Human Development, Peace, Corruption, and Terrorism in the
Arab World*

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Abstract

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This study aims at exploring the relationship between human development, peace, corruption and terrorism incidents in the Arab World from 1970 through 2007. The corpus providing the database for this study is based on reliable international databases that cover twenty two Arab countries.

Findings show a negative relationship between the total number of terrorists; incidents and fatalities and human development value (r =- 0.499; -0.50, &-0.50, respectively); human poverty index (r =- 0.238; -0.06, &-0.23, respectively); average gender inequality (r=-0.42; -0.42, & -0.41, respectively). Findings also present a significant negative relationship between peace index and the total number of terrorists, and incidents and fatalities (-0.59; -0.56, & -0.59, respectively). All measures of corruption: freedom from corruption (r =- 0.31; -0.26, &-0.30, respectively); control of corruption (r =- 0.40; -0.39, & -0.38, respectively), & corruption perception index (r =- 0.376; -0.38, & -0.37, respectively) were significantly correlated with the total number of terrorists; incidents and fatalities. A positive relationship was found between unemployment and the number of terrorists; incidents and fatalities (r= 0.19; 0.30 & 0.29, respectively). A positive significant relationship between terrorists' incidents and Arab youth unemployment (r=0.36), and Arab Youth share of unemployment (r=0.23).

Moreover, findings show that total number of terrorists; incidents and fatalities do vary according to the human development index (HDI) level (high, medium and low development). ANOVA analysis has shown significant differences in terrorists incidents, fatalities and injuries, according to human development levels (F=3.675; 5.027, & 6.700, respectively α=0.04; 0.01 & 0.007, respectively). Significant differences have been found in freedom from corruption; control corruption, and corruption perception according to human development levels (F=4.89; 15.47, & 10.51, respectively α = 0.04; 0.00 & 0.001, respectively).

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**Key words**: Arab world, Terrorism, Human development, Peace, Corruption

**Introduction**

According to UN estimates, the Arab countries will be a home to some (395) million people by 2015 (compared to about (317) million in 2007, and (150) million in 1980). In a region where a need for peace, reforms, transparency, anticorruption policies, fighting poverty and unemployment, democracy, and human rights protection is very much demanded. The most evident and challenging aspect of the region's demographic profile is its 'youth bulge'. Young people are the fastest growing segment of Arab countries' populations. Some (60%) of the population is under (25), making this one of the most youthful regions in the world, with a median age of (22) years compared to the global average of (28). (Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, 2009)

Human development reflects the level of citizens' empowerment. It is about the ultimate utilization of people's abilities and investment in social life. That is, people of the developed countries enjoy better financial and social investment and encounter less social strains. Thus, citizens' empowerment immunizes them against deviance, crime and terrorism. It might be argued that unbalanced human development may interrupt social order, weaken the value system and the social norms, and create a case of "Anomie" which stimulates crime and terrorism. By the same token peace reflects the degree of social harmony and stability in a given society, this include but not limited to absence of fear, security, safety, absence of conflicts…etc The failure of human development and absence of peace produce strong strains which, in turn, trigger violence and terrorism. Corruption is the production of the failure of human development and the absence of peace which together form a general strain structure enhancing terrorism.

Empirical research supports this argument. Fair and Shepher (2006) argues that Muslim in (14) countries and their proxies for poverty are associated with being less likely to support terrorists organizations. Terrorist organizations use psychological such vulnerability and personal crises as catalysts for recruitment (Pedahzur & Perliger, 2006). Poverty is negatively associated with terrorism (Berrebi, 2007). Felter (2006) notes that people who lack social services, and suffer from poverty, desperate and harsh conditions are target for terrorist recruitment and membership.

Political reforms and anticorruption policies are pre-conditions for fighting terrorism in the Arab world. Martin Indyk states that "it was a mistake for Clinton to focus on Arab-Israeli peace while downplaying Middle East democracy and he urged Washington to concentrate on political reform". In a book he co-authored, Morton Halperin argues that "the roots of al Qaeda lie in the poverty and educational deficiencies of Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and Pakistan, and that these deficiencies were caused by the authoritarian nature of those states and can be combated only through democratization" (Gause, 2005, p.2 ). A review of the literature by Schweizer (2007) regarding both terrorism and corruption suggests that a corruption facilitates the activities of terrorist groups.

Several studies have already investigated the economic roots of terrorism. Considering the supply side of terrorism, Berrebi (2003, 2007) reports a positive relationship between high standards of living and education and with participation to the terrorist activities in Israel. Krueger and Maleckova (2003) express an indirect relationship between poverty, education and terrorism. The economic development and social welfare policies are important determinants terrorism. (Ganier, 2009; Felter, 2006; Li and Schaub, 2004; Li 2005, & Brush, 1996).

Peace within society and between societies has important impact on social harmony and social order. Exclusion leads to alienation and frustration. People turn to radicalization to restore harmony with society. Moghaddam (2004) identifies isolation of the group from larger society as the one of the most important factors explaining the group's turn to violence. A strong relationship is found between a country's income (or distribution of income) and terrorism, which, in turn, indicates that economic development may be a useful tool to reduce terrorism. However, education without empowerment might be a contributing factor to the problem (Ganier, 2009). Crenshaw (2000) in her review of the research in the area of terrorist psychology found that personality factors do not account for terrorists behavior. At the individual level, terrorist, terrorist organizations use psychological vulnerability and personal crisis as catalysts for recruitment rather than rather than economic distress (Pedahzur and Perliger, 2006). In his revision of the psychological research during the 1970s and the 1980s, Horgan (2005) did not find specific types for terrorist personality.

This study is an attempt to examine the relationship between human development, peace, corruption and terrorism in the Arab World. It aims to test the variation in human development, peace, and corruption, that can be attributed to the variation in terrorism incidents.

**Methodology**

Data of this of study were based on available data in the area of human development, Peace, corruption and terrorism. A brief description of data sources as follows:

**Human Development Index.** Human development is a construct developed mainly by the UNDP in a number of reports in the early 1990s. It is a measure of development which concentrates on relevance to the lives of people than the pure economic indicators of GDP growth, or GDP per capita growth. The Human Development Index adds measures of life expectancy, adult literacy, and educational enrolment ratios to the traditional measure of GDP per capita (or the similar Purchasing Power Parity, PPP). The current construct emphasized that sustainable development depends on a combination of advances in health, literacy, and education, as well as material economic progress.

**Global Peace Index.** The concept of peace is defined in terms of harmony achieved by the absence of war or conflict within and between countries. This is what Johan Galtung defined as a "negative peace" an absence of violence. Its counterpart concept, "positive peace" an existence of war, conflict or violence within or between societies. The Global Peace Index seeks to determine what cultural attributes and institutions are associated with states of peace. Twenty-three indicators of the existence or absence of peace were chosen by the panel of experts, which are divided into three broad categories: measures of ongoing domestic and international conflict, measures of safety and security in society and measures of militarization. All scores for each indicator have been "banded", either on a scale of 1-5 (for qualitative indicators) or 1-10 (for quantitative data, such as military expenditure or the jailed population, which have then been converted to a 1-5 scale for comparability when compiling the final index) (Galtung, 1996 & Doyle, 1993). A detailed explanation of the scoring criteria used for each indicator is available: http://www.visionofhumanity.org/gpi/home.php

**Corruption Perceptions Index**. The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) measures the degree to which corruption is perceived to exist among public officials and politicians. Rating values range from 10 (the least corrupt) to 0 (the most corrupt). The survey measures public sector corruption, the abuse of public office for private gain. It measures the perceptions of local residents, expatriates, business people, academics and risk analysts. Data available at:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corruption_Perceptions_Index

**Terrorism.** Data on terrorism were downloaded from the Global Terrorism Database (GTD). A file was filtered and a (22) Arab countries' data were merged and converted into SPSS format. GTD is an open-source database including information on terrorist events around the world from 1970 through 2007. Data on domestic as well as transnational and international terrorist incidents that have occurred during this time period and now includes more than 80,000 cases. For each GTD incident, information is available on the date and location of the incident, the weapons used and nature of the target, the number of casualties, and—when identifiable—the group or individual responsible. The National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) is making the GTD available via this online interface in an effort to increase understanding of terrorist violence so that it can be more readily studied and defeated. Data on terrorism were:

- Contains information on over 80,000 terrorist attacks
- Currently the most comprehensive unclassified data base on terrorist events in the world
- Includes information on more than 27,000 bombings, 12,000 assassinations, and 2,900 kidnappings since 1970
- Includes information on at least 45 variables for each case, with more recent incidents including information on more than 120 variables
- Supervised by an advisory panel of 12 terrorism research experts
- Over 3,500,000 news articles and 25,000 news sources were reviewed to collect incident Data Source: http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/BrowseBy.aspx?category=country

**Human Development Profile**

The first Arab Human Development Report (AHDR, 2002) diagnoses three serious deficits which stunt human development in Arab World (knowledge acquisition, freedom and good governance, and woman's empowerment). The (2009) Arab Human Development Report

examines human development through a human security lens. The report calls attention to move away from a traditional, state-centric security to a human security which concentrates on the security of individuals, their protection and their empowerment. It highlights the need for an integrated approach to advancing development, security, good governance and human rights (Clark, 2009). As can be seen from Figure 1, the Arab Human Development Report (2009) shows that Arab world has an average value of (0.699) on International Human Development Index. This value puts the region below the world average of (0.743) for the year (2005). On the health dimension, the Arab world age average at birth is very close to that of the international (67.5 vs. 68.1, respectively). On the economic side, the Arab world remains below the world average ($6716 vs. $9543 per capita (ppp US$), respectively). Also the Arab region falls below the World average in Education index; Life expectancy Index, and GDP index.

In the Arab World the "**war on terror**" was used as justification for restricting freedoms and violating human rights of citizens. People in many Arab countries tortured, ill treated in prisons, camps and detention centers. Security sector interferes in all people's affairs, and exaggerate in their misuse and abuse authorities and power. Many legal constraints were put on public liberties.
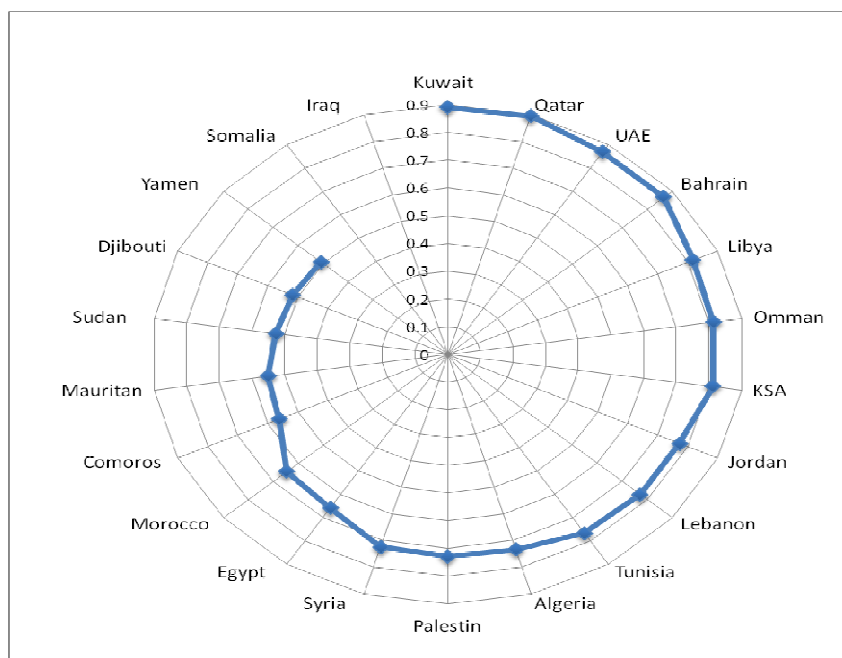


Figure 1 Human development in the Arab World
Data Source: UNDP, Arab Human Development Report, 2009 p. 229
http://www.arab-hdr.org/

Many Arab states have operated for a long periods of martial law or emergency rule. Declarations of emergency are often simply a pretext to suspend basic rights and exempt rulers from any constitutional limitations, however weak. Post-9-11, most Arab countries passed anti-terror laws based on a wide and unspecific definition of "terrorism. They also curb freedom of expression and increase police powers of search, eavesdropping and arrest.

In some cases, these laws increase the use of military courts. State-sponsored violations of citizens' rights to life and freedom are committed through the practices of torture and illegal detention. Between 2006 and 2008, the Arab Organization for Human Rights (AOHR) presents examples of the official practice of torture in eight Arab states. In the same period, the AOHR documents the more widespread practice of illegal detention in eleven countries of the region." Unemployment is a major source of economic insecurity in most Arab countries. Data from the Arab Labor Organization (ALO) show that in 2005 the overall average unemployment rate for the Arab countries was about 14.4% of the labor force compared to (6.3%) for the world at large. While national unemployment rates vary considerably, ranging from about (2%) in Qatar and Kuwait to about (22%) in Mauritania, as noted subsequently, youth unemployment remains a serious challenge common to many Arab countries.

The average of unemployment among Arab youth was (28.9%) compared to (14.4%) worldwide. The Arab youth share of unemployment average was (51.6%) compared to world average of (47.4%). However, the youth unemployment rates vary from a high of about (45.6%) in Algeria to a low of (6.3%) in the UAE (Figure2). With the exception of the latter, high income Arab countries suffer from double digit youth unemployment rates: Saudi Arabia (26%); Kuwait (23%); Bahrain (21%); and, Qatar (17%). Relatively high youth unemployment rates are recorded for the middle income Arab countries: Jordan (39%); Libya (27%); Tunisia (27%); Egypt (26%); Lebanon (21%); Oman (20%); Syria (20%); and Morocco (16%).

The low income Arab countries also report relatively high rates: Mauritania (44%), Sudan (41%), Djibouti (38%), and, Yemen (29%).
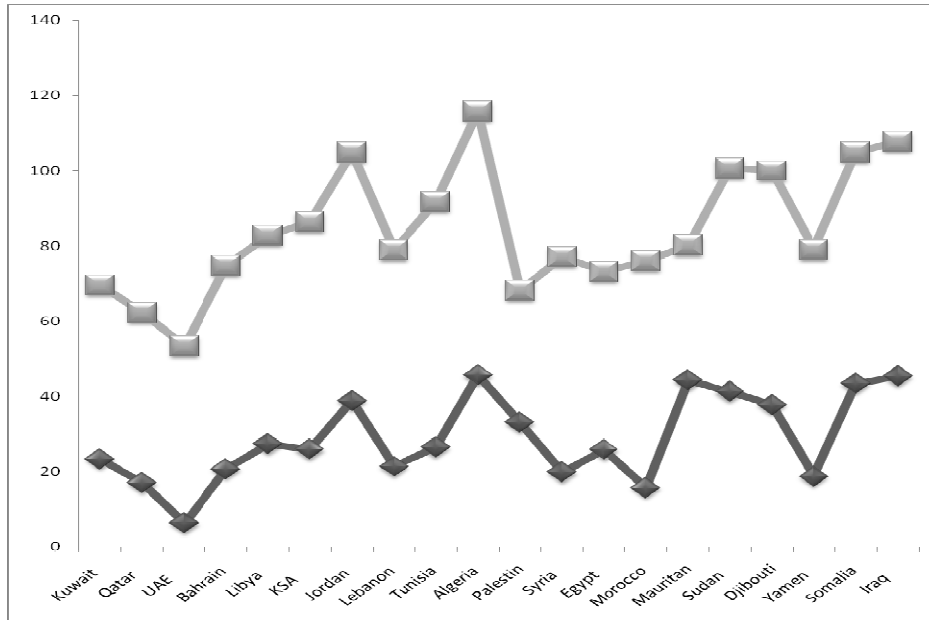


Figure (2) Share of Arab Youth in Total Unemployment (%)  (light)
Youth (age 15-24) unemployment per cent 2005 Arab world (bold).
Data Source : Arab Labor Organization, (2009) in Arabic
http://www.alolabor.org/

**Peace.** As can be seen from (Figure 3),  the Arab countries  are broadly ranked in the bottom half of the GPI, with war Iraq the least at peace, as last year. Yemen's fall of 13 places to 119th position reflects a sharply worsening security situation. Qatar and Oman are, by contrast, ranked in the top 25 of the GPI, with low levels of militarization by regional standards and fairly low scores for most measures of safety and security in society (GIP, 2009).

Violation of the right to freedom is a more widespread practice in the Arab countries. It takes place in numerous countries and the number of its victims reaches thousands in some cases. The prevalence of this practice in some states is connected with the so called "war on terror." However the victims of this practice in most other states are often members of the political opposition. The AOHR report names eleven states that have restricted citizens' freedoms by extrajudicial detention: Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Saudi Arabia,

Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Yemen. According to the report, the numbers of detainees sometimes exceed ten thousand.
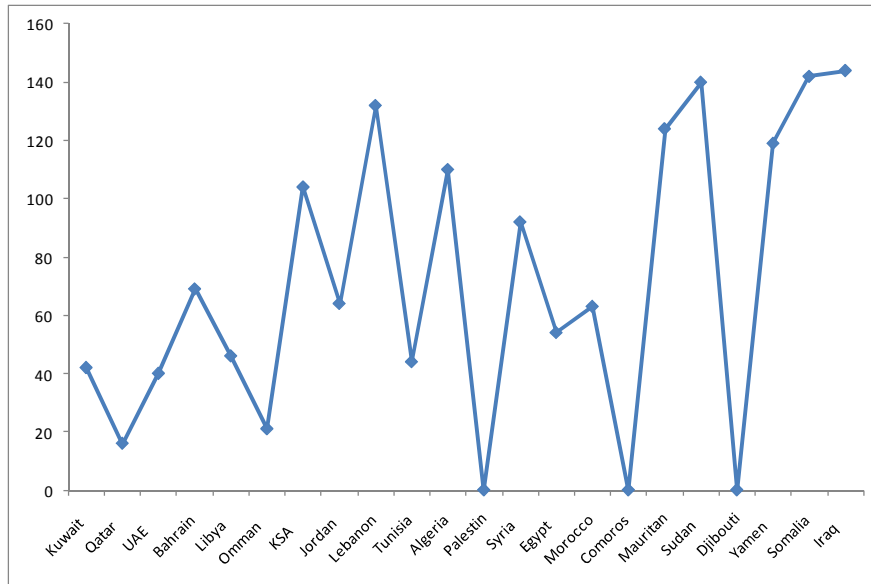


Figure  (3).  Global Peace index 2009 in the Arab World
**Data Source: Global Peace index, 2009**
**http://www.visionofhumanity.org/gpi/home.php**

**Corruption** The most popular and simplest definition of corruption is the one used by the World Bank: **"The abuse of public power for private benefit"** (Tanzi 1998). Corruption is a major social, political and economic phenomenon; it is commonly defined as behavior which deviates from the formal rules of conduct governing the actions of someone in a position of public authority because of private-regarding motives such as wealth, power or status.  On the economic side, corruption has been identified as one of the consequences of excessive state intervention and the bureaucratic rents created thereby; on the political side, it has been seen as a consequence of the unaccountable monopoly power of various kinds of authoritarian or totalitarian regimes. However, democratic systems also provide incentives and opportunities for corrupt behavior, notably the enormous costs of mounting election campaigns, the capture of political parties by economic elites, and the politization of the state apparatus by elected officials and the desire of the latter to compensate for political uncertainty by building up a capital stake through corruption.  Ashour (2006) demonstrates a relationship between corruption and poverty (r=-0.412**), political stability (r=0.79**), economic growth rate (-0.366**) and human development (r=070**).

In the Arab world, corruption is widespread at all levels of public life. It ranges from what is called petty "survival" corruption where government employees supplement their meager salaries by extracting money from the public in small amounts, to "structural" corruption involving government contracts and "commissions" on them, often with the knowledge and blessing of the highest echelons of power, to cultural corruption (culture of corruption).

In Lebanon, 74% of Lebanese felt that "bribery is necessary to secure a contract from any public institution" and a quarter of those questioned believed that "all Lebanese politicians are corrupt". (Whitaker, 2009). As can be seen from (figure 4), the least corrupt Arab countries are Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates. Egypt and Morocco are way behind, sharing the 77th ranking - lower than Saudi Arabia and Syria.  Iraq was at the bottom (CPI, 2009).
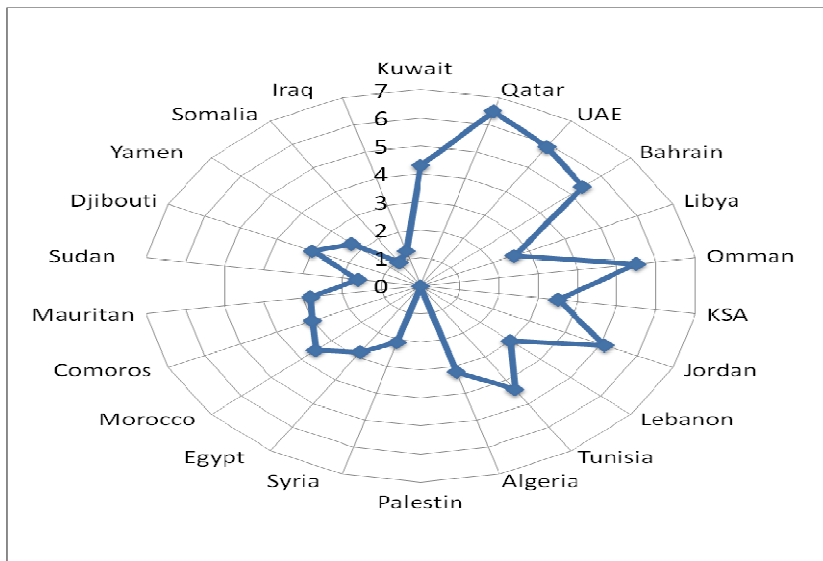


Figure 4 Corruption Perception Index value  in the Arab World
 Data Source: Transparency International the Global Coalition against Corruption
Global Corruption Report 2009.
http://www.transparency.org/publications/gcr/gcr_2009

## Terrorism Profile in the Arab World 1970-2007

 In today's society physical as well virtual global flows of goods, crimes; terrorists; drugs; ideas; services, finance, people and cultures underline the many interlinkages in the security of all people. People share a space, a planet, and culture. The increases of mutual dependency and intercorrelated societies make security of one person, one community, or one nation rests on the security of others.

 General social and cultural strains created by resources deprivation are underlying causes of terrorism, and enhance dissemination among people. General strains stem from exclusion, injustices, inequality, fear, insecurity, diseases, hunger, oppression, ignorance, corruption, poverty, unemployment, and bad governance. People under such circumstances are squeezed, excluded, isolated and alienated in their own societies (Brush, 1996). Support for this argument comes from Hsieh and Pugh (1993) meta-analysis study for the relationship between poverty, income inequality and violent crimes. In (34) studies yielded (76) correlation coefficients, all but two (74 study or 97%) are positive correlation between poverty, income inequality and violent crimes (Hsieh & Pugh, 1993).

### Terrorists' Incidents, Fatalities and Injuries

The total number of the terrorists' incidents in the Arab world for the period (1970-2007) was (7646) incidents; (30448) fatalities and (46142) injuries. The mean terrorism incidents was (364) incidents with (SD= 701) incidents. The average of fatalities and injuries for the same period was (1449, and 2197, respectively) as shown in Table (1). However the terrorists incidents for (100) thousands of population was (4.3); fatalities (11), and injuries (18).  The average of prison population (2004) was (15248); intentional homicide (1.8) and total homicide (2007) was (100). The prison mate per (100) thousands population (2007) was (116) and homicide (4.5).

Table 1

Terrorists incidents, fatalities and injuries in the Arab countries 1970-2007

| country | Terrorist incidents | Terrorist Fatalities | Terrorist Injuries |
|---|---|---|---|
| Kuwait | 71.00 | 33.00 | 71.00 |
| Qatar | 6.00 | 7.00 | 12.00 |
| UAE | 16.00 | 117.00 | 25.00 |
| Bahrain | 41.00 | 15.00 | 22.00 |
| Libya | 15.00 | 27.00 | 2.00 |
| Oman | .00 | .00 | .00 |
| KSA | 60.00 | 220.00 | 1028.00 |
| Jordan | 78.00 | 80.00 | 156.00 |
| Lebanon | 1905.00 | 3023.00 | 7693.00 |
| Tunisia | 20.00 | 80.00 | 121.00 |
| Algeria | 1668.00 | 8527.00 | 6988.00 |
| Syria | 151.00 | 558.00 | 634.00 |
| Egypt | 485.00 | 876.00 | 1098.00 |
| Morocco | 32.00 | 264.00 | 176.00 |
| Comoros | 5.00 | 1.00 | 2.00 |
| Mauritania | 8.00 | 27.00 | 20.00 |
| Sudan | 147.00 | 1416.00 | 602.00 |
| Djibouti | 19.00 | 269.00 | 147.00 |
| Yemen | 160.00 | 164.00 | 231.00 |
| Somalia | 360.00 | 861.00 | 1124.00 |
| Iraq | 2399.00 | 13883.00 | 25990.00 |
| **Total** | **7646** | **30448** | **46142** |

**Human Development, Peace, Corruption and Terrorism**

Figure (5) presents the relationship between human development, peace, corruption and terrorism. Terrorism was significantly negatively correlated with human development (r=-.50) and peace (-.57). However, terrorism was significantly positively correlated with corruption (r=.38), a negative significant relationship was found between peace and corruption (r=-.80). Human development was significantly positively correlated with peace (r=.67) and negatively with corruption (-.73).
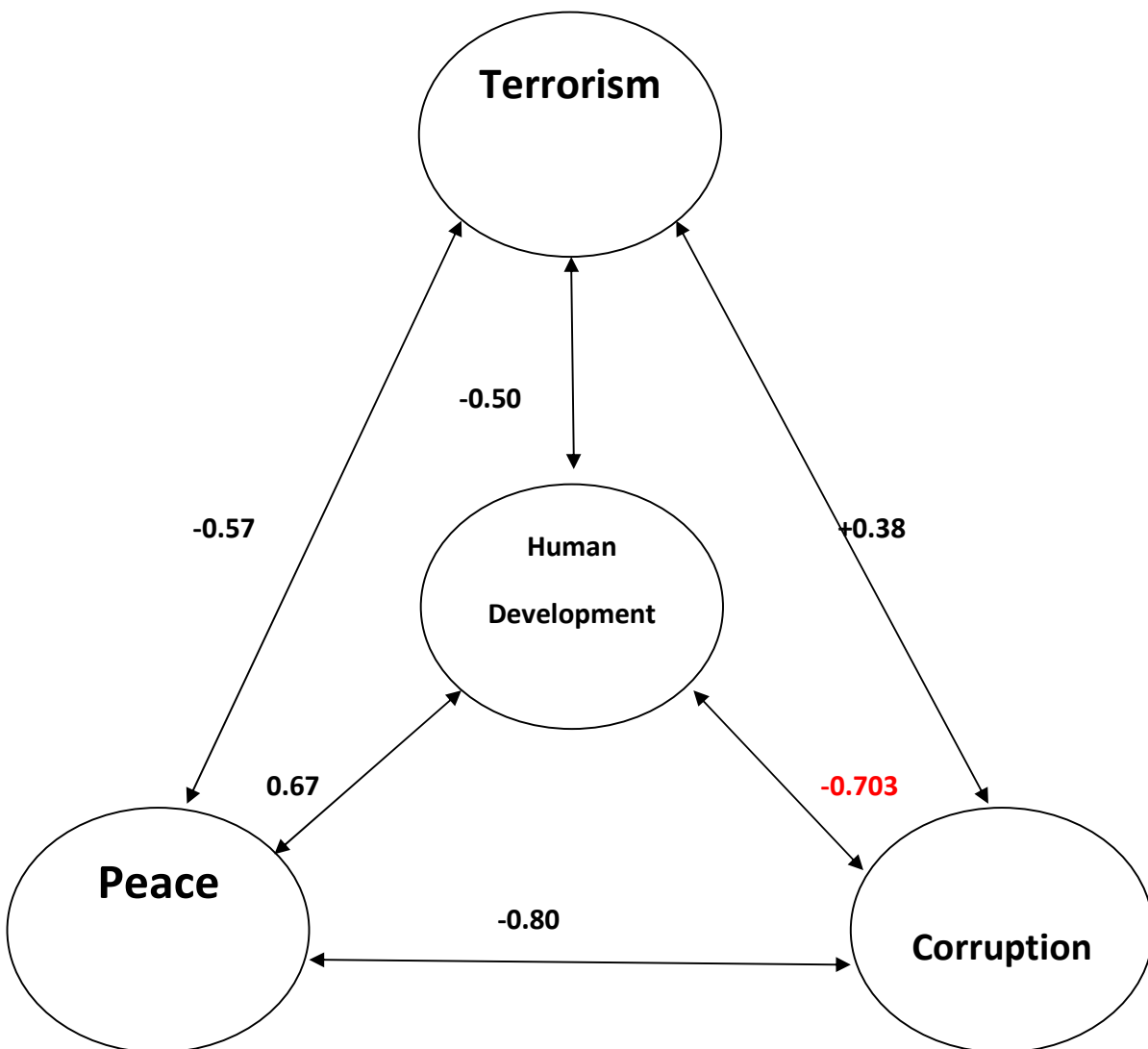


Figure (5) The mutual relationship between Human development, Peace, Corruption and Terrorism.

**Human Development and Terrorism**

As can be seen from Table (2), a negative relationship was found between Human Development Level (1= high development, 2= medium development & 3= low development) and the total number of terrorist incidents, fatalities and injuries in the Arab countries for the period (1970-2007) was (r= -0.499;  r=-0.50 & r=-0.242, respectively).

Some other human development variable such as illiteracy rate was negatively correlated with and total terrorists' incidents; total terrorists'' fatalities and total terrorists' injuries (r=-0.117; r=-0.116 & r=-0.06, respectively). Gender inequality, on the other hand, has increased the total terrorists' incidents; fatalities and injuries (r=0.416; r=o.423, & r=0.413, respectively).

Table 2

The Relationship between Human Development and Total Terrorists; Incidents and Fatalities

| Human Development Dimensions | Total Terrorists Incidents 1970-2007 | Total Terrorists Fatalities 1970-2007 | Total Terrorists Injuries 1970-2007 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Human Development Level | -0.499 | -0.504 | -0.504 |
| Life Expectancy at Birth | -0.166 | -0.23 | -0.242 |
| GNP | -0.203 | 0.185 | -0.183 |
| Illiteracy | 0.117 | 0.116 | 0.06 |
| Children Not Reaching the Age of Forty | -0.209 | -0.118 | -0.147 |
| Human Poverty Index | -0.238 | -0.066 | -0.238 |
| Average gender inequality | -0.416 | -0.423 | -0.413 |
| Public Expenditure on Education | -0.183 | -0.157 | -0.179 |
| Public Expenditure on Military | -0.131 | -0.196 | -0.09 |

## Corruption and Human Development

As can be seen from Table (3) knowledge index was highly positively correlated with human development (r=0.90). All measures of corruptions were highly correlated with human development. More development more corruption (development makes opportunity for corruption). Also Arab Responsible Competitiveness Index, and Peace Index were highly correlated with human development (r=0.88, & 0.67 respectively).

Table 3   The Relationship Between corruption and Human Development

| | |
|---|---|
| Freedom from Corruption | 0.577 |
| Control of  Corruption | 0.703 |
| Corruption perception index | 0.723 |
| **Peace Index value** | **0.673** |

## Variation in Human Development and Terrorism

Table (4) presents ANOVA analysis for the differences in terrorists incidents, fatalities and injuries according to  human development levels.  Differences in terrorists incidents, fatalities and injuries were found statistically significant according to  human development levels (F=3.675; 5.027, & 6.700 respectively α=0.04; 0.01 & 0.007 respectively).

Table 4

ANOVA Analysis for the Differences between Human Development Levels in Terrorists Incidents, Fatalities and Injuries

| | | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Terrorism | Between Groups | 2852048.786 | 2 | 1426024.393 | 3.675 | .046 |
| | Within Groups | 6984161.024 | 18 | 388008.946 | | |
| | Total | 9836209.810 | 20 | | | |
| Fatalities | Between Groups | 84040416.702 | 2 | 42020208.351 | 5.027 | |
| | Within Groups | 150470611.107 | 18 | 8359478.395 | | .018 |
| | Total | 234511027.810 | 20 | | | |
| Injuries | Between Groups | 292997218.381 | 2 | 146498609.19 | 6.700 | |
| | Within Groups | 393554063.429 | 18 | 21864114.635 | | .007 |
| | Total | 2852048.786 | 2 | 1426024.393 | | |

**Human Development and Corruption**

As can be seen from Table (5), ANOVA analysis for the differences in freedom from corruption; control corruption, and corruption perception were found statistically significant according to human development levels (F=4.89; 15.47, & 10.51 respectively α = 0.04; 0.00 & 0.001 respectively).

Table 5

ANOVA Analysis for the Differences Between Human Development Levels in Corruption Measures.

| | | Sum of Squares | df | Mean Square | F | Sig. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Freedom from Corruption | Between Groups | 575.360 | 1 | 575.360 | 4.89 | .042 |
| | Within Groups | 1881.584 | 16 | 117.599 | | |
| | Total | 2456.944 | 17 | | | |
| Control Corruption | Between Groups | 7.539 | 2 | 3.770 | 15.47 | .000 |
| | Within Groups | 4.627 | 19 | .244 | | |
| | Total | 12.166 | 21 | | | |
| Corruption Perception Index | Between Groups | 25.366 | 2 | 12.683 | 10.51 | .001 |
| | Within Groups | 21.720 | 18 | 1.207 | | |
| | Total | 47.087 | 20 | | | |

**Corruption and Terrorism**

Table (6) presents the relationship between corruption measures and terrorism. All measures of corruptions were negatively correlated with terrorism. The strongest relationship was found between control of corruption and the total terrorists' incidents; fatalities and injuries (-0.40; -0.39 & -0.38, respectively).

Table 6

The Relationship Between Corruption and Total Terrorists; Incidents and Fatalities

| Corruption | Total Terrorists Incidents 1970-2007 | Total Terrorists Fatalities 1970-2007 | Total Terrorists Injuries 1970-2007 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Freedom from Corruption | -0.310 | -0.266 | -0.299 |
| Control of Corruption | -0.398 | -0.387 | -0.381 |
| Corruption perception index | -0.376 | -0.377 | -0.373 |

**Discussion**

Finding of this study shows a significant positive relationship between human development and peace, where, terrorism was significantly negatively correlated with peace. Moreover, a significant positive relationship has been found between terrorism and corruption. Human development immunizes people against the involvement in terrorists' activities or being recruitment by terrorist organizations. Human development and peace create an integrated social system where citizens enjoy the rights to work, have equal opportunities and participate in public life. On the other side, the creation of "corruption culture" hinders human development and peace, and enhances terrorism. A review of the literature by Schweizer (2007) regarding both terrorism and corruption suggests that a corruption facilitates the activities of terrorist groups.

Empirical evidence support the notion that general strains such as failure of human development and absence of peace in society produce terrorism. Hsieh and Pugh (1993) provide a meta-analysis study for the relationship between poverty, income inequality and violent crimes. In (34) studies yielded (76) correlation coefficients, all but two (74 study or 97%) are positive correlation between poverty, income inequality and violent crimes (Hsieh & Pugh, 1993). Several studies have already investigated the economic roots of terrorism. Considering the supply side of terrorism, Berrebi (2003) argues that high standards of living and education are positively associated with participation in terrorist activities. Krueger and Maleckova (2003)

illustrates that the connection between poverty, education and terrorism is indirect. A few studies on international terrorism found that economic development and social welfare policies are important determinants of terrorism. (Li and Schaub, 2004; Li, 2005). Berrebi (2007) points to a positive association between education and terrorism, while poverty is negatively associated with terrorism (Berrebi2007).

Group relative deprivation is closely linked to collective action, or an act by a group member on behalf of the group, aimed at improving group conditions on the whole (Wright & Tropp, 2002). People who believe their membership group is relatively deprived are more likely to participate in social movements and actively attempt to change the social system using group strategies. (Kawakami & Dion, 1993; Guimond and Dube Simard, 1983; Walker and Pettigrew, 1984). This might include normative action, violence or terrorism. Collective actions are more likely to be led by the more privileged members of unprivileged groups rather than the most deprived, because the moderately deprived people have the resources and connections to pursue collective actions (Caplan & Paige, 1968; Gurin & Epps, 1975). Gurw (2009) links terrorism with poverty. That is, fewer terrorist attacks are committed abroad by citizen of rich countries. Similarly, when a country is rich, the country's citizens commit fewer terrorist attacks at home. Also the higher the GDP of the separatist region, the fewer the terrorist attacks committed by native separatists (Gure, 2009)

Adding to that, the Arab World witnesses youth demographic bubble and high unemployment rate among youth, the unaccountability of the security sector, and family violence. Terrorism is partially a production of identity crises, particularly among youth. Group characteristics such as values, traditions and goals play a crucial role in authentic identity building. Youth collective identity crisis is a root of youth alienation, isolation and exclusion and it enhances youth terrorism involvement. Physical and social isolation is worsened by general strains such as economic deprivation, political exclusion, perceived discrimination and failed integration policies. People who lack empowerment, (i.e., education, skills, jobs) necessary for social involvement and participation are more vulnerable to terrorism involvement (Moghaddam, 2006). Failure of the governments to reach out these people to empower them, and integrate them with society. Similarly, Kawakami and Dion (1993) argue that "when group identities were made salient, stronger feelings of group relative deprivation" are reported. Individual's sense of

kinship with group members, investment in the membership group, and the salience of group boundaries can increase the likelihood that the individual will experience group relative deprivation (Runciman, 1966, 31). Indeed, Kawakami and Dion note that the greater the salience of group identity, the greater the perception of group relative deprivation and the greater the likelihood of collective actions" (Kawakami and Dion, 1993).

Love (2009) illustrates that the 7/7 bombers- and British Muslim youths more generally- suffer from a lack of authentic identity. Indeed, British Muslim youths, live at the cusp of two very different cultures, neither of which provides them with adequate authentic identities. Thus, the 7/7 bombers were pushed towards radical Islam in a search for authentic identities. As these individuals develop a salient authentic identity through group membership in fundamentalist Islamic groups, they become increasingly prone to internalize group struggles as their own, including the political deprivation of the Muslim community both in the UK and abroad. They violently react to this relative deprivation with aggression because, since they are themselves politically deprived, they lack access to the normative political channels through which they might express grievances non-violently ( Love, 2009).

Disorder and inequality in a state result with increasing attacks on their legitimacy. The people's sense of political community disappears and individuals feel alienation. The social contract that binds individuals and social structures loses its legitimacy. Chaos, or in Durkheim's words, anomie takes the place of social order. Instead of common values which bind society, marginal ideologies (radicalism) often motivate terrorism and lead to the emergence of terrorist ideologies (Kayaoglu, 2007).

The struggle against terrorism should not relay only on military confrontation. Prevention and reduction of terrorism can be through human immunization, human development, empowerment, peace, freedom democracy, and human rights. Cultural re-engineering can dry the financial resource of terrorists' organizations. Fighting corruption, poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, and other general social strains protect people from the involvement in terrorists' activities.

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