Topic: The Hydra-Headed Monster of Terrorism is devouring country's peace and stability

Outline

A. Introduction

B. Understanding the concept of hydra-headed terrorism

C. How hydra-headed terrorism is devouring country's peace and stability :

1) Triggers Political instability and authoritarian drift ;
   a. Increases surveillance over civil liberties
   b. case study of European nations after 9/11

2) Erodes public ~~interest~~ trust in institutions;
   a. case study of FATA region

3) Disrupts economic growth and progress ;
   a. Around 885 bn $ loss in tourism sector from 2008-2018, as per the report of Investopedia

4) Increases spending on security rather than on human development;
   a. Case study : Post - 2008 budgets in Pakistan

5) Strains diplomatic relations and economic ties;

a. Pak-China relations and resurgence of terrorism

6) Leads to human displacement and refugee crisis;

a. "War on terror" in Afghanistan and refugee crisis in Pakistan

b. Straining resources and operating within the country

D. Measures to counter Hydra-Headed Terrorism, Ensuring Peace and stability:

1) Strengthening border security and surveillance
2) Eliminating terrorism through education and narrative building
3) Fostering Socio-Economic upliftment

E. Conclusion

The Essay

Since the evolution of human societies, men are striving to secure peace and stability for themselves. Though human successfully achieve peace for short-term, The dawn of new century gives birth to another threat that devour peace and stability. The begining of 21st Century met with the emergence of a hydra-headed monster named as terrorism. The 9/11 was the dealiest incident. Terrorism is defined as the use of fear, force and terror in order to acomplish political goals. The rise of terrorism has significantly endengered the peace and stability ~~of a interest~~ trust country by eroding public in state institutions. Moreover, it diminishes stability by triggering Political instability and distrupting economic progress. All these are indications that how terrorism is devoiding the country's peace and stability. lastly, terrorism also strains foreign relations, creating diplomatic instability. However, in order to elliminate the menace of terrorism there is a need of Pragmatic

and urgent measures which [help] in maintaining peace and stability. In this regard, strengthening border management will help in eliminating terrorist bases. Moreover, eliminating extremism and fostering socio-economic development will provide great relief. Unless such reforms are not implemented with no time waste, the menace of terrorism will continue to devour the stability and peace of a country. ~~peace~~ ~~and~~

Before dwelling deep into the discussion, it is necessary to understand the concept of hydra-headed terrorism. Basically, the terminology "hydra-headed" belongs to Greek mythology which means the monster with many heads and cannot be killed by cutting one of its heads. Similarly, the hydra-headed terrorism means that terrorism also has numerous forms and shapes making it difficult or even impossible to eliminate it at once. There are number of branches such as idiological extremism, splinter organizations, focal grievances which assist terrorism to regenerate and come back more strongly.

So, this hydra-headed shape of terrorism requires a comprehensive and holistic approach to neutralize it. Otherwise, it will continue to emerge again and again.

To begin with, the hydra-headed terrorism devouring country's peace and stability by triggering political instability and authoritarian drift. This multi faced evil creates environment of fear, forcing authorities to enhance the surveillance, which many endanger civil liberties of the citizens. After the henious incident of 9/11, the whole world, specially the west, has saw eye-operating rise in security and surveillance measures, suffocate the civil liberties of the people. This increase in security raises concerns about the freedom of expression, one of the core principle of democracy. The west was turned into an authoritarian regime, controlling the personal lives of the individuals. This has significantly effected the peace and stability in the countries like England, Germany, USA, Russia and France.

Thus, by creating political chaos the hydra-headed monster of terrorism endangeres the peace and stability of a country.

Moreover, it also threatens country's peace and by eroding public trust in state institutions. In any state, institutions play crucial role in maintaining calm and peaceful environment. As they are permanent entities, public trust in institutions ensures peace and stability in the country. However, the emergence of terrorism has exposed state failure to counter it. This repeated state failure results that people question state competency as a security provider. For instance, the FATA region, in khyber Pakhtunkhawa, has completely lost their trust in state institutions. This erosion of trust state influence in the region, paving way for instability, chaos and destruction. FATA is suffering with decade-old evil of terrorism, which undermining the stability and peace in the region.

Furthermore, the hydra-headed terrorism is devouring country's peace and stability by distrupting country's economic growth. Economic progress is one of the guarantor in country's peace. As both peace and progress are interlinked, distrupting one means devasting other. The hydra-headed terrorism which encompasses ideological extremism, widespread networks, create an environment of fear and instability. This leads to reduction of foreign direct investment, distrupting country's economic development. Tourism is one the most effected economic sectors by terrorism globally. According to Investopedia, from 2008 to 2018 tourism sector has lost 885 bn $ due to terrorism. This terrorism induced economic backlash leads to social and political chaos resulting in instability.

Similarly, the hydra-headed terrorism is devasting country's peace and stability by shifting state resources to security

instead of spending on human development. For maintaining peace in a country, its essential to provide employment, quality education, and proper healthcare. It is only possible, while allocating state resources, when a nation prioritizes development of its citizens. However, unfortunately, the emergence of uncontrolled terrorism has resulted in spending more on security measures and little on human development. This shift of resources leads to chaos as people demand their basic rights such as education and health. Since post-2008 period, Pakistan is struggling with unstopable chaos, deepenning poverty and increasing unemployment. Though 2008 marked revival of democracy in the country, Pakistan's post-2008 budget was mostly security-centric rather than human-centric. This is evident from the fact that in post-2008 era Pakistan has launched several full military operations like Zarb-e-Azab and numerous intelligence based operations. Thus, terrorism is devasting country's peace and stability by increasing spending on security and less spending on human development.

Furthermore, it devours peace and stability by straining relationship with other countries. A country can not live peacefully in an isolation. It has to maintain relations with regional and global states to ensure harmony. However, the multi-faced terrorism is endangering the diplomatic and economic ties of a country, devouring its peace and stability. Pakistan and China have enjoyed good relations with since 1950's. Their friendship is defined as " stronger than iron, higher than Himalaya, and sweeter than honey". China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is a manifestation of strong relations between both nations. Terrorism has significantly effected the relations, by eradicating CPEC projects, killing chinese officials and eroding trust. This deterioration of relations hampers CPEC, resulting in instability in Pakistan. Thus, the hydra-headed terrorism strains relations destroying country's peace and stability.

Lastly, terrorism is devouring peace and stability by forcing human displacement and causing refugee crisis. The prevalence of terrorism in a region means fearful environment, continuous bombardment and heavy death tolls. Terrorism forces migration either from rural to urban or from one country to another. This displacement or migration is not free from terrorist elements. With the beginning of "War on terror" in Afghanistan in 2001, Pakistan has welcomed millions of homeless and needy Afghans and provide them with food and shelter. Alongwith those millions of needy Afghan, hundreds of terrorist, hundreds of terrorism and extremists also found safe place. This refugee crisis not only restrained Pakistan's resources but also lead to unending terrorism. Since the beginning of "War on Terror" and Afghans migration to Pakistan, the country has lost thousands of civilians and military personnels, and billions of dollars due to destruction caused by terrorist attacks. This has trapped Pakistan into a vicious cycle of instability and turmoil.

However, having discussed that how terrorism is devouring country's peace and stability, there are some pragmatic measures to neutralized the hydra-headed terrorism and ensure peace and stability.

To start with, strengthening border security and surveillance assists in countering the hydra-headed ~~politics~~ evil of terrorism and achieving country's peace and stability. It includes complete border fencing, high security on critical areas and active surveillance which ensure prevention of extremist elements from neighbours countries. Alongwith that installing artificial Intelligence (AI) into security infrastructure will help in narrowing space for anti-state elements to escape. Pakistan, sharing its western border with Afghanistan, is a very easy target of terrorists. Since 2021 after taliban took control of Afghanistan, Pakistan has faced unprecedented increase in numbers and intensity of attacks. The opening borders between Pakistan and Afghanistan facilitate terrorists groups to conduct attacks on Pakistan and escape

easily. For Pakistan, in order to counter terrorism and achieve stability is vital.

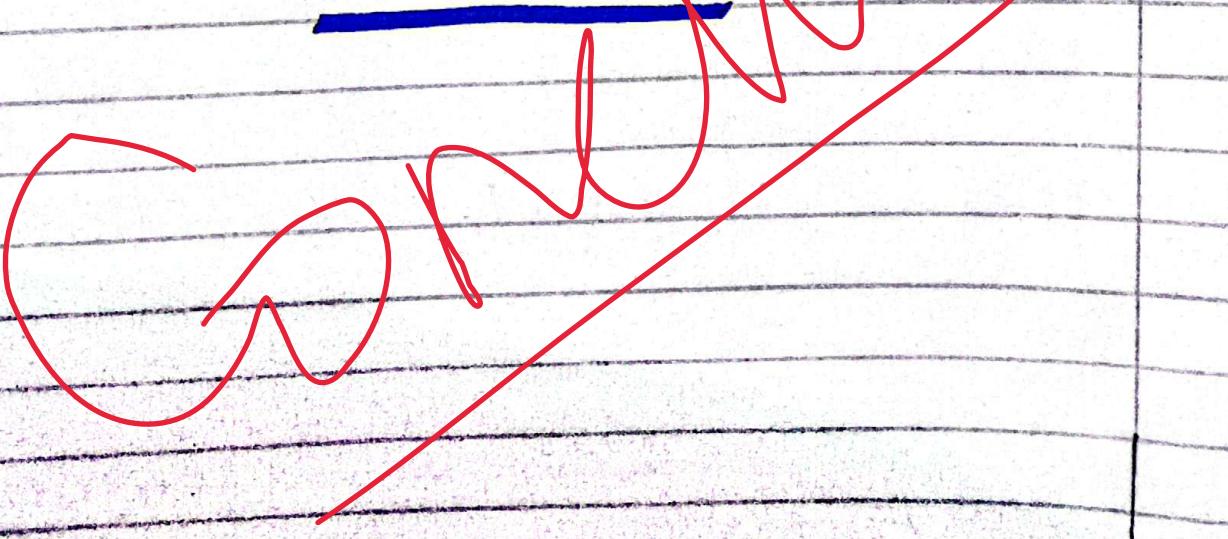Moreover, eliminating extremism through education and narrative building will also help to neutralize multi-faced terrorism. Lack of awareness and poor quality education create space for extremist ideologies to grow. Afghanistan is the most suitable example in this regard. For decades, the country is in the hands of radical and extremist taliban. Similarly, the tribal areas of KPK and Balochistan, which lack adequate education, are safe zones for terrorism to flourish. The countries need to overhaul their curriculum and include themes like tolerance, inclusivity, peace and harmony. Moreover, state should build a strong narrative to counter extremism otherwise terrorism will continue to shaping itself into an unbeatable giant.

Lastly, fostering socio-economic upliftment will also help in weakening the roots of terrorism. Local grievances like inflation, unemployment and poverty are the tools that are exploited by

and strains diplomatic ties. However, there are some reforms which assist in countring the multi-faced terrorism and ensuring peace. These include strengthening borders management mechanism, improving socio-economic status and controlling extremism which help in promising peace and stability in country.

Conclusion