

Ways to achieve peace in Afghanistan

Abstract. One of the first tasks of governments is to provide security for citizens and establish peace in the country. Without peace, no country can achieve social welfare, economic prosperity, and political growth. Therefore, governments are always trying to prevent war and provide lasting peace in their country, but the conflicting interests of some countries cause these countries to go to war. Afghanistan is a country that has been in a constant state of war for the past four decades, and its citizens have been deprived of the blessings of peace and well-being. Although optimism about peace in Afghanistan emerged after the fall of the Taliban regime in late 2001, Pakistan's continued support for the Taliban has turned it into frustration. The Afghan government's efforts over the past few years have failed to bring the Taliban to the table and bring peace to Afghanistan for a variety of reasons. This article examines how the Afghan government can use this to achieve peace in the country.

Keywords: Peace, Taliban, Afghanistan, Pakistan, good governance, national interests, Durand.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.32523/2616-6887/2021-135-2-78-84>

Received: 18.10.20/ Approved: 15.02.21

Introduction

After eighteen months of waiting, the agreement between the United States and the Taliban was signed on February 29, 2020, in Doha, Qatar. Based on this agreement United States of America will withdraw all their forces from Afghanistan in the next 14 months, and after that, another phase of peace efforts will begin, between the Taliban and the Afghan government.

The question is how the Afghan government can start peace talks with the Taliban to achieve prosperous and permanent peace? And what is the role of Pakistan's? Does Pakistan support the Taliban?

Although the process of reconciliation with the Taliban had begun long ago, efforts to bring peace to Afghanistan intensified with the establishment of the High Peace Council. The High Peace Council was established by President Karzai in September 2010 to facilitate the peace process and reach a reconciliation. The council was initially headed by former Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani, and several former Taliban members, several former Mujaheddin leaders and nine women were members of the council. Efforts by the High Peace Council were weakened by the violence in some parts of Afghanistan [1; p. 22]. Not only did the council fail to do significant work, but also the Taliban continued to kill more innocent Afghan citizens with more confidence. Although the council sought to build trust between the Afghan government and the Taliban paving the way for the release of a members of the group who were being held in Afghan and Pakistani prisons and Guantanamo. They have no desire for peace with the Afghan government.

Therefore, this article seeks to find a suitable solution firstly emphasizing the dialogue with the Taliban and Pakistan, which are the essential elements to achieve lasting peace in Afghanistan.

Methods

In this paper, the authors used common methods of research. Based on qualitative method thematic analysis to interpret patterns and meanings of the main approaches to the Afghan government were articulated. The other method was evaluation of primary and secondary sources such as official documents and statements of political leaders as Afghanistan as Pakistan. Descriptive method is the type of analysis of data that helps describe, show, or summarize data points. That why it is one of the popular methods for research in social sciences. Relying on it help to observe relations between three parties, namely, political establishment of Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the Taliban.

Discussion

Below we present the possible ways to achieve peace in Afghanistan, which are stem from the internal and external surroundings.

1. Creating a culture of peace

According to the definition of the United Nations, a culture of peace is a set of values, attitudes, behaviors, and lifestyles that negates violence and prevents conflict, and seeks to identify the roots of conflict and through dialogue and discussion solve the problem between individuals, groups, and people.

Scholars of the peaceful resolution of conflicts over the creation of a just and lasting peace believe that a "culture of peace" must first be established in a society. A culture of peace means respect for human dignity, respect for human rights, adherence to legitimate human freedom, prevention of hatred, violence, war, and conflict resolution through nonviolent methods such as reconciliation, negotiation, mediation and reconciliation [2; p. 25].

In a culture of peace, efforts are being made to provide a way to live together in a way that is based on mutual respect and reciprocity, and to prevent any violent confrontation.

2. Good governance

Good governance assumes participation, equality, and accountability, the rule of law, efficiency, and transparency. Without good governance, one cannot expect lasting peace in a country. It should be noted that without the provision of social welfare and well-being in a country, peace cannot be achieved there for the long term. "Increasing the confidence of the Afghan people in their government requires better service, better accountability, and greater prevention of looting, especially in areas where the Taliban have established a form of oppressive but effective governance," the US Regional Stability Strategy Department claims [3; p. 9].

The people of Afghanistan have suffered heavy losses in the last 14 years due to the lack of good governance. "Decades of conflict in Afghanistan have drawn the civilian population into cycles of violence and destruction that have substantially transformed the country's social, political, and economic structures" [4; p. 6]. The lack of public participation has severely undermined the government's discrimination against citizens and the lack of a rule of law. The government's failure to

respond has led to millions of dollars in corruption, and the lack of an effective government has led many to join the Taliban and keep the fire of war warm.

Therefore, to achieve peace, the Afghan government must remove these obstacles. When the Afghan government treats all its citizens equally, it will make the citizens strongly support the government. If the government is accountable to the citizens for its performance, the citizens will trust the government more and the citizens will be able to cooperate more with the government.

3. Prioritize national interests

Raymond Aaron of France; the foreign policy of governments is itself the result of the interactions of the domestic community. To put it more clearly, in general, the foreign policy of governments is a continuation of their domestic policy. Similarly, the basis of domestic policy and of course, the foreign policy of countries is their national interests, and national interests are what unite a nation and tie their interests together.

As far as national interests are concerned, it should be said that national interests include values, desires and goals that are considered desirable to provide, strengthen, grow, refine and maintain from the perspective of the government and the people of a country, and in certain cases. It is considered vital. These values, desires, and goals are recognized as national interests because the happiness and well-being of individuals in society depend on maintaining, maintaining, and strengthening them. [5; p.184].

National interests are, in fact, the roof of identity that every nation must feel and respect, and under the guise of all those who have formed a nation, it must feel like a single, unified nation [6; p. 230].

4. Identify friend and enemy.

The Afghan government had no clear definition of friend and enemy for the past 14 years. Politicians such as former President Hamid Karzai and current President Ashraf Ghani have repeatedly called the Taliban brothers and some others called them political opponents. At the same time, the question arises with who the Afghan government wants to make peace deal, with the Taliban, Pakistan, or any other country? If the Afghan government does not know with whom it wants to make peace deal, any effort or dialogue will be fruitless. Until now, the Afghan government has never openly called the Taliban an enemy, as has Pakistan. If the Taliban and Pakistan are friends of Afghanistan, why do they continue to fight the Afghan government, and if they are the enemy, why doesn't the Afghan government want to call them enemies?

Therefore, if the Afghan government does not differentiate between friend and enemy, any dialogue with the Taliban and Pakistan is nothing but a waste of time for the citizens of Afghanistan. The Afghan government must identify the friend and enemy of its citizens before any peace talks can take place.

5. Solve Durand's problem

The Durand Line has been a major problem and a major source of tension between Afghanistan and Pakistan for decades. Pakistan is urging the Afghan government to officially recognize the Durand Line as the border between the two countries. The border agreement signed in 1893 by the British government and the leader of Afghanistan, Amir Abdul Rahman Khan, separated Afghanistan from what was then known as the British colony of India. Although the United Nations and the world have recognized the Durand Line as the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan, the Afghan government has not yet recognized it as the official border between the two countries, and some politicians, including. Former Afghan President Hameed Karzai sees the Durand Line as a line imposed by British

colonialism. Hamid Karzai issued a statement in response to Pakistani President Ashraf Ghani's address for Pakistani people. He denied the allegations in a statement. "One can understand why Pakistan has not stopped supporting the Taliban and other insurgent groups in Afghanistan, and why peace talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan have not been fruitful in the past few years. Many political analysts in Afghanistan believe that the disagreement between Afghanistan and Pakistan over the Durand Line has pitted the two countries against each other.

Islamabad, on the other hand, does not want to give Kabul a chance to breathe. Because they are worried that in the future Afghanistan will be in a strong position, united and law-abiding Afghanistan that will have to give more points to Kabul in exchange for solving this problem" [7; p.177].

In the paper "Afghanistan: Post-Taliban Governance, Security, and U.S. Policy" Kenneth Katzman, specialist in Middle Eastern Affairs, and Clayton Thomas, analyst in Middle Eastern Affairs (2017) have analyzed several groups associated with Pakistan [8; p.18-20].

Although the Government has been working to reduce tensions between Afghanistan and Pakistan since its inception and has sought to pave the way for peace talks.

However, it can be said that the Durand Line problem is the basis for Pakistan's sustainable intervention in Afghanistan, and without resolving this issue, the Afghan-Pakistani dialogue will never lead to lasting peace in Afghanistan. Therefore, if the Afghan government has the real will to make peace in Afghanistan, and if the Afghan government wants the lives of all its citizens to live together, it must first solve the Durand Line problem with Pakistan and solve this problem forever. Otherwise, peace will forever remain an ideal for the people of Afghanistan.

Results

Over the past few years, Pakistani officials have repeatedly said that the key to peace in Afghanistan is in Pakistan's hands and are trying to put pressure on the Afghan government to comply with Pakistan's wishes. In contrast, the Afghan government has sought to engage with the Taliban in various ways. In the previous administration, the Afghan government tried to bring the Taliban to the negotiation table directly and without Pakistani mediation, but now the government is trying to negotiate with the government of Pakistan to persuade the Taliban and to set to the negotiation table with the Afghan government.

The Taliban's main demand in Qatar for the resumption of peace talks is the recognition of the group's political office in Qatar; Remove the group's leaders from the UN blacklist and remove the prizes set for their arrest or elimination; the release of Taliban prisoners and the end of propaganda against them.

These preconditions show that the Taliban is not ready to start peace talks with the Afghan government. Meanwhile, many political analysts in Afghanistan believe that the Taliban do not have the authority to negotiate with the Afghan government, and that Pakistan is the main decision-maker.

As the results, we may observe some direct and indirect ways to solve the complicated conflict in the hottest point of the Southern Asia. Briefly summarizing they are creating a culture of peace, good governance, protection of national interests, differentiation of friends and enemies, and solving the Durand Line problem.

Conclusion

Aware that the conflict in Afghanistan has both internal and external dimensions, the Afghan government must first work to remove barriers to peace inside Afghanistan so that it can enter peace talks with the strong support of its citizens and a unified policy. The government should have clear strategy towards the Taliban and Pakistan and pursue them to participate in peaceful negotiations. Creating a culture of peace in Afghanistan, effective governance, prioritizing interests of its citizens, and defining friend and foe can be an important course for achieving peace at home.

As Pakistan is one of the parties to the conflict, the Afghan government must first resolve the Durand Line problem with it, and in the second step, use appropriate tools and the support of the international community to bring peace to Afghanistan.

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Ауғанстанның бейбітшілікке жету жолдары

Аңдатпа. Үкіметтің алғашқы міндеттерінің бірі – азаматтардың қауіпсіздігін қамтамасыз ету және елде бейбітшілік орнату. Бейбітшілік болмаса, ешбір ел әлеуметтік әл-ауқатқа, экономикалық өркендеуге және саяси өсуге қол жеткізе алмайды. Сондықтан үкімет әрқашан соғыстың алдын алуға және өз елінде берік бейбітшілікті қамтамасыз етуге тырысады, бірақ

кейбір елдердің қайшылықты мүдделері бұл елдерді соғысқа баруға мәжбүр етеді. Ауғанстан – соңғы төрт онжылдықта тұрақты соғыс жағдайында болған және оның халқы бейбітшілік пен әлауқаттан айырылған ел. Ауғанстандағы бейбітшілікке деген оптимизм 2001 жылдың аяғында "Талибан" режимінің құлдырауынан кейін пайда болғанына қарамастан, Пәкістанның "Талибан" қолдауы оны тоқырауға ұшыратты. Ауғанстан үкіметінің соңғы бірнеше жылдағы күш-жігері Талибанмен келіссөздер жүргізілсе де, Ауғанстанда бірқатар себептерге байланысты бейбітшілік орнату мүмкін болмады. Бұл мақалада Ауғанстан үкіметі мұны елдегі бейбітшілікке жету үшін қалай қолдана алғандығы қарастырылады.

Түйін сөздер: Бейбітшілік, Талибан, Ауғанстан, Пәкістан, жақсы басқару, ұлттық мүдделер, Дуран.

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Пути достижения мира в Афганистане

Аннотация. Одной из первых задач правительств является обеспечение безопасности граждан и установление мира в стране. Без мира ни одна страна не сможет достичь социального благосостояния, экономического процветания и политического роста. Поэтому правительства всегда пытаются предотвратить войну и обеспечить прочный мир в своей стране, но конфликтующие интересы некоторых стран заставляют эти страны идти на войну. Афганистан - это страна, которая в течение последних четырех десятилетий находится в состоянии постоянной войны, и ее граждане были лишены благословений мира и благополучия. Хотя оптимизм в отношении мира в Афганистане возник после падения режима талибов в конце 2001 года, продолжающаяся поддержка Пакистаном талибов превратила его в разочарование. Усилия афганского правительства за последние несколько лет не привели к тому, чтобы посадить талибов за стол переговоров и установить мир в Афганистане, и на это существует целый ряд причин. В данной статье рассматривается вопрос о том, как афганское правительство может использовать это для достижения мира в стране.

Ключевые слова: мир, Талибан, Афганистан, Пакистан, благое управление, национальные интересы, Дуран.

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