

# The Engagement of KDU in Executing the National Security

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**Abstract**— *National Security is a diversified approach that defines integration of national territory and its institutions which are required for the stability of a country. The concept is mostly perceived the sovereignty and its implications towards a secured nation as an intensified terminal. In that perspective, the genesis of national security organizations reflects the conformity of national security to address its incitation as an ultimate goal and outcome. Even though KDU is an educational institute which has a military background and governance, it plays an imperative role in congruence to the concept of a National security organization. Moreover the inclusion of internal and external resources such as military personnel and civilians is an undeniable gigantic prelude to integrate the society for a unified entity within the country.*

**Keywords**— *National Security, Integration, National Security Organizations*

## I. INTRODUCTION

National Security is an indispensable requirement for the survival of a nation which juxtaposes with the protection of all communities from multifaceted threats. According to academic literature, National Security is the integrity of the national territory and its institutions (Morgenthau, 1960). It affirms that National Security must be understood within a unified single framework under an amplified organizational structure. Organization is a social system that consists of patterned activities of a number of individuals and it becomes important to maintain positive interpersonal relationships among the members (Katz & Kahn, 1978). From the National Security perspective, organizations represent a unique group dynamic which conflates military personnel and civilians who are working in partnership with each other towards the realization of defence goals. Therefore the concept of National Security Organization is an initiative approach for conceive and articulate defence strategy to enforce feasible relations between military and civilians. General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) is a preponderated and exalted defence organization which governs under the motto called “for the motherland forever”. The vision of KDU is “to be a university nationally and internationally known for its unique ability to engage both undergraduate students in distinctive and

interdisciplinary defence related higher education that best serves the tri services, the state sector and society at large.<<http://www.kdu.ac.lk/aboutus/organization/vision-and-missions>>It depicts that KDU affords a salient forum to inspire institutional response for its adherence with the National Security.

## II. FORMULATING THE CONCEPT OF NATIONAL SECURITY ORGANIZATIONS AS A GUIDING PRINCIPLE

National Security Organization has to be provided in a consistent and coherent manner with a clear interpreting and initiating security through the utilization of military sector. The derivation of military sector constitutes strengthening strategic establishments. These strategic establishments contribute to a pragmatic view of security by presenting relevant tasks, roles and policies within the national boundaries and the community at local levels. Profusely it captures domestic sources of state behaviour and offers a framework to build an enormous understanding about the security. National Security Organizations are forged with the Defence Ministry to scrutinize its extensive functions. The supervision and maintenance of the establishment matters of the Kotelawala Defence Academy is a one objective of the Ministry of Defence in Sri Lanka. The inauguration of the Sir John Kotelawala Defence Academy (KDA) by the act no.68 of 1981 and its elevation to the General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (KDU) by the amendment act no 27 of 1988 are sound instances for the government contribution in gaining high productive and qualitative armed forces. This is the only university that offers security related education in Sri Lanka to espouse national security within the country. Three dimensions can be formulated to examine the concept of National Security Organization that comprises an optimum security approach.

### *D. National Security Organizations as Organism*

Emile Durkheim (1893) who is a pioneer of classical sociology argues that the society is in a number of aspects similar to an Organism, a living system with its cells, metabolic circuits and systems. In this metaphor Organizations play the role of Organs with the proper coordination and balance of its subsystems to keep the system alive. From this ideological concept, National Security Organizations are configured and designed with normative functions and institutionalized principles in

security perception. Institutionalization, reference norms, practices and accountability of individuals which are the key requirements to interact with the society. A collective framework can be utilized as an incipient source in this perspective.

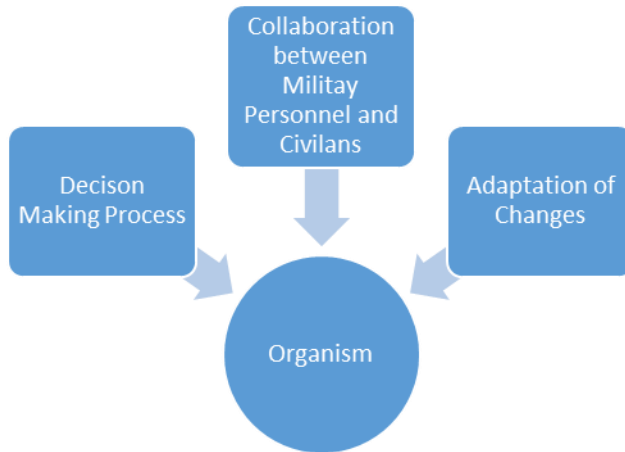


Figure2. The Collective Framework  
Source: Author

*1) Decision making process:* The decision making process is the preparative action to produce an effective work outcome within the organization. Simon (1968) interprets that decision making is largely concerned with finding patterns of activities which directed towards the goals. According to this point of view decision making for the national security is an implement for the assurance of strategic plans and developments to improve the estimates of future necessities. Centralization of these strategic decisions in National Security Organizations provides a pathway to address the revealing conclusions of the security matters. The guidance of the armed forces indicates the extended decisions and its provisions in the expert formation of National Security Organizations. This accession of decision making process is a vital feature for successive military establishments to engross the scope of National security.

*2) Collaboration between Military Personnel and Civilians:* The collaboration between Military personnel and civilians is a distinct apparatus to foster an interconnected security mechanism. This collaboration is explicitly required to diminish parochial bipolar among the individuals who are allocated to above binary. It stands for organizational structures in the security affairs and deals with the operational policies in the military. The hierarchical establishment of the military through the governance of a civilian minister of defence and a civilian administration in the ministry of defence imply a diffused relationship between military personnel and civilians. Samuel P. Huntington (1957) determined that the civilian

control is an essential element for the maximization of military as a neutral instrument of the national security. The respectability of the military and the stance of the armed forces to civilian control is a direct impact for durable security systems in National Security Organizations.

*3) Adaptation of Changes:* The flexible adaptation and approbation of changes in National Security Organizations are depending upon the domestic security matters. John Hillen (1999) stated that change is a characteristic of the military which induce developments in organizations. It is a preliminary outcome of a transformation process which addresses the possibilities for revitalize existing security approaches. These multifarious approaches are guided through the competencies of both military personnel and civilians to achieve changes within the organization. This indicator is a predetermined benchmark to enhance organizational culture.

The observations of Organism perspective clearly exhibit a triad framework for National Security Organizations and it further can apply to KDU scenario. KDU reflects an amplified organizational capacity which compresses defence related decisions of the state power. KDU is annexed with Defence division of the Ministry of Defence to pursue longstanding administrative policies. This division is responsible for the all establishment matters of KDU and the implementations of decisions in the military which comes from the ministry. It is an obvious example for the collaboration of military personnel and civilians. The transformation of a traditional academy plays an important role in advancing global knowledge with the dynamic changes. KDU is an ultimate outcome of the transformations in KDA and as a member of the Association of Commonwealth Universities it imparts an excellent education to inspire students according to the global standards. At the initial stage KDA was established to groom officer cadets within the academic setting. But later the opening of KDU for civil students has introduced a military-civil student mix for the first time in Sri Lanka with exceptional performances of both parties. These specialities of KDU imply that KDU is a national security organization which operates as a key organ in the current defence and social phenomenon.

#### *E. National Security Organizations as the Culture*

The culture in a society is based on the commonalities of interests. Particularly the organizational culture refers to collectively held beliefs, symbols, rituals & practices which lend colour to the cultural aspect of the organization. Harold Lasswell (1950) has mentioned in his institutionalized methods that the combination of ethics

and values has produced certain influences over the developments of military sociology and its functional dimensions in the military-civil relations. It shows the encouragement of individuals to act as a unity on various consistencies. Culture has no single validity if taken as a phrase to explain behaviours that do not provide visible explanations. The sustainability of the unity is formidable factor to establish a cultural integration in National Security Organizations. As emphasised here following integration model is needed to make an interconnected cultural approach.

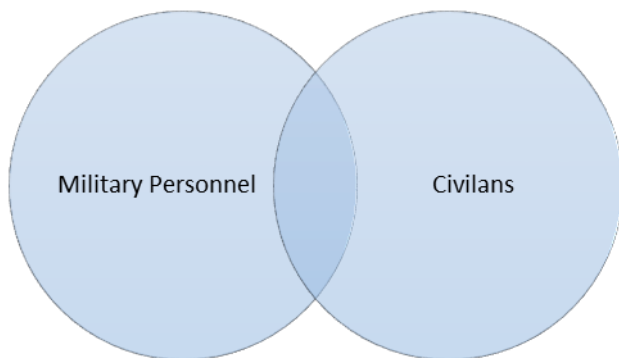


Figure2. The Model of Integration  
Source: Author

Integration represents a harmonization of a unique group dynamic that develops individuals who are adaptable for the unity. Above figure indicates that the integrity of military personnel and civilians is an intensified motivator to share their own cultures. Safeguarding civilians from physical threats by the military shows the interdependent accountability of both cultures. The general developments in Organizations are inducing the changes for a uniformed organizational culture. (Soeters, Winslow & A. Weibull, 2002). The extension of KDU for civil students is a great clout to understand the cultural experiences among military and civilians. Civil students are also offered a remarkable place to continue their studies and develop their potential within a military environment. In current post conflict scenario these arrangements are needed to ward off cultural constellations which lead to conceptual fragmentations.

#### F. National Security Organizations as a Brain

Brain perspective interprets that adequate education is a significant driver to locate new innovations and research capabilities in related fields. The tendency of knowledge in multifarious fields is a part of the security and defence policies. Morris Janowitz (1960) observed that the changes in technology, society and missions have unavoidably led to greater roles of professional soldiers. Within this consideration the mission of KDU is “to

ensure a high quality, learner-centred educational experience through undergraduate, graduate and professional programmes along with high quality research across many disciplines in the field of defence in both residential and non-residential settings in the campus.”<<http://www.kdu.ac/aboutus/organization/vision-and-mission>>KDU also offers a unique learning experiences to officers in Sri Lanka Navy, Air force, police and Batalanda Staff College. Other than that a bio chemical research facility named “Centre for Animal Research and Education” (KDU CARE) was founded in the KDU premises to unite research capacities. The education gained by the students is generated under departments of Defence and Strategic Studies, Medicine, English, Law, Social Sciences and Humanities, Allied Health, Graduate Studies and Built environment and spatial sciences.

### III. CONCLUSION

In the conclusion it can be seen that above conceptual application proposed by me in this paper is based upon the relevant theories and the concepts of national security. The paper suggests that KDU is mostly influenced by the three perspectives of national security organizations. All facts and figures discussed in the paper have allowed to arrive at the conclusion that KDU is a National Security Organization which employs its potentials to execute the concept of national security within the country. Mostly National Security Organizations are directed for the unification of a country and as a National Security Organization KDU has organized its governance around the bond of Military Personnel and Civilians. Significantly the mutual understanding between both two parties in KDU provides an opportunity to build a trust among them through the utility of defence related education. The defensive aptitudes and attitudes of military and civilians are seminal factors for the massive developments which have been accessed by the KDU. The final outcome of this multidimensional perspective is the emergence of national security framework that transcends existing traditional security mechanisms. As a recommendation I would like to mention that the more collaboration with international security organizations in different countries will also provide a flourished enlargement for the KDU to address security issues in the region and globe with its positive contribution of resources.

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