

Terrorism in Balochistan: issues, Causes, Consequences and Cures.Nadeem Uz Zaman¹, Safia Bano², Muhammad Shafiq³**Abstract**

Balochistan is one of the provinces of Pakistan which is most affected by post 9/11 terrorism. Data were collected from 880 respondents of the province through part convenience, part purposive sampling since the population is relatively large and no sampling frame was available. A 26-item, self-administered questionnaire was developed on 7-point Likert scale of agreement having four sections: nature, causes, social effects and economic effects. The result of study suggests that terrorism has drastically affected the socio-economic fabric of the society in family, communal, business and political spheres. The major cures could include improved incentives for business activity, government spending on education, health care and development of infrastructure. Bringing all political forces on board can help improve the situation in the province.

Keywords: Balochistan, Nature of terrorism, socio-economic consequences of terrorism

Introduction

The world has suffered drastically after 9/11. There is not a single part of the world which has not been affected by the acts of terrorism. However, there are some countries where the impact of the event has been greater than the others. Pakistan is one of those countries where the effects of terrorism

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has in fact shown its real influence. Given that is engulfed by problems such as poverty, corruption, bad governance, religious vendettas, illiteracy, low level of infrastructure and so on; the impact of terrorism becomes manifold. Though the country, at large, has faced the effects of terrorism, there are some parts of the country that have felt those effects far more than the others. Balochistan is one of those areas where terrorism has hit the hardest not only in terms of the death toll and the destruction of infrastructure but also in terms of the composition of elements that result in terrorism: religion, ethno-lingual differences, internal and international politics and so on. Further, the geo-political position of the province is of even greater importance as the province shares its border with two countries, Afghanistan and Iran, any activity taking place in Afghanistan in turn, affects Balochistan also. An example of this is the in huge investment of China in the Pak-China Economic Corridor. Therefore, a study that offers insights and gives lessons relating to the factors causing terrorism is of immense significance.

Terrorism in Balochistan

The actual roots of terrorism were planted in Pakistan in the late 70s right after the USSR invasion of Afghanistan⁴. The USA funded the Mujahedeen generously in terms of training and weapons, the weapon then found their way into Pakistan through the long porous border⁵.

Some call it the economic front of Pakistan, Balochistan, is a vast piece of land with rich natural resources, oil, and a long coastal line. Geographically, Balochistan is a very important place; it has immediate borders with two

⁴ Husain, A. (2003). *Terrorism, development and democracy*. India. Shapira Publications.

⁵ Kronstadt, K.,A. (2007). *Pakistan and Terrorism*. Congressional Research Service. The Library of Congress.

countries. Not only this, the borders with those two countries are not only long but also extremely difficult to manage or control. The province also has huge agricultural land where people cultivate many cash crops⁶⁷ Despite this richness, the province has not been fruitful for the people who are in it. Majority of the population is extremely poor and the major sources of earnings are animal herding and Agriculture. Consequently, there are often acts of terrorism including target killing, bomb blasts, destruction of government installations, kidnapping and other crimes.

Despite having an academic orientation, it has been difficult to conceptualize the exact meaning of terrorism⁸. The definitions of terrorism differs from its use in academic, economic, political and military senses^{9, 10}. There is no universal definition of Terrorism, its meaning changes from context to context.¹¹. Hence, the actual meaning of terrorism changes from political situations to geographical locations¹². Therefore, terrorism is native to the context in which is taking place. As a consequence, studies about terrorism in different places may not truly represent the actual scenario in

⁶ Zaman, N. U. & Marri, S. K., (Aug 2011). Determinants of increased real prices of the livestock in Balochistan. *MPRA Paper* No. 321608. [online] Available at < http://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/32608/1/MPRA_paper_32608.pdf>

⁷ Sabri, R., (May 04, 2009). Balochistan: AF-Pak's Forgotten Frontiers. [online] Available at < <http://www.sais-jhu.edu/academics/regional-studies/southasia/pdf/Rabeah%20Sabri%20Balochistan.pdf>> [accessed March 03, 2012]

⁸ Schmid, A.P. and Jongman, A.J. (2005). *Political Terrorism: A New Guide to Actors, Authors, Concepts, Data Bases, Theories, and Literature*. New Jersey: Transaction Publishers.

⁹ Jackson, R. & Sinclair, S.J. (2012). *Contemporary Debating on Terrorism*. New York: Routledge Chapman & Hall.

¹⁰ Maleckova, J. (2005). Improvised Terrorists: Stereotype or Reality? In Bjorgo T (ed). *Root Causes of Terrorism: Myths, Reality and Ways Forward*. London: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, 32-43.

¹¹ Weinberg, L., Pedahzur, A., & Hirsch-Hoefler, S., (2004). The Challenges of Conceptualizing Terrorism. *Terrorism and Political Violence* 16(4): 777-794.

¹² Moten, A.R. (2010). Understanding Terrorism: Contested Concept, Conflicting Perspectives and Shattering Consequences. *Intellectual Discourse* 18(1): 35-63.

Balochistan. This gives rise to an overemphasized need for studying the nature, root causes and the consequences of terrorism in Balochistan.

As far as conceptualizing terrorism is considered, a vast array of different ways can be used to conceptualize the nature of terrorism including the study of terrorism from the perspective of cultural anthropology and is understood as a human nature¹³. On the other hand, terrorism can be understood as a display of political power that create its equilibrium in the fabric of social life. Furthermore, there are studies that have conceptualized terrorism as an outcome of the surrounding context¹⁴ Notwithstanding, the nature of terrorism would be defined differently under different fields of studies.

As discussed earlier, it is very difficult to give a one-fit-for-all meaning to terrorism; there are, however, some of the ways in which the nature of terrorism can be classified. In line with this distinction, we have attempted to get the perceptions and opinion of the people living it to form the social construct of terrorism in Balochistan in this study.

On the other hand, as a legal construct the idea of terrorism may differ across ideologies of the states¹⁵. Though, the same person may be labelled as a terrorist or a freedom fighter from different political perspectives¹⁶. This, nevertheless, is not the major objective of the study because it is extremely difficult to personify someone into different frames meaningfully at the

¹³ Hulsse R & Spencer, A., (2008). The Metaphor of Terror: Terrorism Studies and the Constructivist Turn. *Security Dialogue*, 39(6), 571, 573

¹⁴ *ibid*

¹⁵ Greene, A., (2017) Defining Terrorism: One size fit all. *ICLQ* 66, 411–440]

¹⁶ Friedrichs, J., (2006). Defining the International Public Enemy: The Political Struggle behind the Legal Debate on International Terrorism. *LJIL* 69(76).

same time. Therefore, the main focus of the study would remain on defining and explaining the nature of terrorism in Balochistan as a social construct.

The literature indicates that the nature of terrorism is peculiar to the context in which it is taking place. No single definition of explanation can be found for the nature of terrorism in different context. As we discussed that the geopolitical situation of Balochistan is a highly typical or exceptional one, we expect that a peculiar nature of terrorism could be highlighted from the responses and described accordingly. We, therefore, hypothesize:

Hypothesis 1: A nature of terrorism can be highlighted as peculiar to the province.

Causes of Terrorism

There is a multitude of causes that can be attributed to terrorism. Studies such as Crenshaw¹⁷, Aziz¹⁸ and Ali¹⁹ (have pointed out some of those factors that have resulted in terrorism in Pakistan. Some of those include illiteracy, lack of employment, poverty, weak governance, fast growing population, poor health facilities, costly access to justice, easy access to weapons, lack of access to social services and the scarcity of public goods. In addition to these, Political unrest in the country and the deterioration of socio-economic elements are also some of the causes of terrorism in Pakistan^{20 21 22}

¹⁷ Crenshaw, M. (1981). The Causes of Terrorism. *Comparative Politics*, 13(4), 379-399

¹⁸ Aziz, H. (1995). Understanding attacks on tourists in Egypt. *Tourism Management*, Vol. 16, No. 2, pp. 91-95.

¹⁹ Ali, A. (2010). Militancy and socioeconomic problems. Islamabad, *institute of strategic studies*.

²⁰ Berman, E. & Laitin, D., (2005). Hard targets: theory and evidence on suicide attacks. *NBER Working Paper* 11740. Cambridge, MA: NBER

²¹ Shor, E. (2008). *Conflict terrorism and the socialization of human rights norms; the spiral model revisited*. New York. State University of New York at Stony Brook.

²² Syed, S.H., Saeed, L., & Martin, R.P., (2015). Causes and Incentives for Terrorism in Pakistan. *Journal of Applied Security Research*, 10,181–206.

Lack of economic activities has also been pointed out as an important source of terrorism in any geographical location. For instance, Blomberg, Hess and Weer Apana have suggested that the lack of economic activity might result in violence and terrorism²³. The case seems to be true in Balochistan also. Majority of the youth are unemployed, poor and illiterate who may look for the escape in the form of violence and terrorism. The problem gets exaggerated due to the fact that the government of Balochistan has no concrete policies that can improve the economic conditions of the province²⁴. Furthermore, there are vested interest of foreign hands in the province of Balochistan also mostly with negative intentions. One of the major enemies is India which would always be happy to disturb peace in Pakistan and promote acts that could challenge sovereignty of the country. In all, the major reason for terrorism in Balochistan may be traced to underdevelopment, poverty and low literacy in the province^{25 26 27}

Hypothesis 2: Lack of economic activity, education and sound policies are major causes of terrorism in Balochistan.

Impact of Terrorism on Socio-economic Conditions

Terrorism has far reaching Impact on the overall fabric of the society and deteriorates every aspect of life. It effects economic conditions of a place by affecting the consumption patterns, investment spirit, employment levels,

²³ Bird, G., Blomberg, B., & Hess, G.D., (2008). International Terrorism: Causes, Consequences and Cures. *The World Economy* (2008), 255-274

²⁴ Lapan, H.E. & Sandler, T., (1993). Terrorism and signalling. *European Journal of Political Economy*, 9, 383-397.

²⁵ Krueger, A.B. & Maleckova, J., (2003). Education, Poverty, and Terrorism: Is There a Causal Connection? *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 17(4), 119–144.

²⁶ Krueger, A. B., (2007). *What Makes a Terrorist: Economics and the Roots of Terrorism?* Princeton: Princeton University Press

²⁷ Berrebi, C., (2003). Evidence about the link between education, poverty and terrorism among Palestinians. *Princeton University Industrial Relations Section Working Paper #477*

inflation and overall economic wellbeing²⁸. Negative correlation has been found between investment and terrorism.^{29 30} Terrorism has also been associated with reduced government spending, lower foreign domestic investments and crowding-out effects in the policy making efforts.³¹ Furthermore, there are the studies that have also found the effect of terrorism on productivity, infrastructure and economic growth³²

In addition to the economic deterioration of a country caused by terrorism, there are certain indirect effects of terrorism on the economy also. Among those effects, studies have included devaluation of currency, loss of time and efficiency, situations of law and order, stock market crashes and other deadweight economic losses. Besides, due to terrorism countries are forced to allocate their valuable economic resources to uses which are not very productive; in fact, much valuable resources are lost in fighting against terrorism

The GDP of a country is the worst affected element that faces the toil of terrorism. In fact, a negatively significant correlation has been found between Terrorism and GDP growth³³. Different comparative studies have noticed that during the times of terrorism, the GDP of a country falls

²⁸ Eckstein, Z. & Tsiddon, D., (2004). Macroeconomic consequences of terror: theory and the case of Israel. *Journal of Monetary Economics* 51(5):971–1002

²⁹ Fielding, D. (2003). Modelling political instability and economic performance: Israeli investment during the intifada. *Economica*, 70(277), 159-186

³⁰ Drakos, K. & Gofas, A., (2006). In search of the average transnational terrorist attack venue. *Defence and Peace Economics* 17(2), 73–93

³² Hall, R., (2005). Assessment guideline for counter terrorism, Los Angeles. *University of southern California*

³³ Eckstein, Z. & Tsiddon, D., (2004). Macroeconomic consequences of terror: theory and the case of Israel. *Journal of Monetary Economics* 51(5):971–1002

sharply; whereas, in normal periods the overall economic growth tends to rise and improve ³⁴.

As the literature clearly shows that terrorism has a negative effect on the economic and social life of people, we theorize:

Hypothesis: Terrorism has negatively affected the socio-economic life of people of Balochistan.

Methodology

Participants

The study was quantitative with an exploratory design. The data collected from 880 respondents from different ethnicities and fields of life. As the population was extremely large and accurate sampling frame could not be designed, the study made use of convenience sampling. However, care was taken to try to include people from every ethnic groups residing in the province. This made the sample really representative of the overall population. Thus, a sense of judgment/ purposiveness was also used in the distribution of the questionnaire.

Materials

Using the variables mentioned in the literature, a questionnaire was developed to obtain the opinions of respondents on the nature, root-causes and socio-economic impact of terrorism on Balochistan. The questionnaire contained two major sections, the first included the demographic profiles of the respondents including their age, sex, ethnicity, education level and

³⁴ Enders, W., Sandler, T. & Parise, G. F., (1992). An econometric analysis of the impact of terrorism on tourism. *Kyklos* 45(4):531–554

profession. The second set of items asked 26 questions on 7-point Likert scale of agreement.

The section for obtaining data on the nature of terrorism included 5 items and a sample item was “Terrorists intend to evoke fear among the people through organized violence”³⁵. The ‘causes’ section had 9 items, a sample item was, the section of ‘social effects’ had 8 items and a sample item was, “Terrorists make people afraid to enjoy outdoor family life in parks and other picnic and refreshments points.” Lastly, the ‘economic effects’ section included 4 items and a sample item was, “Terrorists have the target to negatively affect country’s internal investment, FDI and business spirit.”

Data Cleaning and Transformation

The data cleaning started with looking for the missing values in the data. KNN approach was used to replace the missing values in the dataset. This approach allows to replace values keeping in view what the other responses of the respondent were. Questionnaires with more than 50% missing values were removed from the final analysis. Secondly, the unengaged responses were removed by calculating the standard deviation for each case and replacing the cases with standard deviation that were below 0.5.

Test of normality including Shapiro-Wilk and q-q plots were used to test normality of the data. Two-steps transformation was used to transform non-normal data. Furthermore, bootstrapping was used to improve the strengths of the estimates. Outliers were traded using Grubb’s test for the detection of outliers.

³⁵ Ersun N. Kurtulus (2017) Terrorism and fear: do terrorists really want to scare? *Critical Studies on Terrorism*, 10:3, 501-522, DOI: 10.1080/17539153.2017.1329080

Analysis

The percentages obtained from the respondents were used to discuss the results. As four aspects were theorized in the data, to explore the underlying structure within the responses, we first ran an exploratory factor analysis (EFA) using Varimax Rotation. This is because the factors were theoretically uncorrelated to one another and required an orthogonal rotation. The values for loadings were suppressed below 0.4 for a cleaner report. Further, CFA was also run so that the convergent and discriminant validity of the structure could also be established using the plugin for Amos developed by James Gaskin. In order to establish the reliability of the structure highlighted, Cronbach's alpha was used for each factor independently as highlighted in the EFA. SPSS 25, Amos 24 were used to analyse the data.

Results

Descriptive statistics

The overall sample was fairly distributed among both male and female respondents (Male=52.1% & Female= 48.8%). As far as the profession was concerned, most of the respondents were either had the proportions of the unemployed and students were low (WCJ= 45.6%; BCJ=50%; Unemployed=4%; Students= 4%). Most of the respondents belonged to the Pashtun ethnicity (54%); followed by Balochis (23.3%); Hazaras (11.4%); Punjabis (6.8%); Muhajirs (2%) and others (2.5%). Our sample somehow fairly represents the overall ethno-linguistic composition of the population in the province³⁶.

³⁶ Balochistan Economic Report (2008). *Balochistan Economic Report: From Periphery to Core*, Volume 1. World Bank Group

Correlations among the factors

The correlation analysis shows that the four factors were not very strongly correlated with one another. The correlation coefficients for all the factors were less than 0.251. Table 1 gives the correlation coefficient matrix for all the factors.

		Nature	Social Effects	Economic Effects	Causes
Nature	Pearson Correlation	1	-0.064	.109**	.228**
Social Effects	Pearson Correlation	-0.064	1	.250**	-.074*
Economic Effects	Pearson Correlation	.109**	.250**	1	.154**
Causes	Pearson Correlation	.228**	-.074*	.154**	1
**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).					
*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).					

Factor Analysis

The exploratory factor analysis resulted in the determination of four primary factors in the data. The results of the EFA are given as under. No items were deleted.

The adequacy of data for factor analysis.

The KMO and Bartlett's test of sphericity were used to test the adequacy of the data in order to run the factor analysis. The overall results were satisfactory³⁷³⁸. The test indicated that factor analysis is appropriate for this

³⁷ Denis, D.J., (2019). *SPSS Data Analysis for Univariate, Bivariate, and Multivariate Statistics*. USA, Wiley.

³⁸ Field, A (2017). *Discovering Statistics Using IBM SPSS Statistics*. Sage

data and could give useful results³⁹ The cut off value of KMO need to be greater than 0.5 for data adequacy and that for the Bartlett's test needs to be significant at less than 0.05. Both these cut-offs were met and thus the data was adequate for factor analysis. Our KMO and Bartlett's Tests indicated that the data are adequate to model into a factor analysis (KMO=0.881; Bartlett's Test: Chi-square=18003.976; $df=325$; sig.0.000).

Exploratory factor analysis.

The exploratory factor analysis reduced the 26-item Likert scale data into four factors. These four factors could be divided into four categories based on the contents of the items. The four categories include: the social effects of terrorism in Balochistan, the root-causes of terrorism, the nature of terrorism and the economic effects of terrorism in Balochistan. The total variance explained by this data amounted to 68.811% of the variation within the dataset and is thus in acceptable range for the EFA, also all communalities exceed .5 except for item N2: the overall solution is acceptable⁴⁰. Moreover, there is excellent internal consistencies among all the items in the factors as the Cronbach's alphas exceed .8 for all the factors ($\alpha_{\text{social effects}}=.938$; $\alpha_{\text{causes}}=.899$; $\alpha_{\text{nature}}.911$; $\alpha_{\text{economic effects}}=.914$). The overall item loadings in the respective factors, the communalities are given in table 2.

⁴⁰ Hair, J., Black, W., Babin, B., & Anderson, R. (2010). *Multivariate Data Analysis* (7th ed.), Upper Saddle River, NJ, USA, Prentice-Hall, Inc.

Table 2: Exploratory Factor Analysis

Items	Social Effects	Root-Causes	Nature	Economic Effects	Communalities
S4	0.914				0.793
S2	0.905				0.779
S3	0.892				0.738
S1	0.886				0.747
S6	0.875				0.654
S7	0.867				0.801
S5	0.806				0.830
S8	0.477				0.825
C8		0.826			0.861
C6		0.795			0.655
C9		0.778			0.803
C7		0.761			0.754
C1		0.739			0.320
C4		0.720			0.733
C5		0.709			0.783
C2		0.667			0.836
C3		0.665			0.823
N1			0.877		0.555
N2			0.870		0.448
N3			0.847		0.507
N4			0.846		0.563
N5			0.799		0.531
E3				0.900	0.651
E4				0.894	0.583
E2				0.868	0.686
E1				0.837	0.636
Cronbach's' Alpha	.938	.899	.911	.914	

Confirmatory factor analysis.

Results of the exploratory factor analysis were used to construct the structural model diagram for the CFA as given in the appendixes. The CFA confirmed the latent structure for four factors as reported in the EFA. The overall model fit indexes were excellent (CMIN/DF=3.628; GFI=.916; TLI=.952; CFI=.96; RMSEA=.055) (Hair et al., 2010). This confirmed the overall structure's validity as proposed by the EFA. The path diagram for the CFA and the path coefficients are given in figure 1. For a one factor model the CFA is not satisfactorily acceptable (CMIN/DF=.961; GFI=.844; TLI=.837; CFI=.882; RMSEA=.101). This suggest that four factor solution is more appropriate.

The overall confirmatory analysis gives both convergent validity (Average Variance Extracted (AVE)>0.5: Economic Effects=.693; Nature=.693; Social Effect=.673; Causes=.502) and discriminant validities (MSV(Maximum Shared Variance)<AVE) in all factors: Economic Effects (AVE=.693>MSV=0.059), Nature (AVE=.693> MSV=.006), Social Effects (AVE=.673>MSV=.059), Causes (AVE=.502> MSV=.066) also the square root of AVE is greater than inter-construct correlation as given in table 4⁴¹ The overall factorial structure is reliable (CR>.7) for every factor (Economic Effect=.898; Nature=.918; Social Effects=.941; Causes=.900)

Discussion

We intended to study if the respondents of Balochistan were able to highlight the intentions terrorists had in their minds regarding what they

⁴¹ Hair, J., Black, W., Babin, B., & Anderson, R. (2010). *Multivariate Data Analysis* (7th ed.), Upper Saddle River, NJ, USA, Prentice-Hall, Inc.

wanted to achieve through their acts. Four factors were obtained through the factor analysis including nature, causes, social and economic effects of terrorism in Balochistan in the data. In this section we would discuss each of those factors separately.

Nature of Terrorism

As hypothesized, Balochistan has a peculiar nature of terrorism. We accept the hypothesis as our respondents highlighted certain peculiar aspects of the origin and type of terrorism in the province. Terrorism is a composite actuality containing several aspects from geographic location to internal and international politics, from ethno-lingual orientation to sectarianism, and from economic resources to a sense of deprivation among the indigenous people. The nature of terrorism in thus peculiar to Balochistan. However, by peculiar we do not mean one of its kind; what we suggest is that this is an uncommon case that would rarely exist elsewhere in its entirety.

The respondents claimed that the acts of terrorism in Balochistan are an organized crime that has the primary motive of evoking fear among the residents of the province. This would result in people yearning for action from the government. In turn, the terrorists intend to pressurize the government in considering them as vital forces and their demands must be considered seriously. The terrorist also wants to disunite the people into ethnic groups and religious sects to manoeuvre their heinous motives even more easily.

The terrorists also have an awareness of the geo-political rhetoric in the province and have a strong reflection of this in their operatives. The politics in the neighboring regions, Afghanistan especially, have a direct effect on

the political arena in Balochistan⁴². Further, the politics of Balochistan revolves around the ethnic deprivation of government's attention and policy incentives. Hussain⁴³ suggests that people of Balochistan believe that the province of Punjab gets unfair share of resources and thus the politics in the province has a strong focus on this issue. The militants also strongly highlight this point and try to justify their acts of terrorism in this philosophy. Unfortunately, some ethnic groups tend to find conciliation of their opinion in this philosophy.

The terrorists tend to focus their activities mostly in the urban areas particularly Quetta, the capital of the province. This point is also noticed by the respondents and has support for our conclusion in the previous literature. The main purpose of the terrorists in striking the most developed parts of an area is to cause the maximum damage. Fundamentally, this is because most of the economic and social activity takes place in the developed area compared to the rural and undeveloped parts⁴⁴. Further, most of the economic activity in the rural area is directly related to the developed parts. In Balochistan, terrorism is fundamentally an ethno-religious centered activity. The terrorists give either an ethnic or a religious orientation to their acts⁴⁵. Therefore, two ethnic groups- Settlers and Hazaras- are more affected by terrorism than the others. The settlers are affected as a consequence of the prejudice against them for their origin from a different part of the country

⁴² Husain, A. (2003). *Terrorism, development and democracy*. India. Shapira Publications

⁴³ Ibid

⁴⁴ Drakos, K. & Gofas, A., (2006). In search of the average transnational terrorist attack venue. *Defence and Peace Economics* 17(2), 73-93

⁴⁵ Siddiqui, F.H., (2012). Security Dynamics in Pakistani Balochistan: Religious Activism and Ethnic Conflict in the War on Terror. *Asian Affairs: An American Review*, 39(3), 157-175

and for their use of resources of the province⁴⁶ (Samad, 2014). However, whatever the case, there is some foreign involvement and support in terrorism⁴⁷

Causes of Terrorism

A majority of our respondents suggested that the root cause of terrorism in Balochistan can be traced back to the Russian invasion of Afghanistan and the support of Pakistan for USA. This point is supported by the study of Hussain⁴⁸.

Another very important cause of terrorism in Balochistan, as highlighted by our respondents, was the lack of economic activity in the province. The unemployment, on the other hand, is high. This gives rise to less productive activities and crimes in the province. Some of the youth resort to terrorism as they easily get brainwashed by either politicians or extremists. Similar conclusion has been drawn by syed and martin⁴⁹. We also find good support for these arguments in other literature where the lack of government support and economic activity are considered the sources of crime, violence and terrorism

Another important source of terrorism reported by our respondents was the ease of transportation and movement across border between Afghanistan and Pakistan. There is a strong reason to believe in this point. The border

⁴⁶ Samad, Y., (2014). Understanding the insurgency in Balochistan. *Commonwealth and Comparative Politics*, 52(2), 7-50

⁴⁷ *ibid*

⁴⁸ Husain, A. (2003). *Terrorism, development and democracy*. India. Shapira Publications

⁴⁹ Syed, S.H., Saeed, L., & Martin, R.P., (2015). Causes and Incentives for Terrorism in Pakistan. *Journal of Applied Security Research*, 10,181–206

between the two countries is very large, stretching 2640 km⁵⁰. The vastness and openness of the border gives easy access to the terrorists to move across border and find safe havens in remote areas. Recently, however, the government of Pakistan has taken the humongous task of fencing the border so that the trouble can be reduced.

This discussion of the results of our respondents' claims, we can suggest that there is sufficient evidence that the theorized hypothesis, "Lack of economic activity, education and sound policies are major causes of terrorism in Balochistan" is acceptable. The lack of economic activity, low literacy rate and poor governance have been highlighted as important causes of terrorism in our data. Thus, we retain our second hypothesis.

The Socio-economic Consequences

Our results indicate that the respondents have clearly articulated the negative effects of the acts of terrorism on their socio-economic life. In the economic matters, terrorism has resulted in lack of entrepreneurial activity, shortages of routine products and slower economic growth. We, thus accept the hypothesis that terrorism has negatively affected the socio-economic life of people in Balochistan.

Among the most drastic effects of terrorism is that the youth, particularly in ethnically minor groups, has been deprived of education and learning. The fear has made parents worried about the children so much so that they do not want to risk the lives of their children in the pursuit of education. The effect, in fact, is manifold. The lower trends towards education to youth

⁵⁰ Fair, C. C., Howenstein, N., & Their, J. A., (2006). *Trouble on the Pakistan-Afghanistan Border*. United States Institute for Peace, December 2006, Retrieved Feb, 2019 from <http://www.usip.org/publications/troubles-pakistan-afghanistan-border>

create further caveat in the public efforts towards improvements in the condition. The fear among people is a motivational drive for the terrorists⁵¹ (Berman & Latin, 2008). Moreover, the fear also extends towards the teachers and consequently results in even lower quality of education.

Also, the social life of the people of Balochistan has been severely affected in Balochistan. Our respondents reported that they fear going out for picnics, eating in restaurants, going to parks and even meeting relatives. The crime level has also risen in the wake of the acts of terrorism as the government is primarily focused on curtailing terrorism, the caveat thus created results in motivation for the criminals. Overall, the society is severely disturbed directly and indirectly by terrorism.

Though terrorism also has a religious orientation, respondents claimed that terrorism has severely affected the religious activities in the province. People are afraid of observing public religious ceremonies. They are even afraid to attend prayers in mosques. Even the prayers of Eids and the Mahafil of Ashora are among the occasions of greater fears. The impact of these is that there is greater hatred developed for the opposite sects and thus a greater disunity among people. This brings people closer to animosity and distrust for the others. Situation might result in greater sectarian conflicts among different religious groups⁵².

As far the economic downturn, there was great agreement among our respondents that the worst hit area by terrorism is the impact on the economic affairs of the province. Among the worst hit economic factors the

⁵¹ Berman, E. & Laitin, D., (2005). Hard targets: theory and evidence on suicide attacks. *NBER Working Paper* 11740. Cambridge, MA: NBER

⁵² Nawaz, S., (2016). *Countering Militancy and Terrorism in Pakistan: The Civil-Military Nexus*. United State Institute of Peace

reduction of business activity was on top. This, in turn, has a sort of ripple effect in the economy. The first and the foremost effect of reduced business in the province is on the standard of living of the inhabitants and the overall GDP of the province and the worst effect group in the community is the low-income members of the society.

Other than fall in income and earnings, the respondents also reported shortages of daily-use items and utilities. Often times, the terrorists attack and destroy power lines and gas pipelines in remote area. It takes time to repair those breakages and people face difficulty in the daily works. The shortage of power and gas affects every sphere of public life from the household chores to the professional works. Overall, the economy is badly affected and fuels the already existing economic crises. This results in further economic slowdown and lower growth (Hyder, Akram & Padda, 2015).

Policy Recommendations: The Cures

Our study gives rise to several aspects that affect the socio-economic fabric of the province of Balochistan. Several points raised by our respondents have strong reinforcement of the finding made by Syed and Martin⁵³ in their work. As such, we recommend that the government needs to improve the investment spirit among people for curbing terrorism and nurturing of future terrorist. This is because increased business will result in higher income and employment and will thus give the youth some activity to work positive in the development of the province and the country⁵⁴

⁵³ Syed, S.H., Saeed, L., & Martin, R.P., (2015). Causes and Incentives for Terrorism in Pakistan. *Journal of Applied Security Research*, 10,181–206

⁵⁴ Berman, E. & Laitin, D., (2005). Hard targets: theory and evidence on suicide attacks. *NBER Working Paper* 11740. Cambridge, MA: NBER

In addition, the government should also work to improve the current psychology of deprivation among the youth of Balochistan for resources and share of the overall findings. The mainstream politicians must be brought on board and their just demands be met. They should also be logically and politically convinced for the reasons of differences in budgetary matters and their reservation be seriously addressed. As the points were highlighted in our data, the arguments also have theoretical relevance. The government should not consider the service sector being non-important in this regard. Syed and Martin⁵⁵ have found out a strong correlation between greater spending on service sector and reduction in terrorism. Among the service sector, the most important sector is the provision of health services. Improved health services have good effect on people in winning their favors. Good governance is yet another important cure for improved counter-terrorism efforts⁵⁶

Cross border terrorism can be curtailed by developing better relationship with the neighboring countries and through greater collaborations and cooperation. The governments can enter into security agreements with its immediate neighbors and supports their initiatives on counter-terrorism activities. A greater focus on non-military solutions is also an effective way to reduce terrorism in addition, the inclusion of the civil society in counter-terrorism efforts can further ameliorate the intuitive (Nawaz, 2016)⁵⁷. The curbing of terrorism, in deed, is a combined effort where all segments of the

⁵⁵ Syed, S.H., Saeed, L., & Martin, R.P., (2015). Causes and Incentives for Terrorism in Pakistan. *Journal of Applied Security Research*, 10,181–206

⁵⁶ Nawaz, S., (2016). *Countering Militancy and Terrorism in Pakistan: The Civil-Military Nexus*. United State Institute of Peace

⁵⁷ Ibid

society can play vital roles and should thus be engaged in the efforts and supported for their work.

Conclusion

In this study, we attempted to highlight the nature, causes, consequences and the cure of terrorism in Balochistan. The area was chosen on the grounds as this province of Pakistan is one of the worst hit areas by the acts of terrorists. Besides, this province has extreme geopolitical importance. The area directly neighbors two countries; Iran and Afghanistan and dynamics of terrorism are many folds here. Much, in fact, could be learnt from this area. Thus, using a self-administered questionnaire data were collected from the residents of the province, the instrument duly tested for its validity and reliability. The percentages in the data were used to report the findings.

Several important forces are playing their roles in supporting terrorism in Balochistan including the lack of education, poor infrastructure, low business/ economic activity and a sense of political deprivation especially by the youth of the province. The immediate border with Afghanistan, a country that is in war has drastic effect on the peace in the province. The terrorism in the province is thus part of a global, political situation besides the internal political crises within the province.

The socio-economic effects of terrorism are felt in every sphere of life including family like, professional life and social activities. Religious activities are also greatly affected by terrorism. Government can reduce the act of terrorism by developing a multiple faceted policy and by including all important stakeholders. Good governance, provision of better education, improved services- especially health care- and developed infrastructure would dampen the current restless in the area. The government should look

for non-military option rather for a long-lasting improvement or distrust in the province.

The study primarily focuses on four elements of terrorism in Balochistan and thus only limited information could be obtained for each. It is recommended that studies that could explore all those areas in depth could be undertaken for improved understanding of the issue. A study of the cross-border relationship can also help in better understanding and solution to the problem. Improved international relationship could further improve the situation.

Appendices

Table 3: KMO and Bartlett's Test

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		0.881
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	18003.976
	df	325
	Sig.	0.000

Table 4: Discriminant and Convergent Validity

	CR	AVE	MSV	MaxR (H)	EE	Nat	SE	Cs
Econ_Effect	0.898	0.693	0.059	0.968	0.833			
Nature	0.918	0.693	0.066	0.930	0.069†	0.832		
Socio_Effects	0.941	0.673	0.059	0.959	0.243***	-0.145***	0.820	
Causes	0.900	0.502	0.066	0.905	0.144***	0.256***	-0.081*	0.708

In table 3: CR(Composite Ratio); AVE(Average Variance Extracted); MSV (Maximum Shared Variance); EE(Economic Effects); Nat(Nature); SE(Social Effects) and Cs(Causes)

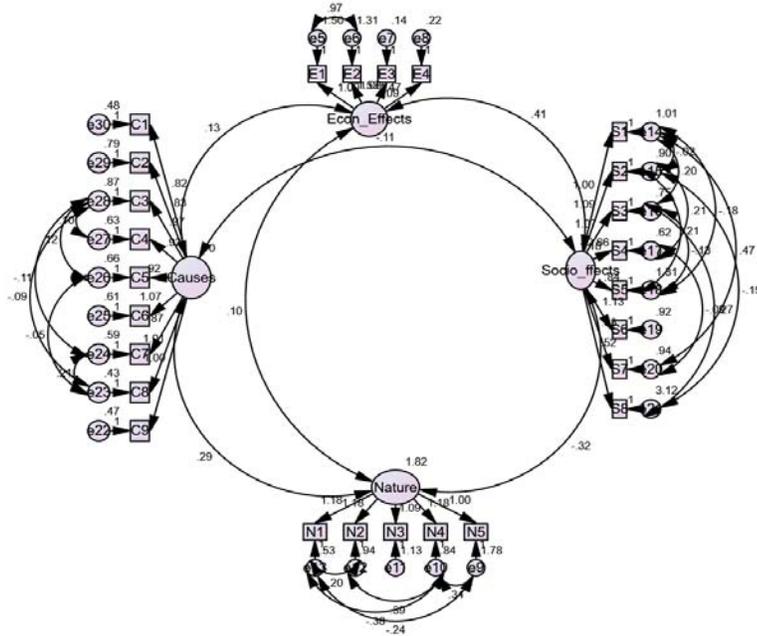


Figure 1: CFA Path Diagram

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