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**US Intervention in Afghanistan since 2001:  
Security Implications for India**

This research work focuses on the multiple interventions in Afghanistan. Afghanistan from the Indian perspective is the dominant part of this research work. In the introductory part, the background of the whole thesis has been put forward, and an attempt has been made to highlight the significance of the research. Some of the important sections of the introductory part are: background of the study, objectives, hypothesis, and the research methodology followed while working on the thesis. Literature review is another important part discussed in detail, in which an attempt has been made to review the most important books available on this research. The research is not limited only to those books whom I have reviewed in the introductory part, apart from these books a lot of fruitful material is available, but it is beyond the scope of this study to present them all in this research work.

The first chapter of this research work is, *US Involvement in Afghanistan: Historical Background*. In this chapter, the US-Afghan relations have been discussed in detail, starting from 1919 when Afghanistan got independence from the British imperialism. The most important part of this chapter is the increasing US involvement in Afghanistan when USSR intervened in it in 1979. This is when the US involvement in Afghanistan increased drastically, not with the successive Afghan communist governments but with the common masses who were fighting Soviets tooth and nail. Once the Soviets left Afghanistan, US simultaneously lost its interests there. With this comes the civil war followed by the emergence of the Taliban. The relations came to end as US did not recognise them as the legitimate rulers of Afghanistan.

*Rise of the Taliban and its Impact on the Region*, is the second chapter of this research work. In this chapter, an attempt has been made to unveil some of the facts which are deliberately made insignificant to dilute the reality. The reasons responsible for the rise of the one of the world's dreadest forces have been discussed in detail. The internal factors and the external forces responsible for their rise are worth mentioning. From the external forces the role of Pakistan, US and Saudi Arabia can't be marginalised. The impact of the rise of the Taliban on the region, including Pakistan, China and Iran has been discussed too.

The third chapter of the research purports to examine and analyse the *US Intervention in Afghanistan since 2001*. The tragedy of the unforgettable 9/11 terrorist

attacks, which the US made the basis for its military action against terrorism, has been discussed in this chapter. This chapter provides a detailed overview of the efforts from the American side to overthrow the Taliban before the 9/11 attacks, followed by the US intervention in Afghanistan after the 9/11 terrorist attacks when the Taliban government failed to deliver Osama bin Laden to the American authorities, as demanded by them. The most important part of this chapter is, the arguments for and against the US intervention in Afghanistan, which seeks to analyse in detail, was there a need at all to militarily intervene in Afghanistan, to avenge the 9/11 terrorist attacks? This chapter concludes with the withdrawal plans put forward by the US after the elimination of bin Laden, in 2011, in Abbottabad Pakistan by the US Seal Team.

The fourth chapter of this research is: *Security implication for India*. This chapter seeks to analyse Indo-Afghan relations, and most importantly India as an important factor in the Afghan crisis. Historical background of Indo-Afghan relations starting with the independence of India till the rise of the Taliban is the first section of this chapter, as after the rise of the Taliban government the relations deteriorated and India did not recognise them as the legitimate rulers of Afghanistan. The increasing Indian opportunities after the US intervention had been elaborated, followed by highlighting the importance of Afghanistan for India. Indian engagement and investment in Afghanistan after the fall of the Taliban government has been discussed too, as India is currently fifth largest bilateral donor to Afghanistan. The Indian exclusion from the ongoing peace talks and the Indian position on the same has been discussed in detail. The last and the most vital section of this chapter is the *Security Implications for India on the US Withdrawal from Afghanistan*, as it is highly felt that India is going to be affected after the US withdrawal from Afghanistan, followed by the options available with the Indian authorities. Some recommendations have been put forward for the betterment of the Indo-Afghan future relations at the end of this chapter.

While summarising, some of the recommendations had been put forward for the betterment of Afghanistan and the region, with special focus on the role India should play in the new 'Great Game'.