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In not more than 3 pages, discuss the stages of Insurgency?

Insurgency can be defined as an organized political movement which has the sole motive of changing an existing government. An example of an insurgent group is I.S.I.S (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria), Boko Haram. Also, Insurgency can be defined as rebellious acts that did not reach the proportions of an organized revolution. It has subsequently been applied to any such armed uprising, typically guerrilla in character, against the government of a state or country.

Not all insurgencies are rebellious in nature. This can be seen in cases of non-violent rebellions, employing the use of civil resistance, this can be seen in the People Power Revolution in the Philippines in the 1980s that removed the President Marcos and the Egyptian Revolution of 2011.

There are various stages through which an insurgency would have to undergo before it can be called a full fledged insurgency. They are:

- Pre insurgency stage
- Incipient conflict stage
- Open insurgency stage
- Resolution stage

PRE-INSURGENCY STAGE

This stage is referred to as the undercover stage in an insurgency, since their activities during this stage are in form of secrecy and it is hardly noticed by the government of the state. In this stage, the insurgency group identifies what they want to change in the government, for example to change the system of government and the ruler of the country. Another aspect of this stage is the recruiting of members into the insurgency group and, they begin propagating their views in order to get their name into the public atmosphere. Lastly, the insurgency group begins to acquire and

stockpile arms and ammunition which would be used when they would want to engage in guerilla warfare.

INCIPIENT/ CONFLICT STAGE

In this stage, the insurgent group begins to employ the use of violence in their activities. This phase of insurgency ranges from circumstances in which insurgent activity is only a potential threat (latent or incipient) to incidents and activities which occur frequently and in an organized pattern. This phase involves no major outbreak of violence or uncontrolled insurgent activity. They also establish overt and covert organizations. Insurgent group may establish overt Organizations. A covert control element should exist in either case. As the insurgents consolidate their initial plans, their organization coalesces into a shadow government. After this, they concentrate on--

Gaining influence over the populace.

Infiltrating government, economic, and social organizations.

Challenging the government's administrative ability.

Recruiting, organizing, and training armed elements.

Various elements may attack government forces. In this first phase, the groundwork is laid for broad external support needed to expand the insurgency. In a nutshell one can describe this phase as military in nature due to the military tact and strategies in carrying out their activities.

OPEN INSURGENCY STAGE

At this point of the insurgency, it is seen that their activities and identity have been recognized by the government and this is seen as the full fled insurgency stage. They engage in more violent activities such as hit and run attacks, vandalism of national assets and assassination of top governmental officials.

Here, the insurgency the insurgency creates its own governmental structures thereby making it a shadow government. They do this by establishing schools, healthcare facilities and courts in areas they term as their territories in which they capture. Also, government officials tend to decamp from the side of the government to join the forces of the insurgency group.

Also, at this stage they are recognized international, since billionaires, external governments and groups who share the same ideology as them. Here, they receive aids in form of financial and arming them for them to attain success.

In conclusion, one can be able to deduce the way insurgency takes places from the leader down to the society feeling their activities. There are four stages of insurgency but for the sake of the discussion and to be at safe side because the last stage has to do with if the insurgency was successful or not and if the insurgency succeeded in overthrowing the government or they reached a point of compromise.

REFERNCE

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