

## **Role of Pakistan against War on Terrorism and its Consequences**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Pakistan has played a significant role in the War on Terror since its inception in 2001. The country became a critical partner of the United States in the fight against terrorism, and its support was crucial in the defeat of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. However, Pakistan's role has also been criticized, with allegations that it has harbored and supported terrorist groups in its territory. The consequences of Pakistan's involvement in the War on Terror have been complex and multifaceted. On the one hand, the country has suffered significant economic losses, as well as human losses, with thousands of civilians and security personnel killed in terrorist attacks. On the other hand, Pakistan has received substantial financial and military assistance from the United States and other Western countries, which has helped bolster its economy and strengthen its military capabilities. One of the most significant consequences of Pakistan's role in the War on Terror has been the rise of militant extremism within the country. The country's involvement in the conflict has fueled anti-American sentiment and contributed to a growing radicalization of society. The Taliban and other extremist groups have also gained strength in Pakistan, using the country as a base to launch attacks against both Pakistani and foreign targets. Going forward, it is essential that Pakistan works to address the root causes of terrorism and extremism within its borders, while also continuing to play a positive role in the global fight against terrorism.

**Key Words:** Cold War, Drone Strikes, Islamophobia, Kashmir, National Action Plan, NATO, Terrorism.

## **Introduction**

Terrorism is a form of violence that targets civilians and seeks to create fear and panic in society. It is a tactic used by individuals or groups that use violence to achieve political, religious, or ideological goals. Terrorist attacks can take many forms, including bombings, shootings, kidnappings, and hijackings. They can target individuals, government institutions, businesses, and public spaces such as airports, train stations, and tourist attractions. The motivations behind terrorism are complex and varied. Some groups use terrorism to challenge political or economic systems that they perceive as oppressive or unjust. Others use it to promote religious or ideological beliefs, while others may use it to seek revenge or to achieve personal or group goals. Terrorism has become a global issue, with attacks occurring in many countries around the world. The 9/11 attacks in the United States in 2001, which killed nearly 3,000 people, are often cited as a turning point in the fight against terrorism. Governments and international organizations have taken various measures to combat terrorism, including increased security measures, intelligence sharing, and military intervention. However, the effectiveness of these measures remains a subject of debate, and the threat of terrorism continues to be a major concern for governments and citizens around the world. Overall, terrorism is a complex and multi-faceted issue that requires a comprehensive approach, including addressing the underlying causes of terrorism, improving security measures, and promoting international cooperation to prevent and respond to terrorist attacks.

War on terror started in September 11, 2001. The war on terror is also known as (GWOT) Global War on Terrorism. After 11 September 2001 terrorist attack start a Global Counter Terrorism Campaign and America led this global counter terrorism campaign and that also refers to an ongoing internationally military campaign. In War on terror there are 196 countries are involved they support financially in War on Terror. Until 1990 Terrorism is the second order security concern and the question arise who is the first order security concern. The first order security concern in 1990 is The Cold War. After the incident of September 11, 2001 there is a dramatically change in Terrorism turn into a first order security concern. This is the first incident where non-state actors are involved in this terrorist attack. Non-State actor means Al Qaida attack the US tower. First time in the history where non-state actors are involved such activities In USA because of War on Terror 8lac peoples are dead and among them were Sixty Five thousand Muslims. And also drone attacks in Muslims.

American City New York World Trade Center is also included in Terrorist attack and three thousand people are dead in this terrorist attack. On that time Jorge Bush is the president of America he held a congress joint session and declared War on Terror and fight against Terrorism. He believed that terrorist groups are attacked in his country. He starts war on terrorism. Then they send a request to Pakistan and asked permission to use Pakistani Air Base. General Pervaiz Musharaf is the president of that time he held a joint conversation and he

invites various groups some of Political Leaders, people of different regions, and Reporters. They decide to give Air Base to America. Pakistan helps America to fight against War on Terror. Pakistan access to America Two Air-Bases one is from Sindh and second is from Balochistan.

## **Role of Pakistan against War on Terrorism**

The events of September 11, 2001 (9/11) impacted on international policies and Pakistan's regional situation prompted to change its international policies. Pakistan's geostrategic location and ties to the Taliban administration allowed it to stay unharmed soon after the attack. Furthermore, Pakistan was one of three countries that recognized the Taliban authority. Without Pakistan's active support, no US or global coalition effort against the Taliban could have succeeded. After deadliest attack on American soil, America's president George W. Bush asked nations to support America or either Taliban. His words are as follows: "every nation in every region has a decision to make. Either you are with us or with the terrorists". Al-Qaeda group was asked to hand over Osama-bin-Ladin. Pakistan was asked for support and cooperation due to its close relations with Taliban regime (Abbasi, 2013).

Pakistan has played a significant role in the global war on terrorism, having been a key ally of the United States in its efforts to combat terrorist groups such as Al-Qaeda and the Taliban. Here are some of the ways in which Pakistan has contributed to the war on terrorism: Providing logistical support: Pakistan has provided logistical support to the US-led coalition forces in Afghanistan, including access to its airspace, land routes, and military bases. This support has been critical to the success of the coalition forces in their fight against the Taliban and other extremist groups in Afghanistan. Arresting and handing over terrorists: Pakistan has also played a key role in arresting and handing over terrorists to the US authorities, including several high-profile Al-Qaeda leaders such as Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and Abu Zubaydah. Conducting military operations: Pakistan has conducted several military operations against terrorist groups within its own borders, including the operation against the Taliban in Swat Valley and the ongoing operation against the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) in North Waziristan. Sharing intelligence: Pakistan has shared intelligence with the US and other Western countries to help prevent terrorist attacks and disrupt terrorist networks. This has included sharing information about the location and activities of terrorist groups and individuals. Promoting regional stability: Pakistan has played a key role in promoting regional stability and security, including through its participation in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and its efforts to improve relations with India and Afghanistan (Gregory, 2007). However, Pakistan has also faced criticism for its role in the war on terrorism, with some accusing it of not doing enough to combat terrorist groups within its own borders and of supporting extremist groups in Afghanistan. The country has also suffered heavily

in terms of human lives and economic losses as a result of the conflict. Despite these challenges, Pakistan remains committed to fighting terrorism and promoting regional security and stability.

### **Support to United States**

General Pervaiz Musharraf was advised to either stop supporting the Taliban or face being treated like the Taliban. Due to Pakistan's compulsions or concerns:

- Kashmir cause
- Military and nuclear assets
- Revival of economy
- Foreign threats

The military government chose to join the US-led coalition in the fight against terrorism. As a result, Pakistan once again became a front-line state under another military regime. Its nuclear capability brought it to attention and Pakistan gained importance in post 9/11 era. Pakistan provided access to US on its military bases and also established intermediate staging bases at Jacobabad, Dalbandin, Pasni and Shamsi. Dalbandin was used as forward refueling base for US special operations helicopter and drones working in Afghanistan. Around 1.3 million people in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan were killed as a result of US-led wars. Pakistan started operation in Swat, North Waziristan, South Waziristan and other tribal areas according to dictation of USA. Pakistan became biggest beneficiary in economic aid in return for its support to USA. America's ex-president mentioned that after NATO Pakistan is biggest supporter of US in war against terrorism (Smith, 2011).

### **Consequences of War on Terrorism in Pakistan**

War on terrorism caused many social impacts on people of Pakistan. This battle has also had social consequences. Terrorism cannot be healthy in a society. Terrorism has caused social instability. Social relationships, business transactions, spare time, education, prayer, and so on have all suffered. Pakistan's involvement in the anti-terrorism fight has resulted in huge unemployment, homelessness, poverty, and other societal issues. Furthermore, recurrent acts of terrorism and relocation of the local populace have wreaked havoc on the social fabric. People started to prefer staying at homes and avoiding public places and other social activities were decreased (Hyder, Akram & Padda, 2015). Terrorism has left psychic wounds behind. Fear is instilled in the hearts of the people. Trauma, melancholy, and confusion have all risen. People feel anxious and frightened whenever they go about their daily lives, since they see terror occurrences in various places on a regular basis. Those who were close witnesses to the suicidal explosions have suffered the most. People were so terrified that when a vehicle's tyre ruptured, they mistook it for a bomb detonation, and panic surged through their bodies (Abbasi, Khatwani & Panhwar, 2020). International cricket of Pakistan was affected due to these terrorist attacks. Sri- Lankan cricket team was

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attacked in Pakistan and six players were injured, a civilian and six security guards were killed. After this incident international cricket teams refused to visit Pakistan for matches, due to many security threats. For almost 10 years Pakistan was forced to conduct matches in UAE and international cricket was completely banned in Pakistan.

The war on terrorism has had significant consequences on Pakistan, both positive and negative. Here are some of the major consequences: Increased violence: Pakistan has seen a surge in violence and terrorism since it joined the U.S.-led war on terror. The country has suffered from multiple terrorist attacks, suicide bombings, and sectarian violence. Economic impact: The war on terror has had a significant impact on Pakistan's economy. The country has spent billions of dollars on counterterrorism efforts, and its tourism industry has suffered due to the security situation. Political instability: The war on terror has contributed to political instability in Pakistan. The country has seen multiple changes in government, and there have been allegations of corruption and human rights abuses. Strained relations with the U.S.: The war on terror has also strained Pakistan's relations with the U.S. There have been tensions between the two countries over issues such as drone strikes and Pakistan's alleged support for militant groups. Military operations: Pakistan has conducted several military operations against militant groups in the country's tribal areas. These operations have resulted in the displacement of millions of people and have caused human rights concerns. Improved security: On the positive side, Pakistan's security forces have made significant gains in the fight against terrorism. The number of terrorist attacks has decreased, and the country has made progress in disrupting terrorist networks. Enhanced intelligence cooperation: The war on terror has also led to enhanced intelligence cooperation between Pakistan and other countries (Malik & Zaman, 2013). Pakistan has shared intelligence with the U.S. and other countries, which has helped to prevent terrorist attacks. Overall, the consequences of the war on terror in Pakistan have been complex and far-reaching, with both positive and negative impacts on the country's security, politics, and economy.

The US has tried to justify the use of drones under her right of self-defense that how the Pakistani Government has been unable to halt the terrorist attacks in the country. It is the States responsibility then to protect the lives of the people in Pakistan and also for its own security and of its allies as well. Since 2004, Pakistan has suffered much due to these drone strikes in respect of the distrust of its own people, not being able to protect its people from deadliest bombing, compromising its sovereignty and to stop the killing of its innocent civilians in its own territory. Pakistani Government is under much severe criticism from its people for compromising its sovereignty in the hands of a foreign country. So, this heading will be talking about various costs that Pakistan has to pay and is still paying as the United States has again initiated drone strikes with the one hitting on 6<sup>th</sup> of August 2014, with no terrorist killed but a loss to innocent lives occurred. Now some of

the areas where Pakistan has to bear heavy losses with this US' unilateral policy of targeted killing by drones, as far as their deadliest impacts are concerned.

### **Terrorist Incidents in Pakistan**

If we look back at previous years 2001 and 2002, ratio of terror attack in Pakistan has been decreased as 146 terrorist attacks took place across Pakistan in 2020, including three suicide bombings, adding it is a 36 percent decline from a year before. KP was province who actually have highest number of terrorist attacks for any one region of Pakistan where 79 recorded terrorist attacks and Baluchistan remained the second-worst affected region in Pakistan by terrorism with the reported 48 attacks in 2020 (Aslam & Kang, 2015). It was due to the Pakistan support to US that terrorist activities are the in Pakistan. Pakistan has been suffered a lot due to those terrorist activities. There have been many blasts in Pakistan since 2001. Pakistan did all this to appease United States but Donald Trump blamed Pakistan for providing safe heaven to terrorists. There is no denying the fact that Pakistan is the country which has suffered most due to US global war on terrorism.

Pakistan has experienced numerous terrorist incidents in the past few decades, with a large number of casualties and significant damage to property and infrastructure. Here are some of the most notable terrorist incidents in Pakistan: Attack on the Army Public School, Peshawar (2014): The attack on the Army Public School in Peshawar on December 16, 2014, was one of the deadliest terrorist attacks in Pakistan's history. The attack, carried out by the Pakistani Taliban, killed 141 people, including 132 children. Marriott Hotel bombing, Islamabad (2008): On September 20, 2008, a suicide bomber targeted the Marriott Hotel in Islamabad, killing 54 people and injuring over 200 others. The attack was claimed by the Pakistani Taliban. Lahore bombing, Lahore (2017): On February 13, 2017, a suicide bomber targeted a crowded shopping district in Lahore, killing at least 13 people and injuring dozens of others. The attack was claimed by a breakaway faction of the Pakistani Taliban. Mastung bombing, Balochistan (2018): On July 13, 2018, a suicide bomber targeted a political rally in Mastung, Balochistan, killing at least 149 people and injuring over 200 others. The attack was claimed by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). Quetta bombing, Balochistan (2021): On April 21, 2021, a car bomb exploded outside a luxury hotel in Quetta, killing at least five people and injuring dozens of others. The attack was claimed by the Pakistani Taliban. Sehwan Sharif bombing, Sindh (2017): On February 16, 2017, a suicide bomber targeted a crowded shrine in Sehwan Sharif, Sindh, killing at least 90 people and injuring over 300 others. The attack was claimed by the Pakistani Taliban (Gartzke & Walsh, 2022). These incidents represent only a small portion of the terrorist attacks that have occurred in Pakistan. The country has suffered greatly from terrorism and extremism, and the government and security forces continue to take measures to combat these threats.

## **Unpopularity of Drone Strikes in Pakistan**

The drone strikes in Pakistan have become a serious issue in Pakistan and this is mostly because of the media coverage of these strikes. When a strike is made, the people of Pakistan get aware of the situation because each and every detail regarding these strikes is telecasted on the electronic media like Pakistan television and other news channels across the country. People also get the live coverage of the videos of the dead people, destroyed vehicles and property of their own people. Hence there comes a strong feeling of hatred for USA and its drone program. The polls conducted in Pakistan show that only 9% of the respondents in Pakistan approve these strikes (Kaltenthaler, Miller & Fair, 2012). Having understood about the general trends in public, the Pakistani Government and Military Officials have condemned these strikes and stated that these should have been banned as they are against the integrity of their country. Both the military and the civil establishment are trying to get a hold of these strikes and may use it. They think that a large number of foreign terrorists and the local hostile forces have been killed by these drone attacks but they want to ensure that none of the civilians get killed in these strikes. The civil and military administrations have recorded their remarks in the public that they want to get rid of the drones and will act according to the whims and wishes of their people.

The US drone program in Pakistan has earned so much hatred and unpopularity among the people that the government of Pakistan is criticizing the drone strikes openly now. With the latest attack on Miranshah in North Waziristan on 11th and 12th June has killed approximately 13 people. Foreign Ministry's spokesperson said that, "the drone strikes in Pakistan are highly unpopular and against the sovereignty and integrity of the country and should be halted." After approximately six month this drone strike again raised the feeling of distrust towards US' policies as the last attack was made on December 25, 2013. Early this month the attacks were made, first at Tabbi Village near Afghan border and the second at Dande Darpah Khel, killing 6 people. These strikes were made on the justification that the Government of Pakistan had done nothing in the pursuit of terrorists involved in the Karachi Airport incident. These strikes have become so much unpopular that the feeling of anti-Americanism has increased too many folds (Johnston & Sarbahi, 2016).

## **Civilian Casualties as a Result of Drone Attacks in Pakistan**

From December 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009, approximately 140 civilians have been killed in these drone strikes if there is one terrorist killed. The efficiency rate of these strikes is only 11%. It has also been reported that 89 out of 100 drone strikes kill only innocent civilians. When these drone strikes were on full swing, there were 58 people killed each month due to these strikes. And during this whole month, approximately 5 al-Qaeda members have died but the number of civilians

killed is 700, and out of 44 drone strikes that hit during this whole month, there were only 14 drone strikes that hit their targets, others were a miss. Amir Ali in his work has also stated that from January 2006 to April 2009, approximately 687 civilians have been killed in these drone strikes whereas the number of al-Qaeda members killed is only 14. It means that for every member of the organization killed there is wastage of approximately 50 innocent civilian lives, and hence the percentage of the civilians killed in these strikes is 94% (Geo News, 2005).

The reason for low civilian casualties reported by the US is that there is the underreporting of these civilian deaths as the data provided is not true. The resources are vague and the chances of their entry into these tribal areas even are not possible and whereas the statistics shown by the sources in Pakistan are true as they report the live coverage of the diseased persons and wretched property. The authenticity of the Pakistani data is even proved by the US' authorities as well. In a meeting with the Congress, the advisor on the counterinsurgency to the Army of the US, David Killcullen said that, "We have killed 14 al-Qaeda members in drone strikes in Pakistan and approximately 700 civilians have also been killed during the same time interval (Gusterson, 2019). It has been proved through many surveys conducted by the International Organizations and the data regarding the civilian casualties in Pakistan as depicted by these; there are more innocent civilians that get killed in these done strikes than the terrorists. According to Brookings Institute's, 90 percent of the people killed in these strikes are innocent civilians whereas the percentage of the terrorists killed is only 10. This horrifying data raises many questions about the legality of these strikes and this brutal killing of innocent civilians. The Pakistani public has been experiencing a strong feeling of distrust to its country as it is not able to halt this murderous program of US that is killing only innocent personnel (Mehmood, 2010).

Both Pakistan and the US do not share anything about the data of the drones. Both the countries adopt the total secrecy formula, especially the US. Since the initiation of drone attacks in Pakistan, the US Government has not shared anything regarding drones either with the media or the public. Gareth Porter, a leading investigative journalist in the US says that the US Administration total negates any statistics brought out by any surveying organization and does not talk about at all about its drone policy, even its successes. The reason for this is that the US Government wants to hide the actual story especially the brutal killing of the innocent civilians out there (Porter, 2009). On the other hand, it has been claimed by the US that these drone attacks are carried out with extreme care and exact data so that there does not come any collateral damage. You kill 140 innocent civilian for each member of al-Qaeda and yet you claim that these strikes are done with full care and exact information. The US needs to reconsider its drone policy and should stop it instantly as it is annihilating the already aggravated situation.

## **The Counter Productivity of US' Drone Strikes**

According to David Killcullen, who is a senior counter insurgency advisor, “The Drone attacks being conducted in Pakistan create a strong feeling of hatred and anger among the population of these stricken areas and it is proving counterproductive and is doing more harm than good (Killcullen, 2009)”. The Ambassador of Pakistan to the UN, Zamir Akram, talking about the drone strikes in Pakistan stated that, “The drone attacks in Pakistan are counterproductive; they are doing nothing but increasing the terrorism in the region in spite of the US’s efforts to minimize it” (Bowcott, 2012).

According to the US, the drone program is effective and fulfilling its agenda of eliminating the terrorists, but it has proved counterproductive. Although some of the terrorists in the Pakistan have been killed but the havoc of this drone policy has raised a feeling of hatred and anger among the people of Pakistan and they have a strong feeling of resentment towards the US and their own local government as well. This program of the US is annihilating the militancy but increasing the terrorism. The people of these stricken areas are joining the militant networks and they think by doing this they can avenge the death of their loved ones by fighting against the US and the Pakistan Army. The basic purpose of the Pakistani Army is to protect the people of the Pakistan, which it is not doing at all, this is the thinking prevailed among the people of the tribal areas. This is all exploited by the militant networks in this region and hence they attract a large number of the people from these areas to be recruited in their terrorist networks. These militant organizations then target those places where they can harm more security forces. Osama Bin Laden before his death and Ayman al-Zawahri has spoken on the several occasions about the dreadful results of these drone strikes and have attracted a large number of sympathizers from these areas. These people have increased resentments towards America and Pakistan and are involved in the terrorist attacks in Pakistan and also may be planning plots against the US as well.

During his senator ship and campaign for presidency, Obama had intended to attack North Waziristan with the drones and when he became president, the drone strikes in Pakistan increased as compared to the strikes made during the Bush’s presidency. After this, there was a statement made by the Pakistani’ Lahkr-i-Taiba’ Hafiz Saeed who said that the world had seen a new hope in black man, who would put an end to the coercive policies of the US, but it was failure as the American Imperialism is continuing as it was being pursued by his predecessors. He further stated that it is nothing but only a replacement of the white ass by the black ass. Hence since then the terrorism in Pakistan has increased and is also proving to be detrimental for the US. Due to the unpopularity of these drone strikes in Pakistan as a result of innocent killing of the civilians, the people of the troubled areas have increased resentment about the policies of the government. In the suicide bombings, the most of the places that are being targeted belong to the law enforcing agencies of Pakistan. For example the attack on the police academy

in Lahore was the result of the resentment as the government was doing nothing to stop drone attacks, said Baitullah Mehsud. In this incident about 18 people got killed. Hakimullah Mehsud, the new TTP leader after the death of Baitullah Mehsud said that, "The suicide bombings inside Pakistan will continue if the US does not stop its drone attacks". The militancy in Pakistan has increased irrespective of the US's claims of eliminating terrorism in this region and much of this is due to the continuation of these drone strikes which need to be stopped (Bergen & Tiedmann, 2009).

### **Drone Attacks and the Rise of Anti-Americanism in Pakistan**

Since 2004, when the first drone strike hit the tribal areas of Pakistan, there has been a rise in anti-Americanism in Pakistan. People have become more concerned about the policy of the US towards third world countries as these are the people that get much affected by these revengeful policies in the name of terror. The similar feelings are also prevalent in Pakistan as well. According to a research conducted by the Pew Global Research Center, about 79% people of Pakistan believe that there has been a sharp rise in the militancy and extremism in Pakistan. There is a short percentage of approximately 16% of the people believe in the policies of the US and there are only 4% people who support the US in its war against terrorism especially in Afghanistan. In FATA, there is backwardness and the area is poorly equipped even with the basic necessities of the life. There is illiteracy and that's why the militants in the area assimilate the sympathy of the people who are already suffering with the loss of their loved ones and hence cooperate with the Taliban instead of going against them.

Drone attacks conducted by the CIA in Pakistan have done nothing good but have worsened the already dwindling situation. Pakistan has been protesting about these strikes since their initiation both publicly and on the international front. These drone attacks in Pakistan have fueled anger among the people of the bereaved areas and there is an anti-Americanism found in these areas, and they consider the US as their worst enemy. The US Administration did not stop these attacks and now as a result of these attacks, the suicide bombings in Pakistan have increased and this has proved to be a counterproductive mechanism. Due to the increased feeling of hatred and the anti-American stance of the people, these emotions have been exploited much efficiently by the militants in these areas and now there are much increased recruitments of the fresh soldiers among these networks that are doing harms to the society of Pakistan.

The anti-Americanism in Pakistan is in full swing now days. Pakistan is now among those countries where the percentage of the anti-Americanism is very high. This anti-Americanism did not arise with the happening of the first drone strike in Pakistan but it has a long history which begins with the existence of the Pakistan. There are two different factors being responsible for this anti-American stance, first is the cultural advancement in the US and its hegemonic designs and economic system, with the imperialistic designs and the second is the policies

mainly the foreign policy of the US. The running situation has accelerated this process as mostly the innocent civilians get killed in these drone strikes and very low loss occurs to the actual high value targets. There are two political scientists and the philosophers, Peter Katzenstein and Robert Keohane who have stated different types of anti-Americanism in Pakistan. The first type is the radical and in this people desire for the total annihilation of the US mainly for its bad policies. Second is the socio religious which occurs because of the perception of the US that Islam harbors terrorism and people of these countries sympathize with the al-Qaeda and its role that it is fighting with the worst enemy of the Muslims, the US. The other type is the sovereign nationalist, in which there is a belief that all the policies of the US towards Pakistan are the anti-Pakistan, for example the US is conducting drone strikes that are doing more harm and are against the integrity of the Pakistan. Such a stance is also adapted by one of the party, the PTI, whose chairman Imran Khan says in an interview that he is not against the USA but its policies. The last one is of liberal type in which it is perceived that the US acts even against its own ideals, for example the US has not been able to close Guantanamo Bay, and several other tactics that she adopts that are against its promises. These all factors provide a strong reasons for not believing in the policies of the US and hence a feeling of hatred for its policies (Afzal, 2013).

### **Ways Terrorism Impacts the Economy**

The greatest impact of war of terrorism is on the economy of any country. This impact can be

- Direct Impact
- Indirect Impact

In this case the indirect impact lasts for years and can't be recovered very easily. Direct economic destruction can include the physical destruction of buildings; Like in 9/11 the whole building was destroyed costing a loss of billions and millions. Killing of public workers is also a great loss as after any attack the labor refuses to work and call on a strike. In addition to this destruction of productive resources happens on a very large scale during this attack, like when any attack occurs in an area all the factories and production plants are closed which affects the import and export on a large scale (Malik & Zaman, 2013). This war like situation creates a terror in the minds of investors and they resist to invest any money in such markets which remain on protest or closed, this situation is very much visible in Pakistan as the brands like Mango, Apple, Taco Bell, Starbucks, Shein, Zara and many more are not opening their outlets in Pakistan due to the situation. All these stores have opened their outlets in India but they resist doing so in Pakistan. International investments and cooperation rate is very much low in Pakistan due the shutting down of markets (Abbasi, 2013).

This thing is not hidden from anybody that foreigners fear to visit Pakistan due to the attacks and bomb blasting happening here every other day. The travel

agents of Pakistan face adverse situations due to this. Now tourism is not only linked to people coming to see our country, it also promotes the beauty of our country. When foreigners will visit our country and will take a positive image of Pakistan with them it will attract more and more people and investors. Moreover the locals of Northern areas have their earnings through these tourists (Khalid, 2020). Terrorism can have significant and far-reaching impacts on the economy of a country. Here are some ways in which terrorism can affect the economy: Loss of life and property: Terrorist attacks can cause loss of life and property, resulting in economic losses. The destruction of infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, and buildings, can also affect economic activity. Disruption of economic activities: Terrorist attacks can disrupt economic activities by creating fear and panic, leading to a decline in consumer confidence and investment. Businesses may also suspend operations in the affected area, leading to a decline in economic activity. Decrease in tourism: Tourism is a significant source of revenue for many countries. Terrorist attacks can discourage tourists from visiting a country or a specific region, leading to a decline in tourism revenues. Increase in security spending: Governments may need to spend more on security measures to prevent terrorist attacks, such as the deployment of security personnel and the installation of security equipment. This can divert resources away from other sectors of the economy. Increase in insurance costs: Terrorist attacks can lead to an increase in insurance costs for businesses and individuals, which can affect the profitability of businesses and the purchasing power of consumers. Decline in foreign investment: Foreign investors may be deterred from investing in a country or a specific region if they perceive it to be a high-risk area due to terrorist activities. The economic impact of terrorism can be long-lasting and may take years to recover from. In addition to the immediate economic losses, terrorism can also create a climate of fear and uncertainty, which can affect the long-term economic growth and development of a country.

### **Steps Government Should Take to Fight against Terrorism**

First of all, government must go for peace talk with Tahreeq Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and other terrorist groups and bring their issues to the table so that they can find solutions without going for Terror attacks. Secondly, government can also eliminate terrorism with power by sending armed forces in the tribal areas and agencies. Moreover, terrorism can be eliminated by revealing religion based fights and bringing religion scholars to the table. Government can also stop terrorism by running economy of country on its own without taking any help from USA inform of dollars etc. Another step that government can take to stop terrorism is to make its Foreign policy and decide whether they will support America or join Tahreeq Taliban Pakistan (TTP). Moreover, government must form counter-terrorism strategies. As UK established their counter-terrorism strategy known as "Contest". It was based on four major aspects including Prevent, Pursue, Protect, and Prepare. UK made this strategy to protect people of its country from terrorist attacks (Abiden, Zhilong & Mubeen, 2019).

Fighting terrorism is a complex and challenging task that requires a comprehensive approach that involves multiple stakeholders. Here are some steps that the government of Pakistan can take to fight against terrorism: Enhance intelligence capabilities: The government of Pakistan needs to enhance its intelligence capabilities to identify and prevent terrorist attacks. This can be achieved through increased investment in technology, training, and recruitment of skilled personnel. Strengthen law enforcement agencies: The government should strengthen its law enforcement agencies to ensure that they are well-equipped and well-trained to respond to terrorist threats. This includes improving their surveillance capabilities and investing in specialized training for counter-terrorism operations. Promote inter-agency coordination: The government should promote better coordination between different law enforcement agencies and intelligence services to ensure that they are working together effectively to counter terrorism. Address root causes: The government should address the underlying social, economic, and political factors that contribute to the spread of terrorism. This includes addressing poverty, inequality, and social exclusion. Promote religious tolerance: The government should promote religious tolerance and discourage extremist ideologies that promote violence and intolerance. This can be achieved through education, public awareness campaigns, and promoting dialogue between different religious groups. Work with international partners: The government should work closely with international partners to combat terrorism, including sharing intelligence and coordinating efforts to disrupt terrorist networks. Strengthen border security: The government should strengthen border security to prevent the movement of terrorists across the border. This includes investing in technology and personnel to monitor and secure the border (Abiden & Zhilong, 2019).

In conclusion, fighting terrorism requires a comprehensive and multi-faceted approach that involves multiple stakeholders. The government of Pakistan can take several steps to combat terrorism, including enhancing intelligence capabilities, strengthening law enforcement agencies, addressing root causes, promoting religious tolerance, working with international partners, and strengthening border security.

### **Islam Phobia and Role of Imran Khan**

Islam-phobia grew after 9/11 attack. It is basically a prejudice towards a specific community or religion. After 9/11 attack, Islam was equated with terrorism and Muslims were given the tag of terrorist. Muslims countries didn't talk about this issue and never try to remove the word terrorism that was associated with the religion Islam and Muslim community. Imran Khan was the first prime minister of Pakistan who took step against Islam-phobia. He addressed organization of Islamic cooperation (OIC) and claimed that faith has nothing to do with terrorism so Islam

should not be equated with Terrorism and Muslims should not be recognized as terrorist.

Islamophobia is a form of prejudice or discrimination against Muslims or people who are perceived to be Muslim, often fueled by fear and ignorance. As the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Imran Khan has spoken out against Islamophobia and has been a vocal advocate for the rights of Muslims around the world. In his speeches at various international forums, Imran Khan has highlighted the issue of Islamophobia and has called for an end to the demonization of Muslims. He has argued that the negative portrayal of Muslims in Western media has contributed to the rise of anti-Muslim sentiment and has called on Western governments to take action to combat this phenomenon. Furthermore, Imran Khan has also urged the international community to take steps to address the root causes of extremism and terrorism, which he argues are often the result of political and economic grievances. He has emphasized the importance of dialogue and mutual understanding in promoting peace and stability in the world.

In addition to his advocacy work, Imran Khan has taken concrete steps to combat Islamophobia within Pakistan. His government has launched initiatives to promote religious harmony and tolerance, and he has spoken out against extremist groups that promote violence and intolerance. However, some critics have argued that Imran Khan has not done enough to address the issue of Islamophobia within Pakistan itself, particularly in the treatment of religious minorities such as Ahmadiyya Muslims and Christians. They argue that his government has not done enough to protect the rights of these communities and has failed to take action against those who promote hatred and violence against them. In conclusion, while Imran Khan has been an outspoken advocate for the rights of Muslims and has taken steps to combat Islamophobia on the global stage, his government still faces criticism for its treatment of religious minorities within Pakistan (Javaid & Khan, 2022).

## **Conclusion and Recommendations**

Pakistan has played a significant role in the global war on terrorism since the attacks of September 11, 2001. The country has faced numerous terrorist incidents, which have resulted in the loss of many innocent lives and caused significant damage to its economy and society. To combat terrorism, Pakistan has taken various steps, including military operations, intelligence sharing, and implementing the National Action Plan. These efforts have led to the capture or killing of many terrorists and the dismantling of their infrastructure. The country's role in the war on terrorism has also helped to improve regional security and stability. However, Pakistan's efforts to combat terrorism have also had some negative consequences. The military operations have resulted in displacement and human rights violations, and there have been concerns about the potential for unintended civilian casualties. Moreover, some analysts argue that the root causes of terrorism, such as poverty and lack of education, have not been fully addressed.

### *Role of Pakistan against War on Terrorism and its Consequences*

In conclusion, Pakistan's role in the war on terrorism has been both positive and negative. While the country has made significant efforts to combat terrorism and has played an important role in regional security, there have also been negative consequences. To effectively combat terrorism, it is important to address the root causes of terrorism and to ensure that efforts to combat terrorism do not result in human rights violations or unintended civilian casualties.

The US has been carrying out drone strikes in Pakistan since 2004 that have killed a large number of innocent civilians. By the year of 2010 alone, more than 1200 innocent people have been killed under these strikes. According to the US, these strikes are their important weapon of the counterinsurgency mechanism in the war against terror. Through signature, personality and the rescuer strikes, a lot number of civilians have got killed as they have no mechanism to differentiate between the terrorists and the militants. Only short term objectives are being attained by the US whereas the program is proving counterproductive for both US and Pakistan as it is increasing hostility, anti-Americanism and instability in the region. The civilians in these areas get much disturbed and suffer from the loss of their lives, property, education and severe psychological syndromes. The US rationalizes these strikes on the basis of her right of self-defense and under jus and bellum; these strikes even don't meet their criteria of proportionality, the occurrence of armed conflict and immediate threat. Moreover, these strikes totally negate the laws of war and are a serious violation of the UN Charter, Geneva Convention, UDHR, IHRL, IHL and several others. The US drone's program deprives the innocent people of their lives which are protected by the basic principles of these humanitarian bodies.

To sum up the whole discussion, it can be stated that Pakistan was the only country in the world who core heartedly joined hands with United States to fight War on Terrorism. Pakistan provided full support to America by providing its lands to fight against Talibans in Afghanistan. United States was not capable to handle the Talibans without the support of Pakistan because Pakistan lies at the crossroad of great powers interest. That is the reason US was interested to join hands with the President Musharraf to successfully tackle this war against terrorism. In turn of this support by Pakistan, United States has helped Pakistan economically and militarily. US provided different aids to Pakistan with different intervals. Pakistan also suffered a lot due to this war on terrorism such as there was loss of blood, economic losses, there were questions about Pakistan identity, fear factor, there was enhancement for security budget, it shaken the tourism industry, considered unsafe for foreigners, massive displacement of citizens, blow to sports events, blockade of Pakistani exports and there was the lack of funds for reconstruction activities.

As a result of this support of Pakistan to United States, Pakistan suffered a lot. At the end US President Donald Trump declared that Pakistan has provided safe heavens to Talibans. Pakistan was severely criticized by US President that Pakistan provided help to Talibans against United States. Although, Pakistan has

suffered a lot due to US initiated war against terrorism. Lastly, it can be stated that international relations are based upon the national interest and US policies were totally based upon its national interest. There is dire need for Pakistan to revise its foreign policy to safeguard its national interests. Drone attacks are considered as the most common form of terror attacks. In order to stop drone attack our government must take following steps:

- There is need to make it clear to USA about the issues we are facing due to drone attacks.
- Government of Pakistan should take issue of Drone attack to the Security Council of UNO and International Court of justice and ask them for their help to resolve the issue we are facing.
- Pakistan should develop its own foreign-policy and decide whether to support USA or not.
- Government of Pakistan should go for trade agreements with China and other Islamic countries instead of countries involved in Terror attacks or supporting TTP.
- There is need to stop NATO Line supply to America if they don't take step against drone attacks.
- There is also need to develop agreements with Terror groups such as TTP.
- Drone attacks can be stopped by spreading religion knowledge and bringing religion scholars to the table and disclosing religion based fights.

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