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RESEARCH PAPER

Changing Socio-Political Pattern of South Asia: A Study of Pakistan, India and Bangladesh

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PAPER INFO	ABSTRACT
Corresponding Author: shakeebnawaz@gmail.com	The main purpose of this paper is to find out how the internal crises posing threat to existence of the three important South Asian states; Pakistan, India and Bangladesh. Pakistan is also facing significant changes. Changing dynamics of South Asia after war on terror in Afghanistan drifted this strategic area towards rapid and significant developments externally as well as internally those need special attention. Its significance in the contemporary scenario has been magnified following the fall of Taliban in Afghanistan and subsequent regional developments that led to the emergence of new great powers especially the rise of China. It seems that the region is on the pile of fire, burning and having no peace at all. All the South Asian states whether Pakistan or India and Bangladesh facing numerous socio-economic challenges with internal crises where the very survival of the states comes on stake. The identity crisis becomes deeper and deeper as there are serious threats from various groups, factions, religious, regional or communal elements seeking to mould the state policy according to their will

Introduction

All South Asian states have colonial past, since their independence they transformed themselves into great extent, under the courageous leadership as semblance of state and nation building had been shaped against their colonial masters. The process of state building and nation building was gradually met with crisis in the post- colonial era. Undemocratic forces created a big challenge to statehood showing the failure of democratic state structure. Resultantly, a military base political setup has become fashion in Pakistan and Bangladesh. These mollify situations, somehow, are identified with crisis of political stability, system of

governance and crisis of legitimacy. The legacy of conflicts is deep rooted in historical, political, religious and ethnic divides that generate violence and defy all attempts of stabilization of the subcontinent for more than a half century. Simmering separatists and extremists violent movements/insurgencies in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, have been threatening peace and security of the nations. Maoist insurgency in numbers of districts in India is at presently threatening internal security. Pakistan that is wrecked by internal division among the provinces and between the forces of modernism and militant radical Islamists, have created political uncertainty. Since, the political Islamists want to establish an Islamic polity guided solely by Islam. It is giving place for the rise of radical Islamist and extremist's groups. All these violent internal crises have made the whole region dangerously volatile and a source of serious concern for the World.

All South Asian nations confront with common ignominy. Democratic institutions supported by the public in their respective state are not being contributed to perform well moreover, weak legal and constitutional provisions have become favorite tools for bureaucracies that obstruct all projects of improvement including endeavors for healthy and beneficial society. Such kind of institutional arrangements are less supportive and do not fulfill the requirement of people concerned. The sectarian and religious forces are searching their place in the decision making process. In order to show their legitimacy and in search of power they use religion, regional identity and cultural superiority as a tool. Political instability and democratic distortions provide the basis to the crisis of good governance in South Asia.

Societies in the South Asian states are mixture of various deep-rooted cultural values and have inrta-religions distributed social structure which is disintegrating the societies and enhancing the class superiorities. Religion and ethnic diversities are the two main arenas of attention that have reasonable influence over the process of policy making. As for as religion is concerned, Islam and Hinduism playing an instrumental role in shaping the fate of nations in the region under study. Constitutionally, each state has set the best precedent, India, for examples, is constitutionally declared as a secular state but originally a blend of verities of religions, such as, Hinduism, Islam, Sikhism and Buddhism have a great influence. India is a Hindu dominant state having a great influence over political structure with strong ideological bases of prejudice against other minorities. Such type of preconceptions penetrated the seed of two nation theory among the Muslims of Sub-continent. Pakistan came into being in the name of Islam and constitutionally declared as "Islamic Republic" but religious subdivision had created a vacuum for religious extremism instead of religious tolerance.

Causes and Consequences of Socio-Political change

It is always not possible to give just one cause but there are several that have great influence over South Asian societies, each of which may be used to raise an elucidation.

Socio-economic Indifference

The inadequate economic growth made the states more reliant on other factors as a binding force for society and polity as well as irregular development is a main reason of violence in the south Asian states (Brown, 1996). To great extent, socio-economic insecurity, absence of just and equitable distribution of economic benefits and lack of modernization process in literacy and awareness are perceived to be main arena of socio-economic indifference. Uneven economic development created a sense of deprivation and aspirations of the people remained unfulfilled. Consequently, it led to the ethno-communal contention in the societies.

Cultural and Language Conflicts

Historically, in South Asian states, liberal, ethnic and religious groups remained involve in cultural and linguistic conflicts. The numbers of conflicts, in this region, are being stagnated by these groups. First, the (liberal) left-wing actors are often shaped domestic conflict known as "anti-regime wars". The most intra-state cultural and language conflicts are initiated by left-wing actors. Second, over the issue of self-determination or the distribution of economic resources ethnic groups involved in separatist conflicts with communal groups horizontally and vertically with central government respectively. The third relevant sections of actors are religious groups; these are much persisted and transnational organized on their sacred beliefs. The religion resemble pattern has strong influence on Asian societies that produced horizontal trend of conflicts (Aspinall, 2007). The language-related conflicts are very rare; while the different thematic style of cultural conflicts is most frequent, moreover, the religious conflicts are becoming more important than conflicts related to ethnicity.

Social Classification with Minorities' v/s Majorities

Treatment of minorities in South Asian states is a major minority problem in its wake. Minorities in this area are often large, organized groups, inhabiting specific historical territories (Baral, 1996). These states are being faced two possible situations, first, how classification in the sense of majorities and minorities are constructed? Second, how to deal with minorities' rights as it have instrumental to enhancing cultural identity but their aspirations are habitually seen to threaten the stability of state, forming circumstances of extensive apprehension.

All South Asian states constitutionally assure religious, political, civic and cultural rights of the minorities. India, for example, assures freedom of religion and right to language but minorities face discrimination on the lines of religion, language and ethnicity. The same practice was revised in the constitution of Pakistan, unfortunately, the same results are awaited. Bangladesh, on the contrary, has been declared as a secular state, but the idea of one religion one language calls for cultural homogenization, by this means excluding other communities. The

issue of autonomy and right of self- determination is also associated with India as its constitutional provision seems itself unfair for whole ethnic groups. Lastly, the internationalization of minority conflicts in the region is a mixed blessing result in interference in a state's internal affairs and escalates conflicts.

Political Instability

Diverse interests orientation of distinct ethnic groups' lead to conflicts that a huge danger to political stability of a state. Domestically generated threats often create vacuum for security dilemma, such as all South Asian states are facing diverse militant movements (Bertil, 2002). Political awareness is a pivotal element in the political life of a nation. Unfortunately, South Asian states have not sufficient strength and capability to appreciate political and social consciousness. The best examples, among the south Asian states, are India, Bangladesh and Pakistan, which belongs to a group of fragile countries, susceptible in convinced portions of statelessness.

Hegemonic Tendencies

It can be asserted that a state will be granted the status of a hegemon when it is the single great power in its region. When a region contains more than one great power, there cannot be a hegemonic status of any state. A state with the capacity to dictate a specific region is a potential hegemon. Nonetheless, as John (2001) notes, hegemony is rare because 'the costs of expansion usually outrun the benefits before domination is achieved. Regional hegemony which is the dominance of a region by a single local power has been elaborated upon extensively in his book, The Tragedy of Great Power Politics. In his theory of Offensive Realism, he highlights three major factors that drive a nation to pursue hegemony: the anarchy prevalent in the international political system, a state's inbuilt yearning for survival, and the doubt in ascertaining the intentions of other states. He surmises that many powers perceive dominating their region as a more realistic goal as compared to global hegemony.

Countries that surround India, such as Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and Burma (Myanmar) are nowhere at par with India with regard to size and population. India dominates the whole area geographically (Cheema, 2007). It is the only country that shares a border or a coast line with all other six states while none of them have common borders with each other. India's geographical bounty makes it a necessary component of survival of South Asia's landlocked states like Nepal and Bhutan (India's hegemonic mindset keeping SAARC in limbo, 2011). Similarly the origins of the water systems of Pakistan and Bangladesh also pass through Indian Territory making them too dependent on it. Quoting the famous sub-continental scholar Chanakya Ghani and Chandio (2013) stated that in trans-border relations, there is no permanent friend or permanent enemy or even permanent border. There are only permanent interests and everything should be done to secure these interests. India uses its geographic advantage and fuels ethnic issues in neighboring countries to build up

its power. The substantial evidences of Indian sponsored terrorism against Pakistan have been gathered by Islamabad's agencies and have been given to the United Nations (UN).

Indian hegemonic tendencies going to put regional security at stake as the US military general warned that India's policy to "diplomatically isolate" Pakistan enhancing the risk of conventional conflict leading to a nuclear exchange (*The Dawn*, 10 March 2017). Indian efforts for military domination in South Asia and pursuit of hegemonic policies are creating instability both at the global and regional levels.

Multi Party Structure

Nevertheless diverse ethnic issues can be solved through democracy but under the shadow of multi-party system democracy can also be a source of problems; as enemy states, for example, can facilitate and finance any ethnic group to destabilize a particular country. Such orientation can lead to divisions in the nation especially in South Asia where parties are being formed along with tribal, religious or ethnic lines. The many parties that get formed then campaign on one ideological belief or the other. The splinter of parties helps to create divisions.

Under a multi-party system many parties are established, some of which do not have any chance of over coming into power. The disadvantage of this situation is that the electorates are bombarded with too many choices to the point when they confused. In most cases, after elections, no party get absolute majority to form the government. Consequently, some parties have to come together to form government. These coalition governments are mostly weak and unstable. Moreover, the presence of so many parties in a multi-party system allows for the frequent changes of coalition governments. Coalition governments frequently break down so it does not allow for continuity in a single policy for the continuous development of the country. There are many parties vying for the ultimate of ruling the country, each trying to outdo the other. This can degenerate into an unhealthy rivalry among the various parties. If not well managed, it can result in conflicts and retard the country's development.

Most of the South Asian states have Multi-party system which has resulted in diffusion of state and politics has lost its moral and ideological mooring. Therefore, it has also resulted in politicization of caste, region and religion which has led to the expansion of the social base of politics in a society. Instead of interest's articulation and aggregation, electoral politics and democratic freedom have led to unrest and agitations.

Pakistan

In 1947, Pakistan came into being on the bases of Islamic ideology, but the debate over the national identity remained a question in the history of Pakistan. In

order to fill the vacuum, at the time of independence, some political parties converted themselves into religious political parties, and introduced religious extremism instead of religious tolerance. Consequently, Islamic fanaticism and extremism has become the fate of the nation. The early political leadership of Pakistan could not provide an Islamic pattern for its political developments (Christine, 2015).

The three externally motivated forces such as intra-religion division, forces of modernism and ethnic diversity received dominant place in the polity. Internal radical conflict and centrifugal tendencies among them created political uncertainty and failure of state machinery in Pakistan. The growing Islamic extremist culture was started at the time of Russian invasion in Afghanistan (Imtiaz, 2009). Pakistan played an important role in this war despite the fact risking its own stability. Unfortunately the government failed to address the after effects of the war and did not realize the future destruction it may bring to their land. Pakistan is fighting against an unseen enemy that has been deployed by the enemy states under the fourth generation warfare theory. The culture of Islamic militancy was the legacy of the Afghan war in 1979 and its consequences grew up with mount of Talibanization in 1990s (Zahab, Mariam, & Roy, 2004). Insurgent activities spilling over from Afghanistan by Al-Qaeda, Taliban and many other so-called radical Islamist that were intent to make quagmire for the US in Afghanistan, moreover, these extremist putting their stamp on Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), KPK, Baluchistan, Sindh and Punjab (Nasir, 2000). To some extent, the Islamic ideological bases were introduced in the polity under General Zia regime but the conservative end of the social and political spectrum was appeared in the process of enlightened moderation appreciated under General Parvez Musharraf. The conservatism in the Pakistani context did not necessarily translate into militant Islam. In order to overcome the aftermath of Afghan war the military-mullah nexus had been formed during General Zia regime. The next episode of this nexus, for the first ever, in the form of electoral deal, signed under General Musharraf government (Hussain, 2005). The political leadership either made no significant effort to re-balance the relationship between the state and the center of power, consequently, the army repeatedly invited to resolve political differences amongst themselves and meanwhile overtime established reputable patron-client relationships with all institutions and political segments.

Pakistan is being beleaguered into inter-ethnic and intra-religious violence The first is demanding culture and languages superiority, right of self determination and economic due share, while the second claims its rights, to great extent, searching its place through militancy in the decision making process in order to run the state according to its own religious perspective. As a result, lot of bloodshed and loss of lives of civilian and security personnel, the gap between ruler and the people, even after seven decades, is being widened instead of narrowing.

There are different root causes and consequences of ethnic conflicts in Pakistan that are closely link to each other. Though, it cannot rationally be assumed that these causes, given its complexities, are part of linear historical process where one event led to another. Often many of the issues that may be regarded as root causes arose within a single but extended context and equally as often, simultaneously. It is primarily within the context of ethnic politics that language and education policy can be located. Pakistan could not turn a 'Blind Eye' to the escalating intolerance and religious extremism in its society.

Religious radicalization and sectarian violence has become an unpredictable menace not only for Pakistan but also the South Asian countries as well. To accomplishment of hegemonic tendencies Indian hidden hand and some Muslim countries are being constantly accused of promoting these evil acts and take 'terror' in terms of jihad.

India

India is a land of myriad ethnic, religious, caste and linguistic minorities affiliated to distinct belief systems, sub-cultures and regions. Integration of these diverse communities, some large enough to aspire to a regional homeland and others content to remain as part of the Indian state, has been a central preoccupation of Indian governments since 1947. Before the British arrived, India was divided into various large and small kingdoms, each multi-ethnic and multi-religious but with one or two linguistic groups that had gained dominance because of their size and royal patronage.

Despite a relatively impressive array of constitutional and legislative guarantees, and the establishment of a broad range of institutions, autonomous bodies and commissions to monitor and protect the rights of minorities, India's disadvantaged and marginalized segments find their access to power and judicial redress blocked by a coalition of powerful forces.

Constitutional and legislative protections could not prevent repeated violence against ethnic and religious monitories as assassination of Indira Gandhi led to the bloodshed that killed more than three thousand Sikhs in federal capital Delhi alone. The recent example is set by Hindu dominant secular state in Gujarat when more than two thousand Muslims have been killed. What paradoxical is that some of these incidents were in response to improvement in the conditions of the Dalit community, their consolidation as a political force and their state-protected access to benefit under the 'reservations' policies. In the 1980s some Dalits converted to Islam because of indignities heaped on them by the upper-caste Hindus (Kesavan, 2005).

Although, in order to address the problems, the Indian government has evolved institutional and ameliorative strategies, yet, the compulsions of competitive politics vitiated these approaches. In multi-ethnic India, the limits of

the territorial approach to integration have been underscored by Nagaland. Naxalbari in West Bengal, a small agrarian movement known as the Maoist Movement has been started against the local land lords, now it has been converted into a full-blown insurgency.

Under the Article 370 and 371 of the Indian Constitution both Indian held Jammu Kashmir (IJK) and Nagas in Nagaland state enjoy special status within India. Nagas in Nagaland state, Sikhs in Punjab and Muslims in Kashmir are repeatedly threaten by officially supported Hindus (Jammu and Kashmir Assessment, 2017). In order to assess the deteriorating situation the Indian government is being faced lack of co-ordination and consensus in dealing with the challenge, consequently, domestically generated centrifugal forces have taken full benefits of the circumstances.

Indian politicians, simply, provide a formula to overcome these issues as rhetoric against Pakistan, a high-level political campaign, incorporated with anti Pakistan sentiments, is being restored in the electoral process. Although, cross-border interference has been a slogan to maintain their political position yet it is not a suitable skill to cover their negligence. These tendencies of Indian politicians prove that Indian politics has become destitute of anti Pakistan sentiments.

India is suffered in a deception that it is going to become a regional hegemony or super power through funding to ethnic groups and supporting militancy in the neighboring countries. The recent example of Indian involvement is Pakistan as India has applied a complex strategy to wear down Pakistan's resistance. Media or public defamation and cultural domination, political and military pressure, diplomatic isolation, sedition and violence are the strategic tools for enhancing its regional influence. Indian National Security Adviser Ajit Doval's conceitedly discoursed India's comprehensive strategy and explains how Indian agencies forecasting the separation of Baluchistan; expressing glee at the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan and eroded the Kashmiri freedom struggle through corruption and intimidation. Sponsorship and support, subversion and involving infiltration for dissident or disgruntled groups within Pakistan has now been confirmed by the recent capture and confession of the Indian spy Kulbhushan Yadav. Moreover, diplomatically, India has submitted a requisition, seeking sanctions against Pakistan over terrorism, in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). This politically motivated proposal, replete with baseless allegations and frivolous information, has been rejected by UNSC. India's recent display of irresponsible behavior was aimed at advancing its narrow national agenda.

Indian efforts to destabilize Pakistan, despite expending huge amount of budgets, have been failed. India should concentrate its attention and expend its budget to her domestic issues. Within the federal framework, creating homelands for linguistic and religious minorities, rebuilding inter-community

cooperation and prompt adjudication of human rights cases pending before the justice system in India should be the main arena of attention.

Centralizing policies, erosion of promised autonomy and poor governance should be taken into consideration; moreover, to build networks of Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist Sikhs and Christian cooperation and to promote communal coexistence create progressively larger islands of peace and security amidst violence and repression.

Bangladesh

Although Bangladesh started its political journey on the line of secular basis of nationhood, yet, religion soon became an imperative factor. The East Bengalis predicated their nationalist movement on Bengali nationalism which had a distinct secular orientation based on Bengali language and culture. Proponents point out that Bangladeshi nationalism is territorial; it draws a line between the Bengalis of Bangladesh and Bengalis of West Bengal of India.

Bangladeshi politics is revolved around three socio-political paradigms such as Religious based Bengali nationalism, Secular Bengali nationalism and Bangladeshi Bengali nationalism. In 1947, Bengali people courageously supported Pakistan movement as it was based on religious perspective. Soon Bengali shifted their orientation religious to secular outlook. These irregular tendencies produced third model of Bengali nationalism labeled as minority communities now it has gradually been alienated and marginalized. In 1971, the Bengali secular nationalist, supported by Indian trained Mukti Bahini, carried out one of the worst militant campaign for separate state. Religious based Bengali nationalist passionately opposed to the division of West and East Pakistan.

The movement for modern state under the leadership of Shaikh Mujib-ur-Rahman, the leader of Awami League, initiated liberation war against Pakistan Army, non-Bengalis and religious based Bengali nationalist, consequently, planed subversive activities, for precedent, targeting, fuel depots, industries, power plants, railways, mining ships, and looting banks had been undertaken (Jahan, 1972). The logical outcome of this secular Bengali nationalist movement was a new state named as Bangladesh. Awami League's unconcealed connection with India and Indian function during the Liberation War of Bangladesh revitalized fears and uncertainties among the general people of Hindu domination. On 15 August 1975, a group of army officers murdered Shaik Mujib; consequently, his regime was brought to an abrupt end. An explicit turn toward religion, after the change of regime, had been taken place, moreover, such bloody move entitled state as "Islamic Republic of Bangladesh" (Ahmed R, 1990).

A series of military coups, approximately nineteen successful and failed mutinies, have to dip ideology of Secular Bengali nationalism in the Bay of Bengal. The leaders were being changed by bullets not ballots. The coup leaders

observably intended to take advantage of existing political situation and adopted Islamic values to govern the state.

Major-General Zia-Ur-Rahman emerged as the strong man in government. General Zia sought to consolidate his political position by floating the Bangladesh National Party (BNP). The Constitution of 1972 guaranteed freedom of religion and provided for the principal of secularism was amended by Gen. Irshad Hussain and declared Islam as the State Religion (Bangladesh Declares Islam as the State Religion, 1988).

The transition into democracy started with first multi party elections in 1991, pre-elections scenario was largely incorporated with Jatiya Sangsad Party that had been remained a military establishment party. Immaturity of the leadership, unwillingness to recognize and accept the popular verdict, opportunistic coalitions and lack of a responsible opposition freely approached the state brittle and insecure.

In 2001, the religious base Bengali nationalists, as coalition partners of BNP, have gained political powers under the platform of Jamaat-i-Islami that was the most influential Islamists political parties in Bangladesh. Despite ideological differences, it formed a strategic alliance with the ruling BNP. Soon after the election of 2001, Bangladeshi Bengali Nationalist such as Bangladeshi Hindus and other minorities were targeted. Secular intellectuals and journalists claimed that recent attacks on Bangladeshi Hindus, religious minorities and moderate Muslims were carried out by BNP-Jamaat-led alliance (Ahmed A. F.-A., 2009).

In order to form the new bases for Bangladesh's nationhood, a new sort of nationalism with an Islamic essence slowly but surely was replacing secular Bengali Nationalism. Moreover, this political orientation surprised as Bangladesh had became the only state in the region that could assert to be a nation state with one language, one dominant people and one religion. Islam as an integral part of their identity and as the idea of the nation had been claimed by the religious base nationalist.

In 2008 the political environment in Bangladesh, when Shaik Hasina Wajid as a Prime Minister started new phase of her political journey, consisted with prejudice against religious base Bengali nationalist. She used not only her mandate against opposition but also made amendment in the constitution for her own political ambitions. New secular tendencies were introduced by celebrating Election Day as "Constitution and Democracy Protection Day". International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) of Bangladesh has been established by Shaik Hasina. A series of assassination, under the cover of legal protection, has been started against for those people who were in favor of united Pakistan in 1971.

Following members of Jamat-i-Islami have been hanged through ICT. Abdul Quader Molla, Muhammad Kamaruzzaman, Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed and Motiur Rahman Nizami from Jamaat-i-Islami were assassinated on December 2013, April

2015, November 2015 and May 2016 respectively. The western governments and the United Nation are not entirely in favor to give support to the ICT. International communities have raised the question about the legality of tribunal as it is not following the standard of international procedures.

Interest of Major Powers in South Asia

South Asia is an important region with regard to its geography and the significant presence of two mighty powers which have great global impact in political arena. It has also been considered as the most dangerous place on earth. Internal political dynamics are shaping the external scenario of the states in South Asia.

The economic rise of China and some of its recent initiatives could be pursued by the South Asian countries as an opportunity, in particular, the One Belt One Road (OBOR), the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Maritime Silk Road (MSR), and Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Corridor (BCIM) are the major projects. In the recent years, china's ability to fund infrastructural projects in Asia and beyond is a silent development in this region.

While Beijing's economic progress has been explained in terms of its ability to become the largest trading partner with many Asian countries and rest of the world, some of its recent infrastructural initiatives underline China's larger approach, which has the potential of becoming a game changer in Asia. But the Great Game has already changed. It is being played on a wider canvas with different players and rules. The power contest in Asia is now mainly between China and America, and, to a lesser extent, between America and Russia — with India, Pakistan, Iran and others in subsidiary roles. In this context, the strategic and economic implications of the tripartite agreement are likely to be limited.

Is China using its economic might within Asia, and its larger clout with the European Union and even the US, to become an Asian hegemon? Washington seems to be looking at Chinese growth beyond Asia and perceives it as a threat to its global supremacy. Some of the recent American initiatives, such as the Indo-Pacific Asian Pivot and strategic partnerships with several Asian countries (including India) are part of this larger American response to Beijing's global rise. (Youn Ding, 1999).

Russian strategic interests in South Asia are three dimensional. One is of its gas pipeline routes through South Asia, the second is security factor related to Afghanistan including entrance of militants in Central Asian Republics and drug trafficking and the third one is to get access to the Arabian Sea and oil rich Middle East. South Asia can provide shortest trade routes to three regions of the world; Middle East, Europe and Africa. Seeking ways to achieve strategic, economic and political gains is a prime objective of Russian policy in which South Asia is of utmost importance. Unfortunately Russian ties with China have generated

perceptions that its foreign policy has band-waggoned with China and playing second-fiddle to it. China and Russia are although trade partners with a shared goal of challenging US hegemony, but past disputes and competing interests complicate their relationship. The US preferences in South Asia, immediately after the cold war, underwent an obvious change. The US interest in nuclearized South Asia witnessed some new dimension as it was posing many challenges then opportunities for the US in the region (Arpit, 2005).

In South Asia, the long standing US objective about democracy and nuclear proliferation assumed secondary importance while the restraint of rapidly growing Islamic militancy and the rising China came to the centre stage. The containment of *Al-Qaeda* and *Taliban* has been assumed a pivotal substance in the US strategy towards Asia. The US, provoked by these two aspects, made a choice by announcing India as a new strategic partner in South Asia. The layers of US sanction, in order to step up pressure on successive governments of Pakistan, are being multiplied with the changing time and contingency. The US-India nexus in the region motivated by two major objectives, firstly containment of China and secondly challenging the rise of Muslim clerics in the region. In this regard, US are preparing India as an economic giant in the region to pave the way for balance of power between China and India. Due to the geographical proximity, Pakistan is still important for the Washington in South Asia. Although, the role of Pakistan as a frontline state is being relegated, yet, the above mentioned US strategic interest cannot be achieved without Pakistan.

On the one hand the US brings Pakistan into chain of sanctions while on the other hand it desires that Pakistan should bail out Americans from the quagmire of terrorism in Afghanistan. Moreover, Washington has many sticks with few carrots for Asia but nuclearized South Asia could not be reprimanded with sticks. Consequently, all the US policies failed to eradicate terrorism, to bring down Pakistan and Indian nuclear programs and to stop growing pace of China.

Conclusion

South Asian regional security, socio-political pattern and stability have been troubled by the absence of an institutionalized security mechanism. Neutral and non-partisan bodies or international or regional organization within the region have far greater difficulty in proposing methods to manage these sort of conflicts.

The foremost concern should be to revive the legitimacy and credibility of the states and their institutions and for that, it will follow a pragmatic and transparent approaches. Their cultural and social identities will be renowned by implementation of indigenous models suited to their genius and traditions. Structural changes will be required to ensure independent functioning of law enforcing agencies coordinating at the centre, state and lower levels based on consensus and people oriented. Structurally politics should be separated from violence.

India, in order to accomplish its hegemonic design, is financing specially rising extremism in Bangladesh and supporting TTP terrorist in Afghanistan and Bloch separatists in Pakistan. There has been a steady rethink in India's approach to its neighborhood and should be encapsulated in its current message to look upon India as a threat instead of an opportunity.

Indo-China equations and competition, if China is enhancing its influence in South Asia especially through CPEC India can look east to balance China's influence including the US, and Russian to retain its primacy. For the improvisation of Geo strategic location of south Asian states and the emergence of new world powers in the region doubled the significance of this area. In this regard, India and Pakistan could play vital role in changing socio-political pattern of South Asia by resolving all outstanding issues which are bone of contention between two atomic powers. Moreover, a change in the shape of violence, extremism and terrorism should be tackled with iron hands. It is high time for South Asian state to make their houses in order, develop barter system, resolve their outstanding issues and stand together against the evils of violence, extremism and terrorism. It will bring happiness, development and prosperity in the region.

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