

## Date: Repercussion On Pakistan in its War on Terror'

### Introduction:

After the 9/11 attacks, US stated that there is a evil nexus of Al-Qaeda and Taliban within the territory of Afghanistan.

These militants groups are the major reason behind global terrorism. The Taliban government has ~~provided~~ <sup>offered</sup> safe havens to these militants groups, that under their anti American approach posing a huge threat to the national security of West. US and the NATO forces pledged to eliminate the <sup>global</sup> ~~US~~ menace of terrorism. They adopted a pre-emptive approach and decided to conduct strikes within the Afghan territory. But in doing so they <sup>there</sup> were a need of military bases, intel support and air spaces of a country in a close vicinity <sup>for US</sup> of Afghanistan. Unfortunately, Pakistan's geographical location was perfect to fulfil its strategic interests.

President Bush contacted ~~Pakistan~~ (Gen Musharraf) and asked for cooperation.

Bush said, 'You are either with us or against us'. Pakistan was a supporter of Taliban regime, and if Pakistan had refused to cooperate it could have bracketed with

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talib or declared a terrorist.

Furthermore, it could give India a reason to attack Pakistan under the pretext of terrorist bases. Pakistan refused

All such things were against the national interests of Pakistan.

Under such situation, Pakistan foreign office had no choice

but to adopt a compulsory choice

Pakistan security and national interest Pakistan adopted a strategy that could reduce risk to foreign policy. After analyzing

country's national interest calculus. Pakistan joined hands with US

in Islam on Terror its operation turned as Operation Enduring Freedom

#### - US Strategic Interests:

To have access to Pakistan's military bases and air space to conduct strikes within Afghanistan in order to eliminate terrorist groups

#### - Pakistan Strategic Interests:

##### National Interest



##### Economic

- \* acquire economic aid
- \* investments
- \* waive off loans



##### Strategic

- \* avoid US/NATO aggression
- \* acquire advance military weapons, technology



##### Political

- \* avoid political isolation due to non-military test
- \* further Kashmir issue

## 6 Economic Challenges

Pakistan's economic losses due to terrorism since joining the US-led War on Terror were \$1230/3 billion.

### 1 ✓ Decline in FDI:

Pakistan's foreign investment fell by 40% due to insecurity. Foreign investors remained abstained from investing in the country due to volatile security issues.

### 2 Decrease in formal and informal trade with Afghanistan; Decline of Tariff economy

Pakistan's informal and formal trade with Afghanistan impacted negatively.

Afghanistan being a landlocked country carry out its trade via Pakistan.

Some portion of Pak's revenue comes from from the imposition of taxes

on the flow of goods. Within the

country But as the trade declines,

tariff economy collapse.

Pakistan's GDP declined from 22.5% -

13% during between (2006 - 2010)

### 3 ✓ Refugee Crisis:

The country suffered from the refugee influx due to massive displacement

within the border region of Afghanistan.

Pakistan harboured about 3M Afghani refugees who became burden on already limited resources.

### 4 ✓ Collapse of Tourism Industry:

Tourism industry of the Pakistan

Collapsed completely as terrorists did due to precarious security condition.

5 Huge investment incurred on rebuilding of infrastructure:

Pakistan incurred huge finances on the rebuilding of infrastructure destroyed during the terrorist attacks.

6 Decrease in exports and productivity:

Industries suffered badly due to which Exports decreased immensely due to decline in productivity. Militancy in Pakistan disrupted the normal business causing <sup>global</sup> Pakistan products to lose ~~its~~ market share.

7 Increase of Defence Budget:

The defense Budget increased significantly in order to carry conduct counter terrorism operation i.e Operation Zarb-e-Azm, Rad-ul-Fasad.

### C Social Challenges:

1 Human Losses:

About 64,000 people lost their lives because of the frequent terrorist attacks within the country. Terrorist groups attacked politicians, police, military and general public. Drone attacks also caused civilian deaths.

2 Massive Internal Displacement of People (IDPs)

Millions of people were displaced from the tribal areas (FATA, swat) due to the counter terrorism operations i.e Zarb-e-Azb

2. ~~Rise in Sectarian Violence and Polarization.~~
3. ~~Anti State and Anti Military Sentiment.~~

✓ Military operations created a mistrust and resentment among the Pashtoons communities against the govt. They turned against the govt leading to sectarian violence and polarization within the society.

4. ~~Rise in Crimes.~~

Criminal activities increased due to unemployment and poverty.

## ~~B) Political Challenges:~~

1. ~~Domestic challenges:~~

Pakistan suffered from severe political turmoil. i.e rise of anti American pol. parties (MMA), strained civil military relations, terrorism targeting politicians and weaken tribal governance.

2. ~~Regional challenges:~~

India further exploited the situation; it started branding Kashmiri rebels as terrorists.

3. ~~Global challenges:~~

Pakistan global image worsened, it portrayed as terrorist state. Pakistani faced humiliation at airports and foreign states.

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• ~~biased coverage~~ Biased coverage  
Pakistan was portrayed globally as  
unstable and terror prone. US  
accused Pakistan of not doing enough.  
Co President said 'Do more'.  
Media spreaded fear against Pakistan  
from islamophobia.

### Conclusion:

Pakistan faced multiple challenges in the ~~US~~ led war on terror. It suffered from severe political polarization, sectarian violence, terrorism, economic decline and loss of human lives losses.

Although Pakistan's coalition decision regarding war on terror was based on need according to their strategic interest but it brought numerous innumerable challenges for Pakistan.

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