

South Asia Human Security Series

Pakistan

Haunting Shadows of
Human Security

edited by
Jennifer Bennett

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South Asia Human Security Series

South Asia Human Security Series is the product of a three-year regional collaborative research project titled, *Human Security in South Asia: Discourse, Practice and Policy Proposition* conducted by BIISS under the aegis of the Ford Foundation, New Delhi, 2003-06. The aim of the project has been to provide an understanding of the prevailing discourses and practices on human security in South Asia as well as to generate inputs for policy making at regional and national levels. Five individual country papers on Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka and five thematic areas: (a) Constructing a Human Security Index for South Asia; (b) Violence, Terrorism and Human Security; (c) Ethnicity and Human Security; (d) Gender and Human Security; (e) Marginalisation and Human Security – were covered. The outcome is the present series.

The Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS)

The Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS) is an autonomous research organisation under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Bangladesh. The Institute was founded in 1978 to undertake research and promote deliberation on foreign policy, security and development. The Institute publishes regularly a quarterly Journal, *BIISS Journal*, organises seminars/conferences and undertakes research projects. More about the Institute at: www.biiss.org

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Preface

Despite the new dimensions of a globalised world, which is increasingly drawing on the magnums of corporatisation, the concept of human security is gaining momentum with critical underpinnings. It is appropriate to say that the growing concern on the notion of human security is perhaps a direct outcome of multiple consequences of such global designs. The most prominent amongst them include manifold increase in human deprivation, misery and discontent, and an enhancement of warring trends triggered by social, economic and political marginalisation, with a cause and effect interrelationship. Mapping of such trends witnesses a further fortification of the practice of traditional security, which is primarily militaristic and state centric in nature. Such a rhetoric is dominantly maintained in the name of equality, justice and promoting peace, inter- and intra-country, as well as, internationally. Hence, repositioning of and redirecting the concept of security from exclusively national and/or militaristic to the one which focuses on the daily conditions which differently-situated people face is an important dent in the current changing world order.

The basic concept of human security, although in an embryonic stage, emphasises preservation of human life, individually and collectively. It promotes human welfare, allowing dignity and practice of free choice and human rights, imbued with feelings and a sense of belonging. Implementation of these values is structurally dependent on the institutions and actions that have evolved and consciously designed in the course of deliverance. As is known, running of these institutions and its impact on people, in turn, is largely steered by the ideology pursued, the governing mechanisms adopted, and the national and international policies for advancing human welfare and development. Therefore, an indepth understanding and the driving motivation behind the working of these institutions and its impact is crucial, as a starting point, for deliberating on the essence of the elements making up human security concerns.

To this endeavour, the Ford Foundation has undertaken a number of initiatives to dwell on non-traditional security issues in South Asia, with

the aim to critically examine and decipher the emerging conditions impacting security paradigms in this region. This book is part of this initiative under the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS)-Ford Foundation Regional Collaborative Research entitled *Human Security in South Asia: Discourse, Practice and Policy Proposition*.

This volume *Pakistan: Haunting Shadows of Human Security* takes a historical count of the governance structures and the internal and external policies, that have ruled the country, from a non-traditional security perspective. In doing so, the book harbours on the social, economic and political developments that have shaped the lives of its citizenry and the complexities of human security. It is hoped that this book will serve as a springboard for a wide variety of policymakers and policy implementers, both in the national and international community, responsible for and concerned with such issues.

Islamabad, 2009

Jennifer Bennett