# Terrorism and Its Prevention Through Education

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*Abstract:* "Terrorism" is one of the major international problems which has been adversely affecting the socio-economic and political aspects of the nations of the world. It has become the real threat for mankind which is increasing day by day. The countries of the world are striving hard against terrorism but victory over terrorism is not an easy task because we can kill terrorist but not terrorism. In order to stop terrorism, the root of terrorism has to be found and eliminated. One of the most effective ways to stop terrorism is to prevent it. In this context, education can play a major role in preventing terrorism thereby saving the mankind from destruction. Thus, the present paper makes an attempt to highlight the concept of terrorism and the role of education in preventing the same.

*Index Terms-* **Terrorism, prevention, education.**

## I.      INTRODUCTION-

Our human civilization has been progressing in all respects with modern science and technologies, new innovation and new ways of life-styles. Advanced economies and technologies have transformed the whole world into a "global village" where all the countries are connected with each other. But with this rising human civilization, a threat to the human civilization has also been rising day by day which is known as "terrorism". Every day we read our newspaper or watch the T.V news channel, there will be the news of "Terrorism". Moreover, new terrorist groups are also forming which are adding to the problem. Nowadays, terrorism has become a global issue which is terrifying the whole human community of the world. Thus, it is a high time to solve this global problem. Countries are fighting against terrorism but have not succeeded in wiping it off as new individuals are joining the terrorist groups. Thus, in this case it will be more effective to prevent the persons and the youths from joining the terrorist organizations. As the proverb says, "Prevention is better than cure" so in this respect, education can be taken as a tool for preventing the threat of "terrorism". As illiteracy and unequal access to education leads to an uneven attainment of resources and opportunities that ultimately leads to conflict and thereafter terrorism, so the role of education cannot be neglected in preventing terrorism.

## II.      OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY-
- To highlight the concept of terrorism- its meaning, types, causes and impacts.
- To highlight the role of education in preventing terrorism.

## III.      METHODOLOGY AND DATA COLLECTION-

The present paper is qualitative and theoretical in nature. All the information and data are collected from secondary sources such as journals and websites.

## IV.      CONCEPT OF TERRORISM  -  MEANING, TYPES, CAUSES AND IMPACTS-

"Terrorism" is a global phenomenon which is growing day by day with the formation of new terrorist organization affecting adversely the humanity as a whole. By "terrorism" we mean that kind of extreme violence or in fact it can be called as criminal activities which are used against the public only in order to fulfill the political or religious desires of the terrorist group and also to gain publicity of course. It has been seen that the terrorist groups apply violent activities such as bombing, hijacking, assassination, diplomatic kidnapping and so on in order to create fear in the mind of the common people for the terrorists and also to force the government to do or not to do something according to their will.

**Types of terrorism-**

Terrorism can be international or domestic. The following are the main types of terrorism-

- **Nationalist terrorism**- Here, the terrorists desire to form a separate nation of their own from the existing nation.
- **Religious terrorism**- Here, the terrorists are extremely motivated by their own religion and seek to form a new independent nation of their own religion.
- **Left and Right wing terrorism**- This kind of terrorism arises out of political grievances. Left wing terrorists want to destroy capitalism and replace it with communism or socialism, whereas Right wing terrorists seek to replace liberal democratic government with fascism.
- **State- sponsored terrorism**- Here, the terrorist groups are sponsored by another country so that the terrorist acts can weaken the socio-economic and political structure of the targeted country.
- **Anarchist**- Here, the terrorists seek to overthrow the established government.

In India, terrorism is featured by mainly three groups, namely, **Communist** [Maoist, Naxalites], **Islamists** [Lashkar-e-Taiba, Hizbul Mujahedeen] and the **separatist groups** [Garo National Liberation Army (GNLA), United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA)].

**Causes of terrorism-**

- **Ethno-nationalism**- This is one of the main causes of terrorism where a particular group of people want to separate themselves from the original state in order to create a new nation of their own.
- **Discrimination-** Sometimes discrimination made by the original citizens against a particular group of people who came through migration can also give rise to terrorism. That group of people who have faced discrimination may turn out to be terrorists in the future.
- **Illiteracy**- Lack of education or illiteracy is also one of the main causes of terrorism as the uneducated person can be easily persuaded to commit different kinds of terrorist acts.
- **Religion**- Religion can be the cause of terrorism as it is the religion for which most of the terrorist organizations desire to create their own nation of their religion. This kind of religious terrorism is common in Jammu and Kashmir, India.
- **Differences in socio-economic status**- Differences in the socio-economic conditions among different nations and also in different states within the same nation can result in conflict and terrorism. These socio-economic differences occur due to unemployment, uneven distribution of resources, socio-political injustice, lack of industrialization, modernization etc.
- **Political grievances**- Desire to change the political system within a nation due to political grievance may also give rise to terrorism.

**Impact of terrorism-**

Terrorism has been affecting the whole human race in an adverse way. India lies among the top ten countries of the world which has been negatively impacted by terrorism. According to Global Terrorism Index, out of 163 countries of the world, India ranks 8 with the GTI score of 7.484. The negative impact of terrorism may be listed below-

- **Psychological impact-** Psychological impact is the quickest of all the impacts of terrorism. The main aim of any terrorist group is to create fear in the mind of the people for them so they generally do such kinds of criminal activities which have great psychological impact over the people that may turn out to be permanent.
- **Political impact-** Terrorism adversely affects the country's political aspects by bringing about changes in public opinions and policies and creates political instability which ultimately affects the socio-economic aspects.
- **Economic impact-** Terrorism affects the country's economic aspect by causing destruction of life and property, increases risk in economy, declination of foreign direct investment, affects tourism industry and so on.
- **Social impact**- This is one of the dangerous impact of terrorism which affects people's belief and attitudes. Generally, we blamed and expressed our bitterness to the whole society or community where the terrorist group belong though all the people belonging to that particular society or community may not be criminal minded. Thus, a sense of victimhood turned out to be common to a society which is experiencing terrorism.

V.     **ROLE OF EDUCATION IN PREVENTING TERRORISM-**

One can kill terrorists but not terrorism. So in that case, if we have to destroy terrorism from its roots, then we have to prevent the youths from joining the terrorist groups. In this way, terrorism will decline. It is really difficult to transform a person from anti-social being to normal and social being, so it is always effective to prevent a person from being an anti-social or violent one. In this respect, education can be regarded as an effective tool for preventing terrorism. The following are some of the ways through which terrorism can be prevented through education-

- ✓ **Value education-** Provision of value education should be there in every educational institution. Through value education the students are taught to improve and preserve the human values like co-operation, honesty, truthfulness, patriotism, kindness etc. which can prevent the youths from committing terrorist acts.
- ✓ **Critical discussion-** Critical discussions around social justice should be included in schools and colleges and teachers should be trained for that.
- ✓ **Awareness programmes-** Various kinds of awareness programmes should be organized in the educational institutions to indicate the harmful effects of terrorism and how to solve the problem.
- ✓ **Yoga education-** Through yoga education and meditation one can possess healthy mind with healthy body and peace of mind which ultimately can prevent one from indulging in terrorist acts.
- ✓ **Guidance and counseling-** Provision of guidance and counseling should be there so that if the students face any kinds of problem whether educational, psychological, vocational and so on, they can seek the help of the counselor to solve their problems and thus helping them to reduce frustration and depression which will prevent them from thinking and doing anti-social acts.
- ✓ **Co-curricular activities-** By organizing different kinds of co-curricular activities like dance, music, drama, art, painting, sports etc. students can be kept busy and also these can help the students to utilize their leisure time properly.
- ✓ **Vocational education and skill training-** Youth unemployment is one of the reasons of various anti-social acts and also terrorism. Therefore, to solve this problem of unemployment, vocational educational education and skill training should be imparted in the educational institutions so that the youths can be self-employed and self- sufficient.
- ✓ **International understanding and national integration-** Curriculum should be modified and it should develop the independent thinking of the students and should include courses which can develop international understanding and national integration. International days and national days should be observed and celebrated.
- ✓ **Informal education-** Not only formal education but informal education can also be used to prevent terrorism. In this regard, role of a mother can be the best example of teaching a child about human values and how to be a good human being as mothers are regarded as the first teacher of a child before going to school. Also NGOs can work for prevention of terrorism through the various agencies of education including mass media.

## VI. CONCLUSION-

Thus, from the above discussion it can be concluded that terrorism which is a serious threat to the human race and the world as a whole be prevented and thereby can be minimized with the help of education. There are various ways through which education can prevent the youths from doing anti-social acts and prevent them from joining the terrorist groups. Education helps a child to become a good social person for the continuation of human race. Education helps in uniting the people to stand against terrorism. No government policies and acts against terrorism can be successful unless and until all the persons are educated enough to realize the negative impact of terrorism. That's may be the reason why the influence of terrorism is quite low in the developed countries where the number of educated person is high as compared to the underdeveloped ones. Thus, education may not be able to find out the root of terrorism but it can prevent that root to occur thereby can prevent terrorism.

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