

Terrorism and Extremism as a Non-Traditional Security Threat Post 9/11: Implications for Pakistan's Security

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Abstract

Terrorism and extremism is a non-traditional security threat and is on its peak after September 9/11 in Pakistan. The attacks on World Trade Center and Pentagon divided the world into two blocs' supportive and non-supportive ally of United States. Pakistan being a supportive ally of the US has to face more negative security implications than positive. The security situation of Pakistan turned and is still worsening day by day. In this critical situation it is difficult to define national security of Pakistan. There is a need to eradicate threats of terrorism and extremism. By adopting multiple ways through which Pakistan can improve its security.

Key Words: Terrorism & Extremism, Non-Traditional Security Threats, Internal Security, Implications, Policy Recommendations.

I. Introduction

The dawn of 21st century has brought many changes in international politics. Terrorism threatens the security and ability of the people to live their lives in peace. Though it is not a new phenomenon and existed since ancient times, however it came into limelight after the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 on World Trade Center in New York. September 11 became a watershed in world politics which changed politics at domestic, regional, and global level.

The 9/11 terrorist attacks had forced the world community to view terrorism as a common challenge to global security. The incident was a turning point not only for American foreign policy, but it also reshaped the global power and security structure. These terrorist attacks marked the beginning of a new era in the US and in the whole world. The US blamed Osama bin Laden for those attacks, who was the guest of Taliban regime in Afghanistan. The safe haven given to al-Qaeda's leader by the Taliban brought the Taliban into world's focus. The US gave an ultimatum to the Taliban to hand over Osama bin Laden or be prepare to face the horrible consequences (Yusafzai 2011). However Taliban refused to hand over Osama bin Laden to and challenged the superiority of super power. After the refusal of the Taliban government the US launched a military attack against the Taliban and al-Qaeda in Afghanistan on October 7, 2001. The apparent objective of that attack was to capture Osama bin Laden. Within few months after the invasion the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) captured big cities of Afghanistan (Farooq 2005, 37).

Since the last decade, the US struggled to subdue and defeat the Taliban and Al-Qaeda with the assistance of coalition forces, but could not succeed. The Taliban resorted to full scale guerrilla warfare against Allied Forces. They conducted surprise suicide attacks on Allied Forces, in which numbers of allied forces were killed. Thus US were denied victory in Afghanistan, which came quite unexpected for the US leadership (Moonis 2005, 22). The Global War on Terror (GWOT) effects Pakistan's security environment more than any other state in the world. The events of 9/11 had brought dramatic changes not only in foreign policy of Pakistan but also drastically disturbed the security scenario of Pakistan. Former President Musharraf was compelled to extend full support to America in the ensuing war against terrorism. This support builds strong relationship between two states. Pakistan has assumed a central and active role in the war on terrorism. Pakistan has used this situation of improved relations to pursue a broad series of issues.

The main purpose of this study is to explore how terrorism and extremism are threatening Pakistan's security? How terrorism and extremism is rooted in Pakistani society? Further it describes how it is threatening the security of Pakistan? It also elaborates that how it threatens national and human security of Pakistan? There are also conclusionary remarks with some viable solutions for improving greater understanding and how to live in peace in a multiple society like Pakistan? Before going in details it is necessary to know that what terrorism is.

2. Definition and Causes of Terrorism

The word 'Terrorism' has no agreed definition, the scholars and academicians have defined it in different ways. According to Webster's Dictionary terrorism is defined as 'systematic use of violence, terror, and intimidation to achieve an end' (Webster Dictionary 1984, 434). The United States code defines terrorism as, 'premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by sub national groups or clandestine agents, usually intended to influence an audience' (United States Code 2656f). The European Union defines terrorism as 'seriously intimidating a population, or destabilizing or destroying the fundamental political, constitutional economic or social structure of a country or international organization' (Ahmed 2000, 131). Terrorism can be viewed as a non-traditional form of conflict, a mode of violent protest, a political message through violent acts and a violent act symbolizing a struggle (Sittar 2009, 2).

The OIC's 9/11 statement also drew attention to another initiative, the OIC Convention on Combating Terrorism, approved in 1999. (Patrick 2011). The the OIC Convention on Combating Terrorism includes defines terrorism as 'any act of violence or threat thereof notwithstanding its motives or intentions perpetrated to carry out an individual or collective criminal plan with the aim of terrorizing people or threatening to harm them or imperiling their lives, honor, freedoms, security or rights or exposing the environment or any facility or public or private property to hazards or occupying or seizing them, or endangering a national resource, or international facilities, or threatening the stability, territorial integrity, political unity or sovereignty of independent States' (<http://cnsnews.com/news/article/islamic-bloc-declines-condemn-all-terrorism>). However, 'Peoples' struggle including armed struggle against foreign occupation, aggression, colonialism, and hegemony, aimed at liberation and self-determination in accordance with the principles of international law shall not be considered a terrorist crime' (<http://cnsnews.com/news/article/islamic-bloc-declines-condemn-all-terrorism>). All this shows clearly that every state and organization had[s] defined terrorism in its own way to serve their own interest and they are yet not agree on a particular definition.

Terrorism has deep roots in Pakistani society due to number of causes that includes bad governance, marginalization of rural areas, delay and unavailability of justice and easy access to weapons (Khan 2010, 13). Moreover geographical locations make it vulnerable to terrorist threats. Extremism in any society according to researchers is due to poverty, unemployment, weak law and order, health and illiteracy. Socio-economic problems lead towards extremism because when these problems are combined they provide ground for terrorists (Ahmed 2000, 132).

The Pakistan society is governed in such a way that it becomes difficult for a layman to earn his livelihood in an honorable way, in both military and civilian regimes. People feel deprived of their rights and they look for short cuts for becoming rich in order to get rid of frustration. All these factor lead towards extremism and terrorism in any society. Fahmida Mirza, Speaker National Assembly is of the opinion that 'terrorism and extremism are the biggest threats to the security, peace and stability in the region and poverty, illiteracy and unemployment are the main causes' (Mirza 2009).

3. Background and Motivation

Pakistan was free the clutches of extremism and terrorism and was limited to sporadic and specific acts of religious and sectarian nature. However, the Iranian revolution and its counter revolutionary forces, Afghan Jihad culture and the Taliban Regime have negatively affected Pakistan society. In the late 1970s and 1980s, General Zia's Islamization process gave Pakistan a new ideology (Saima et al. 2012). During his regime many Madrassas were established which were later used as centers for Afghan Jihad. Jihadi culture thus established its roots in our society and gained a favorable support of politico-religious parties (Sultan 2006, 6).

In the 1970s and 1980s Islamization became main tool of Pakistan's internal foreign policy. It became an ally of the US against the Soviets in 1979 to curtail the growing influence of communism (Malik 2009, 17). After the Soviet defeat in Afghanistan and a long struggle between the Afghan Mujahidin a new force came to the forefront in Afghanistan in the form of Taliban. Pakistan was the main source of Taliban to be in contact with the outside world. Then the 9/11 incident occurred and Pakistan turned her back on Taliban and appeared as a frontline state to support the US in its policy to combat terrorism and to hunt the remnants of Taliban and Al-Qaeda network (Hamid 2011).

Terrorism and extremism had become the biggest challenge to Pakistan after it emerged as a reaction to the US invasion of Afghanistan in the wake of 9/11. Federally Administered Tribal Area (FATA) of Pakistan became breeding grounds of extremism from where terrorists and extremists spread throughout Pakistan in the name of religious activism (Malik 2009, 18). Terrorism and extremism today seemed as a new security threat to Pakistan. Due to the advancement of technology and globalization terrorists has resources and access to the latest know-how in technology and information. Pakistan is facing numerous domestic threats due to its role in Afghanistan. The presence of foreign troops on Pak- Afghan border condemned widely inside Pakistan, as it is believed to be a threat to state security and sovereignty. The terrorism/extremism now plaguing Pakistan is primarily 'Home Grown' influenced by foreign hands. The seeds of this virus were planted during the late 1970s as a state policy which continued unabated till 9/11 (Amir 2010). Today, Pakistan might be able to manage and control this menace being part of a larger team, but in the post-war Afghanistan being projected, it will be bound to face such challenges in isolation, while the projected nature of the crises could be very serious.

4. Terrorism and Extremism: Threat to the Security of Pakistan

Being a partner of US in war against terrorism Pakistan suffered a lot. 9/11 was only one terrorist incident the US territory but inside Pakistan numbers of such incidents have been observed, which deteriorated the law and order situation of country. No part of the country is safe due to bombing and suicide attacks of terrorism. Pakistan's troubled economic conditions, fluid political setting, and perilous security circumstances presents serious challenges to Pakistan's security.

On the economic front, Islamabad faces crises that erode their options. Investors are afraid of investing in Pakistan due to instability. Even Pakistan's own investors, traders and industrialists are reluctant to invest here and prefer to do investment in such countries where they receive handful profit. This directly increases our public resentment. Pakistan's economic performance does not appear to be bright in the wake of the prevailing turmoil, rising terrorist violence, political uncertainties and growing Talibanization of the society.

In addition, feeling insecurity from terrorism and the worst kind of law and order situation the intelligentsia of Pakistan is moving in search of a better and safe future to countries such as Canada, Australia, America, England, United Arab Emirate and South Africa (Jaffar Askari 2008). According to an estimate the brain drain of roughly six million Pakistanis has taken place in the last three decades (Jaffar Askari 2008).

On the political front, a weak civilian leadership, ongoing power struggles between the executive and judiciary, and discord in federal-provincial relations all serve to hamper effective governance. This directly inflicts unemployment, inflations, and reluctant of the investors to do investments. This also leads towards political bargaining in order to run the government in center and in provinces. Such political bargaining leads power sharing and are a burden on the economy of a developing country like Pakistan (Murphy et al. 2009, 7).

On the security front Pakistan is a safe haven for multiple armed Islamist insurgencies. After 9/11 Pakistan has made a quick decision to join hands with the international community to combat terrorism.

The diversion in Pakistan's policy towards Afghanistan offers opportunities as well as challenges for the state. It had created violence and political agitation, particularly FATA, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) and in Baluchistan. It also provided an opportunity to anti-government elements to use the ignited situation to their own advantage.

Pakistan has failed to meet the needs of its own citizens. Weak governance and over-reliance on military solutions have contributed to political turmoil and a build-up of extremism. Al Qaeda forces and their allies remain active on Pakistani territory (Hathway 2010). This connectivity between Al Qaeda and Pakistani Taliban is one of the main source of instability inside Pakistan. This connectivity leads to suicide attacks and bomb blasts everywhere in Pakistan. It got momentum in the upcoming years. Pakistan witnessed more than dozen attacks against its military, security forces, government officials and civilians. On September 3, 2008, for the first time in 60 years of independence, Pakistan faced a direct military attack by external armed forces, other than India (Malik 2009, 19). It was an alarming situation for Pakistan's security and sovereignty.

Talibanization promoted the culture of terrorism in Pakistan that includes ambushes on armed forces by Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), target killing of religious, political and civil society figures, scholars and doctors, blowing up schools, offices of NGOs, bridges and pillions, suicide attacks in mosques and other important places. So far more than 35000 Pakistani have lost their lives in different incidents of terrorism including the loss of 5000 armed men. During 2010 alone there have been 2113 militant and sectarian attacks killing 2913 people and injuring another 5824 (Rana 2011, 2).

Tribal people suffered from the basic needs, poor economic and social condition and weak institutions are present there. FATA is the most backward region of Pakistan and 60% of its population is living below poverty lines. This deprivation and poverty played a vital role in the growing militancy in the region (Ali 2011, 76). FATA has been considered as a strategic depth of Pakistan and as the legitimate area of country's territories. In fact, it has been the part of Pakistan's foreign policy to protect and secure its borders and to make no compromise on its national objectives. The protection of the whole country depends on securing the FATA which is the gateway to Pakistan's territorial integrity and governance (Hilali 2010, 67).

Until 9/11 there was no single suicide attack neither in FATA, nor in KPK and nor elsewhere in Pakistan. In KPK and FATA suicide terrorism only began after 2004, when armed conflict started in Waziristan (Chari 2011, 52-53). The Taliban used these areas because they want it under their control and the objectives of these attacks was to ensure that no other institution questions the Taliban's writ. Initially he bordering districts like Bannu, DI Khan, Kohat and even Peshawar did not have the Taliban presence. With the passage of time Taliban used a suicide terrorism strategy in these settled districts mostly bordering FATA. The primary objective of the Taliban was to weaken state authority, damage morals of its armed forces as well as to take revenge for the military operations in FATA (Chari 2011, 54). The Taliban also engaged in suicide attacks in all parts of Pakistan, mainly in Punjab, KPK and Islamabad as a castigation of military operation in FATA and Swat. Their main target was security forces.

Before 2004 Punjab was limited to sectarian violence. In the succeeding year it also witnessed the spike of terrorist activities. The year 2007 proved to be the most violent and unstable year in Pakistan's history, as these incident spread to other district of Pakistan. Elections were expected to be held on January 8, 2008. The election campaign was in full swing. On December 27, Benazir Bhutto during her election campaign in Liaquat Bagh (Rawalpindi) was unexpectedly assassinated. This was a brutal incident in Pakistan's history. When an assassin opened fire on her with a hand gun while the other detonated a bomb strapped to his body. Bhutto's assassination sparked an increase in violence in society (PIPS Report 2008). Normal life was suspended for the next three days. Banks and shops were looted. Both public and private property was set on fire. Her assassination was marked as the worst street violence in Pakistan's history.

In Punjab 315 people were killed in 20 terrorist attacks. Those killed include 62 security officials. The worst terrorist incidents were suicide attacks at Moon Market in Lahore. More than 85 people were killed in these two attacks (Noor-ul-Haq 2011). During 2008, 12 suicide attacks occurred in Punjab. The Lashkr-e-Taayba (LeT) and the Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) draw a majority of their cadres from southern Punjab, and most of the suicides attackers are coming from there. The militants and commanders are also coming from Punjab (Noor-ul-Haq 2011).

The Lahore attack on the Sri Lankan cricket team on March 3, 2009 in which six police guards were killed and seven Sri Lankan players injured highlighted extremism and terrorism in Punjab (Firdous 2009, 50). This incident created bad image of Pakistan in international community. Till today International teams are reluctant to play in Pakistan. On December 4, 2010 at least 42 people were killed and 77 people were injured in firing and two suicide blasts at Parade Lane Mosque, near the Pakistani army's headquarters in Rawalpindi (Firdous 2009, 51). Islamabad the capital of Pakistan didn't remain safe from the terror wave. Some of the important incidents include a suicide attack at the UN World Food Program (WFP) office. The capital witnessed an unprecedented drama as for the first time female students of religious Madrassas protested against the Government for the siege and raiding of the Lal Masjid (Red Mosque) which resulted in the deaths of 150 militants (Khan 2009, 92).

The Islamabad Marriott Hotel bombing occurred on September 20, 2008 when a dump truck filled with explosives detonated in front of the Hotel in which at least 54 people killed and at least 266 got injured (Masood 2008). In this attack at least five foreign nationals were killed and fifteen others reportedly injured. The attack occurred just hours after President Asif Ali Zardari made his first speech to the Pakistani parliament (Indian Times 2008). The Marriott hotel was the most prestigious hotel in the capital, located near government buildings, diplomatic missions, embassies and high commissions.

On October 28, 2010 two suicide bombers targeted the new campus of the International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI) killing at least six students and staff members and more than 29 got injured (Dawn 2010, 1). On January 4, 2011 Punjab Governor Salmaan Taseer was assassinated by his guard in Islamabad (Daily Times 2011). The reason behind his killing was her illicit support for a minority girl to be saved from the blame of blasphemy which is not a tolerable in Pakistani society.

Baluchistan has assumed a serious dimension particularly in the post Gwadar Scenario. Akbar Bugti's assassination, mineral resources, reservoirs of natural gas and coal are the vital issues which caused feeling of discrimination among people of the area. External factors like India and Iran and external terrorist's (liberation organization) like the Baluchistan Liberation Army (BLA) and Baluch liberation Front (BLF) etc are reported to be further aggravating the situation. Baluchistan enjoys extraordinary geostrategic importance since it is the hub between South, West and Central Asia. Another aspect of Baluchistan's strategic importance to the US is the role of China in deep sea Gwadar Port (Akram 2011, 8). All these factors contribute to the destabilization and terrorists activities in the region.

Sindh, the second largest province of Pakistan is also not safe from the germ of terrorism and extremism. On May 31, 2006 at least 24 worshippers were killed and 34 others sustained injuries when a high-intensity bomb exploded at a Shia mosque situated on the MA Jinnah Road in Karachi

(<http://www.satporgtp/countries/pakistan/database/sect>). Ex Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto came back to Pakistan in July 2007 under a deal with Musharraf. She was welcomed by the massively rally in Karachi, but this rally became a target of the most lethal terrorist attack in which 140 people were killed and more than 500 got injured (Masood, 2008). The most disturbing development to engulf the province in general and Karachi in particular, are the phenomenon of targeted killings, the outcome of political maneuverings, religious differences, and ethnic hostilities.

5. Terrorism and Extremism: Implications for Pakistan's Security

In the wake of 9/11 attacks terrorism gained global importance. After 9/11 terrorism and extremism is at its peak in Pakistan and the security situation has been disastrous (Malik 2005, 23). In terrorist attacks thousands of people have lost their lives and many more injured. The situation is terrible all over the country but in FATA and KPK suffered due the rise in violence. In this terrible circumstance Pakistan needs cooperation and unity within the nation. In general the security condition of Pakistan is worsening day by day and there is need to undertake measures to solve these problems.

The Bush administration supported Pakistani army financially to instigate an operation in the tribal areas to handle with the rising danger of terrorism. It has shaken the security of Pakistan and raised the security challenges.

Being a partner in the war against terrorism Pakistan was dragged to fight a war against ghost forces that endangered the national security of Pakistan. today the security Pakistan is in a dilemma because of a long list of security issues which include the killing of Osama bin Laden, the Raymond Davis episode, mistrust of US and other world powers over Pakistan, the rhetoric of 'Do More', the presence of Taliban and Al Qaeda remnants, the Indian enrolment particularly in Baluchistan and the threat associating potential nuclear terrorism with Pakistan (Rehman 2011, 38). That's why the war on terrorism brought Pakistan, a nuclear country to its knees. Although, Pakistan supports US in war against terrorism but it could not get its recognition of sacrifices and always had to face criticism from the US (Rehman 2011, 38). Moreover, the USA declared India as its strategic partner in South Asia rather than Pakistan (Rehman 2011, 38).

The launching of operations on the Pak-Afghan border for eliminating suspected terrorists has increased suicide bombing in Pakistan and no place has remains safe from these attacks and made Pakistan insecure and vulnerable. Although the first decade of war on terrorism has finished it made Pakistan more unstable than ever before. Five hundred bomb blasts has been witnessed in which more than 35,000 people have been killed and it has ruined the security of Pakistan (Rehman 2011, 40). In the present situation it is necessary to defuse the rising security threats that had gripped the national security of Pakistan. These are weakening the roots of Pakistan and also fading away the image of Pakistan both at home and globally as well.

At the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 Pakistan highlighted the cost which she paid being a partner in the war against terrorism. According to the Wall Street Journal, the largest selling newspaper of the America, Pakistan has lost 21,672 civilian lives and 2,750 soldiers and 8,571 injured which portray the serious security challenge to the Pakistani government (Javed 2011, 85). It is really a grave situation for Pakistan and it failed to handle these security challenges. This is not only destroying the internal security infrastructure of Pakistan but also hamper her economically.

Though Pakistan is a partner in the war against terrorists still she is always been perceived as a safe haven by the US policy makers and its territory being a rich breeding ground for terrorism. The US considers Pakistan as a base for terrorists and supports terrorists operating in India, Kashmir and Afghanistan (Bajoria et al. 2012, 1). The high death rate in Pakistan is due to drone attacks. For the first time in Pakistan's history, an outsider is attacking the civilians and neglecting the sovereignty of Pakistan (Adeel 2008, 94). This also escalated tension between Washington and Islamabad. These drone attacks are killing the civilians rather than terrorists in tribal areas. It is not only a violation of human rights but also of the sovereignty of Pakistan. These Arial attacks are making tribal men more extremists and create anti-Americanism. The collateral damage has increased hatred against the US in particular and the West in general.

The financial division of Pakistan estimated that Pakistan's economy has undergone a cost of 2.1 trillion dollar because of active role in war on terror (Pakistan Today 2011). The deplorable state of security not only reduced Foreign Direct investment (FDI) but also had a negative impact on the export and industrial production. According to the State Bank of Pakistan in 2010, FDI was reduced by 54.6% and caused a loss of 1.18 billion dollars due to the internal security problems, instable political situation and threats of terrorism (Rehman 2011, 39). In the current scenario our government is unable to sign a new deal with foreign stakeholders. The stock market has plunged due to the deteriorating security situation in the country, because suicide attacks and instable government security policies have formed fear and chaos within the society.

Due to the geostrategic location of Pakistan, Pakistan's role became critical in defeating the Taliban in Afghanistan and to find out their sanctuaries in Pak-Afghan border area. Pakistan was forced into action against the Taliban-Al Qaeda nexus in its tribal area. During Musharraf regime in 2003, Pakistan launched an operation in FATA to counter the insurgency (Rehman 2011, 40). After launching the operation it was proved that this initiation was a disastrous and was not a wise decision. Pakistan was blamed for cross border incidents even though it is playing a proxy war for the US in the region.

As a result of the war on terror many Uzbeks, Tajiks, Yughiers, and Chechens came into Pakistan and with the internal Taliban coalition are trying to destabilize Pakistan.

They involved in drug trafficking, provide sophisticated arms, abduction of people in order to get ransom money for their activities against security forces and also hitting security forces installed in the tribal belt, which is a great threat to the security of Pakistan (Yousafzai 2011, 138). In this way the war on terror is no more than a nightmare for Pakistan because the contribution of Pakistan pushed it into security dilemma rather than eradicating the existing threat to country. Poverty is on the rise in FATA which has created extremism and weak law and order situation in Pakistan. This situation has been exploited by Taliban and Al Qaeda. They recruited these deprived youngsters and use them in their interest against the country and thus undermine the security of the country (Jaspal 2009, 27).

Education in Pakistan also suffered due to the war on terror. As a result of the operation against the Taliban and Al Qaeda, these extremists and terrorists burned and destroyed more than 190 schools in tribal area of Pakistan. Pakistan is already facing the highest illiteracy rate. Female education has been banned by the Taliban in Tribal areas. Furthermore, 42% of boy's institutions have been destroyed. Almost 150,000 students have been deprived of education whereas 8,000 female teachers are jobless (Hassan 2009). Illiteracy is also a security challenge for Pakistan. It has terrible implications for government stability and for the future of education.

6. Recommendations and Conclusion

This critical scenario demands the most serious and wise decisions ever taken before. Force is not a viable solution to deal with militants in the tribal belt, because it could increase revenge and anger of the local people. The war against terrorism can never be won by force alone. Pakistan should adopt a peaceful and realistic policy to deal with militancy existing in the state. Pakistan can improve its non-traditional security if it adopts the following strategy and measures.

- The need of the hour is to make internal policies based on tolerance and moderation to counter extremism and drastic reforms need to be initiated.
- Economic and educational reforms can bring about positive changes and Madrassas need to be under scrutiny so that the radical preaching can be taken from tribal as well as from settled areas.
- Pakistan should mainstream extremism and terrorism issues into policies and development programs as a key planning strategy to promote harmony in society. This will improve and will contribute to the national, social, and economic development of Pakistan.
- Currently, the Government of Pakistan is spending about 2% of GNP on education, which is insufficient in light of the country's educational needs. The Government must commit to allocate no less than 4% of GNP to the education sector. There is a need of such schools where children could get religious and technical education and that education should be free. In this way these children will be able to earn their livelihood with honor and dignity.
- There is a need to win over the heart and mind of people through development projects, by providing loans, employment opportunity to the educated youth and to bring reforms at national level so that poverty could be alleviated.
- A major problem in many areas of Pakistan is the exploitative role of religious lords that support extremism and terrorism. Authority figures must come forward to stop these religious leaders from exploiting youngsters who are the victims of such lords.
- An improvement in law and order situation is an essential tool in order to curb religious militancy, extremism and terrorism from Pakistani society.
- Strengthening the democratic institution and independence of judiciary is also paramount as this will ensure accountability of every citizen of Pakistan.
- Pakistan needs to revise its strategies to deal with the insurgency within the country. Afghanistan's instability had provided India a haven on the earth, as it is [was] using Afghanistan's soil to destabilize Pakistan. This is a worse addition to the portfolio of security threats faced by Pakistan. It requires bold steps regarding border protection by showing serious response against any allegation.
- The US should also help Pakistan economically and should start developmental projects especially in tribal area. Economic prosperity, social development, and political reforms in those areas can help to maintain peace in long run
- The United States and the international community should also cooperate with Pakistan instead of exerting pressure, to mellow out extremism and eventually help purge terrorism.

- Civil society and common people must play an active role and help government in its fight against terrorism and extremism, while the government on its part brings about positive changes in governance. This will ensure peace and progress of Pakistan.
- In the post-Afghanistan war scenario, terrorist groups would be looking for more appealing targets. The ungoverned spaces in mega cities littered with terrorist groups notwithstanding, there is also a need to seriously think about the emerging nexus of terrorist groups located in Punjab, generally termed as the Punjabi Taliban (PT), TTP and al Qaeda.
- The role of media against the campaign of extremism and terrorism cannot be denied as it is the main source of keeping the general aware and update what is going around the globe. Instead of yellow journalism they must educate the youth about the evil deeds of these militant groups and thus they can play a constructive role.

7. Limitations

- (1) How valid are the findings for terrorism and extremism in Pakistan security? One possible threat to internal validity is that for any specific article, reported factors may not have in fact described the underlying reason. It is also possible that in some studies there may have been a tendency for particular kinds of factors to be reported in favour of other factors. Many of the contributing studies were case studies and empirical studies which may be subject to publication bias.
- (2) How safe is it to generalise these findings? Our sample contains of different articles. Our findings are not based on any studies that used a random sample of terrorism and extremism in Pakistan. The issue of generalising these findings can also be considered by comparing our findings with results from other related studies. We found many similarities in our findings and findings by other studies, and this provides some support for generalisation.
- (3) The numerical data may be subject to variation because different organizations have different sources.

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Annual Fatalities in Terrorist Violence in Pakistan, 2003-2012

Years	Civilians	Security Force Personnel	Terrorists/Insurgents	Total
2003	140	24	25	189
2004	435	184	244	863
2005	430	81	137	648
2006	608	325	538	1471
2007	1522	597	1479	3598
2008	2155	654	3906	6715
2009	2324	991	8389	11704
2010	1796	469	5170	7435
2011	2738	765	2800	6303
2012	2664	638	2375	5677
Total*	14812	4728	25063	44603

Data till November 18, 2012. Source: South Asian Terrorism Portal (<http://www.satp.org>).

Suicide terrorism in Pakistan, 2001- November 08, 2012

Year	FATA & NWFP	Outside FATA & NWFP
2001	-	-
2002	01	-
2003	02	-
2004	06	01
2005	01	01
2006	02	05
2007	40	14
2008	45	14
2009	53	23
2010	38	11
2011	32	09
2012	23	06
Total	243	87

Source: South Asian Terrorism Portal
(<http://www.satp.org/satporgtp/countries/pakistan/database/Fidayeenattack.htm>).