Political sociology of the group called Sham-Iraq Government (ISIS)

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Abstract

These days, there have been extensive activities of extremist groups and sects, Salafi Takfiri, with regressive thoughts and opinions which have arisen in Islamic countries especially Middle East. These groups claim to turn back to the original Islam by violent and old interpretation of Islam and Mohammad's traditions and by terrorism and suicidal operation and murdering innocent people. One of these extremist and armed groups in Middle East is Sham and Iraq government (Isis) which is pressing European aims including Islamophobia, selling military weapons, plundering underground sources and holding down the price of raw material by defending Islamic traditions. This study aims to show Islamic and Extremist Salafi Takfiri activities especially Daesh by political sociology.

Keywords: Daesh, Fundamentalism, Extremist Islamism, Taliban, Cultural and Economical Poverty.

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Introduction

Terrorism or as called by European media, Islamic Terrorism is one of the main problems in Middle East and Europe. There are a few Arabic countries which don't suffer from this crises, although you can easily trace the activities of intelligence organizations of Islamic and non-Islamic countries in terrorist organizations and observe their agenda. Their first activities trace back to 70's in last century, but the current time is the top point of their activities in the history of creation of Salafi groups.

The amount of criminal and horrible actions of this Salafi groups and at the top, Daesh, made Mr. Audrey Afykhay, Israel Army spokesman announce that Israel has been responsible for less than 10 percent of all these criminal actions and the rest of murders are committed by Salafi Muslims who claim to follow Islamic prophet Mohammad's traditions, something that is open to discussion. Although in 40 years of Salafi-Takfiri activities, we have seen the formation of fighting organizations, most experts agree the Daesh phenomenon is the worst and the most violent and dependent group which has appeared in Islamic world. According to these experts, at least, Osama Bi-Laden, Islam Al-Zawahiri and Esl Afshan who were Al-Qaeda leaders, the most famous Takfiri group, sometimes pointed to Jews and Zionist and claimed to fight against them (although according to reliable documents, these groups have never shot any bullet toward Zionist), but Daesh officially announced that it has no clash with Zionist and their duty is to clarify Islam from Muslims who disagree with their points of view. Daesh is an extremist domination of irrationalism that breaks the laws by this political irrationalism on the contrary to Saddam Hussein and other dictatorships that used violence to make peace in their country; Daesh tries to show bare violence. Daesh attempts to show violence because there is no boundary between law and violence anymore.

These days, Daesh introduces itself as a leading Jihadi group and has gained lots of wealth from different ways. Also, holding efficient media and effective advertisement has smoothed achieving their goals. Everyday, some new militants from different parts of the world, including poor and Islamic countries in Middle East and even European countries, join this group. Some of their motivations to join these groups are economy and theology. But due to their failure in many fronts, the number of employment has radically decreased. Daesh sets its own rules

in under-domination areas. Rules which are based on ignorant and surface interpretation of some of Quran' verses. They highlight some of limiting rules without correct knowledge and understanding of religion, and justify the violence based on it.

1- Fundamentalism in Islamic history and the reasons of its creation

According to Mohammad's political and behavioral traditions, It's important to respect others although they disagree with you, but unfortunately extremism and radicalism policy in Islamic world is against religious orders and there is tendency to ignorant thoughts and teaching.

Islamic world has been damaged in the most important parts of its territory due to its foreign and internal crises.

Iran and Ottoman's failure against European powerful countries has made it necessary to reconsider fundamental Islamic thoughts and Islamic community found a local solution for this crises turn back to Islam and its fundamental principles. (Dekmajiyan, 2001: 21) The history of Islam has been full of ups and downs. The first differences began after Mohammad's death. Radeh wars during Abu bakr's reign and creation of Khawarij during Ali's (peace be upon him) shows Muslims getting away from original Islamic culture which led to tyranny and gradually tyranny caused colonialism. In the first years, hypocrites caused deviation in political system of Islam by mamonism and ordinary people caused so by following open mind people.

The first apparent deviation was deviation in political system of Muslims and turning caliphate to government which was the reason of Muslims' failures in future and eventually led to domination of colonies.(Rafat seyed Ahmad, 2008: 8)

In fact, Islamic fundamentalism is a type of Islamic thought which doesn't deny the modern world with all of its features like rationalism, and tries to revive traditional values and show social and religious reactions against the threats imposed by globalization. Two prominent theorists, Hantingua and Burnard Luis believe that Islamic fundamentalism is a reaction against West. Samure Hantingun who introduced clash of civilizations theory states that Islamism is rooted in Muslims' dissatisfaction of cultural invasion and domination of western countries over Islamic countries. No need to mention that one of the most important reason of reviving Islam is reaction to west. Turning back to

Islam is a cultural protest.(Alamdari, 2001, 68) According to Burnard Luis, the most important and most organized reactions to west invasion have had Islamic identity since west entered Islamic world.

Muslims are always concerned about losing their faith by unbelievers than controlling country by foreigners. Others such as Monfared Steefger, Benjamin Barber, Antony Gidnez, believe that Al-Qaeda and terrorist actions are reactions against globalization especially cultural globalization. (Abaszaded, 2012, 13) According to Fozee Najar, most Arabs consider globalization as an American project which attempts to extend American culture as a model in the world (Najar, 2005: 96) modernization and secularization has led to insecurity, injustice, poverty, governmental suppression, tyranny and authoritarianism instead of security, development and inflorescence. They believe that accepting secularization means putting Islam away. Fundamentalists don't consider secularization as a world value, but something made by west to dominate cultures and civilizations.

2-   Afghanistan and the creation of Al-Qaeda and Taliban

Afghan people are one of the poorest and naturally the most religious, zealous and regressive Muslims in Middle East. Wherever there is extreme poverty, prejudice and regression and superstitious religiosity gets common like malaria in a swamp which grows with other microbe and religious extremists use peoples' ignorance and foolishness as grand mufti, fortune teller and scientist. They mobilize people for their own extremist wishes and thoughts by promising to sell them heaven. In distant villages in Afghanistan, writer of amulets and benedictions still makes more money than an educated and expert doctor. They still don't let their daughters continue their education, unfortunately.(Haghighi, 2011: 12) These countries suffer from economical and cultural poverty. West's first involvement with extremist Salafi Islamist obviously turns back to fight between Afghan Mujahideen (warrior) and Soviet Red army. America which has not paid attention to this uncivilized country in its foreign policy, changes its stance when Soviet Union attacks Afghanistan and demands Soviet Red army to leave Afghanistan. Arabic countries called this war Jihad and they had propaganda against Soviet Union. Immediately after that, 50.000 religious and extremist forces of Islamic countries were sent to Afghanistan. American gave its arms and financial supports to Mujahideen through Pakistan. In fact, during Cold

War and bipolar system, America's strategies were to prevent communism.(Sajadi, 2001: 218) In fact, a strategic unity was established among Arabic-Afghan and American groups to fight communism. America aimed to fight against Soviet Union and to compensate for Vietnam war and also to get off peoples' attention from Palestine by introducing Afghanistan as a new center of attention (The policy that they are still holding, get off peoples' attention from Palestine by supporting Israel and introducing Syria and Iraq as the center of Islamic terrorism in Middle East). The result of Mujahideen's fight against Soviet Union was shown in creating a network of Muslims who went to Afghanistan to fight. America and domination system played basic role in creating Al-Qaeda and Taliban. As a matter of fact, after Soviet Union's attack to Afghanistan, a trend began which led to terrorist groups. Saudi Arabia and Pakistan cooperated with America effectively. (Ahmadi, 2011: 24)

3- Daesh, its source and how and why it was created

The Islamic government of Iraq and Sham, if we put the first letters of the words in this expression together, Daesh is created which is the headline of media these days.

Daesh is an armed extremist Salafi Jahadi group which its main purpose is to return to Islamic Khelafat and careful application of Islamic tradition of Mohammad period in Islamic countries.

Daesh declared itself on October 15th of 2006. This organization is created by coalition of some armed group of Al-Qaeda without holding the word Sham at the end of it. Abu Omer Baghdadi was assigned as the first official leader since that time. This group performed several operations in different parts of Iraq up to April 19th of 2010. After Abu Omer's death, Abu bakr al-Baghdadi became his successor, during which we can see terrorist operations with remarkable quality and quantity in Iraq. Daesh entered to Syria gradually in late 2011 and the riot against Bashar al-Assad increased. This organization was called the Islamic government of Iraq and Sham by Abu bakr al-Baghdadi in a voice message in the Islamic channel, Shomokh when the group fighting in Al-Nasr front joined the organization.

Daesh's original thought is based on the idea of turning back to Quran and tradition. They ignore mind to interpret them and refer to Quran verses and quotations without using mind. They hate mind so much that they see rational interpretations equal to blasphemy and

impiety and something rooted from Greek. They believe that since the beginning of translation system during Aaron and Ma'mun time, the fundamentals of impiety entered Islamic world and caused division. They state that we should turn back to original Islam by omitting false ideas from Muslims' religious thoughts and stop entering false ideas.

The issue of reviving khalafat and establishing Islamic government is theocratic for people such as Rashid Reza.

In fact, it's a type of returning to Arabic Emperor in Islamic world and it is never in term with modern and public government. They generally ignore the theory of modern world, democracy, election, rules, citizens' rights, women's rights.

They want one person rule the people with the help of a council of scientists and elderly as God's representative. Daesh wants to establish Islamic government, announce Jihad, start crusades wars to make Islamic countries free, destroy them, unite the Islamic world and everyone in this new world is obliged to accept Islamic traditions. They force other religions to accept Islam, migrate or pay fine to Islamic government. They kill the opposing people and make their wives marry Muslims soldiers to create Islamic government with Iraq and Sham as capital. The origin of all Takfiri movements specially Daesh returns to Wahhabism, Ibn Taymiyyah, Seyed Ghotb and Rashid Reza.

4- Sociology of Daesh

Middle East, specially Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan are the parts of the world that have faced political violence (terrorism).

In other words, applying violent reactions to achieve political and religious goal has become part of peoples' culture. Several reasons have affected the creation and continuity of religious extremism (Daesh).

Tendency to religious extremism among people in Middle East like Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan isn't attributed to one reason, but several social reasons such as system of living in tribes in Islamic countries of Middle East, economical (poverty, unemployment, social gap), religious (the superficiality), lack of rationalism and cultural poverty and etc. have provided an appropriate situation for creation and extension of terrorism in Islamic countries.

Inappropriate economical, social and cultural situation have had remarkable role in creation of religious extremism in these countries. There is no hope to destroy terrorism till the social situation of creating terrorism is

not removed. In other words, only army fighting cannot destroy religious extremism in Islamic countries, but some solutions for social roots of creation and extension of terrorism in Islamic countries must be found. (Raysh, 2002: 197)

5- Internal political factors for creation of Daesh

One of the most political internal factors to create terrorist groups like Al-Qaeda, Taliban and Daesh in third world especially Middle East is political inconsistency and broke governments. Broke governments are considered units which suffer from political and social inconsistency and the government has no power to establish regulation and security. (Abdo11ahkhani, 2007: 266) Takfiri and Jihadi groups like Daesh has been established exactly in these broke countries since the government is unable to apply constitution and establish security due to political and social issues, countries such as Iraq after the overthrow of Saddam Hussein, Syria during civil war and Afghanistan after Taliban. These countries have already been unable to establish a powerful government and provide the appropriate condition for public democracy. In these countries, immediately, the armed groups which are related to races, tribes, religions and related political groups and most commanders are put away and the overthrown government is armed in a new group. Also poverty and unemployment has smoothed the possibility to attract forces.

They use their religious ideology to achieve their purposes.

6- Globalization, a factor to create and extend Daesh

Maybe globalization is not considered as a factor of terrorism, but globalization provides a situation that terrorist have profited the most. These days, globalization has helped Daesh to have access to the latest technology. The latest technology makes communication easier and more organized and extensive in international level. In general, the globalization of terrorism and terrorist aims make it easier for terrorists to achieve their goals. (Naji Rad, 2008: 8)

It also makes fighting more difficult. Due to the globalization process and extending visual and audio communication, terrorist groups such as Daesh are not limited to the boarders of occupied countries, and they employ forces from all over the world. They also try to penetrate in all over the world. The large wave of joining to this group especially from Europe is due to communication through this new technology.

Globalization facilitates the movement of workers and refugees from one country to another country and it has created new minority group in those countries. These groups are politically connected to sources other than the sources in their own countries. (Yazdanfam, 2001: 17)

The new atmosphere makes it possible for Daesh to transfer its financial sources from one country to another country. They are not worried of their property being blocked. So Daesh would be able to collect money from all over the world and extend its actions from national to international.

Daesh also has achieved most of its advertising goals with the help of media and computer. They try to collect forces from different parts of the world by showing violence, they terrifying people to make them understand that disagreeing and fighting with their thoughts has got consequences. Therefore, in most of the invasions of cities and villages, poor people either run away or welcomed Daesh forces by offering sweets or sacrificing their cattle.

On one hand, globalization has promoted the standard of living in developed industrial European and American countries, on the other hand, it has caused depression and in poor countries, especially in Asia, Africa and Latin America. (Aghaei, 2008: 1)

Anyway, in appropriate distribution and economical gap has turned to a disaster at the end of 20th century. One century ago, rich countries had wealth 9 times more than poor countries which have increased to 100 times more. (Pa1isi, 2006) In general it can be concluded that Middle East is one of the most undeveloped countries in the world and it suffers from a huge economical gap to industrial countries. As it is seen in Middle East project, the total gross income of 22 Arabic countries is less than Spain. In 2010 unemployment rate in Middle East has raised up to 25 million people. The media has increased peoples' knowledge about their catastrophic lifestyle by showing people in developed countries. If this situation continues, we can see more terrorist violence and fights in middle east. It seems that Daesh misuses this situation by providing people rather decent salary, house, car and even wife!

Bad economical situation can be the source of insecurity, violence and radicalism. Therefore, extreme poverty and high social gap, encourages poor people to commit terrorist actions.(Neymati, 2007: 83) According to a report in a third annual conference of Africa's foreign policy, from 10 countries

which are horribly insecure, 7 countries are located in Africa. (Shakiba, 2007: 118)

7- Social factors of creating terrorism like Daesh

Several social factors such as identity crisis, ignorance, social class gap, dissatisfaction, discrimination, as well as the system of living in tribes in Islamic countries, superficiality, lack of rationalism and ignorance and cultural poverty has provided situations for political violence and creation of terrorist groups such as Daesh.

A) Identity crises and tendency to political violence

Migration from one place to another place has caused some problems which the most important one is identity crisis. In all the migrations, people's lifestyle, values, and identity are unfamiliar and in contrast with new place. (Gar, 2008: 498) Most of the immigrants live in the outskirt and suburbs of industrial cities with inappropriate condition or in obligatory camps for immigrants and refugees. Most of the crimes and political violence happen in these places. (Gar, 2008: 498)

Anyway, the most important problem that these people face is to identity crisis. These people try to keep their own traditional values. They are not attracted to all modern identity. In other words, these peoples' identity has two or multiple parts. In this case, low class people, who have migrated to the cities and men who are near modern economy and people who still believe in their religious values and are seeking a way to return to these values are attracted to revolutionary and terrorist groups more.

B) Dissatisfaction and the appearance of political violence

Dissatisfaction has a lot of effects on political violence. The main stages of political violence begin with dissatisfaction. In the second stage, this dissatisfaction turns to political type and finally ends to violent practice against issues or political actors. Therefore, each step of political violence including dissatisfaction, turning to political violence and practicality depends on its previous stage. So, revolting anger isn't caused only by poverty or deprivation. People won't be angry about their conditions if they consider it natural, inevitable, God's rule or human's rule. Mrs. Micraz states that if people are to get angry and dissatisfied from injustice, two conditions should happen:

1. Ask for something that they don't have;

2. They feel that they deserve to have what they don't.

In general, the more gaps are between expectations and people's abilities, the more dissatisfaction and tendency to terrorist actions.

Generally, the most tendencies to religion and religious violence occur when there is an extended poverty in the society. Basically terrorist groups like Daesh have flourished when there is extended poverty in Middle East.

C) Lack of rationalism and tendency to Daesh

On the contrary to nationalist and secular terrorist who belong to middle social class, most religious terrorists belong to ignorant and poor society. By checking out the anarchic countries in Middle East, religious terrorism has arisen in the most ignorant countries. And by checking out the social level of religious extremist, it appears that most of them are ignorant and have limited knowledge about their world and they get their information through their leaders. These people have limited and prejudicial insights about the world and Europe.

Based on a report of human development of UN, 40% of 60 million adult Arabs are ignorant which two third of this population are female (Veldani, 2005: 35) Foolishness which is rooted in ignorance is the most human disaster. The reason of humans' disaster in this world and other world is their ignorance. Although it's possible to teach human science, you can't make them use their mind and recognize right and wrong which keeps a person in foolishness.

Ignorance: Lack of science and not using their mind. These problems are the root of all human beings' problems. (Mansoori, 2013) Daesh has flourished the most uneducated countries which suffer from lack of rationalism. As you can see, the catastrophe of terrorism is common in most parts of this country.

D) The role of religious schools in creation of terrorism

After the invasion of Afghanistan by Soviet Union, the role and position of these schools got remarkable. These schools were promoted and used to harm Soviet Union by America and it's allies in region like Saudi Arabia and Pakistan. According to reports of central Asian institute about July and August of 2007, Mr. Greek Matenson who has opened 50 modern schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan since 1996 to 2007,

estimates that there are almost 25000 Quran schools in Pakistan. These schools accept students for free and pay for the students' food. They also pay some pocket money to them. America and Saudi Arabia pay for the expenses and they are run by regressive mullahs of Islamic community in Pakistan and southern east of Afghanistan where Taliban is located. If in each school, approximately 120 - 150 students are trained by regressive and suicidal thoughts, it means that there will be almost 4 million brainwashed people who are ready to do anything. Obviously, people who kill themselves and others can't be religious, but they are brain-washed by wrong religious ideas and are misused by extremists. They act like robots who listen to their mentor. Mentor who have worked on their victims for months and years, don't let them go, so that the victim won't have the chance of thinking or connecting with others. Unfortunately, these students' families are satisfied with these actions because they are happy not to pay for one of their children. Second, they're proud of sending their children to religious and Quran schools and third, they may see beautiful castles in heaven with beautiful nymph since their son becomes martyr. They see it good for the other world. If only 1% of four millions are brain-washed to the extent of suicidal actions, the world will face 40.000 human bombs in future and it turns to a dangerous place. (Haghighi, 2011: 14) No need to mention that the number of these schools has increased 10 times after Taliban was established. Daesh and Taliban are fed by these forces.

8- Daesh, Turning to an Ideology

Terrorism needs special ideology to justify its violent actions. Terrorism is based on the ideology that justifies and even praises innocent peoples' death. Therefore, ideologies which "purpose justifies the means" and also hatred of all members of a community, race, nation, religion, colt, are the fundamental parts of their thoughts and behaviors. They have talent to do terrorist actions. Terrorism ideology make a person a cruel that he not only doesn't feel regret about killing innocent people, but also he sees these actions praiseful responsibility. The victims of this violence are considered to be treacherous and impious and deserve to die.

Due to their application, ideology and religion can divide people to friend-enemy, stranger, non-stranger, and faithful, pious, impious. In this category, the opposing groups are considered unclean, apostate and unbeliever and killing them is permissible. Jihadi-Takfiri groups have

profited religion to achieve their purpose. They also emphasize on their own regressive thoughts. In Daesh ideology, if a person is against their ideas, he is an unbeliever and apostate and killing him is permissible. But Islam is a kind religion and strongly disagrees with these types of actions and killing innocent people.

Conclusion

There has been several in formation of Daesh. Daesh is not attributed to only one reason, but there are different reasons for creation of extremist, Takfiri group like Daesh and differs from place to place and time to time. Several political factors (non-democratic governments and policies taken by regional and non-regional governments), social (ignorance, lack of rationalism, the system of living, tribe, deprivation), economical (poverty, unemployment, social class gap) and cultural-religious (special interpretations from religion and cultural poverty) have provided a situation to create and extend Daesh. Tyranny and not paying attention to peoples' requests are main factors of creating terrorism in Middle East. Then, religion (Hanbali colt) and wrong interpretation and formalism of Quran verses and it can be concluded that violent extremists have benefited from mess in Iraq during invasion by America and its allies. Daesh and Al-Qaeda are fed by riot and collapse, and flourished by inconsistencies and riots after America's invasion to Iraq in 2003. Daesh extremists provided a situation with the help of individuals, circles, and governments inside and outside.

Daesh's getting power in Iraq and Syria and its domination over a large part of these countries has caused not only serious crises for Iraq and Syria, but also perils and threats for the regional and international security probably Daesh is going to be destroyed in near future. It is possible but if the social and cultural roots and economical poverty which are caused by inappropriate distribution of wealth, are not destroyed, we are going to see these kinds of events in Middle East in following future. Therefore, Daesh will appear in other places with other names.

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