

POLITICAL INSTABILITIES IN AFGHANISTAN: IMPLICATIONS FOR PAKISTAN

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Abstract

Pakistan and Afghanistan share the longest border in the northwest with each other. Afghanistan is the most influential factor for Pakistani policymakers in terms of foreign policy. Relations of both the countries have not been cordial since the inception of Pakistan.

Internal circumstances affected Pakistan in one way or another during the Cold War era and the invasion of the USSR. Between different powers, this country became a focus regarding of interest after 9/11. The western border has become very uncertain due to Indian's involvement. With relation to Afghanistan, Pakistan has always been a victim of instability. Pakistan's internal peace has greatly disrupted by the movement across the border. By smuggling weapons, drugs and terrorists anti-state actors have always used this border to destabilize the country. Being already weakened country, Pakistan overwhelmed by migration of a large number of Afghan citizens.

To assess the effects of the instability in Afghanistan on Pakistan, numerous attempts are being made. In addition, this study will aim at the classification of the features and political objectives of the players concerned in the conflict on violence in Afghanistan. It will analyze the evolution of the peace course in Afghanistan as well as its significance for regional solidity.

Keywords: Political, Instabilities, Afghanistan, Implications, Pakistan

Introduction

Afghanistan has faced serious challenges of instability over the past three decades because of internal gangs and wars. First of all, since Sardar Daoud took over the government from his cousin, the internal racial-hostile power between different groups and secondarily, different blows given from

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time to time by USSR support groups. A war between the Mujahideen and the Red Army began when in 1979 the USSR entered its troops in Afghanistan which ultimately caused devastation, shattered the infrastructure and turned the country underdeveloped. People had to take refuge to different countries for saving their families. To find food and shelter for their children, they struggled hard. Afterwards, in the country, a long civil war began for making the path to peace and stability even more difficult. As a result of this war, different groups arose. For the sake of their own interest, these militant groups were funded by various elements. The US invasion of the country ushered in another destructive era throughout the region in the early 21st Century. One of the Border States, Pakistan that suffered mainly.

A Political History of Afghanistan

A deep-rooted political culture has yielded by the history of Afghanistan that influences its future development. The continual of power of the court which directed at a single ruler determining policy and distributing resources with which all rulers seek approval is the most striking feature. The intention of the government outside the rebels is to replace with their own rather than changing them. The only practical way to address spatial opinion according to the experience of Afghanistan is Max Weber's vision of such a system as a patrimonial and unstable space susceptible to riots, coups and rebellions which has seen only two transfers since 1901 when Amir Habibullah Khan inherited the throne and in 2004 Ashraf Ghani succeeded Hamid Karzai.

Its naissance came into being as a nation after and the establishment of the last of the Afghan empires in 1747 when Ahmad Shah Durrani conquered the area, although the area has been inhabited within the borders of Afghanistan for centuries.

Afghanistan was involved in 'THE GREAT GAME' called by the historians between Russia and Britain, a struggle for influence for Central and South Asia from 1830-1895. In the First Anglo-Afghan War (1839-1842) and the Second Anglo-Afghan War (1878-1880), this conflict led to Great Britain invading Afghanistan.¹ Russia increased its interest in Afghanistan and left control of its foreign policy to Britain by signing a treaty Britain in 1907.

During the summer of 1919, the Third Anglo-Afghan War took place which led to independence of Afghanistan from the British Empire. Afghanistan was declared as a sovereign and completely independent state by King Amanullah Khan whose modernizing reforms (abolition of slavery, women not forced to wear the hijab, mixed schools, etc.) lasted only a decade.

¹ A.Z. Hilali, *US-Pakistan relationship: Soviet Intervention in Afghanistan*, (Burlington, VT: Ashgate Publishing Co., 2005), 198

The last King of Afghanistan who ruled from 1933 to 1973 was Mohammad Zahir Shah, the second cousin of King Amanullah Khan. A new constitution that transformed the country into a modern democracy, with free elections, parliament, civil rights, the emancipation of women and universal suffrage was implemented by Zahir Shah in 1964. Mohammad Daoud Khan, his cousin and former Prime Minister, while in Italy for eye surgery in 1974 staged a coup, formed a Republican government and became the first president of Afghanistan. Because of this Democratic Communist People's Party of Afghanistan which took power in 1978, this republic was short-lived which ultimately led to a civil war between the new Soviet-backed government and the Mujahideen.

A standstill has to occur by the Afghan Civil War. The Soviet territories bombed territories, asking about 6 million Afghans to seek refuge in Iran and Pakistan in order to attempt to destroy the Mujahideen. The US entered the conflict by launching the Central Intelligence Agency Operation Cyclone in 1980 for arming and funding the Afghan rebels. In order to the defeat of the Soviet Union, US involvement directly contributed whereas in 1988, the Soviet Union signed an agreement within which it agreed for withdrawing of its troops.²

A UN-sponsored Bonn conference in 2001 set up a process for the political reconstruction of the country following the overthrow of the Taliban in Afghanistan by the US coalition. The adoption of a new constitution, presidential elections in 2004 and a national assembly in 2005 was led by it. The first democratically elected president of Afghanistan, Hamid Karzai in December 2004 and then re-elected for a second shift in 2009.

Between the two best winners, Abdullah and Ashraf Ghani, the presidential elections were held in 2014. His associate questioned the results and exchanged an accusation of fraud during the summer of 2014 by which a US-led diplomatic intervention was generated including an articulated audit as well as a legislative negotiation linking the two edges according to the CIA database.

In September, Ghani and Abdullah undertaken for launching the National Unity Administration in which Ghani was entitled as President and Abdullah against a newly constituted post of CEO. The Ghani government signed the US and Afghan bilateral security agreement and the agreement on the status of NATO forces on the day after the inauguration which offered the permissible grounds to hold the post-2014 existence of army in Afghanistan.

² Amstutz, J. Bruce, *Afghanistan: The First Five Years of Soviet Occupation*, (Washington D.C.: NDU Press, 1986), 127

Strategic Importance of Afghanistan

The involvement of neighboring states and world powers is the main cause of instability in Afghanistan. By setting up a puppet government for exploitation of the geostrategic and geopolitical significance of Afghanistan and having contact with CARs rich in energy, they want to polish their own axis.

USA's Interests

They want a permanent airbase to explore the resources of Central Asia at one side but on the other hand, the United States wants to make a strong position in Afghanistan to include Russia, China, Iran and Pakistan. For each state that wants to use in its own way, Afghanistan is a gateway.³

USSR's Interest

Access to oil resources in the Middle East and reach of hot water is wanted by the USSR. It was a focal point between the USSR and British India for the previous century; finally, an agreement was reached between the two that granted the status of a buffer state. The Cold War began between two superpowers after World War II when the USSR attacked Afghanistan; the United States had a policy of two to stop them at the Afghan border of PAK. Assisted by Saudi Arabia and Pakistan, he achieved his antagonistic plans to stop the USSR.

Amongst the crucial routes of trade and premeditated sites of army around the globe is The Khyber Pass, located between Afghanistan and Pakistan. The cultural crossroads of the Indian, Persian and Chinese civilizations are known as the olden set of connections of routes for trading extended to 4000 kilometers. Natural resources, gas, minerals and oil (according to some estimates worth more than a trillion US dollars) are found to be rich in the country.

Interests of External Players in Afghanistan and Threats in Pakistan

General

Because of its geostrategic importance, world powers in the South Asian region have for all time had an exceptional concentration. There is found clear focus on interests of various international and local actors. The interests of external actors in Afghanistan have a direct impact on the interests and security of Pakistan as an immediate neighbor.

Russia

After the revolt in Russia in 1917, the Soviet Union had been insightful to its borders and a cornerstone of its international relations was to

³ Mohammad Yousaf, & Mark Adkin, *Afghanistan, the bear trap: the defeat of a superpower*, (Casemate, 1992), 159

stabilize its border territories. In 1940, the Baltic states were taken over. After World War II, Eastern European states were insured. For providing a vulnerable window to its borders for anti-Soviet forces, the loss of Afghanistan would amount. Soviet fighting forces moved into Afghanistan on a large scale, assassinating President Hafiz Ullah Amin and installing Babrak Karmal as the new ruler of Afghanistan on December 28, 1979.⁴ The Moscow wanted to expand its influence beyond Afghan borders with the argument that the Soviet Union would be liable in employing Afghanistan as a prospective game for destabilization of Pakistan in order to gain the desired access to a water port by consolidating its position in Afghanistan. Approximately three million Afghans migrated to Pakistan for the period of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Out of whole Afghan refugee population about 70% resides on Pakistani territory in the wake of the volatile situation that continues in Afghanistan hampering Pakistan's fragile economy.

USA

When Russians withdrew Afghanistan, interests of US were curtailed in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Concluded by the report of the 9/11 Commission, the failure of the United States for stabilizing Afghanistan would reduce a security of the United States to let the country for becoming a protected asylum for terrorists and scandalous ones.⁵ Importance of Afghanistan, however, was accepted as the oil loaded whilst states of Central Asia were alluring too to be overlooked. To sum up, American benefits in the constituency are as follows:

- 1) The aim of presence of US troops in Afghanistan was at an anticipated course of action to control China.
- 2) Stopping the extension of spiritual fundamentalism from Afghanistan.
- 3) Closely monitoring the cooperation scaffold among China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan (i.e. Shanghai association for Cooperation) leading to the institution of a Novel Bloc in the region.

The security problems for Pakistan are also created by the interests of US. The US invasion of Afghanistan in October, 2001 resulted in killing of thousands of Taliban troops. The refuge was taken in the tribal area administered by the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) in the middle of the boundary besides in divisions of the Baluchistan, Pakistani province in the west and the border province from the northwest (NWFP) to

⁴ Lestwer W. Grau, Michael A. Gress, (eds.). *The Soviet Afghan-War: How a Superpower Fought and Lost*. (University Press of Kansas, 2002), 10

⁵ Ahmad Shayeq Qassem, *Afghanistan's Political Stability: A Dream Unrealised*. (Ashgate Publishing, Ltd, 28 March 2013)

the east and south by the jury (religious council) of senior Taliban leaders.⁶

China

As a result of 9/11, Chinese interest in Afghanistan increased further due to American forces being there in enclosure, that is, in Afghanistan as well as the states of Central Asia states. Exterior influences free Afghanistan was wanted by China consisting of union military as this is expected to bully the solidity of the region. A great marketplace enriched with minerals and human resources was provided to China by the Central Asian States and Afghanistan. Pakistan friendly government was wished to be seen in Afghanistan by China. China has endowed billions of dollars in Pakistan regarding various ventures.

India

Good relations are maintained by India and Russia. Pleasure was taken between India and the Soviet Union in regards of tactical, martial, trade and industry and ambassadorial affairs throughout the bitter conflict. A major menace to the independence and integrity of Pakistan is India. In order to play a key role in world affairs, India wants to avail of the widespread worldwide anti-terrorist reaction to its advantage, to advance its regional and global ambitions. Creation of friction between Pakistan and Afghanistan raising controversial issues due to its influence on the Afghan government is intended by India. The offer to help Afghanistan in building a dam on the Kabul River in “Kunhar province and the Salma Dam project in Herat Province” is an example of this. Even though India is unwilling for seeing Pakistan having any financially viable settlement, it has the same opinion with the proposed project of oil and gas pipeline by Afghanistan and Pakistan in order to meet their increasing needs of energy. Yet, India wants to hold the ability to bully Pakistan through nasty LOCs from the western borders in case of oil and gas pipeline project does not take off by opening of Indian consulates in Jalalabad, Kandahar, Mazar-e-Sharif and Herat Point in this direction. Predominantly in N.W.F.P and Baluchistan, these consulates are reportedly conducting activities against Pakistan in Pakistan. Especially in the field of training, Indian businessmen are also investing heavily in Afghanistan and are likely to have control over the Afghan economy soon apart from the Indian military aid to Afghanistan.⁷

Currently, Indian shortage of energy need is 20%, possibly to raise up to 80% with the existing size of its growth. India wishes to see a government in Afghanistan that is aggressive to Pakistan for keeping it away of the energy game and creation of a two-tiered predicament in Pakistan in

⁶ Christine C. Fair, Sarah J. Watson, *Pakistan's Enduring Challenges*. (University of Pennsylvania Press, 18 February 2015).

⁷ A.Z. Hilali, *US-Pakistan Relationship: Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan*, (Taylor & Francis, 2017), 100

any anticipated war with India. In this context, Indian's attempt to make available an alternative aid neighborhood to Afghanistan in the course of the Iranian port of Chabahar could be seen. India wants to expand its sphere of influence to the Central Asian states to surround China as a prospective regional power. Afghanistan can act as a springboard for India, by countering China. Indian's interests of business in Afghanistan and Central Asian states also exist.

Iran:

For Iran, there are chronological and civilization motives of being fascinated in Afghanistan in addition to geostrategic causes. However, from the perspective of Iran, the Afghan concern had less for doing with the "Great Game strategy" as well as more for doing prestigiously along with nationalized safety. The official language of Afghanistan is a version of Persian language as Dari (a long border with Afghanistan) is shared by with. A large part of the Afghan population, namely the "Hazara tribes", are of Shiite foundation is additional to it. Iran and Pakistan enclosed at loggerheads at the Afghan issue to achieve the position of a dominant player.

In controlling land communications and pipelines to Central Asia, Iran has been interested so that oil is flowed via the Iranian path to Europe measured as the direct way to the West. For the outflow of oil through Pakistan, a stable Afghanistan will compete with Iran. Iran wants the Pukhtoon-dominated areas in Afghanistan to stay comparatively unbalanced for strengthening the matter for the duct channels all the way through Iran to take advantage of the transportation of hydrocarbon resources in the CAR. To ensure the protection of Iran's strategic interests in Afghanistan, Iran wants the Kabul government to be primarily non-Pashtun.⁸ Iran has very serious concerns about protection of the interests of the Shiite minority in Afghanistan in opposition to the Sunni majority.

Causes of Instability:

Its center and periphery have remained essentially independent of each other, throughout the history of Afghanistan's state apparatus. The main causes of instability in Afghanistan are as follows:

- 1) **USSR invasion of Afghanistan:** Afghanistan was invaded by the Soviet army to support its communist government. The fight was against a resistance movement known as the Mujahideen and supported by the United States, Afghanistan, China and Saudi Arabia. The duration of the war was 11 years which destabilized the country

⁸ Neamatollah Nojumi, *The Rise of the Taliban in Afghanistan: Mass Mobilization, Civil War, and the Future of the Region* (1st ed.). (NY: Palgrave, 2002)

2) **The Civil War in the Interior:** The country was involved in a civil war in the last decade of the 20th Century that made its path to peace and stability even more difficult. The US invasion of Afghanistan and the protracted war further aggravated the social and economic situation in the country at the beginning of the 21st century.

World Trade Center:

1. On a clear Tuesday morning of 11th September 2001 at 8:45 a.m., an Airline of America 'Boeing 767' with twenty thousand gallons of fuel of plane worn-out into the "north tower of the World Trade Center in New York".

2. A huge fire pit in front of the 80th floor of the 110-storey super structured during which hundreds of people immediately killed and entrapped hundreds more on the highest story was the impact which left.

3. Broadcasting by TV cameras shown live descriptions of what was at first a strange accident as the evacuation of the tower and its twins progressed. Later than 18 minutes of the crashing of first aircraft, a second "Boeing 767", "United Airlines Flight 175", was viewed which swung piercingly toward the World Trade Center and cut through the south tower in close proximity to the 60th floor. A huge bang was caused by collision which threw burning debris to the neighboring buildings and the streets below.⁹

Pentagon Attack:

With taking off American Airlines' flight 77 above downtown Washington, DC earlier than striking into the west side of the "Pentagon's military headquarters", millions watched the events in New York.

A devastating inferno was grounded by the jet fuel of the Boeing 757 consequently collapsed the systematic part of the gigantic solid building, which is the control center of the US Department of Defense.

Twin Tower Collapse:

The repulsion in New York seized a disastrous twist as soon as the South Tower of the World Trade Center distorted into a huge obscure of dirt and smolder within less than 15 minutes after terrorists attacked the U.S. military nerve center.

The northern construction of the Twin Towers buckled at 10:30 a.m. In the collapsed looms of the World Trade Center, merely six people stayed alive. Almost 10,000 other people were treated for wounds, amongst serious ones.¹⁰

Cold War Era:

During the Cold War era, instability was the main cause of

⁹ Mohammed Kakar, *The Soviet Invasion and the Afghan Response, 1979–1982*, (University of California Press, 1997)

¹⁰Hall Gardner, *American global strategy and the 'war on terrorism'*. (Ashgate. 2007), 59

ideological warfare of the two superpowers USSR and the United States. In Afghanistan, they both had their own interests. Reaching hot water and having access to oil resources in the Middle East was the aim of the USSR whereas the restraining the USSR assisted by its partners Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and the Afghan Mujahideen was wanted by the US. Given below are the key elements that paved the way for egg hatching in Afghanistan:

- a) Political and military elite
- b) Population of countryside
- c) Groups of rebels
- d) Warlords
- e) Regional spots
- f) Rough terrain and mountainous areas
- g) Disconnection of roads with the central government

Most young people can take up arms and join terrorist groups when the government does not provide jobs for its masses eliminate poverty and change their standard of living. In destabilizing the country, extremist thinking has also played a very crucial role. The mullahs could easily deceive innocent people in the name of religion because of the illiteracy of their people. The United States and its allies left the Mujahideen fighting the USSR after the USSR withdrew from Afghanistan.¹¹ However, Afghanistan could not get any attention regarding the establishment of a unity government. The fighters turned their weapons against each other which they took against foreign invaders. For more than a decade, this struggle continued. The punishments, self-imposed by the warlords were enough to speak of their cruelty and barbarism. The societal environment of Afghanistan has become ferocious, cruel and unpleasant. For there was no law so there were no signs of the rule of law. There is no concept of a central government structure.

Rise of the Taliban:

Taliban, a new group has entered the front. This word literally is meant by the students who receive religious instruction in Madrasas. Being familiar with the war tactics, many of them fought against Russia. That is why 90% of the area of Afghanistan was captured by them very quickly. Sharia'ah law was set as state law by them. There found peace and stability during the Taliban regime as compared to the past.

9/11: Tragic incident:

A large number of people were killed; a vast majority was injured and mostly affected psychologically. The twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City were hit by two planes, third one crashed in the

¹¹ Boris Z. Rumer, *Central Asia: a gathering storm?* (M.E. Sharpe, 2002), 103

Pentagon on the outside Washington, DC and the fourth plane worn-out in a turf in Shanks Ville, Pennsylvania. During the September 11 terrorist attacks, major US efforts to combat terrorism were sparked by killing of nearly 3,000 people.¹²

Social and Economic Development:

Previously considered essential as a humanitarian or human rights issue but gradually became associated with threats to international security was the most serious problem of the failed state during the 1990s. As areas of failed states were judged as safe havens for terrorist groups therefore its discourse gained more urgency after the September 11 attacks. The term failed state indicates that the central government's dereliction to maintain law and order in its territory, provide basic needs to public and sustain economic and social development was indicated by the term 'Failed state'. Since the establishment of the current Afghan government, slightest has been pulled off for overcoming the constrictions that hamper the continued rekindling of hub segments of the Afghan market in spite of passing two decades. Resultantly, trapped as poverty strikes trapped the millions of Afghans across the country. Above that, the persistent and worrying issues that are holding back the stabilization of the Afghan economy are raising unemployment rate, lack of productivity growth, and lack of innovation and growth-oriented entrepreneurship.

More than 39% and another 37% of the absolute poverty of Afghans breathing hardly beyond scarcity streaks are hard details. This state of affairs is in particular unbearable for the growing jobless and unemployed youth. The rate of Afghan adolescents' being without a job posits at 40% staggeringly.

The facts reported above may not reflect the true extent of economic stagnation and unemployment as large numbers of Afghans do not have profitable earnings and opportunities to achieve it as well as their income is far below the threshold to satisfy their daily needs according to the importance for statistical insights.

Implications

The systematic social exclusion of ordinary citizens has had detrimental social consequences in addition to economic backwardness. In Afghanistan, crime and extortion are of great importance because poor people cannot find alternative viable incomes.¹³ Besides, very valuable asset, the inactive army of young people is attracted by this hostile situation to join in exchange for a salary. In Afghanistan, the ranks of terrorist networks, sympathized with the infamous warlords, drug dealers and drug-related

¹² Jon Armajani, *Modern Islamist Movements: History, Religion, and Politics*, (Wiley-Blackwell, 2012), 48

¹³ Stephen E. Atkins, *The 9/11 Encyclopedia*. (ABC-CLIO, 2011), 540

politicians are openly operating. Further increase in dynamics and simmer deep social tensions can be caused by uncontrolled, endemic elite corruption and the seizure of resources, the dynamic poverty-crime illegality

Jobless and Uneven Growth:

The average economic growth rate has been strong doubling per capita income in more than a decade by 2002, even though the cost of greater inequality regarding distribution of income has been unpaid due to unexpected capital inflows of millions of dollars in military and development activities. The irony of the Afghan growth story did not bring prosperity to ordinary Afghans on the other hand.

Its court has more than tripled by a small political elite and its patronage network. The economic problems of the poorest are getting worse every day, the 'per capita income of Afghanistan'. Almost 400,000 Afghans including educated youth, enter the Afghan labor market, but end up in long-term unemployment and are insecure every year.

Social Drawbacks:

The seriousness of the conditions in which the poorest, most marginalized and politically disconnected Afghan citizens live is revealed through the eyes of the local observer of society and development in Afghanistan who recounts his experience and observations of the lives of ordinary people.

According to him, "I met a retired teacher on my way to the office in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan who briefly told his story of a year of leadership while trying to save his 10-year-old son. After a short conversation with him, the old master stood still for a moment and then, with a grim determination over his face, said innocently: I have to spend 20 working days to earn \$ 100 which needed to cover the travel expenses to a secret place across the eastern border of Afghanistan to bring home her son, who was released under the supervision of the unknown kidnapers".

The Paradox of development in Afghanistan:

A deadly interplay between poor government security, increasing crime and extreme poverty prevailing across Afghanistan is pointed by the painful tragedy of the grizzled teacher. How social exclusion and economic vulnerability interacts to jeopardize serious constraints on sustainable development and social progress is reflected by the prospective child's trial in the same way.¹⁴¹⁴ In Afghanistan, after 2001, this gloomy situation is

¹⁴ Edwin F. Bryant, *The quest for the origins of Vedic culture: the Indo-Aryan migration*

reflected by a development paradox. Foreign aid has had little effect on the change no matter it comprised of more than \$100 billion in foreign reconstruction and development aid dumped in a conflict country.

Outcomes:

The political order after 2001 led to government-sponsored tyranny and patronage and redistribution of criminal networks that undermined important foreign aid, hampered the revival of the troubled Afghan economy, and thwarted much-needed small business operations. to create jobs and improve impoverished populations resulting from extreme poverty. Unfortunately, the political settlement has been stubbornly upheld in Afghan society, acting as a self-sustaining development and poverty alleviation system, undermining the hopes of millions of Afghans for real economic reforms and civil and social prosperity.

Implications for Pakistan:

A brutal civil war was experienced by Afghanistan including overseas interferences in the outline of the Soviet invasion in 1979 and the US invasion in 2001. The security, national interests, economy and international image of Pakistan is affected by the critical situation in Afghanistan.

Time of Soviet Invasion:

1. Refugee's problem:

Three hundred and eighty-six refugee camps were set by Pakistan. Three million Afghan refugees were received by these camps consisting of 70% of all refugees. The basic needs to the refugees were provided by Pakistan but the Afghans were a big problem for the country. Amongst four provinces of Pakistan, Punjab and Sindh have different languages and cultures. Fears were expressed in Baluchistan by many Baloch leaders about the continued influx of migrants would distress the fine equilibrium between the Balochi and the Pakhtoons and may eventually make the Balochi a minority in spite of the owners of their province.¹⁵ The culture, language and traditions of these Afghan refugees and the local NTFP audience were the same. This is why Afghan migrants jumbled with the home people easily but the NWFP was facing previously the crisis of joblessness. Consequently, Afghans filled streets of Peshawar, the provincial capital, some of whom even carried their weapons, wandered, sourcing traffic problems and fearing law enforcement organizations. Serious problems such as economic burden, law and order problems were created by the refugees in Pakistan disruptions in the demographics of NWP and Baluchistan,

debate, (Oxford University Press, 2001)

¹⁵ Stephen Tanner, *Afghanistan: A Military History from Alexander the Great to the War against the Taliban*, (Da Capo Press, 2009), 126

overwhelming of civil services, amplified joblessness, incomplete management of undersized industry, particularly in NWFP and Baluchistan.

2. Kalashnikov Culture:

The “Kalashnikov culture” thrived as soon as the United States sent large supplies of weapons through Pakistan for arming the Mujahideen during the Soviet-Afghan war. Enormous opportunities were offered to Afghans for the illegal arms trade in the NWFP and the entrenchment of Kalashnikov culture was made in Pakistan. Near the Afghan border, there is a village, Darra Adam Khel in Pakistan which has succeeded as one of the prime illegal weapons bazaars in the world. An assortment of weapons from Japanese pistols to fast firearms, AK-47s from China and Russia, anti-tank missiles, air defense forces are filled in this market.

3. Tourism Industry:

Pakistan's tourism industry was destroyed by the war in Afghanistan. There are many beautiful places in the NWFP, Pakistan. Thousands of visitors used to visit Kaghan, Chitral, Swat valley, Narran, Hazara every year but afterwards, the visitors were afraid of visiting these spots.

4. Galemjan Culture:

KHAD exercised socio-cultural media for destabilizing Pakistani culture during 1984-86. Prostitutes, hundreds in number from Central Asia and Russia entered Peshawar (NWFP) and Quetta (Baluchistan) to corrupt society morally. As reported by The BBC program in Urdu Sarbeen the influx of more than 8,000 prostitutes from different ethnic origins (Afghan, Uzbek, Turkmen, Russian and Ukrainian). In various major cities like Lahore, Karachi and Islamabad, these prostitutes have established their networks. They used the Persian or Dari language in Peshawar. They were called as Galemjan by people of Peshawar.¹⁶

Post- Soviet Withdrawal Time:

Afghanistan has never seen a central political system during its history. Conventionally, local chiefs who owed their allegiance to the king confined the King's government to the center and extended to remote areas. A power vacuum was left by the hasty departure of the Soviets without the establishment of an adequate system of government that led to civil war and total anarchy with provinces controlled by local warlords. At the time of withdrawal of Soviet withdrawal, the sectional infighting and civil war was led by an assortment of leaders of Mujahideen which accumulated large amounts of weapons and creation of inflectional areas.

¹⁶ Christopher Wyatt, (2 September 2015). "Afghanistan in the Great War". *Asian Affairs*. 46 (3): 387–410. doi:10.1080/03068374.2015.1081001. S2CID 159788830

Pakistan was not in position to accept this civil war. It was a major threat to security of Pakistan. Therefore, efforts were made by Pakistani government to stop the civil war and its impact. Taliban established their government in Kabul early in the morning of September 27, 1996 by Continuing their march. Taliban as the legitimate government of Afghanistan were only recognized by Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates. There were close relationships between the Taliban and Bin Laden even a family relationship. This is why Bin Laden stood by the Mujahideen, sponsored the Taliban and Mullah Muhammad Omar was married allegedly to one of his daughters.

Two resolutions were adopted by The United Nations Security Council: UNSCR 1267 (1999) and 1333 (2000), calling on the Taliban for suspension of their support to aid terrorism and handing over Bin Laden for trial. Taliban's brand of Islamic radicalism threatens to destabilize other countries in the region, including Iran, China, Uzbekistan and Pakistan.¹⁷

United States Invasion in Afghanistan:

After 9/11, Pakistan joined the rest of the world in the war on terror. At the same time as the US invasion of Afghanistan took place in October, 2001, thousands of Taliban fighters and almost all the intact Shu'ra-top Taliban direction sought refuge in Pakistan's Federally Controlled Tribal Area (FATA) in the hub of the boundary line as well as in parts of the Pakistani province i.e. from Baluchistan to the west and from the North-West Frontier Province (NWFP) to the east and south. In Pakistan and Afghanistan, Taliban and extremist elements are working on both sides. They are assassinating thousands of civilians and law enforcement forces in different regions of Pakistan. More than 1500 people died in suicides and other attacks on civilians only from the summer of 2007 to the end of 2008. They are trying to enforce their schema on its society and to defy the constitution of Pakistan. So, military actions are launched against them and hundreds of Taliban were killed within a month.

Suicide bombing attacks:

Subsequent to 9th September 2011 attacks in the US, NATO forces launched ground attacks on Afghanistan by NATO forces which led a number of Afghan immigrants to move from Afghanistan to Pakistan. Being illiterate many of them were unemployed, and several supposedly turned into private army for spy agencies of enemy such as Indian RAW and MOSAD by Israel. Sixty suicide attacks took place which resulted in 889 casualties and 2,072 injuries, included the deadly "Marriot Blast" in 2008. Even as they moved through their own neighborhoods, Pakistanis felt a risk during this period.

¹⁷ Angelo Rasanayagam, *Afghanistan: A Modern History*. (I.B.Tauris, 2005), 73

Afghan Peace Process:

Being really a good sign, The Afghan peace agreement reached between the United States and the Taliban bringing harmony within a war-torn region that prevailed in a very long conflict. As it gets nearer to America's involvement and strategy regarding Afghan problems, the United States is either confused or annoying to perplex other nations. Nevertheless, from the internal conditions it is clear that the feedback of the public in response to the conditions in US grown as worn-out of this extended war in Afghanistan. In relation to this, stated by the Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, "the United States will not fight forever in the cemetery of empires." Is there any possibility by which Afghanistan can get rid of such a stretched combat from side to side this peace agreement? This ceasefire can change in real terms successfully from peace on the newspapers to peace on the ground or not? Or it's the lined up in books or documents.¹⁸ Countries are forced by these circumstances to the documentation of the United States along with its concords with diverse countries likewise Iraq, Iran, etc. Concurrences and dealings are busted by US exclusive of looking after any country, even together with parties to the agreements and offers by a review. It seems too difficult to make peace in the region along with this kind of behavior, as former US President John F. Kennedy rightly said: "Peace is not just about laws and covenants". People have it in their hearts and minds. Thus, we should not lose all our expectations on parchment and document; let us endeavor for constructing peace, a desire for peace, the desire to carry out efforts for peace in the feelings and intellects of all our community. We can believe as I do. According to me, the troubles of individuals' fate are not outside the contact of people".

Impacts for Pakistan:

In the US-Taliban peace agreement, the role of Pakistan appears to be constructive and is incredibly central by looking at its momentous position since the Soviet invasion and the 9/11 event. As Pakistan is a neighbor, apart from that he has chronological and civilizing correlation with Afghanistan has a lot of pressure on Kabul's conjugal performance. Additionally, by the invasion of Soviet on Afghanistan in 1979, it turned into the major cause of strengthening connections between public and intergovernmental relations between Islamabad and Kabul. The Washington-Islamabad-Kabul triangular connection barred the Soviet Union from assembling extra advancement. The mutual triumph of Washington-Kabul-Islamabad has led them jointly as entrusted and confirmed friends. Whilst the three nations also contained their own benefits, counting the collective or

¹⁸ Raghav Sharma, "China's Afghanistan Policy: Slow Recalibration". *China Report*. 46(3), (2011): 202. doi:10.1177/000944551104600303

universal benefits of every country. Peshawar (city of Pakistan and capital of the province of K.P.) was the hub of the entire actions against the Soviet Union, so that the leading characters of Afghanistan combating the Soviets came nearer to the command of Pakistan.¹⁹

Regional Security:

The peace agreement leaves a positive impact on local security and Pakistan if successfully implemented through rational observation of the circumstances by all stakeholders. Furthermore, in his speech to Iran, Imran Khan said that Trump also told him to mediate between Saudi Arabia and Iran. If relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran are on the road to normalization, it will also be crucial for the stability and progress of the region. However, the United States' record of solving these regional problems does not paint a rosy picture. The question arises if the United States does not want to solve the problems, then why does it publish statements that practically do not make sense? This may simply be due to the attention of regional states from one agenda to another serving the interests of the United States.

Saudi Arabia and Iran:

A hidden American agenda exists behind these kinds of declarations of normalization of the differences involving Saudi Arabia and Iran. There may be another American agenda showing the world that it desires to construct peace in the constituency by regulating stress at Iran and Saudi Arabia, but it can only be expressions which do not maintain the spirit of realistic implementation. Equally, pointing to the US objectives over Kashmir by US Government revealed fully by its relevant recent development are behind this new statement. By playing a very long role playing as troublemaker, the United States, whenever recognizes that it can pull off its nationalized concerns by cleanly putting an announcement that will never become visible, does so to accomplish its goals.

Impacts on Central Asian States:

The local financial system, constancy, sanctuary and communal welfare are contingent on the nation of Afghanistan. These days, rivalry has prolonged into the fiscal sphere and each state is striving for consolidating inexpensively. A stable Afghanistan due to its geological position can provide a transit route to many states in spite of being an enclosed country. As energy corridor between Central Asia and South Asia is one of the most important aspects of Afghanistan. Natural gas and excess electricity is produced by Central Asian states. In order to make the finest utilization of their assets, they have to utilize the soil of Afghanistan.²⁰ However, a state

¹⁹ Douglas A. Borer, *Superpowers defeated: Vietnam and Afghanistan compared*. (London: Cass, 1999), 216

²⁰ *The Soviet-Afghan War: Breaking the Hammer & Sickle* by Lester W. Grau and Ali

which is endangered by a combative assault cannot make possible such schemes and thus each infrastructural venture is dependent on the accomplishment of the procedure of Afghan peace.

Impacts on China:

In the Afghan crisis, China has become a major player as it began actively participating in world dynamics. A stable neighborhood is linked with the \$1 billion BRI (Belt & Road Initiative). The expansion of CPEC (China Pakistan Economic Corridor) to Afghanistan is wanted by China, but this growth is focused to the most recent defense and solidity situation. If the process of peace splits, Afghanistan might turn into a main recipient of this vital development. The unbeaten execution of the peace process will also permit Afghanistan for working with the realms in the area to restructure its communications. Pakistan served as the second largest host realm for refugees and has about 1.4 million recorded Afghan immigrants by the facts from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on its earth and a huge number of unregistered ones too. To welcome a large number of migrants into a nation with a breakable economy is a difficult task. Consequently, the successful return of Afghanistan will be an immense handiness for Pakistan. TAPI gas pipeline (Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India) reactivation will be one more significant advantage for the area connecting four states that have been poised otherwise because of the sanctuary circumstances in Afghanistan. China has serious concerns relation to the occurrence of ISIS and other organizations of terrorism over Afghanistan and is before now confronting fanaticism in the northwestern provinces.

Conclusion and Recommendations:

Afghanistan had remained relevant not only in the regional history but also it has a global geo-strategic significance. Stability in Afghanistan would have a great impact on stability in the region. This can be achieved by following recommendations.

The present research recommends following for a peaceful future:

- 1) Establishment of law and order: Respect for the rule of law.
- 2) Recognizing and strengthening casual public foundations making decisions, resolving disputes and agreement at town level in rural areas.
- 3) Liability: The permission of the governors elected for limited periods must be obtained via district administrators and provincial governors. Establishment of effective ministerial legislatures in major cities in Afghanistan outside Kabul for meeting the local needs in a better way.
- 4) Mutual compromise upon the peace agreement.

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