

Pak afghan relations and war on terror from 9/11 to 2014

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Abstract

Pakistan and Afghanistan are very close neighbor to each other and sharing the border with the length of 2240km officially known as Durand line and even though the relations between two states never gone tranquil and unruffled despite of sharing conviction, denomination, creed, physiography, ethnicity, culture and religion. There is always the policy of mistrust, dissatisfaction, blaming, claiming, misconceptions, double policies and hatred between two Islamic brotherhood neighboring countries. As a drastic shift in international politics erupted after the incident of 9/11 which once again put Afghanistan into a colossal unrest. Consequently USA invaded Afghanistan and Pakistan being a front line ally of US in this war against terrorism ruined the relations of both countries. A series of tensions erupted between the relations of Afghanistan and Pakistan after 9/11, as a war launched against terrorism and Afghanistan considered as the hub of terrorism. Henceforth, war on terror turned the relations towards a blame game, but the terrorism is the issue of both countries. Despite terrorism both countries significantly have relations of trade, cultural and people to people contact. But terrorism made the relations a harsh turn.

Key words: Pakistan, Afghanistan, war, terror, 9/11, relations.

Introduction

The countries though neighboring or not, establish amicable relation for their national interests. As the countries in South Asia Afghanistan and Pakistan have relations some times of good nature and sometimes strange. But, the veracity of the fact is that both the countries share a large scale of cultural, religious and ethnical relations. The relations always stepped as according to the international and regional politics. (Ewan W Anderson, 1990). The Geo-strategic and political importance of both countries cannot be denied, that is the reason they possess strange relations with each other. The historical perspective of Afghanistan shows that it became under the cloudy shadows of superpowers in history. The great game of Anglo-Russia and the invasion of Red forces in Afghanistan drastically influenced Pakistan, in term of refuges and instability. (Durrani, 2013)

The historical evidences traced that Pakistan faced radical effects from the Afghan turmoil. The Support of Mujahedin's against Soviet Union and the help for establishing Taliban government. But, the iota of the fact is that the 9/11 incident turned the whole structure of Afghanistan and also the relations of both countries to a large level. (Hamid, 2007)

As the relations are concerned the diplomatic relation get worst during 2001 to 2014 that was the biggest problem for the entire region, that two countries which are affected of terrorism and extremism but are still not on track to counter their mutual threat. Both state were in the circumstance of war and suicide besieging was turned into a strategies by fear based oppressor starts to irritate both nations on connection making. The hoodlums made many issues in transit of Pak-Afghan connection the underlying period of west war on dread.

Despite the facts, both countries are affected of terrorism at the same time, but not come forward to resolve this menace from their countries. Diplomatic relations are one side where, the economic and political relations also remained under threat in various times. Afghanistan is landlocked country which never enjoys direct trade without Pakistan's land still as a neighbor country is failed to come in terms with Pakistan that is the biggest drawback of Afghanistan. Resultantly the crisis of relationships between both governments was impossible task. Both countries could not compromise with their wasted interest to cooperative with each other for mutual benefits. Thus both countries failed to formed cordial and bilateral relations. (Singh, 1994)

The war against terrorism spoiled the relations and the failure of both countries negotiations for establishing amicable relations made the ties worse. Relations of both countries are on such a stage because of terrorism that there is no way to articulate new phase in their relations. The steps has taken for cordial relations on diplomatic level but resulted in failure. The political stakeholders of both countries also visited along with their military leadership for exchanging mutual trust and developing new dimension but all get ruined as soon as the visits result.

Henceforth, the leadership of both countries could not ease the relation; an allegation game erupted between these two countries that spoiled the relations during 2008 until today. However, the issue which occurred during this period was extremely threatening for both countries. After 2012 a blame game started by both countries for disturbing the internal security of each other. The blame game decayed the relation on mutual trust and cooperation, which is in the interest of both countries. (Shafqat, 2011)

Research objectives

The present study hence to explores the relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan in the context of war on terror from 9/11 to 2014 the main objectives of the research is to know the reasons which are responsible for the harsh, bitter, unfriendly connections between the two neighboring states in spite of being brotherhood countries as well and also sharing the same culture, customs, religion, language, and same traditions etc. but the bondage between Pakistan and Afghanistan never gone smooth, friendly, cooperative, supportive, cordial, and peaceful and even though from the historical point of view the relations always became a target of claims and blames. The mistrust and misconceptions between two states became more weakened and doubtful after the incident of 9/11 when the war on terror was started which brought both countries on the peak of hatred after this incident the relations got more painful and due to 9/11 the level of mistrust increased between them the objectives of the study will work on the issue of war on terror the study will bring out the issue of war on terror and the stance of Pakistan on the relations of both countries.

The study will also bring out the factors which are responsible for the worst relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan. The study will highlight

the main features of reaction in the context of war on terrorism from 2001 till 2014.

Research Questions

How far war on terror after 9/11 incident effected Pak and Afghan relations?

Literature Review

The governments in Afghanistan before the partition of Indo-Pakistan sub-continent were used to be under the British, where the British used the country as buffer zone. British against the Russian Czarist used Afghanistan as the shield to stop the influence in South Asia. Thus this partition of sub-continent became a hostile hub between Afghanistan and Pakistan. The issues with Afghanistan erupted with the Durand line. This border could not consider as the permanent border between both countries as friendly. The hostile approaches over border find on both sides that is the main antagonistic spot the relations of both countries. That are the reasons the influence is upon the geo-strategic and political sphere of both countries in term of relations. (Zaman, 2001)

The relations of both countries has great scale of mistrust, the blame game and interfering accusations in each other's internal affairs. In the past chapters and in contemporary scenario Pakistan accuses Afghanistan for proving safe havens to the Baloch nationalist and the Islamic militants. The Pakistanis additionally insinuate the way that Afghanistan was the main nation that had opposed Pakistan's enrollment of the United Nations and that as of late as the comrade administration in Afghanistan it had nearer relations with India than with Pakistan (logge, 2003)

The expanding Indian impact in Afghanistan in the present setting additionally adds to Pakistan's worries. Afghanistan says that Pakistan upheld the Afghan Taliban in the 1990s, and gave asylum and safe house to them later in its tribal zones and different parts, for example, Quetta from where they, alongside Pakistani Taliban, have regrouped and propelled assaults on Afghan, US and NATO strengths. (Widar, 2008)

A few Afghans additionally scrutinize Pakistan's part in the Soviet-Afghan war when Pakistan's military ruler Gen Ziaul Haq had advanced jihad in Afghanistan, subsidized a great many madrassas, furnished local Islamist

associations, and in the handle mobilized and radicalized the fringe area. Other Afghan concerns identify with Pakistan's concentrate on just managing Pashtun pioneers in Afghanistan, interfering in Afghanistan undertakings and not treating the nation on equivalent premise.

Pakistan then again confronted burden of endorses on her atomic program, a stage that showed American lack of concern towards her previous partner once her objectives had been accomplished while Afghanistan was taken off alone to manage the savage infighting that took after the soviet withdrawal and the huge assignment of reproduction. Pakistan's protection experts and arrangement producers fear repeat of such a vacuum in the consequence of U.S exit from the war torn Afghanistan. The vacuum would then be filled by the Indian impact as she has been assuming an exceptionally dynamic part in Afghanistan with the unsaid expectation of countering Pakistan's impact in the nation. (Logge, 2003)

Ten years of Pakistan's dynamic contribution in the Afghan war as the "cutting edge state" influenced the social texture of Pakistan. It contrarily affected and captivated certain politico religious fragments of the Pakistani society. Amid this period, Pakistan additionally endured outrageous inside shakiness because of incognito demonstrations of subversions by Soviet and Indian knowledge organizations. There were a large number of bomb impacts in trains, transports, railroad stations, malls and other open spots bringing about vast quantities of regular citizen setbacks. There was likewise an ascent in political polarization because of proceeded with administration by the military administration and expanded flimsiness because of the presentation of another marvel of ethnic and partisan viciousness. (Hadid, 2000)

The region is under the threat because of the war on terror, the most sensitive and important reality is that the relations can bring instability in the region. The main component of the hostile relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan is a threat to the stability of region. The ups and downs in the relations of Pakistan and Afghanistan are due to the border management issues, which have their direct impacts on the security of both states. The war on terror brought the western powers and their presence in the greater interest of Afghanistan and Pakistan. The border issues made extremely antagonistic the relations, where the borders are affecting the trade of both countries. These troubles are threat to the regional stability and peace. (Javeed, 2012)

The relations with Afghanistan always traced as from the intervention of superpowers in Afghanistan, this is quite clear that the national security of Pakistan is under threat from neighboring country. The scenario after 9/11 with Afghanistan once again changed, where Pakistan again became an important ally of US in war against terrorism. This shift in the policy of Pakistan made the relations different with Afghanistan, where Pakistan was keen supporter of Taliban regime. (Habib, 2009)

Pakistan in context of war on terror made the situation quite different when it provided all sorts of assistance to the US government against Afghanistan. These all initiatives were taken by Pakistan just for countering terrorism. Air Bases and land access were given to United States from Pakistan to Afghanistan, as the terrorism turned towards Pakistan. This can be judged from the facts that Pakistan involved its self in a foreign war. War on terror understood by the Muslims and Taliban that it is war against Islam, which made Taliban antagonistic of Pakistan. Today Pakistan is facing any sort of security challenges from western side are due to Afghanistan's instability, for that sake Pakistan always tried its best for political, economic and military stability of Afghanistan. (Nilum, 2006)

War on terror created a conflict in Afghanistan and instability in the region after the great tragic incident of 9/11; this made the entire region huge chaos and security risk. Pakistan played its role with great concerns to bring stability in the country. Pakistan after the incident accepted a huge influx of refugees that is the larger acceptance country to give shelter to the refugees. The role of Pakistan is important in sphere of relations with Afghanistan. But what Pakistan received from Afghanistan that is thrilling. (Askari, 2005)

The iota of the fact is that Pakistan has meaningful geostrategic and geopolitical importance for Afghanistan. In the context Afghan government must come forward to establish good relation with Pakistan. Though war on terror and the terrorists activities are the chief hurdles on the way of cordial relations, but Afghanistan have to accept the reality that it's, trade and business is possible through Pakistan. In order to make relations because Pakistan is the gate way to the rich resources land of central Asia and landlocked Afghanistan. (Noorin, 2011)

In the changed scenario of Afghanistan where the Indian influence has been increased with speed, which became a threat for Pakistan. This is clear from the historic assumptions that both Afghanistan and India have

closer ties and come close against Pakistan in any forum. The relationship of India and Afghanistan was an alarming situation for Pakistan, where India established closer relationship with Hamid Karzai government. The growing relations of India and Afghanistan are from the reasons that India is a growing economy which provided huge bunch of economic aid to the Afghan government. The Indian government has given more than 1 billion US dollars to Afghanistan in 2001 and where Pakistan has given 150 US dollar which is less than Indian financial support. (Durrani, 2009)

In context of Indian and Afghanistan relations, Pakistan tried to stop Indian trading which are passing from the land of Pakistan. The new Afghan Transit Trade Agreement guarantees to explain the issue of travel of Indian products through Pakistani region. The terms of this get to are being arranged. India even volunteered to give security help and preparing to the Afghan National Army, yet that is esteemed as fiery by both the Kabul government and the U.S. as Islamabad will be incited. Besides, Pakistan responded brutally to India's reviving of its departments in Herat, Kandahar, Mezar-e Sharif, and Jalalabad in 2002, guaranteeing that they would give cover to Indian undercover work against Pakistan. (Khan H. , 2014)

Terrorism is the common issue of countries, the extremism, religious violence and sectarianism and violence in both countries are its examples, where Pakistan and Afghanistan needs to come for settling their issues with cooperation and support. However, the similar issues of both countries are put behind, that is the threat for both countries. Here the question raised that why despite the facts Pakistan and Afghanistan have common issues but are failed to cooperate in their bilateral issues. The relationships are in troubled stances, where both the governments accuse each other for spoiling their internal situations. (Wadood, 2011)

The issues of accusation is that from the side of Afghanistan that the terrorists come from Pakistan and Pakistan is behind the Taliban's to create chaos and instability in Afghanistan, at the same time Pakistan blame Afghanistan for providing Baloch Nationalist safe heaven and the Taliban. The issues of both countries in term of accusation are the Border, which is eminent on the name of Durand line. The scholars and writers argued that Durand is the basic issue between Pakistan and Afghanistan for accusation, however, the Durand line agreement was for 100 years between British and Afghanistan and the time period has lasted in 1993. Today the issues are

erupting and are not moving for peace and friendly relations is because of the border issues.

The relations of Hamid Karzai with India were not as cordial as they are today, and the Afghanistan was because and prosperous during that era. When the Indian government moved to establish interest based relations with India from 2007, from Pakistani officials cleared their stance that Indian influence in Afghanistan is a national security threat of Pakistan. India made the relations of Afghanistan and Pakistan more danger. The Indian consulates and the military training of Afghan forces made Pakistan to rethink on relations with Afghanistan on strategic importance. (Baloch, 2012)

The relations of Pakistan and Afghanistan along with United States is that the latter and Afghan governments are interested to talk with Taliban for preventing their insurgency and come for peace negotiations. But the response of Afghan Taliban is that they need the US to leave their land. Moreover, the US and Afghan governments accuse Pakistan for sheltering Afghan Taliban in their land, in this regards Pakistan must come to bring Taliban on negotiations.

The United States likewise recognizes the positive pattern and expanded collaboration amongst Pakistan and Afghanistan and has guaranteed to proceed with its support in bringing the two much nearer to guarantee territorial peace. Taking after the withdrawal of the majority of global strengths from Afghanistan before the current month's over, experts see regularly rough ties amongst Islamabad and Kabul transitioning from a relationship of question into more prominent counter-fear mongering participation and reclamation of shared trust.

The choice was declared to take up arms against the Taliban and Al Qaeda in retaliation for the 9/11 assaults. In tune, the US media was requiring a military mediation against Afghanistan. Scarcely four weeks after the fact, on the seventh of October, Afghanistan was bombarded and attacked by US troops. Americans were persuaded that the choice to go to war had been gone up against the off the cuff, on the night of September 11, in light of the assaults and their disastrous results. (Pitras, 2004)

Little did people in general understand that an expansive scale theater war is never arranged and executed in a matter of weeks? The choice to dispatch a war and send troops to Afghanistan had been taken well ahead of time of 9/11. The "psychological militant, enormous, loss delivering occasion

served to stir general assessment in support of a war motivation which was at that point in its last arranging stage.

A turning point witnessed in Pak-Afghan relation during Zardri government. In this regards a Jirga was called which was comprised of 700 people from both sides that was named as the Afghan peace Jirga. All the great leaders of both countries come to a point to settle their relations and bring peace and stability in Afghanistan. Pakistan's mammoth role in this Jirga was that both the president and Prime Minister were present in Jirga. This Jirga aimed to combat terrorism from both countries with cordial and cooperation of both sides. (Dar, 2014)

Brief history of Pak afghan relations

Pak and Afghanistan are very close neighbors to each other and sharing the border officially known as Durand line but unfortunately the relations between two states never gone tranquil despite of sharing conviction, denomination, creed, physiography, ethnicity, and culture. After independence Pakistan was facing huge thread from India then suddenly Afghanistan showed its real face to Pakistan and enhances the frail security environment the new and very new existence of Pakistan. History is responsible for the unfriendly relations or approach between them. There are many issues which could be raised from the history of the relations like the issue of Durand line and the issue of Pakhtunistan.

The nature of the relationship from the very outset has been very intense and complicated. When Pakistan appeared on the surface of the world map, there was no any other country that objected to its existence, but Afghanistan. It became the first and the only country in the world to object to the inclusion of the former in the United Nations and voted against it. In spite of this, yet Pakistan did not want to make an enemy in its backyard, therefore, friendly gestures were shown to appease Afghanistan and being a Muslim country establish strong relations rather than being enemies within the same faith.

The reason why the latter did not accept Pakistan and did not recognize it at the outset was the fact that most of the agreements that Afghanistan had reached were with the British and it did not see Pakistan as a legitimate inheritor of all those agreements and regarded them as null and void, but Pakistan wanted to maintain those agreements as a part of its

inheritance from the British empire. The relations got even more complicated when a mixture of statements and controversies were seen in the Afghan politics and its narrative toward Pakistan. (Mansergh 1977)

The invasion of Soviet Union brought a wrath on the civilians of Afghanistan. Humanity was under oppression at the hands of the red army. In spite of the fact that for most of the part, Afghanistan had remained an enemy to Pakistan, yet Pakistan hosted the largest refugee crisis in the world after the refugee crisis of the world war the second. Facing oppression and massacres, the Afghan refugees began to flee and take refuge in Pakistan. Pakistan's diplomatic and political morale got high as it hosted the largest refugee camps in the world.

Above five million refugees took shelter in Pakistani camps. They were not only protected from the communist forces, but they were given every possible facility under the international law. Since then, many of them have returned to their homes, still a large number of them are living in Pakistan, mostly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Quetta. Quetta hosts the largest number of refugees in Balochistan. (Underhill 2012)

Relations in the context of war on terror

There is no denying the fact that Pakistan and Afghanistan are bonded by religion, culture and history. Their differences cannot eradicate the fact that they are twin brothers and they have to remain so. Though, the lack of political far sightedness and lack of trust upon each other has driven them toward animosity and hostility. Their relations in this chapter are given in the context of the war on terror. Following are the main outlines of their mutual relations both in the positive and negative aspects.

Tensions in the borders have not yet ceased to exist because of a variety of factors. Afghanistan is still not in the mood to recognize the Durand Line as the permanent border between them. Cross border terrorism, to add further in the tensions, is increasing with the passage of time. There is not a single reason behind the tensions keeping the borders in view. Reluctance of Afghanistan to accept the border is not the only reason behind the growing tensions. As a matter of concern, the geography is a key factor that must not be ignored when the border of Durand Line is debated. (Pak-Afghan border tensions costing millions MAR 16, 2017)

The terrain of this region is very intense with multiple series of mountains which provide a natural barrier to the security forces to launch operations in these areas to get rid of the terrorists. Thus, the terrorists use these places as their hideouts and operate from there. The border areas is 2252 km which is very vast for these backward countries to safely guard it or at least technologically monitor it or give it surveillance entirely (Zaman, 2001). Taking advantage of these weaknesses, the militants use the cross border techniques to carry out their attacks. They use these mountains and their hideouts to operate and then go to Afghanistan and engage in terrorism and come back and (Javeed, 2012) (Habib, 2009) hide and vice versa.

The area is very large both for the armies to police it entirely making it very arduous to track down the militants. The results of the cross border terrorism often fall upon either the civilian traffic or upon the trade. In the case of any attack on either side of the border, the traffic for all kinds of civilians is halted sometimes even for weeks while the closure of the border badly affects trade in the mutual context. The Afghan side of the border is the main cause of the troubles. Since the government of Afghanistan is too weak to establish its writ in the bordering areas that fall into its own jurisdiction, the regions like Kunar have become easy and safe places for the militants to hide and operate from there. (Khan 23, February 2017)

War on terror and Pak-Afghan ties from 9/11 to 2014

The phenomenon of terrorism became one of the greatest threats to the security of international security structure. As it practiced in one or another means by the groups and individuals. The phenomenon became a terminology after the tragic incident of 9/11. The powers and countries affecting by this menace came to point to launch a series of war against terrorism. However, the historical facts argued that terrorism in various times has been used as tactics by groups, individuals and organizations for their basic motives and needs. (Dr, 2011)

As far as, the term terrorism and terrorist is concerned the scholars assumed it in different means, the term get popularity from French revolution, where the people means the anarchist groups involved in various activities against their Kings. In mean time the nationalists groups also were in front against the imperialists in various countries to fight the policies and colonizers. But, the phenomenon of terrorism gets its strong holds after the

tragic incident of 9/11, where the great powers launched a war against terrorism globally. (Khan, 2005)

The global war on terrorism, assumed to the military, overt and covert activities operations of US led operations against terrorists internationally. But, the core center was targeted by US was Afghanistan, where Pakistan supposed to be the ally of US on war on terror. Obviously, the decision against fighting war on terror was launched after the event of 9/11, in order to this the entire dimensions of the security expertise changed. A war was launched against terrorism, in various countries and individuals which is still a lingering threat to the international security.

The global war on terror significantly brings the capabilities and efforts of states, though politically, legally, ideologically and militarily fight terrorism and terrorist which are threat to humanity. The war also focused on states which are supporting terrorism, and are threatening the security of world directly or indirectly. But, the Al Qaida and Taliban in Afghanistan and Middle East became the focal agenda of the states that are intended to fight terrorism. In order to this the states like Afghanistan and Iraq become the center of war. However, Pakistan's as frontline ally of US in this war manipulated its security risks to fight Afghanistan. (Khan A. , 2013)

Conclusion

The countries in South Asia Pakistan and Afghanistan are two important countries and their relations have also immense impacts on the regional politics. As a war launched against terrorism which diverted the entire security structure globally but relations and the policies of Pakistan and Afghanistan with each other also get changed with the incident of 9/11. In the chapters of history both Pakistan and Afghanistan shared strange and tense relations but both the countries must not put behind the facts that their geographical significance does not allow them to made spoiled relations.

Notwithstanding, Pakistan and Afghanistan relations became in a dynamic position after the tragic incident of 9/11. A war was launched globally to counter terrorism which is a direct threat to humanity from all over. Both Pakistan and Afghanistan relations were not amicable in past but this tragic event made the situation worse by many means. In this critical juncture both Pakistan and Afghanistan must not forget the reality of the geographical influence of each other. The regional dynamics also get changed

after 9/11, in this state of affairs the relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan became strange as the influence of other countries their roots in Afghanistan. The situation of Afghanistan painted many new realities that many actors involved in Afghanistan. Nevertheless, the dire need is that both countries should realize the nature of foreign actors in Afghanistan for spoiling the relations of both countries.

The war against terrorism in both countries dynamically shifted the agenda of both countries to larger scale. The malicious game of blaming each other over terrorism created a huge mistrust between the two countries. On one side Afghanistan blamed Pakistan for interfering in its internal affairs to manipulate the terrorist to fight Afghanistan to create unrest in the country. But at same time Pakistan blame Afghanistan for providing save heavens to the terrorist to create instability and insecurity in Pakistan. The situation over the relation of both countries and this blame game position is not in favor of both countries. The agenda of the terrorist in Pakistan and Afghanistan is same to establish their own rule in both countries that is Islamic dynasty. Instability in Afghanistan is not in favor of Pakistan so in this state of affairs Pakistan must take strong initiatives to support Afghanistan to create stability and peace in the country. Therefore, terrorism is the issue of both countries here both countries should settle a parameter to counter terrorism. As an appetizer, they could emphasis on those matters that stalled the talks on the planned, Strategic Partnership Agreement. Until both countries focus on determining the aggravations amid them, the idea of a calculated partnership between Afghanistan and Pakistan appears problematic, particularly earlier the imminent departure.

Though, the confidence and trusted relationship between two countries is the paramount for the regional stability and peace and also is in the greater interest of both countries. The position in bilateral relations both Pakistan and Afghanistan must move to create peace and stability in their relations. The important factor in the bilateral relations of both countries is that the global shift was over war on terror, so the war against terrorism must not be cashed by any one the countries. Though a decade and half years war on terror spoiled the relation internally and externally of both countries. But the iota of the fact is that with the US and NATO withdrawal terrorism must be the dire threatening force in the region that is not in the interest of both countries. The veracity of the fact is that it's true that the harsh and better

history cannot be ease soon but future is waiting for peace and stability. Furthermost prominently, the optimistic impetus produced must be reserved active to substitute collaboration and create universal, recognized relations for maintainable cooperation in all arenas for their people's prosperity.

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