RESEARCH PAPER

Terrorism a Gigantic Menace to World in 21st Century: The Academic and Conceptual Framework Analysis

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ABSTRACT

The evil of global terrorism has appeared as the most devastating development and a daunting threat to humanity and World peace. The qualitative and theoretical research approach emphasis that how modern terrorism has changed the mode and nature of security matrix and parameters of the states in the post 9/11 environment? How much the socio-economic and biological damage has been done in the developing and developed world? What are the major reasons and types of terrorism exist in the contemporary world politics? The paraphernalia of terrorism on political, social, economic and psychological fabrics of the states becomes utmost agenda of the terrorist groups in different parts of the world. The awful terrorist attacks have badly affected the countries like Afghanistan, Algeria, Burma, Bosnia, Britain, Cambodia, France, New Zealand, Somalia, Syria, Pakistan and the United States. How the innocent zealot youngsters are tempted by terrorist organizations to sponsor terrorism in different areas of the World. The study reveals invention of new modalities of global terrorism

Keywords:
Academic Emphatic, Paraphernalia, Repercussions, Terrorism, Typology

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Introduction

Terrorism has emerged as the highest concern and a constant threat to humanity, at the beginning of the 21st century. It is an ultimate evil and offers humanity, no options. Terrorism has become a gigantic issue for all the Nations of the World. It largely reshaped the nature and dimensions of the world politics. The giant of terrorism has engulfed the third world states particularly and even badly affected the developed and economically powerful countries. The sovereignty of the
state and freedom of its people has gone under the menace of terrorist activities all around the world. The phenomenon of terrorism became more relevant and a serious concern of the global politics and immediately after the terror strikes on the soil of the United States in September 2001. Since the incident of 9/11 the ongoing terrorist activities are very destructive, horrible and frightening. The transnational terrorist organizations have changed their operating style from a single center target to multiple violent acts to gain more attention and produce a maximum human and materialistic destruction. The major objective of the terrorists is to create a horrible scenario all around in the mind of the masses and the governments. The terrorists are used to adopt more devastating, destructive and lethal weapons like biological and chemical ammunition to acquire their nefarious purposes. There is great fear of the use of nuclear weapons to be used by the terrorists as a possible assumption. William D. Hartung and Frida Berrigan opined “Even if the probabilities of terrorists getting control of the nuclear weapons are low, the consequences of their acquiring these weapons could be catastrophic costing tens or hundreds of thousands of lives and rendering large parts of major cities or other targeted areas uninhabitable for years to come” (Hartung, & Berrigan, 2007, p. 94). Different international security analysts are of the view that all the states are directly under the threat of terrorist networks and Pakistan is very much exposed to such danger due to Al-Qaeda’s being active and having a trained network that has motivated suicidal terrorists through religiously inspiration and militancy training. Nearly 70,000 civilian and military personnel have been killed by the ravaging terrorist attacks on military check posts, police training centers, airports, hospitals, hotels, public and prayer places in Pakistan since September 2001. Therefore, the terrorists aim to obtain more and serious attention through increasing lethality of their action as a viable strategy to attract the media and decision makers of different states. The trauma of world trade center has changed the American security strategy and shifted the strategic environment of global politics.

Understanding the Definitional Dynamics

Terrorism is a situation of horror and threat or an act of violence used against the noncombatants to acquire different, social, psychological, and economic and ideology-oriented goals to ventilate certain determined and specific grievances. Terrorism is the use of illegal force and violent victimization and brutal destruction of the innocent targets. It is a multifaceted phenomenon that can be understood through macro-sociological, psychological and psycho-social approaches. The word terrorism has been originated from the ‘de la terreur’ during the reign of terror 1793-94 in France (Shahwar, 2005) (Niaz, 2011). The concept and definition of terrorism acquired a definite and exemplary status in International Relations during the latter part of the 20th century (Vickramasinghe, 2006). Modern terrorism involves activities such as assassinations, bombings, random killings and hijackings for political, economic and ideological purposes typically by groups of an organized network of the dissidents. The purpose of terrorism is to exploit the media in order to achieve maximum publicity, to acquire short and long term objectives. Terrorism creates
extreme fear through the acts of violence against armed and unarmed individuals. It is the manifestation of violent behavior by some rebels, dissidents, individuals, cluster or any state sponsored elements. Usually the acts of terrorism aim to create the situation of horror, uncertainty and vulnerability in a fixed population to dismantle and nurture the peace, prosperity and decision making mechanism. No adequate definition comes yet for the word terrorism (Khan, 2006). Terrorism itself possesses a variable and multiplicity nature; primarily it is the use of brutal anguish aggression and hostility, an increasing mindset. Terrorism is a paramount strategic device of different terrorist organizations in the 21st century. Terrorism has been converted from an evil to a devastating act and leading warfare strategy in the contemporary international socio-political environment.

The Controversial Connotation

The definition of terrorism has proved controversial as legal systems and government agencies have used different definitions of terrorism in their respective legislative procedures. Therefore, the diversity in the formulation of the term terrorism is politically and emotionally charged. Experts and other long established scholars in the field of international relations and politics are incapable of reaching any consensus in the context of defining terrorism. The divergences have made it difficult and complicated for the United Nations to conclude a comprehensive convention on international terrorism that incorporates a single, all encompassing, legal definition of terrorism. The international community has adopted a series of sectional conventions that has defined and criminalized different types of terrorist activities. These criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public by a person; particular group and an organization for political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or any other nature that may be invoked to justify them are conceded as the acts of terrorism (Peter, 2006). Therefore, terrorism has had a varied and dynamical worldwide conception. It is an emotionally charged word that is frequently used for political, social, economic and religiously motivated goals manifested by a particular person, group or organization. Terrorism is an indefinite, intangible and fluctuating phenomenon. Some forms of terrorism cannot easily be distinguished from war, crime and revolution. On the other hand, terrorism can be examined through apparent bomb blasting, target killing, suicidal attacks and spreading horror in the environment by specific persons or groups against the innocent people of a society.

Developing an Academic Empathetic

The experts of social and behavioral sciences are of the view that terrorism is “the premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against non-combatant targets by sub national groups or clandestine agents, usually intended to influence on audience”. It is a calculated use of violence and unlawful use of force. The United States policy on counter terrorism, the Central Investigation Agency (CIA), Federal Bureau of Intelligence (FBI) and National Security Council (NSC) have defined the act of terrorism in the following words, “Any kind of the use of violence, unlawful
force, small or massive weapons to kill the innocent individuals, disrupt peace and
to destruct materialistic order of a society for the purpose of spreading horror, terror
or sensation can be declared as an act of terrorism” (Hassan, 2006, p. 46). Terrorism
is deemed to be an attack on the targeted, determined and defined enemy under the
style of unconventional warfare to convey one’s message or to take revenge from a
particular government, group, department or a state. The demonstration of terrorist
acts is aimed to create instability, uncertainty, sensationalism and mounting of
pressure for the compliance of one’s motives and goals. Lutz and Lutz states,
“Terrorism involves political aims and motives. It is violent or threatens violence. It
is designed to generate fear in the target audience that extends beyond the
immediate victims of the violence. The violence is conducted by an identifiable
organization. The violence involves non-state actors as the perpetrator, the victim of
violence or both. Finally, acts of violence are designed to create power in a situation
in which power previously had been lacking”. (Lutz, 2008, p. 9)Bjorgo, has
explained, “Terrorism is a set of methods or strategies of combat rather than an
identifiable ideology or movement, and that terrorism involves premeditated use of
violence against non-combatants in order to achieve a psychological effect of fear of
others than the immediate victims” (Bjorgo, 2005, p. 2).Hoffman, (2006) describes,
“Terrorism is fundamentally and inherently political. It is also ineluctably about
power: the pursuit of power, the acquisition of power and the use of power to
achieve political change. Terrorism is thus violence or equally important the threat of
violence used and directed in pursuit of, or in the service of, a political aim”
(Hoffman, 2006, p. 2).The connotation of terrorism can be defined as a strategy based
on a certain ideology having specific objectives. The dissidents adopt various
methodologies and war tactics in order to acquire their desired and defined goals
without keeping in mind the drastic impacts on society and the common people. The
nature of the interests of terrorists might be political, social, economic, ethnical, racial
or religious. These terrorist groups exist where power vacuum is created by the
society and its system.

Evolution & the Structural Differentiations

The manifestation of terrorist acts has been observed and exercised throughout the history of mankind. The concept of terrorism is as old as human
civilization. During the Greek period the ancient Greek historian Xenophon wrote a
book on terrorism titled, “Effectiveness of Psychological Warfare against Enemy
Population”. Afterward, the Roman Emperor Tiberius and Caligula used
banishment, exploitation of the property and execution of men to discourage
opposition (Hassan, 2006). The evolutionary illustrations of terrorist activities can be
taken from the scripts of biblical times when the Romans were well known to grow
up and generate the acts of terror (Ruby, 2002). The Spanish also used arbitrary
arrest, torture and accusation to punish the enemies. The terror acts were also used
before and during the French revolution in France by Robespierre. That period was
also known as the ‘reign of terror 1793-94’. Schmid (2011) mentions the genesis of
terrorism in perspective of the political philosophers. Jean Bodin, Hobbes, Rousseau
and Machiavelli have described some types of aggressive behavior, fear and monopoly of the rulers in their intellectual contributions. Jean Bodin is considered as the first political thinker who used the term terror in French. After the American civil war of 1861-65, the definite southern founded different terrorist organizations called Klux, Klan whereas in the second half of the 19th century terrorism was adopted by the anarchists in Western Europe, Russia and the United States. They believed that the best way to bring about revolutionary political and social change was through the assassination of the people in possession of power. Therefore, a number of presidents, kings, prime ministers and other government officials were killed by guns and bombs of anarchists during the period of 1865 to 1905 (Guelke, 2010). The murder of Arch-Duke-Franz in June 1914 in Sarajevo was a leading example of targeted terrorism (Kenneth, 1993). Similarly, during the regimes of Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy and Stalinist Russia, several terrorist incidents occurred. The states of South America, Africa and Asia were also shaken frequently by the terrorist activities. The phenomenon of terrorism continued after World War II in different countries of the Middle East, Asia, Africa, America and Europe (Eitzen&Takafuji, 1997).

The demonstration of the acts of terrorism can be highlighted and evaluated as the offshoots of World War I and II. The world politics was divided into the bipolar system led by the United States and Soviet Union (former) into Capitalist and Communist ideologies respectively. Different sort of weapons, i.e. biological were used by the Chinese as a backfire lesson for the future terrorists (Williams, & Wallace, 1989). Nationalism was an impetus against the colonial powers. The freedom movements against the imperialists and right of self-determination gave innovation and momentum to the rise of terrorism in the later part of the 20th century. The political ideologies of super powers tried to subjugate weaker states. Consequently, ethnic strafes emerged among nations and the activities of terrorism took different forms like that of hijacking of planes, bombing in markets, public places, educational institutions, passenger buses, airports, hospitals etc. Palestine, Israel, Syria, Philippines, Jordan, Munich, Mumbai, London, Lahore, Athens, Islamabad, Cairo, Uganda, India, New York, Kabul, Karachi, Nairobi and Kenya are the important cities of the world, victimized and partially destroyed by the terrorists (Ronald, 2009 & Muzaffar et. al, 2017).

The Root Causes of Terrorism

The experts of defense affairs, criminology, social and behavioral sciences have identified different causes of terrorism. The demographic, socioeconomic, political, religious factors are the key points that have led to the spread of terrorism all around the world. A high population growth rate, unemployment, economic crisis, political instability, social deprivation, religious conflict, ethnic diversity, extremism, territorial conflicts, misuse of power, lack of tolerance, diplomatic deficiency, social anarchy and psychological disorder can be counted as the major causes of terrorism in different parts of the world. These motives of global terrorism
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are perceived and generalized by researchers throughout the world. Most of the acts of terrorism take place due to the controversy of supply and demand related to the interests of one another. Thus, the diversity of thinking, planning and action turns into events of violence that gave birth to all kinds of terrorism, disturbing world peace. Although terrorism is not a new social evil on the part of global society, but during the modern ages, it has become a direct threat to peace and security of the whole world. It damages human lives, property and other materialistic assert i.e. socioeconomic development, living standard of a society and national developmental projects. The countries like Afghanistan, Burma, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Bosnia, Cambodia, Somalia, Algeria, Pakistan, India, Britain and the United States have been suffering from the devastating demonstration of terrorist activities (Anneli, 2006). Most of the youngsters are being brain washed by specific groups, organizations, networks and a mafia sponsoring terrorism in different areas of the world. These terrorism sponsoring agents target different offices, public places, shopping centers, business markets, railway stations and airports, religious and political leaders horrifying the common man destabilizing the governments. After the incident of September 11, 2001, the tilt of terrorist activities has fractured not only the developing countries but has also afflicted the powerful states of the world. An enormous number of suicidal attacks, bomb blasts, target killing, murdering and gorilla-warfare are the major tactics being used by the terrorists now days in both developing and developed states. The US invasion of Afghanistan and the subsequent movement of al-Qaeda and Afghan Taliban militants into Pakistan’s border regions marked the area as the “epicenter of international terrorism” (Yusuf, 2014, p. 1). There is the issue of diversity of culture, customs, traditions and languages in Pakistan. These varied cultures, associated with different ideologies are causing parochial and ethnic sentiments among the people. Some major reasons believed to be responsible for injecting terrorism in Pakistan are sectarian and religious violence, rivalry and conflict among political lords, clash of economic and fiscal interests, religious extremism, the jihadist culture, poverty and unemployment, base camps of al-Qaeda and Taliban networks, anti-American sentiments and foreign interruption of India and Israel.

Typology of Terrorism

The phenomenon of terrorism has existed in various forms and has increased with the passage of time. The dynamical political environment identifies the nature and type of terrorism. The changing trends and new advancements in the field of science and technology have led to new discoveries, which on one hand are beneficial for human kind and on the other hand have been employed to destroy world peace and cause catastrophic situations. Terrorism is not of any one kind. There are various types of terrorism, overlapping each other under different circumstances. Martin (2011) has mentioned the environmental types of terrorism. Other types of terrorism as viewed by experts include transnational terrorism, state terrorism, ethno terrorism, nationalist, religious, state sponsored terrorism. The phenomenon of terrorism leaves direct or indirect implications on states. Terrorist
attacks intensely affect many individuals and institutions. There was a drop in financial markets, consumer spending declined, air travel plummeted and public opinion towards the governments of the sovereign states also shifted. These responses are a reflection of intense thought and emotions

**Nationalist Terrorism**

Nationalist terrorists seek to form a separate state for their own national group. Violence is projected and promoted by a party or group for the foundation of a new state for its own populace. This fighting group belongs to small proportion and a faction known as the national terrorism. The nationalists pretend to struggle and strive for a national liberation through fight and desire to win international sympathy and concessions. These nationalist terrorist groups tend to use enough violence to rivet concentration towards their demands from the supporters abroad and members of their base community. The Irish Republic Army (IRA), Ireland, Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), Palestine, Basque Fatherland and Liberty (BFL), Spain, Kurdistan Workers Party (KWP), Turkey, Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), India and National Liberation Front (NLF), Algeria are some important examples of nationalist terrorist groups (Ross, & Gurr, 1989).

**State Terrorism**

The term state terrorism is used for the nations whose rule is based upon fear and oppression. If a threat or suppression comes from and against its own people or against the inhabitants of another state directly or indirectly for building of its own hegemony, control or influence, then it is known as the state terrorism. It can also be called as establishment terrorism. The intention of state terrorism is to coerce and horrify the people for the compliance of strict rules and forceful allegiance inflicted by the state. It can be done in the form of coercive punishments imposed by state authorities. The state sponsored terrorism actually infers a state’s practice or backing of terrorism. The term state terrorism is commonly referred to any state involved in committing international terrorism, supporting and sympathizing with terrorist activities and groups. State sponsored terrorism involves governments funding to the terrorist groups, provision of their shelter and protection. These terrorists become party in aggressive attacks and general suppression of the masses. Holocaust in Germany and the reign of terror in France, during the French revolution are examples of state sponsored terrorism (Bjorgo, T., 2005) (Rogers, 2012).

**Religious Terrorism**

Religious terrorism is motivated and inspired by religious factors and religious ideologies engendering feelings of attachment to a specific group to an extent that followers become ready to serve their lives for its cause. The religious terrorists seek to use violence to further what they see as divinely commanded purposes often targeting broad categories of foes. Suicide attack is a most common manifestation of religious terrorism (Stepanova, 2009). Religious terrorism cannot be
restricted to a specific religion e.g. Islam (Sharma, 2005). The religious terrorists use religious scriptures and writings to justify their actions and seek amateurs for their cause. The leadership is present in the form of cleric who is giving the message of God. According to Bruce (1995) of the Rand think tank, nearly half of the 56 known active international terrorist groups were religiously motivated (Bruce, 1995) (Maqbool, 2006). Al-Qaeda, Hamas and Hezbollah are some important examples of religious terrorist groups.

Anarchist Terrorism

Anarchists regard themselves as “purest” of terrorists, as their “politics is outside from all the customs”. They live for their fundamental pledge to triumph in the demolition or state’s authority and dream for utter and absolute freedom. The very kind of terrorism had been manifested through different forms of killing the people in the United States and Europe during the period of 1870 to 1920. The anarchists preached and promoted action and propaganda related to the occurrence of terrorist incidents as a number of attacks were carried out against the prominent individuals like Henry Clay Frick was killed by Alexander Berkman in 1892 reported by the leading newspapers of the United States (Roger, 2012). The famous bombing of the Café Terminus in 1894 (Donghaile, 2010) and the execution of Francesco Ferrer in 1909 are the other examples of the anarchist violence and terror in the later part of 19th and early 20th century (Antliff, 1994).

Global Terrorism

Wilkinson has categorized the nature of terrorism as international because domestic terrorism is hard to identify. The core reasons and motivations of terrorist acts are political, economic and social which spills over from state boundaries. The incident of terrorist attacks on the soil of United States on September 11, 2001 is considered as the benchmark in global terrorism. Global terrorism is an advanced and lethal form of terrorism as it is without boundaries targeting international peace and stability. The exponents and actors of global terrorism are working from different parts of the world and connected with a large circuit for a common cause, using the latest advanced equipment. The activists of global terrorism employ savage methods, attack haphazardly, leaving thousands of people dead. The most important agenda and objective of global terrorists is to intimidate governments by demolishing important national symbols, places centers and offices like twin towers of World Trade Center, New York, the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia and Shanksville, Pennsylvania (Alexander, 2003). Global terrorism is highly organized, backed and funded by different criminal regimes. The fundamental purpose of international terrorists is to cause maximum damage and possible impact on the media and masses. The terrorist activities of al-Qaeda and Taliban are appropriate precedents of global terrorism.

Pure Terrorism
Pure terrorism is self-help by organized civilians who covertly inflict mass violence on other civilians. Max Weber defines it an ideal type, a specification of something in its purest sense (Weber, 1964). Pure terrorism includes foiled plans, attempts, and threats to inflict mass violence on civilians. Attempt by Arab Muslims in 1993 to blow up the World Trade Center in New York City, the plan by Arab Muslims to blow up 11 airplanes bound for the United States from Asia and the threat by Chechen Muslims to blow up a theatre in Moscow in 2002 are examples of self-help organized terrorism. Like many other forms of violence, pure terrorism is social control. It belongs to the same family as law, gossip, ostracism, ridicule and other processes that define and respond to deviant behavior. Pure terrorism is self-help for the handling of a grievance with aggression. It includes many homicides and assaults in everyday life (Black, 1998). Pure terrorism is a collective violence, a group project and resembles rioting, lynching and vigilantism (Senechal, 1997). Pure terrorism is more war-like than most collective violence including individual killings by organized groups. It is typically inter-ethnic and sometimes its international character is war-like, as well. Yet pure terrorism is not true war fare. It is a form of quasi-war fare (Huntington, 1996).

**Cyber Terrorism**

Cyber terrorism has been developed as a new type of terrorism. It is defined as, “the premeditated, politically motivated attack against information, computer systems, computer programs and data which results in violence against non-combatant targets by sub national groups or clandestine agents” (Srivastav, 2005). Cyber terrorism is serious threat just like bacteriological, chemical and nuclear weapons. Every state is vulnerable while dealing with cyber terrorism. It is a kind of terrorism without frontiers and a threat to information systems of all the societies all around the world. Computer hackers can log into advanced software systems and it is fairly easy for them to get into the groups. Computer hacking is not only a crime but a deliberate and malicious fraud. Cyber terrorism is just like any other kind of terrorism, aimed at interfering with the peaceful working of any society. It is a careful plan of action, requiring minimum amount of effort and is quite hard to follow-up. Cyber terrorism deals with the information which is highly delicate and is mostly of political and ideological nature. Its main objective is to sabotage the functioning of technologically developed states. The states like America can be capital target of cyber terrorists. The use of internet to terrorize rather than bomb blasts and guerrilla warfare is sometimes effective, as cyber terrorists can disable the communication network of a state. Why would a terrorist bother to throw a bomb on a city which might kill a few when he can paralyze a country by hitting on its information technology network, disabling the military equipment and cutting of power in a large area? The effects of cyber terrorism can cause a great damage and make the entire system of a state fail (Jalalzai, 2010).

**Paraphernalia of Terrorism on Statecraft**

**Psychological Disorder**
The unfamiliar enemy creates anger, fear, horror, sadness and uncertainty in the environment. The threat of terrorism creates sense of insecurity, uncertainty and mental anxiety through dislodging and disturbing the peace and prosperity of people. A field experiment in the United States, using nationally representative sample and multi method approach after the terrorist attacks of 9/11 found that fear and anger altered beliefs and attitude regarding matters of national interest. Experiencing more anger triggered more optimistic beliefs, experiencing more fear triggered more pessimism (Tiedens & Linton, 2001). The effects of terrorism hold a range of risks (terror and non-terror related) and with both a verbal and a more analytical probability response scale. The catastrophic incidents of terrorism have dashed and engulfed the hopes of the people of modern nation states. The gigantic evil of terrorism has brought down the morale and mental strength of a common man and toppled the means and living standards across the world. No matter what form of terrorism prevails, where it is happening or what organization is affiliated and backing up the incident, the purpose remains to seek wide scale fear, intimidation, dread and chaos. The terrorists focus on destroying the sense of safety and peace by creating an element of vulnerability, futility and dejection by destabilizing the social structure of a target state. Not just that, it also makes an ordinary citizen realize the inaptitude and helplessness of the authorities to provide them security. Terrorism affects the mental health of the nations, posing traumatic influence and imprints during and in the post incident scenario.

Political Effects

Terrorism has destabilized and deteriorated political system, behavior and culture of the nation states. The working of political parties, interest groups, leadership and institutions like a legislature, law enforcement entities, judiciary and bureaucracy is badly affected in the context of its performance. The process of political participation and its channels, i.e. voting behavior, election, public opinion and media are also victimized through the threats of terrorists. The states face a serious setback of foreign investment, trade and fiscal relations due to unfavorable conditions created by the terrorists. The occurrence of terrorist incidents affects the decision-making process and authorities. One inept decision can change the scenario from peace to turmoil and from public support to outward protest. Pakistan has been vigorously embattled by terrorism. Since 2001 multiple events of bomb blasts, target killings and horrible suicidal attacks have distorted the social and political environment of Pakistan. Terrorism has also affected Pakistan in the political sphere by challenging its leadership to cooperate with the United States. There are multiple political impacts that have questioned the legitimacy of the government resulting in failure of the democratic institutions. The sovereignty of Pakistan has been questioned due to overwhelming effects of terrorist activities. Even the working of Pakistan’s top military intelligence agencies has been severely criticized by the United States under the observation and speculation of the United States about ISI, that it had close links with the Taliban and which occasionally provided them information support. This misperception and speculation of the United States put a
question mark and an element of distrust between the both partners. The incidents of
terrorist attacks on the soil of the United States in September 2001, Madrid bombing
in March 2001, London bombing in July 2005, Mumbai attacks of November 2008
and several dreadful bomb blasts and horrible suicidal attacks on the soil of Pakistan
i.e. Benazir Bhutto’s assassination, Marriott hotel blast, Mehran Airbase and Salala
Check post attacks etc. have fractured the credibility of political regimes.

Economic Repercussions

Economic stability plays a key role as an indicator of development and
prosperity in a state. Contrary to a significant boost in economy the wave of
terrorism makes economic ill-luck, fragility and recession. The incident of 9/11 and
afterwards global terrorist activities have shaken the economic infrastructure of both
the developing and developed states. The United States, United Kingdom, France,
Germany, India, Pakistan, Iraq and Afghanistan have to face severe economic
implications of terrorism in the post 9/11 environment. Pakistan has been facing a
serious setback of economic issues like inflation, poverty, unemployment, the
foreign exchange deficit, burden of international debt and economic sanctions
imposed by the United States, World Bank and IMF. Pakistan was always reminded
that economic aid given to Pakistan was to be spent in its counter terrorism efforts
and not for export of nuclear technology or to pressurize India. On the other hand,
the tourist industry of Pakistan is being affected due
ongoing security operations
in the northern areas of Pakistan and Baluchistan to combat terrorism. Consequently,
the revenue generating sources have been curtailed whereas agriculture sector was
also affected as the main production unit of fruits, tobacco and vegetables. The
agriculture loss in Swat was around Rs.35 billion. Terrorism imprinted negative
impact on economic growth with an increased budget deficit, low investment,
unnecessary military expenditures, increased loans and effect on domestic markets
with descending exports and imports. The continuous wave of terrorism has
engulfed small- and large-scale industries of Pakistan. The economic survey of
Pakistan showed a continuous fall of agriculture’s share in gross domestic product
(GDP) after the incident of 9/11 shifted from 25.9% to 21.8%. The manufacturing
sector also suffered its lowest share rates of GDP(Hashmi, 2007). Thus, the post 9/11
scenario changed the economic status of Pakistan due to security threats. The trade
and investment cost increased, whereas tax collection declined. The foreign direct
investment of Pakistan has suffered and all the economic backwardness and crisis
has affected the common man, material and sources of the economy of Pakistan.

Social Impact

The menace of terrorism makes a serious setback and deviation on the social
infrastructure of the civil societies. It hurts not only the mind and body of the people,
but creates disturbance in daily life routine activities of the citizens. Occurrence
of terrorist activities destabilizes social customs and conventions, declines the living
standard and makes the people more conscious and pushes them on the back foot of
their daily life performance. Terrorist activities do cause social inferiority,
deprivation, disintegration and chaos. The social setup of different powerful states like America and Britain has been destabilized after terrorist attacks in September 2001 and July 2005 respectively. These incidents of terrorism cast negative imprints on the social order of the developed Nations. The wave of terrorism affected social sphere of Pakistan in the post 9/11 environment. It has cast a deep impact on the society in different perspectives. The law and order situation also became worst throughout Pakistan. Consequently, search and military operations were launched against the dissidents and militants that gave impetus to the policy of revenge, by elements of the religious extremist. The human, economic and social structure, including the situation of law and order has been seriously affected in the society of Pakistan during the years following the World Trade Center attacks (Ali, 2010, pp. 1-14). Pakistan faced serious problems with evacuation and rescue of the people from troubled and terrorism hit areas with a loss of over seventy thousand civil and military lives being the frontline state in the war on terror during 2001 onwards. Pakistan has to face an increase in unemployment, poverty, hunger, food shortage and shelter due to its role of frontline state while countering terrorism. The anti-American sentiments and animosity against the United States has increased in the society of Pakistan. The terrorist groups majorly TTP, al-Qaeda and Jundullah targeted Pakistan due to its pro-American policy of counter terrorism. Pakistan has sacrificed as many as 40,000 civil and military lives being the frontline state in WOT. The evil of terrorism has increased threat of violence all around the world. Racial discrimination, anti-Islamic crimes, anti-Americanism, communal and racial hater, violation of human rights and victimization of minorities in different parts of the world have been reported due to the fear of terrorism. Terrorist activities and incidents have also left a greater impact on education and services in different countries of the world. The psychological impact of terrorism on students, schools, colleges, universities and research centers has increased the feeling of risk and insecurity especially in Pakistan along with the sufferings of education and state administration institutions since its role as a frontline state in the War on Terror.

Conclusion

The menace of terrorism has become a serious concern and a constant danger to human beings throughout the world. The giant of terrorism has emerged as a multifaceted phenomenon that can be understood through the application of different psychological and psycho-social approaches. Although the definition of terrorism has proved controversial and different governments of the states have used different definitions of terrorism in their respective legislative procedures, divergence has made it difficult and complicated to define a legal and acceptable definition of terrorism. The practice of terrorist activities has been observed and exercised throughout the history of mankind. The terrorism phenomenon continued after the wake of World War II in different regions of the world, i.e. Asia, Africa, Middle East and Europe. The world politics were divided into the bipolar system under the capitalist and communist ideologies. The freedom movements against the imperialists and the rights of self-determination gave innovation and momentum to
the rise of terrorist activities during the 20th century. The clash of socio-political ideologies, cultural and geographical conflicts and certain other led to manipulate peace and stability in an international environment. The adepts of social and behavioral sciences have identified demographic, socio-economic, political and religious factors standing as responsible for regional and international terrorism. The experts of criminology, defense affairs and sociology have evaluated different major types of terrorism i.e. nationalist terrorism, state terrorism, anarchist terrorism, religious terrorism, cyber terrorism, communist terrorism, pure terrorism and global terrorism. Most of the sociologists and researchers of social science have argued that the phenomenon of terrorism leaves direct or indirect implications on the state and society. The occurrence of a terrorist attack intensely affects individuals and institutions, financial markets; it creates psychological disorder, economic repercussions, political instability and imprints negative social impact on different public and private institutions of the society.
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