

16 International Terrorism

by

Manasseh E. Bassey Ph.D

*Department of Political Science and Public Administration
University of Uyo, Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria*

1. Introduction

The present day international system has come to become more unified with evidence of interconnection everywhere. Commerce and technology have brought the planet together in ways previously unimaginable. The internet has penetrated into remote corners of the planet, and new discoveries in digital and optical technology now seem to drive human beings even closer together. Advances in communication, transportation and weaponry by nations now give room for unavoidable avenue for terrorist exploitation. Thus, while international relations seek to unify states by way of bringing them together as a unified whole, terrorism on the other hand is at odds with civilization march toward globalization. It aims at breaking the international system apart into smaller autonomous units. Barber (1992) captures this phenomenon vividly when he notes that the planet is falling precipitately apart and coming reluctantly together at the very same moment. This division he labels as Jihad which means the internal struggle against evil or the external struggle against the perceived enemies of Islam. Rourke (2008) observes that the global changes that have given move to a rapid increase in the number of international nongovernmental organizations have also expanded the number of transnational terrorist groups that are organized and operate internationally and that commit transnational terrorism. More so, modern technology has increased the power of weapons available to terrorists. Explosives have become more deadly with an increasing danger of terrorists obtaining the material and means to launch a biological, chemical or radiological attack. Again, increased urbanization has brought people together so that they are easier targets, especially when gathered in such high profile places as skyscrapers, sports stadium, market places, churches, mosques, etc.

Similarly, modern communication has also affected the international system adversely and made terrorism more efficacious as terrorists use the

modern-day advancement in technology to create pressure on governments to negotiate with terrorists and accede to their every demand. Terrorism now affects the international system negatively as terrorist groups now destroy lives and property of citizens within and across national boundaries. It is against this background that this chapter seeks to explore the concept of terrorism and its impact on the international system.

2. What is Terrorism?

Terrorism is difficult to define. In other words, there is no commonly accepted definition of the concept. Terrorism is tied to human behavior. Thus for Griset (2008), human behavior has always been hard to predict, control and comprehend. Relatively rare behavior like terrorism is even harder to understand. This is so because the adversarial and political postures embedded in the practice of terrorism make it unlikely that a universally accepted definition or a widely shared strategy for controlling it will soon emerge. Terrorism is an ideological and political concept (Griset; 2008:3). The meaning given to the concept is part of a person's or nation's philosophy. Thus, the determination of the right definition of terrorism is subjective and not likely to be reached by consensus. Therefore, if you disagree with my position, you are a terrorist; if you agree with my position, you are not a terrorist (Cooper, 2001). Yet the cliché that "one man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter" provides little help in achieving definitional precision. Repressive regimes call those who struggle against them terrorist, but those who commit violence to topple those same regimes call themselves freedom fighters (Hoffman, 2006). Let us now look at a few of these definitions: for Lacqueur (2001:79) terrorism is "the use of covert violence by a group for political ends. Hoffman (2006:41) defines the concept as the "deliberate creation and exploitation of fear through violence or threat of violence in the pursuit of political change". For Stern (2003:xx), it is "an act or threat of violence against noncombatants with the objectives of exacting revenge, intimidation or otherwise influencing an audience".

Some definitions specifically include religious motivations, others include hate, millenarian and apocalyptic groups. Not everyone agrees that people who employ terrorist tactics on behalf of animals or the environment are terrorist. Several definitions refer only to nonstate actors, whereas others include state sponsored terrorism (Mahan and Griset, 2008). Kydd and Walter (In Minst and Snyder, 2011:394) define terrorism "as the use of violence against civilians by nonstate actors to attain political goal. Rouke (200:316) while recognizing the lack of consensus in the definition of terrorism, defines the concept as:

Violence carried out by individuals, nongovernmental organizations, or covert government agents or units; that specifically

target civilians; uses clandestine attack methods such as car bombs and hijacked airliners and attempt to influence politics.

This definition stresses that terrorism focuses on harming some people in order to create fear in others by targeting civilians and facilities or systems, such as transportation on which civilians rely. The objective of terrorist is not just killing and wounding people and destroying physical material. Instead the true target is the emotions of those who see or read about the act of violence and become afraid or dominated, (Rouke, 2008:316).

On his part, de Mesquita (2003), defines it as any act of violence undertaken for the purpose of altering government's political policies or acts that target those who do not actually have the personal authority to alter or entries governmental authorities.

By this definition, it is evident that terrorism encompasses all violent acts that are not motivated by the injury the specific individuals actually victimized by the act but rather are designed to influence the behavior of others, particularly policymakers.

Collapsing all the definitions into one whole, we adopt, Cooper's definition as "the international generation of massive fear by human beings for the purpose of securing or maintaining control over other human beings (Cooper 2001:883). For the purpose of this chapter, we adopt Cooper's definition as our working definition although like him, we recognize that no single definition will ever be satisfactory to everyone.

3. History of Terrorism

Terrorism dates back to history. The Jewish Zealots of the first century, also known as the Sicarii, constituted one of the earliest large scale terrorist organizations. Their goal was to prevent Roman rule over Judaea (now Israel). They died for their efforts in a mass suicide at Masada in 20AD but not before they had incited an insurrection of the populace against the roman occupation of Judaea. This was followed by Gunpowder plot by Guy Fawkes in Great Britain in the 17th century. Although the Gunpowder or Papacy plot was foiled, Fawkes and his associates justified their actions in terms of religion (Griset 2008:36). It was termed the "holy terror".

Religious motives are often cited as a justification for much of contemporary terrorism. Many terrorist groups of today such as Alqaeda, Taliban, ISIS, Alshabab, etc. all draw their motives from religion. For example Doran (2002) argues that Osama bin Laden's primary motive on 9/11 terrorist attacks was to overthrow the pro-US governments of some Arab and Muslim nations, including Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Pakistan. Religious and political motivations are often difficult to separate.

The 18th century challenged the divine rights of kings, arguing against a society of privilege and in favour of a political system that recognized the

equality of men. Terrorists of the 18th and 19th centuries fought against a system that conferred amazing riches on a few and subjected all others to hard work and deprivation. Thus, not only have hereditary rulers and their representatives been targeted for assassination by terrorists who reject the existing governments but in addition revolutionary governments have themselves turned on their citizens, launching terrorist attacks of breath-taking cruelty and slaughtering untold members of civilians. It was through the state sponsored terrorism that in July 14, 1789, a French mob attacked the Bastille prison in Paris, massacring the soldiers stationed there. The rioters later walked through the streets carrying the heads of the prison commandant and several of the guards on pike. The mob was supported by a group of radical revolutionaries, who soon gained control of the government. In October of the same year, the radicals forced king Louis XVI and the Royal family to move from Versailles to Paris; later the king unsuccessfully tried to flee. He ultimately was tried by the revolutionary court and in January 21, 1793, was executed. (Mahan and Griset, 2008:48).

Like modern terrorists, the French revolutionaries took advantage of technological advances. Joseph Guillotine's invention of a new execution technology served in no little measure as it was a perfect fit for France's ruthless state sponsored terrorism. This was followed by the White terror with victims of the reign of terror attacking the former terrorists. The Russian terrorist group known as the Narodnaya Volya which existed from 1878 to 1881 was also another terrorist group in the history of terrorism. The group, a secret society of about 500 members targeted only high profile officials. This group was different from the state-sponsored terrorists in the French revolution who jailed and killed thousands of their countrymen. As reported by Lacqueur, if ten or fifteen pillars of the establishment were killed at the same time, the government would panic and would lose its freedom. At the same time, the masses would wake up". Thus, the Narodnaya Volya counted on the toppling of tsar's regime as a result of their assassinations. This method of terrorism came in the wake of the land distribution which was at the heart of the struggle in Russia in 1861. Tsar Alexander II abolished serfdom and lifted strict controls over freedom of speech and assembly. These progressive actions were influenced by the ideas of the European Enlightenment, but they proved to be tsar's undoing and led eventually to his assassination, (Lacqueur, 1977:34).

Part of the history of terrorism could be discovered from the adoption of nationalism, and the desire for independence from colonial rulers were at the heart of the social, economic, political and religious struggles as in India. India under British rule since 1857 adopted isolated instances of terrorism from the beginning of British colonialism. This massive nonviolent resistance to colonial rule led the British to withdraw from India in 1947 and India became independent. Also, Algeria through its National Liberation Front (FLN) attacked the French colonial rule by attacking military installations, police installations and public utilities in 1954. This was inspired by Frantz Fanon's

Wretched of the Earth. Other countries which also achieved their freedom through terrorism took their inspiration from the writings of Germany's Karl Marx, Russia's Vladimir Lenin and China's Mao Zedong. These writings were carefully studied by Fidel Castro who launched the Cuban Revolution of 1959.

Although many argue that terrorism has increased as technology has advanced, the fact remains that terrorists have always had weapons, transportation, and communication – no matter how rudimentary. Thus, from the sword of the Zealots Sicarii to the dagger of the Assassins to silk scarf noose of the thugs, terrorists have used whatever technology was available to them. Contributing in this direction, Rapoport, (1984:659), argues that “the critical variable cannot be technology; rather the purpose and organizations of particular groups and the vulnerabilities of particular societies to them are decisive factors”. That way, understanding the culture, religion, politics, economics and ideology of a country and its people is the best way to comprehend the phenomena of terrorism.

4. Terrorism around the Globe

A list published by the *Terrorism Research Centre* (2006) an independent institute dedicated to research on Terrorism, includes 423 active foreign and domestic terrorist groups. Similarly, the terrorist Knowledge Base maintained by the Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism (MIPT) lists more than 200 foreign and domestic terrorist organizations, (Mahan and Griset, 2011). Precise counts are difficult in part because terrorist organizations splinter into subgroups and others disband and reassemble with new names. Also, the waves in which terrorist events are counted depend on the definition applied to the counting. Being labeled as a terrorist organization carries political repercussions. The legal and fiscal consequences of being designated as Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) are severe. It is generally known that it is a crime to donate money or otherwise assist an FTO, even if the funds are to be used for charitable purposes. Some FTOs have used charitable donations to provide sorely needed basic social services such as hospitals and schools. This accounts for the reason why some countries including the United States have prohibited their citizens from contributing to their organizations. According to Mahan and Griset (2011:86);

US citizens are prohibited from contributing to their organizations on the premise that receiving charitable donations makes it easier for the groups to recruit supporters. In addition, members of FTOs are denied visas and barred from the United States. Financial Institutions are required to block any funds intended for FTOs.

Notwithstanding, the United States' secretary of state's list for both Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTOs) and other Terrorist Groups (OTGs), are as follows:

1. *Europe*

- (a) The Basque Fatherland and Liberty (ETA) group founded in 1959 whose aim is to create an independent homeland based on Marxist principles in the Basque region of Southern Spain and Southwestern France.
- (b) The Irish Revolutionary Army (IRA) formed in 1969, the *IRA* has been the terrorist wing *Sinn Fein*, the Northern Ireland political organization trying to unite Ireland and expels British forces. In 1999, for the first time, the *IRA* was recognized as *OTG*, not as *FTO* because of its willingness to enforce a ceasefire and participate in the peace process in Northern Ireland.
- (c) *Kongra-Gel*, established in 1974 (formally called the Kurdistan workers party or *PKK*), made up primarily of Kurdish Kurds. The goal of this group is to create an independent Kurdish State in South Eastern Turkey. Its leader, Chairman Abdullah Ocalan was captured in 1999 and sentenced to death, the death sentence was later commuted to life imprisonment when Turkey abolished the death penalty. Although Ocalan ordered his members to lay down their arms and stop their terrorist activity, attacks have continued against targets in the Turkish government and ordinary citizens.

2. *South America*

- (a) The Revolutionary Armed Forces of Columbia (FARC). This group was established in 1964 as the military wing of the Colombian Communist Party responsible for atrocities claiming untold numbers of innocent victims. With membership strength of about 12,000, its membership strength is drawn from the rural regions of the country.
- (b) The National Liberation Army (ELN), established in 1965 in Columbia engages in widespread kidnapping for ransom, often targeting foreign companies especially in the petroleum industry. By waging an insurgent war against the Colombian government, ELN has damaged oil pipelines, electrical networks and other vital parts of Columbia's infrastructure.
- (c) Peru's Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) founded in 1983 as a Marxist inspired organization is known for its infamous 1996 assault on the Japanese ambassador's residence in Lima, where 72 hostages were held for more than 4 months. It is however being classified by the State Department as an OTGs.
- (d) Sendero Luminoso, also known as shining path was founded in the late 1960s by Abimad Guzman, a University Professor. The organization is

Latin American terrorist group based on Marxist ideology. As one of the ruthless terrorist organizations in the western hemisphere, the Shinning Path is believed to be responsible for roughly 30,000 deaths.

3. *East Asia and Pacific Islands*

- (a) Aum Shinrikyo (AUM), founded in 1989 by Shinko Asahara established as a religious organization in 1987 and granted official recognition in 1989. The group became a doomsday cult organization by releasing sarin nerve gas on several Tokyo railway trains in 1995, killing 12 and injuring thousands. The founder Shoko Asahara was convicted of masterminding the nerve gas attack and sentenced to death. The group subsequently reassembled under the name Aleph.
- (b) The *Abu Sayyaf Group* (ASG) is a radical Islamic terrorist organization which allegedly fought in Afghanistan during the Soviet invasion in the 1980s. The group's goal is to form an independent Islamic state in the southern Philippines. It received considerable notoriety for kidnapping and murdering Western tourists.
- (c) Jemaah Islamiya (JI) is based in Indonesia and seeks to form an Islamic republic spanning Indonesia, Malaysia, Southern Thailand, Singapore, Brunei and the southern Philippines. The group is believed to be responsible for the 2002 bombing in the Indonesian Island of Bali, which killed more than 200 people many of whom were foreign terrorists. The group's spiritual leader, Abu Bakar Bashir was sentenced to prison for his role in the Bali bombing but was released in 2005.
- (d) The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) was founded in 1976. The group engages in assassination and bombings to promote its goal for creating an independent Tamil state in Sri Lanka. Outside Sri Lanka, the group is known for the suicide bomb attack that killed Indian Prime Minister Jajiv Ghandi in 1991. Till today, the tigers are still considered a powerful secessionist group.

4. *Middle East and North Africa*

- (a) The *Al-Qaeda* meaning the 'Base' an organization led by the late Osama bin Laden, is an FTO. The aim of the organization is to unite Muslims throughout the world to overthrow Pro-US regimes and destroy Israel. Al-Qaeda aims at establishing a pan-Islamic republic throughout the world.
- (b) *Abu Nidal Organization* (ANO), a splinter group from the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was established in 1974 and launched an international campaign for terrorism, carrying out attacks on 20 countries against the United States, Britain, Israel and various Arab countries.

- (c) *Hammas* (Islamic Resistance Movement) was formed in 1989. Hammas is dedicated to expelling Israel from the Middle East. The group has widespread support among Palestinians.
- (d) *Hizbollah* also referred to as Party of God or Islamic Jihad was formed in 1982 in response to the Israel invasion of Lebanon. Hizbollah is believed to be responsible for the bombings of the US embassy and US marine barracks in Beirut in 1983, as well as for the kidnapping of Western hostages in Lebanon in the 1980s.

5. Weapons and Tactics of Terrorism

Notwithstanding, modern terrorism has advanced with the advancement in science and technology. Enders and Savders (2005) observe that there are new, more terrible threats— radiological terrorism, and nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) terrorism. Terrorists now attack with radiological, biological, or chemical weapons using “ships, trucks, airplanes or other means” than by weapons of mass destruction from another country using its military missiles or bombers. Major weapons of terrorism include;

i. *Conventional Weapons Terrorism*

This involves the use of bombs, guns and other conventional weapons. As reported by Rourke (2008:319).

During 2006, for example, bombs were used in 59% of the terrorist attacks, and firearms were used in another 19%. Kidnapping (17%) were also common, with a few cases of arson, hijackings, and assassinations. Even the attacks on the World Trade Centre and Pentagon in 2001, as horrific as they were, would fall under the category of conventional weapons terrorist attacks.

ii. *Radiological Terrorism*

This involves spewing radioactivity into the surrounding air and water which would result in increased levels of radiation causing future cancers, pregnancy complications, and other medical risks. It is also potential for economic damage, since a radiological attack could render parts of a city or an important facility unsafe, perhaps for years (Rourke, 2008).

iii. *Chemical and Biological Terrorism*

This weapon of terrorism came to the limelight after the 9/11 attacks. This is the spreading of anthrax that would leave millions dead.

Similarly, terrorist tactics across the globe include, children at war, assassination, hijacking, kidnapping and hostage taking, bombing, suicide

terrorism including female suicide bombers, etc. These tactics will be discussed seriatim.

6. Children at War

Records show that at the beginning of the 21st century, an estimated 300,000 children, some as young as 7 years old, are being used as combatants, sometimes after being kidnapped. They are exploited by both established governments and rebel movements in scores of armed conflicts around the world, such children are trained in violent tactics (Human Rights Watch, 2006). Young combatants participate in all aspects of contemporary political strife. They wield AK 47s and M-16s on the front lines of political strife, serve as human mine detectors, participate in suicide missions, carry supplies and act as spies, or lookouts. Physically vulnerable and intimidate, they make obedient soldiers. They are scattered across the globe-in Afghanistan, Angola, Congo, Cuba, Eritrea, Rwanda, Iraq, Iran, Somalia, Uganda, etc.

ii. Assassinations

Assassinations have always been a basic tactic of terrorists. It involves taking the lives of public figures who they christen as their enemy in order to achieve their objective. Many public officials including Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin have been killed through this tactic. As a tactic of war, a single strategic fatality can have an impact that makes an assassination a compelling choice for a strike against an enemy (Mahan and Griset, 2008).

iii. Hijacking

This involves taking over a vehicle on the public thoroughfare and turning it into a terrorist weapon. It includes car theft at knife point or gun point as well as terrorists' target of autos, buses, trains, ships, military vehicles, aircrafts or even spacecraft depending on their technical resources and development.

iv. Kidnapping and Hostage taking

Kidnapping and hostage taking involve seizing, detaining or threatening to kill or injure someone. The victim is held to compel a third party to act or abstain from acting as a condition for the release of the seized person. This tactic has continued unabated and remains a common known tactic of terrorism across the globe. In kidnapping, terrorists confine their victims in secret locations and make ransom demands, threatening to kill if these demands are not met. Hostage takers openly confront the police or military, in known locations with the objective often being to make demands with full media coverage.

v. Bombing

— This is the detonation of deadly explosives. Explosives are considered as conventional tools of warfare. The history of terrorist bombing begins with dynamite, black powder and Molotov cocktails. The objectives of bombing remain the same regardless of the technology employed to a blow up a notable target and gain attention for a cause, slow down the opposition, get rid of political adversaries and destroy property. Some bombings intend to achieve all these goals, whereas others are meant simply to gain attention.

vi. ***Suicide Terrorism***

This has become a serious tactical concern in transnational terror. This is a process in which the perpetrators intend to take numbers of other innocent victims with them in death. It is seen as a form of martyrdom. According to Mahan and Griset (2008:142);

In most religious traditions, martyrdom is regarded not only as a testimony to the degree of one's commitment but also as a performance of a religious act, specifically as act of self sacrifice.

However, suicide bombing has its root in secular ideologies as well. Many suicide bombers of contemporary terrorist attacks are females. Female suicide terrorists are said to be the ultimate asymmetrical weapons (Zedalis, 2004). There is often more shock value if the suicide bomber is a woman thus attracting attention and precipitating widespread fear. Women provide a tactical advantage as they significantly increase the number of combatants available to a terrorist group.

7. **Strategies of Terrorism**

Minst and Snyder (2011) provides five principal strategies in terrorist campaigns. These include attrition, intimidation, provocation, spoiling and outbidding. In attrition strategy, terrorists seek to persuade the enemy that the terrorists are strong enough to impose considerable costs if the enemy continues a particular policy. Intimidation is a strategy of trying to convince the population that the terrorists are strong enough to punish disobedience and that the government is too weak to stop them, so that people behave as the terrorists wish. Provocation strategy attempts to induce the enemy to respond to terrorism with indiscriminate violence, which radicalizes the population and moves them to support the terrorists. Spoilers strategy is an effort to persuade the enemy that moderates on the terrorists side are weak and untrustworthy, thus undermining attempts to reach a peace settlement. Groups engaged in outbidding use violence to convince the public that the terrorists have greater resolve to fight the enemy than rival groups and therefore are worthy of support.

8. **The Goals of Terrorism**

Although the ultimate goals of terrorists have varied over time, Minst and Snyder (2008) have identified five enduring important goals of terrorism. These include; regime change, territorial change, policy change, social control and status quo maintenance. Let's take a look at them one after the other;

- i. **Regime Change:** in most cases, terrorist objective is to overthrow a government and replace it with the government led by the terrorists or at least one more to their liking. The Taliban in Afghanistan, the Alqaeda, Alshabalo, etc. fit into this category as terrorist groups whose basic objective is to establish Islamic states in the Middle East.
- ii. **Territorial Change:** This involves taking territory away from a state either to establish a new state as the Tamil Tigers seek to do in Tamil areas of Sri Lanka or join another state as Lashkar-e Tayyiba would like to do by incorporating India Kashmir into Pakistan.
- iii. **Policy Change:** This is a broader category of lesser demands, such as alqaeda's demand that the United States drops its support for Israel.
- iv. **Status quo maintenance:** This is the support of an existing regime or a territorial arrangement against political groups that seek to change it. An example of this is the protestant paramilitary groups in Northern Ireland which support the maintenance of the territorial status quo of that country as British territory as against the Irish Republican Army (IRA) demands that the territory be transferred to Ireland, (Minst and Snyder, 2011:394).

9. Causes of Terrorism

Terrorism has long existed even though it came to the front burner of international agenda in the wake of September 11 2001 attacks on the United States of America. Understanding its causes is vital to combating it. That being the case, it is instructive to argue that political violence is in part a product of unequal global distribution of wealth. According to Rourke (2008:321),

“...Globalization has brought the wealth gap into sharper focus and has also created a sense of cultural dislocation with its impact... connection between poverty and violence.

The second factor is the overwhelming view among Muslims that the United States favours Israel. This factor points to the presence of U.S. forces in the Middle East, particularly U.S. support to authoritarian regimes in Saudi Arabia and elsewhere. This accounts for the psychological drives of terrorists blowing themselves to pieces attacking Israelis and others.

Terrorism is usually not the irrational acts of crazed fanatics, it is usually carried out by those who consider it a necessary, legitimate and effective tool to rid themselves and others of what they consider as oppression. It is seen as the only way for an oppressed group to prevail against a heavily

armed government (Rourke, 2008:322). Modern conditions make terrorist operations possible. Technology has increased the power of weapons available to terrorists. Explosives have become more deadly, huge airliners can be made into piloted missiles, and there is an increasing danger of terrorists obtaining the material and means to launch biological, chemical or radiological attack. Again, increased urbanization has brought people together so that they are easier targets, especially when gathered in such high profile places as skyscrapers, sports stadium, churches, mosques, market places, etc. Another major cause of terrorism is modern communications which have made terrorism more efficacious because the goal of the terrorist is not to kill or injure, but to gain attention for a cause or to create widespread anxiety that will in turn, create pressure on governments to negotiate with them and accede to their demand. Without the media to transmit the news of their act, their goal will not be accomplished.

10. Combating Terrorism

A major concern about terrorism lies on how to combat it. Countering terrorism does not only require military action alone, it consists mostly in understanding the root causes behind terrorism. This is so because many of the most spectacular terrorist incidents, especially those involving Americans and Israelis, have been carried out by Palestinians or groups sympathetic to the Palestinians. Therefore providing Palestinians with some relief from their currently stateless condition might well deprive terrorist organizations of an important source of volunteers for their plans and projects.

Conventional military attacks against states that support terrorism such as the one that was staged by the United States against Libya in 1986 can aggravate the casualty rate. US bombs in Libya killed innocent civilians. According to Wilkinson (1984:44) "such attacks would substitute the greater evil of full scale war, with all its attendant death devastation and dangers of escalation, for the lesser evil of terrorism".

Poverty and injustice contribute to terrorism as a result, counterterrorism measures should include attempts to improve living conditions in less prosperous countries. Providing disadvantaged people with employment and other opportunities for a better life can help to deter some potential terrorists. Since no international criminal code, international police force capable of combating terrorism, or international court with jurisdiction over acts of terrorism exists, the United Nations should engage more in collaborative counterterrorism activities primarily by passing laws against terrorism and entering into cooperative agreements with one another. Similarly, the UN should intensify efforts in the maintenance of international peace, security, promoting human rights and helping member states resolve political, cultural and economic problems. Developed countries of the world especially the United

States should curtail their military exercise overseas. In this regard, Griset (2008:324) writes;

The United States is partially responsible for the heightened terrorist threat the world faces...historical data show a strong correlation between US involvement in international situations and an increase in terrorist attacks against the United States... It is not American pop culture, depravity, or materialism that provokes terrorism, instead it is America's exercise of military might overseas.

Adopting a policy of military restraint rather than interventionist foreign policy by the major powers of the world will help in no little way in reducing the menace of terrorist attacks.

Torture and sadistic treatment of prisoners around the world like the US run prison in Iraq, the US detention facility at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba where prisoners are housed for prolonged periods without access to lawyers, without formal charges and with few human rights are horrifying. Such inhuman treatment coupled with excessive force, civil disability and the loss of internationally guaranteed rights, and indefinite detention are central means by which the wars on both terror and crime breed and are executed.

11. Conclusion

In this chapter, we discussed international terrorism and the extent to which it has affected the peaceful coexistence of states. We discovered that while international relations was trying to unify states with one another, terrorism on its part is tearing the international system apart. Terrorist now avail themselves of the bountiful and rapid increase in weapons and explosive devices to launch deadly attacks on governments and their innocent citizens.

Accordingly, the chapter discussed the definition of terrorism, history of terrorism and took a glimpse at terrorism and terrorist attacks around the globe. Other areas of concern and discussion in this chapter included weapons and tactics of terrorism, strategies of terrorism, goals of terrorism, causes of terrorism and lastly ways of combating terrorism. The chapter is of the opinion that countering or combating terrorism does not only rely on military actions alone, but requires and consists mostly in understanding the root causes behind terrorism. Accordingly, counter terrorism measures should include attempts to improve the living condition in less prosperous countries, adopting a policy a military restraint rather than interventionist foreign policy by the Major Powers abroad and reduction of inhuman treatment metted on prisoners in US detention facilities in Guantanamo Bay in Cuba and US run prison in Iraq, among others.

References

- Barber, R. R. (1992). "Jihad Vs McWorld", *Atlantic Monthly*, 269 (3), 53-65.
- Cooper, H. H. A. (2001). *Terrorism. The problem of definition revisited*, American Behavioural Scientists, 44 (6), 881-893.
- De Mesquita, B. B. (2003). *Principles of International Politics, People's Power, Preferences, and Perceptions*, Washington D. C., CQ Press.
- Doran, M. (2002). *Somebody else's Civil War*, Foreign Affairs, 81 (3), 22-42.
- Enders, W. and Sandler, T. (2005). "After 9/11: Is it all Different Now?", *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 49/2, 259-277.
- Hoffman, B. (2006). *Inside Terrorism*, New York, Columbia University Press.
- Human Rights Watch (2006). *Children's Right-Child Soldiers* HRW Reports.
- Kydd, A. H. and Walter, B. F. (2006). *The Strategies of Terrorism*, International Security 31, No. 1. (Summer 2006), 49-80.
- Lacqueur, W. (2001). *A History of Terrorism*. New Jersey, Transaction Publishers.
- Lopez, G. A. and Stohl, M. S. (1989). *International Relations: Contemporary Theory and Practice*, Washington D. C., CQ Press.
- Mahan, S. and Grisct, P. L. (2008). *Terrorism in Perspective* (Second Edition). Los Angeles, Sage Publications.
- Minst, K. A. and Snyder, J. L. (2011). *Essential Readings in World Politics*. London, W. W. Norton & Company.
- Rapoport, D. C. (1984). "Fear and Trembling: Terrorism in Three Religious Traditions", *American Political Science Review*, 78 (3), 658-677.
- Ray, J. L. (1992). *Global Politics* (fifth Edition), Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company.
- Rourke, J. T. (2008). *International Politics on the World Stage* (Twelfth Edition), Boston, McGraw Hill.
- Stern, J. (2003). *The Ultimate Organizations in Terror in the Name of God: Why Religious Militants Kill*. New York, Harper Collins.
- Terrorism Research Centre (2006). *Terrorism: Group Profiles*, November 6, 2006.
- Wilkinson, P. (1984). "State Sponsored International Terrorism" The Problem of Response", *World Today*, July, 298.
- Zedalis, D. (2004). "Female suicide Bomber", *Strategic Studies Institute* (SSI), Army War College.