

War on Terror and its Social, Political and Economic Impacts on Pakistan:

By

¹Irshad Ahmed Tareen, ² Bijar Khan

Abstract:

Pakistan has been struggling as well as suffering deeply because of continuous wave of terrorism for such a long period of time. As a result of that, the State is experiencing terrible impacts regarding all spheres of life. The main purpose of this study is to highlight the factors involved in terrorism and its deep impacts on Pakistani society, which are really creating hurdles in terms of social, political, economic development and growth.

Keywords: War on terror, Pakistani society, political problems, Economic development

Introduction:

The term “Terrorism” has been defined as “killing of innocent people on no reasons,” as well as “harassments”, destructions, suicide attacks. (Chachar and Mangi, 2013).

It not only breaks the social fabric of the society, but also brings political instability, disturbs the people, damages the infrastructure, causes a decline in economic well-being. Not only terrorism upsets the development of a state in terms of dropping external nonstop funds, wealth creation, and assets but also raises vulnerability issues. In historical perspective, the European, African, Asian as well as other regional states have been suffering greatly by terrorism. Further extremist assaults on private inhabitants, possessions, and transportation also airfields remain associated worsening wealth creation as well as lowering the Gross domestic product development. (Barth, 2013).

According to (I.M.F) (2001), it is assessed that the direct costs of September 11, 2001 assaults on America as equivalent to \$21.4 billion

¹ M.Phil. Scholar, Pakistan Study Center, University of Balochistan, Quetta, Pakistan

² Lecturer, Pakistan Study Center, University of Balochistan, Quetta, Pakistan

whereas, according to (Navarro and Spencer) (2001), it is said that the cost of capital stock was \$50 billion to \$53 billion. (International Monetary Fund, 2013).

As far as Pakistan is concerned, she is engaged in the fight known as the (War against Terror) started back in (September 2001). Until now, as a result of this fight, Pakistan suffered heavily in terms of the lives of more than 35,000 people as well as 3,500 armed staffs, above and beyond annihilation in terms of infrastructures as well as (67.93 billions of dollars) through cost-effective cost. (Government of Pakistan, 2013).

The country is and has been dealing with terrorist assaults with suicide killings deteriorating safety issue as well as the overseas financiers are unwilling investing in the country. The armed actions against the extremists expatriated tens of, thousands of persons in Sawath region province of Khyber Pakhthoonkhuwah as well as Federally Administered Tribal Area, shattering the country's image in the international community. (Javaid, 2011).

This war surely threatening the amity, solidity as well as well-being of Pakistan's community. (Chachar and Mangi).

More concerned matter is that the phase of the war on terror is being elongated plus countries social, political and economic system is being shattered day by day. Having insufficient capitals in the economy, also the war against terror more increased the economic issues. Because of squat economic growth, foreign borrowings have amplified though Pakistan's trades, wealth development as well as overseas ventures have reduced. Extremists have defied the writ of the Pakistan, as a result of that the soft image of state has been blemished. (Ali, 2013).

Yet investigators like Pasha (2010) have attempted studying the impacts of war against terror in Pakistan, current literatures upon the matter do not exist mainly by 2009 on. (Pasha, 2010). The aim of this study is identifying the administrative, economic, as well as social impacts of the war on terror on Pakistani soil as well as addressing the data gap by 2009 to 2011.

Problem Statement:

The study is important because it has considerable strategy inferences for the state as the people of Pakistan have been suffering deeply for ages as a result of this war.

The specific research question is as follow:

What are the social, political and economic effects of the war on terror for Pakistan for 2009 to 2011?

For how long this war continues?

These are serious questions and must be answered as people of Pakistan as well as State sacrificed a lot being engaged in war on terror for ages.

Significance/Justification of the Study:

This is indeed an important research study and it is expected to identify the relationship among variables, and how this study will be able to provide recommendations from the findings to get rid of this huge and grave problem.

Objectives of the Study:

The prime objective of this study is to check the relationship between terrorism with respect to economic growth and development.

The specific objectives of the study are;

- i- To understand the term war on terror and its deep impacts on Pakistani society.
- ii- To analyze the study about war on terror and its huge negative impacts with respect to economic growth and development.

Limitation of the Study:

This study is limited to the geographical locations of Pakistan and its neighboring countries where war on terror is being fought.

Literature Review:

According to “Charles Townshend” (2002) defining the term “terrorism” as “the planned utility or menace of ferocity inculcating terror, planned coercing or intimidating regimes or people”.

Similarly it is known as imposing individuals owning clarification of holy principles, radical ethos, societal principles as well as economic structure on the people with ferocity as well as terror. According to “Michael” (2007) defining the term “terrorism” as “general aggravation, upsurge of anxiety, as well as dissent against the regime, damaging the general as well as private possessions so as to draw the attention of the establishments.” Further he states as “terrorism is opposing to the pacific governmental system as well as abolishes the governmental arrangement of a culture”. It constrains economic

growth as well as capital formation. By the years 1970 to 2005 the world perceived approximately 20,000 extremist events which caused in more than 90,000 losses or damages. That ranging with the hostage coup in the year 1972 Munich Olympics to the 2002 and 2005 tourist killings in Bali. More findings regarding terrorism is certainly related to hostile economic impacts. The current texts showing that there is no formally or generally settled on description of terrorism. It's supposed that single individual's violence remains another individual's Holy warrior. Suppose, a Palestinian warrior remains an extremist for America as well as Israel then he is a Holy warrior for the Palestine, the Arabs community as well as their followers. Shortly, terrorism is known as to spread ferocity, carnage.

This qualitative study examined the link amid extremism as well as Pakistani economy through examining its influence upon agricultural, industrial, tourism sector, overseas direct ventures, increased security expenses as well as stock market.

Above mentioned issues are the main areas of Pakistani economy then one extremist action brings a bad influence over main areas. Being an agrarian economy as well as dependence of bulk of the people is upon agriculture to earn for living. In 2009 to 2011 the issues of common curfews, shooting as well as killings demolished fruit productions also further agricultural merchandises into Sawath district. It brought a bad influence upon the local economy plus likewise instigated joblessness. By (2009 – 2011) external direct assets reduced as extremism ranging terror amid the individuals as well as foreign traders remained unwilling investing in country. Stock markets too underwent because of great ratio of murders like that of Benazir Bhutto, ex-P.M of State. Because of heavy armed actions against the radicals, security expenditures amplified manifold which eventually reduced the growth budget. Yearly budget for the police force too amplified ominously. Also, terrorism too influenced tourist and industrial areas.

The study extra focused over the influence of the extremist actions upon common areas. More than 50,000 inhabitants as well as armed staffs died in Pakistan. Terrorists demolished numerous universities in Khyber Pakhthoonkhuwah as well as Federally Administered Tribal Area that likewise brought terror amid the students. Because of extremist occurrences upon the private possessions individuals lost their companies as well as joblessness amplified. Armed actions against the rebels displaced millions of individuals in KPK and FATA which carried financial, societal as well as emotional distresses to them. Furthermore, this study too emphasizes on the governmental influence of the war as well as examines the national, provincial as well as global effect of the war on terror in the country.

Hypothesis:

Ho: Economic Growth is negatively linked with extremist actions.

H1: The more terrorist activities, the more negative impacts on social progress and political advancement.

Methodology:

In view of the topic of this study, the Descriptive, Analytical and Historical methods were used.

Research Design:

The Quantitative and Qualitative techniques were used.

Data Collection and Variables of the Study:

For collecting the data, Primary and Secondary sources were used.

Pakistan being engaged in the war against terrorism, performing the role of a main character, since (September 2001). Up to now, the battle has carried massive annihilation in Pakistani society via decelerating the financial progress, upsetting the common organization, plus hurting the nation administratively. The research endeavors studying the common, governmental, as well as financial outcomes of the war against terrorism in Pakistani society by (2009 – 2011). In this age, force of the battle amplified as well as spreading inside the stable parts of Pakistani soil. (Federally Administered Tribal Areas, (Fata) as well as Khyber Pakhthoonkhawah), (KPK) endured terribly the dreadful pains.

The main task and aim of this study was to examine and highlight the social, political and economic effects of war against terrorism in Pakistani society, there are key variables regarding this study need to be enclosed.

- I- War on terror
- II- Political instability
- III- Social unrest
- IV- Lack of economic activities

Conclusion and Recommendations:

As far as the term “War of Terror” is concerned, it is an open fact that Pakistan plunged into this particular War because it was inevitable as a wake of terrible incident of 9/11 in America.

The prime objective was to save the State’s integrity, also to save the country by deep social, political, and economic turmoil.

Undoubtedly, it was not easy at all to formulate pungent policies coping with the grave War on terror issue.

Terrorism is indeed an ulcer which can damage any particular state's social, political and economic set up. Same is the case with Pakistan, and it is indeed need of the hour to cope this grave issue and policies must be formulated to get rid of it rapidly to achieve prosperity in the country regarding economic development and growth.

So far, Pakistani establishment and political parties are agreed being on the same page to continue fighting against War on Terror.

Pakistani forces have achieved massive victories against war on terror.

But still some extraneous variables are involved which need to be taken into consideration when it comes to achieve complete victory against war on terror.

Pakistani forces are fully capable to fight against terrorism, and so far the results are healthier.

It is indeed the need of the hour that there should be harmony among all the political parties, Pakistani Media, legislature, Judiciary, executive bodies, regarding the efforts and struggles carried out by Pakistan Army to fight against Terrorism in order to bring prosperity and achieve rapid economic development and growth in the country.

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