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Evolution of Suicide Terrorism in Pakistan and Counter-Strategies

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Abstract

In the wake of the US-led war on terror, Pakistan became one of the prime victims of suicide terrorism. It is described as world's third worst-hit country in terms of suicide attacks, after Iraq and Afghanistan. In the first quarter of 2008, Pakistan even surpassed war-torn Iraq and insurgency-hit Afghanistan in term of the number of suicide bombings. Anecdotal evidence suggests that suicide attacks in Afghanistan and Iraq have primarily been motivated by the presence of foreign forces in the two countries. But the phenomenon has emerged in Pakistan though the country is not under foreign occupation. This paper seeks to develop an understanding of the complex phenomenon of suicide terrorism in Pakistan.

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