



CONTEMPORARY TERRORISM AND GANDHIAN VIEWS

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***Abstract-** Terrorism is spreading among almost all the nations-may be developed, developing or small and under developed countries. It is necessary to mention here, what is terrorism? The terrorists call it 'Zehad'. This term Zehad has undoubtedly great importance in Islam religion. But it is being started only when Islam is in danger. It is the ultimate saver of Islam.*

In the present era the "Zehad" has taken another ugly shape such as forcing their wishes, to fulfill their obstinacy and to get their supporters rid from the legal actions taken against them in any country. Among muslims there are two main sects - 'Shiya' and 'Sunny', both of them remain draggers drawn towards each other. To my mind it spread right from the time of division of India- Hindustan and Pakistan. All the Hindus and Muslims were living here in peace. There are instances that Muslim worries fought in the form of 'Senapati' in Hindu states and Hindus doing so in Islamic states. In Hyderabad Nizam sahib of Hayderabad used to call 'Holi Id' and 'Diwali Id' and Hindus participated in 'Idul-fitar' and 'Id-ul-zuha'. After the division of India it was found that the boggies of train bringing Hindus from Pakistan fill of blood and dead men, women and children and similar scene was in the boggies of the train taking Muslims to Pakistan. Here it shall be relevant to project the views of Gandhi ji in his own words:

ISLAM- The sword is no emblem of Islam. If I understand the spirit of Islam properly, it is essentially republican in the truest sense of the term. The very word Islam means peace which is non-violence. Islam would cease to be a world religion if it were to rely upon force for its propagation. I feel about the honor of Islam as much as I feel about my own religion. I have more than once read the Quran. My religion enables me, obliges me, to imbibe all that is good in all the great religions on the earth. This does not mean that I must accept the interpretation put upon the message of the Prophet of Islam or any other Prophet. I must use the limited intelligence that God has given me to interpret the teachings bequeathed to mankind by the Prophets of the world.

Religion binds man to God and man to man. Does Islam bind only Muslims to Muslim and antagonize the Hindu? Was the message of the Prophet, peace only for and between Muslims and war against

non-Muslims and Hindus? Are eight crores of Muslims to be fed with this which I can only describe as poison. Those who are instilling the poison into the Muslim mind are rendering the greatest disservice to Islam. I know that it is no Islam. I have lived among Muslims not for one day but closely and almost uninterruptedly for twenty years. Not one Muslim taught me that Islam was an anti Hindu religion.

Islam is a noble faith. Trust it and its followers. I do regard Islam to be a religion of peace in the same sense as Christianity, Buddhism and Hinduism are. No doubt there are differences in degree, but the object of these religion is peace. I know the passages that can be quoted from the Koran to the contrary. But it is possible to quote passage from the Vedas to the contrary. Let not the pot call the kettle black.

The fact is that we are all growing. I have given my opinion that the followers of Islam are too free with the sword. But that is not due to the teaching of the Koran. That is due, in my opinion, to the environment in which Islam was born. Christianity has a bloody record against it, not because Jesus was found wanting, but because the environment in which it spread was not responsive to his lofty teaching.

These two, Christianity and Islam are, after all, religions of but yesterday. They are yet in the course of being interpreted. I reject the claim of Maulvis to give a final interpretation to the message of Mohammed, as I reject that of the Christian clergy to give a final interpretation to the message of Jesus. Both are being

interpreted in the lives of those who are giving these messages in silence and in perfect self-dedication.

My association with the noblest of Musalmans has taught me to see that Islam has spread not by the power of the sword but by the prayerful love of an unbroken line of its saints and fakirs. Warrant there is in Islam for drawing the sword; but the conditions laid down are so strict that they are not capable of being fulfilled by everybody. Where is the unerring General to order Jihad? Where is the suffering, the love and the purification that must precede the very idea of drawing the sword? Hindus are at least as much bound by the similar restrictions as the Musalmans of India. The Sikhs have their recent proud history to warn them against the use of force. We are too imperfect, too impure and too selfish, as yet to resort to an armed conflict in the cause of God.

NON-VIOLENCE- We must secure an atmosphere of enlightened non-violence as fast as possible, not the non-violence of the weak but the non-violence of the strong, who would disdain to kill but would gladly die for the vindication of the Truth.

The religion of non-violence is not meant merely for the Rishis and Saints. It is meant for the common people as well.

Non-violence in its dynamic conditions means conscious suffering. It does not mean meek submission to the will of the evil-doer, but it means the putting of one's whole soul against the will of the tyrant.

My non-violence does admit of

people who cannot or will not be non-violence holding and making effective use of arms. Let me repeat for the thousandth time that non-violence is of the strongest, not of the weak. So far as terrorism is concerned in India almost everyday the news of terrorism is found in every newspaper. Jammu and Kashmir of India has become a open field of playing bloody game by the terrorists every now and then. Some times we read that terrorists trying to enter from the line of control (LOC) into India. Who have been killed into encounter by the B.S.F. of India, Sometimes incidents of blood shed in the valley by 'Fedayan' attack are found in the newspapers. The blood flowing the Kashmir is always red in colour, may it be of a terrorist or of a soldier of B.S.F. in the encounter.

For the last twenty five years India is facing terrorism on its land but the countries keeping hold on the universe remain silent over this issue without sending any help on the ground that they are neutral. None of the countries felt the grief of the people of India, which is known as the country supporting peace in the universe.

EXPANSION OF TERRORISM- The secret agency of Pakistan namely ISI after making irruption of Afganistan put its full concentration on India and started spreading its network in our country. In the last month of the year 1994 present president of Pakistan Mr. Nawaz Sharif defeated the Government of 'Mrs. Benazir Bhutto' and declared Pakistan as Islamic state. In this regime ISI organization started imparting training of

spreading terrorism in Kashmir, which is in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal and after being trained, Pakistan increased their efforts to send these trained terrorists in the Camps in Indian territory, like Punjab and Kashmir besides Mumbai and in The North-East states.

In North-East states ISI started triangular policy which is given under-

1- Landing terrorists in India via Nepal and spreading terrorism in the nearest parts to LOC.

2- To provide more help to terrorists and to enrich them with more lethal weapons.

3- By motivating youths in favour of Islamic fanaticism and to spread the fanaticism among Muslims dwelling in India and also to force them into militant activities against our Nation.

However, this policy of increasing the number of Muslim extremists succeeded. There are some specific reasons for joining the organizations of terrorism among Muslim youths such as remaining uneducated in a large number, poverty, unemployment and merciless etc. Uneducated poverty stricken and unemployed youths victimized by suggestibility, meaning thereby accepting with any suggestion giving to them without considering its 'Pros and Cons'. They are allured by the money and amenities provided to them or promised to provide. It is not very difficult to such youths may be of any country. Thus, the organization of terrorism has taken a global shape.

The father of Indian Nation Mahatma Gandhi was of the opinion that terrorism should be fought using

non-violence. It should not be misinterpreted. The reason behind the theory of non-violence was for those destructive means would negate any positive benefits in the victory of struggles. It can be said now that Gandhi would have responded to terrorism, he never said that do nothing at all. We can find in his writing's that he regarded cowardice as beneath content. He further wrote, "Where there is a choice between cowardice and violence, I would advise violence." This statement of Gandhi ji appears to be justified when violence seems to be the only resort to fight terrorism. For example some persons suddenly appears with arms and ammunitions in order to loot and kill, according to Gandhian theory it becomes to become violent against such person because it is the only option let out.

Now, It can be imagined how Gandhi ji would have reacted in case of contemporary form of terrorism, no doubt It would have been violence and not non-violence. In the year 2005 when a suicide bomber was attacking in London and imagine Gandhi ji Standing nearby what would have response to that attack. He might have chosen to wrestle with him and subduing him instead giving him preaching non-violence.

Behind the jehadi war is a conflict between ideas and world views. In saying this I do not mean to be little the importance of the struggle, for ideas can have enormous power. But the contest between differing ways of perceiving the world and the relationship between political and moral

order, the struggle has a remarkably moralistic tone. The enemies are not really individuals as much as they are ways of thinking. Both sidea define their goals as freedom. On one side it is the liberty to choose a nation's own officials through democracy or democratic elections. On the other side these positions have been magnified into a moral contest of such proportions that it has become a sacred struggle. The enemies have become cosmic foes. Large numbers of Both sidea define their goals as freedom. On one side it is the liberty to choose a nation's own officials through democracy or democratic elections. On the other side these positions have been magnified into a moral contest of such proportions that it has become a sacred struggle. The enemies have become cosmic foes. Large numbers of innocent people have been killed with moral indifference, with the self-righteous thinking that God is on one's side.

It is a major question that, "Is a nonviolent approach to conflict resolution relevant to the global jehadi war?" Consider the guidelines that Gandhi ji enunciated in response to the terrorism of the Indian activists in Britain in 1909. They might be applied to the current situation in following way-Stop a situation of violence in its tracks. The first rule of non-violence is to stop an act of violence as it occurs, to prevent it before it happens. Gandhi ji would have approved of efforts to capture those involved in acts of terrorism and bring them to justice, and he would have applauded attempts to-ward off future terrorist assaults

through the legal forms of surveillance and detection that have been adopted. Even those measures that seem to be aimed only at giving the appearance of security have a certain utility, since they diminish the prime effects of terrorism fear and intimidation. But even though Gandhi ji occasionally supported military action, But it is doubtful that he would have accepted large-scale military operations as a response to terrorist acts, especially if they left large number of casualties in their wake. Nor would he have approved of changes in the legal system that would deprive the public of its rights.

Terrorism in India started on the issue of Kashmir. As a matter of fact a region that is also claimed by two religious communities hacked by India and Pakistan the two governments. It will not be beyond imagination that India and Pakistan could not join in a settlement. Therefore, it is not in a position to solve this dispute by conversation and in a non-violent way.

In the present conditions when 'Zehadi War' has spread to Global level. Then President of U.S.A. Mr. George W. Bush described it as 'The war of terror.' This name of war was given another name is 2001 and called 'struggle against radical Islam.'

In the year 2005 Osama-bin-Laden enunciated his own proclamation of this war in 'Fatwa' against united states. In the year 1996 he called on Muslims to join him in order to correct the happened to the Islamic world in general since the end of Ottoman Empire. According to him the aim was "To return to the people their own rights,

particularly after the large damages and the great aggression on the life and the religion of the people." He concentrated on the students who were poor, less educated or uneducated and living in poverty and gave the name of 'Taliban' to them.

Too many meetings have been arranged to solve the problem of Kashmir. So called Train service and Bus services in both countries are running as peace resorts but without avails.

In the year 1992 ISI became active in U.P. soon after the fall of 'Babri Masjid' in Ayodhya. With the result it spread's its network within a span of two years only in five sensitive districts namely Aligarh, Ghaziabad, Meerut, Saharanpur and Mooradabad. Here Hindus and Muslims both are trading, some muslims out of them come into higher class and they are earning a very good amount of money. But the youths coming from the rich family have shown no interest in education. Consiquently they are unemployed, less educated or uneducated easily become the victim of fanatic religious 'Ulemas.' Thus, in a large number of students of Muslim Community are being recruited and they are being trained in the various camps of terrorists and with the allurements of money and better life to their family members. They readily accept to become suicidal bombs besides being a soldier of 'Gorrila War.' The sources of income is from 'Loot of Banks and ATM's' besides the money provided by the Muslim countries under terror and also from the politicians and receiving ransom's from the celebrities engaged in film industry.

The concept terrorism is a result of narrow thinking motivated by religious fanaticism. This being brought in to practice by 'Al-Qaeda', ISIS, SIMI, Indian Muzahideen etc. Considering the violent nature of these organizations globally. Many countries like USA, Great Britain, Germany, Japan, India etc. have joined hands to fight out this devil so called war of terror in order to save the world from terrorism and providing security to their citizens.

Ultimately it can be concluded that Mahatma Gandhi also considered to the fact that not being a coward where, there is no option we can bravely face the situation using violence.

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