

## **DAILY TRACKER**

### **Taliban's extremist implementation of sharia law**

1. Taliban have killed Alia Azizi, a Hazara female police officer and director of the Herat Women's Prison. Women under Taliban has been facing human rights abuses since the regime forcefully took over the country.

Source: <https://twitter.com/HazaraToday/status/1484532636714696707>

2. With the Taliban's return to power in Afghanistan, free speech and media freedoms were already under jeopardy. Recent inexplicable attacks on activists and journalists have fueled suspicions that the worst is yet to come. With the horrific assault of a journalist at his home last week, and extensive efforts to track down and detain participants in recent women's rights marches, the situation took a worrisome turn.

Source: <https://gandhara.rferl.org/a/attacks-activists-journalists-taliban-free-speech/31665428.html>

3. With a whisper, the Taliban may threaten. They used harsh force to take power here after 20 years of deadly struggle and the deaths of tens of thousands of civilians. Afghan women, on the other hand, refuse to be intimidated. One of these women is Tamana Zaryabi Paryani. Standing up to armed men who want to take away practically everything you've worked for in life takes guts. She marched with dozens of others last weekend to demand the right to work and the right to an education. Taliban fighters pepper-sprayed the demonstrators, and others claimed to have been stunned by electric shocks.

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-60091003>

4. Yesterday women activists were arrested from their homes at night by the Taliban just the same way as Prof. Jalal was arrested. Taliban wants to strangle any voice and every voice that speaks against them and terrorize Afghanistan.

Source: <https://twitter.com/Yasmineforpeace/status/1484850123125706754>

5. According to new research released today by Human Rights Watch and the Human Rights Institute at San Jose State University (SJSU), Taliban rule has had a disastrous effect on Afghan women and girls. The groups investigated the situation for women in Ghazni province, in southeastern Afghanistan, since the Taliban assumed control.

Source: <https://www.hrw.org/news/2022/01/18/afghanistan-taliban-deprive-women-livelihoods-identity>

6. According to Amnesty International, the Taliban authorities must investigate the kidnapping of Alia Azizi, a senior female jail officer who has been missing for more than three months after reporting for duty in Herat, and release her immediately and unconditionally if she is in their custody. Alia Azizi, the Head of Herat Women's Prison and a member of the ethnic Hazara minority, never returned home after heading to work

on October 2, 2021. Despite her family's repeated requests for the Taliban to examine the case, her disappearance remains shrouded in mystery.

Source: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/01/afghanistan-taliban-authorities-must-reveal-alia-azizis-whereabouts/>

7. With the Taliban taking control of Afghanistan, women are particularly vulnerable. The Taliban, known for their regressive outlook, are kidnapping and forcing women into sexual slavery.

Source: <https://madrascourier.com/opinion/how-the-taliban-sexually-enslaves-women-girls/>

8. Two staff members told AFP that the Taliban's religious police have threatened to shoot women NGO employees in a northwestern district of Afghanistan if they do not wear the all-covering burqa. Since the Taliban retook control in August after deposing the US-backed government, Afghans' rights, particularly those of women and children, have been significantly restricted.

Source: <https://english.alarabiya.net/News/world/2022/01/21/Afghan-NGO-women-threatened-with-shooting-by-Taliban-for-not-wearing-burqa>

9. The Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan in August has thrown the country into a humanitarian crisis. Not only is poverty and starvation widespread, but millions of women have lost their rights to an education and employment in a country ruled by fundamentalist forces. Despite promising to be more liberal than their previous rule in the late 1990s, the Taliban administration has reversed several decisions made by the ousted civilian government that granted Afghan women basic rights.

Source: <https://www.wionews.com/world/afghan-woman-in-hiding-speaks-with-hillary-clinton-talks-about-what-changed-after-taliban-takeover-446730>

### **Promotion of radicalism in Pakistan: HR violations of minorities in Pakistan: Steps taken in the world against Pakistan's radicalism**

1. For the majority of Pakistan's 101 million women, the country remains exclusive, unjust, unsafe, and violent. According to studies, 60 percent to 70 percent of Pakistani women are subjected to some sort of abuse, and around 5,000 women are killed or crippled each year as a result of domestic violence. According to the Thomson Reuters Foundation, Pakistan is the world's sixth most dangerous country for women. The country ranks 153 out of 156 countries in the World Economic Forum's 2018 Global Gender Gap Investigation, and a recent Human Rights Watch report indicated that domestic violence incidences spiked by 200 percent last year, intensifying when coronavirus lockdowns began in March 2020.

Source: <https://iffras.org/the-agony-of-being-a-woman-in-pakistan/>

2. Hindu girls in PoK subjected to extreme abuse and torture. Their families are not spared either. Minorities suffer daily under the barbaric Pakistan rule.  
Source: <https://twitter.com/Par1Ke/status/1484804911556874240>
3. The kidnapping, forced conversions, and marriages of non-Muslim girls have become one of the era's most serious human rights crises. The All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Pakistani Minorities published a report on abduction, forced conversions, and marriages in Pakistan on November 26, 2021. According to the report, around 1,000 girls between the ages of 12 and 25 from minorities are forcibly converted to Islam and married to their abductors in Pakistan each year, describing the situation as a "human-rights catastrophe."  
Source: <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/religionglobalsociety/2022/01/pakistans-dilemma-of-forced-conversions-and-marriages-put-minority-women-at-risk/>
4. Pakistan has been battling the effects of hate speech, particularly against religious and ethnic minorities, women, and other marginalised groups. Violence has continued to escalate, and countless lives have been destroyed.  
Source: <https://twitter.com/LaaiqaZaidi/status/1484750843509604354>
5. Christians in Pakistan are politically and socially marginalised by the current electoral system. Christian delegates chosen by main Muslim political parties are unable to advocate for and preserve the community's interests.  
Source: <https://www.ucanews.com/news/christians-demand-direct-voting-for-mps-in-pakistan/95737#>
6. Innocent Baloch people are being killed by the Pakistani army in order to repress their legitimate demands for freedom and rights. In Balochistan, the Pakistan Army is committing war crimes in the cover of a routine military exercise.  
Source: <https://twitter.com/Inayasahbukhari/status/1484770541089468419>
7. Pakistan in a bid to declare itself the leader of Islamic states continues selective persecution of minorities. Minor girls from minority communities are abducted, raped and forcibly converted to Islam.  
Source: <https://twitter.com/Par1Ke/status/1484436046318546944>
8. According to a US-based rights organisation, women, religious minorities, and transgender individuals in Pakistan continue to experience violence, discrimination, and persecution, with authorities failing to offer enough protection or hold perpetrators accountable. Human Rights Watch (HRW) painted a grim image of civil rights in Pakistan in its World Report 2022, which was released last week. The Pakistani government, according to the study, is still doing nothing to hold law enforcement officials accountable for torture and other major violations.  
Source: [https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/women-minorities-continue-to-face-persecution-in-pak-says-rights-group-122011700120\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/women-minorities-continue-to-face-persecution-in-pak-says-rights-group-122011700120_1.html)

9. In a video that went viral on his YouTube channel, a Pakistani anti-terrorism court sentenced a 27-year-old man to one year in prison and fined him for justifying the lynching of a Sri Lankan citizen.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/pak-youtuber-jailed-for-justifying-lynching-of-sri-lankan-citizen/article38310719.ece>

### **Positive stories on steps taken against radical Islam**

1. Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said on Friday that the country's recent wave of terrorism must be eradicated, a statement made a day after a bomb blast ripped through one of Lahore's busiest markets, killing at least three people and injuring dozens.

Source: <https://www.brecorder.com/news/40148888>

2. Minister of State for External Affairs Meenakshi Lekhi said on Friday that terrorism cannot be condoned and that the listing and delisting of individuals and businesses under the UN sanctions framework must be done objectively, not for political or religious reasons. Lekhi, speaking at the Global Counter Terrorism Council's International Counter Terrorism Conference 2022, urged for a collaborative strategy to dealing with terrorism and emphasised the importance of gathering political will to tackle the threat.

Source: <https://theprint.in/india/terrorists-are-terrorists-cannot-be-glorified-mos-mea/809937/>

3. According to Foreign Secretary Harsh Shringla, a lack of counter-terrorism cooperation between countries "emboldens" terrorists, citing the 26/11 Mumbai attacks, in which people of various nationalities were killed; last week's Texas Synagogue shootout involving a British citizen of Pakistani origin; and the drone attack by Yemeni Houthis in the United Arab Emirates, in which two Indians died, as examples. Without identifying Pakistan, Mr. Shringla claimed that the Texas incident demonstrated that terrorism is active in India's neighbourhood. "The recent tragedy in Texas, United States, proves once again that the transnational network of terror, with its epicentre in India's neighbourhood, is very much operational and has long-term ramifications," says the statement.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/attacks-in-texas-abu-dhabi-show-need-for-international-cooperation-on-terrorism-foreign-secretary/article38305867.ece>

4. According to the official WAM news agency, Dr. Anwar Gargash, diplomatic adviser to the UAE president, the UAE has a "legal and moral right" to defend itself against terrorism acts by Yemen's Iran-backed Houthi militia. He was cited as saying, "The UAE has a legal and moral right to defend its lands, population, and sovereignty, and will utilise this right to defend itself and prevent terrorist activities perpetrated by the Houthi group."

Source: <https://www.gfatf.org/archives/uae-has-legal-right-to-self-defense-against-houthi-terrorist-acts/>

5. Detego's client\* is one of London's biggest airports, with over 30 million passengers passing through each year. The airport serves over 200 destinations in 40 countries and is used by many of the region's budget airlines. In recent years, this airport has seen the great majority of Jihadi militants seeking to enter the UK from Syria, making border security and early detection of terror-related threats a high focus. As part of the larger Counter Terrorism Border Policing Group, the airport has permanent Counter Terrorism Officers. These officers' job requires them to thoroughly investigate and forensically secure data from digital devices in suspects' possession.

Source: <https://www.forensicfocus.com/case-studies/how-detego-helped-airport-based-counterterrorism-units-speed-up-investigations-with-rapid-data-extraction-and-triage-tools/?sfw=pass1642873257>

6. The Punjab Police recovered a 40mm Under Barrel Grenade Launcher (UBGL) with two 40mm compatible grenades, 3.79 Kg RDX, nine electrical detonators, and two sets of timer devices for IEDs from Gurdaspur on Friday, thwarting a possible terrorist attack around Republic Day, said Inspector General of Police (IGP) Border Range Mohinish Chawla.

Source: <https://www.freepressjournal.in/india/punjab-police-avert-possible-terrorist-attack-around-republic-day-seizes-grenade-launcher-rdx-ieds-from-gurdaspur-resident>

7. According to Pakistan's counter-terrorism agency (CTD), over 90% of terrorists operating in Afghanistan are actively attacking CPEC projects, vital sites, and economic activity. These were the words of Deputy Inspector General (DIG) CTD Javed Iqbal Wazir, who spoke to reporters in Peshawar on Thursday.

Source: <https://www.wionews.com/south-asia/90-of-terrorists-operating-in-afghanistan-targeting-cpec-projects-paks-counter-terrorism-wing-chief-441142>

8. Prevention, cooperation, and mutual assistance in controlled measures at international borders are critical to combating the transnational and connected nature of terrorists and criminal activists in the South Asian region, said Chief of Defence Staff and Army Commander General Shavendra Silva on Thursday, emphasising the importance of law enforcement institutional reforms based on common and agreed policies."

Source: <https://island.lk/prevention-cooperation-mutual-assistance-essential-to-counter-connected-nature-of-terrorists-in-south-asia-army-chief/>