IMSISS Dissertation Feedback & Mark Sheet

Student Matriculation No.	Glasgow 2486670 DCU Charles
Dissertation Title	Effectiveness and Consequences of Counterterrorism Strategies in Pakistan: A Critical Appraisal of National Action Plan.

INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTION GRADING

Reviewer 1 Initial Grade	Reviewer 2 Initial Grade	Late Submission Penalty
Select from drop down list	Select from drop down list	no penalty

Word Count Penalty *(1-15% over/under = 1gr point; 15-20% over/under = 2 gr points; 20-25% over/under = 3 gr points; more than 25% over/under = 0 fail)*

Word Count: 22666 **Suggested Penalty:** no penalty

JOINT GRADING (subject to agreement of the external examiner and approval at Joint Exam Board)

Final Agreed Mark. *(Following correspondence reviewers should list the agreed final internal grade taking before and after any penalties to be applied).*

Before Penalty: A2 [21]   **After Penalty:** A2 [21]

DISSERTATION FEEDBACK

Assessment Criteria	Rating
A. Structure and Development of Answer This refers to your organisational skills and ability to construct an argument in a coherent and original manner	
• Originality of topic	Excellent
• Coherent set of research questions and/or hypothesis identified	Excellent
• Appropriate methodology and evidence of effective organisation of work	Excellent
• Logically structured argument and flow of ideas reflecting research questions	Excellent
• Application of theory and/or concepts	Excellent
B. Use of Source Material This refers to your skills to select and use relevant information and data in a correct manner	
• Evidence of reading and review of published literature	Excellent
• Selection of relevant primary and/or secondary evidence to support argument	Excellent
• Critical analysis and evaluation of evidence	Excellent
• Accuracy of factual data	Excellent
C. Academic Style This refers to your ability to write in a formal academic manner	
• Appropriate formal and clear writing style	Very Good
• Accurate spelling, grammar and punctuation	Very Good
• Consistent and accurate referencing (including complete bibliography)	Excellent
• Is the dissertation free from plagiarism?	Yes

IMSISS Dissertation Feedback & Mark Sheet

• *Evidence of ethics approval included (if required based on methodology)*	Yes
• *Appropriate word count*	Yes

ADDITIONAL WRITTEN COMMENTS

Reviewer 1

This dissertation provides excellent evidence-based analysis of Pakistan's counterterrorism strategy, the National Action Plan. This study offers a timely and comperehensive analysis of the policy, extending its analytical insights further than previous scholarly and policy-report works have done.

The student expanded his analysis of NAP to encompass not only typical areas of analysis, such as effectiveness and implementation, but also into the realms of local socio-cultural milieu, analysing the effect of NAP on transformation (or the lack thereof) of local traditions, culture and forms of traditional (tribal) organisation in areas where NAP was implemented. This is a major contribution of this dissertation to existing studies and analyses of counterterrorism in Pakistan.

The dissertation demonstrates excellent engagement with both conceptual and theoretical literature, as well as effective application of theory to a case study. The student has shown not only close familiarity with literature pertinent to the case study, but also with a broader and diverse body of research on counterterrorism.

Above all, the strongest part of this dissertation is it reliance on original interview data collected specifically for the purposes of this research work. In-depth interviews with a wide range of informants shed light on previously unreported dynamics and processes and provide us with unique empirical insights. The student should be praised for undertaking this online fieldwork in times of pandemic and succeeding in recruiting a decent number of interview participants across different walks of life. Interview data, particularly related to socio-cultural aspects in Pashtun tribal areas, have positively enriched the empirical contribution and originality of this dissertation.

Reviewer 2

I very much like the dissertation. It's theory-driven, innovative, empirically sound, and methodologically solid. I appreciate the author's analytical skills both in terms of the fieldwork, data gathering and analysis, and the way the author has pieced individual pieces of the empirical mosaic together to make a solid theoretically-informed contribution. The dissertation is well-structured, well-executed, certainly in the top of dissertations I've come to review.