Terrorism: An Obstacle in the Development of Pakistan

Akber Rafiq
Shanghai University
China

Abstract
Terrorism is a major issue now a day’s all over the world but Pakistan is the most effected country by terrorism. Specially it’s facing and sacrificing loss of lives including military and civilian after becoming the front line partner with United States against War on Terror. Terrorism almost affected all field of life especially economy and education of Pakistan. First as we know that bad economy is directly proportional to internal clashes. Terrorism creates uncertainty which decreases confident and due to which low investment, risk perceptions and slow economic growth and finally leads to poverty. This poverty push youngster to involve themselves in criminal cases and finally big criminal join their hands with terrorist and their life ends at suicide bombing. Secondly Terrorism is psychologically affecting people to do not send their children’s in schools and colleges. Level of education is being destroyed by terrorist attacks on educational institutions. Due to which young children cannot get specific education about terrorism and finally the terrorists easily approach to these new rising generations and involve them into their own group. They give them wrong education and then use them for their own purposes.

Different scholars wrote about the causes of terrorism, image of Pakistan against war on terrorism and other aspects of terrorism. In this researcher explain two basic aspects education and economy affected by terrorism. Research focus on the ways to overcome the most dangerous problem “Terrorism” which is effecting badly on the education and economic development of Pakistan. It tries to provide possible practical solutions for security challenges facing by Pakistan due to terrorism. So that a nation should be brought on development path in all aspects of life. This study aims to try to find out how terrorism is obstacle in the economic and educational development of Pakistan. This makes it to different from researches done by other scholars.

Key Words: Terrorism, Pakistan, Obstacles

Introduction and Historical Background

Terrorism is not a recent phenomenon. It is older than the ancient civilizations of Greece and Rome. Its early roots are found in acts of assassination, regicide, and tyrannicide. Early examples include the assassination of Julius Caesar in 44 B.C. The Zealots Sicarii, a Jewish sect, during the first century A.D., the Assassins or IsmailiNizaris during the 11th and 12th centuries, the thugs in India, 19th century European anarchists and social revolutionaries, the Ku Klux Klan in the United States. The term terrorism has neither a precise definition nor one which is widely acceptable. The term has changed its character and meaning time to time, which was best reflected in the famous statement “One man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter”. As a result, still we have not the any acceptable definition of terrorism. According to United Nations the terrorism is “any act intended to cause death or serious bodily harm to civilians or non-combatants with the purpose of intimidating a population or compelling a government or an international organization to do or abstain from doing any act”. The definition of terrorism used by the Global Terrorism Index is “the threatened or actual use of illegal force and violence by a non-state actor to attain a political, economic, religious or social goal through fear, coercion, or intimidation”.

2 MaleehaLodhi, 2006, 'Concepts lacking consensus to undermine WOT, in Global Terrorism: Genesis, Implications, Remedial and Countermeasures, PanGraphics Ltd, Islamabad, Pakistan, p. 571
3 United Nations Conference on Combating Terrorist Financing, Vienna, 9 November 2005
4 measuring and understanding the impact of terrorism Global Terrorism Index, Institute for Economics and Peace, November 2014
In 21st century the trends in terrorism are not static they are changing with the passage of time. We have new adversaries and new motivations, which has increased the capabilities and opportunities which lead towards the highest level of lethality, mass destruction and mass killing. Today the terrorist activities are not only confined in a single country, but may also cross national borders. Paul Wilkinson argued that Terrorism is a special form of political violence. It is not a philosophy or a political movement. Terrorism is a weapon or method which has been used throughout history by both states and sub-state organizations for a whole variety of political causes or purposes. This special form of political violence has five major characteristics. First, it is planned and aims to create a climate of extreme fear or terror. Secondly, it is directed at a wider audience or target than the immediate victims of the violence. Thirdly, it inherently involves attacks on random and symbolic targets, including civilians. Fourthly, the acts of violence committed are seen by the society in which they occur as extra-normal, in the literal sense that they breach the social norms, thus causing a sense of outrage. Fifthly, terrorism is generally used to try to influence political behavior in some way.5

At the mid of 20th century the terrorism became prominent in Asian region, specifically in Middle Eastern areas in the shape of hijacking, suicide bombing, attacks etc. Finally in 21st century this issue emerged as the highest concern at global level after the attacks in the United States on 11 November 2001. These attacks show that a small group can threaten the strongest military power and also pose challenge to the world order.

Islamic Republic of Pakistan consist of nearly 200 million population, having very important geography in world map, full of natural resources and 69 years of independence but still not respected in the world community. Since the independence Pakistan faced many domestic problems, after 30 years its one wing East Pakistan (Bangladesh) was separated and remaining part is still facing many challenges in the form of terrorism, poverty, energy crisis, political instability, border issues, corruption and economic issues and so on.

Pakistan is the most affected country by terrorism after Iraq. From 2001 to 2013 there were 13721 incidents costs 49000 lives including military men. In 2014 report published by Institute of economic and peace “Global terrorism index”, report ranked Pakistan on third number in terrorism. Terrorism almost affected all fields of life especially Education, and Economy. Bad economics is directly proportional to the internal conflict; due to terrorist attacks the country losses $102.51 billion.7 Terrorism also creates uncertainty which reduces confidence and increase risk perceptions, and finally it leads to the low rate of investment and economic growth. The level of education also destroyed in Pakistan due to terrorist attacks on educational institutions and students and the condition of tribal areas are worse than other parts of the country. As a result it is psychologically affecting the parents and they stopped their children’s to attend the school.

Terrorism is the biggest threat to Pakistan’s development and progress. Its roots can be traced back at the end of 1970s, when Pakistan alliance with United States against the former Soviet Union in Afghanistan but the problem become severe after 9/11 when Pakistan became frontline ally of United States against the “Global war on terrorism” and now in 2016, it’s become menace for Pakistan. According to the government agencies Pakistan has lost almost 49,000 lives since it became the part of “Global War on Terror”. For security reasons Pakistan military has been conducted many military operations which includes operation RAHI HAQI, II, and III (2007, 2008, 2009), Operation SHERDIL (2008-2009), Operation RAHEI NJAT and the operation ZARB E AZB which is going on. Due to these military operations civilians of these tribal areas suffered a lot. According to the Fata 5Paul Wilkinson, Edited by Prof. M.L. Sondhi, 2000, Terrorism and political violence, Har-Anand Publications India, 6Mudassir Raja, March 27, 2013, War on terror toll put at 49,000, http://tribune.com.pk/story/527016/pakistani-victims-war-on-terror-toll-put-at-49000/ ➢ Shah Faisal Afridi, December 21, 2014, Socio-economic impact of terrorism on Pakistan ➢ http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/business/21-Dec-2014/socio-economic-impact-of-terrorism-on-pakistan 7Mudassir Raja, 2013, Pakistani victims: War on terror toll put at 49,000 http://tribune.com.pk/story/527016/pakistani-victims-war-on-terror-toll-put-at-49000/ 8Samir Puri, Pakistan’s war on terrorism(strategies for combating jihadist armed group since 9/11), RutledgeTaylor and Francis group, London and New york, Page 90-101.
Disaster Management Authority (FDMA) the figure of displaced people due to operation ZARB E AZB reached on 0.8 million in 2015.\textsuperscript{10}Pakistan is facing different forms of terrorism sectarian, ethnic, separatist, religious extremism etc. in this research we will only focus on the solutions, strategies for combating this issue.

National security has been the basic and most paramount concern of nation state. Pakistan has been facing the challenge of national security. Many relative and related studies occurred on this issue which includes:

Major Threat to Pakistan’s National Security,\textsuperscript{11} Terrorism The biggest threat to Pakistan\textsuperscript{12}, National Counter Terrorism Authority Act, 2013\textsuperscript{13}, National Internal Security policy, presented in National Assembly, January 25, 2014\textsuperscript{14}, Global Terrorism Index Report\textsuperscript{15}, Miss Umbreen in her research paper she writes about the National security challenges to Pakistan. She described that traditionally the threats were external but today threat to national security involves internal factors and the most serious threat is terrorism. Pakistan faces multi forms of terrorism. Ethnic terrorism which led to the dismemberment of Pakistan in 1971, recently ethnicity emerged in Karachi where Urdu speaking community clashed with other ethnic communities on linguistics divide. Separatist terrorism is mainly witnessed in Baluchistan which involves around the issues of exploiting resources. Religious extremism and its lethal form sectarianism is also exists in Pakistan. She also discussed the post 9/11 scenario after which Jihadist terrorism was emerged.

Irshad Ali Sodhar, in his article he give an overview of Terrorism in Pakistan, according to him Pakistan is facing various forms of terrorism which includes sectarian-ethnic, nationalist-separatist, jihadist-Islamist. In the recommendations section he said that despite all issues Pakistan has the capacity to eradicate terrorism. All it requires is a comprehensive and coordinated strategy. Religious leaders, civil society, media, uniform system of education, peace in Afghanistan, can play vital role in eradicating terrorism and the most important the political leadership should have to come on one page.

National Counter Terrorism Authority Act, 2013, Interior minister said about policy, government had decided to thrash out of meaningful policy to get rid of this prevailing issue in country. He met with PM to discuss 33 page draft of national security policy 2013 prepared by National Counter Terrorism Authority. Further he said with the help of this policy we will dismantle the links of terrorism in all over Pakistan from the groups operating from outside of country. Another important advised was crackdown against hate literature that is causing extremism and violation in Pakistan.

National Internal Security policy, January 25, 2014, the first ever National Security Policy was formulated to protect the national interests of Pakistan. For the first time government recognized the real threats to the national security terrorism, extremism, sectarianism, and militancy. The five policy objectives were to extradite these security issues: To establish the writ of the State and protect the people from all internal threats, To protect the life, property and fundamental rights of the citizens of Pakistan, To promote pluralism, freedom, democracy and culture of tolerance, To prevent, deter and contain threats to internal security in a transparent, accountable and just manner, To peacefully resolve and manage disputes with hostile elements without compromising the rule of law.

In 2002 a research conducted by Brock Bloomberg and Gregory Hess\textsuperscript{16}, presents an economic model of terrorism, in which terrorist groups who are unhappy with the current situation in a country try to bring change by indulging in terrorist activities. Terrorist activities of such groups may have different results depending on the economic situation. Either they can reduce the economic activities

\textsuperscript{10}Zahir Shah Shirazi, July 8, 2013, North Waziristan IDPs figure reaches 800,000 \url{http://www.dawn.com/news/1117879}

\textsuperscript{11}Umbreen, Terrorism, 2014, Major Threat to Pakistan’s National Security, NDU Islamabad, Page 1

\textsuperscript{12}Irshad Ali Sodhar,June 1, 2013, The biggest threat to Pakistan, World Times


\textsuperscript{14}National Internal Security policy, presented in National Assembly, January 25, 2014

\textsuperscript{15}Institute for economic and peace, Global terrorism Index, Measuring And Understanding The Impact Of Terrorism, November 2014

by increasing terrorism, or if more economic incentives are present in the economy then terrorism is reduced for example, more employment opportunities can reduce the incentive to indulge in terrorist activities. Study is of the view that recessions in high income countries can result in higher probability of terrorist activities. The study is aimed at trying out to find answer of the question that How terrorism is an obstacle in the educational and economic development of Pakistan?

Research Analyses

Terrorism is a major issue now a day’s all over the world but Pakistan is the most affected country by terrorism. Specially it’s facing and sacrificing loss of lives including military and civilian after becoming the front line partner with United States against War on Terror. Terrorism almost affected all field of life especially economy and education of Pakistan. The study aims to try to find out how the terrorism became an obstacle in the economic and educational development of Pakistan and also try to provide possible practical solutions for security challenges facing by Pakistan due to terrorism. Terrorism is psychologically affecting people to do not send their children’s in schools and colleges. Level of education is being destroyed by terrorist attacks on educational institutions. Due to which young children cannot get specific education about terrorism and finally the terrorists easily approach to these new rising generations and involve them into their own group. They give them wrong education and then use them for their own purposes.

After each blast school and colleges remain closed which are effecting on educational setup? Terrorist attacked on Army Public School Peshawar on 16 December 2014 in which more than 150 students has been killed and dozens become injured. It may be easy to say that students had been killed but we practically see this incident, it was too shameful act of terrorists. They went each and every room of that school and students belonging to 12 to 20 years old including teachers were badly killed by terrorists. One side it was loss of sweet kids life but on other hand it was a struggle of terrorist to destroy the educational system of Pakistan. Students were gaining knowledge about their country, and how to defend it in time of trouble. All flowers were the future defenders of Pakistan but unfortunately they were killed by so called “Taliban’s”. After this incidents there was a kind of fear in country .Parents were unable to send their beloved in school and colleges. The school and colleges remained closed for one month because of security reason. The attack happened just a week after Malala Yousifzai got Nobel Prize. The one who struggled for education of females and targeted by Taliban’s in 2012 in Swat. On this event she stated

I am heartbroken by this senseless and cold-blooded act of terror in Peshawar that is unfolding before us. Innocent children in their school have no place in horror such as this.

"I condemn these atrocious and cowardly acts and stand united with the government and armed forces of Pakistan whose efforts so far to address this horrific event are commendable. I, along with millions of others around the world, mourn these children, my brothers and sisters - but we will never be defeated."

A lot of school was renamed in the names of Martyred kids. After this incident Mullah Fazlullah leader of Terrorist and master mind of Army Public school attack released a video message in which he threaten the students don’t go to schools and colleges because now colleges and schools of Pakistan are in there targets. In his video he claimed that if a student will join school or colleges for us that student is going to against our mission. These kinds of statements created terror in minds of people and students were not be able to go school until and unless the government did not gave surety of school and colleges security.

This attack was not newer one, before this another group also targeted student bus in Quetta on 18 Jun 2012 .This attacked killed 4 students and injured 72 students. Researcher was also a student of

Buitems at that time. The Shaheed Aqil Raza was one of the student was studying in our department and was killed in this incident. This attack was claimed by “Lashkar-i-Jhangvi” a terrorist group involved in sectarian killings. After this attack there was a fear, University remained closed for three days. This was actually a struggle to stop the growing educational system in Baluchistan, one of the backward provinces regarding education in Pakistan.

Another related to Baluchistan institutions attack happened in SBK Jun 16, 2013 just after one year of the previous incident and killed 14 students of Women University. The same group mentioned above in Baluchistan University of Information and Technology (Buitems) case accepted the responsibility of this attack. After this attack school and colleges were also closed for few weeks. Same a sad incident happened in Bacha Khan University in 20 Jan 2016 when gunmen killed 19 students and wounded more than 52 students.

These kinds of terrorist activities affected the development of economy of Pakistan. After blast trade men and other belonging to market system close their markets for few days because of fear in their minds. The economy of Pakistan is lagging down because of inhuman activities by terrorists. People don’t go to their jobs, shops remains closed and people face poverty at the end. First as we know that bad economy is directly proportional to internal clashes. Terrorism creates uncertainty which decreases confident and due to which low investment, risk perceptions and slow economic growth and finally leads to poverty. This poverty push youngster to involve themselves in criminal cases and finally big criminal join their hands with terrorist and their life. So got of Pakistan should know the success in one field will be success in other field.

Terrorist are attacking on each and every streets, markets, military bases and on so many places but attacking on educational institution is a new strategy of terrorist. Through this was the terrorist want to stop the huge arising educational development of Pakistan. Education is the backbone of a state, they are trying to destroy it through their illegal ways but salute to those brave student who don’t left their struggle for gaining a better education. These terrorist activities are an obstacle in the education development of Pakistan. These terrorist are actually not going against education system of Pakistan but they are going against the Islamic principles. As Islam says that gain education so that you can know yourself. The first message which God sent to Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) was that “Ikra” Arabic word which mean read. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) said that gain knowledge whether you have to go China. Terrorist are just going against Islam by imposing their ideology through forceful ways. Islamic scholars should take action against these terrorist groups and eliminate them from Islam. Education is right of every men and women and no one can forcefully take it. Islam mostly preaches about education. According to it gain knowledge from your birth till you die. So in Pakistan students are continuing their struggle for achieving education. Government of Pakistan should also take some numerous and serious steps regarding security of educational set up.

Conclusion

The study focuses on the ways to eradicate or to overcome this most dangerous problem terrorism. Because it is affecting Pakistan badly in all fields of life especially in education, economy, development and sovereignty. So that as a result our nation can be brought back to the road of progress in all fields of life.

Theory which can be applied on this topic is Constructive theory of international relations. The definition is “constructivism is the claim that significant aspects of international relations are historically and socially constructed, rather than inevitable consequences of human nature or other essential characteristics of world politics.” Constructivists looked at terrorism with equal vigor and analyzed different shades of interests and identities of state and non-state (terrorist) actors to understand the interaction between the two. Alexander Wendt (1992), one of the core social

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21 http://www.hazara.net/persecution/june182012_attack/june182012-attack.html
22 http://web.stanford.edu/group/mappingmilitants/cgi-bin/groups/view/215
24 http://www.aworldatschool.org/news/entry/Students-killed-as-gunmen-attack-Pakistan-university-2493
25 David Schild, 2011, Constructivism as a base for understanding terrorism, University of Johannesburg.
constructivism scholar “insists that International Relations, ‘is not a given, but constructed’. He emphasizes “the impact of ideas and identities, how they are created, how they evolve and shape the way states respond to a situation”. Further he added that “identities tell ‘who or what actors are’ and are 'not developed, sustained or transformed’ whereas interests refer to ‘what actors want”. He claims that “interactions shape identities”. Constructivists believe that terrorism is socially constructed and says that “terrorism is not a given in the real world, rather it is an interpretation of events and their presumed causes”.

The statement that “one person’s terrorist is another person’s freedom fighter” which reminds us that the definition of terrorism is based on how it is being constructed by an individual or state. Constructivism just reminds us that terrorism is a social fact, which requires human institutions for its existence. Considering terrorism as a social construction allows investigation into ‘unthinkable policies’ to counter it. The construction of terrorism as a ‘social threat’ and the extent of threat inflation by a social constructivist can be seen in the intensity of a counter terrorism policy.

Terrorism is the biggest threat to Pakistan’s development and progress. Its roots can be traced back at the end of 1970s, when Pakistan alliance with United States against the former Soviet Union in Afghanistan but the problem became severe after 9/11 when Pakistan become frontline ally of United States against the “Global war on terrorism” and now in 2015, it’s became menace for Pakistan. According to the government agencies Pakistan has lost almost 49,000 lives since it became the part of “Global War on Terror”. For security reasons Pakistan military has been conducted many military operations which includes operation RAHI HAQ I, II, and III (2007, 2008, 2009), Operation SHERDIL (2008-2009), Operation RAHE I NJAT and the operation ZARB E AZB which in going on. Due to these military operations civilians of these tribal areas suffered allot. According to the Fata Disaster Management Authority (FDMA) the figure of displaced people due to operation ZARB E AZB reached on 0.8 million in 2015. Pakistan is facing different forms of terrorism sectarian, ethnic, separatist, religious extremism etc. in this research we will only focus on the solutions, strategies for combating this issue.

In this research, researcher answered two basic questions that terrorism is an obstacle in the economic and educational development of Pakistan. Pakistan is an Islamic state so researcher given some solution in Islamic point of view that how to protect institution from terrorist attacks? This research further left some questions for new researcher that how teachers and students can play their role to protect educational institutions from terrorists and how international community can play their role to war against terror??

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