

## **DAILY TRACKER**

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

1. LGBTQ people are under serious danger. According to a recent report by Human Rights Watch and Outright Action International, a global organisation dedicated to LGBTQ rights, queer Afghans are seeing an increase in violence under the Taliban administration. Taliban under Islamic Law considers homosexuality to be a sin.  
SOURCE: <https://www.wbur.org/hereandnow/2022/02/07/lgbtq-afghans-taliban-violence>
2. According to a half-dozen activists quoted by The Washington Post, armed militants have battered female marchers, poured pepper spray in their faces, and shocked them with electric prods. Other women have received threatening phone calls and texts, as well as social media harassment. Several people claimed they were being followed by radicals who were attempting to scare them. Many people took to hide. Because the Taliban knows their faces and names, they all decided to go on the record. This is all after Taliban promised to provide rights and protection to woman under Islamic law.  
SOURCE: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/02/08/afghanistan-taliban-women-protests/>
3. Taliban officials are bringing their daughters to school despite the fact that other female students are not allowed in the classrooms. According to a research by the Afghanistan Analysts Network, high-ranking officials have been sending their children to international state institutions and colleges while denying schooling to millions of Afghan girls since taking power. For Taliban who want to educate their boys and daughters, the Iqra method is ideal. A Taliban official in Pakistan said, "It's an Islamic educational system that teaches both modern school topics and madrasa subjects."  
SOURCE: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/global-health/terror-and-security/taliban-sends-daughters-school-despite-closing-classrooms-female/>
4. Since the Islamist group took control the country in August as foreign forces departed, fears for the safety of loud Taliban opponents and notable women have grown. Many activists from civil society and women's rights groups have fled the country. Many human rights campaigners and foreign diplomats are sceptical of the Taliban's claims that they have granted amnesty to any prior opponents and that they protect women's rights in accordance with Islamic law and norms.  
SOURCE: <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-695863>
5. According to her, the headscarf is a vital aspect of Afghan culture, important for both religion and culture. "I feel safe wearing a hijab in Afghanistan," she explained. The storey would be different if I were in Europe or America." The issue, according to Stanikzai, is

9<sup>th</sup> February 2022

that the Taliban wants women to wear burqas. "We don't want to hide our faces behind our hands." This is the first phase in the Taliban's plan to eliminate women from society. The Taliban has recently posted posters in cafés and other public areas with the statement "Muslim women must wear hijab," along with an image of a lady wearing a veil over her face.

SOURCE: <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-694997>

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

1. On Tuesday, it was revealed that two young girls were kidnapped and subjected to criminal assault, including rape, in the Naokot area of Sindh's Mirpurkhas district. The girls, one of whom is married, were kidnapped on Sunday and were found the next day during a police raid at a house in the neighbourhood, according to Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Asad Chaudhry. "Medico-legal officers at the rural health centre investigated the young married woman and her adolescent sister-in-law, and it was verified that they had been raped.

SOURCE: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1674007/mirpurkhas-kidnapped-teenage-girls-were-raped-police-say>

2. On the education front, Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan have been shamefully left behind, depriving our sisters of their right to a modern, secular education. Pakistan's leadership has used religious conservatism as a method of political dominance over the years. The Pakistani establishment has released extreme religious parties in an effort to suppress the Baluchistan liberation movement, which engage in indiscriminate killings in a display of intolerance reminiscent of mediaeval times.

SOURCE: <https://www.greaterkashmir.com/todays-paper/kashmir-todays-paper/women-protest-denial-to-right-to-education-of-girls-in-afghanistan-pakistan>

3. According to the Friday Times, many Christian-led activists and rights organisations staged a protest in Pakistan, requesting that the government better protect the lives and property of religious minorities. The organisation demanded that the assailants who shot and killed Pastor William Siraj and wounded Pastor Patrick Naeem in Peshawar last week be apprehended and prosecuted.

SOURCE: <https://daijiworld.com/news/newsDisplay?newsID=924509>

4. On allegations of blasphemy, a sessions court in Pakistan's Ghotki sentenced a Hindu man to life in jail. In addition, Nautan Lal was fined Rs 50,000. Soon after, Mufti Adul Karim Sayeedi of Jamaat Ahle Sunnat, the head of a madrassa, filed a blasphemy prosecution against the school's owner. The night the case was filed, violence erupted in the district. Masked men stormed the

9<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Sacho Satram Dham Temple in Ghotki as word spread. They looted the temple, smashed its blue and green walls, and vandalised its idols.

SOURCE: <https://daijiworld.com/news/newsDisplay?newsID=924510>

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

1. To circumvent sanctions, some terror groups rebrand themselves as humanitarian organisations, mocking sanction systems. It is critical that sanctions do not obstruct legitimate humanitarian needs. However, it is critical to take caution when granting humanitarian exemptions, particularly in circumstances where terrorism finds safe havens.

SOURCE: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/some-terror-groups-making-mockery-of-sanction-regimes-re-brand-themselves-as-humanitarian-organisations-to-evade-sanctions-india/articleshow/89421472.cms>

2. The National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) has developed and launched a new mobile app and website that provides declassified intelligence reports, training materials, and breaking alert notifications for terrorist-related incidents. This new digital tool, dubbed "aCTknowledge," was created with—and specifically for—US law enforcement personnel, first responders, and homeland security professionals. It will be updated frequently in the future based on their comments. “ This is a tremendous evolution of our information-sharing effort.

SOURCE: <https://www.nextgov.com/it-modernization/2022/02/new-app-tracks-terrorism-linked-events-local-us-communities/361683/>

3. It's critical to remember that terrorism is a problem that can't be solved by force. Terrorism, as difficult as it is to realise, cannot be completely eradicated. As long as humanity has existed, violent acts done to terrify a civilian population or influence government policy (as defined by the US criminal law) have existed. One of the main reasons why the Global Battle on Terrorism narrative, as expressed shortly after the September 11 attacks, is so unhelpful is that fighting terrorism is similar to starting a never-ending war.

SOURCE: <https://inkstickmedia.com/targeted-killing-isnt-the-solution-to-terrorism/>

4. Thousands of Israelis are still living in dread after Iranian hackers stole their personal information, including sexual orientation and HIV status, from the famous LGBTQ dating site Araf. The victims may suffer grave consequences if the information is leaked. Cyber terrorism differs from cybercrime in that the attackers are private groups rather than states, and the motivation is frequently monetary, whether through ransom payments or the acquisition of information to sell on the Dark Web.

Governments must also spend in educating citizens about the growing threat and risks of cyber terrorism. This could assist businesses in realising that following legislation isn't enough, and that they must recognise their real-world vulnerabilities.

SOURCE: <https://www.darkreading.com/attacks-breaches/cyber-terrorism-is-a-growing-threat-governments-must-take-action>

5. In the fight against terrorism, collaboration between governments and security services is critical. This is especially true in the case of transnational terrorism. The timely and correct sharing of intelligence through established channels is essential for effective inter-agency cooperation. Kenya works with a number of Western nations to get to the conclusion that a terrorist strike is impending. Kenya and the United Kingdom, for example, have reached an agreement to combat Al-threat. Shabaab's The two governments exchange intelligence and come up with innovative tactics to sabotage the group's operations in East Africa and elsewhere.

SOURCE: <https://theconversation.com/kenya-is-on-edge-again-heres-what-you-should-know-about-terror-alerts-176072>

6. On Monday, a South African court found twin brothers guilty of terrorism and sentenced them to prison for plotting to assault the US embassy in Pretoria and join the Islamic State, according to local media. Both Tony-Lee and Brandon-Lee Thulsie, both 28 years old, were arrested in South Africa in July 2016 and have been detained in detention ever since. According to local media, the South African brothers pled guilty early Monday as part of a plea deal with the prosecution.

SOURCE: <https://www.africanews.com/2022/02/07/south-africa-jails-twins-for-terrorism-over-us-embassy-plot/>

7. The visit by Pakistan's prime minister comes just days after the armed forces foiled militant strikes in Nuskhi, Panjgur, and Kech. In least 20 terrorists were killed in the operation at Nushki and Panjgur, according to the Pakistan Army's media arm. In the aftermath of the Afghan war, no other army, according to Imran, has faced extraordinary obstacles owing to acts of terrorism. He claimed that the Pakistan army exemplified professionalism and contributed to the country's terrorist violence.

SOURCE: <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2342549/imran-vows-befitting-response-to-terrorists>

8. The actions of the special and law enforcement agencies will continue. On January 6, the critical (red) level of terrorism threat was introduced. From Jan. 5 to 19, a state of emergency was declared. On Jan. 26, the critical level was decreased to high. "A joint attack with the involvement of armed members of organised crime and extremist groups" was launched against the country. A total of 18 members of organised criminal organisations have been apprehended.

SOURCE: <https://astanatimes.com/2022/02/high-terrorism-threat-level-scaled-down-in-almaty-zhambyl-region-investigation-continues/>

9. In a shootout with a mixed team of J&K police and army at Awantipora in south Kashmir's Pulwama district on Monday, a 19-year-old terrorist from Lashkar-e-Taiba's Resistance Force (TRF) was killed. Irfan Ahmad Sheikh, a killed youngster from Karemabad in Pulwama, had been "lost" since January 17, according to sources, raising suspicions that he had joined an organisation.

SOURCE: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/let-terrorist-19-killed-in-jks-pulwama/articleshow/89417601.cms>

10. From Monday night (7 February) to early Tuesday morning, the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF) conducted a counter-terrorism drill at The Star Vista. The Republic of Singapore Air Force's (RSAF) new H225M medium lift helicopters, which were launched in December last year, were deployed as part of the exercise, which was led by the SAF's Special Operations Task Force. The helicopters are part of the RSAF's Participation Command's helicopter group, which may drop supplies, deploy troops, and provide air defence to impact ground and marine conflicts.

SOURCE: [https://news.yahoo.com/saf-night-counter-terrorism-exercise-star-vista-014409572.html?guccounter=1&guce\\_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly9uZXdzLmdvb2dsZS5jb20v&guce\\_referrer\\_sig=AQAAIeSwt59iLkgtF769N-rEriLIdM0WB\\_nNOByVJityfr7SDPRg9oaGA5LjqmCwemOa51cFj8e3w13NXgebHqUlwSB1tdZZrQgFEBUVZK-v3igfqHPodrVv1pB1x73cp0ZR858duhFO1W-ADLh8ZanGFiTew-tMTmq5MLAeJAETgBi](https://news.yahoo.com/saf-night-counter-terrorism-exercise-star-vista-014409572.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly9uZXdzLmdvb2dsZS5jb20v&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAIeSwt59iLkgtF769N-rEriLIdM0WB_nNOByVJityfr7SDPRg9oaGA5LjqmCwemOa51cFj8e3w13NXgebHqUlwSB1tdZZrQgFEBUVZK-v3igfqHPodrVv1pB1x73cp0ZR858duhFO1W-ADLh8ZanGFiTew-tMTmq5MLAeJAETgBi)

11. Three armed terrorists from the Fatah-affiliated Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade were killed in battles with Israeli security forces in Nablus on Tuesday, marking the end of a joint IDF-Shin Bet operation. According to the Palestinian Wafa News Agency, a fourth Palestinian was apprehended during the operation.

SOURCE: <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-695858>

12. As Secretary for Security Christ Tang Ping-keung stated, the government will boost anti-terrorism promotions in schools, a lawmaker recommended producing anti-terrorism videos like to those produced in Xinjiang. On Tuesday, Chan Chun-ying, a member of the finance functional constituency, proposed that the government create a series of anti-terrorism documentaries similar to how things are done in Xinjiang. Tang stated that he will carefully consider Chan's advice, and that the government will research the best ways to combat terrorism in schools. He stated that the government will continue to engage with the Education Bureau on gaining national recognition for teens.

SOURCE: <https://www.thestandard.com.hk/breaking-news/section/4/186892/Lawmaker-suggests-anti-terrorism-documentaries-at-schools>

13. Abubakar Malami, the Attorney-General of the Federation (AGF), has stated that the trial of certain suspected terrorism financiers will begin shortly. Since the news of the suspects' arrest seeped out in April of last year, Mr Malami's rhetoric has

9<sup>th</sup> February 2022

been to promise that the trial of the suspects will begin shortly. Mr Malami, in an interview with Channels Television's 'Politics Today' on Monday, reaffirmed that anybody found guilty of the crime would be charged as soon as possible.

SOURCE: <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/510271-again-malami-speaks-on-trial-of-terrorism-financiers.html>

14. The Japanese government has provided Sri Lanka with cars and equipment to aid the government's attempts to combat illegal drugs and terrorism. At the Presidential Secretariat on Tuesday, the Japanese Ambassador to Sri Lanka symbolically handed over counter-terrorism surveillance and investigation vehicles, as well as narcotic analyzers, as part of the second phase of a donation to President Gotabaya Rajapaksa.

SOURCE: [http://www.colombopage.com/archive\\_22A/Feb08\\_1644335641CH.php](http://www.colombopage.com/archive_22A/Feb08_1644335641CH.php)