**Type of Article:** News Report

**Title:** The Taliban: Local or International Thugs?

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**Synopsis:** Prime Minister Stephen Harper calls for a distinction between the Taliban, which are primarily a domestic force, and Al Qaeda, which are an international threat.

The writer argues against this view and states that the fact that they gave Al Qaeda a base in their country is reason enough to deny them power. He quotes the Pakistani author Ahmed Rashid on the close relationship between the Taliban and Al Qaeda.

The article concludes that the level of co-operation between the Taliban and Al-Qaeda is extremely high.

-More political I think