



A Study of Terrorism as an obstacle in India's National Integration

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Abstract

The paper is an attempt to analyse the meaning and nature of terrorism. The effort is to show the impacts of terrorism on the national integration and development of India. The aim and ambition of the research paper is that the people across the length and breadth of the India should try with utmost efforts to follow the measures which would help in integration and development of the nation.

Key Words: Attempt, Development, Utmost, Across, Impacts, Terrorism, Integration

Introduction: Terrorism is characterized by the fact that it involves acts of violence, hijacking, bombing and other indiscriminate attacks usually targeting civilians and non-combatants in order to achieve political goals. This tactic of political violence is intended to cause terror for the purpose of "exerting pressure on decision making by state bodies". Terrorism is largely used to indicate clandestine low-intensity violence that targets civilians and generates public fear. In November 2004, a United Nations Security Council's report described terrorism as any act "intended to cause death or serious bodily harm to civilians or non-combatants with the purpose of intimidating a population or compelling a government or an international organization to do or abstain from doing any act".¹ Terrorism consists of a series of acts intended to spread intimidation, panic and destruction in a population. These acts can be carried out by individuals and groups by opposing a state or act on its behalf. The amount of violence is often disproportionate, apparently random and deliberately symbolic to hit a target which would convey a message to the rest of the population.² Thus "terror" is distinct from asymmetric warfare and violates the concept of common law in which civilian life is respected. The term 'terrorism' found its origin from the Latin word *terrere* which means 'to frighten'. The word terror was first recorded in English language dictionaries in 1789 as meaning "systematic use of terror as a policy". The meaning originated with Russian radicals in the 1870. The contemporary label of "terrorist" is highly pejorative; it is a badge which denotes lack of legitimacy and morality. Although attention to terrorism has increased sharply in recent years because the objectives and modus operandi of terrorism have changed, there is no reason to believe that terrorism will completely cease to exist in the **neare** future. **In fact**, because terrorism is a tactic used by a wide variety of organizations, it can be argued that terrorism can't be uprooted at all. While individual groups that use **terrorist** means to further their



political objectives can be curbed, the vicious cycle has thus far not been broken.³ the key to successfully dealing with terrorism in India lies in understanding its root or trigger causes. From the above discussion the key criteria relating to the concept of terrorism include _____

- Violence and the threat to violence
- Create psychological fear
- Political tactics to attain a political goal
- Deliberate targeting to the non combatants
- Usually illegitimate.

Objectives:

The objectives of the research paper are:

- 1) To explore about the nature and causes of terrorism and its impacts on national integration.
- 2) To explore the problems of national integration caused due to terrorism.
- 3) What measures should be taken to control the terrorism?

Data collection:

For the present study data has been collected through secondary sources. For the purpose printed materials, internet, magazines and reference books have been widely consulted to develop the plan of the research paper.

The Description:

The emergence of terrorism has been an unfortunate and harmful development of 1980's. Since then it has been a sad reality of Indian politics, J&K, Assam, and other North-Eastern states, Bihar and Andhra Pradesh are all effected states. In one form or another terrorism continues to be present in different parts of India. Terrorism has been a standard weapon of the secessionists and revolutionaries, who advocate either the creation of independent homelands out of India or the transformation of India into a new state.⁴ In J&K the secessionist groups, have adopted terrorism as a weapon. United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) a terrorist organization of Assam is fighting for the independent homeland from the Indian union. The menace of terrorism has been adversely **affecting** the process of national integration and nation building in India. It contains within itself the danger of balkanization or disintegration of the country. It constitutes a very complex and dangerous development which has if it remains uncontrolled, the potential to jeopardize national unity. **Terrorism which begins with acts of violence designed to violate the legal basis of India and to injure permanently the instruments on which India depends for order. Terrorism in India aims at independence, autonomy, a state of its own and become anxious to impress on the government, the need for secrecy and exemptions from public and legislature secrecy.**

Terrorism in India not only hampers the national unity but also put a bad impact on the economy and development of the nation. The terrorists have spread their network in almost all parts of the country. Major terrorist attacks in India like 1993 Mumbai blasts, the 1998



Coimbatore blast, the Akshardam temple attacks, the hijack of air India IC-182, the attack on Indian parliament 2001, attack on the American culture centre in 2002, attack on the Indian institute of science and technology 2005, the bomb blast in Delhi on the eve of Diwali festival 2005 and the Varanasi bombing 2006 blasts show that terrorists have acquired an all such and they are no longer confined to the valley.⁵

According to Wikipedia tourism is the largest service industry in India tourism is the largest service industry in India with a contribution of 63% to the GDP and 8.78% of the total employment in India. India witnesses' more than 5 million annual foreign tourist arrivals and 562 million domestic tourism visits. Apart from the investments, India's reputation as a tourist-friendly country comes into jeopardy with most of the tourists shying to go to a country that is so unstable **due to the terrorist attacks**. The effect of terrorism would of course be felt by other tourism related industries like hospitality and hotel industries and the transportation and local tour operators. The travel and tourism competitiveness report 2007 ranked tourism in India 6th in terms of price competitiveness but 39th in terms of safety and security.⁶ **Most of the foreign tourists are scaring to visit India due to the terrorism, which ultimately leads to the gradual disappearance in the economy of the country.**

The economy of India of the 21st century stands at 11th largest in the whole world in terms of GDP and 4th largest in terms of Purchasing Power Parity (PPP). After independence India has grown almost in each and every field e.g. literacy rate of India in 1947 was 18.35% which in 2011 was 74.04%, in the health centre **with** the life expectancy **increasing** from 32 years in 1947 to 67.3% in 2011. India progressed in the industrial field as well. India is one among the largest IT Capitals in the modern world, accounting for over 5% of country's GDP and employing over 2 million people. Apart from all the changes that have happened in 70 years of independence, India still have a lot of issues to worry **about e.g.** India's population is growing every minute standing at 2nd most populous nation, Polio still existing, maximum number of AIDS cases, in the world are found in India. **India aimed at providing 100% literacy by the year 2012**, an initiative it has failed drastically. More than 10 million people have no access to electricity and an equivalent amount have no portable water to drink. What makes India so unsafe, underdeveloped for its citizens while we wrap her in a non-existing banner of "India shining"? **While there might be a plethora of reason, we would address the basic one reason that is terrorism.**

Terrorism has a negative impact on the development of India. No one can really estimate the consequences; the price and the cost of the impact of terrorism on India or the amount of funding that is spend each year as "War on terrorism". The kind of amount spent every year on fighting the war against the terrorism or to keep the borders guarded with a constant vigil to fight insurgency is enormous. Mr. Arun Jaitly in the Lalit Doshi Memorial on August 2, 2002 provided a figure quoting "the total amount of money spent and this not include the amount that we spent on our security forces, army and so on, on merely relief and rehabilitation, on the special paramilitary forces that we deploy for anti-insurgency the figure now crosses Rs. 45,000 crores. More than 45,000 crores is what is deprived to our villages in terms of electricity and power, in terms of health care, in terms of education, in terms of roads. That is that kind of money which has actually been employed in just the anti-insurgency measures".



A budget jumped over 2600% for ant-insurgency is the amount of money India cannot afford to lose every year while 15% of Indians strive for portable water and 77% BPLR still struggle to make their ends meet, terrorism does hinder India's development in all aspects.⁷

Conclusion and Suggestions:

It has been proved that terrorism has badly **affected** and ruined the national integration, economy and development of our country and its eradication demands state action on a wider front.⁸ In order to curb this menace there is need of international cooperation. To tackle this problem a unanimous strategy should be implemented worldwide.⁹ India should take some strict and solid actions against the terrorist organizations and countries sponsoring them to deal with the increasing number of terrorist attacks. India should put some pressure on the countries sponsoring terrorism.¹⁰ Moreover the security should be tightened throughout the nation as well as new technology should be provided to the security personals to counter these terror attacks. The communication system through CCTV cameras precautionary measures for the terrorist attacks to be identified easily, rather punishing the non-culprits when the incidents occur. Awareness programmes should be organized at school, college and university levels to teach the students the importance of nation integration. Free and compulsory literature regarding national integration should be made available at elementary level. National seminars should be conducted to create awareness regarding importance of national integration. Intelligence agencies should be strengthened because intelligence should have had an important role in combating terrorism. Moreover all the four pillars of democracy should take their share of responsibility in **this** fight against terrorism.¹¹ fighting with terrorism should not only be the duty government **and on forces**, the role of civil society is equally important to fight against terrorism. Citizens need to come forward to stop providing assistance to **outfits, and instead, extend their full cooperation to the administration to curb such a menace so that our nation India constantly rises to higher level of Endeavour and achievement.**



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