

GORIAN MAJOR SECURITY CHALLENGES IN 2035 TERRORISM

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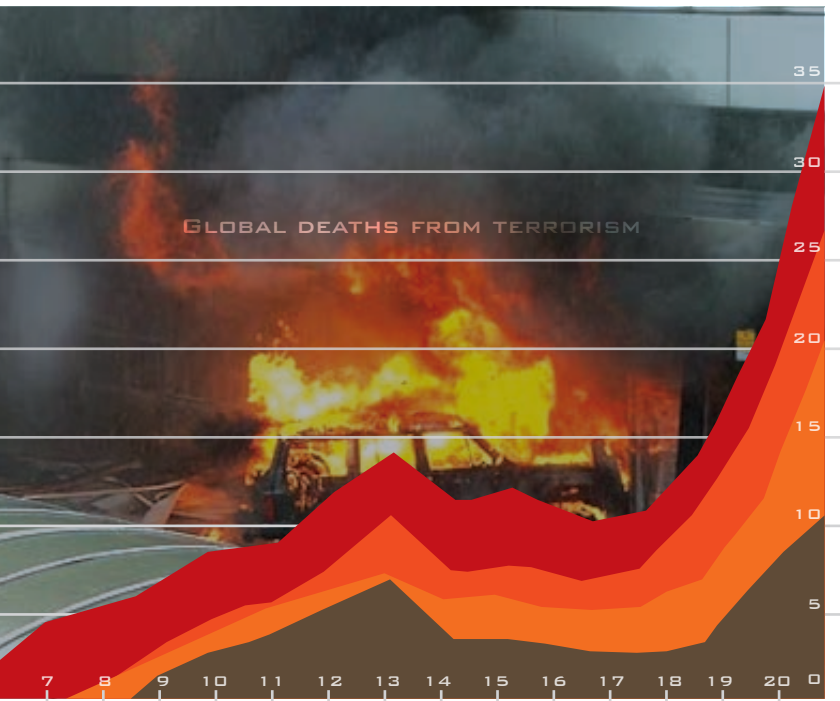
This article is written as I attended the Program on Applied Security Studies (PASS 19-18)⁸ at George C. Marshall Center for Security Studies in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. This course focuses on security studies on several aspects such as Global Migration, Terrorism, Cyber Security, Maritime Security and formulating strategy or policy to address threats. Moreover, I've written a research essay about major security challenges in 2035 and the mitigation. On this occasion, I revised the research paper by imposing a security situation and the fictional country named "Goria" which has a major concern about minorities; especially the Qumran minority. I forecast that the minority crisis could be elevated to Terrorism in 2035.



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⁸ PASS is a ten-week resident course for early- to mid-career security sector practitioners from governments around the globe. Attendees include civilian government officials, military and security service members, and government academics. This program is taught through lectures, discussion, elective blocks and capstone exercise.

INTRODUCTION



Terrorism is a phenomenon which occurs in every continent in the world. In fact, there is no universal definition of terrorism, but most definitions include the element of attacking innocent citizens with violence for certain purposes aiming to create fear. The core of the problem of “Terrorism”⁸ is not the level of brutality which it shares with other forms of political violence, but the way it impacts the mind of its victims. The victims include those who suffer the immediate terror of an attack plus; the rest of the population that is “horrified” by the act and a narrative moulded by the terrorists and by the media. Nowadays, terrorism is one of the greatest threats, impacting global security, economy and society. It could become the greatest security challenge for Goria in 2035.

⁸ Wellman, Carl. 2013. Terrorism and Counterterrorism: A Moral Assessment. SpringerBriefs in Law. Dordrecht: Springer. P.3/Hoffman, Bruce. 2017. Inside Terrorism. Columbia Studies in Terrorism and Irregular Warfare. Columbia University Press.

Part I

The Qumran is one of several minorities in Goria but represents its largest Muslim majority. They live in the Western part of Goria. They have their language and culture. Moreover, Qumrans can be easily distinguished by their appearance, which is different from Gorian people in physical and facial features. The Qumran is one of the most persecuted minorities in the world. They now live in a poor condition with indignity and are assaulted severely by the Gorian government. The Qumran Army, well known as the Faith Movement, fights for the Qumran Muslim and targets repressive government forces. After being marginalized and persecuted severely by the government, there is a possibility that the Qumran Army will commit acts of terrorism in order to call for their own Self-Determination.



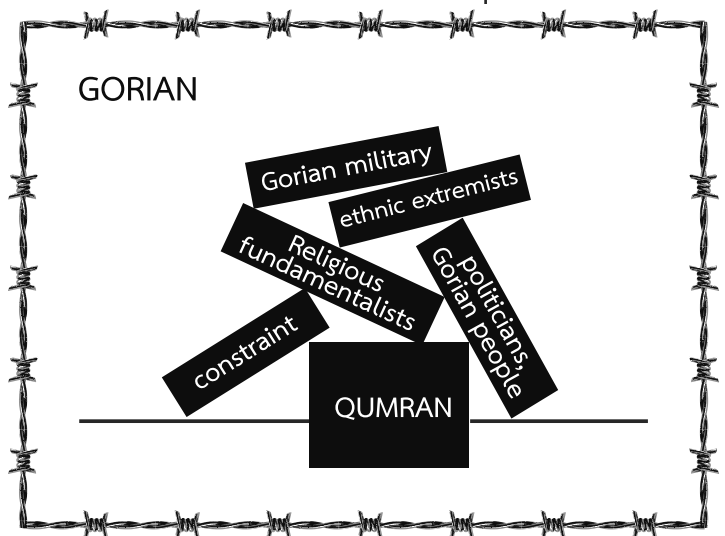
In 2017, there was a Qumran Crisis, a genocide in which the United stance as “a textbook example of Ethnic Cleansing”. Goria’s government cracked down on the Qumran through “Clearance Operation”; burning their villages, attacking, killing and raping Qumrans women and girls. A massive number of Qumrans were killed, including children under the age of five. Some of the Qumran people fled to neighbouring countries to live in makeshift camps. Unfortunately, they were pushed back and set adrift because no countries want them to live in their territories due to their own national interest and concerns in political and financial aspects. Another difficulty that the Qumrans have to face is that there is insufficient food, safe drinking water, health care and aid in the camps due to the large numbers of refugees.

According to the **policy of the Government of Goria**, Qumrans are labeled as an outsider, illegal migrant, and also a threat to Goria. Regarding the narratives spun by the Gorian military, ethnic extremists, Religious fundamentalists, and politicians, Gorian people believe that the Qumrans have no right to live in Goria and should go back, living their life in their own country because

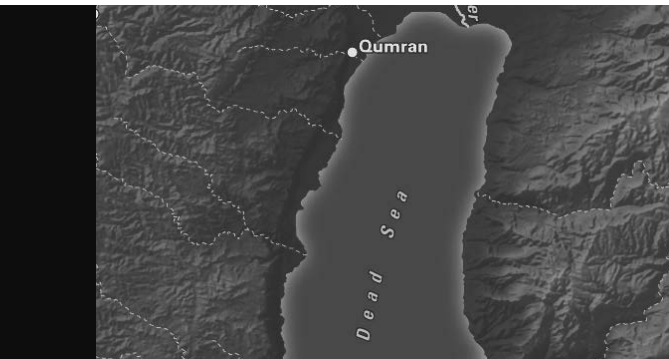
they migrated to Goria during the colonization era. Goria has treated Qumrans as second-class citizens, based upon the Citizenship Act was enacted after Gorian won independence and the Qumrans were excluded from official ethnic groups. Following years after, a new citizenship law was passed, aiming to prevent Qumrans from obtaining full citizenship and kept them in stateless persons. In 2014, the Qumran people, unfortunately, were excluded from the Census. They are not provided the rights of full citizenship but are issued foreign registration cards.

Gorian society is a **Buddhist-dominated society**. Hardline Buddhist monks play an important role, supporting the government and also involves in politics through

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several protests. They intensify Religious Supremacist ideology and the Islamophobia rhetoric throughout the country due to their belief: the invasion on the Buddhist land of the Muslims and the fear that the Qumrans will overthrow their state because Muslim don't control their birth rate. On the other hand, the Gorian government believes that Buddhists in Rakhine are the true victims, who have been attacked by terrorists in the Western part of Goriam.



After the 2017 Qumran crisis, there is only limited international assistance to the Qumrans. In bilateral relations, Superpower countries have banned Goriam's top generals and senior officers from entering their territories, for their involvement in the violent crackdown on the Qumran minority in 2017. For multilateral relations, most of the international organizations have only condemned the tragic incident and embargo trade but didn't impose any harsh sanctions. The regional organization provides only humanitarian assistance, due to their concerns on a core principle, member states' national interest and relations among the bloc. Weak sanctions won't give any pressure to Goriam's government for policy change towards Qumrans. If this pattern of human rights violations in Goriam continues, it will be the impetus, driving the Qumrans to stand up for themselves with terrorism to counter against the state.

Support from radical Muslims elsewhere in the world would be one of the greatest factors to facilitate the Qumrans to join terrorism. Due to the Qumrans vulnerability, they will be easily recruited to join these terrorist groups because terrorist recruiters use emotional methods and give them hope which will fulfill what one desires. Goriam's government believes that the Qumran Army has a connection with emerging Muslim countries and has been trained abroad because the Qumran Army's leader born and raised in Muslim countries. Therefore, if the Qumrans are marginalized in the most difficult position, they will tend to pay allegiance to the terrorist groups and commit violent attacks against Goriam government.

If such violent attacks are committed by the Qumran terrorist groups, then there will be significant damages to Goria in every aspect: political, economic and socio-culture. In the political dimension, Goria will lose the state's stability. There might be a possibility of emerging rebels from other minority groups who admire the Qumrans' as a role model, fighting against the government. Moreover, terrorism has a nexus with other trans-organized crime, supporting each other through financial resources and logistics

(e.g. human smuggling, trafficking in person and drug trafficking). Furthermore, Goria will lose their assurance of the international community both in the political and economic dimensions. Foreign direct investment will be shifted to other neighbouring countries which are at the same level in the potential of producing goods but are more stable. In the socio-cultural aspect, there will be rising poverty, death, and injuries, leading to poorer living conditions. A consequence of terrorism might also be the mass migration for those who are frustrated by the chronic conflict.

Part II

To address this security challenge in 2035, Goria should develop a “**Counter-Terrorism Strategy**”, which would consist of mitigation methods utilizing several elements of power. In the political dimension, the government should allow the Qumrans to integrate into Goria's society without being punished under the condition that they have to be good citizens, abiding by the law. Moreover, promoting political participation by the Qumrans will

encourage them to leave the terrorist groups and live their lives normally. In economic respects, the government should provide unskilled jobs for the Qumrans, so that they can sustain their lives. On the other hand, Gorian government will benefit from its potential to develop the economy. In the socio-cultural aspect, the Goria's government should grant full citizenship to the Qumrans, by including them in the census and treating them with equality. Moreover, full state welfare access (e.g. public health and fundamental education) should be provided for the Qumrans.





In the education area, the government should promote tolerance on ethnic and religious differences through rewritten history textbooks in order to create new value and eliminate hatred from Gorian people, especially children, towards Qumrans. On the other hand, intelligence will be an important tool to end the conflict between Gorias' government and the Qumrans. The intelligence agencies will find facts and news about terrorist groups' objectives, networks, and movements so that the government will understand the opposition side thoroughly. Afterward, the Gorias' government and Qumrans terrorist groups can have secret negotiations to end the conflict, which would pave the way for Peace Dialogue, restoring the security and stability of Gorias and improving living conditions for the Qumrans.

Lastly, in the diplomatic aspect, Gorias' government should restore reassurances with the international community through messaging. Declaring the facts and current situation not only through the government statements but also the confidential reports of the foreign neutral non-governmental organizations (e.g. International Committee for the Red Cross), which will be a piece of concrete evidence from external stakes. Foreign embassies in Gorias will also be important instruments for confidence building in Gorias

through their factual summary to their countries. The government should be more open to the participation of the diplomatic corps in several events. Additionally, Gorias should strengthen its relations with neighbouring countries. Through these stronger relationships, Gorias could obtain more information about potential terrorism movements and also increase the chance to send Qumrans who still want to migrate to the third countries legally, through the diplomatic channel or other agreement.

There are four factors which will be prone to drive Qumrans to be the terrorist groups. These include fighting against the government are the historical reason, Gorias' government stance, radical religious rhetoric, limited international assistance and supports from the radical Muslims. From my perspective, Gorias' government should not address terrorist attacks with violence or tit-for-tat measures. Instead, the government should use the state's elements of power as "smart" power. If this strategy is successfully developed and implemented, Qumrans are not the only one who benefits from the measures, but also the government. These opportunities that the Qumrans gain will contribute to Gorias' political stability and security, economic growth, nation's development and social resiliency.