

Topic: Pakistan's War on Terror and its Impact on Our Psyche and Politico-Socio-Economic Fronts

1. INTRODUCTION

The contribution of Pakistan on combating War on Terror far exceed its strength and size; inadvertently impacting the Psyche and social distress; leading to economic and political doldrums on large scales. However, ^{the concrete steps} concrete steps towards mitigation of terrorism is a key to diminish the fatal threat of terrorism from Pakistan.

2. War on Terror; Inflicting the Political stability in Pakistan.

- (A) ~~Increased~~ political instability and Violence
- (B) Erosion of Democratic process
- (C) Weakening of The State's Authority
- (D) Political Polarization
- (E) Hindering Economic growth

3. Impacts at achieving Economic stability in Pakistan

- (A) ~~Increased~~ economic losses
- (B) Disrupted Investments and Tourism

(C) Declined Exports and market share

(D) Economic instability at state level

4- War on Terror and Social Turbulence

(A) Social Unrest on individual and collective level

(B) Rise in Extremism and Sectarian Crises

(C) Displacement of Communities

(D) Impact on Education

5- Cateering the war of psychological impacts in combating terrorism

(A) Surge in Mental Disorders

(B) Grief and loss of afflicted families.

(C) Anxiety and Fear of unknown amongst people.

6- War on Terror; impacting The Geo-strategic location of Pakistan

(A) Wakhan Corridor and insurgency in Afghan region.

(B) CPEC; security concerns and protecting its infrastructure.

(C) India's Operation Sindoor; unprovoked, unlawful war of act against Pakistan.

7- Recommendations

- (A) Affirmative steps against the root causes of increased terrorism
 - (i) Promoting Law and justice to reduce extremism.
 - (ii) Improving The Education and Literacy rates.
 - (iii) Economic developments such as ~~so~~ social reforms and new infrastructures.
- (B) Intelligence Bureaus to find terror financing networks.
- (C) International Cooperation and support in combating terrorism.

8- Conclusion

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The 'War on Terror' officially known as 'Global war on terrorism' was initiated by the military of the United States after the happening of September 11, 2001 attacks. The operation was launched against Al-Qaeda group after 9/11 attacks in America. Pakistan's contribution for the war on terror far exceed its strength and size. Pakistan had lost 35000 people and its economic loss amounted

to 67 billion US dollars. Pakistan has shed its blood in combating against terrorism to protect American people, but the United States is never satisfied with the performance of Pakistan and always wants more. However, Pakistan has lost much in eradicating the menace of terrorism from the region. Not only war on terror has broke the spine of Pakistan's economy, but it has also impacted the psyche's of the people of Pakistan. It has substantially affected the social structure along with the political stability in the region. However, Pakistan has been coping with this issue since decades. Pakistan has become the victim of terrorism. Despite of the rigorous impacts, the state is trying from tooth to nail in achieving the social, political, economic and psychological stability for the people of Pakistan. Multiple economic infrastructures including Wakhan corridor, CPEC, Neelum-Jhelum hydropower projects are majorly getting targeted due to terrorism.

To begin with, the war on terror, particularly the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, has risen to a level where the number of terrorist attacks have increased on both security forces and civil groups of the society. ^{it has deepened the political instability} ~~It has increased the political instability and violence in the region.~~ The first military attack against Tehreek-e-Taliban was on Wazir sub-clan from Akakhel in North Waziristan, this group was involved in attacking the US military camps in 2003. This has amply ^{this has amply enhanced} ~~increased the insurgency~~ amongst people of North Waziristan leading to political chaos and violence in that region.

Secondly, while combating with the war on terror, the entire focus has been shifted towards eliminating the terrorists' groups from the society. ^{well connected passage good} ~~It diverted the focus from democratic norms and institutions and held the vision on fighting against the terrorism.~~ This has eroded the democratic processes such as the higher authorities were least involved in establishing the societal infrastructure, policies or laws which can stabilize the region. Apart from it, Pakistan's military was

actively doing operations in North-Waziristan like Operation Zarb-e-Azab to cope with the terrorist activities.

Thirdly, the Tehreek-e-Taliban group has challenged the state's authority by rising the cross-border tension with Afghanistan. The border that was connecting its boundaries with Afghanistan was continuously involved in networking the terrorist activities in tribal areas of Pakistan. This has held a question of good governance for the state by its indigenous people. This has extremely compromised the political stake of Pakistan.

Fourthly, war on terror has increased the number of militant groups in Pakistan. This has led to the formation of polarized society. There were divisions in the society among people such as different views, clashes in different political parts on how to deal with the terrorism. There was no common ground on which the entire nation could stand and alleviate the level of terrorism from the country.

Fifthly, the ongoing terrorist attacks and smashed image of Pakistan has drastically impacted its economic growth. There was a complex interplay of factors which altogether stopped the growing tendency of the nation of Pakistan.

In addition to previous stance, Pakistan has faced economic losses of around 150 billion dollars. This includes direct and indirect losses, the direct losses includes military weapons and regional destructions where multiple operations were performed. The indirect losses includes the economy, social peace and international image of Pakistan. The world has claimed Pakistan the region of harvesting terror attacks. ^{the efforts exerted by} ~~the efforts made by~~ the Pakistan's military forces were never credited or appreciated internationally.

Moreover, the epic war on terror has disrupted the investments especially the foreign direct investments in Pakistan. Every effort made against terrorism was proved abortive, when there were no foreign investors who stand tall and ~~are~~ ^{were} ready to invest in Pakistan, to made the economy little better than before.

There was rise in the operational costs for the businesses operating in Pakistan. According to the economic survey of 2013-2014 of Pakistan, it has faced enormous pace privatization which has impacted its economy. Besides this, tourism sector also experienced a backlash.

The area of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was majorly shadowed by terrorism, so the people from other countries never show interest in visiting the beautiful areas of Pakistan. Tourism adds a big chunk to the economy of Pakistan, all in all it failed to get benefitted due to terrorism.

Furthermore, the war against terrorism has also declined the number of exports and affected the market share wholly. The established industries got impacted by the rippled exports. It has slow down the production capacity of industrial departments as there were high tariffs imposed on the exports items. Neither the foreign countries were ready to invest, nor they show any interest in making cross border transactions. Pakistan has also witnessed the transnational issues, including the foreign direct investments or the exports.

Additionally, social turbulence was another factor in combating war against terrorism. The air was filled with social unrest when terrorists used to attack at civil places. For example, Aga Khan university has started 'Peace and Development' program to eradicate some social unrest on individual level. The non-profit organizations has also started 'peace and justice' campaigns to console the community from the terror of war against terrorism.

Multiple terror attacks have increased the sense of extremism and it has divided the society into sectors, just like the attacks in Peshawar, KP. There was divisions amongst the divisions either in the form of opinions or sectarians. It leads to the displacement of communities at large. During to the military operations that were conducted in KP and FATA, people were forced to leave their houses which left heinous impact on their lives and sacrificed their livelihoods. In Pakistan, terrorism has become the elephant in the room, which was atrociously breaking

the peace and stability of the state of Pakistan.

The oner of terrorism has also veiled the education system with its darkness.

Around 750 schools were targeted in terrorist attacks, out of which 650 were located in Malakhand. One of the extreme example was The Army Public School attack, where future of the nation was killed in the name of extremism.

In addition to this, people of Pakistan have suffered multifaceted psychological issues such as mental disorders like Post-traumatic-stress disorder.

Each second the nation has lived with the fear and anxiety of terror attacks. The families who have suffered material loss and human lives, have gone through massive grief. In fighting against terrorism, the essentials of every human was compromised in Pakistan.

Meanwhile, war on terror has also hampered the geostrategic growth of Pakistan. The Wakhan Corridor is the potent source for Pakistan in achieving the economic stability. It is a narrow strip of territory that acts as a buffer in joining Tajikistan and Pakistan.

for trade purposes. It is the area in Afghanistan where most of the terrorist camps are located. Pakistan is leaving no stone unturned in eradicating the threat of terrorism from the region.

Furthermore, CPEC project, which is a corridor of stability for Pakistan is also getting targeted on and off. CPEC connects the Swat port of Gilgit Baltistan to Northwest region of China. Lately, the Chinese workers who are working on the China's funded project in Pakistan have gone through terrorist attacks. This has left a question on the security and stability of the region among the international community. The infrastructure of the CPEC corridor, near Besham city has been infiltrated by the terrorists' attacks. This has directly impeded the regional stability of Pakistan.

While Pakistan is fighting against ^{the} terrorism, India has left no room in playing the blame game against it. The operation Sindoor which was recently launched by India in the name of combating the terrorist camps in Pakistan was unprovoked, cowardly, and unlawful act of war.

Pakistan under The article 51 of UN charter reserves the right to defend against it. In response to that unprovoked missile strike, Pakistan has launched operation Burhan-un-Mansoor and successfully downed the five jets and one drone of Indian airforce. Pakistan is working day and night just to make its efforts fruitful for the nation and the entire world.

Moreover, there should be both military and non-military operations in achieving the stability of the region. The affirmative steps against the root cause of increased terrorism must be taken into consideration. Firstly, there should be economic developments which ~~and~~ protects the ~~internal~~ external sovereignty of the state. Law should be enforced to maintain justice in the society. The educational infrastructure must go through reforms to develop job creation and other fruitful opportunities. The intelligence bureau keep on tracking the terrorist networks to diminish their existence. The international cooperation should be availed to rectify the image of Pakistan.

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Date: _____

In a nutshell, the unwavering effort has put in by Pakistan against terrorism. From helping the American's at frontline to beating the terror inside the region, Pakistan has sacrificed a lot. War on terror has impacted Pakistan at political level including rising extremism, political instability, questioning the state's authority, polarizing the society. It also affected the economic stability by creating social unrest and leaving psychological marks among the people of Pakistan. The geo-strategic progress of Pakistan was not left behind, the projects like CPEC, Wakhani corridor, Neelum-Jhelum power projects are immensely targeted. However, there is a hope of stability in the region. The cumulative efforts like improving the economic infrastructure, education system, law and order can build a better Pakistan for future.

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