

20th March 2022

DAILY TRACKER

Taliban's extremist implementation of sharia law

1. "They tied my hands with rubber whips, laid me on my stomach, and whipped my buttocks till I bled," Bilal, an Afghan gay man, said. Human Rights Watch said that LGBTQ+ Afghans were "sexually attacked, or explicitly threatened by Taliban members because of their sexual orientation or gender identity" after the Taliban took power. Daesh also targeted LGBT Afghans, and many were tortured. We were never able to live in harmony. The Taliban informed me that I shouldn't exist and that I had no place in Islam or the right to live while stabbing me.

SOURCE: <https://www.thequint.com/neon/gender/gay-man-tortured-by-taliban-in-afghanistan-lgbtq-suffering-ask-for-help#read-more>

2. Smuggled past the Taliban, Hazara artist's work is now on exhibit in Taranaki. Khadim's studio served as a hub for the sharing of ideas and concepts, as well as the creation of art, for nearly a decade. The Taliban then returned. According to Khadim, art is prohibited under Taliban legislation. "As we all know, the Taliban despise all forms of art and oppose all forms of picture-making, therefore much art was discarded or destroyed. It had to be, because the artists' lives were on the line. I didn't want any of them to die as a result of their actions."

SOURCE: <https://www.nzherald.co.nz/stratford-press/news/hazara-artists-work-smuggled-past-taliban-now-on-display-in-taranaki/43UYZQ4YTDSCP6KIWGCDNA7WI/>

3. Eight women in detention were allegedly gang-raped by Taliban fighters in northern Mazr-e-Sharf city in January. These women were among those detained while attempting to exit the country when the Taliban took power following the withdrawal of international soldiers. The barriers to higher education for young women are at an all-time high; women are barred from most paid positions, women's sports have been outlawed, and over 72 percent of female journalists have lost their jobs. The Taliban quickly replaced the ministry of women's affairs with the infamous ministry of virtue and vice in their early days of power, which eventually saw a slew of restrictions imposed on women's trips. For peaceful protests for their right to vote, women have been beaten and kidnapped.

SOURCE: <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2022/mar/19/the-media-spotlight-on-afghanistan-is-fading-fast-but-the-agony-of-its-people-is-far-from-over>

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

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1. According to a famous Baloch activist who organises a campaign against missing persons in Balochistan, a citizen of the Awaran district has been killed while in the custody of the Pakistan Army. Human rights violations are also known as the "kill and dump" policy.
SOURCE: <https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/resident-killed-under-pakistan-army-custody-claims-baloch-activist20220319084644/>
2. Pakistan's opposition leaders denounced the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) MNAs' forcible entry and violent protest in Sindh House on Friday. Violent protests are being labelled as a failure of the Islamabad Police Department for failing to intervene when government property is being vandalised.
SOURCE: <https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/pak-opposition-leaders-condemn-forceful-entry-of-pti-workers-in-sindh-house20220319004319/>
3. The Pakistani occupation of Baloch violated all international covenants against murdering and depriving people of their right to life by shooting a little Baloch youngster Sabghatullah.
SOURCE: https://twitter.com/Jam_Baloch/status/1505110274113777665
4. After security officers harassed women and children who were marching to the port in protest against illicit fishing, a large crowd has gathered in Gwadar.
SOURCE: <https://twitter.com/TBPEnglish/status/1505145634902450179>
5. On suspicion of stealing PKR 50,000 (\$280), a dad and his two sons allegedly killed their daughter. On Thursday, the event occurred in the Rahi Nigor area of the Panjgur district of Balochistan. According to the details, Adul Ghafoor murdered his daughter Ganj Malik on suspicion of stealing money from their home. According to reports, a religious cleric told the guy that his daughter might be the thief. The accused guy and his sons Sudheer and Chakar tormented Ganj Malik mercilessly, wounding her multiple times. Ganj Malik died as a result of her injuries. After that, her father and sons buried her in a remote location.
SOURCE: <https://thebalochistanpost.net/2022/03/father-kills-daughter-on-suspicion-of-theft/>
6. After months of incarceration, three Baloch missing persons have been released in Quetta. The three people were apprehended in Quetta and Hub Chowki and held in detention for six months before being freed on Friday in Quetta, the province capital. Baloch activists used social media to call for the three people's safe return. Salma Kanwal, Qadir Kanwal's ten-year-old daughter, has been lobbying for his father's safe release for months. Her efforts were rewarded when her father and his associates were released in Quetta.
SOURCE: <https://thebalochistanpost.net/2022/03/3-missing-persons-released-in-quetta-months-after-abduction/>

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7. Pakistani forces are said to have detained two more Baloch youngsters and transferred them to unknown locations, while a missing individual was released on Thursday. A man named Takkari Bahadur Ali Kiazai, who had been missing for a long time, was brought to light in Bahawalpur central jail on Thursday, according to details. Demonstrations against Takkari Bahadur Ali's forced disappearance were seen on a huge scale. While one Baloch missing person has been found, two others have gone missing in different parts of Balochistan.

SOURCE: <https://thebalochistanpost.net/2022/03/balochistan-one-recovered-two-more-go-missing/>

8. Tehseen Karim was kidnapped by rangers from Karachi. His kidnapping was accepted, and they promised the family that he would be returned shortly, but they afterwards denied his kidnapping. Families are being pressured to withdraw from politics as part of a collective punishment scheme.

SOURCE: https://twitter.com/Arif_baloch13/status/1505163272319750144

Positive stories on steps taken against radical Islam

1. Amit Shah, the Union Home Minister, will have a security review of Jammu and Kashmir in Jammu with the leaders of paramilitary forces, the UT Police, and security agencies, with the goal of combating terrorists on both sides of the Pir Panjal. Shah will be briefed on terror activities in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, as well as the number of infiltrators at launch pads aiming to cross the tightly monitored line as snow melts on high mountain passes, according to officials in Jammu and Srinagar.

SOURCE: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/amit-shah-to-review-j-k-security-focus-on-counter-terrorism-measures-101647669972959.html>

2. A Parliamentary committee has advised the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to "fix a timeline" for the full operationalization of the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID), which is intended to be a robust mechanism for tracking suspects and preventing terrorist attacks with real-time data and access to classified information such as immigration, banking, individual taxpayers, air and train travel. Anand Sharma, a Congress leader, chairs the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs.

SOURCE: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/parliamentary-panel-asks-mha-to-fix-timeline-for-launch-of-counter-terrorism-natgrid/articleshow/90318661.cms>

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3. Following the terrorism-related arrest of an Adelaide teenager, police are assuring the public that there is no larger threat. The 15-year-old boy from South Plympton was detained on Friday by the South Australian Joint Counter Terrorism squad for possessing information for terrorist activities, extremist material, and taking part in the production of explosives. The accused has been denied bail and will appear in front of the Adelaide Youth Court on Monday.
SOURCE: <https://7news.com.au/news/crime/terrorism-arrest-of-adelaide-teenager-c-6122662>
4. The International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program (ICITAP) of the Department of Justice and the Department of State's Counterterrorism Bureau (DOS/CT) have recently developed a new programme to encourage women in counterterrorism leadership roles. Engaging Multinational Police Women on Equality and Rights (EMPoWER) is an initiative that helps women strengthen their capacity to fight terrorism by providing them with leadership opportunities and inclusion in counterterrorism efforts. More than two dozen law enforcement officers from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Kenya attended the EMPoWER Program's first-ever regional conference this week in Opatija, Croatia. "When it comes to terrorism, it is claimed that the world is small," said ICITAP Director Gregory Ducot. "By educating women, we understand the need to strengthen their engagement in counter-terrorism law enforcement."
SOURCE: <https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/departments-justice-and-state-launch-international-program-support-women-leadership-roles>
5. While cross-border terrorism and crime remain big worries, the Narendra Modi-led government would have spent about Rs 7,000 crore since 2020 to alter and control five important frontiers. On several occasions, the ministry of home affairs has informed parliament on the initiative. New border infrastructure projects have also been launched with the help of a specific fund. The national government approved the construction of 32 India-China Border Roads (ICBR)-II, totaling 683.12 kilometres and costing Rs 12,434.90 crore, in 2020. Eight roads have begun construction, while land purchase and other legislative approvals have been gained for 18 other roads, with 14 currently under construction.
SOURCE: <https://www.news18.com/news/india/cross-border-terrorism-in-mind-centre-to-spend-rs-7000-crore-by-2023-to-transform-manage-5-key-borders-4889366.html>
6. According to security sources, Islamabad is planning to minimise the number of terrorists in Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK) in order to go off the Financial Action Task Force (FATFgrey)'s list. The Paris-based global money laundering and terrorism financing watchdog voted to maintain Pakistan on its grey list for another four months in its last plenary session on March 4, and requested Islamabad to comply with the outstanding inadequacies from two respective action plans. According to the FATF, Pakistan completed 26 out of 27 terror financing-related targets and handled seven money laundering-related 'Action Plan' items in an unparalleled timeline.

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SOURCE: https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/pakistan-pares-down-terrorist-numbers-in-pok-to-convince-fatf-122031900389_1.html

7. A National Investigation Agency (NIA) court has ordered the filing of charges against Hafiz Saeed, the founder of the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), and Syed Salahuddin, the chief of the Hizbul Mujahideen, as well as Kashmiri separatist leaders Yasin Malik, Shabbir Shah, Masarat Alam, and others, under various sections of the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) in a case involving terrorist and secessionist activities

SOURCE: <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/j-k-terror-funding-case-nia-court-orders-to-frame-charges-against-yasin-malik-shabbir-shah-masrat-alam-hafiz-syed-shalahuddin-under-uapa-2830909>

8. Police Commissioner Raymond Siu has urged members of the public to participate in anti-terrorism drills, emphasising the importance of participation from all sections of society. In an interview with RTHK TV, the police chief stated that in addition to conducting drills with other disciplined agencies, officers also hope that members of the public will participate. Security guards, for example, will be requested to participate in drills at shopping malls, he said. "In the event of a terrorist assault in a shopping mall, security officers have a duty to play," Siu explained. "In combating terrorism, we seek to foster a community-wide approach." Please notify us if you observe anything suspect.

SOURCE: <https://news.rthk.hk/rthk/en/component/k2/1639653-20220319.htm?spTabChangeable=0>

9. On Friday night, the Rapid Action Battalion claimed to have detained 11 'extremists' in Khulna's Khalishpur region. RAB officials said they stormed an under-construction house belonging to a person named Alam Sheikh off BIDC Road on a tip-off and detained them from 9:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. 'The 11 were detained and taken to the RAB office during the raid,' according to an official. The operation was carried out after information of 'extremist activity in the area,' according to RAB-6 commander Lieutenant Colonel Md Mostaq Ahmed.

SOURCE: <https://www.newagebd.net/article/165800/11-suspected-extremists-held-in-khulna>