

ABSTRACT

The war between the US and the Taliban began after the 9/11 attacks in 2001 and ended in 2020. President Bush immediately sent US military troops to Afghanistan to capture the leader of the Al-Qaeda terrorist group, Osama bin Laden. Under President Obama's administration, Osama was successfully killed in 2011. Under President Trump's administration, a peace agreement between the US and the Taliban was implemented in 2020. President Biden focused on fighting domestic terrorism and guarding the US peace agreement with the Taliban that had been implemented.

This thesis aims to look at the construction of the president's thoughts on the US policy against terrorism, especially in the case of the war between America and the Taliban. This thesis uses qualitative and descriptive analysis methods to examine the construction of the thoughts of the President of the United States. The qualitative method will use data in the form of official presidential documents, statements from each president of the United States in speeches and policies that have been made, books, previous research, and trusted media sources. The descriptive analysis method comes from the main source of qualitative methods.

In fighting terrorism, Bush uses hard power by issuing a global war on terror strategy. Obama used a smart power strategy and then worked with Muslim countries. Trump used the America First strategy, which resulted in a peace agreement between the US and the Taliban. Biden used the America is Back strategy by continuing the content of the peace agreement between the United States and the Taliban. And it will be concluded that every president has a different thought construction when making policies against terrorism, but all of them have the same goal, namely, protecting citizens from terrorist attacks and the interests of the United States in domestic politics, economics, military, and international context.

Keywords: *9/11 attacks, Terrorist, Peace Agreement, Thought Construction, US policies.*



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GADJAH MADA

**THE DYNAMIC OF THE UNITED STATES POLITICAL ELITES CONSTRUCTION ON TALIBAN IN
AFGHANISTAN: CASE STUDY
OF THE UNITED STATES PRESIDENTS THOUGHT ON TERRORISM POLICIES FROM 2001-2020**

MUHAMMAD ARIF I, Dr. Dafri Agussalim, M.A.

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