



THE EFFECTS OF TERRORISM ON THE POLITICS OF PAKISTAN, A POST 9/11 SCENARIOS

Nazir Ahmed Siyal¹, Ariz Muhammad Brohi²

1. PhD Scholar, Department of Political Science, University of Sindh Jamshoro, siyalnazir@gmail.com
2. PhD Scholar, IMCS, University of Sindh Jamshoro.

ABSTRACT

Humans are no longer safe anywhere on the planet due to rising levels of violence and Terrorism. Terrorists are usually motivated by one of four forces: socialism, religious intolerance, nationalism, or exclusionism. This paper intends to investigate the definitions of violence and Terrorism and their impact on Pakistani politics, particularly in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks in the United States. Terrorism and religious fanaticism have developed as strange phenomena that have posed a huge threat to the world since the Cold War. Terrorism had infiltrated every nook and cranny of human safety. On September 11, 2001, the events ushered in a sea change in global politics. The United States has spearheaded the fight against Terrorism, and it has had negative consequences for world politics in general and Muslim states in particular. Its causes and effects on the social, political, economic, and ethnic levels and states' involvement in acts of violence and Terrorism to accomplish their intended outcomes in a specific region will be discussed. In recent years, the world has seen an increase in violence and terrorist acts; however, Pakistan has improved its position on the peace front and seen a decrease in these acts as a result

Publisher's Note: Benazir Bhutto Shaheed University Lyari – Karachi or Editorial Board of 'BRJHSS' Research Journal does not accept responsibility for the statement, contents, opinions expressed, or conclusion drawn by the contributors to the 'BRJHSS'.



Copyright: © 2022 by the authors. Submitted for possible open access publication under the terms & conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license. (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

of its work on a politically and militarily combined action plan known as the National Action Plan in the aftermath of the Army Public School incident on December 16, 2014.

Keywords: Violence, Terrorism, Economic, Pakistan, National Action Plan

1. INTRODUCTION

Terrorism is a multi-faceted issue having ramifications for society and humanity as a whole. Through time, it has evolved into a free-for-all that transcends geography, religion, and race. Researchers, politicians, peacekeepers, and philosophers worldwide attempted but failed to produce an internationally accepted definition of terrorism and violence. The rationale for this is that "one man's terrorist is another man's freedom warrior," as shown by the Palestinian and Kashmiri combatants, who are freedom fighters in Muslim nations but terrorists in Israel and India. Terrorism and religious extremism arose as a distinct phenomenon following the Cold War, posing a massive global threat. Terrorism has infiltrated every aspect of human safety. The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, ushered in a sea change in world politics. The fight waged by the United States to combat terrorism has had negative consequences for international politics in general and Muslim countries in particular. According to the Worldwide Terrorism Index 2015, the global economic cost of terrorism has increased dramatically since the beginning of the war on terror in 2001. Terrorism was expected to have a total economic effect of 105.8 billion dollars in 2014, with the worldwide economic cost of terrorism reaching 52.9 billion dollars, a tenfold rise since 2000. (From the 2015 Global Terrorism Index)

Terrorist groups and the governments that support them are now engaged on several fronts, and terrorism is emerging as the new irregular warfare tactic of the twenty-first century. (Tacke-2017). The drug mafia, terrorists, left-wing criminals, various segments of society, and radical forces from all over the globe are forming a nexus, and nations' participation in working out regional or

worldwide agendas has added to the difficulty. (2018-khan) Until the twentieth century, violence and terrorism were only considered and associated with physical acts such as bombings, killings, property destruction, and kidnappings, but today the greatest threat to the world is cyberterrorism, which targets key government offices officials business-related activities. While cyberterrorism cannot be as fatal as physical acts, its impact is much broader and can be more destructive in nature. -2017 (Tacke) Terrorism dynamics have evolved dramatically after 9/11, and the scope of counter-terrorism and terrorist efforts has expanded dramatically.

2. Definition of Terrorism and violence

Terrorism is an act upon which mutually agreed with definition. The world is still not united because every social scientist and state sees it through its lens of understanding and use it to their benefit, however an endure is done to present few definitions to understand the Terrorism and acts of violence attached to it.

2.1 UNO Security Council Definition of Terrorism

As per security council resolution Terrorism is defined as “criminal acts, including against civilians, committed with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury, or taking of hostages, with the purpose to provoke a state of terror in the general public or in a group of persons or particular persons, intimidate a population or compel a Government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act”. (Security council Resolution -2004)

2.2 U.S Code of Federal Regulations Definition of Terrorism

The U.S. Code of **Federal Regulations** defines **Terrorism** as "the unlawful use of force and violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a **government**, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives" (28 C.F.R. Section 0.85).

2.3 U.S Department of Defence Definition of Terrorism

The Department of Defence defines it as:

"the unlawful use of violence or threat of violence to install fear and coerce governments or societies. Terrorism is often motivated by religious, political, or other ideological beliefs and committed in the pursuit of goals that are usually political." (Joint Pub 3-07.2-2010)

2.4 Definition of Terrorism as per Social Scientists

As per **Bruce Hoffman**:

"terrorism is a pejorative term. It is a word with intrinsically negative connotations that is generally applied to one's enemies and opponents, or to those with whom one disagrees and would otherwise prefer to ignore. (...) Hence the decision to call someone or label some organization 'terrorist' becomes almost unavoidably subjective, depending largely on whether one sympathizes with or opposes the person/group/cause concerned. If one identifies with the victim of the violence, for example, then the act is Terrorism. If, however, one identifies with the perpetrator, the violent act is regarded in a more sympathetic, if not positive (or, at the worst, an ambivalent) light; and it is not Terrorism." (Hoffman-1998).

Carsten Bockstette at the George C. Marshall European Centre for Security Studies, underlines the tactical aspects and psychological of Terrorism as :

"Terrorism is defined as political violence in an asymmetrical conflict that is designed to induce terror and psychic fear (sometimes indiscriminate) through the violent victimization and destruction of non combatant targets (sometimes iconic symbols). Such acts are meant to send a message from an illicit clandestine organization. The purpose of Terrorism is to exploit the media in order to achieve maximum attainable publicity as an amplifying force multiplier in order to influence the targeted audience(s) in order to reach short- and midterm political goals and/or desired long-term end states". (Bockstette -2008)

2.5 Definition of Terrorism as Pakistan Supreme Court

The Pakistan has remained victim the terrorist activities and is still fighting against the Terrorism and terrorist organization. The Supreme Court of Pakistan in a recent decision has given the definition of Terrorism as:

“The use or threat is made for the purpose of advancing a religious, sectarian or ethnic cause or intimidating and terrorizing the public, social sectors, media persons, business community or attacking the civilians, including damaging property by ransacking, looting, arson, or by any other means, government officials, installations, security forces or law enforcement agencies” (Supreme Court-2019)

3. Causes of Violence and Terrorism

Terrorist undertake an impossible mission to change the political balance through terrorist activity, therefore it is necessary to identify the root causes of violence and Terrorism to address the evil. Terrorism is one basic cause which reduce the government stability (Gassebner et al- 2008). To know the causes, we must know the intended short-term goals of Terrorism that are publicity and media attention, Political destabilizing and to damage economy (Tavares 2004) along long term goals i.e the share-out the power, wealth and control (Frey and Luechinger -2004). Keeping in view the goals in mind the cause of Terrorism can be identified as economic deprivation, Socio-economic force, political disorder demographic, cultural clash globalization and radicalization.

4. U.S war against Terrorism

The U.S post-cold war Iraq ended with the attack on world trade center on September 11, 2001. The event of 9/11 attacks in which almost 3000 peoples were killed from various countries, since then the U.S has taken a leading role to counter the terrorism threat all over the world. This stated with launching “Operation Enduring Freedom” on October 7 2001 and Taliban government ended on December 9 2001. This was the time when Bush administration made the war on terroir as

central principal of U.S foreign and defence policy. The U.S made international coalition to fight against the Terrorism. (Brooking. edu). Iraq was the second country where U.S started its campaign against Terrorism followed by Syrian operation and covert operation at Yemen. The America has paid \$6.4 trillion on costs related to and caused by post-9/11 wars and conflicts according to Watson Institute of International and Public Affairs at Brown University. (knutson-2019) and the war on terror is still in process.

5. Terrorism and Impact on Pakistan

Terrorism roots can be traced back to 1979 in Pakistan when the Afghanistan was invaded by soviet troops. (Nation-April 2016) Terrorism in Pakistan started when the soviet troops left the Afghanistan. The U.S also left the Afghanistan to mujahideen who were trained by Pakistan Army with the assistance of CIA and U.S government technical and monetary support along Saudi Arabia and war lords. This followed the civil war in Afghanistan and followed by Taliban government followed by the 9/11 incident. The current wave of Terrorism is believed to be started at 2000 and was at peaked in 2019 with the mortality of 11094 persons including civilians and security forces personnel as per report of South Asian Terrorism Portal Index (SATAP) (SATAP-2019). Pakistan has fought this war against Terrorism for almost two decades with the total loss of \$126.79 billion due to war on terror since 2001 to its economy (Dawn-November 2018) with more than 65000 people killed.(Nation-November 2018). Today Pakistan is standing on firm footings against the Terrorism and curtailed the terrorist activities almost 89 percent against the 2009 because of effective military operation, willingness of Government to remain stick to national action plan formulated in December 2014 after the Army Public School incident. The brave people of Pakistan remain committed with the army and government against the terrorists and terrorist's organizations which are backed by international and regional players. Summary of the fatalities in Pakistan

(SATAP-2019) is given in Figure 1.

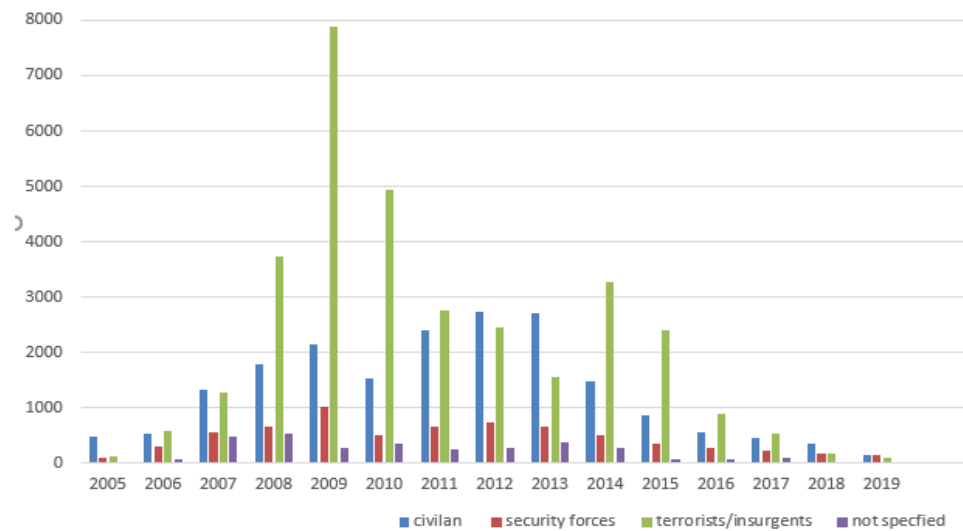


Figure 1. Fatalities from December 31,2005 till December 5,2019

The Afghan war with the revival of Jihad during 80's and later on the U.S war against terror at Afghanistan left its deep impact on the politics and society of Pakistan in shape of extremism, increased radicalization and anti-sentiments again U.S and West World .However Pakistani government has taken concrete steps towards right direction by introducing change in jihadi syllabus at educational institution and also working on madrassah reforms to reduce the effects of radicalization and Terrorism and the change is very much visible in Figure 1 and she is today the leading country of world who have controlled the Terrorism and showed remarkable increase in achieving peace.

6. Conclusion

Terrorism and terrorist organizations has become a global challenge for law enforcement agencies internationally and despite numerous counter actions and strategies continue to thrive. The super power and economically sound countries should and must help out the world countries to fight against the causes of the Terrorism and violence. Many factors contribute to Terrorism and directly linked it to the political extremism. Its impact can be directly seen on the social, ethnic and

religious aspects of common man. This make the common man a pressure tool against the governments and led the countries to political and economic disorder and destabilization through which the terrorists achieve their aim.

REFERENCES

- Bockstette, Carsten (2008). "Jihadist Terrorist Use of Strategic Communication Management Techniques" (PDF)*
- Frey, B. S., & Luechinger, S. (2004). Decentralization as a disincentive for terror. *European Journal of Political Economy*, 20, 509–515
- Gassebner, M., Jong-A-Pin, R., & Mierau, J. O. (2008). Terrorism and electoral accountability: one strike, you're out! *Economic Letters*, 100, 126–129
- Global Terror Index 2005 retrieved from <https://www.businessinsider.com/terrorism-cost-the-world-529-billion-in-2014-2015-11>
- Hoffman Bruce (1998), p. 23, *The New York Times of Inside Terrorism*
- <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/nasty-brutish-and-long-americas-war-on-terrorism/>
- https://www.supremecourt.gov.pk/downloads_judgements/crl.a._95_2019.pdf
- Joint Pub 3-07.2, (November 24, 2010) *Antiterrorism*, The U.S Department of Defence
- Khan Ahmed Yar Humayan M. Phil thesis on "Terrorist Financing-A Global Menace and its Curtailment at Macro and Macro Levels of State and Society with Special Emphasis on Pakistan"-National Defence University (2016-2018)
- Knuston Jacob- 2019 <https://www.axios.com/american-taxpayers-6point5-trillion-post-911-conflicts-c0773ea0-32f2-4f57-8fa1-3df57a94d9d7.html> dated November 20.
- SATAP-2019 retrieved back on December 8-2019 <https://www.satp.org/datasheet-terrorist-attack/fatalities/pakistan>
- Security council resolution number 1566 (4004) retrieved from https://books.google.com.pk/books?id=_GV2DwAAQBAJ&pg=PA159&dq=Security+Counc

il+resolution+no+1566+(2004)&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjKqLzxnaTmAhUQqxoKHdb
3DHEQ6AEIJjAA#v=onepage&q=Security%20Council%20resolution%20no%201566%20(
2004)&f=false

Tacke Andreas Dr-March 2017 www.hannover-re.com

Tavares, J. (2004). The open society assesses its enemies: shocks, disasters and terrorist attacks.
Journal of Monetary Economics, 51, 1039–1070

The Nation. April 20 2016 "Terrorism in Pakistan".

The Nation. November 20 2018 <https://nation.com.pk/09-Nov-2018/us-war-on-terror-killed-at-least-65-000-people-in-pakistan-study>

Thomson Mark, "U.S. Forces Get New Protection in Afghanistan", *Time Magazine*, October 28, 2009

U.S Code of Federal Regulation, 28 C.F.R. Section 0.85