



International Terrorism: Causes and Concerns

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International Terrorism is a multifaceted, multi-vision, multidimensional that embodies so many dynamic features and characteristics that it has become very complex and difficult to limit in generalized words. "Defining a terrorist or terrorisms not easy when states indulge in terrorist acts they are labeled otherwise. However, if a universal law based on ethics and mortality is obeyed by all, there should be no reason for terrorism". Terrorism employs extreme physical violence to shock the targeted audience, but the psychological impact upon the people at large matters more to them than the physical attack on the victims. Terrorism appears to have increased markedly in the recent years. It poses serious challenge to democratic Societies by putting their liberal systems under stress and pressure. The freedom of action of common citizens is restricted under terrorist threat. This may result in militarization of certain countries and in the weakening of democratic processes in others.

The US state department defines terrorism as "premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against non-combatant targets by sub national groups or clandestine state agents, usually intended to influence an audience.

Actually, terrorism is a value laden most used, misused and misconstrued Concept. It is the deliberate creation and exploitation of fear for bringing about political change. Terrorism is adopted to completely undermine the confidence of the Government and the governed. It alternates to establish parallel government and imbibe a sense of insecurity amongst the people. Terrorism is mainly geared to cripple the psychology and the mental faculty of the people.

Terrorism emanates from over integration or less integration of individual with the society under certain motivating catalysts. Sociologically, it mainly originates from anomic state of nature, psychologically from narcissistic frame of mind and economically, from a relative deprivation.

However, terrorism has become a tool to achieve political goal through cross border assistance and state sponsorship since, the word Terrorism, defies an universally accepted definition, thus states manipulate the terrorism equating it with terms like extremism' insurgency militancy and freedom fighters etc. But there is big difference between a freedom fighter and a terrorist. Freedom fighters imbibe the will of the people against the alien government (unduly whereas elected). The goal is collective and grievances are common. Any act or effort to topple a duly elected legitimate government by violent means may be called a terrorist act. The sympathy and support of the freedom fighter is already established in the society they are not required to terrorise the people. Whereas a terrorist doesn't have that sympathy they generate apathy and fear in the minds of the people by creating panic among the masses to aversion the government.

A freedom fighter does not kill the innocent masses but only targets big officials and dignitaries of the alien government. The basic aim of terrorist is to prove that the existing government is incapable of protecting the people and hence should be replaced.

Therefore, the present international terrorism is a matter of grave concern since, there is a complicated nexus between insurgency, Terrorism, state sponsored external support and drug trafficking combined with religion and fundamentalism in some cases. It has become imperative to establish a global security community in order to fight this menace. Not only the threats from cross border terrorism and separatism, nexus between narcotics, mafias and terrorist and insurgent groups, the accelerated religious and political extremism and aggressive nationalism pose new challenges to the viability of large multiethnic, multilingual, multicultural and multi religious nations of the world and "there is pressing need to combat these challenges through democracy, secularism, tolerance, regional cooperation interdependence and the rule of the law."

The growth and proliferation of terrorism is to be viewed seriously by the countries of the world, for terrorism ranges from individual to group, and to

international networks that is posing a challenge to all systems of government. The reach of its destructiveness has increased manifold. It can cause destruction in all sectors of national life through increased high-tech sophistication. It is this sophistication coupled with new innovative tactics can paralyze the security system of most advanced countries of the world. Actually today, form of international terrorism has the capability of global reach and the ability to penetrate any security establishment in the world.

In the early years of 21st century, world has faced with most barbaric acts of terrorism that are becoming most serious challenges to the security of states, societies and even humanity in whole. International terrorists' organizations and their acts have proven their capability and possibilities to affect the International Peace and Security. Recently, the 11 Sept. 2001, terrorists attack on World Trade Centre (WTC) and Pentagon in New York; and 13 Dec. 2001, attack on Indian Parliament, the former attacks are recognized as attack on economic and military icons of the most mighty sole super power the U.S. and the later as the attack on the symbols of liberal democracy. And most recently, the world has faced the most ugly manifestation of violence in the terrorist attack on school building in Beslan district of Russia and on Railways stations, a serial bomb blasts in Real Madrid in Spain. These Terrorism events have clear intelligence evidences that reveal the complex interrelationship between religions fundamentalism and its basic challenges to liberal democracy.

Thus the biggest threat that states face today, undoubtedly is terrorism which is widespread geographically and diverse ideologically." The increasing menace of terrorism have brought into focus to study the causes and to find effective ways to tackle International Terrorism.

Causes and Concerns

At the heart of every terrorist action, there is a cause, a political goal, a perceived justice or denial of liberty that is as concrete to the activist as any prime minister's notion of justice or freedom. No political Rhetoric can disguise this fact. No opponent of terrorism should forget this." Through the history of terrorism its roots have soil in the political, socio-economic and ethno-religious causes. It is also the case with the International Terrorism. The prominent causes may be listed as below.

Terrorism as Foreign Policy:

The problem of terrorism has become grave because Terrorism has come to be an alternative to war amongst adversarial states because the modern war has become too expensive due to its vast destructive nature and unpredictable outcome. Thus, the phenomenon of state sponsored cross border terrorism become a tool of contemporary power politics and has acquired utmost significance since, it has influenced almost all aspects of inter and intra-state activities particularly in terms of internal security and people's security.

Any discussion on transnational terrorism would be incomplete without mention of Pakistan's role in promoting cross border terrorism on Indian soil. It is true that Pakistan and erstwhile Taliban Govt. in Afghanistan were exporting terrorism in J&K province of India, Chechnya Middle East etc. Moreover, "The 585 page 'National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon the United States Report, that investigated the plot, design and circumstances leading to the 9/11 attacks on the US has highlighted the dangers of organized terrorism in threatening global peace and severity" .

The Report throws considerable light on Pakistan's link with major findings terrorism. It is in this regard are as follows:

- The report has pointed to the Pakistan did not break with involvement of Pakistan with the AL Qaida: the Taliban until after harboring Bin Laden." 9/11, although it was harboring Bin Laden."⁷
- It also asserts that Pakistan benefited from Taliban- AI Qaida Osama Bin relationship as Laden's camps trained fighters for 'Pakistan's on going struggle with India over Kashmir."⁸
- The 9/11 report can be further corroborated by another of Pakistani 'stunning document' Origin, based on the "the 'document, Arnaud de Borchgrave states: imprints of every major act of international Islamist terrorism passes invariably through Pakistan, right from 9/11- where virtually all the had participants trained, resided or met in, coordinated with, or received funding from or through Pakistan.

Narco-Terrorism Nexus:

It provides financing to the Drug International Terrorism. Norco Trafficking and Trafficking is the most lucrative business. After Arms Trade it generates maximum the capital and profit. Drug Trafficking Organizations like small Arms Gray Laundering Organizations, Mafia Groups of international links, and Terrorists

Organizations have nexus. They operate their functions and activities through specialized agency that connects them or performed as networking agency. This could be understood from the following fig:

The Norco-Terrorism Nexus is perhaps best documented by a CIA study titled 'Heroin in Pakistan'. The study explains and discloses how ISI allowed Afghan Terrorist Groups to trade in narcotics after the cut-off of US assistance. The study reveals that individual ISI officers also participated in the trade and terrorists pushed into India and abroad were funded in huge amounts through narcotics. The activities of narcotic gangs and clandestine arms deals through covert support by various intelligence agencies was causing international concern, is manifest from a UN Report in 1987 which linked international terrorism to illegal drug production and trafficking illegal arms trade.¹¹

Ethno-Religion Tensions:

The ethno-religions tensions between various societies of the world are increasing on the verge of growing fundamentalism and intolerance on ethno religion sentiments of others. The terrorist organizations and religions practitioners and propagators are shrewdly exploiting the sentiments of the common people and are spreading rigidity of thoughts and communal feelings different ethno-religions societies that turns especially the young minds towards use of violence, and terrorism. Thus, religious intolerance, ethnic and cultural divergence appears to be the primary causes of transnational terrorism or International terrorism.

"Today, religion is back as a major factor, with at least 64 out of a total of 96 active terrorist groups clearly identified as being religiously motivated, even if the doctrine and theology that they swear by is violently extremist and far from actual percepts. Second, the fact emerges that 14 have ex-Mujahideen among their ranks, and third, 17 are based or closely involved with Pakistan (this last a conservative estimate- if even transitory links are taken this rise to more than 21).

Therefore, it becomes imperative to make effort for peoples enlightenment that no religion of the world support violence instead they oppose violence. This could be understood from the following example prominent writer Amera Saide Dielo and Verinder Grover edited Encyclopedia of International Terrorism Vol. 2 "When modern Indians project the ideology of 'secularism', into the past to emperor Asoka was 'secular, they forget that Asoka was practicing Buddhism even in his public life. He based his tolerance on Buddhism, not on secularism, when the moderns say that Akbar was secular, they forget that he derived his tolerance not from

secularism but from Islam. And in our times Gandhi derived his religious tolerance from Hinduism, not from secular politics".

Globalization:

The process of Globalization has also sharpened the multi level divide between the two worlds. It has heightened the feeling of the so called Huntington's 'clash of civilizations'. The integration of world market with national and local market has coupled with the cultural intrusion the local culture has been jeopardized. The identity of ethnic culture is being diluted. This has rekindled the fundamentalist ideology. It has added to the deep rooted ethnic ideological divide.

Most importantly, globalization has increased the rate of unemployment especially in the developing and underdeveloped countries. The level of competition has increased and the margin of error has decreased. The new regime requires highest degree of professionalism which is not so easy to maintain in a poor country. This has imbued a sense of insecurity and people with less skill are more susceptible to such terrorist activities. A section of society has been totally alienated from mainstream and they see their future in other world i.e. Terrorist organizations which exploit such a state of socio-economic and cultural dissatisfaction. Moreover, the International Terrorism combined and nexuses with drug trafficking organizations and other international criminal organizations like, money laundering, mafia small arms proliferating etc., have proved to be employment generating thus a large mass of unemployed youths in underdeveloped societies is attracted towards Terrorists Organizations as mercenaries. John, Alynn in his book "Battle", has described that terrorism and violence are rooted in the culture and philosophy of their communal practitioners and propagators." But today's world has no place for any form of theocracy. Since all notions have a plurality of ethnicity and religions, the communities must willingly co-exist. They can have internal freedom to run their family and systems the way they like but any disputes arising out of theocratic differences must be resolved peacefully on the equal and just footing. Today the Muslim intellectuals in several countries are very sincerely engaged in disabusing the Islamic Jehadi's of their belief that Islam sanctions terrorism, suicide bombings etc. They should be appreciated, encouraged and all those who stand for the preservation and promotion of cultural pluralism must find out the facts, got them acknowledged and then mark together for true reconciliation and for right interpretation of all religions is necessary by performing them for peaceful coexistence.

State Terrorism:

This aspect as a prominent cause of International Terrorism has been least discussed. States also use violence, on a larger scale and no less abominable than the ones indulge by organizations branded as terrorists. Blatant examples are Vietnam, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and most recently the Iraq war II in which starving Iraqi children dropping of cluster bombs along with food packets. Destabilizing popularly elected progressive governments through CIA (Central Intelligence Agency of the US) sponsored coups In the UN Ad Hoc Committee of 35 members on Terrorism, the Arab states pleaded for the inclusion of state terrorism in the concept of terrorism referring to the practices of Israel towards the Arab Palestinians", as the principal example of 'state terrorism', and the Non Aligned group in the ad Hoc committee in its draft proposal defined state terrorism to include "Tolerating or arresting by a state the organization or the remnants of fascist or mercenary groups whose terrorist activities are directed against other sovereign countries." But the western states opposed the idea of including governmental acts within the scope of the definition of terrorism on the ground that the UN charter, the Geneva Convention of 1949, etc., restrain state violence.

An interesting post World War II development has been that liberation movements have felt themselves obliged for engage in terrorist acts in an effort to counter the brutal by the alien regimes. The discriminatory of state terrorism is still continue the developed state of western world led by the most mighty sole super power the United States for their private interests and benefits performs all wrongful acts of oppression, suppression perpetrated for political and economic purposes. Thus, under state terrorism the developed state terrorize the under developed and developing countries for severance of technological and financial support on which they dominated, in case of disobedience or non performance in accordance with their policies. The Recent US-UK coalition unilateral attack on Iraq has come as a form of state terrorism visa a visa with the use of military might or use of force against the disobedience of Iraq (Saddam Hussein) under false allegation of latter's building of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs), to bring about regime change of their choice.

Another dimension of state terrorism is the use of terror in the domestic front by the state government under authoritarian rule for political gains or their incapacity to govern and manage the affairs of the people. The frequent use of force in domestic affairs by state shows their authoritative tendency that is resulting insurgency under severe societal discontent on various, socio-economic, political and ethno-religions issues. Such authoritarian tendencies is also posing great threat to democratic

principles and individual freedom and thus, becoming grave concerns for peace and security.

All of these causes are well notified and are may be important causes and concern for whole world. What is important here that most of the scholars are ignoring psychological part terrorism? Psychologists are trying to emphasizing on deprivation, feeling of injustice, and insecurity. Question arises that if they are feeling injustice then how they can do ill treatment to those who are victim all these circumstances, for example children and women of Afganistan. Terrorist are well equipped with all weapons and have power to exert in Afganistan therefore they should not feel insecure but even then they are doing terrorist activity. They are even not deprived. Psychologists have to consider about the collective consciousness of some community. They have to think about social consciousness to handle the terrorism. Terrorism not only belongs to outer causes but after all to the psyche of the terrorist. Development of wisdom (Vivek) is very important and it should be part of not an individual but also the whole society.

Conclusion:

The prevailing situation of international terrorism has forced all nations including India to devote attention to reexamine and re structure their Scenario that has security to be seen in its totality of incorporate inter alia, economic politico-socio- and ethno religions spheres. Further, regardless of where a nation appears to be situated geographically it cannot plan for its security without taking into account the altered global reality that introduced rudely on the global consciousness on the 11 Sept. 2001 and 13 Dec. 2001. And stunning awakened with unilateral preemptive attack of Iraq by the US-UK coalition forces in March, 2003. These events have totally changed and altered the world order and international terrorism has become the law of the life. Whether it is terrorism violence or state terrorism there are similarities with respect to violence. Pakistan has shrewdly manipulated the OS to selectively favor and further its own definition of bad and good Jehadis concept. This approach also further the US purpose of promoting geo-political, geo-economical and geo strategically goals. Therefore, "the US seems to be making a distinction between the 'good Mujahidins' and 'bad Mujahidins' of pre-1Taliban period the 'bad Jehadis' of the radical stream showed up in the Pak Afghan belt later." But US and the developed world must be cautions about the Pakistan's blind involvement on spreading 'fundamentalist communal Islamic Jehadi, ideology that favours and furthers transnational ideology for international terrorism. Because, this could be proved as

'Bhasmasur (self hurting) to Pakistan and the US and the developed world that is clear from the rise of religions fundamentalist Islamic Parties in Pakistan and the 11 Sept. 2001 terrorist attack on US.

The foreseeable future seems to be more threatening as the development of new technologies is at a very fast pace and terrorist organization may get access to these technologies. There can be no effective restraint against these sophisticated technologies and that have enhanced the capability of global reach of the terrorist organizations. The dangers yet to come, is of technological terrorism. Technological terrorism especially includes (i) Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs) technologies including Nuclear Chemical and Biological (NBC) technologies, and (ii) Cyber technologies.

For this reason, terrorists motivated by religion or racist fanaticism are particularly dangerous, because unlike politically motivated groups they are not subject to rational constraints on the scope of their violent acts are easily detected by credible threats. Politically motivated terrorists may desist from using WMDs (NBC) but not religious terrorists who may be imbued with apocalyptic visions of humanity and the future of the world.

Thus, world is on alarming situation of growing international encounter terrorism to international terrorism and all other kinds of violence is the need of the over the globe. Therefore, it becomes the causes of necessary to understand international terrorism and then plan a policy of counter international terrorism for each cause separately and then coordinating all plans to fight all types of violence.

For this purpose cooperation of all developed, developing and under developed states is necessary. The strategy for countering terrorism must be focused on people's enlightenment, religious tolerance, socio-economic equality and psychological treatment along with the political and military options. Actually International terrorism is a social reality of developed and underdeveloped societies which has its roots in socio-psychological and mental frame of people. The terrorists and terrorisms is the product of these differential and discriminatory conditions therefore the solution lies in the socio-psychological treatment of this social menace that has spread globally with global policies.

When states consider the international terrorism as enemy and plan for military solution, they are on fault lines, because it is like a disease (social disease) and infectious too that can make them ill also. Therefore, it should be treated like illness or disease. An enemy is fought while a disease is treated and indeed it can be fought more effectively by eradicating its root causes than its syndromes.

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