

# AFFECTS OF TALIBAN AND BOKO HARAM ON THE EDUCATION SYSTEM OF PAKISTAN AND NIGERIA

Dr. Nuzhat Fatima

Deputy Dean Faculty of Education, Sokoto State University, Sokoto, Nigeria

---

**Abstract:** This paper is about the affects of Taliban and Boko Haram on the Education systems of the respective countries, i.e. Pakistan and Nigeria. As these both countries are badly affected by these two militant groups. The problems which the people of these countries are facing cannot be understood by the people who are living in peaceful atmosphere. This paper is comparative analysis of the both groups and their activities. And what are their effects on the education system of the both counties. These both militant groups are against the girl education and they consider themselves as Islamic militants. As far as Islamic view is concerned girls are allowed to get every useful type of education within the limits of Islam and which is not contradicted with Islamic values. There is no concept of eastern and western education in Islam. Muslims are even encouraged to get education and there are so many Quranic verses about gaining the knowledge.

**Keywords:** Education, Islam, Girls, Taliban, Boko Haram, Quran.

---

## I. INTRODUCTION

Pakistan get freedom in 1947 from British Govt. And sub-continent was divided into Bharat and Pakistan. Pakistan was given the name of Islamic Republic of Pakistan. Eventually, a successful movement led by Jinnah gained independence from the British, on 14 August 1947. While Bharat considered itself as secular nation. (Presently they call their self India).

On 12 March 1949, the first constituent assembly of Pakistan passed the Objectives Resolution which was proposed by the first Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan, proclaimed that the future constitution of Pakistan would not be modeled entirely on a European pattern, but on the ideology and democratic faith of Islam. The legislative elections in 1954 saw the Awami League coming to power and its leader Hussain Suhrawardy becoming country's first Bengali Prime minister. Promulgation of Constitution in 1956 lead to Pakistan declaring itself Islamic republic (official name) with the adoption of parliamentary democratic system of government. The constitution transformed the Governor-General of Pakistan into President of Pakistan (as head of state). Subsequently, Iskander Mirza became the first president as well as first Bengali in 1956, but the democratic system was stalled after President Mirza imposed the military coup d'état and appointed Ayub Khan as an enforcer of martial law. Two weeks later, President Mirza was ousted by Ayub Khan; his presidency saw an era of internal instability and a second war with Bharat in 1965. And Bharat have to sit back after badly defeated by Pakistan. Economic grievances and political disenfranchisement in East Pakistan led to violent political tensions and armed repression, escalating into guerrilla war followed by the third war with Bharat. As Bharat was supporting all the guerrilla's during the war. Pakistan's defeat in the war ultimately led to the secession of East Pakistan and the birth of Bangladesh. As Bharat never accepted Pakistan so they always try to create instability in Pakistan and even now they are involved in different provinces and trying to destabilize Pakistan.

Democracy again returned which was resumed from 1972 to 1977 under leftist PPP led by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, until he was vanquished by General Zia-ul-Haq, who became the country's third military president. Pakistan's banished-secular policies were replaced by the new Islamic Shariah legal code, which increased religious influences on the civil service and the military. With the death of President Zia-ul-Haq in 1988, the new general elections announced the victory of PPP led by Benazir Bhutto who was elevated as the country's first female Prime Minister of Pakistan. Over the next decade, she

alternated power with conservative Pakistan Muslim League-N (PML(N)) led by Nawaz Sharif, as the country's political and economic situation becoming worsen. Military tensions in the Kargil conflict with India were followed by a 1999 coup d'état in which General Pervez Musharraf assumed executive powers.

Self-appointing himself as President after the resignation of President Rafiq Tarar, Musharraf held nation-wide general elections in 2002 to transfer the executive powers to newly elected Prime Minister Zafarullah Khan Jamali, who was succeeded in the 2004 by Shaukat Aziz. During the election campaign in 2007 following the parliament completing its term on 15 November 2007, Benazir Bhutto was assassinated which resulted in a series of important political developments when left-wing alliance led by PPP. The historic general elections held in 2013 marked the return of PML(N) coming to national prominence with Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif assuming the leadership of the country for the third time in the history.

On the other hand Nigeria also got freedom from British Govt. Nigeria was colonized by Britain in 1885, and became a British protectorate in 1901. Colonization lasted until 1960 until an independence movement succeeded in gaining Nigeria its independence. Nigeria was officially founded in October 1, 1960.

Nigeria first became a republic when it was founded, but succumbed to military rule in 1966 after a military coup. General Johnson Aguiyi-Ironsi took power. A separatist movement later formed the Republic of Biafra in 1967, leading to the three year Nigerian Civil War. Nigeria became a republic again after a new constitution was written in 1977. The republic was short lived, being overthrown by Major General Muhammadu Buhari in 1983. He was later overthrown and a new republic was founded. In 1993, the republic was dissolved again by Sani Abacha. Abacha later died in 1998 and General Abdulsalami Abubakar took power. A fourth republic was later established in 1999 and military rule ended. Today, the president of Nigeria is Goodluck Johnathan. He governs a population of 168.8 million people. He is tasked with rebuilding Nigeria's petroleum-based economy and fighting off the Islamic militant group Boko Haram.

## II. BACKGROUND

(Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati Wal-Jihad), known by its Hausa name Boko Haram (pronounced [bõ:kò: hàrà̀m]; figuratively meaning "Western education is sin"), is a terrorist organization based in northeastern Nigeria, north Cameroon and Niger. Founded by Mohammed Yusuf in 2002, the organization seeks to establish a "pure" Islamic state ruled by sharia, putting a stop to what it deems Westernization.

As far as Taliban are concerned according to Aljazeera TV they are divided into three groups.

## III. HEZB-I-ISLAMI

Hezb-i-Islami ("Islamic Party") is often called a "Taliban" group, but it actually predates the latter by more than a decade. The party was founded in 1975 by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, who would later serve a brief stint as prime minister of Afghanistan; it played a key role in helping to expel the Soviets from Afghanistan.

The movement eventually split in two. One branch, a non-violent political party, now controls more than a dozen seats in the Afghan parliament and claims to be independent from Hekmatyar. The other remained loyal to Hekmatyar; it is often referred to as the Hezb-i-Islami Gulbuddin (HiG), and claims to command several thousand fighters in eastern Afghanistan.

## IV. QUETTA SHURA TALIBAN

Named after the Pakistani city where it is believed to be headquartered, the Quetta Shura consists of much of the senior leadership from the Taliban movement, which ruled Afghanistan until 2001.

Mullah Mohammed Omar - the Taliban's "commander of the faithful" - heads the organization, which routinely stages attacks against Nato forces in Afghanistan. The Quetta Shura also runs a "shadow government" in Afghanistan.

## V. HAQQANI NETWORK

The eponymous organization named after its leader, Jalaluddin Haqqani. The group is responsible for some of Afghanistan's highest-profile attacks, including a January 2008 attack on the Serena Hotel in Kabul - a favorite expat haunt - and an April 2008 assassination attempt against Afghan president Hamid Karzai.

## VI. PAKISTANI TALIBAN

Across the border, meanwhile, the Pakistani Taliban's umbrella organisation - the Tehrik-i-Taliban - encompasses armed groups led by several commanders, including Hakimullah Mehsud, Hafiz Gul Bahadur, Maulvi Nazir and others. They are supported by a number of sympathetic groups like Lashkar-e-Jhangvi.

## VII. GIRL EDUCATION AND VIEWPOINTS OF BOTH MILITANT GROUPS

As both the groups are against the girl education and they are trying to close all the schools for girls. Taliban in Pakistan are trying to close almost all the schools in North Waziristan in Pakistan. And also Boko Haram want to close all the school in Northern Nigeria. As they both have the same ideology about the girl education and they both called them as Islamic Militant Groups. They both attack the educational institutions in their respective countries. Taliban are created by Afghanistan and now they are trying to take control of their Neighbor Pakistan as the way they are dealing people in their own country. Initially they try to ban the female education in their country and now they started the same action in the border area of Pakistan shared by Afghanistan. As Pakistan was the only one country who not only welcome the huge number of refugees from Afghanistan but also provided them shelter, safety and educational facilities. Boko Haram is also the creation of Taliban, they both have the same mission. They are creating the bad image of Islam in the rest of the world. As they can be supported by some non-Islamic organization to spoil the soft image of Islam, as non-Muslim throughout the world are afraid of the quick spread of Islam. Because the Islam is only religion gives us the complete code of conduct and ideology of life. It is no where mentioned in Islam that girls are not allowed to her education. It is no where mentioned that western education is a sin. And Muslims are not allowed to get the western education. As if the education you are getting is not contradict with your religion and your religious ideology, then there is no harm to get that education. If they consider education in English is western even in that case we are not restricted as English is just a Language like any other language. Islamic perspective gives us the knowledge to deal firmly with your women. Nobody is allowed to hurt them. Even they are allowed to work within the limits of their religion, if that would be the case that women are not allowed to work then our Holy Prophet would be the first one to stop His wife Khadija from the work/business.

## VIII. ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVE OF EDUCATION

But according to Islam girl education is not banned in Islam.

According to Holy Quran:

(كَمَا أَرْسَلْنَا فِيكُمْ رَسُولًا مِّنكُمْ يَتْلُوا عَلَيْكُمْ آيَاتِنَا وَيُزَكِّيكُمْ وَيُعَلِّمُكُمُ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَيُعَلِّمُكُم مَّا لَمْ تَكُونُوا تَعْلَمُونَ)

*Likewise, We have sent you (Our) Messenger (blessings and peace be upon him) from amongst yourselves who recites to you Our Revelations and purifies and sanctifies (your hearts and ill-commanding selves) and teaches you the Book and inculcates in you logic and wisdom and enlightens you (on the mysteries of spiritual gnosis and divine truth) which you did not know. [al-Baqara, 2:151.]*

The Holy Qur'an also states:

(قُلْ هَلْ يَسْتَوِي الَّذِينَ يَعْلَمُونَ وَالَّذِينَ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ إِنَّمَا يَتَذَكَّرُ أُولُو الْأَلْبَابِ)

*Say: 'Can those who have knowledge and those who do not be alike?' So only the wise do receive the admonition. [al-Zumar, 39:9.]*

The Holy Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) said:

«طَلَبُ الْعِلْمِ فَرِيضَةٌ عَلَى كُلِّ مُسْلِمٍ».

Acquisition of knowledge is binding on all Muslims (both men and women without any discrimination). [Narrated by Ibn Maja in al-Sunan, 1:81 §224.]

The Holy Prophet (blessings and peace be upon him) also said at another place:

«اطْلُبُوا الْعِلْمَ وَلَوْ بِالصِّينِ».

Acquire knowledge even if you may have to go to China for it. [Narrated by al-Bazzar in al-Musnad, 1:175 §95.]

## IX. TALIBAN WARNED THE FOREIGNER TO LEAVE THE PAKISTAN

"I [...] would like to warn all foreigners, airlines, and multinational companies to leave Pakistan. [If they don't] they will have only themselves to blame for damage caused to their properties or staff," said Shahidullah Shahid, the spokesman for the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan

Shahid added that the organization was prepared to face the military and engage them in battle because they knew that such an outcome would come about "sooner or later."

He warned that the Taliban's "fighters would bring the battle inside the territory of Pakistan" and that its main targets would be foreigners, multinational companies and airlines as well as Pakistani government institutions.

The Pakistani military initially launched the "Zarb-e-Azb" operation to wipe out militant activity in the country due to peace talks between the government and the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan being unsuccessful.

The Taliban claims that it was left with no option but to respond in an equally aggressive manner. "We were always ready [for talks], but the government never was and never will be," Shahid said.

## X. AFFECTS OF BOTH MILITANT GROUPS ON THEIR SOCIETIES

As both groups share almost the same ideology. So they are trying to keep both the countries backward in the case of education and specifically for the girl's education. Why Boko Haram is creating tension in Muslim majority area? They both are just trying to spoil the image of Islam and to create the harassment among the people. Killing innocent people is not allowed in any case. From where these militants group are coming and from where they are being supported, this is yet to find out. Because to hold such type of latest equipment and to get the information about every area and to fight on large scale. All these things are still answerable. No group can nourish like this without the outsourcing, and aid from the other groups. Another point to think is why these militant groups are always working on the name of Islam? Why not some other religions? Why they try to take control of those countries from which mostly non-Muslim countries are afraid off? Either their rich cultural background, their strong education system or their strong societal values or their geographic area? Why they have problem with the foreign investment? Or these countries are so weak that they cannot stop someone creating problem with their countries? Or anyone can come and try to impose his/her own system and ideology on them? Or they are so weak in implementing the Islam in their society that anyone can hijack their view point and society?

## REFERENCES

- [1] <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/asia/2010/06/20106618450763838.html>.
- [2] <http://www.pangeatoday.com/taliban-to-foreigners-leave-pakistan-or-get-hurt>.
- [3] <http://www.minhaj.org/english/tid/8535/Women-Education-in-Islam-article-by-dr-raheeq-ahmad-rahiq-ahmed-abbasi-nazim-e-aala-mqi-minhaj-ul-quran.html>.
- [4] "Profile of Nigeria's Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau". BBC News. 22 June 2012. Retrieved 18 March 2013.
- [5] "Nigeria policemen in court trial for Boko Haram killing". BBC News. 13 July 2011.
- [6] "Innermost thoughts of The Islamist group Boko Haram". Reporters Without Borders.
- [7] Obinna, Ogonnaya (29 September 2011). "Boko Haram is battle for 2015, says Chukwumerije". The Nation.
- [8] Murphy, Dan (6 May 2014). "Boko Haram doesn't really mean Western education is a sin". The Christian Science Monitor.
- [9] Cook, David (26 September 2011). "The Rise of Boko Haram in Nigeria". Combating Terrorism Centre. Retrieved 2012-01-12.
- [10] Ibeh, Nnenna (June 5, 2013). "Boko Haram members flee to Niger as Nigerian military arrest 55 terrorists in Yobe, Borno". The Premium Times. Retrieved June 2013.

- [11] Burstin, André (1 March 2013). "Boko Haram and The risk of terrorism in northern Cameroon". ESISC Research Associate. Retrieved 2013-05-09.
- [12] Agbambu, Chris; Bwala, James; Ibrahim, Hassan; Usigbe, Leon (9 May 2013). "Bama attackers were Nigerians, Cameroonians". The Nigerian Tribune. Retrieved 2013-05-09.
- [13] Moses, Chika (22 October 2012). "Boko Haram killed Cameroonian mayor". Pilot Africa. Retrieved 2013-05-11.
- [14] "Boko Haram: Rocking the Nigerian boat". France24. 27 December 2011.
- [15] Walker, Andrew (June 2012). "What is Boko Haram?" (PDF). US Institute of Peace. Retrieved 2 October 2013.
- [16] "Dozens killed in Nigeria clashes". Al Jazeera. 24 December 2011. Retrieved 2011-12-24.
- [17] Olugbode, Michael (2 February 2011). "Nigeria: We Are Responsible for Borno Killings, Says Boko Haram". All Africa. Retrieved 31 January 2012.
- [18] Lobel, Mark (30 April 2012). "Deadly attack on Nigeria's Bayero university". BBC. Retrieved 5 May 2012.
- [19] "Nigeria: Dozens dead in church bombings and rioting". BBC. 17 June 2012. Retrieved 22 June 2012.
- [20] Campbell, John (1 October 2013). "Should US fear Boko Haram?". October 1, 2013 (CNN). Retrieved 2 October 2013.
- [21] "Nigeria school attack claims 42 lives". The Australian. AFP. 6 July 2013. Retrieved 6 July 2013.
- [22] "School attack kills 30 in northeast Nigeria". Newsday. AP. 6 June 2013. Retrieved 6 July 2013.
- [23] Allen, John L Jr (2013). *The Catholic Church: What Everyone Needs to Know*. Oxford University Press. pp. 166–67.
- [24] Campbell, John (2013). *Nigeria: Dancing on the Brink*. Rowman & Littlefield. p. 139. ISBN 978-1-4422-2157-4.
- [25] Pernice, Massimo (May 21, 2013). "Nigeria's war on terrorism: Combating Boko Haram". The World Outline.
- [26] Pernice, Massimo (April 18, 2013). "Spitting in the face of peace: Boko Haram's continued aims". The World Outline.
- [27] "Terrorism in Nigeria: A dangerous new level". The Economist. 3 September 2011. Retrieved 2011-09-07.
- [28] "Leadership Analysis of Boko Haram and Ansaru in Nigeria". Retrieved 23 May 2014.
- [29] "The List established and maintained by the Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee with respect to individuals, groups, undertakings and other entities associated with Al-Qaida". 22 May 2014. United Nations Security Council (UNSC). Retrieved 22 May 2014.
- [30] "UN committee imposes sanctions on Nigeria's Boko Haram". BBC News Africa. 22 May 2014. Retrieved 22 May 2014.
- [31] Adebayo, Akanmu G (2012), *Managing Conflicts in Africa's Democratic Transitions*, p. 176.