Governance - what governance?

How Education Fuels Terrorism in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

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Lahore: 2009
Unsuccessful suicide bomber, Islamabad 2009
FATA: After a suicide attack
The Swat Taliban
Swat: one of the 356 schools destroyed by the Taliban
DOWN WITH AMERICA (PAKISTAN)
Is education part of the solution or is it actually part of the problem?
Outline of Talk

- Pakistani education: a bird’s eye view
- Madrassas in Pakistan
- What are they teaching in schools today?
- Pakistan’s cultural revolution
- What is to be done?
Pakistan Education Statistics

Public spending as % of GDP 2.3 % [44th of 136]

Expenditure per student, primary as % of GDP per capita [48th of 101]

Children out of school, primary, female 3,975,032 [1st of 117]

Children out of school, primary, male 2,328,180 [1st of 117]

Literacy - Female 36 % [181st of 197]

Literacy - Male 63 % [177th of 197]

Literacy - Total population 49.9 % [188th of 205]
6 million children out of school, Pakistan stands at the lowest among 116 countries. Half of all girls do not complete primary schooling.
Kids with guns: safeguarding the orange crop in Punjab
Sindhi children living under the shadow of the gun
A ghost school in Shikarpur (Sind)
A beneficiary of the Sind Education department
The other end of the education spectrum
The elite Lahore University of Management Sciences
MADRASSAS
1. **S: (n) indoctrination**: teaching someone to accept doctrines uncritically.

2. **S: (n) indoctrination** is the process of inculcating ideas, attitudes, cognitive strategies or a professional methodology (see doctrine).[1] It is often distinguished from education by the fact that the indoctrinated person is expected not to question or critically examine the doctrine they have learned.
Madrassa boys in Bajaur
Jamia Hafsa, Islamabad, 2007
Jamia Hafsa, Islamabad, 2007
The real culprit is a system of primary education that is woefully piecemeal, cobbled together out of the Qur'an, rote exercises based on outdated 50-year-old textbooks, hopelessly large classes, woefully ill-equipped teachers, and a nearly total inability to think critically.....this antiquated educational apparatus has produced the bizarre failures in logic, moral reasoning, and appreciation of human life that lead either to leaps of religious enthusiasm of the worst kind or to a servile worship of power.

- EDWARD SAID
The contents of education

What are they teaching in Pakistani public and private schools today?
CURRICULUM DOCUMENT
PRIMARY EDUCATION
CLASSES K-V
INTEGRATED AND SUBJECT BASED

NATIONAL BUREAU OF CURRICULUM AND TEXTBOOKS
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
ISLAMABAD
1995
**Social Studies: At the completion of Class-V, the child should be able to:**

- “Acknowledge and identify forces that may be working against Pakistan.” [pg154]
- “Demonstrate by actions a belief in the fear of Allah.” [pg154]
- “Make speeches on Jehad and Shahadat” [pg154]
- “Understand Hindu-Muslim differences and the resultant need for Pakistan.” [pg154]
- “India’s evil designs against Pakistan.” [pg154]
- “Be safe from rumour mongers who spread false news” [pg158]
- “Visit police stations” [pg158]
- “Collect pictures of policemen, soldiers, and National Guards” [pg158]
- “Demonstrate respect for the leaders of Pakistan” [pg153]
Where did it come from?
Charlie Wilson’s War
The Extraordinary Story of the Largest Covert Operation in History
George Crile
Congressman Charlie Wilson in action
President Ronald Reagan with mujahideen heroes
Jihadist education – American style

As Afghan schools reopen today, the United States has delivered 4 million radical Islamist textbooks. More are on the way.

In the twilight of the Cold War, the United States spent millions of dollars to supply Afghan schoolchildren with textbooks filled with violent images and militant Islamic teachings, part of covert attempts to spur resistance to the Soviet occupation.

The primers, which were filled with talk of jihad and featured drawings of guns, bullets, soldiers and mines, have served since then as the Afghan school system's core curriculum. Even the Taliban used the American-produced books, though the radical movement scratched out human faces in keeping with its strict fundamentalist code.
Math Questions
University of Nebraska circa 1985

• One group of mujahidin attack 50 Russians soldiers. In that attack 20 Russians are killed. How many Russians fled? [Grade 3]

• The speed of a Kalashnikov bullet is 800 meters per second. If a communist is at a distance of 3200 meters from a mujahid, and that mujahid aims at the communist’s head, calculate how many seconds it will take for the bullet to strike the communist in the forehead. [Grade 4]
Pakistan’s Cultural Revolution
1981 - present
Physics class 2003
And yet another…
Zaid Hamid – Pakistan’s Hitler
What Is To Be Done?