Dynamics of Politics, Peace and Conflict in Africa

Description

1.   Pakistan might have significantly contributed to the decolonisation process in Africa, it might have hosted many African students in its religious and secular institutions, as an important Troop Contributing Country (TCN) to UN peacekeeping operations, its peacekeepers have largely been deployed to Africa, even with all these, developing a coherent and concerted policy towards Africa is largely missing. Sadly and academically, of all the tertiary institutions in Pakistan, the teaching of Africa related subjects is visibly insignificant, let alone an integrated teaching of dynamic of politics in contemporary Africa or peace and conflict studies through the lens of Africa. The continent is either academically neglected or less important for policymakers. This perhaps explains why Pakistani scholarship with regard to the African continent is much smaller. Most recently, the current (PTI) government has decided to have a rethink on Pakistan's foreign policy towards Africa, an initiative that has gained the traction of few think tanks, who equally see the need of Africa-ward policy. To this end, there is a cogent need to have research course meant not just to teach Africa related subject, but to use such research in guiding foreign policy formulation towards Africa.

Educational Objectives

2.   To introduce the students to the continent which is little known, and create a scholarly platform where students can juxtapose the unfolding socio-political realities in their country with that of African states.

3.   To expose students to the process of de-colonisation of knowledge construction and how conflicts in Africa should de-colonised, constructed, and situated.

4.   To familiarize and train students with the ability to theorise and conceptualise the complex and multidimensional conflicts in the Africa through an African context.

5.   To train students on non-Western traditional peace and conflict resolution mechanism

6.   To groom future researchers and policymakers, whose knowledge and skill in the dynamic of African continent will instrumentally help contribute and shape the discourse of peace and conflict resolution and aid foreign policy making.

Input Obtained from Industry/Corporate Sector/Subject Specialists/Academia

7.   The course content is prepared and based on the outcome extensive reading and research. More importantly, the course is also the outcome of discussions with African diplomats in Pakistan and a roundtable session on Pakistan's Look Africa policy.

Course Contents

7.   Give details of the course, on the following lines:

   a.   **Course Code**: pcs-827

   b.   **Title**: Islamic Peace and Conflict Resolution

   c.   **Credit Hours**: 3hrs

   d.   **Objectives**. To

   (1) Expose students to the process of de-colonisation of knowledge construction and how conflicts in Africa should de-colonised, constructed, and situated.

   (2) Familiarize and train students with the ability to theorise and conceptualise the complex and multidimensional conflicts in the Africa through an African context.

   (3) Train students on non-Western traditional peace and conflict resolution mechanism.

   (4) Groom future researchers and policymakers, whose knowledge and skill in the dynamic of African continent will instrumentally help contribute and shape the discourse of peace and conflict resolution and aid foreign policy making.

   e.   **Outcomes**. The students of this course should be able to:

   (1) Develop rich knowledge on the continent of Africa.

   (2) Write both research and policy papers on the dynamic of African continent with regard to the discourse of peace and conflict resolution and foreign policy making.

   (3) Convene scholarly gatherings that sensitise the public and academic community on the importance of Africa studies and peace and conflict resolution in the context of Africa.

   f.   **Contents with suggested contact hours:** This will be a 3 credit hours course. Following topics will be covered in this module and. The content of the course will be spread along the following topics and issues:

(1) Political Dynamics in Contemporary Africa

(2) Contemporary Conflict in Africa

(3) Religion and Conflict in Contemporary Africa

(4) Colonial Legacy and Conflict in Africa

(5) Resources, leadership, Big-State and Big-Corporation and Conflict in Africa

(6) Peacekeeping in Africa

(7) Conflict Resolution in Contemporary Africa

(8) **Traditional Methods of Peace and Reconciliation in Africa**

g. **Details of lab work, workshops practice (if applicable).**

The course requires no lab works, but will involve workshops and seminars, and few experts on contemporary Africa and conflict related issues will be invited to sensitise the students.

h. **Recommended Reading (including Textbooks and Reference books).**

Abrahamsen, Rita, ed. *Conflict and Security in Africa*. Woodbridge, Suffolk; Rochester, NY: Boydell & Brewer, 2013.

Akinwale, Akeem Ayofe. Reviewed Work: *ECOWAS and the Dynamics of Conflict and Peace-Building* by Thomas Jaye, Dauda Garuba, Stella Amad. *Journal of Third World Studies* 30, no. 1 (2013): 241-45.

Bozeman, Adda Bruemmer. *Conflict in Africa: Concepts and Realities*. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1976.

Chazan, Naomi H. "The Africanization of Political Change: Some Aspects of the Dynamics of Political Cultures in Ghana and Nigeria." *African Studies Review* 21, no. 2 (1978): 15-38.

Cocodia, Jude, and Fidelis Paki. "Achieving Stability in African Conflicts: The Role of Contingent Size and Force Integrity." *African Conflict and Peacebuilding Review* 6, no. 1 (2016): 45-68.

Fawole, W. Alade. "A Continent in Crisis: Internal Conflicts and External Interventions in Africa." *African Affairs* 103, no. 411 (2004): 297-303.

Joffé, George. "Political Dynamics in North Africa." *International Affairs (Royal Institute of International Affairs 1944-)* 85, no. 5 (2009): 931-49.

Juma, Monica, and Aida Mengistu. *The Infrastructure of Peace in Africa: Assessing the Peacebuilding Capacity of African Institutions*. Report. International Peace Institute, 2002. 9-22.

Karl R. DeRouen Jr, and David Sobek. "The Dynamics of Civil War Duration and Outcome." *Journal of Peace Research* 41, no. 3 (2004): 303-20.

Kumar, Manoj. "The African Union: Its Contribution to Conflict Resolution." *India Quarterly* 64, no. 3 (2008): 106-37.

Lamba, Isaac C. "Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa and Lessons from the Past: The Democratic Republic of Congo up to 2003 with Comparisons from Mozambique." *Verfassung Und Recht in Übersee / Law and Politics in Africa, Asia and Latin America* 41, no. 2 (2008): 146-68.

Lemarchand, René. *The Dynamics of Violence in Central Africa*. University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009.

Murshed, S. Mansoob. "Conflict, Civil War and Underdevelopment: An Introduction." *Journal of Peace Research* 39, no. 4 (2002): 387-93.

Omeje, Kenneth, and Tricia Redeker Hepner, eds. *Conflict and Peacebuilding in the African Great Lakes Region*. Indiana University Press, 2013.

Osamba, Joshia O. "Violence and the Dynamics of Transition: State, Ethnicity and Governance in Kenya." *Africa Development / Afrique Et Développement* 26, no. 1/2 (2001): 37-54.

R. L. Nwafo Nwanko, and Chinelo G. Nzelibe. "Communication and Conflict Management in African Development." *Journal of Black Studies* 20, no. 3 (1990): 253-66.

Tokunbo Simbowale Osinubi and Oladipupo Sunday Osinubi. "Ethnic Conflicts in Contemporary Africa: The Nigerian Experience." *Journal of Social Sciences* 12, no 2(2006):101-114.

Tiryakian, Edward A. "African Political Development." *World Politics* 14, no. 4 (1962): 700-12.