

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Background

Nowadays the world has become very chaotic. And one of the most critical issues in this world is terrorism. There are a lot of cases of terrorism that have happened, and the Islamic terrorism is one of them. Islamic terrorism is an action of terrorism committed by groups or individuals of Muslims with religious motivations and purposes. One of the Islamic fundamentalist political movement is Taliban, it has the power in almost all regions of Afghanistan.

Since 1979 during the Soviet invasion in Afghanistan, the Afghan fighters were acting in the name of God to fight the foreign invaders in regards to the withdrawal of the Soviets in 1989, the world was in surprise. And after the withdrawal of the Soviet forces and the fall of the Soviet-backed regime in 1992, Afghanistan entered a devastating period of civil strife and conflict. Over 1 million Afghans died in struggle, and as much as one third of the population fled, with almost 2 million settled in Iran and assuming that there were about 3 million lived in Pakistan. For many years, there were more refugees from Afghanistan struggled than from any other

conflict in the world. Then this is where the Taliban was born, which happened to be in Pakistan.<sup>1</sup>

As the Taliban getting stronger, this movement received many supports from several states. At times, the Taliban had brutally murdered thousands of people in Afghanistan. Even in areas where its supporters lived, the Taliban did violate the human rights.<sup>2</sup> Since then until now, the mortality rate in Afghanistan is continually increasing, on the contrary, the life expectancy is low. The Taliban still do such things. Even to the point where the more power it gains, the more extreme it can be.

This condition eventually attracts all the attention from the countries around the world, because in their opinion, it is not in accordance with the international law. It will not support the international peace, instead, it will make it worse. One of the countries that concern with this condition is United States. From the establishment of the Taliban, United States refused to give it the official diplomatic recognition, because the United States did not want to legitimate the hostile and brutal regime that the Taliban has. The U.S. did not want to show any involvements in any kind of groups that related to terrorism, moreover to be the state sponsor for it.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Daniel Byman, *Deadly Connections: States that Sponsor Terrorism* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005), 189.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid*, 191-192.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid*, 188.

To actualize its involvement in combating terrorism, United States decide to deploy troops in Afghanistan. It was done with the expectation to improve the security issue in Afghanistan. By sending troops in Afghanistan, United States is willing to support and participate in some difficult and dangerous operations, relating to the counterterrorism. The purpose is to ensure that Afghanistan is never being a safe haven again for any terrorist groups just like when it used to be a safe haven for the terrorists that responsible for the tragedy of 9/11.<sup>4</sup>

In addition, in December 2001, the United Nations Security Council established the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan on 11 August 2003. Its primary objective was also to enable the Afghan security forces to promote peace and make sure that Afghanistan would never again become a safe haven for terrorists.<sup>5</sup>

The decision of the troops withdrawal that United States has made has actually give many impacts, especially on security issue. Thus, this thesis will discuss about the United States troops drawdown from Afghanistan, and see its impact on the growth of the Taliban. Furthermore this thesis will look at the influence of the United States towards the security issue in Afghanistan.

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<sup>4</sup> The Washington Post, "The U.S. Needs to Keep Troops in Afghanistan," *The Washington Post*, Internet, available from [https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/afghanistan-after-obama/2015/07/07/63dd6dc2-1e8e-11e5-aeb9-a411a84c9d55\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/afghanistan-after-obama/2015/07/07/63dd6dc2-1e8e-11e5-aeb9-a411a84c9d55_story.html), accessed 21 August 2015.

<sup>5</sup> North Atlantic Treaty Organization, "ISAF's Mission in Afghanistan (2001-2014)," *North Atlantic Treaty Organization*, Internet, available from [http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics\\_69366.htm](http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/topics_69366.htm), accessed 21 August 2015.

## **1.2. Research Problems**

Based on the previous background, the research problems are:

- 1) What are the success factors of the terrorists that have an impact on the Taliban's power?
- 2) What is the nature of Taliban's power after the drawdown of U.S. troops from Afghanistan?

## **1.3. Research Objectives**

Based on the research problems above, the objectives of this research are:

- 1) To explain the success factors of the terrorists that have an impact on the Taliban's power.
- 2) To explain the nature of Taliban's power after the drawdown of U.S. troops from Afghanistan.

## **1.4. Purpose of the Writing**

There are two purposes in this research, which are as follows:

- 1) Theoretical Purpose

This research has a theoretical or academic purpose, which is to enrich the concepts and theories associated with the development of social and political sciences, especially to the study of International Relations. This research is expected to benefit as a

source of information, so that it could be further developed in the future.

## 2) Practical Purpose

In practical purpose, this research is expected to provide insight that is important for a country to have foreign policy. This policy is needed to be base in conducting relations with foreign countries, because foreign policies of a country determine the goal of the country itself.

### 1.5. Systematic of the Writing

This thesis is divided into five chapters. Every chapter in this research is interlinked one another to answer the research problems above. And it will be put together as a thesis with the following systematic of writing:

#### **Chapter I: Introduction**

This section discusses the background of the research. The writer briefly reviews the Taliban insurgency, as well as the response of the United States. Then the author discusses the Islamic terrorism, as well as the emergence of the Taliban. Furthermore, the author will explain the impacts of the United States response towards the emergence of Taliban. In this section, the problem and objectives, as well as the methods of research will also be discussed.

## **Chapter II: Conceptual Framework**

This section will discuss the theories that form the basis for observing the topic in this thesis, such as Hegemonic Stability Theory, Realism Theory, and Constructivism Theory. Then the authors will discuss the concepts related to the topic such as terrorism, foreign policy, security, and human rights.

## **Chapter III: Research Methods**

This section contains a description of the methodical approach used by the writer, the data collection techniques, data analysis techniques, and other matters related to the research conducted.

## **Chapter IV: Results and Analysis**

This section contains a discussion of the topic in this thesis. The author will provide answers to the problems. The answers are the result of the author's research.

## **Chapter V: Closing**

This section is the last chapter in this research. It contains the closure of the overall research from Chapter I to Chapter IV, as well as the overall conclusions of the research performed by the author. In addition, the author also gives some inputs to the parties that are involve in this research.

### **Bibliography**

This section contains a list of literature used by the author in doing research, both in print and electronic media.

