

**TERRORISM AND ITS IMPLICATIONS ON GLOBAL SECURITY IN THE 21ST
CENTURY**

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CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this project was carried out by Praise Dogho WILKIE in the Department of History and International Studies, University of Benin, under my supervision.

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Date

Date

DEDICATION

This project is dedicated to God Almighty for His steadfast love, mercy, and grace upon me, for seeing me through in the pursuit of my academic studies.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to express my gratitude to Almighty God for his exceeding Mercies, grace and love upon my life and throughout the programme. To him all the praises belong.

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I am particularly grateful to my Dad PST STEVE .O. WILKIE and my Mom DEACONESS MRS CLARA .A. WILKIE and my uncles and Aunties ENGR MOSES AYORITSENO WILKIE JP, PRINCE PAUL OMADELI WILKIE, PRINCESS BAFO IRENE OBISE WILKIE , PRINCE TUOYO WILKIE, PRINCE OMAWUMI WILKIE, PRINCESS DORA WILKIE, MRS ESTHER UGBODAGA AGHERE ODINE, MRS JUDITH DONALD ODINE for their financial and moral support. Also want to appreciate my siblings and my friends ,PRINCESS LOVE AKATON TSOLAYE WILKIE, PRINCE MICHAEL EDON TSOLAYE WILKIE,PRINCE RICH COVENANT ORITESMA TSOLAYE WILKIE for their unwavering support, love and care throughout my academic pursuit. God bless you all.

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CHAPTER ONE

BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

Introduction

Any discussion on terrorism must begin with an attempt to define the phenomenon as in this Case with most questions on politics, the answer to the question what is terrorism are both numerous and controversial. The standard summary of this controversy asserts that "one person's terrorist is another person's freedom fighter because terrorism is highly charged as a political term used by most people to refer to political violence or any other political tactic of which they disapprove. Terrorism is violence or threat of violence calculated to create an atmosphere of fear or alarm and thereby bring some social and political changes. In basic terms, terrorism is an act of inflicting terror upon the people in the process of achieving personal or political objectives. In the late 1990s, it became obvious that terrorism has changed from old terrorism to new terrorism . Hence, old terrorism was evident during the inter war years while new terrorism has resulted from forces of late modernity and in particular globalization which has manifested themselves in three areas. The word "terrorism" was first used in reference to the reign of terror during the French revolution.

Terrorism is not a recent phenomenon it is contremious and synonymous with human interest. Hence, terrorism is normally carried out by groups known as terrorists; terrorism has goals which terrorist wants to achieve. These goals vary and they are functions of the purpose for which an act of terrorism is being planned. Goals of terrorism include the following but are not limited to: sustain ideological conviction and belief system , to acquire wealth, to propel forceful change in policy or seek reorder of societal structure , to seek revenge or retaliation , to express displeasure against attitude or actions and to maintain the status quo¹.Terrorism presents a

significant and persistent global security threat particularly in the 21st century impacting international stability , economic prosperity and human rights . It's a multifaceted issue with varying motivation and methods requiring a global and coordinated response . It indulges killing of innocent and destruction of much valuable property and thus to create wide panic which has gripped even the remotest part of the world. This, the fight for terrorism becomes priority for all the nations, this study further consider the broader changes in the context of global security it also emphasizes the impact of globalization on global security . However, the response of the States to the 9/11 terrorist attack provides interesting points about the relationship between globalization and terrorism. Thus, in order to attract and maintain the publicity necessary to generate widespread fear , terrorist must engage in increasingly dramatic violent and high profile attacks. These have included hijacking hostage takings kidnappings, mass shootings , car bombings and frequently suicide bombings ; there are also different types of terrorism.

Terror has been practiced by State and non-state actors throughout history band throughout the world .The deadliest terrorist strikes to date were the September 11 attacks (2001) in which suicide terrorists associated with Al-qaeda hijacked four commercial airplanes crashing two of them in the twin towers of the world trade center complex in New York City and the third into the Pentagon building, the fourth plane crashed near Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. Terrorism appears to be an enduring feature of political life . Even prior to the September 11 attacks ,there was wide spread concern that terrorist might escalate their destructive power to vastly great proportion by using weapons of mass destruction. For instance the U.S Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) defines both international and domestic terrorism bas involving "violent, criminal acts ". Hoffman .B stated that terrorism is a form of political violence ². Furthermore, along with MNCs and NGOs terrorist groups today represent another significant

actor outside the authority of States. If the "new terrorism" is indeed new and based in good measures on the identification with religion then terrorist actions represent a challenge to the State sovereignty system. In fact the use of terrorism implies an attempt to delegitimize the concept of sovereignty and even the structure of the state system itself. While globalization and terrorism are matters of growing concern for the governments since the 1980s they are also among the main topics dominating the study of international relations. The response of States to 9/11 terrorist attack also provides interesting points about the relation between globalization and terrorism.

Terrorism poses a significant threat to global security in the 21st century impacting various aspects of life and requiring a multifaceted response. Its implications range from direct harm to individuals and infrastructure to broader societal and economic disruptions affecting stability and development. Terrorism directly leads to death, injuries and physical destruction causing trauma and long-term psychological effects. Terrorism can fuel social unrest, erode public trust in government and undermine democratic processes. The rise of terrorism and the "War on Terror" have led to shifts in regional and global power dynamics, with potentials for increased conflict and humanitarian crisis. One reason terrorism is proclaimed a top global security concern is that in recent years it has been coupled with another global security priority i.e the proliferation of nuclear, biological, chemical and radiological (or dirty bomb) weapons of mass destruction (WMD). Nevertheless, as stated by Hughes "we should be cautious in applying globalisation to the topic of security" since there is a risk on various sides of the debate³. Terrorist groups continue to be relatively small organisations but their structures have been more diffuse and their reach has extended into transnational space. In contrast to the more formal used organisation of "old terrorism" new terrorist groups are often described as networks because

hierarchies have been replaced with personal relationships. What matters is not someone's formal rank but whom they know and what kind of connection they can facilitate. Furthermore, these structures often extend beyond national boundaries unlike old terrorism, which usually had a well-defined geographical centre of gravity to which all the groups activity could be related, Some of the new terrorist have no single permanent geographical point of reference. As the example of Al Qaeda shows, the place in which most of the groups operations take place may not be identical to the place from which the majority of its recruit originated or where its leadership is based. Since the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, international support for more effective counter terrorism measures and responses have led to greater international co-operation in counter terrorism matters, and there is certainly evidence of a widespread hardening of approaches to the persecution of terrorist . This is important in a context that is witnessing the increased export and globalisation of terrorism by groups such as Al-Qaeda and the Islamic state in Syria and the Levant, a trend that shows no sign of abating. In responses, state are utilizing a range of counter terrorism measures from criminal justice mechanism which should represent the usual response including as a means of terrorism prevention to harder security based measures accompanied by increased military spending.

Aim and Objective of the Study

The aim of this study is to assess the implication of terrorism on global security in the 21st century. The objectives are;

1. To give a conceptual understanding of terrorism.
2. To examine the history, forms and manifestations of terrorism.
3. To assess some notable cases on terrorism using Al-Qaeda (9/11 attack) and the Munich Olympic massacre.

4. To highlight the implications of terrorism on global security in the 21st century.
5. To give an overall conclusion of the study.

Scope of the Study

This study will examine the implication of terrorism on global security in the 21st century with an insight on notable cases of terrorism such as Al-Qaeda (9/11 attack) and the Munich Olympic massacre and also give a conceptual understanding of terrorism and its manifestation. With an overview of terrorism and its implication on global security as a challenge.

Methodology

This study adopts the use of historical method of research in achieving its aims and objectives. Hence, using secondary sources of data collection, secondary sources comprises books, journals, published works and online materials. Thus, the information obtained from this sources will prove useful in guiding and supplementing the materials for the work . Secondary sources are analyzed by studying the implications of terrorism on global security in the 21st century.

Literature review

To achieve the highlighted research objectives of this study, a review of the works or literature concerning terrorism and its implications on global security in the 21st century will be taken.

Martha Crenshaw in her work "Explaining terrorism" : This volume comprised some of the key essay by professor Crenshaw from 1992 to the present day on the causes, processes and consequences of terrorism. This book provides a comprehensive over view of the academic study

of terrorism exploring its root causes, processes by which terrorist groups form and operate and also the consequences of terrorist activity⁴.

Bruce Hoffman in his work "Inside terrorism" dives into the history, evolution and contemporary manifestations of terrorism including its organizational structures motivation and strategies. Hoffman discusses how terrorism is deliberately difficult to define and he critiques the inconsistencies in how governments, media and scholars define it. In his later editions he addressed Al-Qaeda, ISIS and the challenges posed by lone-wolf actors and online radicalization⁵.

Alex Schmid looks on "Terrorism and International relations" : This book examines the relationship between terrorism and international relations exploring how terrorism is understood and addressed in the global context. Terrorism is an anxiety-inspiring method of repeated violent action by clandestine individuals, groups or state actors. Schmid argues for a clear legal definition of terrorism to support consistent international responses⁶.

Richard Flanagan in his work "The unknown terrorist": It is a political thriller that explores the themes of fear, media manipulation, xenophobia and the erosion of civil liberties in a post 9/11 world. The book critiques how the media can distort truth and destroy lives by spreading unverified stories. Hence, the unknown terrorist serves as a modern retelling set in the context of the war on terror⁷.

John Le Carré in his work "A most wanted man" : This work is a contemporary espionage thriller that explores themes of counter-terrorism, intelligence operations and human rights in the post 9/11 world. The novel critiques how Western governments in their fear of terrorism often violate human rights and act without solid evidence⁸.

Fred Charles Ikle in his work "Every war must end" talks about foundational work on challenges of ending wars rather than starting or fighting them. Iklé argues that while much effort is put into planning on how to wage war far less thought is given on how to conclude it. Leaders often start war without clearly defined political end goals. Ikle's book is a classic work from the 1970s written during the Vietnam war at a time of agonizing re-appraisal in the U.S with tens of thousands dying and no concept of how to bring the conflict to a close. His central idea is that how a war ends is vital to it's long-term impact upon the world⁹.

Alstair Horne in her work "A savage war of peace": Horne provides a comprehensive and detailed chronicle of the Algerian struggle for independence from France. The war was brutal involving guerilla warfare, terrorism, torture and widespread civilian suffering. Although originally written in the early 1970's the themes are directly relevant to today's challenges including the ethics of torture, the power of popular ideas e.t.c . The French engaged in brilliant counter- insurgency tactic and the military defeats the FLN (Front de Liberation Nationale) especially following the battle of Algiers yet France lost the war. He explains not just what was happening on the ground insurgency tactic and the military defeats. The FLN (Front de Liberation Nationale) especially following the battle of Algiers yet France lost the war. He explains not just what was happening on the ground in Algeria but also opens the lens to encompass political instability in Continental France, Tunisia, Morocco and the vital role of the united nations¹⁰

Lawrence Wright in his work "The looming tower" : Wright traces the ideological foundations of radical Islamism focusing on key thinkers such as Sayyid Qutb whose writings shaped the world view of later extremists including Osama bin Laden and Ayman al-Zawahiri. The book explains how Osama bin Laden a wealthy Saudi paternered with Zwahiri and Egyptian-Islamist leader to form Al-Qaeda. It covers the experience in Afghanisatan during the

Soviet invasion which helped radicalize and militarize a generation of Jihadist. Wrights book is written in an engaging style engrossing and entertaining but well researched based solidly on facts and never sensationalistic¹¹.

John G. Horgan "The philosophy of terrorism": It does not exist as a standalone book under that exact title by Horgan. Horgan . However, Horgan is a well known expert on terrorism and has written extensively on the psychology and behavior of terrorists. John G. Horgan's "The philosophy of terrorism" examines how and why individuals became involved in terrorism, stay involved and eventually disengage. His work focuses on real-world case studies, interviews with former terrorists and psychological theory to break down myths. He argues that there is no single terrorist profile hence, he draws a distinction between radical belief and radical actions¹².

Benjamin Cole and Nadine Gurr their work "The new terrorism": myths and reality" : Gurr and Cole scrutinize claims that terrorism in the post 1990s era represented a fundamentally new threat. They argued that tactics and motivations have evolved, many aspects of terrorism remain rooted in long-standing patterns. They analyze the fear that terrorist groups would use weapons of mass destruction. Gurr and Cole advocated for more advanced counter-terrorism strategies that avoids over reaction. They recommend balancing security measures with civil liberties and understanding complex motivations behind terrorism¹³.

Chapterization

Chapter One: Background to the Study.

This chapter focuses on the background of the study. It shall contain an introductory part of which lays brief foundation on the main subject. It will highlight the scope of study and methods used in carrying out this research. Furthermore, this study states it's literature review to explore more works by several writers on terrorism

Chapter Two: Conceptual Understanding of Terrorism and it's Manifestations.

Here it comprises full understanding of terrorism and its manifestation i.e. what terrorism mean and how it has manifested over the years (tactics used by terrorists). Terrorism is the use or threat of violence, there is no universally accepted definition of terrorism. For the U.S. department of state they defined terrorism as "A premeditated politically motivated violence perpetrated against non-combatant targets by sub-national groups or clandestine agents. Terrorism manifests in various forms depending on the political, social and technological environment.

Chapter Three: Examining some Notable Cases on Terrorism such as Al-Qaeda (9/11 Attack) and the Munich Olympic Massacre of 1972.

Hence, this chapter will give full understanding of how the Munich Olympic massacre happened and also how Al-Qaeda terrorist group operated during the 9/11 attack. The Munich Olympic massacre was carried out by the Palestinian group (Black September) and it involved hostage taking and murder of Israeli athletes and coaches during the Olympic games while the 9/11 attacks was an attack on the world trade center by the terrorist group known as Al-Qaeda which led to immense loss of life and had a profound impact on global security.

Chapter Four: Implications of Terrorism on Global Security in the 21st Century.

This chapter addresses the implication of terrorism on global security in the 21st century. It will highlight on both positive and negative implication on global security . These implications affect not only state sovereignty and international relations but also economic stability, human right

and global order. Groups like Al-Qaeda, ISIS and Boko Haram operate across borders making terrorism a global issue.

Chapter Five: Conclusion

This chapter will summarize the key findings from previous chapters highlighting the implications of terrorism on global security. This chapter will also conclude with a call for continued exploration of terrorism and terrorism underscoring its implication on global security in the 21st century.

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CHAPTER TWO

CONCEPTUAL UNDERSTANDING OF TERRORISM AND ITS MANIFESTATION

One of the ways of approaching the definition issue of terrorism is by looking at the historical roots of the term. The word "terror" is of Latin origin but similar words can be found in other Indo-Germanic languages. The making of a definition in the social sciences fields involves a process of determining content and meaning of a concept with the help of the same language which we all use in everyday speech. If there is only one term on each side of the equation we are talking about a synonym or about a translated term not a definition. How many elements are necessary for a good definition and elements which are terrorism and political violence¹. While many people wish to know more about this type of politically motivated crime, there are also those who seem to have given up and wondering if terrorism is worth defining?². Terrorism is a threat of violence and there is no universally accepted definition of terrorism. For the U.S department of state defense they defined terrorism as "a premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against non-combatant targets by sub national groups or clandestine agents". Hence, terrorism manifests in various forms depending on the political, social and technological environment. While "terrorism" is one of the most widely used terms in adversarial political discourse there is still no international consensus about the exact meaning. The discussion about the definition of terrorism has been going on for more than half a century and has led to a large number of publications. Thus, terrorism involves actions intended to create a climate of fear and exert pressure on a target audience, often involving attacks on civilians. The purpose of this article is to revisit and review some conceptual approaches on terrorism.

Definition of Terrorism

As a form of violence terrorism tells us little about the people who employ it nor does the tactic itself explain why it is being used. Before embarking on a more detailed analysis and projection of trends it is therefore worth remembering that lumping together and prescribing standardised solution for vastly different violent conflict based merely on tactical similarity i.e. the use of "terroristic" means does not lead to valid predictions. Definition of terrorism are usually complex and controversial and because of the inherent ferocity and violence of terrorism, the term in its popular usage have developed an intense stigma. It was first coined in the 1790s to refer to the terror used during the French revolution by the revolutionaries against their opponents. The Jacobin party of Maximilien Robespierre carried out a "Reign of Terror" involving mass execution carried out by the guillotine. Although terrorism in this usage implies an act of violence by a state against its domestic enemies, since the 20th century the term has been applied most frequently to violence aimed either directly or indirectly at the government in an effort to influence policy or topple an existing regime.

Terrorism is not legally defined in all jurisdictions, the statutes that do exist generally share some common elements: Terrorism involves the use or threat of violence and seeks to create fear not just within the direct victims, but among a wide audience. The degree to which it relies on fear distinguishes terrorism from both conventional and guerrilla warfare. Although conventional military forces invariably engage in psychological warfare against the enemy, their principal means of victory is strength of arms. Similarly guerrilla forces which often rely on acts of terror and other forms of propaganda aims at military victory and occasionally succeed e.g the Viet cong in Vietnam and the Khmer rouge in Cambodia. Terrorism proper is thus the calculated use of violence to generate fear and thereby to achieve political goals when direct military

victory is not possible. This has led some social sciences to refer to guerrilla warfare as the "weapon of the weak". In order to attract and maintain the publicity necessary to generate widespread fear, terrorists must engage in increasingly dramatic, violent and high-profile attacks these have included hijackings, hostage takings, kidnappings, mass shootings, car bombings and frequently suicide bombings. Although apparently random the victims and locations of terrorist attack often are carefully selected for their shock value. Schools, shopping centers, bus and train stations etc. have been targeted both because they attract large crowds and because they are places with which members of the civilian population are familiar and in which they feel at ease.

The goal of terrorism generally is to destroy the public sense of security in the places most familiar to them. Major targets some times also include buildings or other locations that are important economic or political symbols such as embassies or military installations. Some definitions treat all acts of terrorism, regardless of their political motivation, as a simple criminal security. For example the U.S federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) defines both international and domestic terrorism as involving violent, criminal acts. A frequently mentioned example is the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa which committed violent acts against the country's apartheid government but commanded broad sympathy throughout the world. Since the 20th century ideology and political opportunism have led to a number of countries to engage in international terrorism often under disguise of supporting movements of national liberation. In the first instance, terrorism studies has been criticised for its failure to develop an accepted definition of terrorism and a subsequent failure to develop rigorous theories and concepts³. The reality is that most terrorism scholars have simply abandoned the search for an agreed definition and instead they tend to use the term without even defining it. This is a real challenge for the field as not only is the term highly contentious and laden with negative political and cultural

connotations, but the failure to resolve the continual debate over key concepts and ideas is antithetical to theoretical innovation and intellectual progress⁴.

Hence, it became a common saying that "one man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter"⁵. The distinction between terrorism and other forms of political violence became blurred particularly as many guerrilla groups often employed terrorist tactics. Terrorism studies has also been criticised for its poor research methods and procedures in particular, its reliance on secondary information and general failure to undertake primary research⁶. Terror has been practiced by state and non-state actors throughout history and throughout the world. However, the 20th century witnessed great changes in the use and practice of terror. The deadliest terrorist attacks till date were the September 11 attacks (2001).

Manifestations of Terrorism

Terrorism manifests in various ways including violence like shootings and bombing as well as through activities like surveillance, elicitation and acquiring supplies for attacks. Here, we will examine the tactical aspects of terrorism. It begins by focusing on the nature of war and conflict in the 21st century, suggesting that technology, economic structures and communication have changed the way war is waged. It argues that small groups of aggrieved people may conduct campaigns of unconventional warfare against individual nations or international alliances.

Manifestation of terrorism refers to the various forms, tactics and expression through which terrorist acts and ideologies appears in society. Terrorist groups also utilize propaganda, recruitment, and fund raising to further their goals often operating in secrecy and blurring the lines between war and peace. Key ways terrorist manifest are violent attacks, cyber terrorism,

ideological and religious extremism, use of media and propaganda, political violence and insurgency, transnational operations and targeting civilians and symbols.

Violent Attack

This is the most common and visible form of terrorism. Most terrorist group conduct assassinations to eliminate enemies, intimidate the populations, discourage co-operation, influence public opinion, gain media attention or simply to exact revenge. Violent actions by terrorist include the use of time bombs, assassination i.e. targeting specific individuals which are often high profile figure, kidnapping and hostage taking i.e capturing individuals to negotiate demands and armed assault i.e attacking specific locations such as government buildings, military installation or public gathering places. The most common form of terrorist attack involving explosives loss is bombing which can lead to massive casualties, infrastructure damage and fear. Armed assault is also another attack carried out by terrorist using firearms or other weapons to kill and injure people usually leading to chaos. Hijacking on the other hand here terrorist take control of vehicles to make political or ideological demands leading to leverage hostages for demands or propaganda.

Sabotage is also another violent attack means by terrorist they deliberately destroy and disrupt infrastructure leading to cripple economy or government services. Terrorist tactics are chosen based on the groups resources, goals, target audience and desired level of impact. These tactics often aim not just to kill or injure but to send a powerful political or ideological message, influence public opinion or destabilize government. Terrorist primarily use these attacks to create fear, spread panic and uncertainty among the population. They also pressure governments to change policies or concede to their demands drawing international attention to their cause or ideology. Hence, these attacks can disrupt economies, infrastructure and also loss of life of

innocent civilians. Terrorist often use harmful substances to cause widespread harm or fear, they also used unconventional tactics to exploit vulnerabilities in traditional security measures. In all, terrorist attacks are violent acts used to achieve political, ideological or social goals through fear, intimidation and harm to innocent people.

Cyber Terrorism

Cyber terrorism refers to the use of technology particularly computer and the internet to disrupt damage or destroy critical infrastructure, steal sensitive information or spread fear and propaganda. It is a modern tactics used by terrorist to disrupt, damage or influence through digital means rather than traditional/physical violence. on the other hand it refers to unlawful attacks or threat against computer systems, networks and data. Tactics of cyber-terrorism used by terrorist groups are as follows; denial of service (Dos) and Distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks. Experienced cyber terrorists who are very skilled in terms of hacking can cause massive damage to government systems and might leave a country in fear of further attacks. The Objectives of such terrorist may be political or ideological since this can be considered a form of terror.

Cyber terrorism relates to deployment by known terrorist organization of disruption attacks against information systems for the primary purpose of creating alarm, panic or physical disruption. Other authors prefer a broader definition which Includes cyber crime, participating in cyber attacks, affects the terror threat perception even if it isn't done with a violent approach. There is much concern from government and media sources about potential damage that could be caused by cyber- terrorism and this has prompted efforts by government agencies such as Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), National Security Agency (CIA) to put an end to cyber attacks and cyber terrorism. Al-Qaeda utilized the internet to communicate with supporters and even to

recruit new members. Cyber-terrorism may not always involve physical destruction but aims to instill fear, disrupt economies or damage public trust in institutions⁷.

Ideological and Religious Extremism

Specifically, a new generation of armed groups has emerged over the past quarter of a century, understanding this new generation of non-state armed groups present novel analytical and practical challenges as these entities differ substantially from those that are traditionally active in civil conflict. Just as state is evolving so also does the new groups have an equally deep historical anchoring. Ideological and religious extremism are not only motivations but also powerful tools used by terrorist groups to justify and promote violence, recruit followers and sustain long-term campaigns. These forms of extremism allow terrorist actors to create narratives that frames their actions as morally or divinely sanctioned making it easier to radicalize individuals and carry out attacks with deadly commitment. Rather than being just a belief system, extremism becomes a tactical tool used to justify violence against civilians or government. Religious extremism is based on a fundamentalist interpretation of religion and is justified by a divine command, groups like Al-Qaeda, ISIL and Boko Haram are key actors. Hence, terrorist groups adopt extremist ideologies to polarize societies, to exploit grievances such as political oppression or economic injustice. Ideological and religious extremism are not just motivations they are strategic tools that terrorists use to legitimize violence, mobilize support and sustain conflict. Martha Crenshaw explains how ideological and religious motivations provide both a justification and a strategic advantage for terrorist organizations⁸. Some groups use martyrdom as a religious tactic, promising spiritual rewards for attackers. For example, far-right extremists in the U.S. and Europe have carried out attacks based on white supremacist or anti-government ideologies (e.g. the 2011 Norway attack by Anders Breivik).

Use of Media and Propaganda

Terrorism also manifests through psychological warfare i.e use of social and traditional media to spread fear, broadcasting videos of attacks or executions, publishing manifestoes or threats and creating online echo chambers. Media attention amplifies their message and creates a multiplier effect on the fear generated. Terrorist groups utilize media and propaganda to amplify their actions, recruit new members and instill fear within targeted populations. Terrorist groups understand that media coverage can magnify the impact of their attacks turning them into high profile events that attract widespread attention by strategically timing attacks, selecting targets and creating locations, they aim to maximize their visibility and influence. The internet and social media provides platforms for terrorist to by past traditional media gatekeepers and directly reach a global audience thus amplifying their message and reach.

Social media platforms offer a space for terrorists to connect with potential recruits and even facilitate the transfer of weapon and explosive materials. By spreading disinformation and conspiracy theories they can create an environment of distrust and uncertainty making it easier to recruit followers and destabilize society. Hence, terrorist groups leverage media and propaganda to amplify their actions, recruit followers and achieve their political and ideological goals by carefully crafting messages, utilizing various platforms and manipulating public perception. They exploit both traditional media and digital platforms to maximize fear and gain global attention. Terrorists are increasingly sophisticated in their use of media, understanding that the more violent and dramatic the attack is the more media coverage it will receive. They rely on coverage to magnify the psychological impact of their acts and to publicize their cause⁹. Media and propaganda are not just support tools but core tactics in modern terrorism which allow them to manipulate narratives recruit supporters and disrupt social norms. By manipulating perception

and information, terrorist groups extend their influence far beyond the battlefield, making the war on terror not only a military challenge but also a "war of narrative". Most of the times violent acts are performed with the expectations that media coverage will help spread their ideological message. Hence, groups like ISIS have successfully used media and propaganda to project a global Jihadist identity and also in addition to traditional media, terrorist groups increasingly use cyber tactics to disseminate propaganda.

Political Violence and Insurgency

Terrorist groups frequently use political violence and insurgency as strategic tools to achieve ideological, religious or political objectives. These methods aim to destabilize governments, delegitimize state authority and force political concessions through coercion, fear and sustained conflict. Political violence includes acts of aggression carried out with the intention of influencing political decisions or disrupting political systems. Gurr explains that relative deprivation and perceived political injustice often drive groups to commit political violence ¹⁰. Insurgency on the other hand is a prolonged rebellion or armed resistance against a constituted authority often involving guerrilla tactics and terrorist violence. Terrorism is often a tactics with insurgency used for psychological impact. For instance, Boko Haram combine terrorist tactics with insurgency to oppose the Nigerian state and impose its radical Islamic ideology¹¹. Political violence and insurgency are not isolated tactics but part of a broader strategy by terrorist groups to challenge the Legitimacy of the state, inspire fear and enforce ideological dominance. Understanding these tactics is critical for developing effective counter-terrorism and counter-insurgency responses. Hence, some terrorist/insurgent groups like Hexbollah, engage in practical participation, social services and armed struggle simultaneously. The Marxist theory of revolution sees political violence as part of class struggle and anti-imperialist resistance,

insurgency and terrorism can overlap with insurgent groups using terrorist tactics to further their goals. commit terror to further their goal. While both involve violence, insurgency is a broader conflict while terrorism is a tactic often employed within an insurgency. Furthermore, the level of popular support for insurgent or terrorist groups significantly impact their success and in most cases addressing insurgency and terrorism requires international co-operation and support. In terrorism, there exists a clear discrepancy between the magnitude of violence and the scale of the designated goal. In this respect, terrorism is an indirect way to reach a political end as opposed to insurgency which directly attacks the defined enemy with a symmetric war tactic. As opposed to the typical nature of an insurgency fighting against a ruling regime in a specific geographical area, terror groups seek political change through sensational attacks on symbolic or indirect civilian targets. There is no clear-cut difference between the goals of terrorist groups and insurgencies, but certain characteristics might reflect distinctions in terrorism. For instance, there is an extreme asymmetry between the strength and magnitude of the violence and the scale of the overall goal. Hence, insurgencies reflect less divergence from that perspective.

Since 2001, there has been a tremendous growth in terrorism related research and teaching activities. Following the attacks in America, terrorism studies has rapidly expanded from a relatively minor sub-field of Security Studies to a large stand-alone field with its own dedicated journals, research centers, leading scholars and expert research funding opportunities, conferences, seminars and study programmes. As a consequence, it is now one of the fastest expanding areas of research in English speaking academic world, with literally thousands of new books and articles published over the past few years¹². A related criticism of terrorism research since 2001 is that it tends towards exceptionalizing the experience of the United States (U.S.) and Al-Qaeda posting it as "new type" of terrorism that will threaten the world ¹³. Terrorism is a

complex and contested concept with no universally agreed definition, it is also a deliberate creation and exploitation of fear through violence. Terrorist manifest in various forms depending on the group's objectives, some terrorist acts are carried out in the name of religious belief or political ideology. Hence, attackers sacrifice themselves to inflict maximum casualties and media attention when using suicide bombing to carry out terrorist operations and it is usually common amongst the Islamist extremist groups like ISIS and BOKO HARAM.

Furthermore, sometimes terrorist pressures governments into meeting demands, gain ransom or attract publicity e.g. the Munich Olympic massacre of 1972. Terrorism is not just a physical act of violence but also a strategic communication tool used to influence government, intimidate populations and promote ideologies. It continues to evolve especially with technological advances, making it a persistent and glaring security challenge. It is distinct from other forms of violence due to its symbolic intent, targeted selection and psychological impact. Terrorism is a means to an end and not an end itself , domestic terrorism are terrorists acts committed by a country's own citizens within its boarder while acts carried out across national borders as international terrorism. Therefore, terrorism is not a monolithic phenomenon. Its conceptual foundation lies in using fear and violence as a political weapon. Contemporary terrorism is often stateless and not territorially bounded and contemporary terrorism shares some characteristics with a number of other types of historically known situations. Terrorism has changed over time and so have the terrorist their motives and the causes of terrorism¹⁴. Terrorist groups like all social collectives have certain vulnerabilities to their existence, some operate from within the organization while some operate from outside. While suicide attacks have been a part of conflict throughout the history of the world most contemporary researchers mark the 1983 suicide attack on the U.S. embassy in Beirut as the beginning of modern era of suicide terrorism.

There are several motivation of terrorism according to martha Crenshaw which are: opportunity for action, the need to belong, the desire for social status and the acquisition of raw material reward.

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CHAPTER THREE

EXAMINING SOME NOTABLE CASES ON TERRORISM SUCH AS AL-QAEDA 9/11 ATTACK AND THE MUNICH OLYMPIC MASSACRE OF 1972.

Terrorism has marked a pivotal point in global history and has also evolved from localized political violence to globally coordinated attacks. Thus, the global face of terrorism has evolved significantly over the past decades, hence understanding terrorism requires close examination of landmark attacks that have redefined global security priorities. But on this note, we will study the September 11, 2001 attack orchestrated by Al-Qaeda a terrorist group and the Munich Olympic Massacre of 1972 carried out by Black September also another terrorist group led by the Palestinian militant. Furthermore, the September 11, 9/11 attack was a series of coordinated terrorist attacks carried out by the Islamist Extremist group Al-Qaeda led by Osama bin Laden. The attack remains one of the deadliest acts of terrorism in modern history and it had profound effects on global politics, security policies, and the perception of terrorism worldwide. On the other hand the Munich Olympic massacre was a shocking and tragic terrorist attack that occurred during the 1972 Summer Olympic in Munich, West Germany. It was carried out by Black September a Palestinian militant group. The attack resulted in the death of 11 Israeli athletes and coaches, one West Germany police officer and 5 of the 8 terrorists. The massacre was rooted in the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict it was motivated to trigger the release of its members. The September 11 attacks were precipitated in large part because Osama bin Laden the leader of the militant Islamic organisation Al-Qaeda held a naive belief about the United States in run up to the attacks. On September 5, 1972, eight members of the terrorist group known as Black September infiltrated the Olympic village and took members of the Israeli Olympic team hostage in request for the release of over 200 Palestinian that were imprisoned in

Israel. Furthermore, the attack was deadly and it caused a lot of damage and destruction to lives, properties and the Olympic sporting event. The Munich Olympic massacre drew global attention to the Palestinian cause for the release of its members that was arrested and imprisoned. It is the middle east crisis i.e the Arab-Israeli conflict that triggered the Munich Olympic massacre of 1972 where sporting activity was placed on hold as a result of the destruction.

The 9/11 attacks fundamentally reshaped global security in the 21st century by triggering the “war on terror” and prompting significant shifts in international relations. The attack spurred a global focus on combatting terrorism leading to military interventions in Afghanistan and Iraq. On the other hand, the Munich Olympic massacre had a significant and lasting impact on global security particularly in the realm of counter terrorism and international cooperation. It spurred the creation of specialized counter terrorism units in several countries and also heightened awareness of the threat of terrorism. Here, it can be seen that both events caused a threat to global security in the 21st century. The fact is that Al-Qaeda routinely exploits to arouse and mobilize its supporters¹.

Al-Qaeda and the 9/11 Attack

Al-Qaeda (Arabic for 'the base') was founded in the late 1980s by Osama Bin Laden, Ayman al-Zawahiri and other Islamist militants who had fought in the Soviet Afghan war. The group's mission evolved into a global jihad against what it viewed as corrupt Muslim governments and their western supporters, especially the United States. The September 11 plot demonstrated that Al-Qaeda was an organisation of global reach. The plot played out across the globe with planned meetings in Malaysia, operatives taking flight lessons in Hamburg, Germany, money transfers from Dubai, and recruitment of suicide operatives from countries around the middle east, hence all activities were ultimately overseen by al-Qaeda leaders in Afghanistan.

Although Afghanistan was critical to the rise of al-Qaeda, it was the experience that some of the plotters acquired in the west that made them simultaneously more zealous and better equipped to carry out the attack. Al-Qaeda allied and supported terrorist groups throughout the world and they supported these groups by training group members in its camp and by sending its own members to help these groups in their struggles elsewhere. In Afghanistan thousands of recruits passed through these training camps and many fought in Afghanistan on the side of the Taliban regime; hence, al-Qaeda also lost its base area in the process.

During the 9/11 attack Al-Qaeda used intelligence and counter-intelligence strategies. Mere counter-intelligence strategy allowed for the creation of a 'security' umbrella that shielded the operation from exposure throughout all its stages. The nature of the operation dictates the need for the hijackers to engage in behaviour that exposed them to constant risk. Al-Qaeda, during their phase, displayed the hall marks of a terrorist organization that engaged in a reflective rather than impulsive decision making designed to achieve an act of violence of tremendous strategic and symbolic importance². The driving force behind the 9/11 operation was Kuwait-born Khalid Sheikh Mohammed (hereafter "Khalid"). By the time Khalid presented his ideas to the Al-Qaeda leadership for what would ultimately become the 9/11 operation (known within Al-Qaeda as the "plane-operation"), and prior to his membership of the organization he had already demonstrated a key interest in the use of aircraft for terrorist attacks. Khalid played an active role in his, his first terrorist operation³, this multifaceted plot also involved a plan to assassinate Pope John Paul II during his planned visit to the Philippines in January 1955.

As a terrorist organisation, Al-Qaeda is difficult to compare with traditional terrorist organisation such as IRA, the PKK, Hamas or many of the smaller Islamist terrorist organization.

Especially since the 2001 attacks were united States led assaults on the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, Al-Qaeda does not fit in the traditional typology of terrorist organisations. It differs in organisational structure, modes of thinking and patterns of behaviour from other terrorist organisation⁴. As mentioned earlier the Al-Qaeda of today is very different from that of 9/11 and that of the 1990s. Today, Al-Qaeda is generally considered the most threatening terrorist organisation worldwide. Whether this is true or not many of the most spectacular and most lethal terrorist attacks in recent years have been ascribed to Al-Qaeda. However, it is unclear which type of Al-Qaeda is behind the attacks. Al-Qaeda ideology is based on Salafi Jihadism which seeks to establish a strict form of Islamic rule and opposes Western influence in Muslim countries. The group operates a network with a central leadership and various affiliated branches across the Middle East, Africa and South Asia.

On the morning of September 11, 2001, 19 Al-Qaeda terrorists hijacked four commercial airplanes which are American Airlines flight 11, United Airlines flight 175, American Airlines flight 77, and United Airlines flight 93 all these airlines were attacked by Al-Qaeda hence, they were crashed into several regions. The 9/11 attacks were meticulously planned over several years, the plan originally involved 10 planes, but was scaled down to 4 for feasibility. Al-Qaeda exploited gaps in U.S intelligence, immigration, and airline security systems. The operation cost Al-Qaeda roughly \$400,000 to \$500,000 - a small sum for such massive destruction. Nearly 3,000 people were killed and it caused massive destruction hence, 6,000 people were injured. The World Trade Center towers collapsed causing massive destruction and long-term environmental and health impacts in New York. The attackers were mainly from Saudi Arabia and all were trained to carry out suicide missions. Hence, Osama bin Laden claimed the attack was a retaliation for U.S involvement in the middle east particularly U.S military presence in

Saudi Arabia, U.S support for Israel and sanctions and bombings in Iraq. Osama bin Laden believed that the United States was a "paper tiger", it was a belief shaped not just by Americans' departure from Lebanon following the marine barracks bombing but also by the withdrawal of American forces from Somalia in 1993. Following the death of 18 U.S servicemen in Mogadishu hence, American pull out from Vietnam in the 1970s. The key operational planner of the September 11 strikes was Khalid Sheikh Mohammed (Often referred to simply as "KSM" in the late 9/11 commission report and in the media) who had spent his youth in Kuwait. The September 11 attacks were an enormous tactical success for Al-Qaeda. The strikes were well coordinated and hit multiple targets in the heart of the enemy and the attacks were magnified by being broadcast around the world as an audience of untold million.

During the attack buildings were set on fire, people were trapped on the upper floors hence, the third plane destroyed the western face of the Pentagon and the fourth plane crashed in a field in Pennsylvania after passengers fought back. When the first plane struck an estimated 17,400 people were in the towers and nobody survived above the impact zone in the north tower. Al-Qaeda blamed the U.S and its allies for conflict in the Muslim world, less than a month after the attacks ; president George W. Bush led an invasion of Afghanistan supported by an international coalition to eradicate Al-Qaeda and hunt down bin Laden. However, it was not until 2011 that U.S troops finally located and killed Bin Laden in neighboring Pakistan and the alleged planner of the 9/11 attacks Khalid Sheikh Mohammed was arrested in Pakistan in 2003. Thus, Al-Qaeda still exists and it is strongest in sub Saharan Africa, but even now has members inside Afghanistan. The September 11 propaganda of the deed took place in the media capital of the world which ensured the widest possible coverage of the event. Not since television viewers had watched the abduction and murder of Israeli athletes during the Munich Olympic massacre in

1972" had witnessed a terrorist attack unfold in real time. After the attacks of September 11, countries allied with the United States (U.S) allied to its support. Therefore, evidence gathered by the United States soon convicted most governments that Islamic militant group Al-Qaeda was responsible for the attacks.

The 9/11 attacks fundamentally reshaped global security in the 21st century by triggering the "war on terror" and prompting significant shifts in international relations, counter-terrorism strategies and domestic security measures. The attacks spurred a global focus on combating terrorism leading to military intervention in Afghanistan and Iraq, increased military intervention and security measures worldwide and a heightened awareness of the threat posed by extremist groups. According to Burke, "we are now in the third phase where Al-Qaeda is instead accurately characterized by the third translation, the methodology, the maxim, the percept, the rule, the way of seeing the world⁵. The U.S led war on terror, thus saw military actions in Afghanistan and Iraq and the attacks also led to the formation of an unprecedented international coalition to combat terrorism with many nations joining the U.S in military and intelligence efforts. The attacks heightened global awareness of the threat of terrorism leading to increased security measures at airports, borders and public spaces. Furthermore, the 9/11 terrorist attacks amplified the use of suicide bombing as a tactic by terrorist groups. Therefore, following the 9/11 attack the federal government moved quickly to develop a security framework to protect country from large scale attacks, directed from abroad while enhancing federal, state and local capabilities to prepare for, respond and recover from threats and disasters at home. A key element of this framework included the creation of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in March 2003 bringing together 22 separate agencies and offices into a single cabinet level

department created with the founding principle of protecting the American people from terrorist and other threats.

The 9/11 attack marked a turning point in international relations and global security. It reshaped U.S foreign policy, led to decades-long wars and triggered widespread changes in how nations combat terrorism. It also left a lasting emotional and psychological impact on people around the world. Michael Scheuer's interpretation is that from Al-Qaeda's perspective Abi Al-Yazid's assignment must be seen as a move that keeps a strong, talented and respected hand managing Al-Qaeda's activities in Afghanistan, allowing Bin Laden and Al-Zawahiri to devote more thought and time to the project's elsewhere in the world⁶. In examining Al-Qaeda's success, one must recognise that despite not achieving its stated political goal, it has been able to achieve significant global disruption. Therefore, it is worth investigating how they have been successful in that sense despite the efforts of much stronger opponents. The first key to Al-Qaeda's success is its ability to operate in a decentralized fashion currently it has a global network of affiliates ,allies and supporters across the planet, including at least five major regional affiliates and more than 14 allied terrorist groups. In addition to making worldwide operation possible decentralization can be effective in spreading the Al-Qaeda brand. What gives Al-Qaeda it's global reach is its ability to appeal to Muslims irrespective of their nationality giving it unprecedented reach. It can function in East Asia,in Russia and the heart of Europe in sub Saharan Africa and throughout Canada and the U.S with equal facility⁷. Despite their success in causing wide spread destruction and death, the September 11 attacks were a strategic failure for Al-Qaeda.

The Munich Olympic Massacre in 1972

The Munich Olympic massacre of 1972 was supposed to be the opposite of Berlin 1936 nearly three decades after the holocaust, West Germany authorities went through pains to try to erase symbolism of the country's Nazi past. Authorities were aware of the security threats but they were coming from different directions. Thus, the game began and had already gone on for 10 days without a serious incident and security officials had let down their guard. From start to finish it was the first time terrorists had hijacked a televised event and turned it into their own drama" says Bruce Hoffman, a senior fellow at the Council of Foreign Relations who had studied terrorism for decades. In 1968 about 11 international terrorist groups were operating and few years after the Munich massacre has number more than 50. A large reason for that was the global attention the attacks received. Furthermore, the incident though horrific gave new attention to the Palestinian cause more than 1 million Palestinians had been refugees since 1948 creation of Israel and the wars that followed but global powers had been largely ignoring their plight. The Munich attack as well as other terrorism connected to the P.L.O was really a double edged sword." It brought attention to the Palestinian issue but it was mostly negative attention.

The Munich massacre was a terrorist attack during the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich, West Germany, where members of the Palestinian militant group i.e Black September took Israeli athletes hostage. The militants infiltrated the Olympic Village, killed two members of the Israeli Olympic team and took nine other Israeli team members hostage. The Munich Olympic massacre was a shocking and tragic terrorist attack orchestrated by the terrorist group known as "Black September". The massacre was rooted in the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the Black September organization a radical faction of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) sought to gain international attention to the Palestinian cause and retaliated

for the displacement of Palestinians after the creation of Israel in 1948. The Munich Olympic massacre forced nations to recognize international terrorism as a serious threat. Furthermore, it can be seen that the incident showed that small, determined groups could use violence to draw attention to political cause and this inspired other radical groups in the 1970s. During the Munich massacre the Palestinian militants of Black September aimed to secure the release of over 200 Palestinians imprisoned in Israel along with Andreas Baader and Urike Mein of the Red Army Faction from German prisons. They also demanded safe passage to the Middle East.

Hence to achieve all these 8 militants infiltrated the Olympic village and seized members of the Israeli Olympic team and held them hostage. The attacks resulted in the deaths of eleven Israelis and west German police men. Although the German government attempted a rescue it ultimately failed and the surviving attackers were eventually released. Black September sprang up from a branch of Fatah and in the ensuing years this group would be responsible for high profile actions such as the assassination of the Jordanian Prime Minister Wasfi al-Tall in November 1971⁸. The Olympic massacre was inspired by the desire to highlight the Palestinian cause and pressure Israel to release Palestinian prisoners. The Palestinian terrorist group Black September which claimed responsibility for the attack named their operation “iqrit and biram .In the wake of hostage taking the competition was suspended for 34 hours for the first time in modern Olympic history, after public criticism of the IOC’s decision to continue the games .On 6 September after the memorial service remaining members of the Israeli team withdrew from the game and left Munich. In 1977 Abu Daoud the planner of the Munich attack was arrested in France but West Germany’s extradition request was denied on a technicality and he was released and flown to freedom in Algeria. One positive step taken by West Germany in the wake of the events in Munich was the formation of a specialized counter terrorism unit with nationwide

jurisdiction. West German police from the Bavarian police ambushed the terrorists, killing five of the eight Black September member but the rescue attempt failed resulting in the deaths of all the hostages. A west German police officer was also killed in the cross fire hence, the west German government faced criticism for the rescue attempt and its handling of the incident.

The Munich Olympic massacre was a critical juncture, prompting governments to think about terrorism as an enduring challenge to security international and domestic and to respond to it with wide-ranging government resources. This led directly to the founding of the German Federal Border guard's counter terrorism intervention unit. The massacre brought terrorism to the world stage, as it was the first live broadcast that marked a significant shift in international perception. Hence, the Olympic security protocols dramatically expanded after Munich Olympic massacre. The 1972 Munich Olympic massacre shattered the illusion of a safe and a political sporting event. It exposed fatal flaws in lax security, highlighted the brutality of political violence and forever changed how nations plan and respond to terrorism. While honouring the memories of the victims it remains a cautionary tale. During the massacre hostages and terrorists were flown to Fursten Feldbruck airbase, hoping to arrange evacuation action by plane. German security forces lacked specialized training. The Munich massacre forever changed the paradigm of global sporting events. It shattered illusions of Olympic peace, revealed the cost of counter terrorism complacency, reinforced media's ethical responsibility and demonstrated how memory and justice can take generations.

Furthermore the Munich Olympic massacre had a significant and lasting impact on global security particularly in the realm of counter terrorism and international cooperation. It spurred the creation of specialized counter-terrorism units in several countries, heightened awareness of the threat of terrorism at major events and led to increased security measures at international

sporting competitions. The massacre highlighted the need for specialized forces to handle hostage situations and terrorist attacks., Hence ,several countries including west Germany (with GSG9), France and the United States established or enhanced counter terrorism units within their police. The attack brought the issue of security at international sporting events to the forefront. The massacre also brought about global attention to the Palestinian cause, and the issues of terrorism in the Middle East. This, the events also demonstrated how terrorism could be used to achieve political aims by targeting civilians and disrupting major events. Thus, the events at Munich helped pave the way for greater international cooperation on security matters in the years that followed. In essence the Munich massacre was a watershed moment prompting a global re-evaluation of security strategies and leading to a significant change in how governments and international bodies approached the threats of terrorism particularly at major events. Predictably the intertwining of national and international politics was inflamed by the middle East⁹. It is impossible to capture every ripple effect of the attack but terrorism scholars note that we distinct change was in how western governments thought about international terrorism as a threat long before the 9/11 attacks.

The 1972 Olympic Games in Munich attracted great and massive attention and also was turning point that ended the era of relaxed global event security and the start of modern counter terrorism strategies making global security more co-ordinated, militarized and intelligence driven. Before the Munich Olympic massacre terrorism was mostly seen as a local or regional problem many governments did not consider the possibility of terrorist attacks at high-profile global events. Hence, after the Munich olympics massacre of 1972, terrorism began to be viewed as a global threat rather than a local issue, then governments now recognized the need to protect foreign nationals at home and abroad. Furthermore large scale events like the Olympics and

World Cup now include armed guards, restricted zones, metal detectors and ID checks. The massacre exposed vulnerabilities in event security, intelligence sharing and counter terrorism preparedness, leading to a complete shift in strategy. In its aftermath nations adopted more militarized security measures, formed specialized anti-terror units and introduced stricter laws against hostage takings and political violence. Ultimately, the Munich 1972 massacre transformed terrorism from a regional concern into a recognized global threat.

The 1972 Olympic games in Munich attracted the attention of the international press because of their associated political implications. During the cold war the Olympics represented a very important symbolic and political background influencing public opinion through the thousands of journalists present and the associated media coverage. Apart from the established tensions between East and West the 1972 games were also the focus of a political controversy surrounding the Rhodesian athletes. The participation had met with protests from African nations and in the end the International Olympic Committee (IOC) decided to ban the Rhodesian athletes from participating¹⁰. The Munich Olympic massacre is the offspring of “other massacre”¹¹.

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CHAPTER FOUR

IMPLICATIONS OF TERRORISM ON GLOBAL SECURITY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

To begin with, it is necessary to point out that the current security challenges and risks in the global security environment are of a military and non- military nature; however , most of them are of a non-military nature. These security challenges and risks are closely interconnected. Consequently the situation in one area can seriously affect the situation in other areas. Simultaneously, most of the current challenges and risks in one region of the world are also common to the adjacent regions or we could even also say in Many outlying areas . Terrorism is about power, a kind of power that makes changes happen in the long term rather than instantly. Terrorism never loses it's essential nature which is the abuse of the innocent in the service of political power. The ingredients of "international terrorism" are group's commitments to international revolution, willingness of foreign governments and public to help and the sympathizes of diaspora from population s . Global security risks and challenges are related to nationalism, environment, resource scarcity , migration or terrorism together with bother security challenges and risks have created an entirely new security environment. Terrorism which had not been a serious phenomenon in Africa in 1998 became one of the criminal phenomenon that threaten national and international security in the continent . Hence, the August 1998 bombings of the United States embassies in Dares Salam (tanzania) and Nairobi (Kenya) in which over 16 Americans and 200 Africans were killed one more stormed the psyche of humanity with the vibration of devastating capacities of terrorism but it was the September 11,2001 deliberate crashing of two planes leading to the death of over 6000 persons that jolted and mobilized most of the world against terrorism and exposed the phenomenon as a new kind of warfare. Prior to

the 11 September 2001, Terry was only one among a large and growing number of international community.

Terrorism is considered as a hindering force to the development of liberal ,open and democratic societies governed by the rule of law . It's us a global threat affecting virtually every country today and there is no commonly agreed definition of terrorism .Hence ,the goals and noticed if the terrorist cannot justify terrorist acts. Terrorism is in the broadest sense the use of intentional violent, generally against civilians, for political purposes. It is used in this regard primarily to refer to violence during peacetime or in context of war against non-combatants (mostly civilians and neutral military personnel)¹. Terrorism encompasses a range of complex threats like organized terrorism in conflict zones, foreign terrorist fighters, radicalized lone wolves and attacks using chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive material. Terrorist groups incite individuals often young people to leave their communities across the world and travel to conflict zones , primarily in Iraq and Syria and increasingly in Libya ². The way recruits are targeted and radicalized has shifted with greater focus on social media another digital channels.

Terrorism is also the deliberate killing of innocent people, at random to spread fear through a whole population and force the hand of its political leaders. Terrorism can be perpetrated by individuals and or groups inspired by or associated with designated foreign terrorist organisations or nations (state sponsored).³It can also be perpetrated by individuals or groups inspired or associated with primarily U.S based movement that espouse extremist ideologies of a political, religious, social, racial or environmental nature. Each year, thousands of innocent lives are shattered by terrorist violence driven by violent extremism. Whether based on religious, ethnic or political grounds, extremist ideologies glorify the supremacy of a particular

group and oppose a more tolerant and inclusive society. Their message of religious, cultural and social intolerance has wreaked havoc in many regions worldwide. Terrorism in all its forms and tactics targets the very foundations of our societies and directly challenge our shared values of peace, justice and human dignity. Terrorism aims to dismantle, human rights,, fundamental freedoms and democracy. It threatens the territorial integrity and security of nations and seeks to destabilize legitimate governments. Hence ,to counter this threat the international community must strengthen cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism while countering terrorism requires intervention to protect the security of people and assets , prevention of violent extremism needs to look beyond strict security concerns to development related causes and solutions . There is a crucial role too be played by international organization ,media outlets in combating both terrorism and the violent extremism that can fuel it .

Terrorism pose a significant threat to national security, stability and global peace. It undermines democratic institutions, disrupt economic activities and instill fear within societies. The rise of transnational terrorism and domestic extremism has made combating this menace more complex Hence, Nigeria recorded it's first increase in terrorism in three years in 2023 ,with total death rising by 34 percent to 524. This year marks Nigerians' highest death tioll since 2020 driven by a range in conflict between ISWA and BOKO HARAM . If the conflict between these two groups was excluded terrorism deaths would have declined by 18 percent. Civilians were the most targeted group for the second consecutive year in 2023. ISWA has been Nigeria's deadliest terrorist group for each of the past four years but its attacks became deadlier in 2023 causing 5.2 fatalities per attack an increase from 3.6 in 2022. Boko Haram recorded 80% deadliest year since 2020.

Terrorism in the 21st century has profound and multifaceted implications on global security, extending beyond immediate physical harm to encompass economic, social and political instability, it disrupts international relations, undermines human rights and can even lead to humanitarian crisis. Terrorism directly results in casualties and physical damage to infrastructure, property and vital services. Attacks can cripple economies, displace populations and create long term humanitarian needs. Terrorist acts On the other hand can destabilize economies by damaging infrastructure, disrupting trade, discouraging investment. The tourism sector is particularly vulnerable as countries perceived as risky for travel lose significant revenue. it can create fear and distrust within communities, leading to social fragmentation hindering the development of civil society. Terrorist act directly violates fundamental human rights including the right to life, liberty security of person. It can also trigger scale displacement, food shortage and other humanitarian crises particularly in conflict zones . These crises often requires international assistance and places a strain on global resources. In essence terrorism in the 21st century is not just a global security issue, but a multifaceted challenge that impacts all aspects of global security requiring a co-ordinated and comprehensive response from international community.

After the 9/11 in 2001 terrorism became the central global security concern. States shifted from traditional state state-centric defence (war between nations to combating non state actors like Al-Qaeda, ISIS and Boko Haram .Thus,. Government expanded counter terrorism agencies, surveillance programs and intelligence sharing networks worldwide, Terrorism challenged closer multilateral co-operation through bodies like UN, NATO, AU and EU focusing on intelligence, sharing counter-radicalisation and military operations . However ,It also sparked tension as some nations accuse others of harbouring or funding terrorist networks. Terrorism impact global

security by creating fear and undermining societal stability, damaging economies through infrastructure destruction and reduced investment, displacing populations and causing humanitarian crisis. This asymmetric threat to nations necessitates global co-operation in preventing, combating violent extremism and addressing root causes like poverty, and marginalization to maintain international peace and prosperity. Thus in response to terrorist threat government may implement strict anti-terrorism laws and security measures that can lead to the restriction of civil liberties. Public fund and investment are often redirected from development to security and counter terrorism efforts, further impacting economic growth and recovery. Recognizing that terrorism often thrives in environments of poverty, marginalization and weak governance. Counter terrorism efforts increasingly aims to address these underlying factors.

Terrorism is the direct asymmetric threat to the security of the citizens of NATO nations and to international peace and prosperity. A present global issue that knows no border, nationality or religion, terrorism is a challenge that the international community must tackle together. NATO will continue to fight this threat with determination and in full solidarity. NATO's work on counter terrorism focuses on improving awareness of the threat, developing capabilities to prepare and respond and enhancing engagement with partner countries and other international actors.

The Current Threat

The FBI is committed to remaining agile in its approach to the terrorism threat which has continued to evolve significantly since the September 11,2001 terror attacks on U.S. soil⁴. The threat landscape has expanded considerably though it is important to note that the More traditional threat posed by al-qaeda and its affiliates is still present and active and also the current

Boko Haram attack in West Africa region. The threat of domestic terrorism also remains persistent overall with actors crossing the line from 1st Amendment protected rights to committing crimes to further their political agenda⁵. The United Nations has warned that recent pause in international terrorist violence may soon end with a new wave of attack possible before the end of the year. In a report specialist monitors at the UN Security Council paints a worrying picture of a global Islamic extremist movement that continues to pose a significant threat despite recent set-backs. The report is based on information supplied by intelligence agencies of UN member states and provides a glimpse of collective thinking among security services around the world. The report noted that Al-Qaeda remains resilient but pointed out that the health of its 68 year's old leader, Ayman al Zawahiri is poor. Officials in the U.S confirmed that Hamza bin Laden a son of Osama bin Laden the founder of the organisation was killed within the last two years. Hamza 30 was being groomed as a possible leader of Al-Qaeda ⁶. A major part of the report is devoted to west Africa which has seen a sharp rise in violence motivated by Islamic militants. There are factors that has contributed to the evolution of the terrorism threat landscape which are ; the Internet ,use if social media and homegrown violent extremist (HVE).

International and domestic actors have developed extensive propaganda on internet through messaging platforms and online images, videos, publications which facilitate the group's ability to radicalize and recruit individuals receptive to extremist message ⁷. Such message is constantly available to people, participating in social networks, dedicated to various causes particularly younger comfortable with communication in social media environment . In addition, using the internet, social media has allowed both international and domestic terrorists to gain unprecedented virtual access to people within the U.S. in an effort to enable homeland attacks. ISIS in particular encourages sympathizers to carry out simple attacks where they are located

against targets in particular soft targets or to travel to ISIS held territory in Iraq and Syria and join its ranks as foreign fighters. Hence, the FBI however can't focus solely on the terrorist threats emanating from overseas but we also must identify those sympathizers who have radicalized and become homegrown violent extremists (HVE's) within the U.S. and aspire to attack our Nation from within⁸. HVEs are defined by the Bureau as global jihad inspired individuals who are based in the U.S and are not directly collaborating with foreign terrorist organizations . However, the effect of terrorism is not limited with this type. Terrorists use various Chemicals and heavy metals together with mass destruction weapons and these chemicals and heavy metal such Iron, Copper, Uranium and Steel can pollute air , social and water. On the other hand environment degradation can foster the terrorism by allowing the terrorist groups to employ the limited resources to their advantage. The implication of terrorism as global security is that it has led to the expansion of counter terrorism policies. counter terrorism has influenced U.S - Russian, U.S.–China and western - middle Eastern relations, often serving as a justification for military or diplomatic moves. Ultimately terrorism has made security a truly global issue requiring constant cooperation and adaptation region. Before 2001 attack terrorism was seen as a regional or localized issue but after the 2001 attack security shifted from state centric non-state actors. Before the attack intelligence was largely classified and soiled within states but afterward was expansion of intelligence sharing networks.

Nowadays terrorist groups now use internet and social media for recruitment propaganda and financing . Furthermore, before 21st century terrorism and security was primarily about nation state, borders and conventional wars. Hence, after especially post 9/11 attack security became about non-state actors, asymmetric warfare, cyber threats and global intelligence networks. Terrorism has not only reshaped security policies but also influenced how states,

organizations and societies interact in the modern world. States shifted focus from traditional warfare to non-state threat like Al-Qaeda ISIS, Boko Haram and Al-Shabaab. Terrorism threat has triggered Islamophobic, xenophobia and anti-immigrant sentiments especially in Europe and North America. In the Middle East, South Asia and Africa terrorism has worsened fragile state and it has caused refugee crisis, putting pressure on Europe and neighbouring states. After 9/11, the UN Security Council's Resolution 1373 (2001) required every state to criminalize terrorist financing, freeze assets, tighten borders, and cooperate on intelligence and extradition turning counter-terrorism into a standing legal duty rather than ad-hoc politics. The UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2006) set four pillars (address drivers, prevent and combat, build capacity, and uphold human rights/rule of law), framing terrorism as both a security and governance problem. Hence, The UN created CTED to monitor compliance, many countries built and expanded homeland-security structures (e.g., the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 2002) and national coordination hubs. The EU adopted a strategy built around Prevent–Protect–Pursue–Respond, driving joint investigations, data-sharing, and common criminal law definitions.

Terrorism now triggers automatic international and domestic responses—asset freezes, watchlists, intelligence tasking—reducing safe havens but also entrenching long-term security bureaucracies that shape budgets and laws. While ISIS lost territory in Iraq–Syria, UN experts and recent reporting show IS and affiliates exploiting instability in parts of Africa (Sahel, Lake Chad, Somalia) and persisting via cells and propaganda. Terrorists leverage social media, messaging, and their own sites for recruitment, propaganda, and fundraising; UN bodies and Europol track these trends and the policy gap around AI, dark web, and encrypted platform. Digital networks lower barriers for transnational coordination; effective CTF and platform governance are now as vital as physical border controls. The UN human-rights mandate built

into the Global CT Strategy underscores that abusive or over-broad measures can fuel grievances and harm legitimacy; oversight and due process are part of effective security. Terrorism has pushed nations to enhance intelligence sharing and global policing. However, difference remain as some state are accused of harboring extremists , international coalitions against Al-Qaeda and ISIS ⁹.The internet became a tool for terrorist propaganda, recruitment and financing. Groups like ISIS mastered the use of social media requiring States to expand cyber security and counter radicalisation measures¹⁰. Terrorism compels states to prioritize national and international security. The September 11, 2001 attacks in the United States, for example, reshaped global security frameworks, leading to the establishment of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the passage of stringent counterterrorism laws such as the USA PATRIOT Act. Globally, the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 1373, obligating member states to criminalize terrorism financing and enhance intelligence cooperation. However, while these measures have improved collective preparedness, they have also raised concerns about state overreach, surveillance, and the erosion of civil liberties. Terrorism has transformed the conduct of international relations. Counterterrorism cooperation now defines bilateral and multilateral relations, Modern terrorism increasingly exploits globalization and technology.

The implications of terrorism in the 21st century are vast; transforming military strategy, redefining international cooperation, straining economies and reshaping societies. The threat has shifted from conventional warfare to asymmetric, ideological and cyber enabled conflicts making terrorism not just a national issue but a global challenge. As the threat landscape continues to evolve, it's imperative that governments, inter- national organizations and civil society work together to address the root causes of terrorism, promote tolerance and understanding and develop effective counter terrorism measures that prioritize human security and dignity. Only

through sustained cooperation and collective action can we hope to mitigate the impact of terrorism and build more secure and peaceful world.

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CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSION

However, this chapter will provide a summary of the key findings from the study, by drawing conclusion on the implication of terrorism on global security in the 21st century. The terrorism as a issue does not have a standard or accepted definition which has been a controversial issue over the years. But several scholars and writers have highlighted there own ideas of terrorism in various ways. It can be seen in addition that terrorist manifest in various ways as a result of evolution of the world into modernize areas terrorist groups. manifest by using cyber terrorism, violent attacks, mass media and propaganda, political violence, and insurgency religious and ideological extremism etc. The risks posed by terrorism and its nature as crime are sufficient to necessitate proportional of special laws to assist prevention, disruption and detection. By using violence or the threat of violence wider audiences are put in a state of chronic fear of terror which takes a physical, psychology, social, political and economic tool on society as a whole¹. Although terrorist attacks are indeed serious crimes, it's important to remember that terrorist victimization differs from criminal victimization in that the former has an inherent political dimensions. However contemporary terrorism is characterised by an increasing frequency and magnitude of indiscriminate violence.

Furthermore, Al Qaeda and the 9/11 attack was one, of a deadliest attack in the world, September 11 2001. The attack marked a significant shift in the way terrorist groups operated before the 21st century terrorist groups usually make use of traditional men to carry out their operations but 21st century evolved terrorism switched into a more globalized way of operating with includes the use of Internet, mass media, propaganda and cyber terrorism. Thus, Munich olympic massacre that was on 1972 carried out by Black September, a Palestinian terrorist group,

cause lots of damage and destruction during the olympic game many lives were lost and so many areas were destruction. It was a move the release of Palestinian who were imprisoned, during the Arab Israeli war. Hence it was the Arab Israeli war that triggered the Munich olympic massacre of 1972. In the process of this study, we talked on the manifestation of terrorism. Terrorism manifest in different ways and they make use of different tactics. Cyber terrorism involve the use of the internet to spread terrorist operations movement. During olympic massacre it was the first television program that was allegedly stormed or attacked by terrorist group in response to the attack. The olympic game was suspended for 34 hours and this was done as a regular ceremony on every olympic game that was played after the black september massacre in favour and honour of those who lost their lives in the process of the massacre.

Moreover the images of power and wars seperated by the attacks were intended to radicalize and mobilize supporter by offering an example of a successful operation achieved through mythological planning, personal sacrifice and submission to the will of God. The America intelligence lost this round against Al-qaeda intelligence². Terrorism is to be understood as carefully prepared, shocking violent attacks from the underground against a political order. In the aftermath of the attacks, the united states despite it great power status was presented as a country particularly susceptible to military defeat³. But above all they are meant to spread insecurity and terror, but next to that also produce sympathy and willingness of support⁴.

Terrorism on the other hand has served as a current threat to global security in the 21st century. Before the 21st century terrorism was seen as regional or localised issue but after the 9/11 attack and recent 21st century it has been ascribed as a global security challenge which needs international co-operations from all state to be able to counter terrorism through deliberate means. Terrorism is usually carried out by terrorist groups and they are alot of terrorist groups.

Since the 21st century terrorism is no observed both by state and non-state actors. Terrorism in the 21st century has profound and multifaceted implications for global security extending beyond immediate physical harm to encompass economical, social and political instability. Terrorism can destabilise governments, weaker state institutions and contribute to the outbreak of civil wars or regional conflicts. It can also lead to increased militarization and a diversion of resources from social and economic development. In essence of terrorism in the 21st century is not only a security issue but a multifaceted challenge that impacts all aspects of global society, requiring a coordinated and comprehensive response from the international community. Thus just as there are different types of terrorism there are also different types of terrorism based on different variable.

This study has examined terrorism as one of the most pressing threats to global security in the 21st century with various chapters exploring different aspect of terrorism . We explored the definitional debates surrounding terrorism, underscoring its complex and contested nature while highlighting the various manifestations—ranging from ideological and religious extremism to political violence, cyber terrorism, use of media and propaganda and transnational attacks. while in subsequent chapter we provided an analysis of two pivotal case studies: the 9/11 attacks by al-Qaeda in 2001 and the Munich Olympic massacre of 1972. Both events demonstrated how terrorism not only targets individuals but also seeks to destabilize states, spread fear across societies, and challenge the foundations of international order. Furthermore we realized that terrorism has had a profound implications for global security, leading to expanded counterterrorism measures, the securitization of international relations, restrictions on civil liberties, and the reorientation of global politics around the prevention of extremist violence.

In conclusion, terrorism in the 21st century is not merely a national or regional security challenge but a global one. Its evolving tactics, transnational networks, and exploitation of technology mean that no state can stand in isolation. While states have responded with military, political, and diplomatic strategies, the persistence of terrorism shows that lasting solutions require addressing both the immediate threats and the root causes—such as political exclusion, ideological radicalization, and socio-economic grievances. Ultimately, safeguarding global security in this century demands not only strong counterterrorism cooperation but also a balanced approach that promotes justice, human rights, and sustainable development alongside security measures.

The discourse on terrorism and its impact on global security in the 21st century reveals a phenomenon that is both dynamic and deeply consequential. From the definitional complexities explored , it becomes clear that terrorism cannot be understood through a single lens. It is a multifaceted concept shaped by political, ideological, religious, and social motivations. Its manifestations—from suicide bombings and hijackings to cyberterrorism and lone-wolf attacks, use of media and propaganda , violent attacks and religious and ideological extremism demonstrate its adaptability in the face of global countermeasures. Recognizing this complexity is essential, as how terrorism is defined often determines the strategies and policies adopted to combat it. The case studies al-Qaeda's and the 9/11 attack and the Munich Olympic massacre of 1972 underscore the transformative power of terrorism on global consciousness. The Munich tragedy brought the reality of international terrorism into the global spotlight, showing that non-state actors could target international events to gain worldwide attention. Decades later, the September 11 attacks redefined terrorism as a strategic tool capable of reshaping global politics, triggering wars, altering international relations, and accelerating the securitization of daily life.

Together, these events illustrate how terrorism transcends geographical boundaries and how its ripple effects continue to shape global security paradigms. However more highlights were made to reach the implications of terrorism on global security. It has compelled states to reorient their foreign and domestic policies, leading to the strengthening of intelligence cooperation, the proliferation of counterterrorism laws, and the establishment of new security architectures such as the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the European Union's counterterrorism frameworks. However, these measures have also raised critical debates about human rights, the balance between freedom and security, and the long-term sustainability of militarized responses. Beyond security policies, terrorism has reshaped migration debates, increased surveillance practices, strained multicultural relations, and intensified interfaith tensions in various parts of the world. In conclusion, terrorism in the 21st century continues to stand as a persistent and evolving threat to global security. Its implications extend beyond immediate violence, influencing governance, diplomacy, and even global economic stability. No single nation can address the challenge in isolation, as terrorism thrives on transnational networks and global vulnerabilities. Thus, countering terrorism requires a multi-pronged strategy: robust international cooperation, intelligence sharing, and strong security mechanisms must be balanced with efforts to address root causes such as political exclusion, socio-economic inequalities, and ideological radicalization. If global security in the 21st century is to be preserved, the fight against terrorism must be coupled with the promotion of peace, justice, and inclusive development. Only through such a balanced and comprehensive approach can the world hope to mitigate the threat of terrorism and build a more secure global order.

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