

Impact of Internally Displaced People on Crimes, A study of Township Police Station, District Bannu, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan

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Abstract

Crimes are the major social problem of a society and need proper attention, since the increase of crime in a society adds to the economic social and psychological sufferings of the masses. Government of Pakistan set up the military operation (zarb-i-azab) on 15 June, 2014, in North Waziristan Agency, targeting non state armed elements. The operations caused large scale displacements, one of the largest and fastest displacement take place anywhere in the world in recent years. The IDP's affected not only the socio-economic condition of the host communities, but also cause an increase in criminal activities. The present study is aimed to evaluate the impact of internally displaced people on the increase of crime rate in township Police station, district Bannu.

The reported crimes data from Township police station was collected for 2010 and 2015 representing the before and after IDP's crime rate respectively. The collected data was analyzed with a predetermined objective of evaluating the impact of IDP's on the increase of crime in the study area. The analysis was carried out in crime analyst extension of ARC Map 10.2.1 software. The crime data was analyzed Geo-spatially as well as for hot spot identification. The analysis reveals that almost all the reported crimes record an increase after the inflow of IDP's. However, some of the crime records an overwhelming increase, for instance cases of aerial firing increased from 14 in 2010 to 144 in 2015, drug related crimes increased from 14 to 74 and rent disputes increased from none in 2010 to 96 in 2015. The hotspot analysis reveals 3 hotspots located in the vicinity of IDP's camps, which further suggest the involvement of IDP's in the occurrence of crimes.

Keywords: Geospatial; Crimes; IDP's

Introduction

Internally displaced persons (IDP's) are the peoples who have been compelled to leave their homes as a result of or to avoid the consequences of

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armed conflicts, violence, violation of human rights or to avoid any human or natural disaster without crossing the international border. (UNOCHA, 2004; UNHCR, 2013). Unlike refugees, who are protected by 1951 UN Convention (Geneva Convention) and the 1967 Protocol relating to the status of refugees, the IDP's don't have any legal status and assured protection by any legal document, thus making them the world's most vulnerable population, though they usually receive material assistance (Harrel & Voutria, 1992; Leus et al., 2001). They face the problems of humanitarian rights, violence, armed conflicts, military operations, civil and international wars (Makhoul & Ghanem, 2009). They leave their native place and migrate to a new place voluntary or non-voluntary (Malhotra, 2007). IDPs are cut off from their environment physically, socially, economically and culturally (Stepputat & Sorensen, 2001).

The people are displaced because of civil and international wars like in Asia 5 to 6 million and in Africa 12-13 million are displaced. In America 2 to 3 million were displaced during civil war and in Europe 3 million people are displaced due to war. Similarly, the same numbers are also displaced by natural disasters (Weiss & Korn, 2006). Natural disaster like floods and earthquakes contribute in the population displacement. The 2005 earthquake in Pakistan displaced 3,500,000 (Haseeb et al., 2011). Similarly, 2010 flood had displaced about 1,550,000 people initially to camps in dryer/flood free areas (Dixon & Schaffer, 2010; Din, 2010). Globally in 2017, the natural hazards caused huge displacements, the riverine floods alone accounts for 8.6 million and storms 7.5 million. In this regard the East Asian region is the most prone to natural hazards and it alone accounts for 46 percent of the total global displacement (The Jakarta Post, 2018).

In 2017, the worldwide population of forcibly displaced people increased to 68.5 million, compared with 65.6 million in 2016. Significant new displacement, is reported from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Myanmar and Syria. During 2017, 16.2 million people were newly displaced, including 4.4 million who sought protection abroad and 11.8 million who were forced to flee but remained in their own countries (UNHCR, 2017). The Sub-Saharan Africa outmatched the Middle East as the most affected region, with one million new displacements in Democratic Republic of the Congo DRC due to violent clashes in the provinces of North Kivu, South Kivu and Kasai. Ethiopia, the (DRC) and Syria accounted for more than half of the global IDP's (IDMC, 2017). In 2016 Cambodia alone accounts for 0.92 million displacements, Nigeria reported more than 0.5 million displacements in 2016 suggesting that Sub-Saharan Africa overtaking the Middle East in term of IDP's (UNOCHA, 2016). Similarly, the displaced population within Syria account 6.2 million people, including 2.5 million children, highest number associated with internally displaced population recorded globally (Reed, 2018).

The twenty-year war in Uganda resulted in the displacement of 2 million people, in which 54% of respondent were reported with post traumatic disorder and 67% with depression (Roberts et al., 2008). Similarly, 1990's civil war in Chad caused forced migration resulting a transition from monogamy to bigamy or divorce (Lailberte et al., 2003). The social and cultural standards, norms well-being of the people can be affected by displacement and poor, unhygienic conditions of the camps. These can result prostitution, adultery, and thieving etc. especially within children and youngsters (Roberts et al., 2009). The IDP's are more frequently influenced by stress and remain at high risk of mental disorders (Miller & Rasmussen, 2010; Steel et al. 2009).

The Pakistan government launched the military operation (zarb-i-azab) in North Waziristan Agency on 15 June, 2014, targeting non state armed elements. The operations caused large scale displacements, which is the largest and fastest take place anywhere in the world in recent years. Large number of IDPs migrated to Bannu, due to its proximity to the North Waziristan Agency. As of July 4, 2014, 575,000 IDP's were registered in Bannu district (Daily Dawn, July 4, 2014). This tremendous increase of population is a huge change for a city to bear. The overcrowding not only lead to environmental degradation and deterioration of socio economic conditions but also caused an increase in crime rate. In Kohat district nearly 3000 IDPs were reported to involve in criminal activities from 2005 to 2014 (Attia, 2014). A study carried on psychological vulnerabilities of IDP's in Bannu district by Aleemi, et al. (2015), recorded a substantial increase in crimes. The study indicates significant impact of mental illnesses over community in the form of social crimes i.e. hate, gambling, prostitution, drug production and use. Sarhad Hospital for Psychiatric Diseases (SHPD) recorded about 97,000 psychiatric cases from the violence-hit areas of FATA in 2009. It has been estimated that one in six carries few symptoms of psychological illness. (FATA Research Centre (FRC), 2013).

An overwhelming amount of literature is available on the psychiatric, psychological and other mental illnesses of the IDP's throughout the world including Porter and Haslam, (2005); Johnson and Thompson, (2008); Roberts et al., (2008; 2009); Getanda et al., (2015) and Aleemi, et al. (2015). However very limited literature is available on the impact of IDP's on increase in crime rate of the host communities. Keeping in view the study is designed with a predetermined objective of evaluating the impact of IDP's on the increase of crime in the study area, besides the study also aimed to analyze the spatial distribution of crime and identification of hot spot in Township Police Station.

Study Area

Township is a nucleated settlement of Bannu located in the Bizan Khel area on Bannu - Kohat road. The Township Police station got its name from Bannu Township. The township Police station administered an area of approximately 60 sq. kilometer. The important village's falls within the boundary of Township police station are Bannu Township, Bizan Khel and Jhanau khel (figure 1). Mostly the IDPs camps are located within as well as in the vicinity of Township Police Station. A high crime rate was reported after the influx of IDPs from the surrounding unrest areas.

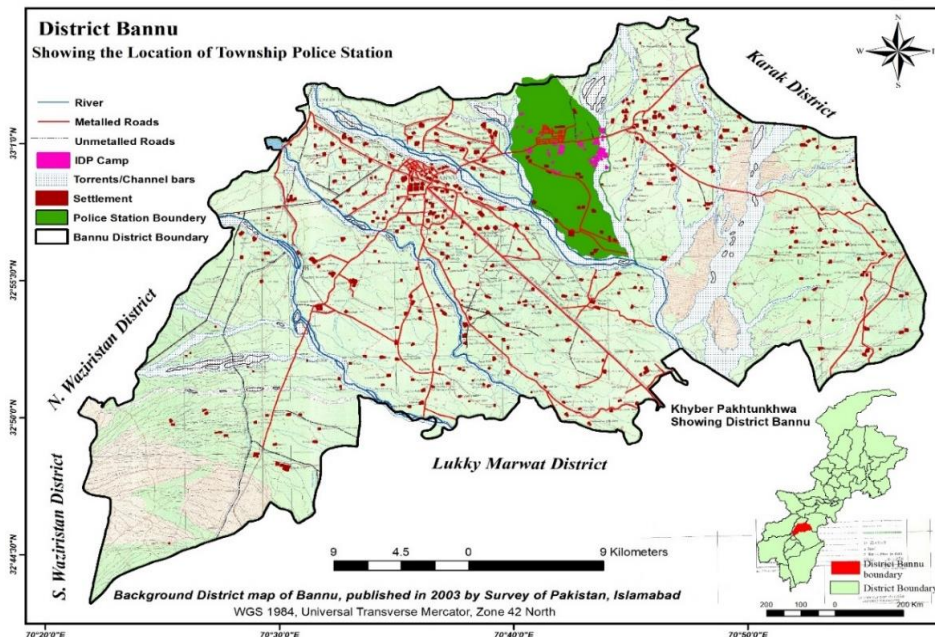


Figure 1: Showing district Bannu and the location of study area, township police station.

Material and Method

Purpose of Research

The purpose of the present research is to determine the spatial distribution of crime and to evaluate the impact of IDP's on the criminal activities reported in Township Police Station, district Bannu.

Research Questions

1. How the crimes are spatially distributed in Township Police Station?
2. What is the impact of IDP's on occurrence of crimes in study area?

Objectives of the study

1. To study the spatial distribution of crime in Township Police Station.
2. To evaluate the impact of IDP's on the occurrence of crimes in the study area.

Data collection

To accomplish the research objectives, the present study utilizes both primary and secondary data. The primary data was collected from the Township police station about the major crimes reported during 2010 and 2015, representing before and after IDP's situation respectively. The data collected was consisting of type of crime reported, location of crime occurrence and date when the crime was occurred. GPS waypoints were collected from important reference points in the study area. These waypoints were used for demarcation of the Police station boundary. Beside the geospatial location where crimes were actually happened was collected with the help of GPS. A questionnaire survey was administered to determine the local perception about the possible causes of increase in crime rate from 2010 to 2015.

District map of Bannu was acquired from survey of Pakistan published in 2003. This map was georeferenced and was used as background map for final preparation of crime maps of the study area. The district map was used for demarcation of the Police station boundary. Help was taken from the DSP Township Police station. ArcMap 10.2.1 software was used for the study of geospatial impact assessment of IDP's on rate of crimes in study area. The figure 2 is showing the methodology adopted to achieve the objectives of the study.

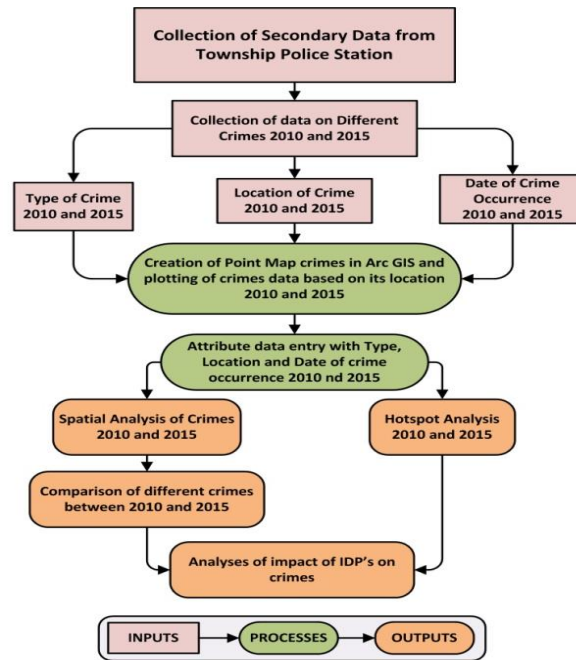


Figure 2. Showing the methodology adopted to achieve the study objectives

Analysis and Discussion

The reported crimes data from Township police station was analyzed under the following scenarios:

1. Spatial Distribution of Crimes
2. Impact of IDP's on the occurrence of different crime
3. Hotspot Analysis.

Spatial Distribution of Crime

The crime data collected was plotted on the map, based on the location where the crime was actually happened for both 2010 and 2015. The resultant map is shown in figure 3a and 3b. The analysis of collected data reveals that a total of 124 crimes of various natures have been reported in township police station Bannu during 2010. The breakdown of the crimes is given in table 1, which indicates that 59 cases of illegal possession of arms were reported which make almost 50 % of all the crimes reported in 2010. Followed by “Aerial

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Firings” 14 cases. Similarly, 13 cases of attempted murders and 13 of aggressive assaults were also reported in 2010. The spatial distribution suggests that majority of the crimes were reported from Bannu township which is a high class residential area located in the vicinity of IDP’s camps. Almost 40 cases of different nature were reported from township area. Beside the other areas where majority of the crime are concentrated are Bizan Khel and Jhanau khel and Dagar Umerzai areas figure 3a.

The spatial distribution of crimes in 2015 follows more or less same pattern except the fact that overall crime shows exponential increase. Just like 2010, most of crimes were reported from Township area. Majority of the Aerial Firing cases were reported from IDP’s camp while rental disputes were mostly reported from township area.

Table 1 Township Police Station Crimes Reported in 2010 -2015

S. No	Type of crime	PPC Section	No. of Crimes		Increase in No. of Crimes (2010-2015)	Percent Increase in Crime 2010-2015
			2010	2015		
1	Possession of illegal arms	Arms Ordinance	59	107	48	81.36
2	Aerial Firing	337 (H) (II)	14	144	134	957.14
3	Aggressive Assaults	351, 352	13	40	27	207.69
4	Attempted Murder	324	13	16	03	23.08
5	Possession, selling, trafficking of Narcotics/Drugs	Narcotics Substances Act (CNS) Act-1997	14	74	60	428.57
6	Murder	302	06	14	08	133.33
7	Theft, theft in a building, Theft of a vehicle, theft after preparation made for causing death or hurt	378,380,381, 382	03	17	14	466.67
8	Abduction/Kidnapping	363, 365-A	02	10	08	400.00
9	Rent Disputes	10 RBO	00	96	96	9500
10	Unlawful assembly	Section 144	00	28	28	957.14
11	Security Act (2015)		00	50	50	207.69
			124	596	472	380.64

Source: Township Police Station, 2015

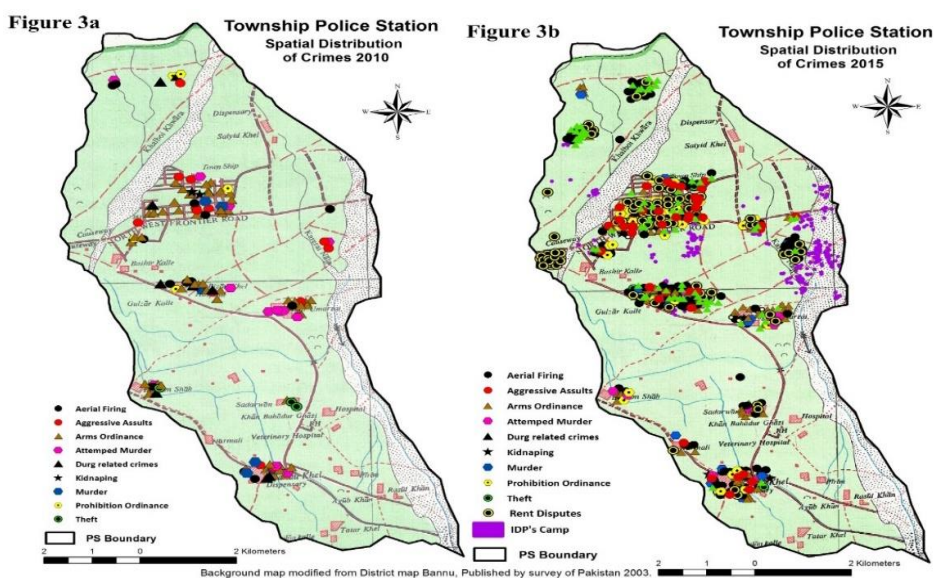


Figure 3a & 3b Showing the Spatial distribution of various crimes reported during 2010-2015, in Township Police Station.

Impact of IDP's on the occurrence of different crime

The analysis of the collected crimes data reveals tremendous increase in overall crimes after the IDP's influx to study area. A total of 124 crimes of various natures have been reported in 2010, which increase to 594 in 2015. Majority of the respondents interviewed during field survey conducted in study area believe that is increase in crimes is because of IDP's migration to Bannu district.

Murder and Attempted Murders cases

According to West's Encyclopedia of American Law (2008), Murder (Homicide) is the killing of another person without a valid reason with malice aforethought, while attempted murder is the unsuccessful act of killing someone. Homicide is one of the important crime in township police station. In 2010 only 06 cases of murder have been reported which increase to 14 in 2015. It was not possible to determine the causes and the parties involved in the murder, therefore one cannot blame the IDP's for increase in murder cases in study area. However, the respondents blame the IDP's for increase in murder cases. Table 2 and figure 4a & 4b is showing the murder cases reported in 2010 and 2015 respectively. A total of 13 cases of attempted murders have been reported in 2010, which increase to 16 in 2015.

Table 2: Township Police Station Reported Murder Cases

Crime	2010	2015	Increased/Decreased	Percent Increase
Murder	6	14	+8	133.33
Attempted Murder	13	16	+3	23.07

Source: Township Police Station, 2015

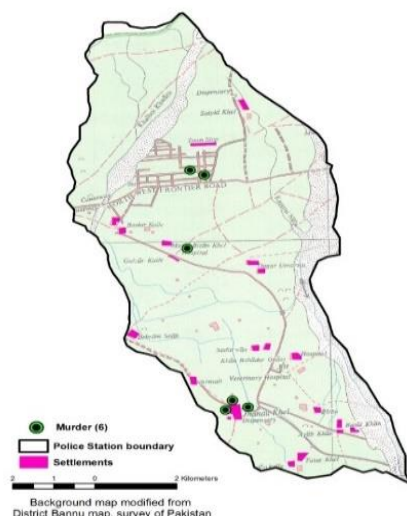
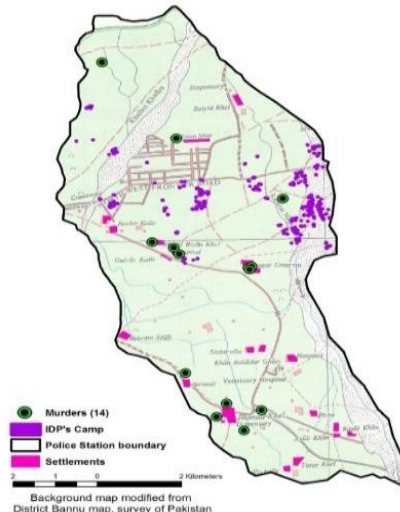
Figure 4a Township Police Station Murders, 2010**Figure 4b Township Police Station Murders, 2015**

Figure 4a & 4b Showing the Spatial distribution of Murders reported during 2010-2015, in Township Police Station.

Rent Disputes

Rental disputes are one of the most important crimes reported to the township police station. Surprisingly there was no rent dispute case reported in 2010, but 96 cases were reported in 2015. As stated earlier within week of Zarbi-Azab operation 575,000 IDP's were registered in Bannu district (Daily Dawn, July 4, 2014). Though government established camp in Bakakhail, Bannu, because of strict traditional and cultural norms most of the IDP's preferred to live with their friends and relatives. According to a Rapid Protection Cluster Assessment report the vast majority (76%) of IDPs were living in rented accommodation with relatives and host community (UNHCR, 2014). Initially the local people welcomed the IDP's and refuse to take rent but latter when the military operation becomes sustained the locals started asking for rents which caused disputes between IDP's and Locals. Table 3 and figure 5a and 5b are

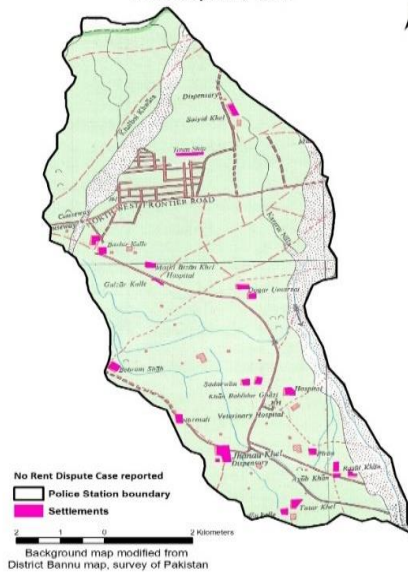
depicting the spatial distribution of rental disputes. Most of the rent disputes were reported from Bannu township.

Table 3: Township Police Station Reported Rent Disputes Cases 2010-2015

Crime	2010	2015	Increased/Decreased	Percent Increase
Rent disputes	0	96	+96	9500

Source: Township Police Station, 2015

**Figure 5a Township Police Station, Bannu
Rent Disputes, 2010**



**Figure 5b Township Police Station, Bannu
Rent Disputes, 2015**

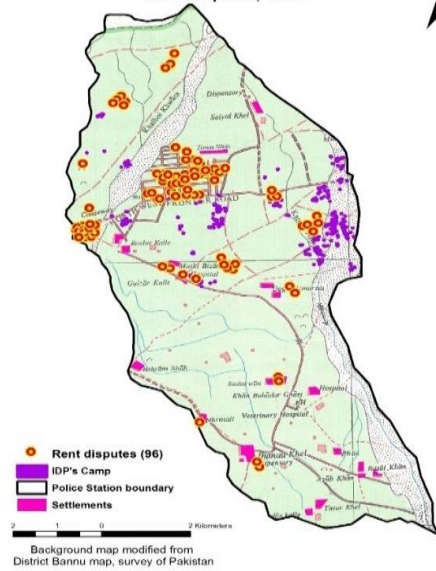


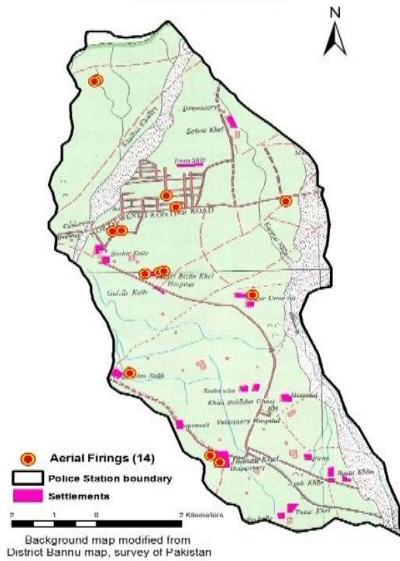
Figure 5a & 5b: Showing the Spatial distribution of Rent disputes reported during 2010-2015, in Township police station.

Aerial Firing

Aerial firings are the most common prevailing crime reported in the Township police station premises. Aerial firings are mostly done to threaten the opponents. In 2010 only 14 cases of aerial firing were reported to Township police station which increased to 140 in 2015 (see figure 6a and 6b). The respondents attributed this tremendous increase in the cases of aerial firing to influx of IDP's.

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**Figure 6a Township Police Station, Bannu
Aerial Firing, 2010**



**Figure 6b Township Police Station, Bannu
Aerial Firing, 2015**

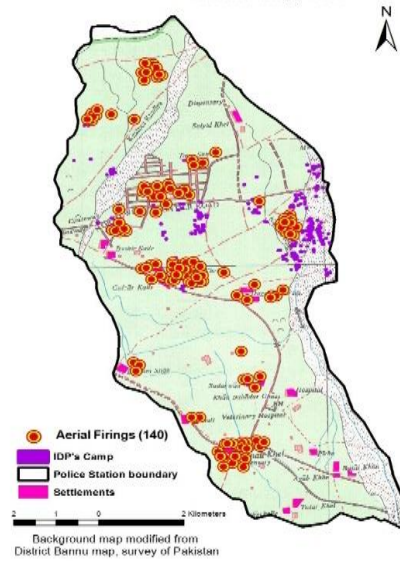


Figure 6a & 6b: Showing the Spatial distribution of Aerial Firing reported during 2010-2015, in Township police station.

Narcotics/Drugs related crimes

Narcotics / drug related crime include all the crime like possession, smuggling and selling of narcotics drugs etc. In 2010 only 09 crimes were reported, which increased to 74 in 2015 (see Table 4 and figure 7a and 7b). Majority respondents interviewed in the field survey blame IDP's for the increase in narcotics/drugs related crimes and proliferation of narcotics in the study area.

Table 4: Drug Related Crimes Reported in Township Police Station, 2010-2015

Crime	2010	2015	Increased/Decreased	Percent Increase
Rent disputes	09	74	+96	722.22

Source: Township Police Station, 2015

Figure 7a Township Police Station, Bannu
Narcotics/Drugs Related Crimes, 2010

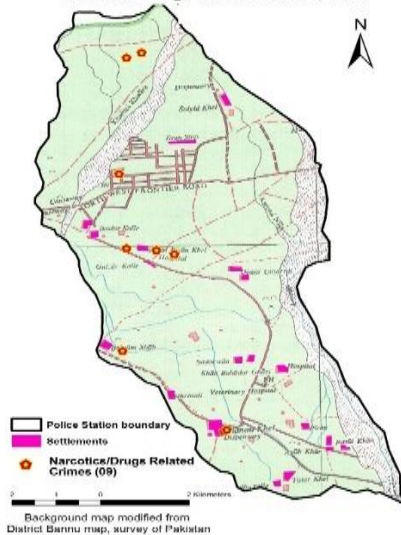


Figure 7b Township Police Station, Bannu
Narcotics/Drugs Related Crimes, 2015

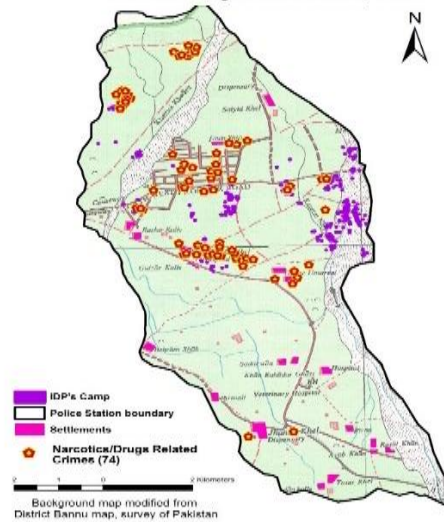


Figure 7a & 7b: Showing the Spatial distribution of Drugs related crimes reported during 2010-2015, in Township police station.

Hotspot Analysis

Crimes hotspots are regions of high crime density on the map. Preparing hotspot maps are vital and powerful tool for policy makers and police. Hotspot map are helpful in identifying area of high crime density and are valuable tool to analyze geographic areas with respect to crimes. A common perception about the occurrence of crime is that they are haphazardly spread in space, but extensive evidence suggests that it is not. Although the geo spatial location where a crime happens is crucial but equally important are the characteristic of the places where the crime occur.

In order to identify the high density area in terms of crimes, the collected data was plotted in ARCMAP 10.2.1 and a point map was created with the help of geo-tagging the police data. The resultant map was analyzed in crime analyst extension of ARCMAP 10.2.1, to produce a hotspot map of the township police station. The hotspot analysis reveals that most crimes are concentrated in relatively smaller areas. The analysis identified 3 major hotspots in township police station; these are township, Bizan Khel and Jhanau khel areas. Figure 8a & 8b are showing crime hotspots of the study area. The blue color indicates high crime density areas while yellow color represents the relatively safe areas. While the reddish color indicates moderate crime areas.

Conclusion

The analysis reveals that 124 crimes of different nature were reported in township Police station in 2010, which increase to 594 in 2015 after the influx of IDP's. The spatial distribution and hotspot analysis suggests that majority of the crimes were reported from Bannu township which is a high class residential area. Almost 40 cases of different nature were reported from township area in 2015. The analysis reveals 3 major hotspots where majority of the crime were concentrated these are Bizan Khel and Jhanau khel and Dagar Umerzai areas.

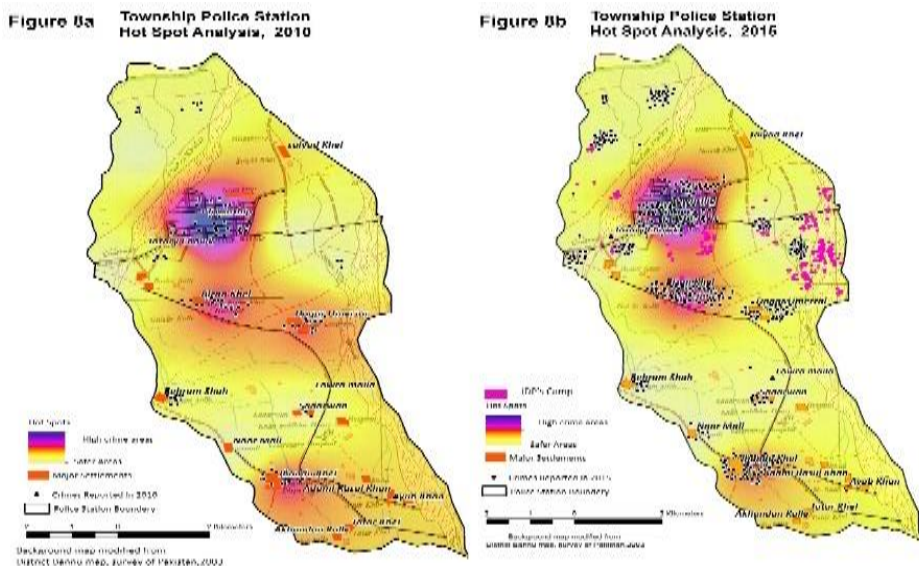


Figure 8a & 8b, showing the hotspot area of Township police station, 2010 and 2015.

The present study reveals that IDPs influx has tremendous impacts on crime rate of study area. The IDP's coming mostly from tribal areas where it is normal to have weapons; the IDP's carried those weapons to host areas, which are often used in criminal activities. According to majority of respondents IDP's not only involve in criminal activities but also responsible for the proliferation of weapons as most of the IDP's sell the guns on fairly low prices.

GIS helps and analyze crimes in many different ways. The most significant use of GIS is to visualize the crime in spatial context. This spatial visualization enables Police to identify hotspots and understand the pattern of crime occurrence. The hotspot analysis can be helpful in fighting against the crime by increasing patrol around such locations or by protective measure.

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