



RESEARCH PAPER

Terrorism in Pakistan: A Critical Analysis

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ABSTRACT

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The objective of this study is to make a critical analysis of the causes and factors directly or indirectly involved in terrorism in the case of Pakistan as well as underlying and indirect sources contributed in this regard. Pakistan is a severe victim of terrorism, particularly after 9/11, bearing the substantial loss of human life, economy and infrastructure. Qualitative content analysis will be employed to study the current state of the subject. Some of the causes are Poverty, illiteracy, grievances, inequality, legal framework, human rights violations, state repression, etc. This study concludes that in keeping view of the nature and scope of terrorism and its complexity, difficult to determine the exact cause and factor of terrorism in Pakistan because no single cause has a direct linkage with terrorism. The study recommends that the state has to make effective legislation, and law enforcement, address grievances, poverty, illiteracy issues, stop human rights violations, religious intolerance, etc.

Introduction

Pakistan be the victim of terrorism particularly since 9/11, there are several causes and factors of terrorism, and in this context, core causes will be discussed in this study. This indicates that it is difficult to formulate a broad or joint policy approach/recommendations as the study suggests that there is no single principle in the fight against terrorism. There is no need to guarantee that the strategy or approach to combating terrorism will be implemented in religious terrorism as well as in other ways (Saiya, 2015). In fact, scholars have pointed out that traditionally a large number of different variables cause a person to support or join a hardline terrorist group. Poverty always has a substantial threat and ability to recruit people for terror activities by terrorist organizations (Newman, 2006; Karamat, et. al. 2019). Poverty and illiteracy are the underlying reasons for terrorism and have been positioned as the next most substantial reason for terrorism in Pakistan. It is for the most part that poverty, illiteracy, disparity, and poor financial circumstances are the root reasons for terrorism. It's evident from critical analysis of the data and circumstances that poverty does not solitary cause terrorism infect its influence at the

beginning of the terrorism process started from radicalization (Avranham, 2018). Despite Pakistan's support in the war on terror, militants and terrorist groups turned against Pakistan, launching attacks on Pakistan's armed forces, police, and civilian population. These enemy groups of Pakistan identified themselves as Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan etc. In a situation where it is outrageous to avoid taking part in the war on terror, the country must take into account its ability to deal with the adversarial effects of such a confrontation in light of all this, and it is undeniable that unknown residents have been killed or captured in numerous terrorist attacks.

Many people in Pakistan have grievances against the government, law enforcement, and the state. When these grievances and injustices are coupled with resentment, rage, and aggressiveness, some of these individuals turn to terrorism, as in the cases of Baluchistan, FATA, etc. When the state suppresses the problems of its minority, oppressed classes, or deprived sections of society, these individuals resist and raise their voices. However, some turn violent and utilize weapons in retaliation for governmental persecution. Another aspect is the clash of cultures & civilizations, People worry about upholding and promoting their values, traditions, and customs in their native countries.

Another factor for terrorism is the absence of effective law enforcement and a legitimate government. Law enforcement organizations are linked to terrorism since they are crucial counterterrorism tools and serve as indicators of when terrorism is present in a nation. As far as legal framework, it's inactive and incapable and the violation of the regulation is an ordinary thing. Several shortcomings of an anti-terrorism act, and can be anticipated to support instead of preventing terrorism. Subsequently, the military *courts* have been laid out to manage terrorists. Urbanization and demographic changes have a connection to terrorism when it comes to elements like unemployment and poverty. It is frequently observed that urbanization, income inequality, and unfair resource distribution prompted individuals toward terrorism. Human rights violations linked to terrorism Terrorist organizations contacted and sought support from individuals who had been humiliated, threatened, or evicted by the government or another authority body.

Literature Review

As a general rule, terrorism is related to a few alleged underlying causes that have encouraged various kinds of political unrest, for example, uprisings and street protests, uprising insurrections, nationwide conflicts, and the global armed struggle. Part of the understandable root causes is poverty, dictatorship, oppressive government, or social and religious rituals (Corte, 2007). Since European and U.S. authorities acquired the idea into international debate/ conversation in 2004, "radicalization" has been utilized to make sense of reasons for terrorism. With time, radicalization immovably entered the political talk and its alleged connection to terrorism has turned into an issue of contemporary discussion (Gropi, 2017).

This question is at the highest level of our official national security, as everyone seeks to address the key causes and successful counter-measures of these conventional uprisings and rebellions. With the inquiry, authorities are so alarmed by the threat and currently setting up a public commission at various national levels including colleges and universities to focus on radicalism and local terrorism (Sinai, 2007). What are the causes of terrorism? This may be the most frequent and

unavoidable response to today's radical cases. However, the search for answers avoids even the most determined analysts, a common skepticism revolves around the role of ideology (Horgan, 2019). Researchers have focused on the links between terrorism and the classification of different variables, in some cases to give a sense of the different times to look at the causes of terrorism and its implications, and their comparative information databases use. Since local and global terrorism often involves a variety of inspiration and goals, and surprisingly different strategies, it is important to capture the extraordinary characteristics of each classification of terrorism (Miller, 2019).

The immediate way to deal with terrorism is clear, but it raises difficult issues regarding the moral and legal use of force and the issue of vote-based distribution of knowledge within society, and the protection of shared freedoms. Again, it is not yet clear whether critical options of power, such as the development of a popular government, the financial reversal of events, and counter-fundamentalism, really address the "fundamental motives" of terrorism. In this context, Robert Jarvis says that regardless of whether political abuse, powerless states, needs, and financial inequality were the main motivators, there is little motivation to believe that we really can manage. That's what he thinks "We do not have strong evidence that doing so would have a significant impact (Rineheart, 2010).

My purpose is not to fight for ethical relations in spite of barbarism or to find liberal themes in logical inconsistencies. No matter how many distances they cover in class, color or belief, these divisions indicate the need to create an understanding of terrorism and its causes (McManus, 2013). A large section of intellectuals focuses on the national level rather than the individual. While individual-level explanations behind terrorism revolve around the immediate motivation and encouragement of individual terrorists toward bombs or weapons, country-level definitions revolve around the general environment of the type of terrorism (Saiya, 2021). Throughout the recent many years, the quest for purposes of terrorism has widened fundamentally past the singular degree of examination, with specialists thinking about groups and primary/structural level impacts also (Schuurman, 2020). One of the only answers to this question regarding "the most incomprehensible factors contributing to the failure to reduce terrorism" is considered to be: conspiracy theories; Failure to understand or address the root causes of terrorism; Working with terrorist networks (Alex 2021).

On the financial side of the phenomenon of terrorism, for example, the main drivers of terrorism are financial grievances and unemployment, the financial impact of terrorist attacks, and the financial costs of counter-terrorism operations. Educational work supporting terrorists has been rejected because it will be covered freely. Focusing on terrorism involves examining the historical background of terrorism. The main motives of terrorism, the psychology of terrorism; Terrorist clusters and their routine methods of radical registration support, focus on weapons commitment; Belief systems and inspiration; Operations pioneers, organizers, and individuals; and attack design (Alex , 2021).

We generally emphasize four constructive goals: First, to support groups of people in focusing on conflicts and the motivations of fanaticism/extremism. Second, to promote common freedoms / human rights and law and order to prevent and respond to terrorism. Third, combating illegal money that empowers criminal and

violent/violent extremist organizations and, lastly, promoting multilateral cooperation and principles of liberty in the fight against terrorism (Kearney, February 2021). Addressing the underlying drivers/ causes could expect the government to combine the law with different techniques or endeavors that glance at working on the guidelines of administration and reinforcing the local economy, and set out open doors for further developed instruction among the young, particularly for female (Ronald U. Mendoza, 2021). Although some projects are designed to reduce or combat radical people, efforts to address the root causes that drive individuals to investigate systems of such fanatical beliefs (Ong, 2021). Seen as a key driver of terrorism, human insecurity plays a key role in creating conflict and provides terrorist registration experts with young colleagues, often unemployed, in times of need. Or close to it, surprised by the frustration of the government adjusting to their basic needs. Requirements while high levels of bribery are a major sign of state frustration, residents/citizens can rely on demonstrations of terrorism to achieve a change of power/government (Pašagić, 2020). To counter the underlying drivers, causes, or complaints that lead to violent fanaticism or extremism. However, there isn't unanimity /agreement on what factors cause vicious extremism. As a matter of fact, scholars have identified that customarily a large number of various variables drive/cause a person to help or join a rough fierce terrorist group (Ambrozik, 2019; Yaseen & Muzaffar, 2018).

Material and Methods

Being a strong believer of traditional approach of qualitative method of research, I, will utilize to provide in-depth, descriptive understanding and to investigate “a critical analysis of the causes of terrorism in Pakistan”. This study is exploratory in nature and is aimed at gaining real in-depth information related to the causes of terrorism & underlying sources using both primary and secondary sources. A conceptual framework of structural realism suitable for the study will be employed to analyze and evaluate the causes, underlying sources and its impact.

Discussion

Poverty and illiteracy: Poverty and illiteracy always created weak governance, a bad economy, and resentment among the people, such countries where is weak governance and a bad economy, always have a substantial threat and vulnerability to recruit people for terror activities by terrorist organizations. (Newman, 2006). Poverty and illiteracy are the underlying causes of terrorism and has been positioned as one of the significant reason for terrorism in Pakistan. There is a need to examine the underlying relation between terrorism and poverty and is there any connection with support to terrorist groups (Mesoy, 2013). If poverty was the cause of terrorism, then terrorism would also happen in the poorest and backward counties of Africa and Asia. Secondly, the woman who was attacked in the recent terrorist attack in Karachi was neither illiterate nor poor. Several intellectuals believe poverty is a significant reason for terrorism because in this country 2/3 of the public lives underneath the poverty line, moreover in Pakistan only two US dollars is the base everyday wage of citizens. Thus poverty provides sufficient numbers of people to terrorist groups (Carmen, 2014). Though logical inconsistencies exist in writing as to the job of poverty in reproducing terrorism, numerous world academia has cautioned about the connection between poverty and Islamic violence. The young from unfortunate families additionally straightforwardly join the terrorist groups to

get to the next level of their living. Thus, neediness causes the arrangement of a more than adequate supply line of labor for terrorist groups. To some extent this study is in line with the assumption of financial difficulty. In this study financial difficulties are a means of working with terrorist groups and giving them the power to compile and prepare lists of individuals they need. It does not show that the financial situation has created terrorist groups in the country. The beginnings of these groups may vary.

War on terror: as a result of a severe jihadi attack on the USA on 11th September 2001, one of the main causes of terrorism in Pakistan. (Pilat, 2013). Pakistan took part in the war on terror. Pakistan's assistance was related to "access (land bases, sea, and air access), as well as an understanding of sponsorship, facilitation activities." However, despite Pakistan's support in the war on terror, militant and terrorist groups turned against Pakistan, and they began to attack Pakistan's armed forces, police, and civilian population. These hostile groups of Pakistan identified themselves as Tehreek-e-Taliban, Pakistan, etc. (Fair, 2007).

Grievances and inequality: To address a scientific question, "Recognizing that the Grievances of terrorists are true, can strengthen the legitimacy of terrorist groups/organizations. However, understanding the forerunners of such beliefs can shed light on how some terrorist targets are achieved. (Harley Williamson, 2020). In the case of Pakistan, grievances and inequality are also a major cause, as many people have their grievances with the government, law enforcement agencies, and the state, when these grievances and inequalities are linked with resentment, anger, and aggression, some of them turn to terrorism as in the case of Baluchistan, FATA, etc., the grievance clearly increased and eventually, some of them resorted to methods of violence and somehow joined terrorist organizations (Shahzad, 2019; Muzaffar, et. al. 2021).

State repression: one of the most concerning areas, when the state did not hard the grievances of people a made repression on its minorities, marginalized class or deprive segments of society, and such people rebel and raise their voice, however, some become violent and use arsenals in response to state repression. The harshness of the security forces fuels the anger against the state and helps in the registration of insurgents. However, researchers also believe that coercion does not necessarily lead to rebellion in all cases (Wilson, 2019; Muzaffar, et. al. 2018). Among the nation-level connections of terrorism, may be none has demonstrated to be a higher priority than the conviction that terrorism emerges from conditions of dictatorship (Saiya, 2021). Baluchistan and FATA are classical examples of such phenomena.

Ideology and Clash of values: Ideology differences also actually harm the country. When society and groups observed that ideology is at stake, they go to any length to do so. Clash of values is another cause which is again evident in the case of FATA this at people feel insecure about the practice and promotion of their values, traditions, and custom in their homeland. When they think that the state or someone imposes artificial or synthetic values on them, they feel insecurity and anti-sentiment agent state and at that time, terrorist groups feel specs for recruitment of such people annoyed with the state for its terrorist activities.

Religious Intolerance: Growing religious intolerance in society is also a cause of terrorism because terrorists often use such religious rifts and differences for terrorism. It has also been observed that these religious groups go to great lengths to

harm each other even to join a terrorist organization to destroy another religious group and sect. For some decides now religious intolerance has been on the rise in Pakistan.

The lack of law enforcement: is another cause of terrorism that guarantees the recognition of state regulations, and for the most part, it is assumed that with the strategy, rules, and regulations terrorism can be addressed (James Andrew Conser, 2011). Law Enforcement agencies are associated with terrorism because it is an important anti-terrorism device and a reason to note the display of terrorism in a country. (Robert, 2011). Unfortunately, the situation of policing Pakistan is uncommonly hindering. According to the Index of Rule of Law 2014, Pakistani authoritative organizations are weak in approving guidelines. Out of 99 countries associated, Pakistan is situated 95th, where a weak administrative structure, fails to control extremism and terrorism in Pakistan (Abbas, 2011). In the absence of law enforcement and state legitimacy, it is undesirable for terrorist groups to be held accountable. There is an enemy of terrorists in the nation but sadly the execution is very poor. One of the most worrying situations is that a reputable organization cannot be reluctant to look for arrested absconders in correctional facilities because they have managed to escape.

Legal framework: the study further explains that the country's legal framework is inactive and incapable and the violation of the regulation is an ordinary thing. A report by the US Institute of Peace shows that Pakistan's policing is constantly neglecting to combat terrorism successfully, maintain the law in order, and fail to give fundamental security to its residents and fight to grow against militancy. In addition, the country's antiterrorism regulations are loaded with deficiencies. A review disseminated by Pakistan's Center for Research and Security Studies includes various deficiencies of Pakistan's anti-terrorism act. There are several flaws in anti-terrorist legislation that make it more likely to encourage terrorism than to stop it. The military tribunals have been set up, as a result, to deal with terrorists.

Demographic changes and Urbanization: a significant change in the demography and rapid population growth other factors connected with terrorism, particularly the irregular change in the demography, increase of violent young males and ethnic groups creates insecurity and uncertainty (Ian, 1993). Subsequently, terrorist organizations feel space and exploit such circumstances. Hence, Urbanization, as mentioned earlier that in a poor, weak, illiterate, and badly managed country, people migrate to urban areas for several reasons. There is a link between terrorism and urbanization in connection with poverty and unemployment factors. Often seen that because of Urbanization, inequality in income and unjust resources allocations forced people to find out news opening (Massey, 1996). Too many Urbanization phenomena create poverty, hunger, crime, and family disruption, which exploit by terrorist organizations and that's why terrorist groups recruit people from such areas and counties.

Human right violations and deprivation: human rights violations and dispossession having a nexus with terrorism. Terrorist groups approached and seek support from people who were humiliated, threatened, or dispossession either by the state or any authoritative section (Bruce, 1998) . Likewise, in many other tests, our search is not without limits. This study explores the various general causes of

terrorism in Pakistan in general, yet an effective link between these variables and terrorism still needs to be fully established. Our research, to be honest, was not meant to test the hypothesis, yet the ranking elements are well-defined for Pakistan.

The search for the future can use hypothetical pieces of knowledge to create a speculative connection between these specific causes and terrorist threats. In light of our findings, the search for the future can similarly differentiate between measures to improve these factors in order to reduce or eliminate terrorism in Pakistan. In a situation where today terrorism and terrorists groups (inside or outside) have expanded their base in the nation, this is due to the negligence of law enforcement institutions. Thus, the absence of effective monitoring and policing are in essence a cause of terrorism, yet it also takes care of the various causes of development. However, offices of close insights cannot provide strong evidence against unfamiliar cooperation in terrorist attacks. This is probably in light of the response and key nature of the issue. Similarly, we must not overlook the poor governance and states in the country that enable unfamiliar components to be brought to the surface. However, should be taken seriously by experts and strategists. Cooperation in the war on terror cannot be a major cause of terrorism if Pakistan manages to the consequences of such a war. There is no reason for one-sided groups to engage in terrorism, and signaling out on a single factor does not recommend successful strategic measures. Our study, then, recommends a multifaceted but more engaging indication of the disturbing nature of terrorism in Pakistan.

Conclusion

The roots of modern terrorism are many, and this fact becomes even clearer when comparing the growing evolution of religious and non-religious / secular types of terrorism. This indicates that it is difficult to formulate a broad or joint policy approach/recommendations as the study suggests that there is no single principle in the fight against terrorism. To combat the underlying drivers, causes, or grievances that lead to violent extremism, and terrorism in Pakistan, there is no consensus on what causes contributed to extremism and terrorism. Most often, terrorism is caused by factors like poverty, illiteracy, inequality, and difficult financial situations, although poverty and illiteracy does not solitary causes. War on terror is one of the factor as militants and terrorist groups launching attacks on Pakistan's law enforcement institutions as well the as civilian population, particularly Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan and its ally groups. When people have grievances against the government, enforcement ament agencies, and the state, in the context a clash of civilization, state repression, ideology, identity, injustices, etc. it's converted into resentment, anger, and violence as evident in the cases of FATA, Baluchistan, etc. resultantly, some of them resist and raise their voices and some turn violent and utilize weapons in retaliation for governmental persecution. The lack of competent law enforcement and, legislation and another cause of terrorism. Law enforcement agencies are associated with terrorism because it's an essential tool in the fight against terrorism. Another reason why the State has to set up military courts to deal with terrorists is because of a weak judicial system, ineffective rules, and several flaws in anti-terrorism law. Urbanization and demographic changes have a connection with terrorism when it comes to essentials like unemployment and poverty. It is frequently observed that urbanization, income inequality, and unfair resource also have nexus with terrorism. Human rights violations, people who had been threatened, humiliated, or kicked out of their homes by the government or another authority

figure were contacted by terrorist organizations. Lack of commitment could hamper in any case, complete destruction would require a crackdown on local and non-local terrorist groups, and terrorism support for Pakistan is considered the most important factor in the war against terrorism. The study recommends that to address the terrorism phenomena in Pakistan, the state has to make effective legislation, and law enforcement / establish the state writ, bringing the terrorist causes to its logical conclusion at the earliest either through existing courts or even using military courts, shall also have to address grievances, poverty, illiteracy issues, stop human rights violations, make an atmosphere of religious tolerance, etc.

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