Research on the Ways of People’s Participation in Anti-terrorism from the Perspective of National Anti-terrorism

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Abstract: Anti-terrorism by the whole people is inseparable from the extensive participation of the people. Historical experience has shown that the people are the true source of strength and the deepest source of war’s might. The anti-terrorist struggle is a fundamental contradiction between the enemy and ours. It is a long-lasting and long-term struggle. It requires the implementation of the fundamental strategy of "combination of prevention and combat, and the focus on prevention" and the extensive participation of the people. At present, the situation in the domestic fight against terrorism is still severe and complex, and there are still many problems in intelligence and information, group defense and group governance, and emergency rescue. To win the final victory in the fight against terrorism, we must create new ways for the people to participate in the fight against terrorism.

Keywords: Terrorism; National Anti-terrorism; Means

1. Introduction

Resolutely winning the fight against terrorism is an important part of safeguarding national security. With the implementation of the Anti-Terrorism Law, the concept of anti-terrorism for the whole people has been deeply rooted in the hearts of the people. The participation of the broad masses of the people in the fight against terrorism is conducive to expanding the anti-terrorism model of relying on professional forces, and to improve the overall level of anti-terrorism work capabilities; it is conducive to effectively resisting terrorist risks and creating a safe and stable social environment.

2. The nature of the fight against terrorism

2.1 The fight against terrorism is the fundamental contradiction between the enemy and ours

Terrorism is essentially against justice and anti-humanity. It is a flagrant trampling on human society and a common enemy of the international community. Terrorism aims to use violence, sabotage, intimidation and other means to create social panic, endanger public safety, infringe upon personal property, or coerce state agencies and international organizations to achieve its political and ideological purposes. Terrorist attacks against innocent civilians are even more serious crimes recognized worldwide.

General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out: "violent terrorist activities ignore basic human rights and trample on humanitarian justice, challenging the common bottom line of human civilization. It is neither an ethnic issue nor a religious issue, but the common enemy of all ethnic groups[1]."

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Terrorism seriously endangers our national security. Various domestic terrorist forces headed by "East Turkistan", through internal and external collaboration, vigorously promote extreme ideas, deliberately instigate ethnic conflicts, create terrorist incidents, and attempt to split the country. Violent and terrorist activities have not only caused mental fear and psychological trauma to the people, but also split national sentiments and created national barriers, which seriously affected the country’s harmony, unity, prosperity and stability. It can be seen that terrorism seems to have endangered my country’s national security, severely impacting mainstream values and religious views in some regions, undermining my country’s legal system, eroding the national identity of local people, and challenging national sovereignty.

Terrorism seriously hinders our social development. By carrying out terrorist attacks, creating social terror and causing the masses to panic is the essential feature of current terrorist activities. Terrorist activities externally undermine the benign interaction between my country and the international community, undermine the country’s international image, threaten national sovereignty, security, and development interests; internally, it seriously interferes with the sound operation of the country’s economic and social order, threatens the lives and properties of the broad masses of people, and undermines social harmony. Stability hinders social development and progress.

2.1 The fundamental strategy of “combination of prevention and combat, and the focus on prevention”

Effective prevention is fundamental. Terrorism is more variable, flexible, and adaptable, and it is difficult to predict and control. Many terrorist activities adopt "family-style, gang-style" crimes, or even "lone wolf" attacks, which can be "resolved into nothing" at any time, and it is highly uncertain and unpredictable [3]. In the era of economic globalization, terrorist attacks are more destructive, have greater social influence, and have a wider range of damage. Therefore, my country must focus on source prevention and three-dimensional prevention for terrorist activities in order to reduce the risk of domestic terrorist attacks.

A powerful blow is a means. In recent years, terrorist activities have increasingly tended to harm innocent civilians indiscriminately, demonstrating its intention of "not only letting more people die, but also allowing more people to watch" [4], which seriously threatens the safety of people’s lives and property. As a victim of terrorist activities, our country, in the face of the provocations of terrorist forces, "strikes hard and hits hard", vigorously combats terrorism, severely punishes terrorists, actively carries out "de-radicalization" work, and takes severe crackdowns on terrorist activities. The situation and the complete elimination of hidden dangers of violence and terrorism is an effective means and an inevitable requirement to curb the development and spread of domestic terrorist activities and maintain social harmony and stability.

Combination of anti-fighting is the norm. As a kind of social risk, terrorism has complex and changeable activities, and requires both symptoms and root causes, and normalized prevention and combat. At present, "there are seeds outside the country, soil within the country, and a market online" is the basic situation facing terrorist activities in my country. In particular, terrorist activities are actively using modern technology and information technology to turn to virtual cyberspace, gradually forming a new model of "online training, offline action", dozmary and uncertainty are greatly enhanced. In response to the ever-changing methods and methods of terrorists, our country's anti-terrorism efforts must be targeted at precise online and offline attacks, normal prevention, and prevention of both.

2.2 The fight against terrorism is a protracted long-term struggle

The threat of terrorism exists for a long time, and the fight against terrorism has a long way to go. Terrorism has complicated background factors, which are formed by the intertwining and long-term accumulation of multiple factors such as history and reality, domestic and overseas, online and offline. At present, our country is still in the "active period" of violent terrorist criminal activities, the "fierce period" of the anti-secession struggle, the "pain period" of intervention, the "three-phase superposition" situation has not undergone fundamental changes [5]. The anti-terrorism struggle must be based on the current situation, have a long-term view, formulate a long-term anti-terrorism strategy that suits China’s national conditions.

Anti-terrorism work is a long-term task and must be prepared for a protracted struggle. The Anti-Terrorism Law emphasizes that "the state opposes all forms of extremism such as distorting religious teachings or other methods to incite hatred, advocating violence, and eliminate the ideological basis of terrorism." Religious extremism, as the ideological basis of terrorist activities, has existed for a long time, especially "pan-Turkism and pan-Islamism" has helped to promote the occurrence of terrorist activities. At present, domestic terrorist ideology is gradually infiltrating from the frontier regions to the inland, and the mental control and action coercion of specific groups are continuously strengthened. Effective governance of them is a long-term process, and it is impossible to complete the effort.

The fight against terrorism in our country is at a critical period, and insisting on a long-term fight is an inevitable choice. In recent years, the number of violent terrorist activities in my country has been greatly reduced through the combination of "Fang Hui ju" and "digging and shoveling" and other anti-terrorism struggles. But "the fight against terrorism and terrorism present a double helix of DNA structure" [6]. The spontaneity and concealment of terrorist activities continue to increase, and the difficulty of prevention is increasing. The state needs to continuously increase special governance efforts, steadily advance various anti-terrorism and stability measures, persist in the long-term fight against terrorism.

3. The need for the masses to participate in the fight against terrorism

It is in line with historical experience and has unique advantages. Chairman Mao said, "Revolutionary war is a war of the masses, and war can only be waged by mobilizing the masses, and war can only be waged by relying on the masses" [7]. Therefore, the country must closely rely on the people to fight against terrorism. The broad masses of the people participate in the fight against terrorism, so that governments always have the most reliable personnel and information advantages, so that the people can recognize the true face of terrorists and resolutely combat terrorist activities.
Provide terrorism-related intelligence to reduce the risk of terrorist attacks. Intelligence has an irreplaceable leading role in the fight against terrorism, especially in the context of the current very developed network, strengthening the collection and research of anti-terrorism intelligence information is of special significance for realizing early warning effectiveness [9]. In view of the concealment and suddenness of terrorist activities, the broad masses of people have an inherent advantage in obtaining terrorism-related intelligence clues compared with professional anti-terrorism forces. The people are spread across all walks of life in society, with diverse types of contacts, wide coverage of information, and high accuracy of intelligence. Terrorism-related intelligence from the masses has greatly enriched the sources of intelligence, which not only improves the efficiency of anti-terrorism intelligence analysis, but also can detect signs of terrorist activities in time, accurately predict and reduce the risk of terrorist attacks.

Participate in security patrols to enhance prevention effects. The purpose of security patrols is to find clues about terrorist violent incidents and to deter people suspected of terrorism. The broad masses of the people participating in security patrols, on the one hand, can raise the masses' awareness of anti-terrorism and prevention, and expand the channels for the masses to participate in the fight against terrorism. On the other hand, the "power" of the people can be effectively used to form a social anti-terrorism "safety net", build a "firewall" of terrorism, and further enhance the prevention model of "combining special groups and focusing on specialization".

Participate in the closure and round-up, and do a good job support. When terrorist activities occur, it is far from sufficient to rely solely on professional forces for the strikes, encirclement and suppression of terrorists. It is necessary to mobilize the masses of the people to participate and trap terrorists in the "ocean of anti-terrorist people's war." In the process of disposal, it can give full play to the huge advantages of the broad masses of people familiar with the local environment, social conditions, and people's conditions, closely cooperate with various professional forces participating in the war, assist in the external containment and control, and form an action team with professional forces when necessary to combat terrorism. The elements carry out round-ups in order to effectively and quickly combat terrorist activities.

4. Problems in the current fight against terrorism

Our country attaches great importance to preventing and combating terrorism. However, there are still many problems in the current anti-terrorist struggle in terms of intelligence information, group defense and group governance, and emergency rescue.

4.1 Intelligence information

The scope of access to anti-terrorism intelligence is limited. The basic link of intelligence information work is intelligence information collection. The quantity and quality of intelligence information directly affect the aggregation, research, analysis, and utilization of intelligence information. At present, the acquisition of anti-terrorism intelligence information in our country mainly relies on proprietary forces such as national security agencies, public security agencies, and military intelligence agencies. It has not yet effectively relied on the power of the masses and exerted their advantages; At the same time, limited by the lack of personnel and funding, the sources of intelligence and information are limited, the coverage of information is relatively narrow, and it is vulnerable to different levels of regulations such as law, morality, and public opinion.

Anti-terrorism intelligence personnel have insufficient professional capabilities. Anti-terrorism intelligence personnel are responsible for the research, judgment, analysis, uploading and distributing of clues related to terrorism. The level of their business capabilities has an important impact on the integration and processing of intelligence, early warning and prevention of terrorist activities. However, some anti-terrorism intelligence personnel have a low level of professionalism and lack of intelligence and information awareness. They have insufficient strength and depth in analyzing the activity trajectory and concatenation cases of terrorist personnel, and it is difficult to meet actual combat needs [10].

The research and judgment on anti-terrorism information sharing needs to be improved. Due to the different levels of economic development in various regions of our country, there are large differences in the types of anti-terrorism intelligence information, data types, and analysis software. It is difficult to form a smooth data flow, information flow, and material flow, resulting in a large part of useful intelligence information being submerged, without effective integration, collision, and comparison. There is a lack of coordination mechanisms for anti-terrorism intelligence work, and the construction of information technology platforms is imperfect, overlapping with each other, and single-function.

4.2 Group defense and governance

The function of group defense and group governance weakened. Mass prevention and mass governance is an activity that organizes the masses under the leadership of party committees and governments at all levels and special agencies to prevent and deal with illegal crimes and maintain public order in the area or unit [11]. With the rapid development of urbanization, the traditional mass prevention and management functions have been weakened, and the results of grassroots anti-terrorism mass prevention and management work have not been obvious. At the same time, the construction of the anti-terrorist mass prevention and control team is relatively backward, and its important role has gradually weakened, which has seriously affected the enthusiasm of the masses to spontaneously participate in the anti-terrorist struggle.

Lack of organization and management of mass prevention and governance. Professional anti-terrorism functional departments have certain deficiencies in the supervision, management, and guidance of grassroots mass prevention and mass governance organizations. Some grassroots mass defense and mass governance organizations are not proactive, prone to delays in feedback of clues related to terrorism and violence, perfunctory masses, passive sabotage, etc. problem. For example, ignoring the skills training, scientific management, and daily assessment of grassroots organizations has led to insufficient ability to detect clues of terrorist activities. At the same time, there is a phenomenon of "two skins" between the incentives, rewards and punishments of the mass prevention and governance organizations and the daily assessment, and the work performance is decoupled from the rewards,
and it has not really played the leading role of establishing models and commending advanced.

The mobilization mechanism for group defense and group governance is solidified. At present, grassroots mass autonomous organizations still play a major role in the process of mobilizing the broad masses of the people in our country to participate in the fight against terrorism. However, it is limited by many factors such as insufficient national resource investment, low self-authority, and limited work level, which can easily induce the problem of "institutionalization". In addition, the solidification and lack of innovation in the anti-terrorist mass defense mobilization mechanism has led to a relatively simple way for the masses to participate in the anti-terrorist struggle.

4.3 Emergency rescue

Insufficient integration of emergency rescue forces. Once a terrorist activity occurs, it is very easy to induce a "butterfly effect", and it is difficult for the forces of a single department to cope with its widespread impact. Our country's emergency rescue is mainly based on medical rescue, water, electricity and hot repair professional teams, and fire rescue and rescue. These professional rescue forces can immediately form a strong point of rescue and maximize rescue time. However, when a major terrorist attack occurs, how these forces can be effectively integrated and linked requires effective running-in. Currently, there are many social self-organization, which have the advantages of large rescue force, low cost, flexibility and high efficiency. However, our country has not fully utilized the mass rescue force in the form of social self-organization.

The emergency rescue coordination ability is low. After a terrorist attack, emergency rescue work requires the joint participation of multiple departments, which poses a huge test for emergency coordination among forces. Although key units and important public places in various regions of our country have formulated effective anti-terrorism emergency rescue plans, the departments are fighting each other and lacking corresponding links. In addition, anti-terrorism rescue exercises have "drills greater than exercises", and the construction scenarios lack practical support, which is quite different from actual combat. These phenomena are likely to lead to inefficient rescue coordination and insufficient rescue and handling capabilities when a terrorist attack occurs.

Emergency rescue support is not sufficient. Due to the uncertainty of the time, location, scale, and intensity of terrorist attacks, and the fact that anti-terrorist operations and emergency rescue support are often carried out at the same time, the difficulty and workload of anti-terrorist emergency rescue support will be very heavy, and it will be difficult for rescue personnel, rescue funds, materials and equipment, etc. Higher requirements are put forward in terms of security. At present, my country's anti-terrorism emergency rescue support system and mechanism are not perfect, the rescue support efficiency is not high enough, there are many bad phenomenon, which further reduces the rescue effect and even aggravates the secondary damage.

5. The basic path for the people to participate in the fight against terrorism

5.1 Publicity and guidance

Innovate anti-terrorist propaganda methods. On the basis of traditional anti-terrorism propaganda such as handing out flyers, pulling banners, make full use of propaganda media such as the Internet, self-media, and television to expand the scope of the propaganda audience. Through authoritative media platforms such as "People's Daily", "CGTN" and other authoritative media platforms, in-depth analysis of anti-terrorism hotspots, interpretation of anti-terrorism policies, dissemination of anti-terrorism expertise, shortening the distance between the broad masses of people and anti-terrorism work, making the masses more intuitive and Deeply feel the actual hazards of terrorism.

Strengthen the control of anti-terrorist public opinion positions. Vigorously crack down on the illegal dissemination of terrorism audio and video on WeChat, Kuaixi and other online platforms, block the channels for dissemination of terrorist thoughts, guide the masses to maintain rationality, distinguish right from wrong, and create a healthy cyberspace environment. Timely expose the despicable acts of terrorists to split the country, continuously strengthen the study and education of the socialist core value system, and take the initiative to occupy the position of public opinion.

Guide and educate the masses to resist terrorism. Terrorist thoughts are extremely deceptive. Terrorists often use deceit and inducement to brainwash believers with the help of religious garb. They fabricate lies to promise a better future, make it difficult to distinguish between true and false, and deceive international public opinion. Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen the ideological education of ordinary people in a targeted manner, clarify the purpose and importance of anti-terrorism, focus on improving immunity and discrimination against terrorism, guide the establishment of a correct view of religion and ethnicity, and consciously resist terrorism.

5.2 Mobilization

Maximize the mobilization of the masses. In recent years, national separatist forces have used various methods to compete with the party and government for the masses [12]. This is a political struggle for people's hearts. Faced with the current severe and complex situation in the fight against terrorism, the country must rely on the masses, mobilize the masses, establish a reasonable reporting and reward mechanism, encourage people to fight against terrorism. Those involved in terrorism have formed a high-pressure posture against violent and terrorist activities, creating an indestructible copper wall.

Explore and innovate new mechanisms for mass mobilization. At present, the time of citizens in the network society is occupied by various resources. Whether citizens can participate in anti-terrorism depends on whether the mobilization mechanism is effective [13]. Fast and efficient mass mobilization is inseparable from a stable and reliable mobilization mechanism. It is necessary for the state to explore a new type of mobilization mechanism for anti-terrorism, improve the efficiency of grassroots anti-terrorist mass mobilization, and further mobilize the general public to participate. For example, the construction of anti-terrorist volunteer organizations vigorously promoted in Beijing is a beneficial innovation to the mobilization mechanism.

Efforts to mobilize mass prevention and governance. Mass nature is a distinctive feature of the anti-terrorist struggle. On
the one hand, select and send outstanding party members to the grassroots, preach the national anti-terrorism laws, explore new anti-terrorism models, and effectively improve the level of grassroots mass prevention and governance mobilization; On the other hand, scientifically manage mass prevention and mass management organizations such as the "Community Joint Defense Team" and "Rural Security Association", standardize and guide mass prevention and mass management organizations to carry out anti-terrorist work, establish a reasonable reward and punishment mechanism, and strengthen advanced mass defense groups.

5.3 Establish a sound organization

Strengthen the construction of grassroots organizations. Grassroots mass organizations play a role as a fighting fortress in the anti-terrorist struggle. To improve the construction of grassroots organizations, we must adhere to the party’s leadership principles; Further increase the material and financial investment in grassroots mass organizations, consolidate the foundation for grassroots anti-terrorism; Promote the advanced experience of anti-terrorist mass organizations such as the "Builder Leader System" and "Union Guarantee System", and innovate new forms of grassroots mass organizations participating in the fight against terrorism; Actively promote the implementation of the "Anti-Terrorism Law", improve the legitimacy and authority of grassroots mass organizations participating in the fight against terrorism, and further enhance the mobilization capabilities of grassroots anti-terrorist organizations.

Enhance the construction of grassroots teams. Grassroots party members and cadres are on the front line of counter-terrorism, and give full play to the vanguard and leading role of Communist party members in the fight against terrorism. It is necessary to conduct anti-terrorism training, enhance the anti-terrorism awareness of front-line Communist party members and cadres, and improve their ability to organize and mobilize the masses; In accordance with regulations, regular comprehensive anti-terrorism exercises at the grassroots level are carried out to improve the overall anti-terrorism effectiveness of grassroots organizations and the people, so as to prevent problems before they occur.

Promote the integration of specialist groups. The response to terrorist activities involves many departments and organizations, requiring immediate implementation of vigilance, containment, rescue, and emergency repairs. In the anti-terrorist fight, the people can take over the "assisted rescue baton" in time, assume on-site rescue and assistance obligations, and assist anti-terrorism functional departments in personnel rescue and order maintenance activities to effectively reduce the pressure on disposal and ensure successful disposal. We must actively explore the new mode of combining special groups, and establish a working mechanism of anti-terrorism special groups in line with contemporary national conditions.

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