

SECTION A :

TERRORISM ANYWHERE, THREATENS DEMOCRACY EVERYWHERE

Terrorism and Democracy, are the tools aimed at achieving a number of objectives — social, political, economic, financial, commercial, moral, institutional. However, the difference lies in the means. Given the inherent contrast between, violence and shared understanding on the other, it's difficult to imagine the coexistence of democracy and terrorism in the world. The problem.

gets accentuated, in the era of
globalisation. In this increasingly
entwined world, apart from goods,
capital, technology and people, even
terrorism is being reported — also
imported. This has become a
globalized phenomenon, requiring
global action.

Apart from violence, terrorism
has various other dimensions, all
in conflict with basic ideals of
democracy. The principle of accommodation
and integration, has been threatened
by terrorism induced refugee crisis

A continent full of democratic nations, has failed to respect the human rights of refugees, seeking asylum. It also failed to fulfil its commitment under UN Convention on Refugees, to which it is a signatory.

This, has had an escalated effect, manifested in BREXIT. The shock referendum has a lot to do with eroding trust in the institutional system designed after World War II, to maintain peace and avert war.

Unfortunately the war continues. ISIS has been creating headlines recently. Apart from the massive upheaval and havoc it has created's the region of immediate occupation — Iraq and Syria — it has also claimed responsibility for attacks in Brussels, Nice (France), Ontario (USA), Dhaka (Bangladesh) — three continents — one group — highlights the reach of terrorism today.

ISIS aims at creating an Islamic State, while Taliban aims at disrupting all attempts at creating

a democratic Afghanistan. Thus,
the political motives of terrorism
ranges from being positive to negative.
the motives rely on
Both aims at use of force to rule
people, while democracy aims at
giving power to people to choose
their rulers.

This inherent political conflict
is based upon the basic moral
divergence between the two
philosophies. Terrorism emphasizes
on unequal power equation between
the armed forces and civilians,
while democracy emphasizes on the
" free and equal natural rights

all human beings are born with"

The moral contrast is very well highlighted in North Eastern India.
Imposition of AFSPA (Armed Forces Special Powers Act), widely condemned as anti-democratic, has curbed various rights and freedom of inhabitants of the region. It has become an island of insurgency (a facet of terrorism), is a the largest democracy of the world.
This shows the power of terrorism to threaten democracy.

While democracy relies on debates and deliberation maintain order and peace, such ^{talks} ~~deliberations~~

presuppose the existence of a tranquility
A point case to point is that of
Left Wing Extremism — the largest
internal security threat we face
today. Failure to establish an
environment facilitating talks,
has hindered attainment of
democratic goals of economic
development and improved
standard of living for all.

In contrast, terrorism aims
at accumulation of economic
power, to fulfil the interest of
few. The others are reduced
to being mere mercenaries.

The extortion, kidnapping, looting,
undertaken by terrorist organisations

to further violence, also affects the economy and finances of democratic countries. On one hand, they are compelled to divert resources for welfare programmes to improve state military power to fight terrorism, and on the other, it ~~to~~_p leads to proliferation of illegitimate practices — black money generation, money laundering, smuggling, drug and human trafficking etc.

The two fold impact of above is rising inequality and increasing social tensions across the globe. This is evident, by the magnitude of black economy is

the world and ideological battles,
that have become order of the
day. The world is resonating
with concerns over Islamophobia
and ethnic conflicts. This strikes
at the very root of secular and
diverse social order. Democracy
sought to establish.

The ideological battles have
been given wings by internet and
social media. This along with other
cyber crimes have ~~affected~~ spelt
a doom for the democratic
fabric of internet. Terrorism, this
has compelled governments and
regulators to clamp down on
largely free space of internet.

There contrasts between terrorism and democracy, with the marked effect of globalisation, has divided the world into three group. These are ones like Afghanistan, Nigeria, Yemen which are struggling to establish democracy. Another group comprises of Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, which are striving to protect democracy from terrorism. And the third group consist of mature democracies of the West, who are facing the reversal of democratic principles and institutions that they fostered over the centuries. The people in these countries, have already become

way of being accommodative and humane, towards other countries (including, their own)

The situation calls for global action to protect democracy. The great German philosopher, Immanuel Kant had once said that only with rise of ^{more number of} democratic countries, will the world reach a stage where pain felt anywhere, has an effect elsewhere.

The loss of innocent lives across the world, at the altar of terrorism, necessitates countries to forge ^{concomitant} understanding and come together. is a battle against terrorism.

The past has witnessed use of terrorism, by democratic countries

of ~~less~~ capitalist bloc (led by USN),
to implant democracy is other
countries (like Vietnam and South
Korea). The present desire the
democratic countries to aim at
same goal, but, through
understanding and dialogue,
and rather supplant terrorism.
This will strengthen the foundation
of democracy, which is at
complete divergence from terrorism.
When Pakistan is embroiled in terrorism,
North India, Afghanistan and South
West China, can ^{not} expect peace and
public order. Only a coherent
effort can make the world embark
upon trajectory of achieving higher
goals — establishing a world
community of human beings on the
basis of human rights.

SECTION B

WE DO NOT PUNISH THE WRONG-
DOER, UNLESS HE IS WEAK AND
SMALL

The idea of Justice revolves
around punishing the wrong doer. so
as to bring justice to the victim.

But USA did not face any
sanction by the UN, for invading
Vietnam and Iraq; the Saudi
Arabian diplomat could not be

arrested for molesting a Nepali
women and Vijay Malya could
successfully flee the country when
debt ridden poor farmers were hopelessly

committing suicide. Many ~~are~~ animals and birds continue to face the threat of extinction while the humans transgressions continue. The idea of Principle of Natural Justice is perhaps not so 'natural'. It is upheld, only when the perpetrator is poor, weak, meek and small.

This is evident by the high proportion of minorities, delicts, illiterates and poor, amongst the jail inmates in India. The situation is not new, and has been a legacy since time immemorial.

The Paternalistic attitude of kings earlier, made justice their exclusive prerogative. Ensuing feudal order and Church ~~as~~ era, transformed

this right on to the clergy and the land lords. Thus, Justice remained dictated for a long time. Since one cannot dictate terms to those higher in authority; the weaker ones remained at the receiving end.

Democracy sought to change situation, by establishing independent institutions to ensure justice. But unfortunately, even today, life of a common man, is marred by multiple instances of injustices. While this happens in every walk of life, it is also clearly visible at the international level.

The wrong to the environment which has resulted in the Global

curse of rising temperature and climate change, was perpetrated mainly by the rich, developed countries of the west; but price is being paid by developing and least developed countries (LDCs). Rather, they have even violated the principle of 'Polluter Pays' by not providing adequate financial and technological support, to adapt and fight the repercussions of their 'wrong'.

The situation gets worsened with the existence of groups like G-1 (America), G-2, G-7, G-20 which highlights the might of member countries and differentiates the world into strong and weak. Thus today, while US can spend millions on modernisation of its nuclear arsenal; India needs to

make additional commitments to
get into NSG (Nuclear Suppliers Group)

Such injustices proliferates to the
internal issues of the country. The
atrocities against the blacks in the
USA and delits in India, is a
case in point. Data shows that,
convictions under Prevention of
Atrocities Act in India has remained
very low.

On the other side, where crimes are
perpetrated by the celebrity criminals,
~~also~~ the acquittal rate remains high
while the apex court has been
tough on Shree Sahare Group
Chairman, it failed to make good
the loss caused to the depositors

In fact, the Court has been
condemned for its regressive judgements
too; like the decision to reverse
decriminalization of Gay Sex
under Section 377 of IPC. Such
instances point to the degrading
nature of justice when it comes
to protecting the lives of small
communities like LGBT.

Minorities across the world,
face atrocities (though in different
degrees). Be it discrimination
against the migrants in the West,
or brutalities against Muslims in
Rakhine State of Myanmar. While the
crime is evident, punishment remains
far fetched. But this problem

still seem inevitable, when one witnesses the wrongs committed by one half of the world, against the other — even a larger population of women could not save themselves from torture, subjugation and discrimination, they have been facing throughout the history and across the world.

The ranging from domestic violence and genital mutilation to discrimination

in work environment is ^{the suffering of women} terms of pay and safety, highlights the

ubiquity of the problem. The perpetrators here, are in the world at large; punishment requires reversal of trends.

Such examples are visible when one looks at the numerous legislations, institutions and people, dedicated to bring justice to the weak and ~~weak~~ weak. —

Doctors without borders is working to help the war survivors, while the Carter Foundation is fighting to make lives of women better in the Gulf and Middle East countries. The Paris agreement recognizes the principle of historical responsibility and is a progressive step towards ensuring climate justice. It's overwhelming to see a group of volunteers of PETA, dedicating their lives to the cause of mute animals. The

impeachment of Brazilian President
shows how with time, even the
most powerful of constitutional
authorities can be removed, if he/
she commits transgressions.

But such instances remain few
and isolated. The honor of Syrians
and Yemenis, who are battling for
their lives against the background
of the "great powers" enbroided is
their parochial political feuds, ~~and~~
spells the doom for mankind.

It is time the 'Great' realize
that real greatness is reflected by
the way you treat the commonest
person. Instead of escaping punishment
for the wrong, it's ~~time~~ required for
us to build a ecosystem of
transparency and accountability,

so that a wrong remains wrong
and deserves punishment; irrespective
of who the perpetrator is. Here, it's
important to point out the significance of
victim centric approach to punishment

so as to make good the harm.
The objective is to create a society
where even the weakest and smallest
feels secure and significant; and
the most powerful and richest
have to think twice before
committing a wrong.