakhtuns have a lack of universities while too much madrassa's in Pakhtuns areas.

PROPAGANDA CULTURE AGAINST POLIO

Due to consistent rumors people are confused about vaccinating their children against polio, and they and they have negative perception about polio vaccine. Amongst many misperceptions the most prevalent are the perception of parents include that polio vaccine negatively influence reproductive system, polio vaccination has Pig fats, why the Western countries including the American are giving free vaccination to our children for polio and ignore many other serious disease. The culture is a social code of conduct for any living group or society that how they deal with each other like wearing clothes, style of eating, drinking, play, saying, reading, buying, what and how they doing. All the life living parts are considered to conduct as a social control in the shape of values, norms, mores and laws. So the conclusion is that culture is a manmade and mankind following to control their society's good and bad in any society.

Religion is another social control code of life which coded by God to sort any society on the bases of good and bad. Religions bring more betterment in the culture. Religion as a superior tools for to live with each other because it I send by God to live with peace as a cumulative to each other. Culture is manmade for our own code of conduct and religion is God bringing code of conduct for human society, therefore the majority population of Pakistan accepting religion as superior tools. In Pakistani society few religious extremist groups used religion violent hard, threatened and violent tools for culture, society, public, Health Communication, children, women, and social code of conduct.

CONCLUSION

Pakistan is a 97% Muslim population country the 3% we had other religious believers like Hindu, Sikh, Christian, etc. and it is also a multilingual and multicultural country. The conservative and radical approaches, misinterpretation religious beliefs and of extremist groups, political parties and its workers also have a radical, conspire approaches about each other. On one side majority of the people including youth of Pakistan commonly have radical approaches about European and American and misinterpret polio vaccination. But on the other side they feel very proud to use the latest communication technology such as computer, internet, cable and satellite which are also produced by European and American. They need development but they want everything in so called circle of Islam, and everything is conceived from the Islamic and Jihadis approach. But at the same time they also ignore Islam's philanthropic and humanitarian approach. In the past historical contradictive product loudspeaker, bullet, printing press and many things considered "*haram*" means un-Islamic but now in this era these all the facilities are used by the Muslim scholars itself. The tomorrow's conceptual product "*haram*" becomes today "*halal*". Tomorrow holy Jihad becomes today terrorism. Islam has always the natural, neutral and unbiased approach but Islamic scholar is not optimistic about the cumulative approach to absorb the new product in Islam. Looking into the current scenario, in Pakistan the future of children is considered at risk due to polio virus and so many other communicable diseases. As Pakistani and as a Muslim everyone is responsible to give the message of peace, love, mutual coexistence and development to the globe around, and to promote patience, tolerance and pluralism. Violence against health as well as health communication is a manmade rumor based on conspiracy which needs to counter with awareness, education and logic.

SUGGESTIONS

The study forwarded the following suggestions:

- There is a dire need of awareness regarding health among the general public, and special focus must be given to health in all aspects of life
- Government must take strict action against those people who creates hurdle in health related interventions in order to eradicate this menace from the society.
- As Islam also stressed on health and cleanliness, so adopting the lofty principles of Islam we could at least minimize health issues in our society.
- The propaganda against Health Communication must be countered on the bases of knowledge and logic.
- The pro-terrorism and role of those religious and political leaders must be discouraged, who use polio for their vested interests, and involve positive religious and other leaders in the fight against polio.
- Education must be promoted in the society, that the people may understand the importance of health.
- Media could play a vital role in this regards, so campaign shall be launched through media in favor of health, and against all those who are against health. . All the political leaders deliver the speeches of social welfare not by sensational bases.

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