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September 11; the Proxy War begins in Afghanistan



7 October 2001, the US forces launched massive attacks on Afghanistan to overthrow the Taliban regime and to eliminate the bases of Al-Qaeda in Afghanistan, however, up to date Washington's war in Afghanistan is not finished. In the past eighteen years, this war has gotten the lives of tens of thousands Afghans and is still continuing to cost lives. The Taliban's defeat in 2001 was a temporarily downfall and the Taliban are now stronger than the past. Insecurity has extended from southern Afghanistan to the north and the Afghan government does not have control over a great part of its territory.

After September 11th, why start war in Afghanistan?

During the Afghan Jihad against the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, thousands of Arab fighters were fighting alongside with the Afghan Mujahidin, later the Mujahidin government, under Ustad Burhanuddin Rabbani, gave refuge and even Afghan citizenship to them. Later-on, when the Taliban seized control of more than 90% of Afghanistan, some Arabs, including Osama Bin Laden and some of his other friends, resided in Afghanistan, and gained Taliban's support after 1996.

After the 9/11 incident in the United States, the Al-Qaeda members were accused of being involved in it and the US attacked on Afghanistan and with the overthrow of the Taliban regime a bloody war was erupted in the country. At that time, Osama Bin Laden resided in Afghanistan and, therefore, on 20 September 2001, President "Bush" specified few points to the Taliban:

- The Taliban should handover all the Al Qaida leaders to the U.S.

- The Taliban should release all the foreign prisoners that are imprisoned with them.
- The Taliban should close the training centers of the armed militias.
- They should allow the U.S. to reach the training centers of the “terrorists”, so the U.S. will investigate there.

The Taliban government at that time, through their embassy in Pakistan, stated that the US has not provided any kind of documents proving Osama Bin Laden’s involvement in 9/11 attacks. According to the Taliban’s Ambassador in Pakistan Abdul Salam Zaief, the Taliban government made many efforts to investigate about the incident, but the US was not willing to reconsider its decision to not attack on Afghanistan, he says that, the 9/11 attack has not happened suddenly but the US, in order to secure its long term interests in the region, wanted to have military presence in Afghanistan even before that. The Taliban suggested Osama’s trial for three times which were rejected by the US one after another.

The US began its airstrikes on Afghanistan on 7 October 2001, and on 31 October, the Northern Alliance forces, with the support of the US airstrikes, entered Kabul and overthrew the Taliban regime. The Bonn Conference on Afghanistan was held on 25 November and, after 10 days of discussions, an interim Afghan government under the leadership of Hamid Karzai was formed.

The legal basis of the US attack

The UN Security Council’s reaction to the incidence of 9/11 appeared in the forms of 1368 and 1373 Resolutions. None of these two resolutions allowed the attack on Afghanistan, and had generally criticized terrorism and terrorist attacks. And the UN Security Council had never authorized the US to conduct military attack on Afghanistan

The Resolution-1373 has labeled “terrorism” as an international issue and had emphasized to support the people of Afghanistan. In the Resolution-1386, it was mentioned that the ISAF will be involved and it will stay in Kabul and nearby surrounding areas for keeping security and peace, but the resolution was signed on December 20 of 2001-weeks after the US attack on Afghanistan.

The UN charter, which is signed by the US and its allies, states that all members of the UN shall express their statements for peace seeking objectives and none of the UN members shall use military forces except for defensive purposes. , in the article 33 of the UN law it is mentioned that “The parties to any dispute, the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, shall, first of all, seek a solution by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements, or other peaceful means of their own choice.” But the US, from the moment that 9/11 incident occurred till its attack on Afghanistan, banned all the ways of reaching a peaceful solution.

In addition, the US constitution reads that international treaties such as the UN charter is approved by all the countries including the US and is part of the US supreme law.

On the one hand, there was no Afghan involved in the incident of 9/11; nor the U.S. was able to provide evidences about the people who it claimed to be involved in the incident, even up to date the evidences, which Collin Powel had promised to provide, is not released. So, the question is why did the U.S. attack a country that, if the US provided evidence of Osama's involvement in the incident to it, was not only ready to try Osama in the court, but was also ready to hand him over to the US? But, since Washington did not have such evidence, the Taliban's suggestions were immediately rejected.

The US attacked Afghanistan based on the article 51 of the UN charter that gives the right of self-defense. Since there was neither any Afghan nor the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan involved in the 9/11 incident and also the Taliban were ready to hand Osama over if evidences of his involvement was provided to them, it did not mean that the United States had been threatened by the Taliban government.

Current war Fatalities in the country

Foreign forces: from 2001 to 2004, compared to the years after that, the coalition forces had fewer casualties but after that their fatalities increased. In 2004, 60 soldiers of coalition forces died but in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 this number respectively rose to 129, 193, 228 and 296 and reached to 516 in 2009. 2010 was the bloodiest year for foreign troops in Afghanistan because in this year their fatalities reached its heights. The overall fatality of foreign troops in the country till 2019 was more than 3500 soldiers.

The Afghan forces: the Afghan forces also had casualties every year after their formation in 2002. In 2007, 2008 and 2009 respectively 966, 983 and 931 Afghan soldiers were killed. In 2010, when the war was unprecedentedly intensified, 2113 Afghan soldiers were killed. Although the number of Afghan soldiers' death decreased in 2011 and reached to 1080 but in the years after 2011, this number was increasing. In 2011, security responsibilities were transited to Afghan soldiers and, thus, after 2011, the fatalities of the Afghan force increased. In 2012 and 2013 the fatalities of Afghan forces was respectively 2765 and 4350. But during national unity government (2014-2018) approximately 45000 Afghan soldiers were killed.

Civilian casualties: in 2001, when the US and coalition forces began their attacks on Afghanistan, the number of civilian casualties were very high (2375 civilians were killed in this year). Later from 2002 to 2006, overall 2422 civilian were killed in Afghanistan .

UNAMA began documenting civilian casualties in 2007 but, in its statistics, UNAMA has not included those incidents of civilian casualties which were not verified or were out of the reach of UNAMA; nor did it include the casualties caused by drone attacks and the foreign forces. But still, according to the statistics of the UN, from 2007 to 2018, the total number of civilian casualties was 62375.

Afghanistan after 18 years

In 1996-2001 years, on the one hand, Afghanistan was isolated in the world's politics and the Taliban's regime was merely recognized by three countries and, on the other hand, the country was in worse situations of education, economy and governance.

After the formation of interim government, under the leadership of Hamid Karzai, in 2001, international community's aids infused in Afghanistan, reconstruction started, millions of Afghans went to schools and universities, and Afghanistan established diplomatic relations with more than 100 countries of the world.

Although, in 2001, the ISAF forces entered Afghanistan with the slogans of maintaining peace, fight against narcotics and assisting Afghanistan, but 15 years after the presence of the US and other western countries in Afghanistan, besides widespread insecurity, the country is the largest supplier of drugs in the world and produces 90% of world's illegal drugs.

After 18 years, the country is dealing with plenty of challenges. Due to worse economic and security situation, Afghans are leaving the country. In 2015,2016,2017 and 2018, more than 250 thousand Afghans took hazardous paths to Europe and thousand others were internally displaced.

Most importantly, the country is in worst security situation and war in the country costs the lives of around 100 Afghans on daily basis. On the one hand, ISIS has emerged in the country and on the other hand, peace with the Taliban is faced with various challenges. The presence of the foreign troops on the one hand and all these challenges on the other hand has questioned the country's national sovereignty.

In the past 18 year, the way is paved to moral decay in the country and the media which is believed to be the sole achievement of this government, is broadcasting without taking Islamic sharia or Afghan traditions in consideration. Corruption in the government administrations is reached levels that Afghanistan is now among the most corrupt countries and, in addition, ethnic and sectarian discrimination is also inflaming.

After 15 years, still the Afghan government and security forces are dependent on the US and the NATO members.

Conclusion

Although, apparently the US attacked on Afghanistan to suppress Al-Qaeda network and the Taliban, but the US was pursuing its long term interest in the regions. If, the Taliban's refusal of handing over Osama to the US was the sole incentive of the US attack on Afghanistan, the US would have left the region when Osama was killed in Islamabad. Some analysts believe that the US's interest in the regions is the encirclement of its rivals China and Russia which this country has not yet achieved and still the US is far away of the Central Asia's resources.

Now, after 18 years from the US attack on Afghanistan, the US's only achievement is that war continues in Afghanistan and the US has kept its military presence in the region. If the international community wants to resolve the issue in Afghanistan; the only solution for Afghan issue is that the Afghans must be allowed to make their efforts for national reconciliation and resolve their issues among themselves.

America must make up for all its shortcomings in the past 18 years by bringing a just and lasting peace to the country.

Is Kashmir's problem related to Afghan peace?



Current Government of India, led by BJP party leader Narendra Modi, has been in existence for more than 70 years since last August in law 370 of the Constitution on Indian-controlled Kashmir, which gave special privileges to Kashmir. Were done, and destroyed as a free zone. The Pakistani authorities then called Kashmir's problem linked to Afghan peace, whether or not the Kashmir issue was directly related to Afghan peace. These are analyzed in this analysis.

A quick look at the Kashmir crisis

After India and Pakistan gained independence from the British Empire after 1940, the two countries claim that Kashmir is part of the country, two of the three wars waged with each other over Kashmir. About seventy thousand people have lost their lives. There are more military forces in Kashmir than in other parts of the world, and local Kashmiris are again strongly opposed to the presence of Indian forces and support those who stand against Indian forces.

Put down of Article 370 and the present situation of Kashmir

On August 5 this year, after 70 years, India abolished Article 370 of the Constitution which gave special privileges and powers to India-controlled Kashmir. According to

this article, Kashmir was an autonomous region under Indian control. Residents of other parts of India could not buy land here. People of this region had their own constitution and their own special flag. But in the areas of defense, foreign affairs and communications, again under the official influence of the Central Government, after the expiry of this Article, Kashmir was chosen as the other Indian state, now people of other states can buy land here and there. Raise capital, and his special status is over. Now a large number of Indian forces are stationed there, banned and many political leaders and protesters have been arrested. Former Kashmir Minister Omar Abdullah called the Indian government a unilateral decision to abolish the article, and the current minister, Mehbooba Mufti, who closed the house after the expiry of Article 370, made August 5th a dark day for Indian democracy. The current ruling party of India has drawn sharp criticism. According to international newspapers, Indian forces have tortured a large number of people in Srinagar, telephone and internet services have been shut down, health centers are closed or low-level services, educational institutions are closed and the day-to-day is on the verge of collapse. The series continues.

Kashmir problem from a global perspective

Turkey and some other countries, including the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, have reacted seriously to Kashmir, Pakistan has again complained to the international community to stop the persecution of Indian forces by oppressed Kashmiris. At the 42nd session of the Geneva Convention, Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi spoke on the Kashmir problem and informed the world of India's excesses and harassment that India had rejected the claims altogether. India again says this is an internal issue and does not give anyone the right to comment or advise on this, claiming that Indian forces have full respect for human rights and only prevent separatists and eliminate Article 370. Taking it as a step forward for the Kashmiris and the country as a whole. Pakistan then views India-occupied Kashmir as an abusive territory occupied by India and asserts itself as a right, and has called for the support of the international community, including China, Turkey and Islamic countries. Other than China and Turkey, the problem of Kashmir is considered as an intermediate problem between Pakistan and India and calls on both countries to find solutions. After the UAE government took India's step, the Indian Prime Minister also delivered a high-profile sign to Mr. Modi, which again triggered severe backlash in Pakistan, and the Sheikh of the United Arab

Emirates did so in favor of oppressed Kashmiris. Noted the great and unforgiving cruelty and excesses.

Afghan peace and Kashmir problem

The Pakistani authorities' claims that the Kashmir issue is related to Afghan peace are largely baseless, with Shahbaz Sharif speaking to Pakistani officials about the Kashmir problem linked to Afghan peace and Imran Khan. He blamed his deal with President Trump on Kashmir in the fight against Afghan peace, not only because it was rejected by Prime Minister Imran himself, but because Trump's remarks on Kashmir were the result of South Asian economic development. Selected part. And secondly, the problems of Afghanistan and Kashmir historically have nothing to do with each other, because in the Kashmir issue, the people of Afghanistan have always expressed their hope of ending the calamity that has started with the oppressed Kashmiris. These reckless allegations by Pakistani authorities not only said that India was a baseless desire to diminish the influence and attract international attention, but also failed to do so. The oppressed Kashmiris should be set to decide their own fate, and the international community should take bold steps in this regard and let other oppressed people of Kashmir have a dark future.

There is no denying that instability in each country can affect the respective regions indirectly and indirectly, but as Pakistani officials directly link the Kashmir problem to Afghan peace, it is only in the two neighboring countries. As such, it can help to break the ties between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Because the Kashmir problem is one of the most complex problems that have been ignored from the first time, but unfortunately India and Pakistan want to exploit Afghan tensions in the Kashmir problem and make Afghanistan their competition. It is not acceptable to the Afghan people at any cost.

India and Pakistan's erroneous policies on Kashmir, like the region and the country of Afghanistan, which have no access to the sea and its trade with India, which is conveniently done through Pakistan, also face unknown fears and fears. And while Pakistan has recently taken the necessary steps to facilitate Afghan traders and rebuild their economic stability, it is feared that the Kashmir problem will hamper these developments, giving them peace and stability among regional traders. Concerns have been raised, but on the other hand, it could do more harm to Pakistan than it does to economic problems, as Afghanistan now has other alternatives to

Pakistan for its economic development so that Afghan traders can use it. Conduct transactions through those alternatives.

If the US does not allow both Pakistan and India to benefit from destabilizing the region and using Afghanistan as a competitive arena, this could impede regional security in the future. And on the other hand, China, which favors Pakistan in the Kashmir issue, should exploit its strategic and regional role to bring both India and Pakistan to a permanent solution to the Kashmir issue, so that the oppressed Kashmiris are persecuted and helpless. Local killings are over. If China does not do so, then China's major economic projects, such as CPEC and One Belt One Road, could also be a major hurdle, as China's major economic projects could be implemented in the region. Security is very important.

Conclusion

The assertions by Pakistani officials that the Kashmir problem is related to Afghan peace are largely baseless. And the problem of the oppressed people and Muslims of Kashmir, which has been going on between Pakistan and India for the last seventy years, must be worked out to find a permanent solution to it, and the rest should be left to the area which is economic, cultural and cultural. It is historically of special importance to be exposed to the malicious politics of both countries. The Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the international community and the Islamic countries in particular should listen to the voices of the oppressed Kashmiris and silence them further and their rights should be paid special attention to, and not just because of this work. The beautiful Kashmir region will be relieved of ongoing unrest, but the region, and especially the Afghan peace process, which Pakistani officials are doing, will end, and Afghanistan will reach a lasting peace in the near future.

Contact Us:

Email: info@csrskabul.com - csrskabul@gmail.com

Website: www.csrskabul.com - www.csrskabul.af

Office: (+93) 202564049 93-+ (0) 784089590

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