


Chapter 4

Resilient Peacebuilding in Conflict–Affected Educational Institutions: A Deep Learning Approach

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ABSTRACT

This research assesses resilient peacebuilding in education in schools experiencing armed conflict based on a mixed-methods study. Field data for teachers were collected using focus group interviews and in-depth interviews and measured the effects of armed conflict on schooling. Preprocessing of the data was conducted through standardization and principal component analysis (PCA) for feature reduction. Stacked artificial neural network (ANN) was applied to screen resilience factors and identified most critical determinants like psychological support, active engagement of society, and institutional recovery processes. The study findings provide evidence-based facts regarding sustainable peacebuilding projects and offer meaningful recommendations to policymakers and educators who work in conflict zones.

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INTRODUCTION

Resilient peacebuilding is the practice of achieving lasting stability in areas of conflict by establishing social, political, and economic resilience. It is more sophisticated than traditional peacekeeping because it ensures that communities have the capacity to address future conflicts through sustainable solutions. Resilient peacebuilding integrates conflict resolution, economic progress, education, and psychological well-being to achieve lasting peace. It is distinct from transient peace settlements, which focus more on creating local capacity to end conflicts peacefully. It is focused on inclusivity so that the process will involve all of the actors—women, marginal groups, and youth. Local citizens are taken to the fore, with solutions needing to be fitted into local culture and needs. The intervention resolves the root causes of conflict such as inequality and political instability in a manner that is not prone to future violence. The use of technology and evidence-based approaches also enhances peacebuilding. Lastly, resilient peacebuilding aims to build self-sustaining, adaptive, and autonomous societies that can sustain peace without external assistance.

Post-conflict states experience economic collapse, political uncertainty, and psychological trauma and hence require peacebuilding. Lack of long-term strategies causes eventual collapse of short-term ceasefires, and violence still persists. Peacebuilding that is resilient addresses the challenge of stability by employing community-led mechanisms of conflict resolution. It makes sure that former foes coexist peacefully with each other through encouraging dialogue, reconciliation, and mutual understanding between them. The majority of post-conflict areas are faced with poor institutions, and therefore, there is a need to rebuild inclusive and transparent institutions. The economy can create imbalances leading to more conflict, and hence, there is a need for sustainable development programs. Violence would traumatize individuals, rendering them incapable of returning to society, and hence, there is a need for psychological support programs. There should be education because this instills tolerance and critical thinking among the young people. Reconstruction of infrastructure is also required for restoring normalcy to the affected communities. Addressing these challenges in an all-round manner is what ensures resilient peacebuilding holds the potential for long-term stability and unwillingness to return to violence.

Involvement of the people is one of the mainstays of sustainable peacebuilding because people better comprehend their needs and conflicts. Peacebuilding is more effective and sustainable if there is people's involvement. Community leaders, religious leaders, and civil society organizations facilitate mediation of conflict and establishment of trust. Community-based initiatives guarantee that the peacebuilding efforts are owned and culturally customized at large. Collaboration with excluded

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