



**A REVIEW OF STRATEGIC DEPLOYMENT OF PEACEKEEPING  
FORCES AS AN EFFECTIVE MEASURE OF PREVENTING  
ESCALATION OF VIOLENCE**

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## ABSTRACT

There have been many inter-state and intra-state armed conflicts fought by human beings in the world. Even today, there are internal armed conflicts in many countries. All these conflicts have caused many hardships on human beings. Therefore, these conflicts are destructive for parties involved in the conflict and world community at large.

All these conflicts are man-made. Therefore, if all parties to a conflict think rationally, should weigh the pros and cons of a conflict in order to prevent conflicts and to make peace. In this process, both state and non state actors hold the responsibility of preventing violence and making peace.

There are various causes that motivate human beings. These motivations are the seeds that germinate causes of conflicts. Therefore, if the political commitment of preventing violence and making peace is genuine, the military personnel and other stakeholders should possess required competencies to perform tasks in peacekeeping operations.

Peacekeeping operations can be viewed as a system. The success of peacekeeping system depends on functions of various other sub-systems. During peacekeeping operations the transformation of actors that contribute towards the formation of conflict is of pivotal importance. In this process of transformation, the use of force is not the effective tool.

As such, one of the important areas is understanding the facts that determine the human behaviour. It emphasizes that military personnel engaged in peacekeeping operations should be armed with their mental skills, rather than arms they normally carry.

Military personnel are primarily trained to wage a war. But in peacekeeping, basically, they are not waging war but interacting with other stakeholders. As such, organizations such as Department of Peacekeeping Operations should be mindful of designing a way of achieving the end result of peacekeeping. Since, peacekeeping is soldier-intensive, military personnel and their competencies to perform tasks in peacekeeping are vital.

Although the 'training manual' has been prepared as a guideline for peacekeeping operations, it does not include training in developing mental skills required for peacekeeping operations. However, it has been accepted that different skills are required for peacekeeping.

Military personnel are the human capital in peacekeeping operations undertaken by the United Nations Organization. Emotional quotient is one of the three quotients which are essential for improved performance. The environment in a conflict ridden country is turbulent. The society is full of suspicion, hatred and fear psychosis etc. All these are emotion related.

In the above mentioned circumstances, military personnel engaged in peacekeeping are entrusted with the task of preventing escalation of violence and to make peace. In order to achieve these objectives, they are required to understand other stakeholders and their behaviour.