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Introduction :-

New times call for new measures, whether it is in any field of life, life demands new measure with the passage of time. Similar goes for the warfare among states that keeps on taking new shapes and style. In the most recent change hybrid warfare has now become a new era of warfare among states and ^{among} non-state actors and states actors. Pakistan is also among those countries who are facing a huge impact of hybrid warfare from internal as well as external threats. The existing instability in the political and economical circumstances in Pakistan are adding more fuel to this warfare. The impact rests on the policy actions that our leadership will take to counter it.

Hybrid Warfare ; A New Era of Warfare

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Since the cold war, states started to look for venues beyond conventional means to fight and win their wars. Psychological warfare domain got highlighted ever since during the advent of technology furthered the reach of states to win their wars. The reach of states and now the non-state actors to influence and control their adversaries' minds led Hoffman to coin the term hybrid warfare. This warfare not only encompasses unconventional means of fighting a war but ~~imp~~ tries to exploit and damage

their adversaries from leadership down to citizens. This warfare use kinetic forces and non-kinetic forces. Further it is deadly for the states as it is very difficult to analyze and deter. Hence, hybrid warfare requires a whole new set of actions at all levels to ~~to~~ counter it.

Pakistan in the Context of Hybrid Warfare :

Pakistan is a country whose geographical location has led it to face the harsh challenges to its security. These security issues have remained internal as well as external since historical times. India's presence to its East has been one of the major security challenge to Pakistan's integrity in all forms, whether being security of ^{the intl.} border, ^{its} people or its international dealings. Presence of Afghanistan to the west has overtime increased these threats more so leading to development of internal security challenges as well.

External Security Issues due to Hybrid Warfare :

Pakistan and India have remained head to head in terms of their relations in the past, where ~~their~~ conventional means have n't allowed one state to overthrow another. In terms of a military, air force & navy both countries have been able to keep up deterrence. Moving forward in the 1990's the development of Nuclear weapons (NWs) kept the warfare on kinetic means, however with the advent of advance technologies & modernized weapons the imbalance in non-kinetic means is visible.

India has been targeting Pakistan's security ~~at~~ at the international forum by presenting a negative image of Pakistan. Phrases like a "Sponsor of Terrorism"

"Breeding ground of Terrorism" used by the Indian media against Pakistan has led to a deflating international image. Alongside fighting a media war, India's use of proxy war by supporting certain militant organisations is aimed at thwarting its internal security.

On the kinetic means, recent use of surgical strikes near Pakistan's border with India and India's deals with US to acquire Nuclear submarines is a further threat impacting not only the minds of leaders but public, as India's actions are supported by media means at most times. The movie released by Indian media, available to the Pakistani population, named Uri Attacks demonstrate India's capacity to do these surgical strikes. Hence, overall India is not only launching military attacks or deploying military kinetic means against its fight with Pakistan but their leadership has moved beyond these means to target the general public's morale as well. Which is a very well-prepared hybrid warfare strategy.

Internal Security Concerns due to Hybrid Warfare
Where states are catalyzing to build their hybrid warfare techniques, the non-state actors are not far behind in using these techniques as well. In Pakistan, the consequences of War on Terror left an unprecedented impact on Pakistan in the shape of militant organisations presently security challenges to it. The border of Pakistan to its West touching Afghanistan is the issue whose unresolved nature has led these militant groups fight their war against Pakistan continuously. TTP's development in the



north-western Pakistani regions was countered well on kinetic terms ~~is~~ during Operation Zarb e Azab, however the porous nature of the border and lack to adoption of a more capable and efficient hybrid warfare techniques led to the reemergence of TTP since past two years.

The militant organizations ~~are~~ live on the people, they gain strength and life from the support of the people (if not being a proxy to a state) in Pakistan as well the gap left in fighting and eliminating these groups from people's heart led the organizations such as TTP and ISKP in to conduct their attacks in the recent years. In the past two years there have been ~~an~~ an increase in armed attacks by 79% as per Pakistan Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies. The ideological means taken by TTP by digital means and non-digital means are still siding people. Radio telecasts, hand-written letters, seminars on religious topics are one side of their warfare to recruit and encourage people to come to their cause but attacking on security forces of Pakistan is another dimension to showcase their strength. Their magazines calling for jihad, their use of psychological tactics to show a bigger cause and promises of Jannah are all part of their bigger scheme to establish an Islamic Emirate in Pakistan.

These organizations carry a great potential in ~~is~~ attracting many other existing terrorist groups present in Pakistan's provinces of Punjab and Sindh to further their cause if not countered by Pakistan. Hence Pakistan needs to have

proper steps to counter such forces.

Policy Recommendations :

Pakistan needs a hybrid warfare policy that will incorporate strategic, operational and tactical policies. In terms of strategic policy decisions, Pakistan needs a leadership who can think beyond conventional means of warfare to bring technological advancement strategies in weapons to ~~is~~ keep security intact against bigger threats.

On this level it also needs to form an internationally directed policy which will counter India's actions to present Pakistan as a terrorist state image and present a more peaceful and terrorist exterminator state. It also needs a strong diplomatic ground to avoid hindrances in making Pakistan-Afghanistan border completely wired.

On operational and tactical level, Pakistan needs to revisit and follow-up on NAP to counter militant threats.

It needs to build its capacity in fighting non-kinetic means of war both within and beyond the borders.

Pakistan also needs to equip its police force with latest weapons to counter threats present on ground levels.

On educational terms Pakistan needs experts who are aware on hybrid warfare techniques and will be able to better analyse the impacts of it.

Conclusion :

(Pakistan needs to administer the hybrid warfare means being adopted against it.) Pakistan is facing both internal and external security threats due to hybrid warfare which needs to be countered at all policy levels. This warfare that came as an unprecedented means of fighting and winning war is a deadly one and Pakistan's leadership needs to acquire expertise to deal with it in kinetic and non-kinetic ~~are~~ methods.