Terrorism is not a new phenomenon. For centuries it has been used for achieving certain type of objectives or goals. It has been used by the states as well as by the non state actors as a means in order to fulfil their aims and objectives. Nevertheless, terrorism has become the centre of attention and as a threat to international peace and security after the end of the Cold War. More specifically after the deadly attacks of September 11, 2001 on the United States it has become the focus of worldwide attention. This attack enabled the United States to declare War on Terror. Sufferings from the scourge of terrorism made all the People and all the nations around the world to express their concern, especially those who are seekers of peace, security and stability.

Terrorism is a method of violence designed to infuse terror in a section of society for achieving power−outcome, propagandizing the cause, or to inflict harm for implacable political purposes. State actors used this strategy either against their own population or against the population of any other country. It is also used by non−state actors such as insurgents or revolutionary groups acting within their own country or in other country. It is also used by those groups who were ideologically motivated groups or individuals, operating either inside or outside their country of nationality, whose techniques may differ according to their beliefs, objectives and means.

The dreadful terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 have played a key role in sensitizing the individuals and governments about the threat of terrorism. After these attacks terrorism has become a global issue. It has to be handled globally in order to bring long lasting peace in the world. The acts of terrorism are frequently criticized by all the states and it has been considered as a crime in various international fora and its abolition has been supported by almost all the states. Despite condemnation by every state, still its strikes are frequently felt day by day. May be, the lack of political will and their determination to repress it is mainly responsible. Mere speeches, discourses and deliberations alone cannot repress it. There is an urgent need to understand the real value of human life and to take effective and specific measures with courage and determination in order to save the innocent masses from being the prey of international terrorism.
Terrorism is a term which is politically loaded and does not possess a definition which is universally acceptable. Despite number of attempts by the many governments, scholars, strategic thinkers the word terrorism remains still undefined. Even the international as well as regional organizations such as United Nations, Interpol, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Organization of American States and several other agencies have not been able to reach any consensual meaning of the word ‘terrorism.’ Also among scholars it has become extremely difficult to achieve any consensus on this controversial term. Therefore, in the absence of any legally recognized and universally acceptable definition there is more chances of misusing this term i.e. terrorism specifically by the major actors of international politics.

The problem with the definition of terrorism is not that it does not have any single but has as many definitions as there are scholars, nations, organizations and different agencies and they defined according to their own interest and political dynamics. Many of the definitions shows a lack of balance because they only focus on non state terrorism ignoring the fact that state terrorism is more dreadful and outrageous. It is a fact that governments will prefer only that definition that suits their interest and that do not include their acts of violence and savagery in the context of terrorism. State terrorism is not only excluded from the governmental definitions but also the academic definitions which scholars preferred suffer from this lacuna. This discrepancy is mainly responsible for the absence of any comprehensive, globally acceptable and precise definition of terrorism.

For understanding the issue of terrorism it is essential to first understand its root causes. There are numerous factors that can be identified as the root causes of terrorism. Therefore, it can be said that it is the result of interplay of many factors and causes. These causes and factors differ from society to society. Some of the most common factors responsible for creating a favourable condition for terrorism are imperialism, nationalism, separatism, sense of gross inequality and injustice prevailing in minds of a section of population, lack of space for political opposition, religious and ideological extremism, lack of peaceful means of conflict resolution and globalization etc.
Terrorism is an act which is extremely dangerous and involves plenty of risk for both the victims as well as for the perpetrators. Consequently an understanding and explanation of motivation of terrorist is essentially required. The most important aspect of terrorist motivations is social, psychological, environmental, ideological and the strong feeling of revenge. These all factors together with extremely effective ways of indoctrination make terrorism a viable venture for number of masses.

Everyone including the researcher acknowledges the requirement of a comprehensive convention on terrorism, that is, value neutral, including all the actors, and covering all techniques of terror violence, is self evident. Such a convention has been politically elusive. Governments understandably seek to prevent state actors from the definition of terrorism, and rebuff the nation that a causal link even exists between the state sponsored acts of terror violence and terror violence committed by non–state actors. Since Governments obviously exist in the international arena, the definition of terrorism has been restricted to include illicit conduct by non–state actors. Even with regard to this narrow definition, nevertheless governments have neglected developing an international legal regime to control, prevent, and repress terrorism, preferring rather of the hodgepodge of thirteen treaties that recently address its specific manifestations. The dearth of a coherent international legislative policy on the issue of terrorism is consistent with the improvised and discretionary approach that governments have adopted towards the advancement of effective international legal responses to terrorism. Even today, there is no initiative at the international level to update, systematize, or synchronize these international norms. Interstate cooperation is also confined in penal matters because of the lack of unified and coherent international legal regime. National legal systems as a result are left with whatever jurisdictional and resource means they have at their disposal, making them ineffective in dealing with terrorism’s international manifestations. State actors exclusion of illegal terror acts from inclusion in the whole scheme of terrorism's control shows the double standard that non–state actors lament and use as an excuse or justification for their own misdemeanours. This treatment of inequality between the state and non–state actors is clearly evident, and constitutes one of the reasons for the attraction of adherents to non–state terrorist groups.
As terrorism has become a global problem and threat to international peace and security it has become an issue of concern for the international organization that is United Nations. It has been stressed number of times by the United Nations that terrorism constitutes serious violation of the Purposes and Principles envisaged in the Charter of the United Nations. The United Nations has elaborated and adopted many conventions and treaties on the subject of terrorism in order to repress it. Nevertheless these conventions and treaties address the problem of terrorism only to some extent. The main reason for this anomaly is the specific subject matter approach of the United Nations which is often provoked by a specific kind of terrorist incident. This fact is clear from the number of conventions dealing with particular terror acts. The efforts of United Nations to repress terrorism have only been limited to developing legal framework without emphasizing on any effective enforcement mechanism. Even Member states of the United Nations lays emphasis on the containment of non–state terrorism and keep state terrorism out of this category. These Member states make the United Nations enforcement mechanism weak and ineffective due to their political dynamics and parochial national interest. Therefore, lack of effective institutional mechanism and Member State’s political dynamics make United Nations instrument frail and less effective.

Due to all these problems the United Nations has realized its flaws and weaknesses in its policies and instruments against terrorism and as a result it has taken on serious course correction against global terrorism. United Nations has taken numerous steps against the menace of terrorism, for example, a Draft Comprehensive Convention against Terrorism (proposed by India) is under General Assembly’s consideration. It has also adopted a Global Counter Terrorism Strategy in 2006 with the agreement of all its Member States. This policy besides envisaging a common operational framework for countering terrorism draws a concrete action plan to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism. In 2005 the United Nations has established Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) and Secretariat of CTITF has been created in the Department of Political Affairs in 2009. All these measures highlight the sincerity and seriousness of the United Nations towards the global problem of terrorism.
In protecting human rights during counter-terrorism policy the United Nations has done great progress since its establishment. It has achieved major progress in ending human rights abuses around the globe. But this progress of United Nations has been accompanied by some of the major challenges such as lack of political will by some Member States, scarcity of resources, imperfect enforcement power and many other challenges. These challenges have been restricting the work of organization to save the world from the scourge of terrorism. However, there is a more room for improvement. It is the great avenue to combat international terrorism because United Nations commands great legitimacy at the international level. It is recognized by the states and also serves as the source of international authority.

Therefore, it can be said that United Nations is an organization which is fully devoted in resolving disputes with minimum amount of violence. If the governments of the world, politicians and particularly the permanent members of the UN Security Council change their attitude and looks for global harmony and good, they will discover that the Charter is a document of great potential. There is a need of reforms in the United Nations which should make it more useful and efficient institution so that it can work further for developing peace and security in the world in the present insecure and turbulent times. In other words, it should change the prevailing condition of human insecurity into stability and security so that international terrorism can be curbed.

It is a bitter truth that the United Nations was established once with such passion and dreams of new world order based on peace and justice has been cynically abused by the Super Powers who gave to themselves not the “Uniting for Peace” enablement but also the veto, particularity to prevent any division in uniting. But as we all know the veto has become means for sabotage and blockage. In these conditions the role of United Nations in curbing or dealing with the new form of international terrorism is very bleak, indeed.

Despite many shortcomings this fact cannot be denied that United Nations have made many possible efforts to curb it from the world as it is evident from the adoption of number of resolutions and adoption of 13 conventions dealing with different forms of terrorism. The main problem with these resolutions and conventions is that they are not properly implemented.
Suggested Measures for Suppressing Terrorism

There is an urgent need to evolve cooperative mechanism involving all nation States. The United Nations should cooperate, harmonize efforts, and work sincerely and honestly to protect mankind from the scourge of terrorism. All the Nation States including Permanent Members of the Security Council are required to rise above their parochial national interests and to think about the interest of the whole international community.

The following suggestions have been advanced in order to avoid the grave threat posed by international terrorism:

- There is an urgent need for formulating and evolving comprehensive definition of international terrorism. A globally agreed upon definition of terrorism would protect the state and deliberative politics, differentiate public and private violence, and ensure international peace and security. Anti-terrorism cooperation and counter-terrorism coordination is obstructed by the lack of common or universal definition of terrorism. There are numerous definitions of terrorism given in several international and regional treaties and convention on international terrorism but reaching an accurate and comprehensive definition is urgently required to provide an international legal framework for effective prevention of international terrorism and also for prosecution of international terrorists.

- There is a requirement of such a comprehensive convention on terrorism that would be, as much as possible, value neutral, including all actors, and also cover all modalities and techniques of terror violence, is self-evident. Such a convention although, has been politically elusive. Thirteen international conventions on the different forms of terrorism exist but still there is a need of some comprehensive convention that would encompass all acts of terrorism. The earlier such convention comes into existence better it is for the international community. It may help in prosecuting the activities of international terrorist effectively.

- Since it is the responsibility of United Nations to maintain international peace and security, therefore, there is need to reform, reinvent and strengthen this world body. The UN Charter calls upon member-states to attempt to settle disputes peacefully and failing that, to make a reference to the Security Council for appropriate action including use of military force in terms of Article 51. The
Conclusion

categorical position emerging out of article 51 is that states refrain from the use of military till an armed attack take place. This has been reportedly violated but it needs to be respected for building a harmonious world.

The UN needs to be re–organized in several ways, by expanding the Security Council to reflect the present day political and economic realities, by minimizing the monopoly of permanent members in the Security Council, by funding permanent peace maintaining forces. Therefore, there is an extreme need to bring certain reforms in the United Nations which is essential to curb the menace of terrorism.

- As the globalization and the terrorism at the international level increasing rapidly the international community is required to establish such international laws which effectively punish the international criminal acts. There is a significant overlap between the custom and convention within the international criminal law framework. There is a lack of enforcement mechanism in these conventions for justly dissuading and punishing criminal behavior in international criminal law. Even these norms that could be put into effect are subject to the recurring problem of lack of effective enforcement by the states. International criminal law is weak and suffers from both substantive and enforcement deficiencies, leading to substantial lack in deterrence. Such strengthening of International Law may help to root out terrorism.

- As terrorism has become a matter of global concern there is a need of global cooperation to handle it. Each and every state has right to seek international cooperation. Because of the diversity of interest at the global and regional level, the bilateral cooperation has proved to be the best method of international cooperation. The most significant instrument of bilateral cooperation is extradition. Mutual cooperation will also be useful in the conclusion of special treaties and in the extradition and prosecution of terrorist acts. Every state has the duty to cooperate individually as well as collectively to combat terrorism at the international level. Efforts should be made to organize symposiums and researches on the subject of terrorism so that there is exchange of information between participating countries. This will give more meaningful attention to this scourge by all concerned.
Under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373 each and every country must enact anti-terrorism law describing the crime as an aggravated crime. The law should provide banning of terrorist organization and their supporting feats with provision of confiscation and for future terrorist funds. Funding gives oxygen to terrorist activities and the funds are provided through the black accounts of those states supporting terrorism in their territories. The other methods of providing funds are done through organized crime syndicates, drug trafficking, subscription from rich persons and ploughing back of profits earned by terrorist supported business organizations. These funds reaches terrorist organization through two types of channels through banking channel and by underground banking channel which we call Hawala in this part of the world. Banking channels provides mechanism for transferring money to Jehadi outfits. They open fake accounts in the name of charities and business which are actually utilized for financing terrorist activities in targeted country. Such accounts are openly operated in terms of dollar or sterling accounts. Several of those bank accounts have been located as well as ordered to be closed. Hawala channel, which has now come to surface, is a matter of profound concern. The dreadful attacks of World Trade Centre were mostly financed through the Hawala route. Therefore it should be the responsibility of each and every country to keep a strict check on such type of funding, only then it can be stopped. Because basically funding promotes international terrorism.

Intelligence agencies play an important role in the security of nations therefore it should be well equipped with the latest technology. So that it can be helpful in tracking the activities of terrorist as soon as possible. As terrorist activities spread, vulnerabilities to terrorism action also increase. It is impossible for any nation to guard all the vulnerable locations, there are simply too many. As a result there is no other way of strengthening our intelligence organizations. There is a requirement to make large use of electronic surveillance to locate and intercept terrorist groups before they can operate, and also deploy sensors and detectors in order to guard the important places and events. There is also a need to develop operational concepts along with technologies, to take swift action once information about the terrorist is available. It can be said that for curbing international terrorism human intelligence is of principal importance.
Education is considered as the key to open the minds of people as well to polish and refines human beings and their personality. It gives them conscience and makes them capable to understand and differentiate between the right and wrong path. Lack of education is also one of the big reasons for getting attracted towards terrorism. Education is the most reliable resource for preparing the youth for initiating dialogue. Patience, time and tolerance are required to play its expected significant role in bringing harmony and peace in the world. Two aspects of education in young minds should strive to create a willingness to tolerate differences of opinion and desire to comprehend different points of view. Second, the enormous development of science and technology has tended to emphasize the intellectual rather than moral and spiritual values. What we require is the synthesis of these values spiritual and moral as well as intellectual with the objective of producing completely integrated individuals.

Poverty is also one of the important causes for growth of terrorism. When the economic conditions of poor people become worse, this may affect their capability to fulfil both their biological as well as basic psychological needs. They feel less secure about their future, less effective, and less able to control their lives, and so on.

They might lead people to turn to ideologies, visions of better life that help them deal with the psychological impact of their experience. These ideologies may be religious, nationalistic or something else. In addition to giving hope for a better future, they can give followers an understanding of the world and sense of personal significance. But they also identify enemies of the ideology and as a consequence have an important role in mass killings and genocide, as well as powerful role in terrorism, whether it is terrorism of Osama Bin Laden and his supporters, Basques or other national movements.

Violence breeds violence. Therefore, oppression, injustice and inequality should be removed from the society in order to win the fight against terrorism. One of the methods to combat terrorism is to deal with its sources, handle grievances and frustrations of the terrorists rather than only trying brutal force on them. Indeed, there is also a need to enter into the minds of terrorists and to bring them into the main stream of developmental process.
Just as diminishing the root causes of terrorism is the primary motive, so the government must change the conditions in areas that have offered safe havens to terrorists and bases for transnational operations. The Countries such as Afghanistan, Sudan, Northern Iraq and Syrian controlled areas of Lebanon are leading examples of such countries that mostly offered safe havens to terrorists and provided their territories as base for terrorist operations. Governments should make efforts to prevent the emergence of new zones of chaos and sanctuary which provide safe shelter to international terrorists. With regard to the forcible apprehension of terrorist suspects, zones of chaos and sanctuary should be a fair game for the international community. Large rewards for any information on suspect individuals and groups in such areas may be very effective and helpful for combating terrorism. If this plan will be successful, the safe havens for terrorists will greatly be curbed and international terrorism may be mitigated to great extent.

Fast track courts should be established for the fast trial of terrorist. Delays in terrorist’s case will lead to obscurity which will help them to take the benefit of doubt so there is a urgent need to dispose of the terrorists cases as soon possible if country wants to control the threat of terrorism.

Terrorism has very deep roots therefore it has to be tackle with strong determination and stringent laws. Such type of laws should be framed which allow to combat terrorism by using sophisticated surveillance and weapons technology, space based surveillance system etc.

In every country there must be special skilled squad forces to meet the challenges of terrorism. Such type of forces should be given special training to handle the emergency conditions like that of 9/11. Such forces should deal only with the cases of terrorism and they should be placed only in those areas where the terrorism is on rise. They must be equipped with latest technological weapons to face the challenges.

Another step that can be taken for curbing international terrorism may be to activate human groups, non-governmental organizations, lawyers, associations and other non-organizations on universal scale for humanitarian intervention if they can convince the masses that terrorism does not work in the long-run, an important step would have been taken in the required direction, for the base of terrorist activities is support of public, and if they lose that, they may not last long.
There is close connection between terrorism and human rights. Terrorism abuses the fundamental rights of its victims. Terrorists are also arbitrarily depriving people of their basic fundamental human rights of life and liberty. Where the acts of terrorists do not have any effect on the interest of the society, states are required to treat them differently. Their acts should be regarded as an ordinary crime and therefore their human rights may not be violated by the states. In modern international law, because of human rights development there are restrictions on the government’s response how to treat an individual regardless of his crime and state has certain limits on its powers. It is only the most serious threat to the public order, not depending upon individual conduct, not even in the general interest that can justify the state to break those limits. The problems of accommodating the control of terrorism with the protection of human rights are one of balance. Right not to be tortured or ill-treated is very important in the context of terrorism. It is quite natural for security forces to inflict harsh suffering on the alleged terrorists to obtain information, particularly confessions which would lead to convictions and enable the claim to be sustained that terrorism was being defeated by the ordinary process of law. It is observed that derogations to human rights obligations are acceptable only if events make them necessary and if they are proportionate to the dangers that those events represent. Acts commonly covered under terrorism whether committed by individuals or by the states are in fact violations of fundamental rights of those against whom they are perpetrated.

In the context of United Nations role in combating terrorism, no doubt it has made earnest efforts to counter the menace of terrorism around the world. One of the major lacunas of the United Nations counter-terrorism strategy is that it is not comprehensive in nature. On the other side, the divergence of views of Member States of the United Nations over the issue of terrorism has prevented the world body from adopting universally accepted comprehensive definition of terrorism. At least the Member States and particularly the permanent members of the Security Council should mutually cooperate with each other for framing a universally acceptable definition of terrorism because in the absence of definition, it becomes quite difficult to identify terrorist organizations. Without definition question regarding who is terrorist and what is terrorism still remains unanswered.
The draft of comprehensive convention against international terrorism presented by India in 1996 and again in 2000 should be taken into consideration by the international community and Member States of the United Nations for achieving long lasting peace and repressing terrorism. The Member States of the United Nations and specifically the permanent members of the Security Council should incorporate the measures suggested above in their foreign policy in order to suppress terrorism and for bringing peace and harmony in the world.

Moreover, it must be noted that terrorism spring out of despair and injustice; it is the weapon of the weak; it is indiscriminate and crime against innocent victims. Therefore it must be addressed with effective and legitimate means and with proper law enforcement mechanism, but its prevention requires addressing its causes. Terrorism is not only a political problem but also a moral and social one. It is indeed like a disease and it can be fought more effectively by eradicating its root than its syndromes.

This study also analyzes the fact that terrorism is not related to any religion because it does not have any religion. Whether it is Islam, Christianity, Hinduism, or any other religion of the world they all teach about peace, harmony and brotherhood. This fact is evident from the verse of Holy Quran:

If anyone killed a person not in retaliation of murder, or (and) to spread mischief in the land—It would be as if he killed all human kind, and if anyone saved a life, it would be as he saved the life of all humankind (The Holy Quran−5:32).