

## **Political Unrest: Cause of Terrorist Radicalisation in Kenya**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Kenya has been faced with many cases of political unrest. To the Opposition politicians it is through incessant political unrest that democracy can be attained and maintained in Kenya; that it is the language the government of the day understands most. So it is during such struggles that the political class uses their supporters in protests and conflicts that have led to loss of lives, of property among other calamities. Examples are the 2007/08 and 2017 post-election violent conflicts. This study has looked at how such political unrests especially the 2017 post-election violence, is likely to lead to terrorist radicalisation in Kenya. The study interviewed a sample population of 399 from a population of 46, 657 of Migori town. Migori was one of the badly hit towns during the 2017 post-election violence and many people lost their lives and several others were injured. The paper has also used content analysis of literature in understanding the above scenario on political unrest and terrorist radicalization. From the results, a conclusion was made that with continuous political unrest in Kenya, many people who feel aggrieved are likely to join terrorist groups to fight the government of the day. The study recommends that in order to reduce terrorism and violent radicalisation in Kenya, the government, political leaders and other agencies should promote peaceful means of attaining and maintaining democracy instead of resorting to violent protests.

**Keywords:** Violence, Terrorist Radicalisation, Political Unrest, Democracy, Terrorism, Radicalisation

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