

PROPOSITIONS

FROM ISLAMISM TO POST-ISLAMISM

A Study of a New Intellectual Discourse on Islam and Modernity in Pakistan

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1. The emergence and development of post-Islamist intellectual discourse is symptomatic of the internal crises and discontent of its own ardent activists of the Islamist project in Pakistan (*this thesis*).
2. While the emergence of new electronic media, state-led Enlightened Moderation and the post-September 11, 2001 debates played a pivotal role in the inauguration of the expansionary phase of post-Islamism, the content of the discourse itself is the result of historical and generational factors and hence not reducible to immediate external socioeconomic conditions (*this thesis*).
3. The discursive community of post-Islamists has transformed from Mawdudi's Islamist ideology to a self-constructed worldview of elaborating a unique interpretative method, revised position on Shar'ia and retreat from creating an Islamic state (*this thesis*).
4. The new worldview inaugurated by post-Islamists in Pakistan does not suggest that post-Islamism is a secular or anti-religious response to Islamism and modernity (*this thesis*).
5. Despite unprecedented momentum in the recent past and overwhelming appeal among the modern educated middle, upper-middle and elite classes of Pakistani society, the post-Islamist project is far from becoming a popular social movement. A number of internal and external conditions are responsible for this failure (*this thesis*).
6. Reform in Islamic thought is a precondition for social reform in Muslim societies.
7. An effective control over the menace of Islamic militancy in Pakistan requires an indigenously grown counter-ideological movement.
8. The hegemonic forces of global capitalism, modern lifestyle and Western cultural products are increasingly becoming the defining basis of new identity construction among Muslims.
9. Effective resolution of the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan is strongly dependent on a regional approach where all neighbouring states could become active partners in the peace process.
10. Pakistan's future prosperity is heavily dependent on the state's determination and ability to implement land and madrassa reforms and addressing the ethnic question.
11. Musharraf thinks democracy has failed in Pakistan and his services are needed back home.