

An Assessment Of Terrorism Motivating Factors In Swat

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Abstract

The present study was carried out in District Swat to investigate terrorism accelerating factors in the study area. A total of 288 respondents were selected through a purposive sampling procedure. Data collected through survey instruments and was analyzed through SPSS software for uni-variate analysis. The results show that insurgency increases due to crimes, terrorism affect tourist's arrival to the area, ethnocentrism in culture, strong and friendly foreign policy, misinterpretation of religion, poverty, political disorder, one sided education either modern or religious, sectarianism, faction and feuds, injustice both on societal and state level, unbalanced economic division, exploitation of skilled and low class employees are the prominent factors which promote terrorism. This study suggests that propagation of local values, uniform educational system, and respect of talent, proper and on time wages to labor class, speedy justice provision, tolerance and positive media propagation can play a positive role.

Keywords: Terrorism, Insurgency, Motivating factors, Ethnocentrism.

1. Introduction

Terrorism has no specific definition as it is a very complex phenomenon, terrorism is closely connected with tourism, this occurs for a number of reasons. Terrorism has so many types like individual, organizational, national and international, and they are generally distinguished by form of its application. Peoples have different views about terrorist attacks as some peoples claim that terrorism is a criminal act, while others view that terrorism is not a crime as it is a fight for independence (Pizam, 1999). It is usually designed to attain the predetermined objectives with maximum use of violence, brutality as basic ingredients to get things done. It is usually rich in activation, directed towards inflicting psychological effect beyond all limits (Anderton and Carter, 2004). Terrorism may be defined as “it is the application of violence by non-state actors (i.e., terrorist groups) that threatens the mass society or government for their own objectives (Enders, 2008). Usually the terrorist goals and objectives are not fulfilled in the ordinary political process due to which they produce threat in peoples through media etc. (Melnick and Eldor, 2010; and Schelling, 1991). Weak economic status of the enemy can be helpful for the terrorists to control their enemies therefore, they try to deteriorate the sound economic position of their enemy. The government compromises on the demands of the terrorist to lesser the probability of more violence, and economic damages (Sandler and Enders, 2008).

Terrorism affects the economy of the people or country badly as terrorism results in, loss of lives, property damages, and destruction of stock of human and physical capital. Furthermore, terrorism hinders the arrival of tourists which ultimately distorts national levels of consumptions, investment, government spending and savings. Also terrorism creates uncertainty, fear and terror in the minds of peoples, leading to the probable delay of long term investments and hindering the economic development of peoples or nations (Bird et al., 2008). Terrorism also leads to destruction of infrastructure in an area like schools, hospitals, banks etc. which needs to be reconstructed by the government; however, such reconstruction will result in an extra burden on the government treasury. Moreover, terrorism results in diversion of international capital and trade owners (Abadie and Gardeazabal, 2008). Due to the destruction of the assets of government and private organizations which can directly and indirectly affect the people's economy. (Blomberg et al., 2004). Terrorism also destructs the import and export of goods and capital among countries (Abadie and Gardeazabal, 2008; Enders and Sandler, 1996; and Nitsch and Schumacher, 2004). It was clear from the above literature that terrorism negatively affects the economic growth of individuals, and nations (Abadie and Gardeazabal, 2003). Some studies pointed out that terrorism badly affects foreign direct investment and economic development of the country (Enders et al., 2006; Blomberg et al., 2004) Moreover, it was also concluded by some researchers that terrorism affects only a part not the whole country. A country facing the threat of terrorism is likely to move away from vulnerable to less vulnerable sectors in economic activities (Sandler and Enders, 2008; Chen and Siems, 2004).

2. Material and Methods

For this study swat was selected on a purposive basis. Simple random sampling was adopted for drawing a representative sample size. Sample size was calculated by using the formula advised by Chaudry and Kamal, (1996). Putting values of literacy variable determined by Imran, (2008) in his study on Swat as given below.

Error! Filename not specified.

$$e = \text{Error! Filename not specified.} = 0.10\%$$

$$\alpha = 0.05$$

$$\text{Error! Filename not specified.} = 0.25\% \text{ (illiterate)}$$

$$\text{Error! Filename not specified.} = 1 - \text{Error! Filename not specified.} = 1 - 0.25 = 0.75\% \text{ (literate)}$$

$$n = \text{Error! Filename not specified.}$$

$$n = 288$$

Data were collected on a purposive basis through an observational method by interview schedule.

3. Results and Discussion

3.0 Socio-economic profile of the respondents

Basic information of the respondents according to this study is age, gender, marital status, monthly income, family type, education and educational level. The explanation of socio-economic status is shown below.

3.1 Age of the respondents

Table 3.1 shows that out of 100% respondents 19.9 % were between the ages of 18-25 years, 21.1% had the age between 26-35 years, 26.0% were between the 36-45 years, 33.0% had the age between 46-55 years respectively.

Table 3.1 Age of the respondents

Age (years)	Frequency	Percent
18-25	55	19.1
26-35	63	21.9
36-45	75	26.0
46-55	95	33.0

Total	288	100.0
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3.2 Gender wise distributions of the respondents

In this study out of total 288 respondents 97.6% were male and 2.4% were female. It is due to the prevailing cultural norms, in which males are enjoying superiority over females.

Table 3.2 Gender wise distributions of the respondents

Gender	Frequency	Percent
Male	281	97.6
Female	7	2.4
Total	288	100.0

3.3 Marital status of the respondents

In this study majority i.e. 79.5% of the respondents were married and the remaining 20.5% were unmarried. It is because marriage is the first institution that envisages a sound and stable relationship between the marrying families of strong tribal preservatives to tribe stability.

Table 3.3 Marital status wise distribution of the respondents

Marital status	Frequency	Percent
Married	229	79.5
Unmarried	59	20.5
Total	288	100.0

3.4 Family type of the respondents

Table 3.4 depicts the respondents distribution on the basis of family type almost 54.9% belonged to the nuclear family while the rest i.e. 45.1% were from the joint family.

Table 3.4 Family type of the respondents.

Family type	Frequency	Percent
Nuclear family	158	54.9

Joint family	130	45.1
Total	288	100.0

3.5 Monthly income of the respondents

Table 3.5 shows that out of 100% respondent's 18.05 % monthly income were between 5,000-10,000, 32.29% had monthly income between 10,001-15,000, 29.51% were between the 15,001-20,000, 20.13% had income between 20,001-25,000 respectively.

Table 3.5 Monthly income of the respondents

Monthly income in PKR	Frequency	Percent
5,000-10,000	52	18.05
10,001-15,000	93	32.29
15,001-20,000	85	29.51
20,001-25,000	58	20.13
Total	288	100

3.6 Education level of the respondents

On the basis of educational level 14.2% were illiterate, 23.6% had primary level of education, 29.5% were up to middle, and 22.6% were up to SSC while the rest i.e. 9% were graduates.

Table 3.6 Education level of the respondents

Educational level	Frequency	Percent
Illiterate	41	14.2
Primary	68	23.6
Middle	85	29.5
Metric	65	22.6
Graduate	26	9.0

Total	288	100.0
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3.7 The Respondents' attitudes about terrorism motivating factors

As per nature of the questions incorporated in the questionnaire every respondent was interviewed in form of a series of statement within each selected variable, categorized of two responses (yes and no). The respondents were asked according to the nature of the format of questions and placed as per their response to each question accordingly.

Man perception or attitude with any social phenomena is usually measured with “yes, no” and particular extent of degree. The tables given below indicated that out of 100% respondents 78% of the respondents responded that terrorism is an anti-state act. Asking about the uncertainty is the outcome of insurgency 68% supported the statement. About the economic strength and bomb blasting in the area majority i.e. 84% pointed towards decreases of economic strength. In this way 60.42% opined that terrorism affected the foreign investment in the area. In addition to asking about the terrorist attitudes for tourists some 71.52% of the respondents said that their attitudes were negative for tourists Moreover, out of total respondents 51% were in favor of declining tourist's arrival due to terrorism/ insurgency. Contamination of ideologies and beliefs is a threat to invite terrorism majority i.e. 59% said yes. In this way out of total 70% of the respondents argued that human made crimes like robbery, theft, killing and murder etc. invite terrorism while 61% also added that ethnocentrism is also one of the main factors which motivate terrorism. Similarly, 80% respondents viewed that Religious misinterpretation and 63% viewed that skilled and labor class exploitation are the emerging causes of terrorism. Moreover, the statements; Injustice both on societal and state level, Sectarianism, Faction and feuds, One sided education either modern or religious and Poverty, Political disorder were supported by 65%, 80%, 73% and 61% of the sampled respondents.

Table 3.7 Respondents' perception about terrorism motivating factors

Statement	Yes	No	Total
Terrorism is an anti-state action.	225(78)	63(22)	288(100)
Terrorism/ insurgency create uncertainty.	196(68)	92(32)	288(100)
Economic strength decreased with bomb blasting.	242(84)	46(16)	288(100)
Terrorism affects foreign investment.	174(60.42)	114(39.58)	288(100)

The attitudes of terrorists are negative for education.	162(56)	126(44)	288(100)
Terrorism causes a decline in tourist arrival.	206(71.52)	82(28.47)	288(100)
Contamination of ideologies and beliefs is a threat to invite terrorism.	171(59)	117(41)	288(100)
Human made crimes invite terrorism	203(70)	85(30)	288(100)
Ethnocentrism in culture	173(61)	115(39)	288(100)
Media is key instrument in promoting how to live peacefully	211(73)	77(27)	288(100)
Misinterpretation of religion	230(80)	58(20)	288(100)
Exploitation of skilled persons as well as labor class	181(63)	107(37)	288(100)
Injustice both on societal and state level	186(65)	102(35)	288(100)
Sectarianism, Faction and feuds	230(80)	58(20)	288(100)
One sided education either modern or religious	209(73)	79(27)	288(100)
Poverty, Political disorder	175(61)	113(39)	288(100)

Table values in each cell indicate frequency and parenthesis value show percentages.

4. Discussion

These findings are in line with Ender (2008) who says “it is the application of violence by non-state actors (i.e. terrorist groups) that threatens the mass society or government for their own objectives”. Similarly, Bird et al (2008) indicates that terrorism creates uncertainty, fear and terror in the minds of people, leading to a prolonged delay in investments and economic development of the relative nations. The survey results of Pizam and Mansfeld (2002) shows that terrorism leads to decline in tourist entrance in Plasteen (Israil). These findings are similar to the earlier findings that terrorism badly affects foreign direct investment and economic development of the country

(Enders et al., 2006). Due to the insecure situation in Nepal adventure, tourist's arrival declined up to 42%. In Nepal tourist arrival decreased from 464,000 in 2000, to 216,000 in 2002 (Blomberg et al., 2004). Posner (2003) pointed out that tourist arrival has decreased because of the violent behavior of terrorists with people, which remains for a longer period although vanished earlier. With a relation Carter (1991) concluded that another factor that hinders the development of the tourist industry is ideology of people. As it was found that during the period of cold war there was a ban on the citizens of Eastern Block to travel to the West in order to obey the cultural ideological beliefs and thoughts.

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

The study found that human made crimes are a source for motivating terrorism. Media was identified as a key promoting cause for both peace and violence. People acknowledged the political role essential in the development of terrorism, which is the key ingredient to providing safety to non-local. In addition, foreign relations of the host country is a harbinger to boasting the trade pertaining to tourism. Moreover, terrorism surfaced as non-state action which is on the surface in the area due to misinterpretation of religion, skilled person's exploitation, injustice, sectarianism, faction and feuds. Moreover, a single side education creates ethnocentrism and vanishes the power of interfaith harmony in the people and also leads to political disorder.

The study recommends a uniform educational system, proper justice, merit cut policy from bottom to top and universal ethics course inclusion in syllabuses, proper check on media propagation and active role for local and party leadership for the revival of social life with major focus on exocentric values.

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