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The Terrorist Threat its Challenges, Aftermath and Policy Response of Pakistan in the post 9/11 Environment 2001-2023

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Abstract

The qualitative, analytical, and descriptive study indicates that the most important causes of terrorism include lack of constabulary, poverty, Pakistan's participation in war on terror, foreign involvement, and unemployment. The studies investigate that the different aspect and impact of terrorism on Pakistan and the United States support to Pakistan for countering terrorism. Due to the intimidating neighbors especially India and Afghanistan, geo-political importance, diverse ethnicity and culture, weak political, economic, religious, and social institutions, etc., Pakistan is the country in the world. The study scrutinizes how Pakistan has to face a severe internal and external problem of Terrorist activities and cost along with a somber response of the terrorist activities i.e., suicidal attacks in the post 9/11 scenario 2001-2023. Although, in modern era terrorism is worldly recognized term but always a question arises that terrorism is a modern technique to spread violence in human society or it was already existed in history?

Key words: Counter Terrorism, Al-Qaeda, security measures, scourge, perpetrators

Introduction

Peace and stability are an important and fundamental element of any society to grow. On the other side terrorism is concerned to an action of violence and destruction which disturbed the peace and creates chaos in public. Terrorists manipulate fear through the use of violence to achieve their objectives. An understanding of what motivates terrorists to employ mindless violence against civilian or non-combatant targets is essential for assessing the phenomenon. In present era almost everyone is familiar with the word terror because we hear this word on daily from many sources like electronic media or see it from print media. Although it was clear restrictions by the US presidential government to avoid the use of this word, but they badly failed in doing so because it has globally received its recognition. (Pin sky, 2020). The roots of this brutal action planted in history, but we are reaping its fruit today. There are many queries in this regard which needs attention, and we try to find out the solution all these. (Hanhimaki & Blumenau, 2013). Most of the intellectuals of the globe agreed upon this explanation of terrorism mean an act which creates terror publicly for some political gains in any specific area. It is a way of to achieve those something by unlawful means, any class of person of society which are impossible in other conditions. The reasons of terrorism are studied in order to find out which factors

encourage the production of terrorist activities. (Haider, Heredero, Ahmed, & Dustgeer, 2014). This may help to bring down the terrorist activities. But the necessary thing in this regard is to think that how everyone is saved from this action and what kinds of precautions should be taken to remove, avoid or eradicate this tension from society and it is not only the duty of state but public also participate in this battle. International human organizations developed rules and regulations to resolve this issue from throughout the history till present days. In recent years after the incident of September 9, 2001, there has been a rapid progress in launching different types of plans to crush these bloody movements. Pakistan is a country which faces the issue and the consequences relating to this bloody violence from more than four decades till the day, but this has been developed with the passage of time. Pakistan as neighbor of Afghanistan indirectly involved in war against Russia. During that era a strategy of counter terrorism was established by the Pakistan government. Game plan was to produce religious warriors to crush Russian movement and United State providing every kind of help to achieve this goal, but Pakistan got stuck in its own plane and faced consequences till the day. There are some specific northern areas of Pakistan which called the colonies of these rebels of states in which most of them belongs to neighbor country lies in northwest of Pakistan.

Pakistan's security measures and cost

Pakistan has made lots of sacrifices in this regard which are the aftermaths of 9\11 event and Pak army play a very important role that even they don't care their lives and face opposition by the international community (Javaid, 2013). In past the status of Pakistan before international community was not good but the current situation is better after the operations launched by Pakistani forces against these ethnic groups and earn success huge in this regard. This is one side of the picture but the other side of this has a dark view that the national and international economy of Pakistan has disturb during this war of terrorism (Halliday, 2021). To find out the reasonable answer in this behalf we must jump in history. Terrorism means a brutal action, which create chaos, disturbance, and pain for people. It creates hurdle in peace process mission for any society of the world. It has been traced back from the beginning of human history. Historians have stated that it has been present from the day first of history. Every class of society involved to promote it and give progress to this action till the day. It is not wrong to say this that every group or country has use these activities to achieve their goals throughout the human history. In times of Greeks society and roman afterward adopted this action.

The Historical framework analysis

History not only tells us about terrorism but also explained how this act has been committed and what kinds of weapons used in this performance in details. Babylonian of ancient era use Sicca which was a curved shaped has long sharp edges sword and knife as weapons. They used these tools to punish those people who had become renegades in the eye of state. This type of torture had been performed publicly. The main aim was that to leave an impression of terror for the rest of to avoiding betrayal in society for future. Now a day media is a strong way of communication. It plays a very constructive role for bringing awareness about its terrible impacts on human health and society as well. Terrorism in modern times has associated in different forms e.g., political, or religious terrorism etc.

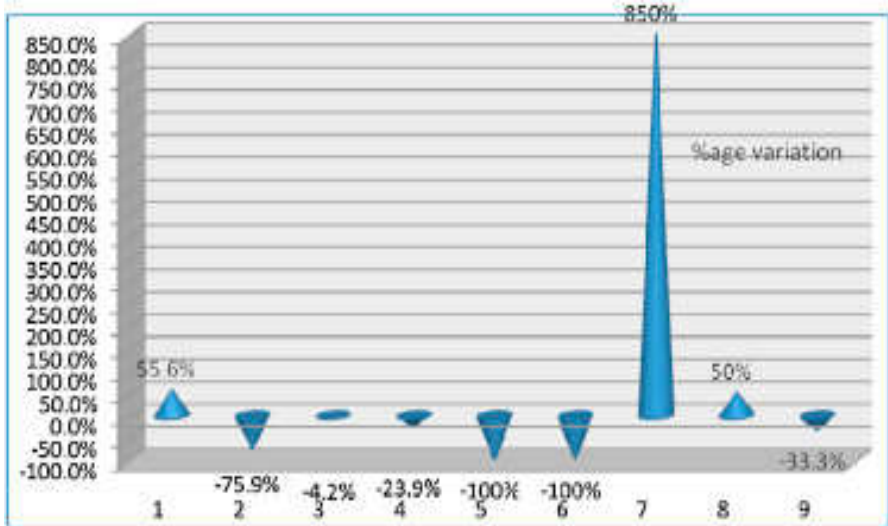
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These classes use it for achieving their goals. It has been narrated by the historian that every religion of the world has allowed bloodshed in their defense. According to historian, that in Hindu religion human slaughtering was a common daily practice. Billions of people killed in the name of religion by the religious scholars of that time. Although the nature of this cruel activity as same as in past times but there has been witnessed a major development in its forms and formation. The idea about terrorism has been progressed within the passage of time. The executions given to terrorists are different according to its nature and needs of times. As we all know that Islam is a religion of peace and harmony. It never allowed anyone to put aggression on civilian societies even war days because it is not a good tool of victory. To spread chaos and panic in society is a next level activity of terrorism. The main analogy of this activity is to leave deep and brutal impressions both on human body and mind. Meaning thereby, the people of that society always live in a state of threat and never live with peace of mind and even do not take part in healthy activities of life. According to Alexander and Kline views that this is a horror action associated with apprehension of losing life and property as well. It constituted a sense of insecurity among people of any society. It relates an act which may be used against the policies of the states. The downfall of states will progress day by day if these brutal activities did not stop by the concerned authorities. Present shape of terrorism is well equipped and well organized in its functions. It used modern devices to perform their functions like T.V, internet, which are the best ways to deliver the communication in society. In a way terrorists are aware of the benefits of these scientific gadgets and used them to manipulate people's feeling to achieve their objectives. It has also spread an atmosphere of anxiety all over the society that everyone feels uncomfortable and unstable. It is necessary and important duties that government department and security agencies should be take action to keep up the morals of their people high during these conditions. Pakistan is a country who faces the aftermath of the 9\11 incident until today. Many people of Pakistan especially lose their lives and property in these brutal activities from the last 3 decades in this war of terrorism but did not lose hope and always stands against these actions. Pakistan always stands side by side and takes an active part with United State in anti-violence activities against these terrorists. Now it clear cut understanding and important assessment in this regards that for everyone that Afghanistan is the focal point for peace because peace in Afghanistan means peace of everywhere in its neighboring states too.

The scourge of Terrorism and Pakistan's policy response

In past, terrorism is just an illegal action by a class of people by using different types of war-weapons like swords, knife, kidnapping or hijacking etc. But now a day terrorism has used in its wider sense it not only associated with an act which create violence and hurt the lives and properties of general public through use of force but to achieve their goals terrorists use scientific methods like spreading germs of diseases to threaten the community in this regard is called Bioterrorism. Corona virus is the best example of recent days in this regard Use of this kind of methods to spread terror is not a new concept, but it is recognized by the earliest human history. The first time used has been against for the opposite army by the Greek worrier Herodotus forces.(Sultan & Hashmi 2013). They used deadly poison upon their weapons to harm their enemies. During the year of 1980s, it was

Berry Collin who first time used this term of Cyber-terrorism in the reference of modern technology. It was associated with electronic media crime like internet etc. Trained computer IT masters steal information from other medium in an unauthorized way to make lose others. Lots of destructions had been recorded in past. They do these destructions for gaining any kinds of benefits and these may be related national or international. (Tafoya, 2011).



Source: Fig 34+35; Graph of cyber-terrorism by www.sciencedirect.com

Pakistan' coordination with global counter terrorism initiatives

Eco-terrorism is associated with an action in favor to save the environment by the danger of industries it is take by some environmentally friendly groups. This term is well explained by the United State Investigation agency called FBI in following words; (Niaz, 2010).This form is associated by some Revolutionists ecologists whose aim is to safe nature at any cast from those who create problematic activities to destroy environment. To save nature is not a new phenomenon for people, it is present from the centuries of man but the term of eco terrorism has not been introduced till 1960. This has been introduced for the first time in history when some civilian take action against those people who wants to destroy the forest land. This insurgency has been continued till five years. It is very dangerous and distinct term of terrorism in which terrorists achieve their goal through spreading poisonous nuclear material in an area. This type of violence activity reached in its extreme point because nuclear weapon has been used to perform this deadly function. Through this insurgency the insurgent spread any kind of nuclear substance released from any nuclear station situated any of their premises on opposite areas. Because it was created a horrible situation, so it was hugely condemned by across the globe. So, during era of 16th July 2006, a worldly recognized institution has been developed by the superpowers named the Global initiatives to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT). The agenda of this organization was to save the globe from nuclear destructions, many precautionary measures had been taken in this regard by those countries who are part of that organization.(Ran stop, 2020).The recent example of this terrorism has been seen in Kashmir from

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1948 where Indian government show its rights upon this state and still try to crush the freedom fighter movements till present day. The term relates an action of in which a state to crush the activities of its own civilians or any group who resides in that state and who challenges the writ of Govt. and involved an activity considered against state functionaries at that time. It is not new act for the people, it has been traced by the history in the year of 1793, when French Govt. crushed the movement at that time. Such type has been seen throughout the history, and recent traces has been found during the era of Saddam Hussain is an example of state terrorism. State sponsored violence and terrorism is not a new thing for modern societies of the world. (Singh, 2010). It is a type of self-defense in the eye of those who involve in it from the beginning of the history. According to this condition state shows its right to providing help to the forces to crush the revolt for the sake of the safety of the country. Now day incendiaries are engaged and has relations with foreign organizations for backing and they are fully equipped with modern techniques to spread violence in any part of the world that's why state provide help to the securities agencies against these violations. The example of state-sponsored terrorism has been seen from all over the world. According to a survey conducted in 2008 by the Brooking institute that Iran is the most powerful instance in this regard. Pakistan position in front of the world is also as a state sponsored country in terrorist activity.

The internal and external perpetrators

Pakistan frequently faced security tensions from its bordering sides, so it tries to condemn those threats made by the neighbors. FATA is the place to produce insurgents and secrete hideouts of terrorists. A recent announcement made by the current prime minister of Pakistan Imran Khan that 40000 militants work under the supervision of state security agency. Although there are many forms of terrorism recognized all over the world, but I just discuss political terrorism and its resemblance with other types. It is an action in which is taken by anyone who may belong to an association or some other to achieve its political goal. This action considered against the state policies. The rebellious minded people create an atmosphere of violence publicly for the purpose to fail the government institute. The work of insurgency in this regard performed in a well-organized way by them. Like every type of terrorism act this also means to create panic, chaos, and fear of instability in public minds to bring out for their illegal political aims. (Lalit, 2019). This unique term narcotic-terrorism has been introduced by the president of Peru during 1983. As I said that the phenomenon of narcotic-terrorism has wider in its sense. It has directly link with politic and the violence create under it in modern era. Political parties engaged these terrorists for their benefits. These people involve in serious and heinous crime like trafficking of drug and ammunition etc. They provide capital to political groups to gain their aims. Now it is recognized as serious offense and to stop its smuggling many conferences held in this regard all over the world.

The Religious and Radical mindset factors

Ever since Pakistan was created in the name of religion, generations of its leaders have tried to use Islamic ideology to persuade its diverse population to favor national unity and to counter external threats The current scale of religious

extremism unprecedented in militancy and activism indicative of this perception that their respective faiths and communities stands at a critical historical juncture. The war on terrorism may have provided the rationale for the current U.S. reengagement with Pakistan, but this war neither limits the relationship's scope nor exhausts the challenges it faces. The reengagement has merged with Pakistan's own reform effort, America's evolving strategic relationship with South Asia, and the broader issue of democracy in the Muslim world. And in Pakistan and beyond, this new relationship collides with the crosscurrents of religious extremism. (Hussain, 2005). It is a kind of religious extremism and these extremists considered that it is holy and divine duty and a sacred action. Religious scholars pass on this thing into to innocent people mind that it is the way of to achieve divinity. Religious extremism is not only problem of Pakistan but also concerned by developing nations too. The very kind of violence is an example that developed with the passage of time and did not reduce in modern times. It is important to know that religion is not an only cause to spread violence, but other elements are also responsible to create this type of situation in the society. There are many things related to above, but I will not discuss them due to shortage of time but try to mention some of the names, right-wing terrorism, left-wing terrorism, pathological terrorism, intimate terrorism and not least but last is separatist terrorism. (Ranstrop, 2020).

Al-Qaeda and its Associates wings

After September 11, the Pakistan army knew its strategic overextension in the region, especially its support for the Taliban and, by implication, al-Qaida, was untenable. But nearly bankrupt, the country had neither the political will nor the resources to take on these forces. Pakistan has cooperated with the United States in several ways, by granting logistics facilities, sharing intelligence, and capturing and handing over al-Qaida terrorists. Al Qaeda is one of the presently well-known active terrorist groups of modern eras. The establishment history of this organization has been very dramatic. Before this many other ethnic groups were in functioning in this regard as such MAK and IIRO etc. Osama bin laden was an Arab by creed he met Dr. Abdullah Azzam during his stay in Afghanistan. Dr Abdullah already had run a jihadi movement Maktab Al Khadimat (MAK) and the main purpose of this organization was to reunite the Muslims of the globe. Osama work under his guidance for many a year but left him due to some conflicts and founded Al Qaeda Al Sulbah after the departure of Russia from Afghanistan in the year of 1989 (Aldis & Herd, 2007). The main features and functions of this foundation were to reunite the Muslims under one flag against the rationalists' powers, the imposition of Allah's laws across the land and the globe must be ruled by the Muslims once again. The driving force of this institution was its philosophical thoughts under which anyone can give its life fir it. It's a well-organized foundation and work under the rule of one powerful blow is comparable to a hundred smaller blows which shake the world like 9\11 attack by it. This foundation was funded by the efforts of Osama by most of the Muslims well renowned Arab states. The particular purpose of this establishment to crush the Russian intervention from Afghanistan but later it participated on those liberation movements which had start fight for their own freedom like Kashmiri freedom movement etc. The important principle under the Al Qaeda network functioned is upon the teaching of Islam which presented a strong belief among Muslims is that

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those who gives their lives in the way of Allah does not consider as dead one and even received the title of shaheed under the grace of Allah. This belief has completely ousted the fear of death from them, and they can achieve every kind of impossibility. Pakistan has been facing many difficulties and hazards throughout past regarding the issue of peace and stability. And it is no doubt that the integrity of state is totally depends upon peace of whole region. Pakistan has been notorious in international community that it supports terrorists in past but after the incident committed by Al Qaeda network in 9\11 Pakistan stands side by side with USA in the war against terrorism and loses many valuable lives in it. Pakistan not only stands as a front-line state after this brutal incident of history and made strategy against these insurgencies made by Al Qaeda or Taliban but also helped Afghan in every possible way to its rehabilitation under the humanity.

The Afghan Taliban influence and Infiltration

Afghanistan shares similar features like Pakistan such as culture, customs, religion, and even geographically located in the same region. So, every event affects both equally. 11 September was the blackest day of history because on that day a very horrific incident of disaster took place which can never be forgotten by anyone. Al- Qaeda was an active terrorist group at that time which accepted the responsibility of that incident. After that, there was a wave of terrorism which victimized the whole world especially. Pakistan is one of the countries which had the easy target of terrorists. The world started to try out to resolve the issue.(Askari,2004).The diplomatic relation with this neighbor always observed ups and downs throughout the whole history according to the intellectuals. It is another established group after Al Qaeda in Afghanistan and the main aim of its establishment and support was only to destroy and breakdown the counter attacks in this regard. Taliban was actually a group of students who formed themselves to save Afghanistan from the cruel hands of foreign invaders. it very is important to discuss the so-called war on terror imposed by the United States (US) on Afghanistan and the role of the Pakistani government in this arena.(Khan, 2002). It was established in 1994. Taliban was established in the wake of counter terrorism of Russia in Afghanistan with the help of other foreign powers who wanted to save themselves from the soviet aggression. According to an international data, Pakistan provides every kind of support to this group in crushing Russian movement from Afghanistan because it was an upcoming threat of world integrity. But afterwards this group got strong position in the country and took control almost all the affairs which led a horrible state there and also led a war of terrorism everywhere. From time to time, Pakistan has been providing all kinds of technical as well as material aids to Afghans people from past to till the present day and a recent example in this respect had been seen from 2017 to 18 when Pakistan helped Afghan with 1billion US dollars in different fields of life. They started doing cruel action in the name of religion under the leadership of Mullah Omar. (Bernet 1995). All of them where religious student from different creeds belongs to different Deni Madressas of that time which were situated in different parts of Pakistan and itself in Afghanistan as well. They almost lockdown country and get support by some of its neighboring Islamic states but after US intercession in Afghanistan their activities were limited. As a result, it re-organized themselves, and started a movement against US support states. Pakistan performed a

constructive part in the restoration of US-Afghan relation. Pakistan stands side by side in war against terrorism started by USA in south Asia. (Epstein 2013).

Continuity of Pakistan and the US Counterterrorism Interaction

The United States has made great efforts to prove itself a big supporter in the past decades, and it is important to note that it tried to provide all kinds of assistance like manpower and funds to Pakistan. According to the views of foreign think tanks it has just for the sake of stability in the south Asian region and although it's proved a longed process which has been started after 2001 and is still going on. America has provided cooperation in the economic as well as political and field of Pakistan and gave funds during different phases in this regard, but this aid could not be fully utilized due to embezzlement. The Kerry-Lugar bill 2009 is an important example in this regard. The funds were not giving according to promised amount because in views of foreign policy makers, some diplomatic issues of Pakistan were not justifiable by them. Following are some of the tables which show the data aid package by US for Pakistan in different eras from past till present day. (Kapadia, 2009).



Source: US Assistance to Pakistan FY 2002-2014

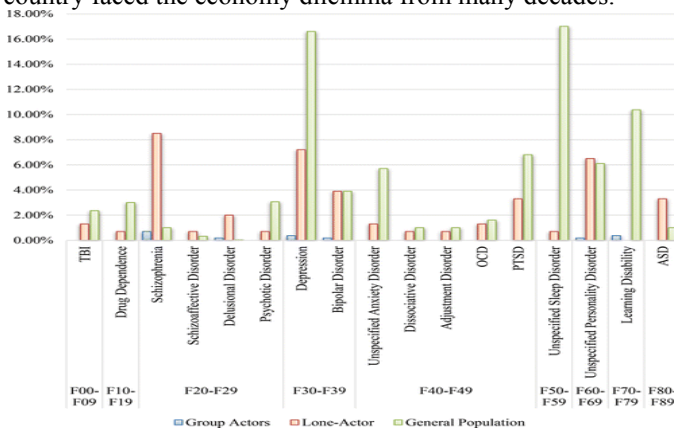
The current U.S.-Pakistan engagement may be focused on cooperation in the war on terrorism, but it is not limited to it.

War on Terror and implications for Pakistan

Pakistan is one of the Muslim countries of the world which holds frontline position in the eye of world against war of terrorism, but it suffers a lot during this difficult phase. Pakistan had paved almost 80 thousand live costs in this huge war on terror. It spread a situation of uncertainty extremism and fear upon entire society. The activities relating to terrorism are more organized and modernized than past. Pakistan is the only regional country to participate in the Coalition Maritime Interdiction Operations, the maritime component of Operation Enduring Freedom. Additionally, the intelligence provided by Pakistan has led to successes against

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terrorism around the world. For example, all the top al-Qaida leaders captured to date have been apprehended in Pakistan with the government's help, while Pakistan itself has arrested more than seven hundred terror suspects (Toqeer, 2005). The country has also banned or placed on watch lists a large number of sectarian and militant organizations and has enacted numerous antiterrorism laws, freezing thirty-two bank accounts suspected of belonging to terrorist organizations. Finally, Pakistan is currently creating a national criminal database and is the first country to successfully install PISCES, a terrorist-interdiction program set up at seven Pakistani airports and at border crossings with India. The situation of Pakistan becomes worse due to these countries of region. India creates security hazards in many ways. Afghanistan is still a zone of war from throughout the history, but the situation has become developed after Russian cold war during 1979 and the neighboring country like Pakistan indirect involved in it for its safety and provided them support in every possible means which needs for survival. Pakistan indirect involved in it for its safety and provided them support in every possible means which needs for survival. Pakistan pays a lot during these efforts (Christoph, 2015). The insurgent occupied the northern area of Pakistan as base camps for their terrorist activities and the aftermaths was terrible and horrified which has been proved after. It a fact that terrorism is not only a problematic issue for developing countries like Pakistan, but it is an international issue of debates. The country faced the economy dilemma from many decades.



Survey report about those who had victimized during terrorist action

The main aim of these sectarian to target these busy places to create a sense of insecurity among the people that they start feeling that they and their belonging are in a danger zone. In this way they play a dangerous game of sentiments until their illegal task has not been complete. Besides all the hurdles mentioned above Pakistan very is important and constructive in global peace. Pakistan sends its security agents for those programs organized by the united nation for world peace and stability. Another important thing is that Pakistan consumed most of its budgets in the activities launched against terrorism and faces difficulties on other corners of life. A good solution for the rehabilitation of effected people is that not only government makes strategy, but individuals must participate also in this procedure by their own behalf for the welfare and betterment of the whole society.

Conclusion

The research has been conducted with the objective of exploring the most important causes of terrorism in Pakistan. There are stirrings of change in Pakistan under Musharraf but if they are not perceptible, it is because a massive amount of work needs to be done. This is why even a significant achievement seems so little in proportion to the magnitude of the challenge. It might be said that only rhetoric has changed in Pakistan, not the reality on the ground. The fact is, in a society long entrenched in an unchanging self-image and worldview, rhetoric and substance merge indistinguishably. So, if the rhetoric changes, changes in substance may not be far behind. For that to happen, the United States must remain engaged with Pakistan, not only to meet its current challenges, but its future challenges as well. In the past, Pakistan has aligned itself with external powers to acquire internal harmony and external security, although with incongruent expectations. It remains an ally of the USA in the war against terrorism, but again the alliance seems based on dissimilar expectations. This act does not only associate with individuals alone but most of the history described those states involved in it. This is not a new term of modern age, but it was present from early age of human. History not only recognized the presence of this activity in past but also gives us a brief detailed about everything related to this act like how did the commencement of this activity and what kinds of weapons has been used during its performance? SICA is a kind of ling curved knife which was used to create terror and fear upon enemies by the Babylonian and Romanian in past time. Now a day we have seen terrorism in a developed and organized form, but the main aim and purpose of this action is same as past times, meaning thereby the important feature of this action is create a fear or terror upon society. First and the second world wars are the huge examples of this action in which states involved. It is a kind of conflict which may be between two different ethnic groups or between two nations which may be political or religious in its nature. Al Qaida and Taliban are the major and well organizes ethnic groups in this regard and the action related to it has been witnessed from long time. This horrible action leaves deep marked behind and effected societies and its people pay long for it. The aftermaths of this war did not only face by Afghan, but Pakistan is a big victim in this regard because the peace and stability of Pakistan directly depends upon peace in Afghanistan. Pakistan plays a very important role in peace keeping mission conducted by international human rights organization and send its army throughout the world under this mission and this is a clear manifest before those who blamed that Pakistanis a state in which terrorist are produced. Pakistan gives many sacrifices of lives and property of its people to blow the flames of terrorism. Its economy also disturbed from many years, and it also provide shelter to Afghan refugees in Pakistan from many years although it's a huge burden upon it but this procedure still going on for the sake of neighborhood.

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