

Objectives and Motivations of Terrorist Groups in Sistan and Baluchestan

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Abstract: Geography of terrorism examines effect of the geographical area on shaping phenomenon of terrorism in geographic spaces. In Iran, geographical and geopolitical features of the country have had a great impact on shaping terrorist activities, especially in border and marginal areas. This influence is much more severe and more objective in south east of Iran (Sistan-Baluchestan). Due to specific geographical, historical, social, cultural and ethnic features, south east of Iran has always been considered as one of geopolitical regions; in terms of political geography, it is a region with potential divergence and extensive spaces to shape terrorist groups. In the present research, we are seeking to answer the question that what are the main motivations and objectives of terrorist groups, particularly in Sistan-Baluchistan, on south east of Iran from 2001 to 2011. Hypothesis corresponding to the question is as follows: it seems that the main motives and aims of terrorist groups in the region include visibility of the affected ideological attractive quality by Salafi Takfiri and Wahhabi thoughts and its relation with Wahhabism geopolitic, the phenomenon of drug trafficking, ethnic and tribal divergence, political weakness and instability in neighboring countries, involving regional and intraregional powers and so on. In this paper, we review shaping terrorist groups in Sistan-Baluchistan province, in addition to study is analyz the main motivations and objectives of such groups in the region.

Keywords: Motivation, Goals, Sistan-Baluchistan, Terrorism, Terrorist Groups.

Introduction

In political literature, terror refers to violence actions and acts to achieve political objectives by eliminating competitors. In the second half of twentieth century, it has become as an ongoing concern and intellectual doctrine to justify using force and violence to advance political goals, although it has a long history. To define terrorism in a number of titles in the list of issues of international security, the United Nations tried to separate terrorism from non-terrorism phenomena, for many years. There are differences between various countries to define terrorism in international community by insisting that it is defined as an illegal behavior. Some countries believe to root causes of terrorism, while others believe that it will justify and legitimate terrorism (Dahmardeh, 2012). Terrorist is a person who attempts to terror and terrorism is an approach that is used to achieve objectives. Terrorism is not limited to a particular country or continent. In general, some reasons of formation and activities of terrorists include: lack of democracy, lack of rule of law, weakness of good governance, lack of social justice, supporting illegitimate regimes, unequal distribution of values, historical experiences of violent conflicts, the bankrupted states,

governmental and out of control holes, hegemony in international system, globalization of culture and economic and the destructive modernism. In the meantime, Iran is one of the affected countries by terrorism and terrorist attacks, which it is more severe in border and marginal areas (Hersich, 2001: 21). Following the Islamic Revolution, government of the Islamic Republic of Iran faced with several crises in different parts, while due to fall the previous regime did not have a strong and effective administrative, political, military and security system. Some of the crises include riots of different groups, including in Khuzestan, northern forests, Amol, Turkmen Sahra, Kurdistan and Sistan-Baluchestan. However, People's Mujahedin of Iran and Kurdistan Free Life Party or PJAK (Kurds in West of Iran) were the major terrorist groups to challenge the central government of the Islamic Republic of Iran that their aggressive actions against the Islamic Republic are obvious for all people. However, Jundallah Terrorist Group, under leadership of Abdulmalik Rigi, is another emerged terrorist group in continue with the ethnic and tribal turmoil that in particular, it has recently conducted actions to challenge the central government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The terrorist group has been originated from Sistan-Baluchestan that was strengthened, after emerging the Taliban, by taking advantage of popularity of this group for some of Sunnite Baluch.

The terrorist group took a new form by supporting the Taliban group and due to economic poverty along ethnic and religious divide in Sistan-Baluchistan and paved the path for violence acts of the terrorist group. In the last two decades, political instability in Afghanistan and occurring multiple civil wars in the country have had negative impacts on national security, especially security of border areas of Iran (Poorkhosravani, 2003). There have been presented different viewpoints about reasons for the formation of terrorist activity in Iran's southeastern border, in particular Sistan-Baluchistan. In a report titled "Islamist opposition in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jundallah and the spread of extremist Deobandi", the Norwegian Defense Research Institute stated that the main factor of shaping Jundallah terrorist group in Iran's southeastern border is the influenced violent religious tensions by teachings of Deobandi School and emerging Baluch Nationalism. Inside the country, there are expressed comments about supporting trans-regional powers from terrorist groups. Although all the factors have been effective in formation and activities of terrorist groups in southeastern borders of Iran, but emphasis on one or more factors alone cannot provide a comprehensive analysis on developing terrorism in this geographical region of the country (Izadi & Dabiri, 2013).

Definitions

Terrorism Definition

Terrorism is one of controversial concepts during scientific study and research that it is studied in an interdisciplinary framework. In other words, to understand and examine the matter, we should use interdisciplinary approach and look it through lens of political science, international relations, international laws, psychology, sociology and etc. The term of terror is originated from the Latin root word of "terse", means frighten and panic. In contemporary Arabic, the word of Arhab is used for its equivalent. Terrorism is one of the most controversial words in scientific definitions. Walter Liqueur believes that there is no comprehensive definition on terrorism, and it will not be achieved in the near future. After collecting various definitions, Jeffrey Simon said that there are at least 212 different definitions on terrorism that are used around the world. Among them, 90 cases are used by governments and other institutions. The suitable definition with contents of this article is the published definition draft and program by Columbia University Press in 2004 on the concept of terrorism. According to this definition, terrorism is defined as "the unlawful use or the threatened use of personal or organized group force or violence against people or their properties to intimidate or coerce societies or governments, often for ideological or political reasons. So terrorism is threat or use of violence against civilians to achieve political objectives, intimidate opponents or create public dissatisfaction.

In this context, terrorism includes activities such as murder, bombings, purposeless destruction, hijacking and kidnapping. This definition reveals several points that can help us to achieve operational definition of terrorism concept:

Firstly, incentive or stimulus of various flows and terrorist actions is to achieve political goals or sometimes, ideological and religious ones. In other words, terrorists want to influence decision-making process. In many cases, their main motivation is to consider political or governmental powers toward available injustices. Thus, terrorist groups often undertake responsibility for their actions. This feature distinguishes terrorism from guerrilla wars and military actions as well as criminal activities and the organized crime.

Secondly, the main goal of terrorist action is to intimidate the considered subject not necessarily physical elimination. According to this feature, terrorism is distinguished as a stream of assassination or surprisingly murder. In other words, in terrorism, murder and terror is not necessarily related to victim or victim population, but the terrorist group is seeking to fear a larger population and community by attacking and abusing to a small collection or

goal, in order to achieve their goals. Finally, the main objective of terrorist action, namely intimidation, causes that any terrorist event includes three involved actors or parties: terrorist groups, victims and third-party or majority of society that aims often to frighten or get support (Poorsaeid, 2009).

Types of Terrorism

Nationalist Terrorism

Nationalist terrorism is defined as a type of terrorism by which terrorists are seeking for an independent state, ending to occupation or colonial movement to end colonialism and independence of a country. This term is also used to describe groups seeking to establish an independent state in an ethnic and religious region. Despite introducing nationalist terrorism as a type of terrorism, its characteristics are controversial and it is not clear what kind of war or violence is legitimate. On the other hand, such groups consider themselves as freedom fighters engaged in an asymmetry war.

Political Terrorism

Political terrorism is a kind of terrorism that is used to affect socio-political developments that are likely to occur by peaceful means. It is said this kind of terrorism is used by small groups without power base and it is most effective, when it is used against a cruel and despotic regime.

Narcoterrorism (Terrorism of Drugs)

The used terrorism acts by drug traffickers are called narcoterrorism. This type of terrorism was firstly used by former president of Peru in 1983 to describe terrorist attacks against the country's counter-narcotics police. Narcoterrorism is used to describe terror attacks of drug traffickers to influence government policies and lack of enforcement due to systematic threats and using violence. Pablo Escobar, Colombian smuggler, has been introduced as one of the most famous examples of narcoterrorism. In fact, terrorism of drugs is a violent combination of the mafia network of illegal trade in drugs and political threats. Domestic terrorism in Colombia, Jamaica, Mexico, El Salvador, Pakistan and Afghanistan has supported each other's interests using illegal drug trade and trading links and complicity in terrorist armed gangs. Terrorism of drugs has been transnational and regional and even a global network and has achieved varying degrees of political power (Tayeb, 2003).

Religious-Religion Terrorism

Religious-religion terrorism is a type of religious violence that its actions are justified by religion. In this context, Christian terrorism, Islamic terrorism, Jews terrorism and Hindu terrorism have been introduced as religious terrorism. Since 1980s, there has been spread a new wave of terror on different countries, due to strengthen extremist and fundamentalist beliefs of nation, religion and politics. One of examples of the new wave is assassination of Anwar Sadat, Egyptian president, by Khalid Islanbuli on October 6, 1981. Other examples of such terror include assassination of Gandhi and his son Rajiv Gandhi, Prime Ministers of India; spreading poison gas by Athom Shinrikiyo religious sect on Japan subway in 1985; assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, Israel prime minister by young orthodox Jews in 1990; attack on the World Trade Center by al-Qaida, suicide bombing in Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan and

State-Sponsored Terrorism

State-sponsored terrorism has been introduced as a type of terrorism that is used to describe a type of support, especially financial support from terrorist organizations by government. This assistance is often rewarded to terrorist attacks by country or countries. State-sponsored terrorism has introduced strategic outcomes and is used in cases where there is no possibility to use military and conventional forces. In the West, state-sponsored terrorism has been used to show and describe specific policies and financing of terrorist groups by Arab and Muslim countries.

State Terrorism

State terrorism is referred to governments' use of violence and repression against people and groups of that country or another country. This kind of terrorism can be carried out by official forces of a government such as police or military forces (like Israel against Palestinian people) or it will be conducted by state-sponsored terrorist groups and militant. Of course, there is difference between state terrorism and state violence acts. In the twentieth century, totalitarian regimes such as Nazi regime and the regime of the USSR in Stalin time turned to state-sponsored terrorism. In Pahlavi time, torture, killings and individual and group executions were changed to opposition assassination and political rivals.

Free Terrorism

Free of terrorism refers to terrorist actions that are carried out by individuals or small groups with a personal goal, humanitarian objectives or protection of the environment, without supporting and dependence on terrorist organizations (Mahpishaniyan, 2003).



Figure1. Terrorism types.

Methodology

The used method in this research is descriptive-analytical, based on argument. Various methods have been used to collect data and overall, it is based on library resources, documents and statistical data from different centers and scientific websites.

Results

The effective areas to form terrorist groups in southeastern of Iran

Some terrorist groups in east of the country and planning of the system opponents to guide part of their disruptive activities to insecure border cities of Sistan-Baluchistan are components that increase potential of threats in Sistan-Baluchistan. For example, we can point out terrorist movements of Jundallah Group in recent years. On Dec. 18, 2006, this group changed its name to “People’s Resistance Movement of Iran”, demagoguery under the pretext of defending the Sunni demands. Jundallah funds are supplied by Wahhabis’ aids, extortion from families of hostages, finance grants of some dissident spy agencies, trafficking drugs and weapons. Another part of damage of spreading terrorist organizations is their support for secessionist movements. For example, one of promotional tools of this group for embedding natives is that justifies its terrorist acts as formation of “the Great Baluchistan”. In this regard, some study centers in the West are aligned with separatist terrorist groups by providing the targeted research projects and promote the idea of “the Great Baluchistan”. For example, Jeffrey Goldberg has provided “the Great Baluchistan” in his work, Atlantic. Dissident terrorist groups in Pakistan by relationship with local militia are one of insecurity centers such as kidnapping, extortion and intimidation and insecurity among the citizens of Sistan-Baluchistan. On the other hand, spreading terrorist groups plays a negative feedback to attract domestic and foreign tourists and therefore, income of the native people. Terrorist groups by broadcasting images over the Internet such as border guards beheadings, bombings and killings Shiites plan to challenge authority of security, police and intelligence forces in the province, in addition to fear, panic and confusing psychological security of the citizens (Adami & Mousavi, 2012).

Factors affecting religious-ethnic tensions in Sistan-Baluchistan

Ethno-religious tensions are the most important roots of social insecurity in Sistan-Baluchistan. Because of its historical experiences and influences of the processes emanating from the modern world, Sistan-Baluchistan is a mosaic province that strongly religious, linguistic, gender, generational, ethnic and class gaps have divided it into

several archipelago; an archipelago that its identification does not requires delves deep, but they can be also discovered even a superficial tourist viewpoint. These gaps have not been assimilated during time, but they are constantly pooled due to socio-political structure of the country, unfair distribution of resources and opportunities and intensification of the arisen processes by modernity; as a result, the formed collective identities will achieve to higher self-consciousness. Among the gaps, ethnic and religious gaps that often overlap each other are more effective than other divisions to the sidelines (Dahmardeh, 2011).

The ethnic, linguistic and religious proliferations are demographic characteristics of Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan. In addition, ethnic, language and religion minorities of the countries are located mainly in border and marginal areas. Due to their difference and distance from the center, diverge tendencies are more in the areas and in extreme cases, they can be ethnic tensions. Border regions of the three countries have already experienced some of the tensions. Ethno-religious tensions in the areas are mainly rooted in the incomplete formation of artificial nature of borders and territorial governments, in addition to short-term political management cannot be solved, but affect other relays recessionary. There cannot be ignored the role of external factors in enabling ethnic, language and religion tensions. The Great Middle East has long leash on disputes and ethnic, linguistic and religious gaps; it indicates that religious-ethnic tensions are considered as threats to national security of the countries in the region and accordingly, operation of governments will be heavier in creating national unity and integration. As a result, from point of view of internal security, the countries should adopt a strategy that is based on the unity of all ethnic groups to bolster security in the field of border control margins and recessionary trends in lead abroad (Rasti & Rahimi, 2008). Due to the fact that south east of Iran (Sistan-Baluchistan) has been located within the Golden Crescent (an area that is out of reach of Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan and it is the pass of drug mafia gangs, heroin production and trafficking war weapons), it has become a place for gathering terrorists and al-Qaida after falling the Taliban in Afghanistan. Ethnic and tribal links among Pashtun and Baluch people and following Salafi of Taliban and al-Qaeda in the Golden Crescent could create heavy risks to borders of Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan, and in the meantime, ethnic autonomous and armed uprisings, bothering guerrilla movements and jihadist wars are risks that threaten security of people in the provinces bordering the eastern borders of Iran. The Golden Crescent is overlooking the diverse ethno-religious mosaics in frontier near the border of Afghanistan and Pakistan. During the Cold War, this region was called as “dangerous corridor” (Dahmardeh, 2011).

Characteristics of Terrorist Activities in Sistan-Baluchistan on 2000s

Characteristics of Terrorist Activities in Terms of Type and Shape

Terrorist activities in south east of Iran are schemes of characteristics of different types of terrorism. The most important feature of terrorist operations in Sitan-Baluchistan is severity of the conducted violence in the movements. The terrorist group has used different tactics and methods in its terrorist operations; the most important used methods by the group include assassinations, bombings, ambushes on military forces and border checkpoints, congestion and killing of civilians, hostage-taking, suicide bombing and armed conflict.

In Terms of Number of Terrorist Operations

Activities of Jundallah Terrorist Group in Sistan-Baluchistan have been more quantitatively than movement of other active terrorist groups in southeast of the country, including Furqan Group. The most important terrorist activities of this group are listed in the following Table. This terrorist group has carried out 25 operations from 2005 to 2010, which they have been mentioned in various news sources. In this period, the most operations have been conducted in 2008 with eight terrorist activities. Percent of terrorist activities have been as the following: in 2005 (four operations, 16%), in 2006 (four operations, 16%), in 2007 (four operations, 16%), in 2008 (eight operations, 32%), in 2009 (three operations, 12%) and in 2010 (two operations, 8%). Seasonally, the most terrorist operations have been carried out in winter season. The most terrorist operations of the group have been carried out in winter, fall, spring and summer with 38%, 29%, 21% and 8% respectively.

Table 1. The most important terrorist operations by Jundallah from 2005 to 2010.

Terrorist operations	Date	Geography of terrorist acts	Terrorist operations	Date	Geography of terrorist acts
Presidential convoy attack	Dec. 13, 2005	Sistan desert areas	Attack on outpost	Jun. 12, 2008	Saravan region
Attack on Godarnahook outpost, Saravan	Jan. 1, 2006	Saravan region	Assassination of Ibrahim Karimi (Deputy Justice, Saravan)	Jun. 16, 2008	Saravan
Capturing three citizens of Turkey	Jan. 14, 2006	-----	Assassination of Fazlullah Shahbazi (Public Prosecutor, Khash)	Aug. 27, 2008	Khash
Tasuki accident	Mar. 15, 2006	Tasuki district, Zabul	Assassination of Maulvi Sheykh Ali Dehvari (the chief mullah of Sedigh Akbar mosque)	Nov. 10, 2008	Saravan
Sporadic attacks on civilians	From 2006 to 2010	Sistan-Baluchistan	Suicide attack on police joint morning	Nov. 30, 2008	Saravan
Attack on police	Jan. 31, 2007	intersection of Bozogmehr and Moalem boulevards, Zahedan	Sonic Bomb Blast	May. 31, 2008	Ali-Ghadir mosque, Zahedan
Attack on a bus carrying Iranian Revolutionary Guards forces with an explosive-laden vehicle	Feb. 13, 2007	Sarallah Boulevard, Zahedan	Ambush troops to pick up supplies of police	Jan. 25, 2008	
Sonic Bomb Blast	Feb. 15, 2007	Jomhoori Blvd, Zahedan	Suicide attack to a Shiite mosque	Sep. 24, 2009	Ali-Ibn-Abitaleb mosque, Zahedan
Attack on Ngor outpost	Feb. 26, 2007	Ngor district, Baluchistan	Attack on Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's election campaign	May. 28, 2009	Zahedan
Ambush of Jundallah members to a group of Iranian Revolutionary Guards	Jul. 18, 2007	Domak village, Corinne	Suicide attack on craft fair	Oct. 17, 2009	Sarbaz
Attacks on passing vehicles	Aug. 18, 2007	Chabahar-Iranshahr road to	Suicide attack on the Grand Mosque, Zahedan	Jul. 14, 2010	Zahedan
Assassination of	Oct. 1, 2007	Eftkharabad	Bombing on	Dec. 14, 2010	Chabahar

Mehdi Tavakoli (Shiite cleric)		Village, Khash	ninth day of Moharram, Chabahar
Armed conflict in seminary	Dec. 13, 2007	Chah Jamal Village, Iranshahr	

(Rasti, 2012)

In Terms of Volume of Losses

The volume of human casualties resulting from terrorist operations, especially in the suicide bombing, traffic jams, hostage-taking and attacks has been very high. In the issued bill of indictment against leader of the group, there were mentioned his order to murder citizens and military authorities by bombing and the armed actions as well as other crimes such as traffic jams, hostage-taking and attacks. The most casualties in terrorist activities related to suicide bombing, traffic jams and hostage-taking. The number of terrorist operations does not always indicate the number of casualties. For example, in 2010 and 2011, there were carried out only five terrorist actions (20% of total operations), but number of victims in two years is about 60% of victims of terrorist operations from 2005 to 2010, due to use suicide bombing method (Rasti, 2012).

What is important in terrorist operations in southeastern of Iran (Sistan-Baluchistan) is security of terrorists on Pakistani. In recent years, Pakistan has been always the focus of terrorist actions and numerous violence. Killing citizens in southeast borders of the country in the recent years indicate the fact that terrorist actions are guided and organized from Pakistan and terrorists can pass the borders and come back to Iran. In the recent years, terrorist incidents in the area have caused insecurity and fear. In all these incidents, Pakistan government has pledged to prevent movement of terrorist groups on Iran, but this commitment has never been implemented. The suicide attack in Sarbaz Township, Sistan-Baluchistan, which martyred more than 40 military people and civilians, implying security officials this point that they should use smarter tools to deal with this deep problem, in addition to diplomacy.

Another hope of terrorist groups to continue insecurity in Sistan-Baluchistan is to rally to the split between Sunnis and Shiites. In such circumstances and in the absence of proper security organisms and strict monitoring of borders, security and protection of people will be very difficult. It is natural that adopting successful convergence policy of tribes and tribal leaders for integration can meet their purposes. Hence, it is expected the country's diplomatic apparatus takes more drastic steps in this regard and wants Pakistan authorities to track, investigate and follow-up the terrorist incidents. Although Pakistan government has promised to cooperate with Iran in this regard, but we have not seen any positive action of the country about terrorist agents. We hope that by pursuing authorities in this field, we see operational commitment of the country to control terrorist acts in the area (Ahmdipoor et al., 2011).

Nature and Motivation of Terrorist Activities

Terrorist groups have different motives. Traditionally, they have ethno-nationalist motives. Terrorists may also have religious motives or their actions be drawn due to lack of social justice, prejudice or it may have other goals. Poverty and deprivation, ideology and religion, ethnic nationalism, neo-radicalism, lawlessness and chaos can be sources of terrorism (Maghsoodi & Heideri, 2009: 42). On motives and objectives of terrorist groups in Sistan-Baluchistan, we can point to personal motives, revenge and religious and ethnic motives. Ideologically, terrorist groups in southeastern of the country have been influenced by deviant ideas and anti-Shiite approaches of Wahhabism, Al-Qaeda and the Taliban. Another feature of terrorist activities in southeastern of the country is their multi-dimensional nature, so that the movements have ideological, ethnic, political and radical nature. However, coping with ideological nature is more pronounced in the movements (Rasti, 2012). So religious conflicts and ideological differences are the most effective factors to spread terrorism. Religion and ideology are very important factors to stimulate human emotions and forcing him to sacrifice (Maghsoodi & Heideri, 2009). Although using violence and terrorism is not characteristic of all fundamentalist groups, but Wahhabis and Salafi Takfiri permit violence and terror, among the fundamentalist groups. This group believes to cases such as excommunicated, rejecting political authority, rejecting rules of jihad, rejecting suicide respect and allow terrorism (Abbaszadeh Fathabadi, 2009).

Sistan-Baluchistan is bordering with Pakistan and Afghanistan, which many extremist groups are active in the countries and naturally, is more influenced by such groups. Reviewing name of persons who have conducted terrorist operations in southeast of the country (Sistan-Baluchistan) show that most of them include young and extremist scholars with Wahbbism thoughts. In general, it can be said that it is evident overcoming ideology in

insecurity and terrorist operations in Sistan-Baluchistan on 2000s. Much of terrorist operations have been focused on religious places, religious holidays, rituals and religious figures. Naturally, in certain religious occasions, there is disagreement between tenderness of Shiites and Sunnis. A terrorist operation raises ground for religious conflict and sense of revenge. Some religious days have some tensions in normal conditions that the most important religious days include Fatemiyeh Days, Ghadir Celebration, Muharram and martyrdom and birth of Imams. Religious places and ceremonies have been considered as the most important terrorist targets, including mosques and mourning ceremonies of Imam Hussein (AS).

Objectives of Terrorist Activities in Sistan-Baluchistan

Although terrorist groups in Sistan-Baluchistan have introduced themselves as public resistance movement and supporters of rights of Sunni Baluch and they take slogan of defending Baluch people and Sunnites, but movements of the groups are harmful for security and well-being of people in the region, including Baluch and non-Baluch. With the slogan of defending Sunni Baluch people, the groups pursue the following objectives:

Deepening and activating ethnic fault in the province;

Deepening and activating religious fault in the province and the country;

Raising public panic in the province and the country;

Insecurity of southeast region of the country for non-Baluch Iranian citizens and pressure them to withdraw from the province, especially Baluchistan region;

Creating challenge for geopolitical, geo-economic and geo-polymonical interests of Iran in the region, especially obstructionism in development process of southeast region, establishment of peace pipeline and energy transfer to Pakistan and India (Rasti, 2012).

Objectives of Terrorist Activities in Southeast Region from Geopolitical Perspective

Relating insecurities on 2000s in the Area with the Current Geopolitical Competition in the Region and the World

Historical period after the Islamic Revolution is divided into two different geopolitical eras. The first period includes the last 10-year of geo-politic era in two-polar system and a new era of the Cold War. The second period includes from 1990, namely falling the USSR to now. It is a new geo-politic era that has been called with different names such as geo-politic era of the global new system, single pole or several pole geo-politic era etc. we refer this period as the era after falling two-polar system. The common aspect of both geo-politic periods is to encounter the West powers, especially the USA, with government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which it has been continued yet. We can see the encounter in different cases such as Iran's Nuclear Program and increasing terrorist actions and the opponent powers with the I. R of Iran use various tools such as economic boycott, influencing public thoughts through media for creating Iran-escape space etc (Rasti, 2012). One of features of the effective geo-politic competitions on southeast of Iran after the Islamic Revolution is the number and variety of players affecting the region in different local and global levels that many of the players, especially international players, have worked to challenge I. R. of Iran in the region. Terrorism in southeast of the country has been also linked to the Baluch geopolitics. The least help of active Baluch nationalism in Pakistan and Baluch ethnic dissidents outside the country to terrorist groups such as Rigi Group and Jaish ul-Adl is to shelter and supply base, provide manpower and media support. For this reason, such groups have mentioned ethnic motives and defending the Baluch people, in addition to ideological motives. Terrorists in southeast of Iran are often deployed in two neighboring countries of Iran, namely Pakistan and Afghanistan. Due to its special geographical location, marginal, borderline and human geography and political characteristics, Iran's south-eastern region has always potential of divergence. Ethnic, linguistic, religious and development gaps in southeast of the country are some of potentials for the divergence that terrorist groups have applied their efforts to deepen and activation of these gaps. The facts show significant role of religious-ethnic gaps in emerging violent conflicts. Ethnic and linguistic gaps have provided complex problems for political integration, establishing political order and sustainable stability, especially in cases that political formal institutes and organizations have been developed in line with ethnical, religious, linguistic or racial gaps (Joes, 1994).

Provinces in southeastern border of the Islamic Republic of Iran are exactly overlooking the Golden Crescent. Religious, ethnic and tribal affiliation in the region along with trafficking drug and weapons, illegal migration and the organized crimes, according to necessity of regional development, have created a suitable environment for opposition groups. What are strengthening terrorist activities in border areas of Sistan-Baluchistan are related with the extensive ties to the Western and powerful forces to support terrorism. The effectiveness of fighting against terrorism depends on its impact to fight against drugs. In fact, drugs phenomenon is feeder of terrorism. If drugs are curbed and eradicated, one of the most important ways of providing economic resource of terrorists will be closed.

However, what makes this phenomenon more frightening is its close association with terrorist groups and reactionary elements in the region. Nowadays, revenues of producing and trafficking drugs are the economic lifeline for criminal gangs and rebels. The phenomenon of drug trafficking feeds and strengthens terrorism and challenges peace and security of countries. This factor has become a trans-regional phenomenon.

Involving Regional and International Powers to Spread Terrorist Groups in the Province

Pakistan and Saudi Arabia are regional powers that directly or indirectly have influenced formation of terrorist groups in southeastern borders of Iran. Given the role of Pakistan and Saudi Arabia in the area and similarity of some Deobandi and Wahhabi teachings to challenge Shiite teachings, it has been always one of the concerns of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Since the majority of Baluch people in the southeast of the country are Hanafite-religion people, many of Baluch Molawis have been educated abroad and in Saudi Arabia, India and Pakistan. One of these centers is the Deobandi Movement and Foundation of Darul-Uloom and it is natural that students will inevitably be influenced by teachings and mental about Shiites. Saudi Arabia provides much of cost of the actions. The cult of Wahhabism has been extended due to its ties with Saudi Arabia family and in minds of the Wahhabis, Shiites are pagan, according to their beliefs. Mowlawis provide beds to develop that thoughts and teachings, based on their scientific reserves in the educated country and the invited Pakistani scientists to educate religious sciences in Baluchistan, Iran. As a result, entering into clashes with government forces and groups with religious discourse to create terrorist incidents such as suicide attacks in Imam Ali (AS) Mosque in Zahedan and Muharram mourning in Chabahar indicate the effectiveness of religious ideas. Their exploitation from religious culture and terms, justify their actions as Jihad against the Islamic Republic of Iran and a face like the Taliban and Afghan Jihad forces prove the effect of trans-regional teachings. In fact, new suicide terrorist attacks in southeast boarders of Iran indicate changing purposeless violence of drug traffickers to religious and belief objectives of terrorists that are fed by religious schools in Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. Trans-regional powers including the USA and Israel have a significant impact to increase power of terrorist groups in southeast of the country. In fact, the USA and Israel use all opposition forces for undermining the Islamic Republic of Iran and misuse terrorists in southeast region. Therefore, intelligence, training, equipment, ideological and regional supports by international powers are exogenous factors affecting the formation and activities of terrorists in southeast of the country (Izadi & Dabiri; 2013).

Conclusion

In general, it can be said that the phenomenon of terrorism is developed in the world. This phenomenon acts as a substitute phenomenon in political, social, cultural and economic changes and challenges political life. Of course, terrorism has been occurred in various forms since ancient times and in accordance with the political systems of communities, from traditional political systems to modern times. Terrorism is one of the major threats in twenty-first century. The Islamic Republic of Iran is a country that has always been at risk of terrorist attacks. So that it can be considered as a victim of terrorism in the world. The study reveals that some regions of the country are prone to the formation and activities of terrorist groups and armed bandits due to geographical, social and economic fields. One of the most important of the areas is southeastern Iranian province, in particular Sistan-Baluchistan. In the region, in addition to available conditions, involving regional and trans-regional powers as well as characteristics of the neighbor countries have caused insecurity due to drug transit, passing the armed bandits, promoting Wahhabism and Deobandi School as well as expanding crisis and insecurity from the neighbor countries (Afghanistan and Pakistan) to Sistan-Baluchistan. Result of these factors is to create an atmosphere for the formation and activities of terrorist groups in the region.

After attending NATO forces, especially America, in Afghanistan, there was provided beds for emerging terrorist groups, particularly Jundallah Terrorist Group under leadership of Abdol-Malek Rigi in southeast region of the country. Multi-dimensional nature of terrorism and the proliferation of religious, ideological, ethnic and radical goals and objectives have been the most important characteristics of this terrorist movement in terms of nature and motivation. The main goals of the terrorist group have been to deep and activate ethnic, religious and linguistic faults in the province and the country, raising fears among the public, especially non-Baluch people, challenging geopolitical, geo-economic and geo-strategic interests of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the region and also hamper the development actions in the province. Examining political changes after the Islamic Revolution indicates that violence has been developed among Baluch people due to active attendance of Sunni clergies in political scene of the region that raise political, social and economic matters in religious cases, in one hand, and political space of the country that provided proper beds for such events, in the other hand, which Jundallah Terrorist Group arose from it. Regionally, power of the Taliban in Afghanistan and religious proximity between them and Baluch tribe do not

more active, but more compress the tribe gaps between Sistan-Baluchistan. This in turn leads to develop fundamentalist Islamic ideas among Baluch people in the province. As a result, violent behaviors were increased too. Internationally, financial support of the USA from Jundallah Terrorist Group, in line with weakening central state of the Islamic Republic of Iran, sparked challenges in regional security of Sistan-Baluchistan. In general, the main reasons for the formation of terrorist groups in Sistan-Baluchistan can be stated in the following graph.

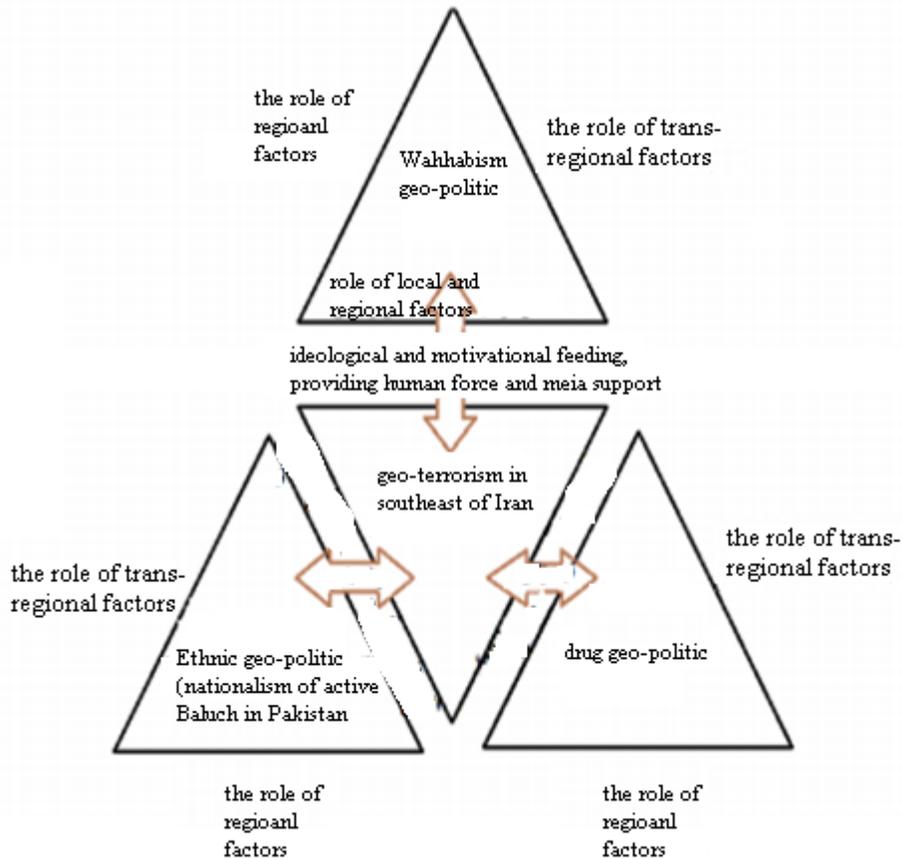


Figure. 2. Multiple factors involved in the formation and objectives of terrorist groups in Sistan-Baluchistan.

According to the above-mentioned matters, there are suggested strategies to combat the security challenges:
 Preventing to expand religious and ethnic gaps and attempt to strength Iranian spirit of Baluch tribe, due to consider the matter that national tendencies are more strong among the people, compared with other people and they always emphasize that their root is come back to the Aryan race. It can be useful in unity of people and tribes in Sistan-Baluchistan, including Shiite and Sunni Muslims to logical and wise encounter foreign enemies;
 Public enlightenment of Baluchistan people to declare religious and ethnic illegitimate of actions of the terrorist groups and motivate heads of tribes and religious scholars to condemn actions of the terrorist groups;
 Implementing security active diplomacy by the Islamic Republic of Iran, especially with border states to track and arrest terrorist groups;

Expert studying problems and roots of historical insecurity and backwardness of the province and providing development, cultural, social and health projects to remove insecurities in the region;
 Political and ideological direction to available capacities and potentials among the Baluch people that it leads to positive developments in east region and Sistan-Baluchistan province;
 Strengthening the borders to combat with terrorism, prevent transit of narcotics, illegal crossing of foreign nationals and collecting illegal weapons;

Efforts to strengthen the public participation and the police that in turn, it will increase social order and solidarity, social responsibility and increasing security because nowadays, most scientists and policy-makers believe that although governments are responsible to provide security, but due to changes in the recent centuries, the security will be sustainable by cooperating citizens; Effort towards decrease bridging the gap between security forces and people in the province by fundamental changes in forces and people.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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