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IRD 214

QUESTION

IN NOT MORE THAN 3 PAGES, DISCUSS THE STAGES OF INSURGENCEY.

The stages of insurgency can also be seen or referred to as the life cycle and keys to analysis. Each insurgency differs or varies as a result of some conflict factors they include; grievance, and history. But insurgencies often thrive through certain common stages of development. Not all insurgency will go through each stage; some will not pass through the stage not because they do not have the chance but because they do not, while others will go back to the earlier stage and while others will meet their end before getting to the stages. Moreover the space of time needed to advance through a given stage is likely to differ.

The feature of an insurgency will likewise be cases specific and fluid. Although, some guileless factors will help analysts in assessing an insurgency through its stage. Features for analysis are identified for apiece stage, both these factors are both seen as continuous and cumulative.

Looking at the stages or life cycle of insurgency they include;

Pre insurgency stage

Incipient conflict stage

Open insurgency stage

Resolution stage

 **Pre insurgency stage**

When there is a problem in this stage it hard to find out due to the fact that most of their actions are underground and insurgency has not yet made their presence by the use of force or violence. When actions are taken in public it will be easy for it to be seen as a nonviolent political activity but during that time they are looking for ways to enable new leadership to come up not only that they are forming a grievance and a group identity, beginning to employ and train members, and stockpiling arms and supplies.

Under pre insurgency, preexisting conditions, grievance, group identity, recruitment and training, government reaction and many others factors plays out.

**Incipient conflict stage**

Incipient means beginning so issues start to arise when there is use of violence. Often the first attacks gives analysts the first alert to the potential for an insurgency. The target government, overlooks the insurgent actions and they blame it on criminals, bandits, robbers or even terrorists, and because of this the government will not take the right actions to stop it. This stage is the most dangerous stage for terrorists because they have made their statement during the first attack. An incipient insurgency must try as much as possible to balance the need to carry out attacks to prove its viability, make their cause know and provoke a government to react while at the same time limiting its exposure to government security forces.

Incipient conflict stage needs the help of insurgent leadership, theory of victory, insurgent unity, popular support and many others to ensure that achieve its aim in the stage.

**Open insurgency stage**

When it gets to stage the government can no longer hid the fact that it is facing insurgency. Politically, the insurgents are trying as much as possible to collect power and control from the territory. Militarily, they are planning more attacks, which may have become more aggressive and it may also involve more numbers of people fighting on their side.

Many factors are needed during this stage they include; political factors, military factors, and external assistance. They are needed to cop down the insurgents

**Resolution stage**

Some Insurgent group grow from one stage to another, while some remain in the same stage for decades. But at a point insurgency will reach its point it may be as a result of their win, or negotiated settlement, or even a win by the government all these leads to the end of many insurgent group. At least 130 insurgent conflicts has happened since World War 2. The average duration is more than 21 years. Some of the insurgencies that have ended with victory from the insurgent group is 36 percent with the duration of 10 years. 28 had mixed outcomes due to the fact that a compromise had to be reached and it lasted for 10 years. Give or take 36 percent were victory gained by the government after a duration of 12 years.

**Conclusion**

In all this the both group at one point needs to come to a conclusion that the more war and violence will only lead to more death from both ends.

References

Published by the US government

Guide to the Analysis of insurgency 2012