

James M. Lutz and Brenda J. Lutz, Global Terrorism, Routledge, London, 2004, pp.289, ISBN 0-415-700051-5.

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Recent development in the interaction of international actors has seen also the rise in global problems. One among many has been the rise in global terrorism which has seen the increase in deaths, injuries and overall insecurity. Subsequently, threatened the collaboration and deepening of integration of global economy and improved relations among races and people of different cultures. Thus the book is well intentioned as it attempts to provide an analysis of this global menace- terrorism.

Chapter provides an overview of the emergence of terrorism, providing also its appropriate historical and theoretical framework as it existed in the past and the contemporary trends across the world. Of importance the authors noted, 'terrorism as a topic is complex, but it is clearly important in today's world and will continue to be important' (p. 5).

Chapter two dealt with background issues to terrorism, specifically looking at the conceptual, classification and causes of terrorism. Various contradictions that emerge in trying to define and categorise terrorism were exposed. Factors leading to terrorism were also explored and the author noted, 'ending the causes of war may be a major step towards elimination of terrorism at some point in time, but political leaders in the present still have to deal with problems inherited from a past that cannot change' (p. 18). A survey in the prevalence of terrorism across the world was provided.

Chapter three explored techniques, weapons, and targets of terrorism. The techniques range from personal, hijackings to occupation or destruction of buildings and offices noting the link between the tactics and weapons. The authors put a distinction between conventional weapons and weapons of mass

destruction. On targets the authors noted of structures as targets as well as people as targets. An analysis of why democratic countries are more vulnerable to terrorism was provided.

Chapter four dwelt on states supporters and sponsors of terrorism. Excellent examples of states that support and fund terrorism were given, citing the motivations behind their actions. In the final the authors noted, 'as a consequence, to some extent it is possible that state sponsorship provides a check on the worst kinds of attacks by terrorist groups. At the same time, however, lesser types of attacks may be denied' (p. 62).

The link between religion and terrorism was analysed in chapter five, providing excellent examples of religious groups that has been involved in terrorism. Justification for their action and activities, and the extent of their achievement was explained. For the authors, 'terrorism and violence grounded in religious beliefs of groups have been present in the world in many circumstances. Such actions are likely to continue' (p. 87).

Domestic terrorism in the frame work of ethnic and national struggles is the basis of chapter six. Various case studies were provided in both developed and developing societies in essence 'ethno-nationalist terrorism and violence based on language differences has been quite prevalent in the world in recent years' (p. 111).

Chapter seven dwelt on how ideologies of the left have become to be embroiled in terrorist attacks. An analysis of dissatisfaction arising from the leftist ideology was provided and relevant case studies were given from both developed and developing societies. In the final the authors noted 'do not be surprised if leftist ideologies resurface and again become the basis for dissident groups, ones that could choose violence (p. 142). In the same frame chapter eight analysed ideologies of the right and how they become embroiled in terrorist acts. Pertaining the right the authors noted 'Should right-wing terrorism continue to occur in industrialized countries or even increase, high causality figures are likely to continue to be present' (p. 164).

Chapter nine analysed terrorism with multiple causes, giving relevant cases studies with motivations behind such terrorist groups. Chapter ten analysed states as beneficiaries of domestic terrorism. How

state actors have worked in complicity with the state was exposed. In essence the authors noted, government repression and the use of terror by state agents against citizens have fairly been common throughout the world and throughout time' (p. 208).

Chapter eleven analysed those countries with multiple crisis of terrorism analyzing prevalence across the world. Dwelling on Sri Lanka the authors captured the features of countries with multiple crisis of terrorism.

Chapter twelve explored techniques for countering terrorism. The chapter offered a comprehensive survey of techniques that can be used to counter terrorism. These ranges from increased security, intelligence gathering, repression, retaliation, finance availability, pre-emptive action to special counter terrorism acts, concessions and diplomatic approaches. Noting that, 'as a consequence, the concern about counterterrorist tactics and techniques is one that will remain important for the immediate future.

Chapter thirteen which is the concluding chapter attempts to analyse terrorism as a continuing phenomenon, and the continuing motivations behind In conclusion the authors did indicate, 'terrorism is likely to continue to be used by non state groups against the state not only because it has worked but because it may bring major results for small investment in time and resources at least in terms of publicity' (p. 249).

For anyone seeking comprehension of global terrorism, the book is a must read copy. I found the book well organised and not so difficulty to follow.