ABSTRACT

Afghanistan the sick man of Asia known internationally for the political unrest and one of the acute poverty country in the world as mapped by the World Bank is located in the center of Asia. This research paper examines the causes of the prolonged civil war since the Soviet occupation and till today. The Afghans living in Afghanistan lead a miserable life aching for peace and millions have migrated— during the war caused by the two global super powers namely United soviet Socialist Republic today known as Russia and United States of America. An historical overview is provided of the Afghan conflict, which highlights its complex regionalized and enduring nature. The research study briefs how the Afghans had to lead an inhuman life after the withdrawal of USSR and the prolonged silent of USA till the terrorists attacked the World Trade Center which has its operation from Afghanistan. The civil war endured till the Taliban captured power with the support from Pakistan and became a big threat to the ethnic minorities, women and children generally imposed self styled Shariat law and pushed down the country to several centuries back.

Apart from the external key players in the conflict for their own political interest the major threat is the land locked nature of the country and the ethnic affiliation of Afghans along with the ethnic groups living in the border. The poppy cultivation which is the source of the production of heroine lead to the arms deal. The war lords who became powerful during the civil war till hold important posts in the new parliament since the Bonn agreement invited all the warlords to form the government to oust the Taliban. The corruption exists in all the sectors which is against the vulnerable communities.

At this juncture rehabilitation is indispensable to build peace among the communities who lost their social capital. Enhancing livelihood is crucial because after the advent of the UN the displaced people arrived back and slowly the people wanted to restart their social
and economic capital. Two broad approaches to conflict reduction and peace building amongst aid donors and operational agencies are identified: Working in Conflict and Working on Conflict. The former relates to agencies attempting to develop a conflict-sensitive and principled approach to delivering humanitarian assistance. The later relates to agencies with an explicit conflict reduction/peace building agenda.

The peace building measures have not created substantial positive effect due to micro level problems escalate the conflict among the communities. The mass media developed by the international communities and the revival of schools and the education system have created awareness on social awareness and communal harmony among the youth for positive changes. There are miles to go towards peace building since the Afghans lost their social fabric and they lost their livelihood sources. The research study brings out the social life and the major livelihood sources. It explores in to a rehabilitation project which has the objective of providing employment but has not brought any positive changes in the lives of vulnerable communities. The study has brought out the aspirations of Afghans for peace building and on the basis of the group discussions it has recommendations. Peace education to the school going and non school going children and rebuilding the traditional problem solving mechanisms by training the village leaders in conflict resolution methods like dialogue and de-arming the war lords are some of the suggestions. The project advocates for the small scale industries since anything small will enrich the vulnerable communities and it argues to change the policies from infrastructure building to developing the human develop index since Afghans being torn by war have lost all the chances of augmenting the human development skill.