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# Debate rages on who planned 9/11

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**I**t is now 10 years when unconscionable September 11 suicide attacks on symbols of economic and military might – World Trade Centre and Pentagon – took place and thousands of people were killed. Of course, Americans grief was immense regardless of the fact who planned and executed 9/11. Anyhow, it was a rude shock not only for American leadership but also for ordinary Americans who were under the delusion that nobody could launch an attack from outside on the super power. Americans had therefore no fears or concerns about their security; but 9/11 events had shaken their confidence and they appeared to be under psychological shock even now. America has meanwhile restructured its security apparatus but Americans are still living under trepidation and fear, as America is fighting the new enemy, which is stateless, faceless and fearless. It has to be understood by the US administration that the world moves by a simple principle of cause and effect. Any country that bombs another country creates millions of angry enemies against it, including those who sympathise with the victims. And the US has done it repeatedly in recent times. Many books, treatises and articles have been written about 9/11. Some writers viewed Osama bin Laden who was planner and mastermind; a few of the writers are of the view that it was a false-flag operation, while there were others who believed that the CIA had infiltrated in al-Qaeda and it not only incited the al-Qaeda operatives but also facilitated them to do the job. In other words, al-Qaeda had unwittingly played in the hands of the CIA. However, Osama bin Laden had claimed the responsibility for 9/11 events. Since there is no evidence, one should remember the quote of former American president Franklin D. Roosevelt who said: "In politics nothing happens by accident. If it happens, you can bet it was planned that way". America may not have anything to do with 9/11 event but the fact remains that Afghanistan war was planned months ahead. On July 17, 2002, former British prime minister

Tony Blair had said: "To be truthful about it, there was no way we could have got the public consent to have suddenly launched a campaign on Afghanistan but for what happened on September 11." In July 2001, BBC had reported: "American government told other governments about Afghan invasion". MSNBC in its report had said that Afghan war plans were on Bush's desk on 9/9/2001 (two days before the terrorists struck), who was to sign detailed plans for a worldwide war against al-Qaeda. In March 2001, Rahul Bedi had written: "India joins anti-Taliban coalition". Pakistan's former diplomat Niaz Naek in his treatise stated that even if Taliban would have surrendered Osama bin Laden to the US, yet the US had planned to invade Afghanistan to oust the Taliban government. The secret papers, however, had revealed that the US bombing of Afghanistan in an effort to kill Osama bin Laden during Clinton's presidency was the motivation of those who struck America on 9/11. Of course, Afghanistan was being led by the same people who were lauded as freedom fighters when they fought against the Soviets. In fact the US and the West supported the terrorist activities of Osama bin Laden at that time, and he was projected as a legend who left luxurious life to fight infidels. Anyhow, after Soviet Union disintegrated, Osama bin Laden wanted Americans to withdraw from Saudi Arabia, and secondly that Israel should withdraw from Palestinian and Arab territories. The date September 11 the terrorists chose for this attack shows their true motivation, which is the anniversary of the League of Nations proclaiming in Palestine the British Mandate in 1922 – the first physical step toward the implementation of the Balfour Declaration and the establishment of Israel. Nevertheless, after 9/11, the entire world had sympathized with the US, which manoeuvred to get a resolution passed in the United Nations Security Council to attack any country that aided and abetted the terrorists. The US leadership should understand that in this new era, sheer military might is no protection. No longer can strong nations attack weak ones with impunity. The tiniest nation or political entity can easily revenge itself with mass terror. And no nation is invulnerable to terrorism, not even the strongest on earth. Anyhow, those who had planned or masterminded those events perhaps did not think of the repercussions and consequences, as terrorism today is considered as the new enemy of mankind and all Muslims are being labeled as terrorists. In May 2006, at Putrajaya Malaysia, 114 members of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) upheld the principle of right to self-determination, drawing a line between terrorism and the movements for right to self-determination. It was also resolved that no religion or creed should be labeled as terrorist. But be it NAM or any other forum, no one could stop America – the sole super power – from pursuing its agenda to control the world's resources. Former US president Richard Nixon has confessed in his book "The Real War", when he stated that "it would be naïve to say that another world war might take place to defend the "free world, when in fact the war is actually going on. He observed that if the US were to abandon its allies or strategic military areas around the world, or those areas which were rich in mineral resources or lose control over the flow of oil and sea-routes, then in his opinion the so-called "free world" not only would lose the war, but its very existence would be at stake". As a matter of fact, western countries were destroyed during the Second World War and they did not have the capacity to maintain control over their colonies, especially when colonies were waging struggle for independence. However, neo-colonialism replaced the colonialism. Though, Asia, Africa and Latin America contain the bulk of world's mineral wealth, economic resources and manpower, yet most of these countries are poor as they are being controlled politically and economically by the imperialism. Because of ruthless exploitation, some countries have become the breeding grounds for extremists and terrorists. To make this world a better place to live in, the US and European countries should focus on alleviation of poverty in those countries. Secondly, they

should help resolve the disputes between the countries vis-à-vis Israel and Palestine and India and Pakistan. By implementing the United Nations Security Council resolutions, and international agreements and covenants regarding Palestine and Kashmir, peace will prevail in those regions, and extremists would not have any reason to resort to terrorist activities.