

## **Qatar' Mediation In Afghan Peace Process**

**By**

**Afsana Bibi**

Islamabad bases independent researcher,

**Dr. Moazzam Khan Durrani**

Department of Peace and Conflict Studies, National University of Modern  
Languages (NUML)

&

**Rehmat Ullah**

Ph.D. Scholar at School of Politics and International Relations Quaid-e-Azam  
University Islamabad and a Faculty member at National University of Modern  
Languages (NUML)

---

### **Abstract**

*This thesis explores Qatar's significant mediation efforts in facilitating the Afghan peace process, shedding light on the complexities and dynamics of modern diplomacy in conflict resolution. Through a comprehensive examination of Qatar's diplomatic initiatives, the study elucidates the country's motivations, strategies, and challenges in playing a mediating role between the Afghan government and the Taliban. Drawing on primary sources, including diplomatic statements and agreements, as well as secondary analyses from scholarly literature, the research evaluates the effectiveness of Qatar's mediation efforts and their impact on the broader landscape of regional stability. Additionally, the thesis analyzes the implications of Qatar's involvement for international relations and the evolving nature of mediation in contemporary conflicts. By providing a nuanced understanding of Qatar's mediatory role, this study contributes to mediation as a conflict resolution, diplomacy, and Middle Eastern politics.*

### **Keywords**

Mediation, Peace, Conflict Resolution, Afghan Peace Process, Qatar, Diplomacy, United States.

### **Introduction**

In today's world where conflict is present everywhere and the conflicting parties are not ready to talk to each other. Due to these conflicting parties the situation in

the society becomes more hostile not only for the conflicting parties but also affects those who are not part of the conflict but live with them. Here due to this reason the third party jump between and try to resolve the conflict by mutual acceptance of the conflicting parties. The role of this third party is voluntary and should be acceptable for both parties as a mediator<sup>1</sup>. The role of mediator is so much important during these times where the conflict had almost everywhere in the world and some of them are more deathly and threaten the peace of the world. Many international organizations like United Nation (UN) and International Organization for Peace, Care, and Relief (IOPCR) not only work as a mediator in different part of the world but also encourage other organizations and Countries to play their role in resolving conflict between various parties. United Nation Mediation Unit is providing crucial advice in areas of conflict, from the Central African Republic to Yemen and South Sudan. Where in these countries the U.N play his role as a mediator and try to resolve the conflict between the warring parties because both the parties are willing accept the U.N mediation. So in this way the role of mediator during the negotiation is very limited, the role of mediator is just to provide a sound environment where the conflicting parties sit and resolve there conflict, like the environment which is provide by U.N during the first Kashmir war, where both Pakistan and India accept the role of U.N as a mediator in order to mediate between them and resolve the Kashmir issue. But unfortunately the issue never resolve so here let be clear that the mediator is not responsible for the success or failure of the negotiations but the only role of the mediator is to provide a place and a good environment for the parties to start negotiate.

In this research the researcher primarily focuses on the role of Qatar mediation in afghan peace process. Because in Afghanistan there was a conflict between the Taliban and United States of America since 2001 and this conflict is Afghanistan is considered as one of the deadliest conflicts where 43000 people lost their life during this conflict<sup>2</sup>. Since then many international Organizations and NGOs present their report on the violation of human rights in Afghanistan and demand from both the parties to resolve their conflict<sup>3</sup>. While at the same time Qatar had very good relation with both the parties and both parties holy hearted accepted Qatar's mediation between them. So in this paper you will find how mediation process work and how significant is the role of Qatar during the peace talk between Taliban and the United States and how Qatar's mediation encourage other countries to become a mediator in different conflict for restoring peace and resolving conflict.

---

<sup>1</sup> Jacob Bercovitch, "Third Parties in Conflict Management: The Structure and Conditions of Effective Mediation in International Relations," *International Journal* 40, no. 4 (1985): 736.

<sup>2</sup> Kristine H" oglund and Isak Svensson, "Schizophrenic Soothers," *Cooperation and Conflict* 46, no. 2 (June 2011): 166–84.

<sup>3</sup> Marcus Holmes, *Face-to-Face Diplomacy* (Cambridge University Press, 2018).

### Definition

In order to understand the mediation we have to first must understand the word mediation because without knowing mediation we are unable to understand the work of mediator. As the United Nation define the process of mediation as “involvement of third party to assists two or more conflicting parties, and those conflicting parties also accept the role third party with their, to prevent, manage or resolve a conflict between them by helping them to develop mutually acceptable point (U.N: 2012)<sup>4</sup>. So from the definition of the mediation it is clear the mediation is voluntarily process where third involve in the conflict with the aim to facilitate the conflicting parties by providing an environment where both the parties agree to discuss their difference with the aim to resolve the conflict. But when negotiation start the role of the third party is very much limited, even the agreement which the conflicting parties sign to resolve their conflict is sign without concerning with the third party. So mediation is totally a voluntarily process just with the aim gain peace between the conflicting parties.

The third party which is responsible to start the negotiation between the warring parties is called Mediator. This is defining as the one who insinuate between two conflicting parties, with their permission, with the aim to assisting them to settling their mutual differences. Sometimes term is applied for the mediator who offer his mediation and appointed by the conflicting parties to promote the settlement of disputes between them<sup>5</sup>. Here the mediator is not responsible for the success or the failure of the negation. He is only responsible to develop a mutual trust between the conflicting parties, through which both the parties ready to come on the negotiations table, after that the success or failure are only depend on the conflicting parties not on the mediator.

From above two definitions it is clear that mediation is a process where mediator plays its role and tries to convince the conflicting parties to come on the table and resolve their conflict or their disagreement in a peaceful and healthy way, not in the way where more and more lives had been lost in either side<sup>6</sup>.

### Mediation in International System

In international system mediation approach is now taking so much importance in order to resolve and prevent the conflict to happen. This is because over the past few decades the ratio of the conflict the world is so much high. The conflict is seems everywhere in the world either in domestic, or national, or regional, or in

---

<sup>4</sup> “The UN Secretary-General from the Cold War to the New Era: A Global Peace and Security Mandate?,” *Choice Reviews Online* 36, no. 03 (November 1, 1998): 36–1844.

<sup>5</sup> Derek Beach, “Book Review: European Governance and Supranational Institutions — Making States Comply,” *Cooperation and Conflict* 40, no. 2 (June 2005): 247–49.

<sup>6</sup> Bercovitch, “Third Parties in Conflict Management: The Structure and Conditions of Effective Mediation in International Relations.”

international level and in each level the nature of conflict is different from the other one. Today nobody is saved in this world by without effecting from these conflicts, while in some part of the world due to conflict and war millions of peoples lost their lives or injured from these and more than that lost their home, properties or even everything they got. Simply these conflicts not only change the world but also reshape it where now the states and other organization are now used to believe that force is not an option to resolve the conflict, but the only thing through which conflict is resolve is the political solution, talks, and mutual acceptance through which the conflict resolve. From here the concept of mediation take so much importance in today's time when there is conflict take place between two or more parties the effects of conflict not only effect the conflicting parties but also indirectly or directly affect the peace and security of the world through which no country will save by the effects of the conflict<sup>7</sup>. So in order to secure the peace and minimize the effects of the conflict these neutral countries try their best to start the talks between these conflicting parties, through backdoor channels. For a state who wants to mediate between two parties must have good relation between the conflicting parties and both the conflicting parties willing to accept his mediation<sup>8</sup>. In this way the process of mediation starts, while the role of mediator is very limited and specific he is just here to build the environment of trust between the conflicting parties.

According to the Article 98 of United Nation charter impose some responsibility on the Secretary-General of the United Nation to perform the role of mediator in the conflict to prevent or to settle the dispute between the conflicting parties<sup>9</sup>. As in this Article the role of the Secretary-General is define as mediator in the international level and give him the responsibility to help the conflicting parties to come to the negotiation table and resolve the conflict and restore the peace in that area. So due to these reason the United Nation send its various missions to different part of the world to mediate between the conflicting parties and help them to settle their dispute in a peaceful way. Here is the recent example of United Nations successful mediation are, in 2003 a civil has been started in Sudan between the government forces and the rebel revolutionary forces, due to this conflict more than 2 million people lost their lives and around 4 million people are displays internally. But in June 2020 the U.N intervene in the conflict to offer his role as a mediator and as a result of this the U.N adopt two resolutions on the civil of Sudan and send a mission to Sudan under the name of UNITED NATIONS INTEGRATED TRANSITION ASSISTANCE MISSION IN SUDAN

---

<sup>7</sup> Jacob Bercovitch, "International Mediation: A Study of the Incidence, Strategies and Conditions of Successful Outcomes," *Cooperation and Conflict* 21, no. 3 (September 1986): 155–68.

<sup>8</sup> Jacob Bercovitch, "Mediators and Mediation Strategies in International Relations," *Negotiation Journal* 8, no. 2 (April 1992): 99–112.

<sup>9</sup> Bercovitch, "International Mediation: A Study of the Incidence, Strategies and Conditions of Successful Outcomes."

### **Qatar' Mediation...**

(UNITAMS), with the aim to facilitate the government of Sudan to initiate the peace talk with rebels and revolutionary groups. Due to this support and help of U.N a peace agreement is sign between the rebels and the government and both parties agree to end the civil war in the country by signing on the Sudanese Peace Agreement in August 202010.

U. N is not only the mediator some of the countries also offer their mediation in a conflict zone to prevent or to help the countries to end their conflict. Such example to this is the role of Norway in ending the civil war in Sri Lanka. In Sri Lanka there was an ongoing ethnic conflict is continue from 1983 to till 2009. The conflict was basically between the Sri Lankan government and the small ethnic group knows as Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam militarily. The nature of this conflict is on ethnical base where the government depresses and deprives the Tamils for so many years but in 1983 these Tamils groups stand up and take weapons against the government and start the civil war, during this civil war around 100,000 people lost their lives and more than that face different injuries. In 1999 the Norwegian government offers his role as a mediator in the conflict. But since then the Norwegian government try his best to make an agreement between the conflicting parties and bring peace in Sri Lanka, while 2009 the Norwegian government due his effort able to convince both the parties to sign an agreement and help both the parties to settle their deputies in a peaceful way<sup>11</sup>. This is one example there are so many other successful result of mediation will take place in different part of the world and these third party intervention playing a very crucial role in the world to creating peace and preventing conflict in a peaceful and meaning full way.

### **Mediation Strategies**

Mediation strategies give a detail road map to the mediators to intervene and resolve or manage conflicts<sup>12</sup>. As Bercovici, Jacob give in his definition that for a successful mediation the mediator should have proper strategy through the mediation would take place, for this reason Touval and Zartman (1985) give three categories of mediation which are, formulation, manipulation, and communication. Through these categories we have to understand, what would be the role of mediator when he involves in the conflict and what would be the outcome of this

---

<sup>10</sup> Jacob Bercovitch and Allison Houston, "INFLUENCE OF MEDIATOR CHARACTERISTICS AND BEHAVIOR ON THE SUCCESS OF MEDIATION IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS," *International Journal of Conflict Management* 4, no. 4 (April 1, 1993): 297–321.

<sup>11</sup> Manuel Fr" ohlich, "Edward Newman: The UN Secretary-General from the Cold War to the New Era. A Glohal Peace and Security Mandate? St. Martin's Press, 1998. Vii + 239 Pages.," *Max Planck Yearbook of United Nations Law Online* 3, no. 1 (1999): 524–27.

<sup>12</sup> Fr" ohlich.

intervention of the mediator<sup>13</sup>. While in 2000 Bercovitch and Houston modify Touval and Zartman categories and further the strategies of mediation into three new categories. These new categories are, communication-facilitation, procedural, and directive strategies, which are based on the assumption of content, process, and procedure aspects of conflict management<sup>14</sup>.

#### **Communication-Facilitation Strategies**

In communication and facilitation strategies the role of mediator is very much limited. Here mediator is to just play the role of communicator and facilitator between the conflicting parties to manage or to start negotiation. John W Burton strongly believes that by communication and facilitation through the mediator is the key to settle disputes, or disagreement between conflicting parties<sup>15</sup>. In Communication and Facilitation Strategies the power of the mediator is very limited and he is here just to develop the environment of trust by using the back door channels.

#### **Procedural-Formulative Strategies**

In the strategy the power of mediator increase, here the mediator is not only responsible to develop trust between the conflicting parties. In Procedural and Formulative Strategies the mediator would take control the mediation process here the mediator decide the place where the parties meet, managing the ongoing conflict, establishing protocols, suggesting procedures and providing both the parties a face saving for ending the conflict. Here the aim of third party is to creating a suitable environment for managing the conflict.

#### **Directive Strategies**

In directive strategy the mediator has use its full influence over the conflicting parties to resolve the conflict. This is the most power full strategy of third party intervention in conflict. In Directive Strategies the mediator use its full power and influence on both the parties to end the conflict and create peace in the area. This strategy the least used strategy in conflicting management process because the peace which create by this strategy has no guarantee and which may again burst out at any time between the parties<sup>16</sup>.

While this research we only focuses on the first strategy of mediation (Communication-Facilitation Strategies). Because the reason behind this is Qatar only develop the environment of trust and provide place where the negotiation between the Taliban and the United States of America start.

---

<sup>13</sup> Leland M. Goodrich, "Hammarskjold, the UN, and the Office of the Secretary-General," *International Organization* 28, no. 3 (1974): 467–83.

<sup>14</sup> H\ oglund and Svensson, "Schizophrenic Soothers."

<sup>15</sup> Holmes, *Face-to-Face Diplomacy*.

<sup>16</sup> G\ erard Lorette, "Jacques Lansac (1939–2017), Un Homme, Un M\ Edecin En Mission," *La Presse M\ Edicale* 46, no. 10 (October 2017): 885–86.

**Qatar policy of Mediation**

From the last two decade Qatar's paly a very much important role of promoting peace and security in the world. The foreign policies of Qatar are based on promoting peace in the world and encourage the peaceful resolution of all time of conflict through mediation and negotiation. For many times for resolving conflict offer his mediation in a different conflict of the world. In 2018 the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, in speech said that "Two decades ago, my country decided to begin a new chapter of openness. This decision shaped Qatar's signature foreign policy of engagement, dialogue, and collaboration. This was new for the Middle East, and the outreach paid off. Outside the neighborhood, Qatar found friends and allies around the globe"<sup>17</sup>. Qatar had so much emphasis on the peaceful resolution of conflict through mediation and collaboration between the conflicting parties.

Since 2000 Qatar's play the role of mediator in different conflicts of not only in Middle East but also in Africa. The most notable role mediation plays by Qatar are in Afghanistan, Yemen, Lebanon, and Sudan. All these four countries where Qatar's play the role of mediator are consider the worst conflict of the decade where peoples lost their lives not in thousands but millions and more then that's face different injuries, economically due to conflict these countries are completely destroy. Due to this reason Qatar's an international peace maker along with United Nation and other partner try their best to resolve the conflict between the conflicting parties and restore peace in their countries<sup>18</sup>.

Qatar always oppose the military or the use of force to resolve conflict in Qatar's views that force will never give the sustainable peace and security but this use of force will give more destructions and fire up the conflict. As in September 2020 the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Than after the successful peace agreement between United States and Taliban give the statement and said "History has taught us that using military force to resolve the Afghan crisis is not possible and that the only way to do so is to immediately and permanently cease fire and pave the way for a constructive dialogue through negotiations to achieve a comprehensive political settlement across all spectrums in Afghanistan"<sup>19</sup>. While Qatar approach of mediation will successful works in different parts of world two are the most important ones are the Sudanese peace agreement in Sudan and the U.S-Taliban peace agreement in Afghanistan because in both case study there are so much force had been use but the result will come as more civil had lost their

---

<sup>17</sup> G\ erard Lorette, "Jacques Lansac (1939–2017), Un Homme, Un M\ Edecin En Mission," *La Presse M\ Edicale* 46, no. 10 (October 2017): 885–86.

<sup>18</sup> J\ er\ emy M\ ethivier, "Pr\ Evalence Des Troubles Anxieux et D\ Epressifs En Mission Locale," *Canal Psy*, no. 104 (April 1, 2013): 27.

<sup>19</sup> Carrie J. Menkel-Meadow, "Why I Became A Mediator," October 12, 2023, <https://www.mediate.com/articles/menkel-meadowdvd02.cfm>.

lives and suffer from these conflict and these conflicts also threaten the peace of the globe. But after the successful mediation by Qatar and its partner in these conflicts resolve to a great extent. Which justify Qatar's approach that peace will only restore through negotiation and dialogue not through war and use of force<sup>20</sup>.

Qatar and afghan parties

For a successful mediation as we know that the conflicting parties should have full trust and accept the third parties mediation. So in this scenario in Afghanistan Qatar play the role of mediator between Taliban and the United States of America, which mean both the afghan parties accept Qatar's mediation. But here is the question rise how such a small state of gulf play so, much important role in creating peace in Afghanistan? To answer this question we first have to understand the relation of Qatar with the conflicting parties after which it would be easy for us to understand.

### **Qatar relation with Taliban**

Although Qatar was not among the first countries which accept the Taliban government in Taliban when they came into power after four year of civil war in Afghanistan in 1996 but according to the Taliban official they have Cordial relations with Qatar<sup>21</sup>. While the Qatari officials also accept that they have good relation with afghan Taliban. Due to this reason in 2011 when the United States agree to talk with the Taliban and allow the Taliban to open their office at that time there are two options are on table for Taliban one is to open office in Doha the capital of Qatar while the second is to open office in Abu Dhabi the capital of UAE but the Taliban official chose Doha instead of Abu Dhabi<sup>22</sup>. And since then the Taliban use Doha as center of their diplomatic activities. For which many high ranked Taliban officials repeatedly visiting Qatar. While on the other hand Qatar for many years play the role of peacemaker in the world for so many years and it is in the foreign policy of Qatar to create a good relation not only with countries but also with those groups which are in conflict<sup>23</sup>. This is because without a good relation with the conflicting parties they never accept your mediation and in case of Qatar role as a peacemaker in the world it is so much important for it to create a good and sound relation with the Taliban. Due to these Taliban accept Qatar's mediation in ongoing conflict with the United States.

---

<sup>20</sup> Danura Miriyagalla, "Perceptions of Small Businesses and Youth of Employment and Peace-Building in the Conflict-Affected Region of Sri Lanka," *Business, Peace and Sustainable Development* 2015, no. 6 (December 1, 2015): 9–30.

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-23007401>

<sup>22</sup> John Stephen Moolakkattu, "Peace Facilitation by Small States," *Cooperation and Conflict* 40, no. 4 (December 2005): 385–402.

<sup>23</sup> Nahla Yassine-Hamdan and Frederic S Pearson, *Arab Approaches to Conflict Resolution* (Routledge, 2014).



### Qatar relation with U.S

The United States had always had a good relation with the gulf countries and share close ties with these countries. After the Qatar gains its independence from United Kingdom in 1972, United States establish its diplomatic relation with Qatar. Since then both the countries sign various agreement of cooperation and asset each other in various issues on local, regional and in international level. The United States provide security and protection to Qatar from any kind of external aggression due to which the States deploy its military and open various bases in Qatar. While on the other hand support various U.S military operation of U.S in the region by allowing the States to use its land against its enemies. Beside these security cooperation Qatar and United States had share many economic interests like oil and natural gas<sup>24</sup>. Due to these relations the United States trust and accept Qatar's offer of mediation in the afghan peace talks.

### Afghan Peace deal and Qatar's mediation

In February 29 2020 a peace agreement has been sign both the American and Taliban after eighteen year of afghan war. During this war in Afghanistan both the parties try their best to crush each other by using force but both the parties are badly failed to achieve anything but instead of lose to many deaths and destruction in the country which highly affects not only these two conflicting parties but the world as a whole. Due to this destruction and losses both the Taliban and the United States start to communicate through back door channels in 2016 and after 2017 both parties start the formal process of negotiation in Doha (Qatar) and after a series of talk both the parties came to sign an agreement in 29 February 2020 and manage the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan. United Nation and other States of the world welcome the peace agreement and call it a road map to bring back peace in Afghanistan. During these talk Qatar and Pakistan play a very important role in order to develop trust and an environment through which the peace process would proceed. Qatar not only develops trust between United States and Taliban but also provide place where both the parties without any concern sit and talk<sup>25</sup>.

Qatar's efforts for creating peace in afghan land

In 2010 for the first time when the United States, the Afghan government, the Taliban all the three parties of Afghanistan are ready to start negotiation with the aim to resolve the conflict in a peaceful way, at that time an issue rise for the afghan government and United States to locate the leader of the Taliban to negotiate. Due to this reason the afghan government and the States allow Taliban to open their office where the start their formal direct negotiate and thought that

---

<sup>24</sup> "Afghan Civilians \textbar Costs of War," n.d., <https://watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/costs/human/civilians/afghan#:~:text=As%20of%20October%202019%2C%20more,a%20result%20of%20the%20war.>

<sup>25</sup> "The UN Secretary-General from the Cold War to the New Era: A Global Peace and Security Mandate?"

the Taliban open their office either in Saudi Arabia, or in Turkey but the Taliban due to these countries close ties with the afghan government and chose Qatar capital Doha to open their office<sup>26</sup>. While on the other side Qatar also welcome Taliban decision and accept to become host of the afghan peace deal. Because during this century Qatar gain the reputation of global peacemaker. The government of Qatar considers the role of mediator as a culture, a moral and a religious duty. As these roles which play by Qatar in different conflict are reflection of 2003 constitution where the article 7 of the constitution embassies Qatar to strengthen the international peace and security by mediating between different and encourage them to resolve the conflict in a peaceful mean<sup>27</sup>. Finally in 2013 Taliban open their office in Qatar. Between 2013 to 2016 due to some political reason the afghan peace process will the not further precede but the Taliban still hold their office in Qatar and many high officials of Taliban frequently visit Qatar during that time the Qatari officials continually in contact with both Taliban and the United States, and try to build an environment of trust between these parties. In 2016 the afghan president Ashraf Ghani again shows his willingness and offer Taliban to make a peace deal with the government<sup>28</sup>. While there also a changed had been made in the white house, President Donald Trump replace the Obama administration. During his election campaign Trump repeatedly call that if he came into power he will end the war in Afghanistan and bring the solider back to their home. At that the Taliban also offer to the U.S to end the war and said “we must now be established by America and her allies that the Afghan issue cannot be solved militarily. America must henceforth focus on a peaceful strategy for Afghanistan instead of war”<sup>29</sup>.

In 2018 the New York time reported that due to Qatar’s effort of mediation the U.S high official meet Taliban officials in Taliban office in Doha<sup>30</sup> After this meeting the American president Donald Trump appoint Zalmay Khalilzad a representative of U.S government and send him to Qatar to start the formal process of negotiation and the capital of Qatar become the center of afghan peace process. While the Qatar officials are also constantly in touched with both parties and

---

<sup>26</sup> “Secretary or General?: The UN Secretary-General in World Politics,” *Choice Reviews Online* 45, no. 05 (January 1, 2008): 45–2870.

<sup>27</sup> “As Conflicts Become More Complex, ‘Mediation Is No Longer an Option; It Is a Necessity’, UN Chief Tells Security Council,” September 3, 2018, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2018/08/1018012#:~:text=An%20example%20is%20the%20UN,to%20Yemen%20and%20South%20Sudan>.

<sup>28</sup> Abubakar Siddique, *The Pashtun Question: The Unresolved Key to the Future of Pakistan and Afghanistan* (London, England ; New York: Hurst, 2014).

<sup>29</sup> “Afghan Civilians \textbar Costs of War.”

<sup>30</sup> Dominic Boyer, “From Media Anthropology to the Anthropology of Mediation,” in *The SAGE Handbook of Social Anthropology*, by Richard Fardon et al. (1 Oliver’s Yard, 55 City Road, London EC1Y 1SP United Kingdom: SAGE Publications Ltd, 2012), 411–22, <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781446201077.n66>.

### **Qatar' Mediation...**

develop mutual trust between both the parties<sup>31</sup> In the mid of 2019 after the successful negotiation and both the parties agree to sign an agreement and everyone believe that a deal just had been made between Taliban and U.S. The U.S representative Zalmay Khalilzad sends the agreement to the president Trump for final approval. A dramatic scene happen after 11 soldier had been kill in Kabul bomb attack, the president Trump cancel the talks. But due to Qatar and Pakistan successful backdoor diplomacy the talk resume in December 2020. After a series of talks the parties agree to end the long afghan war in a peaceful way and both the parties have some face saving for ending this war. It was the first phase of bring peace in Afghanistan while the second phase is between Taliban and the afghan government talks. In the second phase of talks also held in Qatar and both the parties requested Qatar continues to play his of mediator<sup>32</sup>.

Here in afghan peace deal between Taliban and U.S Qatar play a very crucial role of mediator. The strategy which is played by Qatar is Communication-Facilitation Strategies. Although the role of Qatar is very much limited in these negotiations and had no such influence on both parties but still play a very much important role by providing not only a suitable environment but also develop trust between the long time revealer Taliban and U.S.

His Highness the Amir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani explain Qatar policy of mediation and said “The State of Qatar is keen to assume an active role within the international community, supporting international efforts to address climate change as well as initiatives to combat terrorism and maintain peace”. Further the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs in his speech in 2018 emphasize the peaceful resolution of afghan problem and give detail explanation of Qatar’s mediation policy and said “Two decades ago, my country decided to begin a new chapter of openness. This decision shaped Qatar’s signature foreign policy of engagement, dialogue, and collaboration. This was new for the Middle East, and the outreach paid off. Outside the neighborhood, Qatar found friends and allies around the globe.<sup>33</sup>”

### **Analysis**

In the world of conflict mediation is a peaceful process where a third party involves in the conflict with the aim to resolve or manage the ongoing conflict between the parties. It is one of the most important processes to create peace because during the conflict there was an environment of mistrust between the parties and due to this mistrust these parties are unable to resolve their ongoing conflict by their own and which result in more destruction and more casualties. Here the importance of third party emerges, this third party is neutral and both the

---

<sup>31</sup> Thomas Hylland Eriksen, “Ethnicity versus Nationalism,” *Journal of Peace Research* 28, no. 3 (1991): 263–78.

<sup>32</sup> Moolakkattu, “Peace Facilitation by Small States.”

<sup>33</sup> P.D. Musarrat, “Terrorism and Politico-Religious Extremism in Pakistan Post 9/11,” *Journal of Public Administration and Governance* 4, no. No. 1 (2014).

conflicting parties accept his role of mediator. The main aim of this third party is to develop mutual trust between the two parties and create an environment where the two parties can sit and negotiation and resolve their ongoing conflict. U.N and other neutral states play the role of mediator in different conflict zone and due to their meditation some of the deathliest conflict had been resolve like the Srilankan conflict which is resolve after the Norway play the role of mediator, and in Sudan where U.N and Middle East countries play role of mediator and resolve the most deathliest conflict of the history of the world after the second world war. So for an effective and sustainable peacemaking mediation is a very much important tool.

In the case of Afghan peace deal between Taliban and United States Qatar play the most important role of mediator. Here afghan peace deal the Qatar not only develop mutual trust between trust between Taliban and United States but also do it best to facilitate both the parties to came on the conclusion to sign an agreement. During Qatar's this effort Qatar become the first country to allow Taliban to open their political office in the capital of Qatar (Doha) and constantly in touch with both the Taliban and the U.S officials. Due to this impartiality, and neutrality of Qatar both Taliban and the United States accept his role of mediator. In my view the role of Qatar as a mediator in afghan peace deal is very much significant without Qatar I don't think that it would be that easy for both the parties to sign an agreement. Because Qatar play his role of facilitation and communication in a very good way, and recognized himself as a global peacemaker.

### **Conclusion**

In this world of conflict there are many approaches are had been used for conflict management and conflict resolution, while mediation is also one of these approaches. In this approach the third party involve in a conflict where two parties use force against each other, and try to develop mutual trust between the conflicting parties and encourage them to resolve their conflict through negotiation and discussions. In mediation there two things much are important for mediator without them a successful mediation will be just a dream, the first thing is the mediator must have good relation with both the parties, and the second one is both the conflicting parties must accept his mediation, without these two thing a successful mediation is impossible. The role of the mediator is depend upon how much authority is given by the conflicting parties to the mediator, either the just accept his role of facilitation and communication, or Procedural-Formulative, or directive role of mediation. While the power of the mediator is different in different i.e. in facilitation and communication the role of the mediator is just to facilitate the conflicting parties and play the role of source of communication between them, while in procedural and formulative role the mediator will decide the place and the terms and condition of the negotiation and directive the role of mediator is to direct the conflicting parties to resolve the conflict by using its influence and threatening them.

### **Qatar' Mediation...**

While in case study of Qatar's role of mediation in afghan peace deal is facilitation and communication. The power of Qatar during this negotiation are very limited he only responsible to develop trust between Taliban and the U.S and provide them an environment where both enemies parties sit and discuss on the matter of disagreement between them and resolve their conflict in a peaceful way. But beside this limited role Qatar's effort are very much important for signing the deal between the two long time revilers. After the successful peace agreement between Taliban and the U.S Qatar prof to the world that through effective mediation any conflict can be resolve and encourage other countries to play their role in the conflicting zone for resolving the conflicting and creating peace in that area.

## Bibliography

- . “Jacques Lansac (1939–2017), Un Homme, UM/’ Edecin En Mission.” *La Presse M/’ Edicale* 46, no. 10 (October 2017): 885–86.
- . “Mediators and Mediation Strategies in International Relations.” *Negotiation Journal* 8, no. 2 (April 1992): 99–112.
- . “Third Parties in Conflict Management: The Structure and Conditions of Effective Mediation in International Relations.” *International Journal* 40, no. 4 (1985): 736.
- “Afghan Civilians \textbar Costs of War,” n.d. <https://watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/costs/human/civilians/afghan#:~:text=As%20of%20October%202019%2C%20more,a%20result%20of%20the%20war.>
- “As Conflicts Become More Complex, ‘Mediation Is No Longer an Option; It Is a Necessity’, UN Chief Tells Security Council,” September 3, 2018. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2018/08/1018012#:~:text=An%20example%20is%20the%20UN,to%20Yemen%20and%20South%20Sudan.>
- “Secretary or General?: The UN Secretary-General in World Politics.” *Choice Reviews Online* 45, no. 05 (January 1, 2008): 45–2870.
- “The UN Secretary-General from the Cold War to the New Era: A Global Peace and Security Mandate?” *Choice Reviews Online* 36, no. 03 (November 1, 1998): 36–1844.
- Beach, Derek. “Book Review: European Governance and Supranational Institutions — Making States Comply.” *Cooperation and Conflict* 40, no. 2 (June 2005): 247–49.
- Bercovitch, Jacob, and Allison Houston. “INFLUENCE OF MEDIATOR CHARACTERISTICS AND BEHAVIOR ON THE SUCCESS OF MEDIATION IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.” *International Journal of Conflict Management* 4, no. 4 (April 1, 1993): 297–321.
- Bercovitch, Jacob. “International Mediation: A Study of the Incidence, Strategies and Conditions of Successful Outcomes.” *Cooperation and Conflict* 21, no. 3 (September 1986): 155–68.
- Boyer, Dominic. “From Media Anthropology to the Anthropology of Mediation.” In *The SAGE Handbook of Social Anthropology*, by Richard Fardon, Olivia Harris, Trevor Marchand, Mark Nuttall, Cris Shore, Veronica Strang, and Richard Wilson, 411–22. 1 Oliver’s Yard, 55 City Road, London EC1Y 1SP United Kingdom: SAGE Publications Ltd, 2012. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781446201077.n66>.
- Eriksen, Thomas Hylland. “Ethnicity versus Nationalism.” *Journal of Peace Research* 28, no. 3 (1991): 263–78.

### **Qatar' Mediation...**

- Fr hlich, Manuel. "Edward Newman: The UN Secretary-General from the Cold War to the New Era. A Global Peace and Security Mandate? St. Martin's Press, 1998. Vii + 239 Pages." *Max Planck Yearbook of United Nations Law Online* 3, no. 1 (1999): 524–27.
- Goodrich, Leland M. "Hammarskjold, the UN, and the Office of the Secretary-General." *International Organization* 28, no. 3 (1974): 467–83.
- H glund, Kristine, and Isak Svensson. "Schizophrenic Soothers." *Cooperation and Conflict* 46, no. 2 (June 2011): 166–84.
- Holmes, Marcus. *Face-to-Face Diplomacy*. Cambridge University Press, 2018.
- Lorette, G rard. "Jacques Lansac (1939–2017), Un Homme, Un M decin En Mission." *La Presse M dicale* 46, no. 10 (October 2017): 885–86.
- M thivier, J r my. "Pr evalence Des Troubles Anxieux et D Epressifs En Mission Locale." *Canal Psy*, no. 104 (April 1, 2013): 27.
- Menkel-Meadow, Carrie J. "Why I Became A Mediator," October 12, 2023. <https://www.mediate.com/articles/menkel-meadowdvd02.cfm>.
- Miriyagalla, Danura. "Perceptions of Small Businesses and Youth of Employment and Peace-Building in the Conflict-Affected Region of Sri Lanka." *Business, Peace and Sustainable Development* 2015, no. 6 (December 1, 2015): 9–30.
- Moolakkattu, John Stephen. "Peace Facilitation by Small States." *Cooperation and Conflict* 40, no. 4 (December 2005): 385–402.
- Musarrat, P.D. "Terrorism and Politico-Religious Extremism in Pakistan Post 9/11." *Journal of Public Administration and Governance* 4, no. No. 1 (2014).
- Siddique, Abubakar. *The Pashtun Question: The Unresolved Key to the Future of Pakistan and Afghanistan*. London, England ; New York: Hurst, 2014.
- Yassine-Hamdan, Nahla, and Frederic S Pearson. *Arab Approaches to Conflict Resolution*. Routledge, 2014.