INDOCTRINATION: THE PSYCHO-PATHOLOGY OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AND INSURGENCY (THE 5TH GENERATION WARS)

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Abstract

Nations, States, Regions, groups and individuals have made insurgency and terrorism not only a global brand, but a necessary corollary of human existence through diverse actions and in-actions. Western depredations, covertly and overtly have continued to globally breed and hatch disillusionment and frustration. Conventional dissent has continued to attract overwhelming decapitation and annihilation of populations through guided policies and military armadas. Organized oppositional resurgence and effective tenacity found unity, determination, blind faith, formation, cohesion and feet in indoctrination; whereby both entrenched regimes could be overthrown and dominant world powers put on the defensive. Before 1979, suicidal methods for voicing dissent were rare, while revolutionary, military and guerrilla-based armed groups had designated state actors to contend with. The aim of this study is not to denigrate indoctrination as a new tool, rather an in-depth move is made to unveil the rewarding tactics whereby it has helped Islamic fundamentalism and extremism to clandestinely stand tall and enjoy global recognition. As long as domination remains a natural human quest, as long as syncretists are out to exploit human frailties and thought patterns, as long as national governments continue to overlook people-oriented policies, global interconnectedness would always provide an alternative assemblage that evolve to threaten national and international security. The dire need to scrutinize and evaluate religious and social ideas impacted to the populace is not in doubt.

Key Words: Western depredation, disillusionment, Islamic fundamentalism, blind faith, global interconnectedness

DEFINITION

International Terrorism

Terrorism, whether 'eco' or 'international', has become a persistent and nasty reality in global politics. Equally, its definition is as elusive as its possible solution. However, the United States Information Services, defines International Terrorism as any 'politically motivated violence perpetrated against non-combatant targets by sub-national groups or clandestine agents.' (The Library of Congress, 2003). One shortfall of this traditional definition is its focus on groups, and its exclusion of individual (lone wolf) terrorist activity-'philosophically but not organizationally aligned with any group which has recently risen in frequency and visibility' (Bowman, 2003). Be that as it may, Rourke and Boyer tabulated in four steps, a bold attempt at defining international terrorism as:

> *A form of political violence that is carried out by individuals, by non-governmental organizations or by relatively small groups of covert government agents that specifically targets civilians and that uses clandestine attack methods such as car bombs and hijacked airliners (Rourke and Boyer, 2003).*

According to this definition, terrorism relies exclusively on the power to hurt some people, in order to create fear in others; it targets civilians, facilities or systems on which civilians rely. Rourke and Boyer went further to explain that;

> *The objective of terrorisms is not the people they kill or physical material they*
> *destroy ... instead (their larger) is the emotions of those who see or read about*
> *that act of violence and become afraid (Rourke and Boyer, 2003).*

In this seeming saga of arriving at a conceptualized definition of what could pass in definition as international terrorism, one should equally not loose sight of the fact that what could be termed terrorism by some, could appear to others as legitimate. In practicing international terrorism, intent is important and in it lies ideology, personal conviction and motive, which become expressed as or intimidation, injury or killing civilians with the aim of coercing either government, international feeling, understanding or support. As a wide spread tactic, it is poignant to note that it could be intra-national, State or trans-national.

Terrorism by non state actors, is primarily the weapon of the politically weak or the frustrated: (those who are or believe themselves to be unable to exert their grievances through conventional, political or military means). As an asymmetric form of conflict, it confers coercive power with many advantages over conventional military force, at a fraction of cost. Sequel to its secretive nature, size and organizational capacity, it often offers opponents no clear chances of defence or deterrence.

In an attempt to give a standard definition of international terrorism, the United Nations Organization concluded international terrorism to be:

> An anxiety - inspiring method of repeated violent action, employed by (semi)
> clandestine individual group or state actors for idiosyncratic, criminal or
> political reasons, whereby- in contrast to assassinations-the direct targets of
> violence are not the main targets (United Nations, 2003).

Regardless of which parlance International Terrorism is viewed from, whether as a crime or 'holy duty' or as inexcusable abomination, it is quite realistic to conclude that it is not far from the use of terror by state and non -state political structures as a means to attain their political objectives, through peoples' intimidation, psychological and social destabilization; the elimination of resistance from power, organizations, and the creation of appropriate conditions for the manipulation of the country's policies, and the behavior of the people.

Consequently, one could rightly posit that international terrorism, " ... in complicity and symbiosis with the media, modifies and manages global process" (Ivashov, 2003), propelled by specific ideologies to achieve cause and mission.

Insurgency

Insurgency is as old as human history. Simply put, it means an attempt to take control of a country by force (Homby, 2012). The art of revolt has transcended from primitive societies to the 21st century world, from mere hamlets to more advanced nation -states. The enigmatic transition and sophisticated operational attributes acquired over time has not only puzzled political analysts, but has succeeded in keeping sovereign authorities anxious, nervous and agitated.

It must be observed that the dimensional capabilities of any insurgency depends on a number of factors: its propelling ideal or goal, structural organization, the nature and reaction of its operational terrain (geo-politics), relative stability in financial support and dynamic strategies over vision and mission. The very nature of insurgency tends to cause its practitioners to become extremely security conscious, if not

out rightly paranoid (Gatchel, 2009). History has often identified guerrilla tactics as a veritable tool of insurgency, however, mobility is only part of the equation. In other words, according to Lawrence, insurgents must have:

> *... a safe haven, a sure retreat into an element which the (enemy cannot) enter. An unassailable base guarded bit merely from attack, but from the fear of it. It must have a disciplined army of occupation too small to fulfill the doctrine of acreage; a friendly population, not actively friendly, but sympathetic to the point of not betraying rebel movements to the enemy; must possess the qualities of speed and endurance, ubiquity and independence of arteries of supply (Lawrence, 2009).*

Without degenerating deeper into the operational manipulations of insurgency as an irregular warfare, it must be noted that the conceptual and geographical importance of sanctuaries to the eventual sustenance of insurgency cannot be questioned. Granted mobility, security (in the form of denying targets to the enemy), time and doctrine (the idea to convert, every subject to friendliness), victory, according to Lawrence 'will rest with the insurgents, for the algebraical factors are in the end decisive, and against them, perfections of means and spirit struggle quite in vain' (Lawrence, 2005).

At this juncture, one must point out the all-important nexus logistically existing between geopolitical landscape, economy, information and military technological advancements as integral condiments that sustain insurgency.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The Psychological theory of constructivism holds that people actively build their perceptions of the world and interpret objects and events that surround them in terms of what they already know. That is, one's current state of knowledge of issues influences substantially how they process information and what new knowledge may be acquired.

From the foregoing, it is plausible that these groups have through indoctrination, which perhaps commenced in childhood, constructed their own world and bold very strong views about the society and its divergent groups. Such tenaciously held Y1eW5 occlude in flow of challenging views, information and knowledge, modifies / rearranges any new information to suite already existing but prejudiced schemata. Thus, by viewing themselves as good and the government (or other targets) as bad, they become strongly motivated to commit atrocities against the perceived enemies.

Again, high motivation for power and wealth often translate to Machiavellian unscrupulousness (Obi-Nwosu, 2013). In this instance, patrons of insurgency and terrorism use these obnoxious methods to seek power and enjoy profit. They deceive the less knowledgeable and gullible, and having indoctrinated them, aptly apply them as tools towards achieving their own motives.

Reflections

In the affairs of man, religion has passed through acceptance to devaluement and rejection. Just as mobility has to emerge, premordialism deemed it necessary to retire religion. Religious identity in its dogmatism, is not only appealing and compelling for mobilization, but manipulative, hence could easily aid indoctrination. Moreso in today's global political equation. Religion diminishes and breaks ethno-cultural, language, class and colour boundaries, offering a veritable cushioned alternative retreat to troubled minds, thereby providing a parlance for group identification. Indoctrination relies on religious 'fault-finding' tool to provide the rai-son d 'etre for myopic reasoning, utter condemnation and incipient abhorrence.

Either by fate or plan, globally, out of all the world's religions, militant Islam has continued to occupy the centre stage of violence and insurgency. The toll on material and human resources on daily basis is huge. Nature abhors vacuum; in so far as those who are meant to maintain law and order in the society are found wanting in their duties, criminality and insurgency will always cease the opportunity to put nations at risk. The ensuring lawlessness breeds and legitimizes fundamentalism, an order in anarchy, strewn and inviolably edified through indoctrination.

A clearer understanding of indoctrination must stem from getting the correct meaning of doctrine. Doctrine relate to issues of life, death, purpose of life and ideas about rights and wrong (Hornby, 2012), hence the ethereal. Any attempt or process by which such thought or designated ideals are infused into human thoughts and action, through normative dogma or fanatical ecstasy, is simply indoctrination. Smooth and penetrating language could be applied through carefully selected sounds and language, all aimed at creating an imagery of doctrinal euphoria. The continuous infusion of such 'rolling' ideals and beliefs, over some time be-clouds normalcy in thought-sequence, hence evoking understanding, involvement and acquiescence. This level of adherence graduates one to an object which could be 'weaponised' with warheads (designated targets and assignments) hence human ballistic missiles. The most important target during course of indoctrination is the blatant ignoramus of the followers or masses.

Amongst the rest, religious indoctrination is the strongest, easily exploited, and most dangerous. Detailed information, stories, requirements and specifications abound in the Holy books which spur theological justifications and motivations in support of apocalyptic violence.

When indoctrination goes through the stages of recruitment, proselytization, training, education, motivation, mentors apply manuals and sermons. In so doing, the dejected and malleable are attracted, exposed and packaged as groups or group. Such a group is essentially impossible to deter, since their belief lies in the higher power guiding and guarding them, or else receive a blissful reward at death.

Incidental negative turning points in the micro and macro lives of individuals could very well serve as the realistic referral imagery by which mentors take advantage of, to brainwash gullible adherents into robots. Though sequenced, indoctrination is progressive, and may demand financial remunerations. The lawlessness of a weak state creates a vacuum for conformity and compromise on national disorder, corruption and impunity. Religious zealots, fundamentalists and extremists exploit this gap to manipulate victim's thought and action sequence. It should be noted that just as adherents could be strictly attuned to orderly followership, they could equally be formatted to be violent, hence fuelling their violence quotient. Taking laws into their own hands could pass as spiritual legitimacy, while killing other people would be justified.

On the other hand, indoctrination could serve as a dangerous outlet to bottled-up grievances and frustrations, leading to conflict and extremism. Life-course perspectives, personal or individual failures are likely to find a strong portal to blame.

Perhaps, resurgent Islam wouldn't have been provided more fuel in the 21st century if American military adventurism and preventive war wasn't exposed in Libya, Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria. What of the daylight open support granted to Israel against HAMAS militants in the re-occurring Gaza - Israeli face off. Countries like Iran appear to be experts in tactically switching from intimidation to flowery conciliation. Such intrigues and diplomatic shrewdness have always removed the steam from imminent American desired solvent, which is often served hot. Moreover, in Yazbeck's view, Islamists have made effective use of established religious writings where Christians and Jews were treated as 'the West' and 'Westernization as an insidious scheme to undermine Islam' (Haddad. 19831.

What of the complexity to an already conspiratory global view mat 'nothing of substance happens unless supported by Washington, London and the oil Cartels, or backed by powerful lobbies and king makers in the West' (Mozayyan. 2009). Ayotallah Khomeini often admonished his followers that 'blame goes

to those who do nothing to uproot injustice by opposing the oppressor (*mostakbar*). He went on to caution Muslim that Economics is for donkeys (idiots) (Taheri, 2007), and 'revolution was not about the price of water melons' (Byman, 2001). The quantum of global destruction emanating from the rendition of Apocalyptic and Dominion theologies, including unguided eschatology is growing by the day. When people are apt to act melancholically, driven by the near-future belief in the cataclysmic confrontation between the forces of good and evil, and reminded of the heavenly bliss that awaited martyrdom, death is glorified.

While fulfilling a divine prophetic plan, adherents are made to believe that violence is morally acceptable hence religion helps create and provide the delicate parlance between 'we' and 'them'. Cynicists would often see some religious doctrines as atavistic and repressive, more so where there is an admixture of tradition and religion. In Christianity, Pentecostalism though fuming, is still contained within national borders, while fundamentalism in Islam is running amok nationally and trans-nationally. Terrorism and insurgency as we know it as of today, operates on the crucible of indoctrination, and unfortunately it is a sad sequel that the war on terrorism is, of all wars, the one most dependant on wining the heart and minds of people.

Since militant Islam is more or less the culprit in the present day global insurgency and low intensity conflicts within sovereign entities, posing any solution to this trend must start from understanding the basic component of the Islamic religion *vis a vis* the adherents. Understanding the Sharia and its relationship with the *Ummah*, would expose clearly the structure and the ideas behind the prosecution of the 5th Generation Wars (5GW) of the 21st century.

In the history of humanity, religion has continued to play a vital and virile role. It has either positively or negatively transformed and influenced societies, national and global decisions. It may not out-rightly be identified within the genetical composition of Arabs *per se* to be easier raw materials for indoctrination. Howbeit that the notion that 'Muslims of every nation, regardless of status or exposure are easy preys to indoctrination' (Moghadem, 2(03), is proved to be true? A little insight into certain specifications in both the Hadith and Koran could help to evaluate this view. The ideology of totalitarian global Islamisation is made and deemed supreme through individual or state *Sharia* financing, violent and financial jihads (*Al jihad bi-al-mal*). Such is the individual obligatory demand of Islam until the lands are purified from the pollution of unbelievers and infidels (Pape, 2005).

In today's world, one thing is clear; communism has failed, followed by the ambiguously beneficial capitalist phenomenon of globalization. 'The fault line according to Bamett is rapidly shifting from the gap between the rich and poor to the 'non-integrating gap' widening between those who accept or reject modernity' (Barnett, 2004). While elucidating further, Robb opined that Chronic conflicts here and there, repressive and unfocused leadership are routinely patenting social disharmony, poverty and disease thereby incubating the next generation of insurgents and terrorists (Robb, 2007).

Amongst many Muslims in the Muslim world, it is a popular belief that 'some Muslim leaders, most especially certain regimes in the Middle East have abandoned real Islam, hence it is time to adopt the Islamic solution (*Hal al-Islam*)' (Obama, 2014). The present scenario developing in the Middle East lays credence to the power of indoctrination in feeding insurgency and terrorism. In the words of Obama, the United states underestimated the power of the Islamic group **ISIS** which exploited the power vacuum in Iraq to emerge and control large areas in Syria and Iraq." Consequently, extremist ideologies spread through social media and schools have drawn many foreigners the world over as volunteers fighting for the Islamic State. One must remark at this juncture that fighting radical ISIS is not the major problem, rather the bottom line is the indoctrinating effect of these fighters back home in their different countries, after the war.

Fully convinced that justice should be restored through jihad or martyrdom, achieving such through warfare or suicide bombing could only appear an easier opportunity to step into the 'promised grandeur

of paradise', hence the fundamentalist concept of jihad differs from regular warfare. Resurgent Islam encourages fighting rather than compromising.

 Consequently, the emergent jihad could erode national and ethnic boundaries, hence steered by the theory of just war'.

At this juncture, it is poignant to note that the Quran didn't mince words when it demanded of good Muslims to strive for Allah's cause with their wealth and lives, and more importantly, self-sacrificing. Abundance of human raw materials for suicide bombing are easily harnessed from the majority of ignorant lower echelon of every society. Younger boys, girls, physically-challenged and widows of slain fighters are religiously instructed and motivated to 'honorably' enter the heavenly bliss as one of *Allahs* 'generals', rather than die a pauper. In most cases, families of such suicide bombers receive accolades and recognition from the *Ummah*, on successful accomplishment of such task. However, one may have to caution that total submission may not be achieved in all followers at any given time. Aligning to this view, Qaqa, a suspected member of the dreaded Boko Haram terrorists in Nigeria, recently arrested by security agents, submitted that:

> *Suicide bombers were chosen among sect members by their leader, and once a person was chosen, he had no option but to carry out the assignment. Once handpicked, it is death either way; if you refuse you would be killed on the orders of the leadership. So many prefer the suicide bomber option far away from their wives and children (Ajaero, 2012).*

Prisons, whether in the West, Middle East or Africa, have continued to act as viable incubators for radical Islam and terrorist ideology (Hamm, 2014). Freed from incarceration, such people are often exposed to further information and recruitment through the internet and incipient indoctrination under extremists and zealots, who graduate them with the *Al-Barka* (a blessing, source of protection against enemies and demons, ensuring success, political, physical and spiritual longevity and fulfillment). The 'p0teocy' of such blessing is not in doubt to such people, after all, in Nigeria, it is a strange truism that even many highly placed government officials, including security personnel tend to rely more on the esoteric incantations and charms of sorcerers, man of God, marabouts and clerics instead of scientific-backed conventional security system.

Indoctrinated adherents/armed groups fight in utter defence of their belief, while 'patriotic' domestic security professionals defend with some reservations and limitations. It is quite amazing that extent to which indoctrination could take people. Terrorists never give up, until their goals are achieved, they continue to be inspired by their martyrs. Of particular mention is the response which the Underwear bomber, Umar Farouk Abdul Mutallab who was to blow up a US bound Detroit airliner on Christmas day. 2009 made, hearing his life jail conviction; 'that Bin Laden and other Al Qaeda leaders who have been killed are alive and shall be victorious by God's grace, and promised that terrorists attacks would continue until Jews are driven out of Palestine (Mbah, 2012). One spectacular observation is the 'godhead' position which sect or group leaders occupy in the lives of adherents, consequently, their wishes and denunciations are strictly kept to devoid of any iota of individual reasoning, feelings and contributions, after all, they are 'divinely gifted and chosen'.

CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

Proactive intelligence, diligence, balanced pre-emptive analysis and decisions would often guide security provides to nip organized insurgency from the bud. Indoctrination is not a 'days job' whether religious or otherwise. National security demands good governance and the curtailment of religious bigotry. Containing the global 5th Generation Wars (5GW) of today require tact and the provision of massive basic education to the populace.

From whatever perspective one chooses to view the issue of indoctrination; whether at work in anti-Semitism, white-supremacists, raw Pentecostalism and Islamic syncretism; the bottom line, is the distortion of normal human thought action sequence leading to guided violent behaviour. So long as viable state machineries are not put in place to checkmate and liquidate possible unreasonable fellowship and followership, so long as religious feelings and sentiments are allowed to spiral out of control under the guise of fundamental human rights, and so long as the vagaries of inept leadership continue to hatch societal vacuum and hopelessness, indolent loafers would continue to seize any available chance to manoeuvre a significant quantum of global population to feed global terrorist infernos. Arming the *Ummah* starts from the mind, before the gun; disarming them must start from the mind also.

This brings us to the trivial issue of media management, most especially during periods of classical insurgency. Massive clamping down on domestic media is completely against international guidelines and often attracts certain degree of domestic and international sympathy to such armed groups. Such situation could play into the hands of intelligent leaders of insurgent groups, who would always audition and dose it out with specific advantage.

While the search for a better global economic and social alternative is on, the United States of America and its allies must re-evaluate the ripple effects of their international policies. The United Nations, as a truly global body should be allowed and given the necessary support to spearhead international decisions. American policy in the Middle East must be guided by equity. State-sponsored assassinations through drone attacks and air strikes should be reviewed and scaled down drastically. The truth is that a great number of people are basically swayed by the daily global developments and incidents, which is made available through the highly compact social network.

All in all, the political, social and economic conditions of states are important determinants to the germination, growth and eventual success of indoctrination and incipient insurgency.

Jihadists are pltopel1ed by the Muslim conceptualized universal ideology of a perfect society guided by the puritanical *Sharia*. The depraved nature of western life style, materialism and faithlessness are more or less the discordant issues.

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