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# Pakistan and United Nations Peacekeeping: Experiences and Opportunities

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# **Summary**

The United Nations (UN) peacekeeping is a unique and dynamic instrument that helps countries affected by conflicts to create conditions for a lasting peace. It is a manifestation of global partnership that brings together the General Assembly, Security Council, Troops Contributing Countries and host government(s) in a combined effort to maintain international peace and security. The first UN peacekeeping mission was deployed in 1948 during the Arab-Israeli war. Since then, the UN has contributed to 72 missions across the world, 14 of which are active today. There are more than 100 countries contributing to peacekeeping operations, with the bulk coming from South Asia.

Pakistan, since its first peacekeeping mission in 1960 in the Congo, has participated in 46 UN missions with more than 200,000 troops and police. In the performance of these duties, 157 peacekeepers have lost their lives while many more have sustained debilitating injuries. To cope with modern day challenges of peacekeeping, Pakistan has developed an elaborate infrastructure of training and research facilities that are open to international participation. The unblemished performance and dedication of the Pakistani Blue Berets has been acclaimed not only by the leadership and populace of host countries but at all international forums.

The UN peacekeeping has provided Pakistan and its army an inimitable opportunity to project its professionalism, commitment to global peace and security and sense of duty and sacrifice to the world. On the basis of six decades of peacekeeping in varied environments, Pakistan has made profound contributions to the evolution of peacekeeping doctrines, concepts and manuals. Its participation has also improved its diplomatic standing at the UN and other associated forums. Working with international armies has provided Pakistan with exposure to their systems and fostered friendship and understanding. The synergy created through joint training and operations augurs well for regional peace and cooperation.

# Introduction

The United Nations' (UN) peacekeeping operations help countries affected by conflict create the conditions for lasting peace. These conditions may be grouped into four categories of increasing complexity, from monitoring and observer missions to traditional peacekeeping, whose underlying principle is to support the implementation of a ceasefire/peace agreement up to the third level of peace building, and from institutionalised rebuilding to peace enforcement. Today's multidimensional peacekeeping

operations enable the political process; protect civilians; assist in disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration of former combatants; support and help to organise elections; protect and promote human rights; and finally assist in restoring the rule of law. UN peacekeeping is a manifestation of a unique kind of global cooperation. It draws on the legal and political authority of the UN Security Council (UNSC), the personnel and financial contributions of the member states and the support of host country(s) in order to manage operations in the field. This partnership gives UN peacekeeping its legitimacy, sustainability and global reach.

At present, there are 14 active UN peacekeeping missions across three continents with more than 100,000 field personnel. The bulk of these deployments are shared by the South Asian countries of India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. Pakistan has a long and distinguished history of service to UN peacekeeping. The first Pakistani mission to UN peacekeeping in the Congo dates back to 1960. Ever since, it has remained a significant and unswerving contributor to UN peacekeeping around the world. A graphic depiction of Pakistan's deployment in UN peacekeeping missions since the 1960s is reflected in Annex A.

# Pakistan's Contributions to UN Peacekeeping

In the last 60 years, Pakistan has contributed 200,000 troops in 46 missions and 28 countries in virtually every continent. In the true spirit of duty and sacrifice, as many as 157 Pakistani peacekeepers have lost their lives, including 24 officers. Pakistan accounted for about 10 per cent of the total casualties suffered by UN peacekeeping missions since its inception. In recognition of their bravery, 97 Pakistani peacekeepers have been awarded the highest UN accolade, the Dag Hammarskjold Medal. The year-wise details of the award and the UN mission where it was bestowed are shown in Annex B.

Despite its commitments to the ongoing fight against terrorism for the last 18 years, and deployment on its eastern and western borders, Pakistan presently deploys more than 5,000 troops to nine UN missions. Their details are found in <u>Annex C</u>. Pakistan is one of the largest and most effective contributors to UN peacekeeping. It has the singular honour of being appointed to key peacekeeping positions – Special Envoy/Adviser to the UN Secretary General, Military Adviser at the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, Chief Military Observer, and Force and Deputy Force Commanders, among others. Pakistani contingents have played a decisive role in normalising war-torn societies, maintaining law and order and enabling successful political transitions under volatile environments. A summary of the impact Pakistani peacekeepers have made are as follows:

#### <u>Political</u>

- Peace building and enforcement as well as protection of other components of the UN and diplomats.
- Peaceful conduct of elections and referendums to restore democratic norms.

- Disarmament of thousands of rebels in multiple conflict zones under hostile environments.
- De-mining operations in the area spread over 125 square kilometres, mostly unmarked.
- Capacity building and training of the local police, armed forces and law enforcement agencies.

#### **Socio-Economic**

- Provision of free medical treatment to thousands of local patients.
- Rehabilitation and assistance in the functioning of various educational institutes.
- Vocational training provided to youth and ex combatants.
- Economic revitalisation and establishing rule of law.
- Flood relief, disaster management and construction of roads and other infrastructure.
- Engaging and empowering marginalised strata of society through female engagement teams.

# A Supporting Edifice for Peacekeeping

Due to the diverse nature of the challenges faced during peacekeeping operations, Pakistan has institutionalised pre-departure arrangements for its troop and has built an array of facilities to train and equip troops assigned to UN peacekeeping duties. To educate and train leaders and managers for international peacekeeping, stability and peace building, a Centre for International Peace and Stability (CIPS) was established in the National University of Science & Technology (NUST). It was inaugurated by then-UN Secretary General Ban Kimoon on 13 August 2013. He praised Pakistan's efforts, "I sense great confidence and hope here today, but the feeling that overwhelms me is gratitude. It is impossible to speak about the history of UN peacekeeping without highlighting such contributions of Pakistan." The CIPS has an inclusive system of training for peacekeeping, peace building and stability and support operations. The institute focuses on research to find means to resolve conflicts without the use of force by means of negotiation. It also offers PhD programmes for domestic as well as foreign students. To-date, 232 officers, including 22 female peacekeepers from friendly countries, have received training. Likewise, the Peacekeeping Training Wing of the School of Infantry & Tactics imparts physical training on various facets relating to field-based peacekeeping operations, in addition to central doctrines and precepts. A UN Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System is maintained in the form of a well-stocked training, weapons and equipment reservoir to meet varying UN standards. Todate, the UN has conducted eight assessment advisory visits and four pre-departure verification inspections of different outfits in Pakistan, which received excellent approval ratings. To meet urgent UN demands, an infantry battalion and a field hospital have been placed at rapid deployment level under 60 days' notice.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> UN Secretary General, 'SG remarks at Inauguration of Centre for International Peace and Stability', 13 August 2013, p. 163. <a href="https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2013-08-13/secretary-generals-remarks-inauguration-centre-international-peace">https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2013-08-13/secretary-generals-remarks-inauguration-centre-international-peace</a>.

In accordance with the UN mandate to increase the ratio of females in peacekeeping contingents, female engagement teams (FET) have been created. Despite cultural-religious barriers and family compulsions, a mandated 16 per cent ratio of females has been achieved and 86 female officers deployed in both the military and police. Pakistan was amongst the first countries to deploy FET in the Congo in June 2019. To extend support to new troops contributing countries (TCCs), Pakistan, as an experienced and renowned TCC, has shared its expertise with Kazakhstan, Turkey and Sri Lanka through peacekeeping training and guidance with the option of hybrid deployment. All these training institutions and centres regularly review and revise their curriculum, methods and modules in accordance with the latest UN thinking and requirements.

# **Genesis of Pakistan's Peacekeeping Efforts**

An overview of Pakistan's peacekeeping missions in Latin America, the Balkans, West Africa, East Africa, Central Africa, Middle East and Southeast Asia reveal its persistent commitment to international peace and security. In these missions, Pakistani troops went beyond the call of duty to provide humanitarian assistance and in some circumstances even laid down their lives when rescuing people. An account of select UN missions, with diverse mandates and varying operational environments participated in by Pakistani troops, is elucidated in the ensuing paragraphs.

### UN Operations in Somalia (1992-95)<sup>2</sup>

In the early 1990s, due to fighting in Somalia, customary law temporarily collapsed. At the same time, a large proportion of the population suffered from famine during the civil war in the country. The first troops to enter the country included a Pakistani mechanised battalion in September 1992. Later, the size was increased to a brigade group. Pakistani peacekeepers were assigned the tasks of protecting air and sea ports and recovering unauthorised arms to ensure the safety of humanitarian efforts in the war-torn country. On 5 June 1993, Pakistani troops were tasked by the UN force headquarters to carry out an inspection of the weapon storage site of warlord Farah Aideed. They were ambushed en route by his followers who used children and women as human shields to prevent retaliation. The courageous Pakistani troops, in an extreme show of restraint, fought their way back while protecting the women and children. In the fire fight, 23 Pakistanis were martyred and 56 sustained injuries. Overall, there were 43 fatalities in Somalia.

Pakistan's effective handling of the security situation and escort of food convoys soon won the hearts and minds of the locals. These efforts resulted in the slogan, "Pakistan and Somalia Walla Walla", which means Pakistanis and Somali are brothers.<sup>3</sup> In October 1993,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The periods shown for the UN peacekeeping missions in Somalia, Haiti, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sierra Leone, Cambodia, Côte d'Ivoire and Sudan pertain to the deployment of the Pakistani contingents and not the entire duration of the UN mission in these countries.

UN Peacekeeping Mission in Somalia. <a href="https://www.pakistanarmy.gov.pk/AWPreview/TextContent">https://www.pakistanarmy.gov.pk/AWPreview/TextContent</a>.

the Olympic Hotel incident took place, where 100 stranded US Special Services Group soldiers were rescued by the joint mission of American, Pakistani and Malaysian troops (Black Hawk Down). After eight hours of fierce battle, it was the courage and valour of the Pakistani troops that rescued the US soldiers, who otherwise might have perished. Major General Thomas M Montgomery, Deputy Commander of UN forces in Somalia, said that many of the soldiers survived because of Pakistani troops working in immensely difficult and dangerous combat circumstances. He also thanked the people of Pakistan and the army for sending such splendid troops.<sup>4</sup>

#### UN Mission in Haiti (1993-97)

In the aftermath of a military coup d'état against the elected government of President Bertrand Aristide, more than 10,000 people died of political violence and thousands of refugees migrated to neighbouring countries. In November 1992, the UN adopted a resolution condemning the coup and support for the Aristide regime, which returned to power in October 1994. The Pakistani Battalion Group restored peace and revived state institutions, in particular the Haitian police, which had been paralysed by the prolonged breakdown of a functioning government. This group played a significant role in the conduct of free and fair elections in the northern reaches of Haiti. The Blue Berets from Pakistan also provided assistance to repair and build roads, reconstructing schools and installing lights in parks and streets to facilitate night-time study. In acknowledgement of their efforts, a school was named 'Pakistan School'.

As a tribute to the dedication and contributions of Pakistani troops, the President of Haiti expressed the gratitude of his nation in the following words: "I express my deep appreciation and gratitude to the people of Pakistan, the Pakistan army and its valiant soldiers for their manifestation filled with utmost sincerity, friendship and solidarity." <sup>5</sup>

#### **UN Protection Force in Bosnia and Herzegovina (1992-96)**

In 1991, Bosnia joined several republics of the former Yugoslavia and declared independence, which triggered a civil war that lasted for four years. Bosnia's population was a multiethnic mix of Muslims (44 per cent), Serbs (31 per cent) and Croats (17 per cent). The Bosnian Serbs, well-armed and backed by the neighbouring Serbs, laid siege to the city of Sarajevo in April 1992, which lasted for 44 months. Their prime targets were the Muslims and Catholic Croats. The UN mandate fell short of confronting Bosnian Serbs for

<sup>4</sup> Farooq Hameed, 'Honoring Pakistani Blue Berets', *The Nation*, 5 August 2011. <a href="https://nation.com.pk/05-Aug-2011/honouring-pakistani-blue-berets">https://nation.com.pk/05-Aug-2011/honouring-pakistani-blue-berets</a>.

Lt Col Kabir Ahmed, 'The Peace Force: An Overview of Pakistan Army Contributions to UN Peacekeeping Missions', *Hilal*, October 2019. <a href="https://www.hilal.gov.pk/eng-article/the-peace-force:(an-overview-of-pakistan-army-contributions-to-un-peac ekeeping-missions)/MTA4NQ==.html">https://www.hilal.gov.pk/eng-article/the-peace-force:(an-overview-of-pakistan-army-contributions-to-un-peac ekeeping-missions)/MTA4NQ==.html</a>.

fear of a strong reaction and focused instead on extending humanitarian assistance to the conflict in Bosnia. A 3,000-strong Pakistani contingent was deployed in 1992 and was tasked with stabilising the military situation by improving freedom of movement, providing protection and support to various UN agencies and non-government organisations (NGOs) engaged in relief work, and by coordinating humanitarian assistance for the besieged populace.

The Pakistani contingent did exceptionally well in identifying, monitoring and protecting all ethnic and minority groups, refugees and displaced persons with utmost impartiality. They coordinated the relief work of UN agencies and both international and Pakistani NGOs. In addition, Pakistani troops provided food, medical-care, clothing and financial aid from their own resources to local communities, in particular orphans. The Bosnians as well as the international community praised the professionalism, devotion to duty and impartiality of the Pakistani troops. Even today, Bosnians hold Pakistan in very high esteem.

## **UN Assistance Mission in Sierra Leone (2001-05)**

Civil war broke out in Sierra Leone in early 1991 between the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) with support from Liberia, Libya and government forces. The war lasted for 11 years, resulting in famine, breakdown of state machinery, migration of large numbers of refugees and 50,000 dead. The UN mission in Sierra Leone was deployed post the UNSC mandate of October 1999 to help implement the peace accord between the RUF and government forces. The mission faced stiff resistance, and in May 2000, the abduction of hundreds of peacekeepers compelled the United Kingdom to intervene militarily in its former colony.

The success of the UN peacekeeping mission in Sierra Leone owes significantly to Pakistani troops. After being abandoned by the Indian Contingent, a Pakistani brigade group was airlifted and performed diverse tasks like patrolling, disarmament and reintegration of rebels, establishment of medical camps and a 'winning hearts and minds' campaign. The Pakistani contingent, in particular, ensured law and order for peaceful presidential and parliamentary elections in May 2002. The spirit of goodwill generated by such acts can be judged from the fact that President Ahmed Kabbah of Sierra Leone often used to dine in Pakistani messes, where the former rebel commander was also a frequent visitor.

## **UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (1991-93)**

Peacekeeping operations in Cambodia were launched following the 1991 Paris Peace Accords. This was also the first occasion during which the UN had taken over the administration of an independent state, organised and run an election, as opposed to monitoring, and was responsible for promoting and safeguarding human rights.

The Pakistani contingent formed part of a force of 15,900 personnel from 32 countries. Pakistani troops were assigned to a remote region infested with warring rebels. They

carried out peacekeeping operations under heavy odds and forced the warring groups to surrender. Peacekeepers also undertook an extensive programme of humanitarian assistance to repair roads, dig wells and set up medical facilities besides ensuring peace in very difficult areas devoid of communication infrastructures.

#### **UN Operations in Côte d'Ivoire (2004-till date)**

In 2002, a civil war broke out on the Ivory Coast, which split the country into a Muslim rebel-held North and government-controlled Christian South after renegade soldiers tried to oust President Koudou Laurent Gbagbo. The Pakistani contingent, comprising one infantry battalion, was deployed from 2004 till date.

Pakistani peacekeepers were employed in rebel-controlled areas and effectively ensured peace and nation rebuilding. A notable contribution of Pakistani troops has been the peaceful conduct of the presidential elections in 2010. After the deterioration of the situation in Abidjan, Pakistani peacekeepers conducted an evacuation of the diplomatic community from the capital city. Since the end of the conflict, the Ivory Coast has been trying to rebuild itself politically and economically, a process of conflict transformation and national reconciliation that is both long and fraught with uncertainties.

#### UN Mission in Sudan (2005-11)

The second Sudanese civil war was an intense 22-year conflict between the central government in Khartoum and the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA). The war started in southern Sudan but spread to other places, including the Blue Nile region. Two million people died in this conflict and millions migrated to neighbouring states. The Sudanese government and the SPLA signed a Comprehensive Peace Agreement in January 2005, which ended the civil war and called for the creation of South Sudan in 2011. The UNSC resolution in March 2005 decided to establish a mission in Sudan to support the implementation of the agreement.

The Pakistani contingent comprising an infantry battalion group with aviation support was deployed in Sudan in March 2005. The Pakistani sector was responsible for the Blue Nile state to ensure the protection of civilians and reconstruction of civic amenities in the civil war-torn country. The contingent, besides ensuring peace, also actively engaged in winning the support of locals by establishing free medical camps and providing food and other civic amenities. Pakistani Engineers also de-mined the area along the Ethiopian border – which, being unmarked, had caused numerous civilian casualties – by manual methods employing mine detection dogs.

# **Acknowledgement of Pakistani Peacekeeping Contributions**

Pakistan's contributions to UN missions have been multifarious, from Europe and Africa to the Middle East. These contributions include not just military personnel, but also police

officials assigned to UN peacekeeping. Despite the constraints imposed by culture and family traditions typical of South Asian countries, Pakistan has also provided women officers who have served in both military and police forces. Besides performance, the conduct of Pakistani peacekeepers has been exemplary compared to other contingents, whose record has been marred by various incidents. Pakistani Blue Helmet performance has been lauded by both the UN leadership and world leaders. During his visit to Pakistan in 2013, then-UN Secretary General Ban said, "I was overwhelmed with gratitude for its role in aiding international peace and security. More than 100 countries contribute troops and police for UN peacekeeping missions. Pakistan is number One." Recently, on 16 February 2020, the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres hailed Pakistan's peacekeeping contributions, "Pakistan is among the top contributors to UN peacekeeping. It was inspiring to meet some of the brave women and men who are serving for peace around the world. Thank you for your service and sacrifice." He further said, "I am in a love affair with Pakistan and its people".

Further back in history, Indonesia's first president Sukarno and then-Chinese premier Zhou Enlai had also praised Pakistan's peacekeeping role in the former colony with utmost admiration. Sukarno said, "It was because of Pakistani troops that Indonesia and Pakistan came closer, they were Pakistan's best ambassadors." The Chinese premier remarked, "The only example in UN history, when a military force had gone in, performed its role honestly and came out, was Pakistan's military contingent."

# **Conceptual Contributions to the Complexities of UN Peacekeeping**

Pakistan has played a leading role in intellectual forums and deliberations under the auspices of the UN in improving concepts, employment modalities and training related to UN peacekeeping. Based on its varied peacekeeping experiences, dispersed over six decades in diverse operational environments, Pakistan has drafted and revised many UN manuals, especially those relating to the battalion level. The CIPS at the NUST also demonstrates Pakistan's resolve to share its knowledge not only in peacekeeping, but also in conflict prevention. As President of the UNSC in 2013, Pakistan spearheaded initiatives that led to the adoption of one of the most significant and unique peacekeeping operations, termed the (Force) Intervention Brigade.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> UN News, Secretary General at inauguration of CIPS at Islamabad, Pakistan on 13 August 2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Col Shafiq Malik, 'Pakistan for Peace' *Hilal*, March 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 'Praise for Pakistan's Blue Helmets', *The Nation*, 16 February 2020. <a href="https://nation.com.pk/16-Feb-2020/praise-for-pakistan-s-blue-helmets">https://nation.com.pk/16-Feb-2020/praise-for-pakistan-s-blue-helmets</a>.

Zeeshan Ahmad, 'Green, white and blue: Pakistan on the front-lines of UN peacekeeping: From Europe to Africa, Pakistan has always stepped up to offer troops for maintaining peace in strife-torn regions', The Express Tribune, 16 February 2020. <a href="https://tribune.com.pk/story/2157873/1-green-white-blue-pakistan-front-lines-un-peacekeeping">https://tribune.com.pk/story/2157873/1-green-white-blue-pakistan-front-lines-un-peacekeeping</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> UN Secretary General (un.org), 13 August 2013.

In the present volatile and lethal operating environments, UN peacekeeping finds itself at an inflection point as it struggles to manage the increasing complexity brought about by the increased scale and scope of tasks contained in the UNSC mandate with the limited capabilities that are routinely available to meet those demands. To respond to these varied challenges, the UN Secretary General launched Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) on 25 September 2018 to re-focus peacekeeping with a more targeted mandate, to make operations stronger and safer as well as mobilise support for political solutions and better equipped and trained forces. <sup>11</sup> This declaration aims to strengthen peacekeeping by spurring collective action by all peacekeeping stakeholders. Pakistan was the first country to sign this charter through its foreign minister who flew in especially for this purpose. The conceptual contours of A4P are the views proffered by Pakistan on 1 May 2017 at the First Session of the Fifth Committee of UN General Assembly. They are as follows: <sup>12</sup>

- i. Ensuring the continued political commitment of all member states.
- ii. Bolstering triangular cooperation between troops contributing countries, the Security Council and the Secretariat. Such cooperation must take place not only in the formation of its mandate, but also in their implementation, review, renewal or change, especially in case of any rapid deterioration of the situation on ground.
- iii. Protection of civilians, where mandated, remains critical. Clearly defined mandates would make this task easier. The goal of protecting civilians is best served by preventing the outbreak of armed conflicts, addressing the root causes of conflicts and finding inclusive and lasting political solutions to the disputes.
- iv. Commensurate with their participation, representatives of the TCCs and police contributing countries at the leadership and senior level in the field and headquarters would provide them with another avenue to provide inputs.
- v. A capability-driven approach would enhance the effectiveness of missions. Professional well-trained and well-equipped peacekeepers are at the core of this approach, and the strengthening of partnerships with regional and sub regional organizations are critical.

## **Geo-Strategic Imperatives**

The recognition received by the Pakistani peacekeepers the world over also exemplifies the country's endeavours as a peace-loving nation, which strives to promote security and the world order. Peacekeeping is invariably linked with nation re-building, while others are self-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> UN Peacekeeping, Action For Peacekeeping (A4P), 25 September 2018. https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/action-for-peacekeeping-a4p

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Statement by Ambassador Maliha Lodhi, at Seventy-First session of the Fifth Committee of the UN General Assembly on 1 May 2017.

assumed by Pakistani contingents to win the support of the local population, which has helped to project its 'soft power'. Peacekeeping has also contributed to the international image of Pakistani society, and its norms, culture and value system. Pakistani troops deployed on UN missions are mostly battle hardened from their more than 18-years' experience fighting terrorists in tribal areas adjoining the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, and they have displayed their combat worthiness and bravery. UN peacekeeping efforts have not only promoted the image of Pakistan, but have also helped dispel many misperceptions of Pakistan and its people during the aftermath of 9/11 from the propaganda and lobbying of hostile powers.

Participation in UN Peacekeeping operations is now a tenant of Pakistan's foreign policy. To a middle nation, in terms of its power potential, participation in UN peacekeeping missions provides a suitable opportunity to Islamabad to gain visibility in the international arena. It is also a soft way of demonstrating the country's image as a responsible member state of the UN and upholding the UN Charter. Participation in UN operations, despite its commitments in ongoing anti-terrorists operations, has helped Pakistan demonstrate its commitment to international peace and security. UN peacekeeping also enhances Pakistan's diplomatic profile at the UN, thus helping it to forestall various moves to protect its security and diplomatic interests. Active participation in peacekeeping also reciprocates in kind the unresolved issue of Jammu & Kashmir and the deployment of the UN Military Observers Group in India & Pakistan, where only the Pakistani side has freedom of movement. There is also a degree of informal peer pressure and competition from the South Asian countries to contribute peacekeepers and from the UN Secretariat to stay the course as a 'committed contributor'. Peacekeeping operations have also had a positive impact on a regional level. It is interesting to note that while India and Pakistan are often at loggerheads, they have operated amicably together in many UN missions.

Peacekeeping missions have also provided Pakistan, in general, and the army in particular, a forum to showcase their capabilities in a positive way. Employment in UN peacekeeping operations has eulogised the image of the army both domestically and internationally and has also provided financial benefits to the recruits. To the members of the armed forces and police, UN missions provide unique international exposure that allows them to work together with multinational forces and staff. This facilitates education in the latest skills in conflict management and post-conflict stabilisation operations. These operations have also provided the military international experience in emergency medical and engineering services, aviation, de-mining and other essential techniques. It is also an opportunity to operate with foreign militaries, understand their systems and procedures and foster a friendship. Pakistan's participation in UN peacekeeping also has the potential to open new avenues for exposure to more robust non-UN peacekeeping missions. For example, Pakistan was the only non-European country that contributed 1,000 troops in a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation-led Implementation Force in Bosnia.

UN peacekeeping is fraught with uncertainties and challenges but also bears opportunities in the projection of the Pakistani military's 'soft image', and the country's diplomatic and

political clout and in building commercial ties. In Pakistan's case, one neglected aspect of its foreign policy has been that the goodwill created in host nations by the Pakistan army through UN peacekeeping has not been translated into diplomatic, political and even commercial bonds. Most of the countries where peacekeepers have been employed have remained an uncharted pursuit.

#### Conclusion

In consonances with the purpose and principles of the UN Charter, Pakistan has actively participated in UN peacekeeping in different parts of the world, in some of the most trying circumstances. Pakistani peacekeepers have excelled in going beyond the call of duty to aid humanity, build institutions and promote peace. Their performances have been acclaimed by the UN and world leaders alike and have fostered everlasting bonds of respects and friendship. UN peacekeeping missions have both promoted the diplomatic clout of Pakistan at the UN and soft power of its army worldwide.

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#### Annex A

### Pakistan's UN Missions since 1960s



Source: Pakistan Army

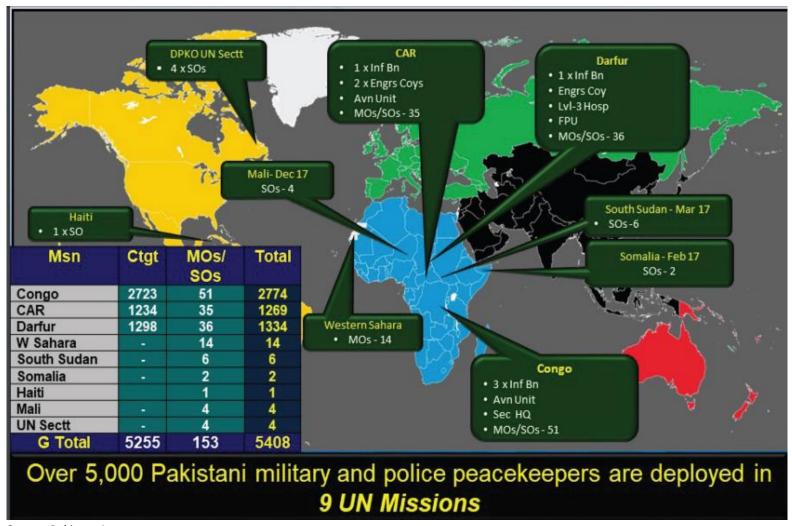
Annex B

# <u>Summary of the Award of Dag Hammarskjold Medal – Pakistan Peacekeepers (Shuhada)</u>

YEAR	R Msn										Total
	ONUB (Burundi)	UNMIS (Sudan)	UNMIL (Liberia)	UNAMSIL (Sierra Leone)	MONUC/ MONUSCO (Congo)	ONUCI (Ivory Coast)	UNMIT (East Timor)	UNOMIG (Georgia)	MINUSCA Central African Republic (CAR)	UNAMID (Darfur)	
2001	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	4
2002	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2003	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
2004	2	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
2005	2	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	7
2006	0	2	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	8
2007	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
2008	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	3
2009	0	1	6	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	13
2010	0	1	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	6
2011	0	1	5	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	8
2012	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	4
2013	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
2014	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	5
2016	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	0	4
2017	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	1	7
2018	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
2019	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1

Source: Pakistan Army

#### **Present Deployment of Pakistan in UN Missions**



Source: Pakistan Army