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ABSTRACT

Advancement of the technology is continually shrinking the world yet made it more complicated. Social Media has been able to turn a new page of the technological era by providing it's users a more sophisticated and effective means of communication. Communication is a fact ever since the man kind was created, and it is a fact that played an unreplaceable role in the evolving history of mankind. Present day spectrum of social media has become more widen. The impact of social media on people has reach up to an unimaginable level. Interpersonal relationships have been highly effected and depended inevitably on social media at present day. World has experienced many causes of conflict since the ancient history of mankind. Religious extremism has become one of the famous and sensitive causes of conflict in present day. Sri Lanka also has experienced several incidents and gone through such events which initiated and escalated to inter religious rivalry between mainly Buddhist and Muslims (Islam). Inter religious harmony has been threatened over last few years due to negative incidents took placed within the country. Present trend and the behavior of the social media suggested that there is a core relationship between religious extremism and social media. It was apparent that religious extremism is being influenced by social media over the last few year. Identical behaviors of some sects of youth and virtual groups in the cyber domain has undoubtedly posed threat indications to the national security. Researcher's intention was to conduct a social survey and in depth study to identify the impact of social media towards religious extremism and to analyze it's impact on the national security of Sri Lanka.