



TERRORISM AND ETHNICITY: THREATS AND POLICY RESPONSE

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Abstract

This article analyses the rationale behind terrorist operations carried out specifically for the benefit of ethnic identity groups. Terrorism research has largely overlooked the ethnic dimension of some terrorist operations in favor of formulating or testing principles that apply to all terrorist acts, regardless of ideological leaning. The study that does address ethnic terrorism attributes it to either a broad and ill-defined definition of nationalism or characteristics that may be unique to a small number of events. This study explores the potentially most significant drivers of ethnic terrorism: political and economic grievances with the host state, as well as competition within the ethnic community's elites for control over the group. As a result, model results should provide better explanations for ethnic terrorism outcomes by directly connecting group features to group



terrorism rather than country characteristics or subnational factors aggregated to the country level. According to the data, political grievances and elite competition raise the risk of ethnic terrorism, although economic concerns are rarely associated with this sort of violence.

Key Words: Terrorism, Ethnicity, Pakistan, Violence, Nationalism, Terrorist Operations

Introduction

Pakistan has a 7.83 index of Global Terrorism while ranking among the top 50 countries which are prone to Terrorism (Alfero, 2022). These terrorist attacks have significantly increased in Pakistan ranging from only 2 attacks in 2001 to more than 70 incidents of terrorism in 2008. The tribal areas in Pakistan, specifically located in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa have been targeted in most of the cases. The region of Balochistan has suffered from 2,886 terrorist strikes and 3,184 linked deaths in the recent decade. According to media sources, 2,049 persons were killed in 1,701 insurgent strikes in the southwestern region between 2010 and 2015. There were 1,135 persons murdered in 1,185 terror acts between 2016 and 2020. 2,058 citizens and 1,126 uniformed officers died in terror-related killings in the recent decade. Terrorism was born in the late 1970s, just after the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan. The United States liberally sponsored the Mujahedeen in terms of preparation and weaponry, which subsequently made their way into Pakistan over the disputed border. (SIDDIQI, 2012)

According to S.N. Panda, "national integration is a psychological phenomenon, a sense of oneness that rises above all restricted and divided impulses and leads to genuine patriotism and growth." National integration is simply an experience in which any state's community/nation feels itself as living with one another, with sentiments of oneness, togetherness, compassion, and no discrimination based on race, ethnicity, geographical limits, and so on. In every state, it is the general public's experience of casual differentiation. Regardless of the nation's caste, belief, region, or linguistic limitations, they felt "All One." This attitude promotes feelings of national integration. According to the Education Commission Report, "national integration entails a belief in the nation's future, a consistent rise in the level of living, the development of a sense of values and duties, a good and impartial administrative framework, and mutual understanding." Due to the presence of multiple influencing elements, Pakistan has been struggling with the challenge of national integration from its establishment. This study will focus on or emphasise the reasons inhibiting Pakistan's smooth continuance of national integration. This is a problem that is rising in Balochistan. Balochistan is well-known for its unique and priceless natural resources, as well as minerals. Balochistan is geographically located in South-West



Pakistan, with borders with neighbouring nations such as Iran and Afghanistan, and its weightage grows after Gawadar Port, which has a high value for Pakistan among other countries across the world. The British government previously derived enormous benefits from this area after referring to Balochistan as a "buffer zone." With the help of Balochistan's Sardars, the British government controls this territory. Furthermore, the same method was continued until 1947, when a series of uprisings resulted in the creation of independent Balochistan. Balochistan, Afghanistan, and Iran, according to Noraiee, are among the governments that have appealed to Russia and the British government. The rationale for this appeal is that Balochistan is located in an area with a significant position in Pakistan, namely business junctions between "central asia or south asia, south-west asia, and therefore the British Government organises its strategies to look at regional importance and geopolitics. (Zaman, 2021)

Terrorists who claim to represent a particular ethnic or cultural group, often a minority, are referred to as ethno-nationalists. Ethno-nationalist groups are distinguished by their desire to administer independent territory, sometimes a separate country, and by their use of violence against their so-called competitors, who are frequently members of a majority. This study looks into the potentially most important factors of ethnic terrorism: political and economic grievances with the host state, as well as conflict among ethnic community elites for control of the group. (Mendez, 2020)

The major purpose of this research is to investigate the factors that are producing problems with national integration in Pakistan, with a specific emphasis on Balochistan. People in Pakistan endure a number of cultural, economic, ethnic, linguistic, racial, caste, and geographical challenges. All of these factors have exacerbated Pakistan's difficulties with national integration. A historical research technique was employed to explore the issues of national integration. National integration has proven to be an effective strategy for safeguarding a community's fundamental rights or autonomy. Furthermore, National Integration is a steady evolution in which opposing groups of society, given identical viewpoints and the same rights to a variety of facilities, bear without bias. Furthermore, the federal body's role as a facilitator in the formation of National Integration in Pakistan, particularly in Balochistan Province, may contribute to the expansion of National Integration in Pakistan. (Siddiqi, 2012)

Research Questions:

1. What is the status of Ethnonationalist Terrorism Movement's in Asia?
2. What has been the trends of ethnonational terrorism in Balochistan?
3. What are key factors driving ethnonationalist movements of Terrorism in Balochistan



4. What has been the frequency of Ethnonational terrorist attacks in Balochistan in last two decades?
5. What are the interventions to cope up with those Ethnonationalist Terrorist Movements?

Discussion

As Balochistan's leadership refused to embrace the federal government's policies, the topic of national integration in Pakistan has grown prominent. They have been attempting to establish hegemony in their territory without the intervention of the government; the tendency began with independence. Balochis have driven the British government's sub-continental movement in recent years. (Zaman, 2021) They were taken aback by the incorporation of Balochistan into Pakistan in 1947. The federal government wishes to annihilate the sovereignty of the Sardari system in Balochistan and seize all of its authority. The central administrative authority intended to comprehend Balochistan's integration into Pakistan. As a result, there have been clashes between Balochistan and the government in 1948, 1958, 1962, and 1973-77. Currently, around 55,000 Baloch soldiers fight with Pak army groups. The same thing happened in 1973. This was in the 1960s, when a Balochi separatist organisation formed a peculiar identity; its fanaticism is still remembered today. The military began to tighten its grip on Balochistan during the 1962 conflict. In 1963, 22 different places surrounded a major region of the province, each linked to the "Mengal Group" in the south and the "Marri Group" in the north. All of this has been handled by a group of "Volunteers," who are pushing others to join the anti-central government operation. The group was afterwards called the "Baloch Peoples' Liberation Front (BPLF)." The active political baloch leaders intend to follow in the footsteps of Marx and Lenin's struggle for state independence. Balochies were roused under the leadership of "Sher Muhammad Mari's," and they completed the mission for over two years, becoming the principal organization/function of the insurgency in 1973. (Siddiqi, 2012) The Balochi issue, according to the Pakistani government, is the product of the selfishness of a number of Balochi leaders who do not want Balochistan to progress. Approximately 28 Balochi politicians with clout in Balochistan have openly declared their opposition to the Central Government. Sardars from the "Bhugtti, Marri, and Mengal" tribes openly demonstrate their opposition to the government. "Khair Buksh Marri or Ata Ullah Mengal," on the other hand, exhibits strong resistance in the following ways: i)- Marri handles the topic almost totally from a military perspective. ii)- Mengal is naturally motivated to compromise because he has limited forces at his disposal. "After the fight, during the 1970s, primary trends indicate the Balochi movement, which has progressively formed in the following conditions: "Ghouse Bakhsh Bizanjo," a Balochi chieftain, founded the "Pakistan National Party (PNP)." They want wide regional sovereignty that



may or may not be governed by the national authority. (SIDDIQI, 2012) Several efforts have been launched in support of the Baloch people and against the central government. This party aimed to win the hearts of the Baloch people and urge them to accept Baloch nationalism. Following the death of Ghouse Bakhsh Bizanjo, his party was renamed "Baloch National Party (BNP)." (Siddiqi, 2012)

The "Baloch Liberation Army (BLA)" sardar has been titled "Nawab Khair Baksh Marri." In the 1980s, a clandestine or underground armed group was founded. This resulted in a violation and a run-in with the law. They emphasised the significance of having a strong and autonomous Balochistan, including its borders with Afghanistan and Iran. "Ata Ullah Mengal," another Balochi sardar, was the leader of the "Baloch National Movement (BNM)." He was Balochistan's second most popular sardar. His main role in Balochistan history is as the originator of the 1973 insurgency. Following the end of the insurgency, he travelled to London to form the "Sindh Baloch Pashtun Front (SBPF)," which will represent the Sindhi, Pathana, and Baloch communities. This party advocated for the transformation of Pakistan into a federation, with each province having the power to negotiate with the national government. The Baloch National Movement (BNM) merged with the Pakistan National Party in 1999. (PNP). Following that, the Baloch National Movement, also known as the Pakistan National Party Sardars, established a new party known as the "Baloch National Party (BNP)." Sardar Akbar Bhughti, who led a band of 10,000 ethnic agitators, is another well-known figure in Balochistan revolution movements. Throughout 2005, the Pakistani government focused on the Dera Bhughti region or on Sardar Akbar Bhughti. At the time, aggressiveness was on the rise throughout Balochistan, particularly in unrest-ridden areas. The Pakistani government says that all of Balochistan's issues are the product of the cruelty and avarice of the province's Sardars. They don't even want the region to be peaceful and prosperous; they only want it for their own wealth and interests. (Zaman, 2021) They ("Marri, Bhughti, Mengal tribes") expanded their dominance over Balochistan, particularly in the "Makran" region, by their uprising actions and influence. "KhairBuksh Marri" and "Ata UllahMengal" have been more hardline tribes, whereas "Mengal" has narrowed his circle to a small number of rebel factions but aims to engage in dialogue. Marri sees the issues through the eyes of the armed forces, while Bhughti distinguishes the use of armed soldiers. Balochi groups are not just restricted to ethnic regions, but also to the entire Balochistan. Baloch lives were ruined by ethnic tribes because they lacked sufficient health, education, and economic amenities, among other things. (Zaman, 2021)

What is Ethno-Nationalist Terrorism?



Ethno-nationalist terrorist activity is a type of terrorism inspired by the militant's nationalism and ethnicity. Terrorists who are ethnic-nationalists desire self-representation in some form, which can vary from complete autonomy to the establishment of an entirely independent, ethnic practices and national entity (separatism) (Khushnood, 2021). Such terrorism is connected to a feeling of oppression or denial of rights among members of a nationalistic, racial, faith, caste, creed, or other identity norms, particularly those provided to everyone else. The concept of ethnonationalist terrorism and its use, like the idea of terrorism itself, is profoundly divisive. What characterizes an illegitimate rule, as well as what sorts of conflict and war are justified against such a state, are hotly debated topics. Some call these groups "nationalist terrorists," while they see themselves as "freedom warriors" engaged in legitimate but asymmetric conflict. Other forms of patriotic terrorism include attacks on immigrants in a nation. Many nationalists regard immigration as a danger to the development of the country's local or indigenous inhabitants. Religion also comes into play in ethnonationalist terrorism. Religion is a valuable resource for national leaders, especially when it comes to utilizing religious nationalism. National leaders aim to use religion to establish a unified public body. Religion serves as a powerful network to identify and collaborate based on engendering allegiance to the national movement. (Zaman, 2021)

Ethno-Nationalist Terrorism in Asia

The ethno-nationalist terrorist movements take place when people of certain ethnic groups claim their rights to carry out their decision-making authority and refuse to accept the set standards and norms of a country (Robinoff, 2000). The conflict with the existing rules, regulations, and standards of a country to the specific ethnonational group's rules, regulations, and norms result in terrorism based on their ethnonational identities. Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam in Sri Lanka had been an active ethnonational terrorist organization founded in 1976 by Velupillai Prabhakaran. It was a militant group that focused to liberate Hindu citizens of Sri Lanka and develop a separate state for them. Similarly, Hindutva is an example of a nationalist terrorist group in India that was founded in 1923 to support Hindu Nationalism in India. Tehreek-e- Talibaan plays on the manifestation of Sharia Law, and appeared as the fundamentalist, Islamist, and jihadist political movement after the war between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. Grey Wolves, Balochistan Liberation Army, EOKA which fought against the ethnic British Supremacy in Cyprus, ETA; an ethnonationalist separatist militant group to liberate the regions of France and Spain, Armenian Secret Army to liberate Armenia, Ukrainian Insurgent Army in World War II, Lehi; a Zionist militant group against Palestine, Chetniks, etc. are few examples of ethnonational terrorist groups. (Hazaras, 2021)



Terrorism in Balochistan

Balochistan is the largest province of Pakistan. But it is hard to believe that the biggest and the most resourceful region of Pakistan is the least developed and believed to be the most underdeveloped area in the whole territory of Pakistan. Only 5% of the total population of Pakistan resides in Balochistan. Since the establishment of the country, the region only consisted of mainly one ethnic group, The Baloch Community. The community is based on tribal setups and systems having a fixed mindset. The terrorist groups, specifically Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) build up their separatist ideology based on an unequal distribution of resources specifically to Balochistan which produces most of the resources. (Hashmi, 2015)

The former Governor of Balochistan once stated that Balochistan should be a part of Pakistan as without Balochistan, Pakistan is left with nothing as most of the minerals and natural resources come from here. Moreover, the geopolitical significance of this region makes it a competition to be attained by rival economies. That's one of the main reasons that Balochistan is the target of ethnonationalist terrorism in Pakistan. The reason that the literacy rate and development indices of this region are quite low than the other four provinces is a remarkable cause for militant groups to be actively supported and protected in this area. Balochistan, often known as Pakistan's economic front, is a wide tract of territory rich in natural reserves of gas and oil, and a lengthy coastline. Balochistan is strategically significant since it has direct borders with two nations. Furthermore, the borders between those two nations are not only lengthy but also difficult to administer and monitor. The province also contains a lot of farmland where people grow a variety of income crops. Despite its wealth, the region has not produced much for the people that live there. Animal Herdsman and Agriculture are the main sources of income for the vast majority of the inhabitants. As a result, acts of terrorism such as targeted killings, bombings, the destruction of government facilities, and abduction are common. (Brown, 2012)

Factors Contributing to the Ethnonationalist Terrorism

BLA is a Baloch terrorist organization whose foundations are based in ethno nationalism fighting for increased territorial autonomy for the region of Balochistan in Pakistan. Turmoil persisted throughout the 1970s, which culminated in a government policy of military intervention in the area in 1973. President Bhutto deposed the provincial administrations of Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in 1973, charging treason, and declared iron rule in those territories, sparking armed rebellion. The research bodies



suggest that the following factors contribute to the ethno nationally driven terrorism. (Kumar, 2019)

- **Political Grievances**

According to a certain study, racial minorities can use violence as a strategy to address discontent spanning from eliminating institutional prejudice to gaining full autonomy. Inner strife is exacerbated by partisan political systems, according to (Brown, 2001). When peaceful parliamentary routes are blocked, some dissidents commit violence to express their frustrations and undermine the country's hold on power. When electoral discrimination develops along racial lines, it is very concerning. Governmental injustice based on ethnicity exacerbates tribal tensions, deepens racial representations, and can evolve into rebellious violent activities designed to expose the institution's situation to the globe. According to (Harff & Gurr, 2004), the ethnicities of primary importance and others who are discriminated against because they are more prone to resist violently. Whenever rebels target people and key buildings to push the state to yield, force ethnic communities support for their cause and advertise the state's prejudice to an audience outside the immediate area, violence becomes terrorism. Civilians are primarily abused by rebels, especially when they perceive them to be apathetic to or approve of discriminating measures. (Bansal, 2008)The Provisional Irish Republican Army may be traced back to its origins, as one case shows.

Because when a sovereign state is restrictive, political frustrations emerge in conjunction with racism. State repression encompasses limits on free speech, organization, and judicial oversight in the execution and arbitration of law, including privacy, dignity, and stability, as per the research conducted by Davenport and Inman, (2012). Suppression and war are inextricably linked. Totalitarian government conduct has been observed to trigger not just segments and sub procedures that extend resistance (Rasler, 1996), but also violent acts by hostile organizations once it is applied persistently (Lichbach, 1987). Inaction and quietude give little respite whenever the termination under oppression was nothing in sight, therefore repression converts latent frustrations into active and explicit hostilities (Thoms & Ron, 2007).

Further precisely, government mistreatment has really been proved being a source of violence. When governmental persecution is robust enough to hinder resource mobilization for guerrilla combat, enraged populations find insurgency particularly appealing. When institutions are confronted with disputes, according to Carey (2010), they resort to oppressive measures. Davenport (2007) refers to this as the "Law of Coercive Responsiveness." In actuality, the relationship between repressed and antagonistic, as with



pressure and revolt, is best understood in reciprocity (Carey, 2006). Early acts of terrorism are frequently greeted by oppressive and disproportionate counter-terrorism tactics, which prolong the terrorist campaign by encouraging rebels to adopt harsher kinds of abuse and generating further tribal allegiance. (Hashmi, 2015)

- **Economic Grievances**

Economic circumstances, in regard to political considerations, have been linked to political violence in studies. The outbreak of civil war is linked to economic underdevelopment (Sambanis, 2008). Characteristics of a given are one set of theories for this phenomenon. When training and business opportunities are few, according to (Collier and Hoeffler, 2004), insurgent labor supply grows. The reasoning for this is that insurgent leaders may readily take advantage of economic situations to attract members by promising personal wealth and the temptation of fighting for the attainment of organizational economic benefit. Nations suffering from low Gross Domestic Product, on contrary, are far more prone to experience armed conflict, since their administrations lack the resources essential to monitor their territory and execute efficient counterterrorism measures. Throughout the absence of official public entities, rebels deploy aggression to manage places and provide social advantages to their followers (who would in turn provide solidarity). Economic decline, by any reasoning, gives a chance for violence. Other researchers concentrate on the supply side of violence, emphasizing the role of financial reasons in terrorist activities. The monetary disparity has indeed been linked to an increased risk of terrorist attacks. Richardson, (2007) claims that, while wealth disparity may not be sufficient to explicitly motivate the initiation of violence, they may easily drive the general government to vote terrorist activities once they have begun. a financial disadvantage. As a result, it may become a focal point on which the community rallies to lend support to ethno national terrorist activities. Prejudice toward ethnic groups in the workplace, state assistance, global health, schooling, and property constitutes minority socioeconomic inequality. It causes the emotions of the rebellion against the government, the economy, and dominant societies and communities, as well as skepticism of government bodies and leadership (Piazza, 2011: 341). As a consequence, disadvantaged populations are much more vulnerable to indoctrination and serve as nesting sites for terrorist employment, funding, strategy, and implementation (Piazza, 2011). Piazza shows that nations with socioeconomic racial inequality seem to be more likely to have domestically terrorist attacks than countries without diversity or those in whom challenged communities are not discriminated against (Piazza, 2011).

- **Elite Competition**



The last possible source of racial terrorism could possibly be rivalry among leaders asserting to support ethnic communities, rather than communal complaints about political decisions or current societal loyalty to the established order. Some analyses of civil conflict portray rebel organisations as homogeneous, confined conventional single, although some research identifies ethnic conflict as a significant cause of violence. In the perspective of terrorism, class competition involves the logic of outbidding, which is activity made to gain the sympathy and consideration of the general public in the goal of eliminating competitors. When racial communities are substantially divided, elite rivalry and revolts are likely to arise (Zaman, 2021)

The competitiveness makes terrorist efforts more effective. In a cross-national analysis, Findley and Young (2012) demonstrate that outbidding doesn't really contribute to terrorist violence or violent extremism. Other research, on the other hand, argues that it contributes to ethnic violence in particular. Some ethnic leaders use terrorist methods to set themselves apart from others in a fiercely competitive fascist party, particularly whenever the struggle for power becomes more intense (Reinares, 2005: 127). A "social revolution arises in order to attain either equality or a loose confederacy, like Crenshaw (1981) puts it, and "violence is again the recourse of an extremist fraction of this wider movement". As a result, radicals within the ethnic group are pitted against moderates, and terrorism may be used to drive the majority into submission. (Zaman, 2021)

Trends of Ethno nationalist Terrorism in Balochistan

If we sketch the terrorism activities from 2001 to 2010 in Balochistan, a clear image of ethno-nationalist terrorism could be crafted appropriately. In 2001 the rate of terrorist activities in Balochistan was not significant as the facts and figures state that no event of the massacre of ethno-nationalist movement was reported. As in those periods, the industrial hub, Karachi was at target by the militant groups. Similarly, in 2002, no such activity was reported in Balochistan but the terrorist attacks increased from 2 to 14 in the country mainly hitting Karachi. In 2003, the terrorists hit Quetta, the capital of Balochistan.

On 8th Jun 2003, 11 Police trainee officers were killed and 9 were wounded. This incident is specifically related to the ethnic and nationalist nature as the killed officers belonged to the Hazara community of the Shia sect of Muslims. As it has been stated that religion is treated as a tool in ethnonationalist terrorism activities. This is the first incident where this kind of terrorism surfaced in the news worldwide. The Shia-Sunni conflict served as the foundation to carry out terrorist attacks as another huge incident took place in the capital of Balochistan, Quetta, by the bombing of a Shia Mosque resulting in 47 casualties and 150



injured. Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, an ethno nationalist terrorist group took responsibility for this heart trembling incident. They employed religion as a driving force to carry out this massacre which was evident from a compact disk found in which their discussion before the incident was recorded. It said we'll meet in Paradise after this suicide attack. (Siddiqi, 2012)

This trend of ethnonationalist terrorism was sustained through 2004 when 42 citizens were Murdered and about 100 wounded in Quetta Ashura Massacre when Shia Muslims were targeted again by automatic hand grenades. The intelligence results of DNA reports proved that this incident was also planned and carried out by Lashkar-e-Jhangvi. In the next few months, a car was bombed in Gwadar, now expected to be one of the most developed regions of Pakistan. This incident killed 3 Chinese engineers debilitating the reputation of Pakistan and simultaneously creating barriers to the developments in Balochistan. It also killed 10 citizens of Pakistan. During this period terrorist activities surged all around the country mainly in Karachi and Balochistan. The Chief Minister of Balochistan was also targeted resulting in the assassination of 2 of his guards while CM Balochistan survived. Then Kalat was targeted on 31st August 2004 killing 3 citizens. Since its establishment, this year was entitled as the most disadvantageous as another terrorist activity was carried out by BLA in the market killing 10 citizens and crippling 30 individuals. The toll didn't get down in the year 2005, as a terrorist from the Sipah-e-Sahaba carried out a suicide attack at a shrine at Fatehpur, Balochistan killing both Shia and Sunni Muslims resulting in the death of more than 35 citizens. (Hazaras, 2021)

In January 2006, 30 incidents were carried out, ten of which were sectarian in character, killing 100 people and injuring 230 others in Pakistan. The province of Balochistan was trembled by 7 major terrorist activities, most of which fall into a sectarian nature. In these incidents, Dera Bugti District, Bolan, and Brakhan suffered and were devastated. The most heartbreaking incident killed men, women, and children in a bus that passed through landmines planted by both militant and tribal groups.

The year 2007 had observed 34 terrorist acts and conflicts, including suicide attacks, homicides, and murders, resulting in 134 deaths and 245 injuries 2007. According to the research, Pakistan was hit by 20 suicide strikes in 2007 (primarily targeting security forces), killing at least 111 people and injuring another 234. After the siege of Lal Masjid, the PIPS data reveals a noticeable increase in suicide assaults. On 17th Feb, a suicide bomber detonated himself in a courtroom killing 15 people along with the Judge of that courtroom and wounding 25 citizens. The 49th largest city of Pakistan Hub was targeted by a bombing activity when a bus moving to Hub, Balochistan exploded. The coach was heading towards Karachi. (Brown, 2012)



July, 19, three distinct bombings resulted in the deaths of more than 40 individuals. The first event occurred when a bomb exploded in a masjid used by military troops in Kohat, resulting in the deaths of 11 people. Since 2004, the Army has been assaulted four times outside of a fighting zone. In the second, an attack on Chinese laborers in the Hub, Lasbela District of Balochistan, killed 26 people and wounded 50 others. In the most recent, a suicide vehicle explosion at a police training center in the northwestern town of Hangu killed about seven people and injured more than 20 others. 2007 was a dreadful year as it caused so much destruction in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and killed former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. (Brown, 2012)

The incidents of ethnonational terrorism increased all over Pakistan. 13th August 2008 experienced killing and massacre in all the provinces of Pakistan. The regions of Punjgur, Uthal, Hub, Kharan, and Turbat were under attack. A terrorist attack took place at an Islamic Madrasah located in Quetta on September 19, killing five people and injuring at least eight more. The school was managed by Maulana Fazal-ur-Islamic Rehman's group, Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam. On 19th Oct, the Baloch Republic Army, a separatist organization, claimed responsibility for a bomb attack in northwest Balochistan province that killed at least three persons and injured six more. The distantly controlled bomb was concealed in a motorbike at a Bazar in the Dera Bugti area. After a few days, the District Court Complex of Quetta was hit by a terrorist attack.

In 2009, the chairman of the Hazara Democratic Party was shot dead by the Laskar-e-Jhangvi terrorist group. On 2nd March 2009, a suicide bomber killed 11 individuals at a girl's religious school in the District Pishin, Balochistan. On 9th Aug, militants kidnapped police officers and killed 4 of them threatening to murder them all if their commander would not be set free. On 13th Aug, a police van was attacked by rockets killing 2 and injuring 3 officers. The responsibility was born by the separatist militant groups of Balochistan. The residential area of government employees was also targeted by the militants in Quetta. A bomb planted in a bicycle, blasted in the capital of Balochistan, killing at least three people and injuring 14 other citizens. According to reports, the device went off immediately as a police car passed by, killing at least two officers. The bomb was so intense that it shook numerous surrounding buildings, stores, and automobiles, according to witnesses. In March 2010, a bomb blast in Quetta, Pakistan's southwestern metropolis, killed 1 citizen and wounded three more. According to a senior police official, the explosive was positioned behind a rickshaw near a major crossroads. (Bansal, 2008)

Four men from an ethnonationalist terrorist group fired a passenger bus and set it on fire by pouring fuel on it resulting in burned dead bodies of the passengers on April 26, 2011. The famous Olympian Abrar Hussain died by a bullet shot by an unknown biker outside his



office on 16th June. The Shia-Sunni conflict was again elevated by the bombing of a Shia Muslim mosque on the National and religious day of celebration, The Eid-ul-Fitr in Quetta. 2 terrorist attacks simultaneously took place on 7th September 2011 killing 26 individuals. Another bus was under attack by militants in Mastung, Balochistan, on September 20, 2011. About 26 Shia pilgrims were traveling to Taftan on that bus. BLA killed 14 soldiers when attacked the convoy near Musa Khel on 21st November. A suicide bomber affiliated with the BLA killed 13 people in Quetta. (SIDDIQI, 2012)

The adversity of cases sustained in Balochistan increases the risk of separatist movements overwhelmingly stressing out the State of Pakistan and making it an independent state to enforce their law and rival forces to claim their rights on the natural resources of Balochistan. On 12th January 2012, the Balochistan Liberation front which mainly focused to dissociate Balochistan from Pakistan like Eastern Pakistan, Bangladesh we lost a few decades ago had ambushed a convoy killing 12 soldiers near Turbat. An Islamic school called Madrasa was attacked in Quetta killing 15 people. Shia pilgrims were assassinated in buses, Iran, and in their communities to disperse them from their lands. The land mines erupted killing 14 innocent citizens in Chaman. The session Judge of the Shia Court was also shot dead during this period. This indicates that the militant groups invoke a sense of hatred among the Shia community as they were in minority there. The nationalist forces designed their propaganda to develop extreme hatred among the local citizens to divide them into different ethnic, religious, and nationalist identities. (Zaman, 2021)

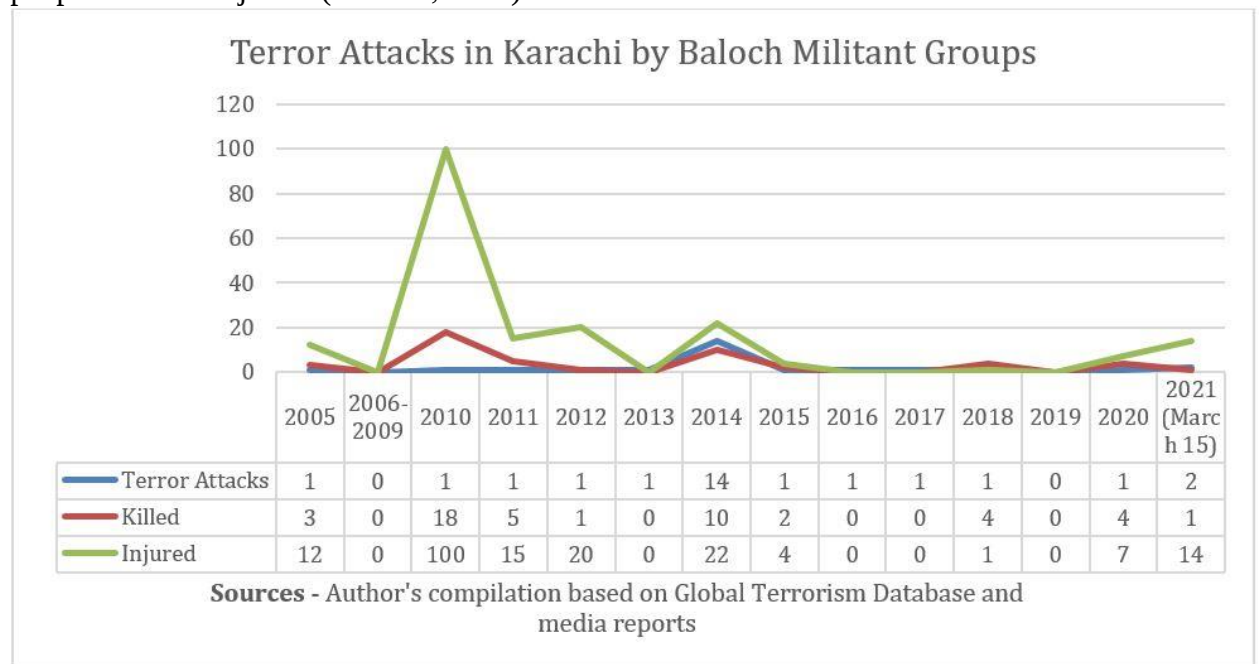
In the next year, 2013, 7 devastating incidents took place killing dozens of Balochistan residents. 105 casualties took place in the simultaneous blasts of 2 bombs killing civilians, media reporters, and police officers in the Shia locality. Another sectarian attack took place in Quetta killing more than 90 Shia Muslims. 10 people were killed by a bomb blast in the market of Dera Allahyar. The politician, Sanaullah Zehri was attacked in this phase killing his son, nephew, and brother. The polling station was targeted near Naseerabad District. This year hit fatally not only all civilians but very high profile government officials as well. The universities, colleges, and hospitals were also under attack and resulting in high levels of life loss.

This toll was sustained in the year 2014, mainly killing the Shia Community, in their pilgrims from Iran to Quetta. The government officials were badly targeted in this phase, the Minority representative Handey Masih was shot dead, and Sakhi Sultan judge of the environmental Court was killed. The powers of these militants intensified to the level that they attacked Pakistan Air Force Bases in Samungli and Khalid in Quetta. ATC Judge was also targeted, though he survived the attack killed one individual, and injured 20.



The ethnonationalist terrorists killed 20 laborers in Turbat. Mustang was attacked on a bus killing 20 passengers, while the terrorist was in the security uniform. Another bomb blast took place on the bus at Quetta killing 11 people and injuring 22 citizens. The operation

Baloch ethno-nationalist militant organizations have been terrorizing Karachi since late 2005 when BLA militants carried out a vehicle bomb attack on Pakistan Petroleum Limited permitting the tactical participation of TTP, Baloch militant organizations reemerge in the capital in late 2010, carrying out high-profile terror assaults against the headquarters of the Department of Criminal Investigation (November 2010) and Naval Forces Representatives (April 2011). TTP allegedly approached Baloch militant organizations in 2014 with an offer to form a common front. Several terror attacks on police officers were conducted by Baloch terrorist organizations throughout that year. The data from the database of Global Terrorism and media suggests that Baloch militant groups claimed that they were behind those terrorist attacks in November 2005, resulting in the death of 48 people and 195 injured. Several terror attacks on police officers were conducted by Baloch terrorist organizations throughout that year. The data from the database of Global Terrorism and media suggests that Baloch militant groups claimed that they were behind those terrorist attacks in November 2005, resulting in the death of 48 people and 195 injured. (Hashmi, 2015)





The ethno nationalist attacks increased drastically from 2005 to 2015 but armed operations ensured to secure the nation and the resources present in Balochistan. The Human rights violations, enhanced autonomy, larger earnings from environmental assets and provincial revenue, and, in certain situations, complete independence is all on the table. Terrorists have recently battled with Iran's Islamic Republic over the Baloch area, which borders Pakistan. Insurgent Baloch organizations require in the Pakistani sector, the Iranian sector, and southern Afghanistan (Andley, 2006). Violence against the marginalized population by sectarian organizations has increased in Balochistan since 2010, even though they are unrelated to the political battle. Balochistan Liberation Army, Balochistan Liberation Front, Lashkar-e-Balochistan, Tanzeem-ul-Islami-ul-Furqan, United Baloch Army, Baloch Republican Guards, Hizb-ut-Tahrir, Sindhudesh Liberation Army are the terrorist group responsible for all the activities carried out to segregate the people of Balochistan from their national identity of being a citizen of Pakistan. The Baloch Liberation Alliance (BLA) is the most violent Baloch ethnonationalist movement operating against the national government of Pakistan for expanded regional autonomy for Balochistan. The organization wants to be free of Pakistan and foreign exploitation and involvement in the region (Nabeel & Asif, 2019). The research carried out by the Center for Research and Security Studies suggests that the ethnonationalist movements are relatively under controlled position as compared to the past incidents mainly from 2008 to 2015 when the civilians were targeted regularly and high officials were under threat in Balochistan. (Siddiqi, 2012)

The Balochistan war has emerged as a major source of instability in Pakistan. The current armed insurgency, the country's fifth since its formation in 1947, is a clear manifestation of the government's mismanagement of its relations with the province, as well as the province's strong sense of estrangement. The influx of Afghan Taliban and terrorist acts by local Taliban, as well as sectarian outfts, exacerbate the province's insecurity. 191 Violence trends suggest to a deteriorating atmosphere with major consequences for Pakistan's cohesion. It is necessary to devise a comprehensive strategy for integrating the Baloch people into the political and economic mainstream through institutional restructuring. The Aghaz-e-Huqooq-e-Balochistan package, if carried out in letter and spirit, may go a long way toward creating trust and developing confidence between the centre and the province. Increased participation of local stakeholders in policymaking and implementation would help to advance good governance efforts. In this regard, civilian law enforcement through effective resource mobilisation while respecting the Baloch sociocultural context, as well as a reassessment of the province's current military engagement, are crucial. The role of intelligence services in lowering insecurity in Balochistan, as well as other sections of the country, is a key source of worry. Extrajudicial executions and disappearances must end. Changes must be made to intelligence services to ensure that they operate within the law,



are seen as effective and efficient, and are in conformity with human rights accords and rules. More accountability and openness in their code of conduct are desperately needed to preserve Pakistan's interests and build higher trust in the Pakistani state both locally and worldwide. While in practical terms. While maintaining transparency in intelligence activities would be difficult, parliamentary and judicial monitoring might provide a vehicle for boosting and insuring intelligence agencies' professionalism and efficacy in reacting to Pakistan's internal and foreign security issues. (Zaman, 2021)

Terrorist Organizations

Over the last decade, several foreign and local terrorist organisations have been active in Balochistan. Al-Qaeda, the Quetta Shura Taliban, and the Tehreek-e-Taliban Balochistan are among them. 148 The activity of these groups in the area have exacerbated the province's already violent separatist situation. The Taliban appear to be most active in Chaman, an Afghan border city, and Quetta, the province capital. 149 With 158 NATO truck strikes reported between 2008 and June 2013, the province has been identified as the site of the most number of attacks on NATO supply trucks bound for Afghanistan. 150 According to SATP, many al-Qaeda and Afghan Taliban members have been detained in the region since 2009.

Suggestions and Recommendations:

Pakistan has travelled a bumpy military and civilian political road since partition from India and independence from British colonial control in 1947, with opposing political and military aims repeatedly thwarting economic progress and political development. Even when democratically elected civilian leaders have been at the helm of political power, the military appears to have dominated key state institutions and programmes. Civilian administrations in Pakistan have frequently used the military as a weapon for short-term solutions to deep-seated social and political problems and instability, allowing the military to interfere in government matters.

Long-term people-centered efforts that promote socioeconomic progress, equal and appropriate human rights provision, and conflict resolution processes to address legitimate grievances of affected communities have been generally ignored. Throughout history, successive military and civilian regimes have served the interests of the ruling rather than the interests of the ruled. Throughout the years, the corruption and ineptitude of successive democratically elected governments in Pakistan have harmed the confidence of the democratic process itself. For a long time, the military was the most valued institution of



the state due to its ability to keep the country in some semblance of law and order. (Siddiqi, 2012)

However, in recent history, especially since former General Pervez Musharraf's nine-year presidency (1999–2008), there has been a significant reduction in society's enthusiasm for the militarization of politics and government. In a sign of the country's growing democratic consciousness, the most recent elections in May 2013 marked the first time in the country's political history that an elected government handed over power to a new government also elected by popular vote after serving a full five-year term uninterrupted by a military coup d'etat. However, throughout Pakistan's history, military dictatorships and civilian authoritarianism have hampered the formation of strong state institutions that support the social contract, the notion that government exists to serve the interests of people rather than the state and governing elites. The state's unwillingness or inability to deliver basic public goods and services, as well as justice and security, combined with low socioeconomic development, has severely eroded its legitimacy, most notably in the zones of violence identified in this research. (Hashmi, 2015)

Pervasive insecurity; ungoverned spaces; parallel legal systems; the erosion of the social contract; acute perceptions of relative deprivation; and ethnic, religious, and sectarian fragmentation are just a few of the factors undermining the state's authority, sowing the seeds of political and extremist violence, and prolonging protracted conflict. The state's own security-centered posturing continues to generate clashes with various groups around the country, exacerbating the sense of isolation and victimization in many brutally afflicted places. According to research, violence has been rife in numerous parts of Pakistan during the last decade. The country's own history suggests that if current conditions persist, the country may see an upsurge in bloodshed, widespread anarchy, and possible division. To lessen the impression of alienation and marginalization among various groups, there is an urgent need for a concerted effort toward good governance and people-centered policy change in which socioeconomic progress is prioritized. Appropriate institutional responses by the state are critical and essential to change the volatile environment, especially in the conflict-affected regions highlighted in this research. (Zaman, 2021)

Given Pakistan's diverse range of conflicts, it is necessary to evaluate and settle each conflict in its own context, as well as plan for comprehensive state stabilization and rebuilding procedures that include both short- and long-term solutions. While it is beyond the scope of this study to establish a comprehensive framework for conflict resolution and transformation in Pakistan's different zones of violence, the authors recommend for policy action to be prioritized in the areas most affected by violence. FATA and KP, as well as Karachi and Balochistan, are among these places. (Kumar, 2019)



- The most important notion is that the central government initiate measures to distribute appropriate natural resources and economic policies to all provinces without regard for hatred feelings.
- To establish policies based on the region and temperament of the people of Balochistan, so that the idea of national integration can emerge in the aforementioned province; and
- To ensure that Balochies have adequate representation in the federal government, so that they see themselves as a part of Pakistan.
- The federal government should defeat the terrorism activities of terrorism groups in Pakistan; for this reason, stronger and tougher policies against terrorists may be implemented.
- The government admits that they previously ignored Balochistan; however, there is now a requirement to sort out the actual complaints of the people in the form of fiscal progress and social progress in Balochistan.
- All of the main and profitable schemes of the government in Balochistan must be accessible to local people of Balochistan, so that they can participate in government mega schemes like other provinces.
- The law-enforcement agencies should take the required steps to combat cross-border activity with Afghanistan. Especially when they cross the country for illegal purposes.

Conclusion

Ethno national terrorism is a long-standing and widespread issue. Nevertheless, a study has just scratched the surface of its many explanations. Many terrorism research either overlook or dismiss the ethnic feature that characterizes particular terrorist activities. Nationalism offers a potential answer, however, it is a broad, unsophisticated, and inadequate one. Supremacist ideologies are made up of several different processes, each of which may or not lead to violence. Exploratory method has been valuable in finding essential circumstances, but it is often ineffective in reviewing data that lead to terrorist attacks since it frequently evaluates situations that only show the result of concern rather than both good and bad results. (Kumar, 2019)



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