

# Psychological Aspects of Terrorism

Crusades to Jihad

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# PROLOGUE

Terrorism is not a new concept. The history of terrorism goes back as far as recorded history. This presentation cannot cover all aspects of terrorism nor its history in its entirety. The purpose of this presentation to provide a brief overview of terrorism from the Crusades and the current Jihads. This presentation will explore the psychological principles necessary to create terrorism.

For the purpose of this presentation, religious based terrorism will be the focus. This is not meant to be a definitive position but rather a starting point of understand the psychological aspects that are "played-out" in the engagement of terrorist tactics.

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# The Four Types of Terrorism

1. Political
2. Ethnic
3. Religious
4. Monetary

# Political

This is the act of terrorism that is intended to bring about a political change: e.g., the conflict in Northern Ireland (religious issues are also a part of that conflict: Catholics vs. Protestants)- Catholics representing the Native Irish and the Protestants representing the Cromwellian Irish.

# Ethnic

This is terrorism directed against a group of people who are ethnically and/or racially different. This type of terrorism is often directed with genocide intent.

# Religious

This is terrorism directed by religious fervor and is intent on destroying the opposing faction or belief system.

# Monetary

This form of terrorism is designed to bring about monetary gain and/or the loss of a rival individual, family, group, or nation by depleting their financial resources.

# THE CRUSADES

One of the most enduring though least-discussed results of the Crusades was the development of the word crusade (which first appeared in its Latin form in the late 12th or early 13th century) to denote any common endeavour in a worthy cause. The transformation of the idea of the Crusades from religio-military campaigns into modern metaphors for idealistic, zealous, and demanding struggles to advance the good ("crusades for") and to oppose perceived evil ("crusades against") occurred over several centuries and represents the culmination of a movement that began in the late 11th century. By the early 12th century, historiography was already contributing to the idea of Crusade as armed pilgrimage or holy war, which Bernard of Clairvaux in the mid-12th century and Pope Innocent III in the early 13th continued to elaborate. Receptive to chivalric as well as Christian ideals, Crusade ideology proved more durable than the stinging criticisms provoked by successive military defeats, culminating in the loss of the Holy Land in 1291.

By the middle of the 12th century, control of Jerusalem and the Holy Land was no longer the only goal of the Crusades. Rather, Crusading became a special class of war called by the pope against the enemies of the faith, who were by no means confined to the Levant. Crusades continued in the Baltic region against pagans and in Spain against Muslims. Yet in the heart of Europe a more serious threat faced Christendom—heresy. In the medieval world, heresy did not represent benign religious diversity but was seen as a cancerous threat to the salvation of souls. It was held to be even more dangerous than the faraway Muslims, because it harmed the body of Christ from within.

The most vibrant heresy in Europe was Catharism, also known as Albigensianism for the Albi, a city in southern France where it flourished. A dualist belief, Catharism held that the universe was a battleground between good, which was spirit, and evil, which was matter. Human beings were believed to be spirits trapped in physical bodies. The leaders of the religion, the perfects, lived with great austerity, remaining chaste and avoiding all foods that came from sexual union.

The church had attempted for years to root out the heresy from southern France, where it remained popular, particularly among the nobility. **St. Dominic**, who was sent to the region to preach to the people and debate the Cathar leaders, formed his Order of Preachers (**Dominicans**) in response to the heresy. All efforts at eradication failed, however, largely because of the tolerance of the Cathari maintained by **Raymond VI** of Toulouse, the greatest baron of the area, and by most secular lords in the region. Shortly after his excommunication for abetting the heretics, Raymond was implicated in the murder of a papal legate sent to investigate the situation. For Pope Innocent III that was the final straw. In March 1208 he called for a Crusade against Raymond and the heretics of Languedoc, which began the following year.

# CRUSADES!

On July 22, 1209. the Feast Day of St. Mary Magdalene in the town of Beziers in the Languedoc of France the Albigensian Crusade (between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Crusade) terror in the name of religion gave rise to an expression heard today.

The town was refuge to 222 Cathars, which were about 10% of the town's population. The French Crusading Army under the Papal Legate- Arnold Amaury was preparing to attack. His generals asked how they would recognize the Cathars from the general population and Amaury is quoted to have said- **'Kill them all. God will recognize his own.'**

In the ensuing bloodbath between 15,000 and 20,000 innocent people were butchered. Rivers of blood coursed through the streets of Beziers. The terror escalated following the fall of Beziers. A 'Crusader' named Simon de Montfort emerged as a leader for Amaury. In the Campaign of 1210 he had taken the town of Bram after a 3 day siege. Terrorism was to take a new turn.

Simon ordered a forced march of 100 of Bram's defenders to the next town some 20 miles away. Before setting off he ordered that they would be blinded, have their noses and upper lips cut off. The man at the head of the procession was left 1 eye so he could see and he led them on the march. Terrorism would have its affect and towns would capitulate to him. Simon continued his terrorism throughout the 'Crusade.'

An interesting side note to Simon de Montfort is that his son would become a major figure in England's history and is often credited with being an initial leading force in bring Representative Government to England. He was killed by King Edward I.

The Albigensian Crusade dragged on for several years, with new recruits arriving each spring to assist Simon. By the end of the summer, however, they would all return home, leaving him with a skeleton force to defend his gains. By 1215, when the fourth Lateran Council met to consider the state of the church, Simon had captured most of the region, including Toulouse. The council gave the lands to Simon and then rescinded the Crusade indulgence for the war so that a new Crusade to the East could be organized.

For all of its violence and destruction, the Albigensian Crusade failed to remove the Cathar heresy from Languedoc. It did, however, provide a solid framework of new secular lords willing to work with the church against the heretics. Through the subsequent efforts of the Dominican inquisitors, Catharism was virtually eliminated in Languedoc within a century.

"For medieval men and women, the Crusade was an act of piety, charity, and love, but it was also a means of defending their world, their culture, and their way of life."

It was to recover the Holy Land from Muslims. And later, with the rise of the Ottoman Turks, "crusades were no longer wars to expand Christendom but desperate attempts to slow the advance of Islam. Crusading had become a matter of simple survival."

But that simple reasoning is reasoning that many "scholars" have demeaned. They point to Europe's burgeoning population, decide they needed more land, and recast the Crusades as colonialism.

The current war in Iraq and Afghanistan has been referred to as "The 10th Crusade" by some individuals.

# JIHAD

The term "Jihad" used without any qualifiers is generally understood to be referring to war on behalf of Islam. In broader usage and interpretation, the term has accrued both violent and non-violent meanings. It can imply striving to live a moral and virtuous life, spreading and defending Islam as well as fighting injustice and oppression, among other things. The relative importance of these two forms of jihad is a matter of controversy.

- Muslim scholars explained there are five kinds of *jihad fi sabilillah* (struggle in the cause of God):
- **Jihad of the heart/soul** (*jihad bil qalb/nafs*) is an inner struggle of good against evil in the mind, through concepts such as tawhid.
- **Jihad by the tongue** (*jihad bil lisan*) is a struggle of good against evil waged by writing and speech, such as in the form of dawah (proselytizing), Khutbas (sermons), etc.
- **Jihad by the pen and knowledge** (*jihad bil qalam/lim*) is a struggle for good against evil through scholarly study of Islam, ijtihad (legal reasoning), and through sciences.
- **Jihad by the hand** (*jihad bil yad*) refers to a struggle of good against evil waged by actions or with one's wealth, such as going on the Haji pilgrimage (seen as the best jihad for women), taking care of elderly parents, or political activity for furthering the cause of Islam.
- **Jihad by the sword** (*jihad bis saif*) refers to *qital fi sabilillah* (armed fighting in the way of God, or holy war), the most common usage by Salafi Muslims and offshoots of the Muslim Brotherhood.

- **Jihad Against Jews and Crusaders**
- **World Islamic Front Statement**
- 23 February 1998
- Shaykh Usamah Bin-Muhammad Bin-Ladin  
Ayman al-Zawahiri, amir of the Jihad Group in Egypt  
Abu-Yasir Rifa'i Ahmad Taha, Egyptian Islamic Group  
Shaykh Mir Hamzah, secretary of the Jamiat-ul-Ulema-e-Pakistan  
Fazlur Rahman, amir of the Jihad Movement in Bangladesh
- Praise be to Allah, who revealed the Book, controls the clouds, defeats factionalism, and says in His Book: "But when the forbidden months are past, then fight and slay the pagans wherever ye find them, seize them, beleaguer them, and lie in wait for them in every stratagem (of war)"; and peace be upon our Prophet, Muhammad Bin-'Abdallah, who said: I have been sent with the sword between my hands to ensure that no one but Allah is worshipped, Allah who put my livelihood under the shadow of my spear and who inflicts humiliation and scorn on those who disobey my orders.

- The Arabian Peninsula has never -- since Allah made it flat, created its desert, and encircled it with seas -- been stormed by any forces like the crusader armies spreading in it like locusts, eating its riches and wiping out its plantations. All this is happening at a time in which nations are attacking Muslims like people fighting over a plate of food. In the light of the grave situation and the lack of support, we and you are obliged to discuss current events, and we should all agree on how to settle the matter.
- No one argues today about three facts that are known to everyone; we will list them, in order to remind everyone:
- First, for over seven years the United States has been occupying the lands of Islam in the holiest of places, the Arabian Peninsula, plundering its riches, dictating to its rulers, humiliating its people, terrorizing its neighbors, and turning its bases in the Peninsula into a spearhead through which to fight the neighboring Muslim peoples.
- If some people have in the past argued about the fact of the occupation, all the people of the Peninsula have now acknowledged it. The best proof of this is the Americans' continuing aggression against the Iraqi people using the Peninsula as a staging post, even though all its rulers are against their territories being used to that end, but they are helpless.

- Second, despite the great devastation inflicted on the Iraqi people by the crusader-Zionist alliance, and despite the huge number of those killed, which has exceeded 1 million... despite all this, the Americans are once again trying to repeat the horrific massacres, as though they are not content with the protracted blockade imposed after the ferocious war or the fragmentation and devastation.
- So here they come to annihilate what is left of this people and to humiliate their Muslim neighbors.
- Third, if the Americans' aims behind these wars are religious and economic, the aim is also to serve the Jews' petty state and divert attention from its occupation of Jerusalem and murder of Muslims there. The best proof of this is their eagerness to destroy Iraq, the strongest neighboring Arab state, and their endeavor to fragment all the states of the region such as Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Sudan into paper statelets and through their disunion and weakness to guarantee Israel's survival and the continuation of the brutal crusade occupation of the Peninsula.

- All these crimes and sins committed by the Americans are a clear declaration of war on Allah, his messenger, and Muslims. And ulema have throughout Islamic history unanimously agreed that the jihad is an individual duty if the enemy destroys the Muslim countries. This was revealed by Imam Bin-Qadamah in "Al- Mughni," Imam al-Kisa'i in "Al-Bada'i," al-Qurtubi in his interpretation, and the shaykh of al-Islam in his books, where he said: "As for the fighting to repulse [an enemy], it is aimed at defending sanctity and religion, and it is a duty as agreed [by the ulema]. Nothing is more sacred than belief except repulsing an enemy who is attacking religion and life."
- On that basis, and in compliance with Allah's order, we issue the following fatwa to all Muslims:
- The ruling to kill the Americans and their allies -- civilians and military -- is an individual duty for every Muslim who can do it in any country in which it is possible to do it, in order to liberate the al-Aqsa Mosque and the holy mosque [Mecca] from their grip, and in order for their armies to move out of all the lands of Islam, defeated and unable to threaten any Muslim. This is in accordance with the words of Almighty Allah, "and fight the pagans all together as they fight you all together," and "fight them until there is no more tumult or oppression, and there prevail justice and faith in Allah."
- This is in addition to the words of Almighty Allah: "And why should ye not fight in the cause of Allah and of those who, being weak, are ill-treated (and oppressed)? -- women and children, whose cry is: 'Our Lord, rescue us from this town, whose people are oppressors; and raise for us from thee one who will help!'"

- We -- with Allah's help -- call on every Muslim who believes in Allah and wishes to be rewarded to comply with Allah's order to kill the Americans and plunder their money wherever and whenever they find it. We also call on Muslim ulema, leaders, youths, and soldiers to launch the raid on Satan's U.S. troops and the devil's supporters allying with them, and to displace those who are behind them so that they may learn a lesson.
- Almighty Allah said: "O ye who believe, give your response to Allah and His Apostle, when He calleth you to that which will give you life. And know that Allah cometh between a man and his heart, and that it is He to whom ye shall all be gathered."
- Almighty Allah also says: "O ye who believe, what is the matter with you, that when ye are asked to go forth in the cause of Allah, ye cling so heavily to the earth! Do ye prefer the life of this world to the hereafter? But little is the comfort of this life, as compared with the hereafter. Unless ye go forth, He will punish you with a grievous penalty, and put others in your place; but Him ye would not harm in the least. For Allah hath power over all things."
- Almighty Allah also says: "So lose no heart, nor fall into despair. For ye must gain mastery if ye are true in faith."



# Quotes from Osama bin Laden:

- "We should fully understand our religion. Fighting is a part of our religion and our Sharia [an Islamic legal code]. Those who love God and his Prophet and this religion cannot deny that. Whoever denies even a minor tenet of our religion commits the gravest sin in Islam."
- "Hostility toward America is a religious duty, and we hope to be rewarded for it by God . . . . I am confident that Muslims will be able to end the legend of the so-called superpower that is America. *Time Magazine*

- "The pieces of the bodies of infidels were flying like dust particles. If you would have seen it with your own eyes, you would have been very pleased, and your heart would have been filled with joy." -- At the wedding of his son in southern Kandahar about the 17 sailors who died suicide bombing of the USS Cole off the coast of Yemen
- "Every American man is an enemy to us." -- *Independent*.
- ". . . It is far better for anyone to kill a single American soldier than to squander his efforts on other activities." -- May 1998

"We--with God's help--call on every Muslim who believes in God and wishes to be rewarded to comply with God's order to kill the Americans and plunder their money wherever and whenever they find it. We also call on Muslim ulema, leaders, youths, and soldiers to launch the raid on Satan's U.S. troops and the devil's supporters allying with them, and to displace those who are behind them so that they may learn a lesson." Feb. 1998 - Bin Laden edict

- "We are seeking to incite the (Islamic) nation to rise up to liberate its land and to (conduct) jihad (holy war) for the sake of God." -- *al-Jazeera*, June 1999.
- "I was never afraid of death ... As Muslims, we believe that when we die, we go to heaven. Before a battle, God sends us ... tranquility." -- *Independent*, 1993.
- "I'm fighting so I can die a martyr and go to heaven to meet God. Our fight now is against the Americans." -- Osama bin Laden, quoted by *Al-Quds Al-Arabi* newspaper

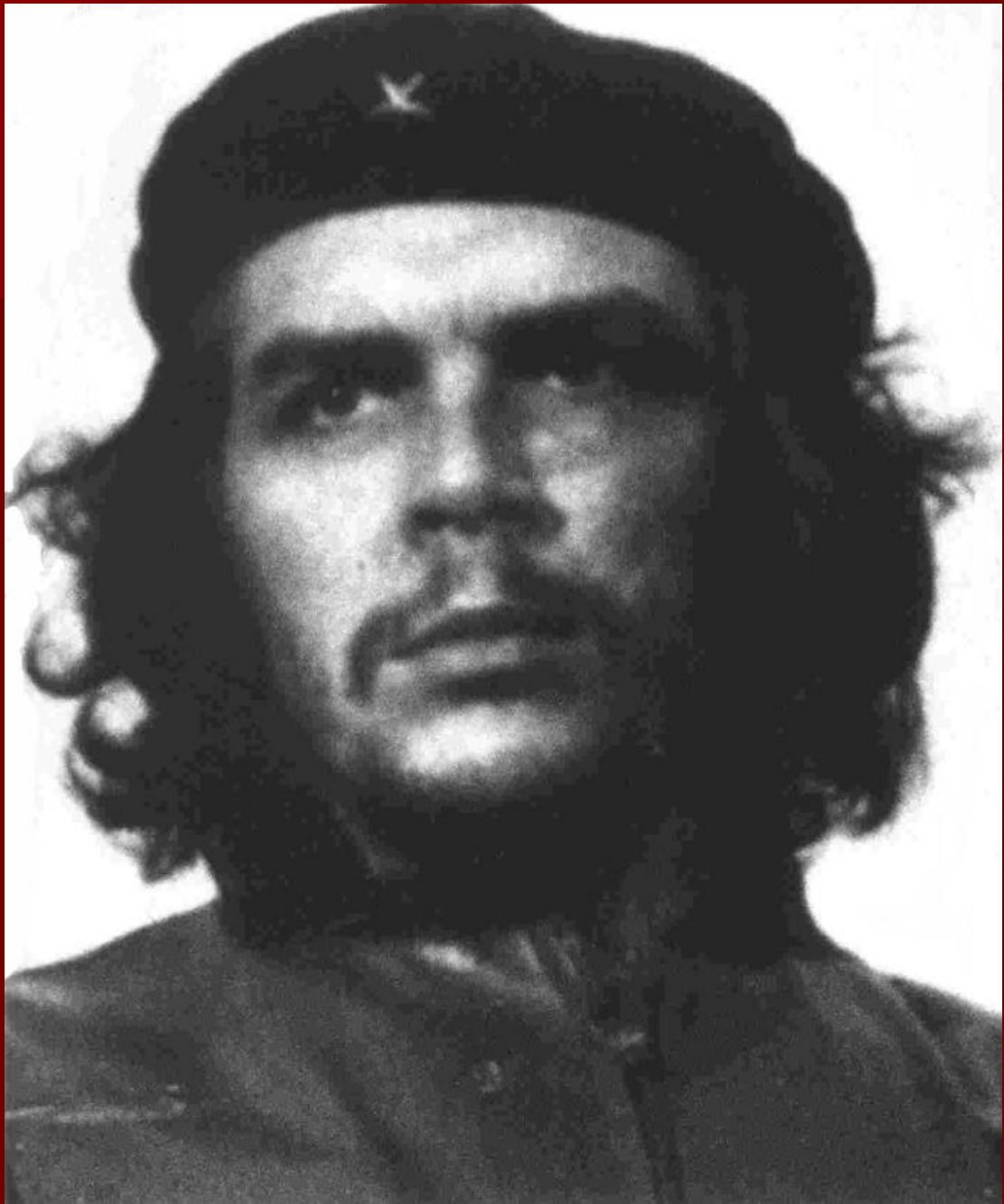
- the Americans." -- Osama bin Laden, quoted by *Al-Quds Al-Arabi* newspaper
- "We declared jihad against the US government, because the US government is unjust, criminal and tyrannical. It has committed acts that are extremely unjust, hideous and criminal whether directly or through its support of the Israeli occupation." - Osama bin Laden - to *CNN* in March 1997
- " . . . For the American forces to expect anything from me personally reflects a very narrow perception. Thousands of millions of Muslims are angry. The Americans should expect reactions from the Muslim world that are proportionate to the injustice they inflict." to *Time Magazine* Dec 1998

- ***Responding to the question*** "are you trying to acquire chemical and nuclear weapons?"
- "Acquiring weapons for the defense of Muslims is a religious duty. If I have indeed acquired these weapons, then I thank God for enabling me to do so. And if I seek to acquire these weapons, I am carrying out a duty. It would be a sin for Muslims not to try to possess the weapons that would prevent the infidels from inflicting harm on Muslims." *Time Magazine* Dec 1998

Usama bin Ladin inherited \$300 million dollars from his family when his father died. He uses this money to finance the group. Al-Qaeda also takes in money from the donations of rich middle eastern men who believe in what Al-Qaeda does. Several fake charities also solicit money from people who do not know what the money is used for. Everyone who buys and uses illegal drugs are most likely buying them from a terrorist group, and are supporting terrorism by buying drugs. Al-Qaeda has extended their friendship with Sunni extremist groups which gives them an even larger network to use in planning attacks.

# THE PHILOSOPHY OF TERRORISM

This is a brief overview of the philosophy of terrorism as proposed by Ernesto "Che" Guevera.



Guerrilla warfare, the basis of the struggle of a people to redeem itself, has diverse characteristics, different facets, even though the essential will for liberation remains the same. It is obvious-and writers on the theme have said it many times-that war responds to a certain series of scientific laws; whoever ignores them will go down to defeat. Guerrilla warfare as a phase of war must be ruled by all of these; but besides, because of its special aspects, a series of corollary laws must also be recognized in order to carry it forward. Though geographical and social conditions in each country determine the mode and particular forms that guerrilla warfare will take, there are general laws that hold for all fighting of this type.

- Naturally, it is not to be thought that all conditions for revolution are going to be created through the impulse given to them by guerrilla activity. It must always be kept in mind that there is a necessary minimum without which the establishment and consolidation of the first center is not practicable. People must see clearly the futility of maintaining the fight for social goals within the framework of civil debate. When the forces of oppression come to maintain themselves in power against established law, peace is considered already broken.
- In these conditions popular discontent expresses itself in more active forms. An attitude of resistance finally crystallizes in an outbreak of fighting, provoked initially by the conduct of the authorities.

Let us first consider the question: Who are the combatants in guerrilla warfare? On one side we have a group composed of the oppressor and his agents, the professional army, well armed and disciplined, in many cases receiving foreign help as well as the help of the bureaucracy in the employ of the oppressor. On the other side are the people of the nation or region involved. It is important to emphasize that guerrilla warfare is a war of the masses, a war of the people. The guerrilla band is an armed nucleus, the fighting vanguard of the people. It draws its great force from the mass of the people themselves. The guerrilla band is not to be considered inferior to the army against which it fights simply because it is inferior in firepower. Guerrilla warfare is used by the side which is supported by a majority but which possesses a much smaller number of arms for use in defense against oppression.

The guerrilla fighter needs full help from the people of the area. This is an indispensable condition. This is clearly seen by considering the case of bandit gangs that operate in a region. They have all the characteristics of a guerrilla army: homogeneity, respect for the leader, valor, knowledge of the ground, and, often, even good understanding of the tactics to be employed. The only thing missing is support of the people; and, inevitably, these gangs are captured and exterminated by the public force.

Analyzing the mode of operation of the guerrilla band, seeing its form of struggle, and understanding its base in the masses, we can answer the question: Why does the guerrilla fighter fight? We must come to the inevitable conclusion that the guerrilla fighter is a social reformer, that he takes up arms responding to the angry protest of the people against their oppressors, and that he fights in order to change the social system that keeps all his unarmed brothers in ignominy and misery. He launches himself against the conditions of the reigning institutions at a particular moment and dedicates himself with all the vigor that circumstances permit to breaking the mold of these institutions.



The term "terrorism" means premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by subnational groups or clandestine agents, usually intended to influence an audience.

- The term "international terrorism" means terrorism involving citizens or the territory of more than one country.
- The term "terrorist group" means any group practicing, or that has significant subgroups that practice, international terrorism.



- In December 1998 the Abu Nidal Organization moved to Iraq. It also has refugee camps and a base to operate from in Lebanon. There are some bases in Sudan and Syria. This terrorist group operates easily around the world, but especially in the Middle East, Asia, and Europe.
- Up until 1987, the Abu Nidal Organization was given a lot of help from Iraq, Libya, and Syria. They received money, safe hiding places, training, and support when it was time to make an attack. In 1999 this group was forced out of Libya and Egypt. No countries are supporting the Abu Nidal Organization right now.

- The Hezbollah Terrorist organization operates from different locations around Lebanon; Bekaa Valley, southern areas of Beirut, and southern Lebanon. There are Hezbollah terrorist cells in Europe, Africa, South America, North America, and Asia.
- Party of God  
Islamic Jihad  
Revolutionary Justice Organization  
Organization of the Oppressed on Earth  
Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine

- In the 1980's the Iranian security forces expelled the leaders of the Mujahedin-e-Khalq Organization. They moved to France, but now have relocated to a base just across the border from Iran in the country of Iraq.
- The National Liberation Army of Iran  
People's Mujahidin of Iran  
National Council of Resistance  
Muslim Iranian Student's Society

In August 1999, the authorities of Jordanian shut down Hamas's Political Bureau offices in Amman, arrested the groups leaders, and Jordanian didn't let them operate there any more.They are located in Israel.

- The Japanese Red Army is an international terrorist group that formed in 1970 after they broke away from the Japanese Communist League-Red Army Faction. Fusako Shigenobu led the JRA until she was arrested in November 2000 in Japan. Their historical goals are to help foment world revolution and to help foment world revolution.
- Anti-Imperialist International Brigade

- Al-Jihad is an Egyptian Islamic group that has been active since the 1970s. They are close partners with the terrorist organization al-Qaida. One of their goals is to attack the US by overthrowing the Egyptian Government and replacing it with an Islamic state.
- Egyptian Islamic Jihad  
Jihad Group  
Islamic Jihad



# PSYCHOLOGICAL COMPONENTS OF TERRORISM

- Common characteristics of people with antisocial personality disorder include:
- Persistent lying or stealing
- Recurring difficulties with the law
- Tendency to violate the rights and boundaries of others (property, physical, sexual, emotional, legal)
- Substance abuse
- Aggressive, often violent behavior; prone to getting involved in fights
- A persistent agitated or depressed feeling (dysphoria)
- Inability to tolerate boredom
- Disregard for the safety of self or others
- A childhood diagnosis of conduct disorders - this is not a symptom but "a history of"
- Lack of remorse for hurting others
- Superficial charm
- Impulsiveness
- A sense of extreme entitlement
- Inability to make or keep friends
- Lack of guilt
- Relentlessness
- Recklessness, impulsivity

## ■ **Diagnostic criteria**

- In addition to the above, three or more of the following is required:
- failure to conform to social norms with respect to lawful behaviors as indicated by repeatedly performing acts that are grounds for arrest.
- deceitfulness, as indicated by repeatedly lying, use of aliases, or conning others for personal profit or pleasure
- impulsivity or failure to plan ahead
- irritability and aggressiveness, as indicated by repeated physical fights or assaults
- reckless disregard for safety of self or others
- consistent irresponsibility, as indicated by repeated failure to sustain consistent work behavior or honor financial obligations
- lack of remorse, as indicated by being indifferent to or rationalizing having hurt, mistreated, or stolen from another.

**Antisocial personality disorder (APD)** is a mental disorder defined by the American Psychiatric Association's *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual*: "The essential feature for the diagnosis is a pervasive pattern of disregard for, and violation of, the rights of others that begins in childhood or early adolescence and continues into adulthood." Considered essential features of the disorder are deceit and manipulation. Therefore it is essential in making the diagnosis to collect material from sources other than the individual being diagnosed. Also, the individual must be age 18 or older as well as have a documented history of a conduct disorder before the age of 15.

**Psychopathy** is a psychological construct, classified by some as a personality disorder, characterized by amoral and antisocial behavior. It is a term derived from the Greek psyche (*soul, breath hence mind*) and pathos (*to suffer*), and was once used to denote any form of mental illness, often being confused with psychosis. The term is often used interchangeably with sociopathy

Research into a group of individuals he described as psychopathic was first completed by Philippe Pinel almost 200 years ago. Pinel described patients as "insane without delirium," which he characterized as a lack of restraint and remorselessness for their actions. Pinel felt that his patients were morally neutral, reflecting his humanistic approach to mental illness. The 19th century term used for such individuals was "moral imbecile"

The next most distinctive work on what were then called psychopaths was done in 1941 by Hervey Cleckley in his book *The Mask of Sanity* (significantly expanded in the second edition of 1950). Cleckley offered a broad range of case histories, from all corners of society, all of which showed patients with the common characteristic of "emotional emptiness." Cleckley probed the psychopath's attitudes and thought patterns in search of a meaning for their unusual behaviour; however, according to Robert Hare, Cleckley's most important contribution was in providing the framework of emotion for most future research into this disorder.

- The seminal 20th century work on the subject is Hervey Cleckley's *The Mask of Sanity* first published in 1941. In *The Mask of Sanity* Cleckley introduced sixteen behavioral characteristics of a psychopath that he derived from clinical interviews and other corroborating sources.
- Superficial charm and good "intelligence"
- Absence of delusions and other signs of irrational thinking
- Absence of "nervousness" or psychoneurotic manifestations
- Unreliability
- Untruthfulness and insincerity
- Lack of remorse and shame
- Inadequately motivated antisocial behavior
- Poor judgment and failure to learn by experience
- Pathologic egocentricity and incapacity for love
- General poverty in major affective reactions
- Specific loss of insight
- Unresponsiveness in general interpersonal relations
- Fantastic and uninviting behavior with drink and sometimes without
- Suicide rarely carried out
- Sex life impersonal, trivial, and poorly integrated
- Failure to follow any life plan

Hare describes people he calls psychopaths as "intraspecies predators who use charm, manipulation, intimidation, and violence to control others and to satisfy their own selfish needs. Lacking in conscience and in feelings for others, they take what they want and do as they please, violating social norms and expectations without guilt or remorse". "What is missing, in other words, are the very qualities that allow a human being to live in social harmony."

The prototypical psychopath has deficits or deviances in several areas: interpersonal relationships, emotion, and self-control. Psychopaths lack a sense of guilt or remorse for any harm they may have caused others, instead rationalizing the behavior, blaming someone else, or denying it outright. Psychopaths also lack empathy towards others in general, resulting in tactlessness, insensitivity, and contemptuousness. All of this belies their tendency to make a good, likable first impression. Psychopaths have a superficial charm about them, enabled by a willingness to say anything without concern for accuracy or truth. This extends into their pathological lying and willingness to con and manipulate others for personal gain or amusement. The prototypical psychopath's emotions are described as a *shallow affect*, meaning their overall way of relating is characterized by mere displays of friendliness and other emotion for personal gain; the displayed emotion need not correlate with felt emotion, in other words. Shallow affect also describes the psychopath's tendency for genuine emotion to be short lived and egocentric with an overall cold demeanor. Their behavior is impulsive and irresponsible, often failing to keep a job or defaulting on debts.

Psychopaths also have a markedly distorted sense of the potential consequences of their actions, not only for others, but also for themselves. They do not, for example, deeply recognize the risk of being caught, disbelieved or injured as a result of their behaviour.

- Mealey uses the term "primary psychopathy" to differentiate between psychopathy that is biological in origin and "secondary psychopathy" that results from a combination of genetic and environmental influences. Lykken prefers sociopathy to describe the latter.
- Sellbom and Ben-Porath (2005) describe the distinction succinctly:
- Some people who engage in violent behavior possess psychopathic personality traits, such as callousness, grandiosity, and fearlessness, and presumably engage in such conduct because they care little about others. Others are impulsive and experience considerable anger, anxiety, and distress and may commit violent acts as a reaction to negative emotions, which are sometimes referred to as "crimes of passion." Indeed, the distinction between primary and secondary psychopathy (including so-called neurotic psychopathy) has long been noted in the psychopathy literature (Karpman, 1947; Lykken, 1995).

- The difference between sociopathy and psychopathy, according to Hare, may "reflect the user's views on the origins and determinates of the disorder."
- David T. Lykken proposes that psychopathy and sociopathy are two distinct kinds of antisocial personality. He holds that psychopaths are born with temperamental differences such as impulsivity, cortical underarousal, and fearlessness that lead them to risk-seeking behavior and an inability to internalize social norms. Sociopaths, on the other hand, he believes to have relatively normal temperaments; their personality disorder being more an effect of negative sociological factors like parental neglect, delinquent peers, poverty, and extremely low or extremely high intelligence. Both personality disorders are, of course, the result of an interaction between genetic predispositions and environmental factors, but psychopathy leans towards the hereditary whereas sociopathy tends towards the environmental.

# REINFORCEMENT

In operant conditioning, **reinforcement** is an increase in the strength of a response following the change in environment immediately following that response. [*citation needed*] Response strength can be assessed by measures such as the frequency with which the response is made (for example, a pigeon may peck a key more times in the session), or the speed with which it is made (for example, a rat may run a maze faster). The environment change which is contingent upon the response is called a **reinforcer**. Reinforcement can only be confirmed retrospectively, as objects, items, food or other potential 'reinforcers' can only be called such by demonstrating increases in behavior after their administration. It is the strength of the response that is reinforced, not the organism.

- **Types of reinforcement**

- B.F. Skinner, the researcher who articulated the major theoretical constructs of reinforcement and behaviorism, refused to specify causal origins of reinforcers. Skinner argued that reinforcers are defined by a change in response strength (that is, functionally rather than causally), and that what is a reinforcer to one person may not be to another. Accordingly, activities, foods or items which are generally considered pleasant or enjoyable may not necessarily be reinforcing; they can only be considered so if the behavior that immediately precedes the potential reinforcer increases in similar future situations. If a child receives a cookie when he or she asks for one, and the frequency of 'cookie-requesting behavior' increases, the cookie can be seen as reinforcing 'cookie-requesting behavior'. If however, cookie-requesting behavior does not increase, the cookie cannot be considered reinforcing. The sole criterion which can determine if an item, activity or food is reinforcing is the change in the probability of a behavior after the administration of a potential reinforcer. Other theories may focus on additional factors such as whether the person expected the strategy to work at some point, but a behavioral theory of reinforcement would focus specifically upon the probability of the behavior.

- **Positive reinforcement** is an increase in the future frequency of a behavior due to the *addition* of a stimulus immediately following a response. Giving (or *adding*) food to a dog contingent on its sitting is an example of positive reinforcement (if this results in an increase in the future behavior of the dog sitting).
- **Negative reinforcement** is an increase in the future frequency of a behavior when the consequence is the *removal* of an aversive stimulus. Turning off (or *removing*) an annoying song when a child asks their parent is an example of negative reinforcement (if this results in an increase in asking behavior of the child in the future).
- *Avoidance conditioning* is a form of negative reinforcement that occurs when a behavior prevents an aversive stimulus from starting or being applied.

- **Primary reinforcers**
- **A primary reinforcer, sometimes called an *unconditioned reinforcer*, is a stimulus that does not require pairing to function as a reinforcer and most likely has obtained this function through the evolution and its role in species' survival. Examples of primary reinforcers include sleep, food, air, water, and sex. Other primary reinforcers, such as certain drugs, may mimic the effects of other primary reinforcers. While these primary reinforcers are fairly stable through life and across individuals, the reinforcing value of different primary reinforcers varies due to multiple factors (e.g., genetics, experience). Thus, one person may prefer one type of food while another abhors it. Or one person may eat lots of food while another eats very little. So even though food is a primary reinforcer for both individuals, the value of food as a reinforcer differs between them.**
- **Often primary reinforcers shift their reinforcing value temporarily through satiation and deprivation. Food, for example, may cease to be effective as a reinforcer after a certain amount of it has been consumed (satiation). After a period during which it does not receive any of the primary reinforcer (deprivation), however, the primary reinforcer may once again regain its effectiveness in increasing response strength.**

- **Secondary reinforcers**
- A **secondary reinforcer**, sometimes called a *conditioned reinforcer*, is a stimulus or situation that has acquired its function as a reinforcer after pairing with a stimulus which functions as a reinforcer. This stimulus may be a primary reinforcer or another conditioned reinforcer (such as money). An example of a secondary reinforcer would be the sound from a clicker, as used in clicker training. The sound of the clicker has been associated with praise or treats, and subsequently, the sound of the clicker may function as a reinforcer. As with primary reinforcers, an organism can experience satiation and deprivation with secondary reinforcers.

## ■ Other reinforcement terms

- A **generalized reinforcer** is a conditioned reinforcer that has been paired with many other reinforcers (such as money, a secondary generalized reinforcer).
- In **reinforcer sampling** a potentially reinforcing but unfamiliar stimulus is presented to an animal without regard to any prior behavior. The stimulus may then later be used more effectively in reinforcement.
- **Social reinforcement** involves various sorts of access to and interaction with others.
- **Premack principle** is a special case of reinforcement elaborated by David Premack, which states that a commonly occurring action can be used effectively as a reinforcer for a less commonly occurring one.
- **Reinforcement hierarchy** is a list of actions, starting with the most desirable and ending with the least desirable. A reinforcement hierarchy can be used to determine the relative frequency and desirability of different actions, and is employed when applying the Premack principle.
- **Contingent** outcomes are more likely to reinforce behavior than non-contingent responses. Contingent outcomes are those directly linked to a causal behavior, such as a light turning on being contingent on flipping a switch. Note that contingent outcomes are **not** necessary to demonstrate reinforcement, but perceived contingency may increase learning.
- **Contiguous** responses are closely associated by time and space with specific behaviors, reduce the amount of time needed to learn a behavior while increasing its resistance to extinction. Giving a dog a piece of food immediately after sitting is more contiguous with (and therefore more likely to reinforce) sitting behavior than giving the dog food several minutes after sitting.

- When an animal's surroundings are controlled, its behavior patterns after reinforcement become predictable, even for very complex behavior patterns. A **schedule of reinforcement** is the protocol for determining when responses or behaviors will be reinforced, ranging from continuous reinforcement, in which every response is reinforced, and extinction, in which no response is reinforced. Between these extremes is *intermittent* or *partial reinforcement* where only some responses are reinforced.
- Specific variations of intermittent reinforcement reliably induce specific patterns of response, irrespective of the species being investigated (including humans in some conditions). The orderliness and predictability of behaviour under schedules of reinforcement was evidence for B. F. Skinner's claim that using operant conditioning he could obtain "control over behaviour", in a way that rendered the theoretical disputes of contemporary comparative psychology obsolete. The reliability of schedule control supported the idea that a radical behaviourist experimental analysis of behavior could be the foundation for a psychology that did not refer to mental or cognitive processes. The reliability of schedules also led to the development of Applied Behavior Analysis as a means of controlling or altering behavior.

- Simple schedules have a single rule to determine when a single type of reinforcer is delivered for specific response.
- **Fixed ratio (FR)** schedules deliver reinforcement after every  $n$ th response
  - **Example:** FR2 = every second response is reinforced
  - **Lab example:** FR5 = rat reinforced with food after each 5 bar-presses in a Skinner box.
  - **Real-world example:** FR10 = Used car dealer gets a \$1000 bonus for each 10 cars sold on the lot.
- **Continuous ratio (CRF)** schedules are a special form of a fixed ratio. In a continuous ratio schedule, reinforcement follows each and every response.
  - **Lab example:** each time a rat presses a bar it gets a pellet of food
- **Real world example:** each time a dog defecates outside its owner gives it a treat

- **Fixed interval (FI)** schedules deliver reinforcement for the first response after a fixed length of time since the last reinforcement, while premature responses are not reinforced.
  - **Example:** FI1" = reinforcement provided for the first response after 1 second
  - **Lab example:** FI15" = rat is reinforced for the first bar press after 15 seconds passes since the last reinforcement
  - **Real world example:** FI24 hour = calling a radio station is reinforced with a chance to win a prize, but the person can only sign up once per day
- **Variable ratio (VR)** schedules deliver reinforcement after a random number of responses (based upon a predetermined average)
  - **Example:** VR3 = on average, every third response is reinforced
  - **Lab example:** VR10 = on average, a rat is reinforced for each 10 bar presses
- **Real world example:** VR37 = a roulette player betting on specific numbers will win on average one every 37 tries (on a U.S. roulette wheel, this would be VR38)

- **Variable interval (VI)** schedules deliver reinforcement for the first response after a random average length of time passes since the last reinforcement
  - **Example:** VI3" = reinforcement is provided for the first response after an average of 3 seconds since the last reinforcement.
  - **Lab example:** VI10" = a rat is reinforced for the first bar press after an average of 10 seconds passes since the last reinforcement
- **Real world example:** a predator can expect to come across a prey on a variable interval schedule

- Other simple schedules include:
- **Differential reinforcement of incompatible behavior (DRI)** is used to reduce a frequent behavior without punishing it by reinforcing an incompatible response. An example would be reinforcing clapping to reduce nose picking.
- **Differential reinforcement of other behavior (DRO)** is used to reduce a frequent behavior by reinforcing *any* behavior other than the undesired one. An example would be reinforcing any hand action other than nose picking.
- **Differential reinforcement of low response rate (DRL)** is used to encourage low rates of responding. It is like an interval schedule, except that premature responses reset the time required between behavior.
  - **Lab example:** DRL10" = a rat is reinforced for the first response after 10 seconds, but if the rat responds earlier than 10 seconds there is no reinforcement and the rat has to wait 10 seconds from that premature response without another response before bar pressing will lead to reinforcement.
- **Real world example:** "If you ask me for a potato chip no more than once every 10 minutes, I will give it to you. If you ask more often, I will give you none."

- **Differential reinforcement of high rate (DRH)** is used to increase high rates of responding. It is like an interval schedule, except that a minimum number of responses are required in the interval in order to receive reinforcement.
  - **Lab example:** DRH10"/15 responses = a rat must press a bar 15 times within a 10 second increment in order to be reinforced
  - **Real world example:** "If Lance Armstrong is going to win the Tour de France he has to peddle x number of times during the y hour race."
- **Fixed Time (FT)** provides reinforcement at a fixed time since the last reinforcement, irrespective of whether the subject has responded or not. In other words, it is a non-contingent schedule.
  - **Lab example:** FT5": rat gets food every 5" regardless of the behavior.
  - **Real world example:** a person gets an annuity check every month regardless of behavior between checks
- **Variable Time (VT)** provides reinforcement at an average variable time since last reinforcement, regardless of whether the subject has responded or not

- **Effects of different types of simple schedules**
- Ratio schedules produce higher rates of responding than interval schedules, when the rates of reinforcement are otherwise similar.
- Variable schedules produce higher rates and greater resistance to extinction than most fixed schedules. This is also known as the Partial Reinforcement Extinction Effect (PREE)
- The variable ratio schedule produces both the highest rate of responding and the greatest resistance to extinction (an example would be the behavior of gamblers at slot machines)
- Fixed schedules produce 'post-reinforcement pauses' (PRP), where responses will briefly cease immediately following reinforcement, though the pause is a function of the upcoming response requirement rather than the prior reinforcement.
  - The PRP of a fixed interval schedule is frequently followed by an accelerating rate of response which is "scallop shaped," while those of fixed ratio schedules are more angular.
- Organisms whose schedules of reinforcement are 'thinned' (that is, requiring more responses or a greater wait before reinforcement) may experience 'ratio strain' if thinned too quickly. This produces behavior similar to that seen during extinction.
- Partial reinforcement schedules are more resistant to extinction than continuous reinforcement schedules.
- Ratio schedules are more resistant than interval schedules and variable schedules more resistant than fixed ones.

- Compound schedules combine two or more different simple schedules in some way using the same reinforcer for the same behaviour. There are many possibilities; among those most often used are:
  - **Alternative schedules** - A type of compound schedule where two or more simple schedules are in effect and which ever simple schedule is completed first results in reinforcement.
  - **Conjunctive schedules** - A complex schedule of reinforcement where two or more simple schedules are in effect independently of each other and requirements on all of the simple schedules must be met for reinforcement.
  - **Multiple schedules** - either of two, or more, schedules may occur with a stimulus indicating which is in force.
    - **Example:** FR4 when given a whistle and FI 6 when given a bell ring.
  - **Mixed schedules** - either of two, or more, schedules may occur with no stimulus indicating which is in force.
  - **Example:** FI6 and then VR 3 without any stimulus warning of the change in schedule.

- **Concurrent schedules** - two schedules are simultaneously in force though not necessarily on two different response devices, and reinforcement on those schedules is independent of each other.
- **Interlocking Schedules** - A single schedule with two components where progress in one component affects progress in the other component. An interlocking FR60-FI120, for example, each response subtracts time from the interval component such that each response is "equal" to removing two seconds from the FI.
- **Chained schedules** - reinforcement occurs after two or more successive schedules have been completed, with a stimulus indicating when one schedule has been completed and the next has started.
  - **Example:** FR10 in a green light when completed it goes to a yellow light to indicate FR 3, after it's completed it goes into red light to indicate VI 6, etc. At the end of the chain, a reinforcer is given.
- **Tandem schedules** - reinforcement occurs when two or more successive schedule requirements have been completed, with no stimulus indicating when a schedule has been completed and the next has started.
  - **Example:** VR 10, after it is completed the schedule is changed without warning to FR 10, after that it is changed without warning to FR 16, etc. At the end of the series of schedules, a reinforcer is finally given.
- **Higher order schedules** - completion of one schedule is reinforced according to a second schedule; e.g. in FR2 (FI 10 secs), two successive fixed interval schedules would have to be completed before a response is reinforced.

- **Shaping**

- *Main article: [Shaping \(psychology\)](#)*

- **Shaping** involves reinforcing successive, increasingly accurate approximations of a response desired by a trainer. In training a rat to press a lever, for example, simply turning toward the lever will be reinforced at first. Then, only turning and stepping toward it will be reinforced. As training progresses, the response reinforced becomes progressively more like the desired behavior.

- **Chaining**

- *Main article: [Chaining](#)*

- **Chaining** involves linking discrete behaviors together in a series, such that each result of each behaviour is both the reinforcement (or consequence) for the previous behavior, and the stimuli (or antecedent) for the next behavior. There are many ways to teach chaining, such as forward chaining (starting from the first behavior in the chain), backwards chaining (starting from the last behavior) and total task chaining (in which the entire behavior is taught from beginning to end, rather than as a series of steps). An example would be opening a locked door. First the key is inserted, then turned, then the door opened. Forward chaining would teach the subject first to insert the key. Once that task is mastered, they are told to insert the key, and taught to turn it. Once that task is mastered, they are told to perform the first two, then taught to open the door. Backwards chaining would involve the teacher first inserting and turning the key, and the subject is taught to open the door. Once that is learned, the teacher inserts the key, and the subject is taught to turn it, then opens the door as the next step. Finally, the subject is taught to insert the key, and they turn and open the door. Once the first step is mastered, the entire task has been taught. Total task chaining would involve teaching the entire task as a single series, prompting through all steps. Prompts are faded (reduced) at each step as they are mastered.

The complex use of reinforcements are utilized by terrorist groups to accomplish specific tasks and targets. Terrorism IS NOT A RANDOM ACT OF VIOLENCE! It is planned and plotted using psychological principles of behavioral reinforcement schedules.

**MAKING THE  
PSYCHOLOGICAL  
COMPONENTS OF  
TERRORISM  
WORK!**

Selecting the reinforcement schedule is critical to a successful terrorist attack. Each step must be carefully planned in preparing those who will carry out the attack.

Success requires the understanding of what are the limits of establishing a willingness to conduct an act of terrorism and what can extinguish that willingness.

A proposed formula for a "successful"  
attack...

$1S(2P + 3M) = \text{mission complete...}$

1S is one Sociopath

2P is Psychopaths

3M is Martyrs

## Why this formula?

The Sociopath is The Terrorist. This is the person that plots the attack but will not sacrifice himself for the mission.

The Psychopaths are there to insure that if one fails the other can complete the mission.

The Martyrs are the bio-weapons.

The preparation for a suicide bombing mission needs to occur in close proximity to the attack in order to reduce the risk of reinforcement extinguishment. Reducing the amount of time for the individual to reconsider the action and complete the mission. This would be especially true in the case of suicide bombers.

Variable Reinforcement Schedules tend to be one of the most successful at carrying out a mission that is not designated as 'suicide' mission. This allows a limited number of terrorist to hold a large group of people to achieve their initial objective.

In truth... there is not one clear model of what makes a successful terrorist but rather it is important to understand that psychological principles do play into the creation of a terrorist

It is the purpose of this presentation to present some insights into the Psychological Aspects of Terrorism and stimulate an awareness that Terrorism IS NOT RANDOM and needs to be understood as a complex force that is governed by psycho-behavioral laws of reinforcement and change.

TERRORISM IS NOT LIMITED TO MEN!

