

## **DAILY TRACKER**

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

1. Fourteen female convicts were released on Thursday, February 3 as a result of a five-member delegation's examination." Moulayee Abdulhaq, a member of the delegation and the deputy of the counter narcotics body in the IEA's ministry of interior affairs, said that all Afghan prisons have been ordered to prioritise the files of women convicts. Abdulhaq further stated that the inmates who were released vowed not to engage in activities that are harmful to societal order, illegal, and/or in violation of Sharia law.  
SOURCE: <https://www.khaama.com/taliban-release-14-women-prisoners-in-kabul-457457/>
2. Aaina Nazar, a defence lawyer in Kabul, mainly declined to represent members of extremist groups such as the Islamic State's Afghanistan affiliate, but she did assist women who wanted to divorce Taliban combatants. Despite the fact that she was threatened by both parties, she never handed up the legislation. Kabul's professional women are protesting Taliban-imposed Islamic Law restrictions.  
SOURCE: <https://asia.nikkei.com/Life-Arts/Life/Professional-women-of-Kabul-rail-against-Taliban-imposed-restrictions>
3. During this situation, it's hard not to consider religious freedom, she continued. "Everything the Taliban does is motivated by their religious beliefs. When they execute people for breaching their interpretation of Islamic law or when they target women and girls who wish to attend to school, religion plays a role. This is all tied to the Taliban." The difficulty is that in violent flashpoints around the world, religious freedom concerns are sometimes drowned out during debates about politics, economics, climate change, and other issues.  
SOURCE: [https://www.goshennews.com/news/lifestyles/afghanistan-religious-minorities-on-the-run-or-in-hiding/article\\_03970c1c-851a-11ec-8559-4f4ae053449e.html](https://www.goshennews.com/news/lifestyles/afghanistan-religious-minorities-on-the-run-or-in-hiding/article_03970c1c-851a-11ec-8559-4f4ae053449e.html)
4. According to reports, reality stars Ramiz and Rohina, who is also a model/actress, are not stopping their shows despite the Taliban's new sharia legislation. For starring on a reality TV show with his model-actress sister Rohina, Ramiz has received threats from the hardline armed group that currently rules Afghanistan. The show, named West Ta East, is based on Keeping Up With The Kardashians and will be shot and shown in Afghanistan in part.  
SOURCE: <https://www.khaama.com/the-show-afghan-kardashians-continues-their-reality-program-despite-taliban-threats-1234/>
5. Many doubts about the implementation of legislation previously adopted by the Republic have arisen as a result of the regime transition and the foundation of the Islamic Emirate. The Taliban, now in control after a 20-year insurgency, must demonstrate their

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competence to run a state. Their plans are currently centred on two pillars: security and the construction of a Sharia-law-based 'really' Islamist power (which, significantly, forbids the exploitation of children). Since taking control on August 15, the Taliban have yet to present a formal policy on child labour. "There have been no clear messages on the matter," Allen claims. Concerns have been raised about the Taliban's child protection practises: "In the past, they have utilised kid troops."

SOURCE: <https://www.equaltimes.org/afghanistan-s-dire-political-and#.Yf0gzN9BztQ>

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

1. Despite the "eradication of the Uyghur Muslims" in Xinjiang, the Taliban's Afghan offshoot, ISIS-Khorasan, chastised the Taliban for keeping close ties with China. ISIS-K also released a picture of Taliban members praying beside the ISI commander in a propaganda magazine dubbed 'Voice of Khurasan,' stressing that the Taliban have several training camps and religious institutions in Pakistan.

SOURCE: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/isisk-blasts-taliban-for-supporting-china-on-uyghur-repression-101643957658774.html>

2. The statue of a sword-wielding horseman, which was erected in 2017 in the square Siddique-i-Akbar in Haripur (the district named after Hari Singh Nalwa), was purportedly destroyed by local officials. The act, according to Sikhs, has harmed their religious beliefs and sentiments. At the square, a new monument bearing the name of Islam's first caliph will be unveiled.

SOURCE: <https://news.abplive.com/news/india/pakistan-sikh-community-condemn-removal-of-legendary-hari-singh-nalwa-statue-from-siddique-i-akbar-chowk-1510850>

3. According to a study released Monday by the Council of Pakistan Newspaper Editors (CPNE), Pakistan's press freedom and freedom of expression were severely curtailed last year. The author paints a gloomy image of what it's like to work as a journalist in the country. It is described by oppn as evidence of the government's "fascism."

SOURCE: <https://www.wionews.com/south-asia/report-media-freedom-in-pakistan-deteriorated-in-2021-oppn-calls-it-testimony-to-fascism-of-the-government-450399>

4. In most ethnic peripheries, Pakistani statecraft and legal regimes are still colonial in nature. State functionaries are frequently more interested in pillaging natural resources than helping the proverbial people, and violence is rampant. In metropolitan Pakistan, there is also evidence of a new wave of racial profiling of Baloch (and Pakhtuns).

SOURCE: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1673204/state-of-justice>

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5. Forced marriage, domestic abuse, abduction of a juvenile and bringing her overseas, abandonment of a minor, and sexual violence have all been charged against the mother of a 12-year-old Italian girl who was betrothed to a Pakistani man.

SOURCE: [https://www.ansa.it/english/news/general\\_news/2022/02/04/mum-probed-over-betrothal-of-daughter-12-to-pakistani\\_44accfd6-7ce3-47df-a876-918b66b5e0be.html](https://www.ansa.it/english/news/general_news/2022/02/04/mum-probed-over-betrothal-of-daughter-12-to-pakistani_44accfd6-7ce3-47df-a876-918b66b5e0be.html)

6. To say the least, the rise in terrorism in Balochistan is startling. Baloch insurgents attacked security forces' camps in the provinces of Panjgur and Naushki on Wednesday evening. ISPR, the military's media wing, said both attacks were repulsed, with 13 terrorists dead and seven soldiers, including an officer, embracing death in a statement. The Afghan Taliban have made it plain that they want to help Pakistan but are unwilling to utilise coercive techniques to reign in the TTP and other militant groups, leaving Islamabad with few diplomatic options. It's past time for the government to reassess and review its counter-intelligence and counter-terrorism policies, as well as its internal security policies.

SOURCE: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1673203/more-attacks>

7. On Thursday, opposition parties expressed grave alarm about the country's escalating terrorism events, blaming them on the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) government's failure to implement the National Action Plan (NAP). Terrorist nurseries must be eradicated. Soldiers are being attacked by enemies of the country and the nation. "The military are the proud sons of the nation," the opposition parties said. They also criticised the administration for announcing a new National Security Policy (NSP) without consulting parliament.

SOURCE: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1673139>

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

1. Pakistani law enforcement agencies claimed on Friday that they had foiled terror attacks on religious sites and detained two terrorists from the proscribed Islamic State (ISIS) in the country's Punjab region. The Punjab province's Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) warned in a statement that several terrorists were present in Mian Channu, Khanewal, around 300 kilometres from Lahore, and were plotting to strike worship places.

SOURCE: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/world/2022/feb/04/pak-authorities-arrest-two-isis-terrorists-for-planning-to-attack-worship-places-2415388.html>

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2. In a counter-terror operation conducted out by the US in north-western Syria, the Islamic State's leader was assassinated. On Wednesday, US President Joe Biden gave his approval to the activities. The US is on a counter-terrorism mission, when an ISIS leader detonated a bomb during raids.

SOURCE: <https://www.wionews.com/videos/us-conducts-counter-terrorism-mission-isis-leader-blew-himself-up-during-raids-450299>

3. Mudzrimar, the second-largest Islamist group in the Philippines, is seeking safety in Sabah and may reactivate local associated groups. Malaysia is also deploying special riding teams near the Thai-Malaysian border, where local Muslim separatist organisations operate.

SOURCE: <https://www.asianews.it/news-en/Malaysia-boosts-anti-terrorism-measures-as-Abu-Sayyaf-threats-increase-in-Borneo-55066.html>

4. Turkey urged the international community to fight all terrorist groups equally, saying that collaborating with one terrorist group in the fight against another is unacceptable. We have made active contributions to international initiatives in this context. Furthermore, the operations we conducted and the preventive measures we took, both at home and abroad, played a critical part in the demise of the Daesh terrorist organisation. Our country will continue to contribute effectively to international efforts in the battle against Daesh as an active member of the International Coalition Against Daesh."

SOURCE: <https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/war-on-terror/ankara-urges-united-stance-against-all-terrorist-groups>

5. Nigeria has revealed that there are 96 secret terrorist financiers operating across the country, supporting Boko Haram and the Islamic State of West Africa Province. 45 persons accused of funding terrorism have been apprehended and will be charged soon. According to the minister, Nigeria's financial crimes agency had seized at least \$750 million (£550 million) in local and foreign currencies tied to corruption. The Nigerian Securities and Exchange Commission has given authorities more jurisdiction to monitor financial ties to suspected Islamist groups.

SOURCE: <https://www.africanews.com/2022/02/04/96-terrorism-financiers-uncovered-in-nigeria/>

6. The Turkish military carried out airstrikes in northern Iraq and sections of northern Syria, targeting the PKK terrorist group's positions, including training camps, shelters, and weapons storage. Since 2016, Ankara has launched three successful anti-terrorism operations across its border in northern Syria to prevent the establishment of a terror corridor and allow civilians to return to their homes in peace: Euphrates Shield (2016), Olive Branch (2018), and Peace Spring (2019). (2019).

SOURCE: <https://www.dailysabah.com/politics/war-on-terror/turkey-determined-to-root-out-terrorists-threatening-regional-peace>

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7. President Filipe Nyusi of Mozambique remarked on Thursday that Mozambique in general, and the northern area of Mueda in particular, remain sites where "unknown heroes" are fighting terrorists who are the country's greatest foes at all hours of the day and night. 235 members of the local Cabo Delgado militias were among the more than 1,700 Mozambicans honoured on Thursday for their contributions to the country, which Nyusi lauded for their bravery in the struggle against the jihadists.

SOURCE: <https://allafrica.com/stories/202202040130.html>

8. In recent years, multiple incidents have occurred in Pakistan's Balochistan province. Last month, two tiny separatist groups joined to form the Balochistan Nationalist Army, which has pledged to resume attacks. The new bloodshed came a week after armed fighters attacked a security post in Kech, Balochistan province, killing ten troops. Kech has been the scene of long-running armed terror activity. While condemning the recent terrorist incident in Pakistan's Balochistan province, Iran's ambassador to Pakistan stressed the importance of a concerted response to the "sinister phenomena of terrorism."

SOURCE: <https://www.tasnimnews.com/en/news/2022/02/04/2656708/iranian-envoy-calls-for-collective-response-against-terrorism>

9. Under an executive order on terrorism funding, the US stated on Thursday that it was punishing an Indonesian charity for allegedly giving funds to militants in Syria under the "guise of humanitarian relief." On the same day that President Joe Biden declared that the senior leader of the Islamic State terror group had been killed during a nighttime assault by American special forces in northwestern Syria, the US government initiated action against World Human Care, an NGO.

SOURCE: <https://www.benarnews.org/english/news/indonesian/treasury-designation-02032022154547.html>

10. In the Bandipora district of north Kashmir, the Jammu and Kashmir Police captured a hybrid terrorist belonging to The Resistance Front (TRF), a Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) affiliate. Shabir Ahmad Dar, a Chandergeer Hajin inhabitant, was arrested as a terrorist. "Being a hybrid terrorist of the TRF organisation, he was acting on the orders of handlers—Lala Umar and Huzaifa, both Pakistani terrorists across the border," a police officer stated.

SOURCE: <https://zeenews.india.com/india/trf-hybrid-terrorist-apprehended-in-jammu-and-kashmir-s-bandipora-2433305.html>

11. Instead of nebulous conceptualizations of the War on Terror, Washington would be prudent to explore practical foreign policy objectives based on demonstrable results and methods. Worse, the events in Hasakah may have prompted the US government to accept risks to civilians in order to reclaim control of the so-called War on Terror in Syria and Iraq against ISIS. Such observations are hardly lacking in evidence when observing other US counterterrorism operations, including those at Baghouz and the Tabqa Dam in Syria, that were also based on dubious legal grounds, shaky intelligence, and prioritised broader security and political considerations over minimising civilian harm.

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SOURCE: <https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/killing-islamic-state-leaders-won%E2%80%99t-end-war-terror-200355>

12. We've seen the formation of ISIS-Central Africa and ISIS-Mozambique in the southern region of Africa, which is concerning. According to Townsend, the violence is expanding southward toward previously stable governments around the Gulf of Guinea. "Al Qaeda's JNIM and ISIS factions continue to spread, getting closer to the coastline states," he warned. "Recent attacks have occurred in Benin, Togo, and Côte d'Ivoire. These attacks demonstrate the expansion that concerns me." When you include Al Qaeda-affiliated and other radical groups, there are at least 18 Islamist terrorist organisations on the continent.

SOURCE: <https://theintercept.com/2022/02/04/isis-leader-killed-africa-biden/>

13. Anti-terrorist training is essential, but there are additional measures that must be taken to combat antisemitism. Congregants, religious leaders, and others need to be aware of security issues if Jewish institutions are to be protected. Synagogues and other places of worship that could be targeted by terrorists need the funds and resources to rebuild in the aftermath of this attack. We urge governments all throughout the world to recognise this menace as a genuine and immediate threat. To prevent antisemitic expressions around the world, all governments must step up their efforts.

SOURCE: <https://www.star-telegram.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/other-voices/article257782203.html>