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DAILY TRACKER

Taliban's extremist implementation of sharia law

1. "I was released from prison after about 24 hours. Before appearing live on TOLONews on March 18, Aman posted on his Facebook page, "I will always be the voice of the people," announcing his freedom. Following Aman's release, the Taliban's intelligence services issued a statement claiming that no one would be allowed to violate the country's "Islamic and national values." Non-Islamic programming is prohibited by the Taliban. Rules forbidding the broadcast of soap operas with non-Islamic themes were quickly enacted, though they have only been sporadically enforced.

SOURCE: <https://frontline.thehindu.com/dispatches/taliban-release-three-detained-afghan-journalists/article38458575.ece>

2. When high schools reopen on March 22, the Taliban will allow girls to return to class, putting an end to the question of whether the Islamic group will allow them full access to education. Girls have been forbidden from attending school in Afghanistan since the Taliban gained control of the country in mid-August last year. Women's rights have been eroded by the Taliban in nearly every area, including their freedom of movement. The great majority of secondary schools for girls are now closed. Universities have just reopened, with new gender segregation policies in place. Many women, however, are unable to return, in part because the career for which they learned is no longer available, as the Taliban have barred women from most jobs in accordance with Sharia law.

SOURCE: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/south-asia/taliban-to-open-high-schools-for-girls-next-week/articleshow/90332879.cms>

3. Eight women in detention were allegedly gang-raped by Taliban insurgents in northern Mazr-e-Sharf city. These women were among those detained while attempting to exit the country when the Taliban took power following the withdrawal of international soldiers. To the outside world, a woman's existence under Taliban rule is not a secret. International media, on the other hand, is becoming increasingly uninterested and distracted. With the infamous ministry of virtue and vice, the Taliban put a slew of restrictions on women's travel. Women have been abused and kidnapped for peaceful rallies for their right to work, education, and health care; increasingly, parents are selling their daughters for survival.

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. The terror movement, which began with cries for "Azadi" (independence) and the right to self-determination from Pakistan's spy agency Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), has gradually evolved into a low-intensity battle based on "faith and radicalism" today. Pakistan is using the same tactics of brainwashing local young in the name of religion and exploiting "religious fault lines" as before. After failing to mobilise locals, particularly following the death of senior separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani in September of last year, the ISI believes religion will be the key to its next move in Kashmir.
SOURCE: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2022/mar/20/pakistan-brainwashing-youth-exploiting-religious-fault-lines-in-jammu-and-kashmir-officials-2432245.html>
2. Pakistan's media operates in an increasingly oppressive climate, with attacks on press freedom coming from all sides and the room for free expression narrowing all the time.
SOURCE: <https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/943073-book-highlights-media-crisis-in-pakistan>

Positive stories on steps taken against radical Islam

1. Shabir Shah, Yasin Malik, Rashid Engineer, Altaf Fantoosh, Masrat, and Hurriyat/Joint Resistance Leadership (JRL) were direct recipients of terror financing, according to the court. In a case involving alleged terrorist and secessionist activities that disrupted the Valley in 2017, a Delhi court has ordered the filing of charges under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) against JKLF head Mohammad Yasin Malik and others.
SOURCE: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Delhi/delhi-court-orders-framing-of-charge-against-yasin-malik-hafiz-saeed-others/article65243011.ece>
2. Egypt will join the 144th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly and related events in Nusa Dua, Bali, on Sunday. The Indonesian parliament is hosting the four-day event. A legislative delegation led by Speaker Hanafy Ali El-Gebali represents Egypt at the Assembly. It will discuss current events in the region as well as the fight against terrorism. The delegation will also attend sessions of the IPU's Standing Committees on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade, and Democracy and Human Rights, as well as meetings of the High Level Advisory Group on Counter-Terrorism and the Committee on Middle East Issues, according to the statement.

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SOURCE: <https://english.aawsat.com/home/article/3542102/egyptian-delegation-indonesia-discuss-regional-developments-fighting-terrorism>

3. According to Vijay Kumar, inspector general of police in Kashmir, there has been a rise in anti-terror operations across Kashmir, with security personnel mowing down 39 militants in three months. 124 persons with ties to terrorism have also been apprehended by security forces. The counter-terror operations took place in the midst of a spike in targeted killings in the region.

SOURCE: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/chandigarh-news/kashmir-39-terrorists-gunned-down-in-last-3-months-says-top-cop-101647721729947.html>

4. After being apprehended by police in Adelaide on Friday, an adolescent boy was charged with various terrorism-related offences. The 15-year-old from South Plympton has been charged with terrorism-related information, extremist propaganda, and involvement in explosives production. Police said they were unable to disclose any other information on the charges or, if any, the boy's ties to a terror organisation.

SOURCE: <https://www.9news.com.au/national/south-australia-teenage-old-boy-will-face-court-on-terrorism-related-charges/ff2b36e5-14f0-4fd4-a806-d37e7cb7423c>

5. North Waziristan in Pakistan, which was once a hotbed of terrorism, now aspires to become a business powerhouse. In just one year, trade volume has surged by more than threefold. Hundreds of cargo trucks, largely packed with food, are lined up near the Ghulam Khan border crossing, an important commercial entry into Pakistan, ready to travel into Afghanistan's Khost region from Pakistan. Since the 2018 merger, it is one of the nine divisions of North Waziristan, a former tribal territory that is now a district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

SOURCE: <https://gulfnews.com/world/asia/pakistan/pakistans-north-waziristan-once-hit-by-terrorism-aims-to-become-business-hub-1.86469363>

6. The Russia/Ukraine war has put a gloomy cloud over prospects for global peace and security, due to the potential for escalation, at a time when the global security situation is compounded by the influence of terrorism, climate change, and the negative effects of globalisation. Despite the challenging external and domestic security environment, Nigeria is dedicated to leading the African continent through maximising bilateral and multilateral defence and security collaborations and processes.

SOURCE: <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2022/03/terrorism-nigeria-restates-commitment-to-regional-security-global-peace/>

7. After Corsican nationalist Yvan Colonna was viciously attacked by another prisoner in a jail in Arles, Southern France, French authorities said on Thursday that they were opening a terrorist probe. Colonna was strangled in the prison gym, according to French

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media reports, and is now in a coma. "The circumstances of the conduct, as well as the early parts of the investigation, can rule out a personal motive," the statement stated.

SOURCE: <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/france-launches-terrorism-probe-after-attack-jailed-corsican-nationalist-2022-03-03/>

8. On October 24, 2019, a view of the Yitzhar settlement in the West Bank. The Israeli Defense Forces said on Saturday that a new alarm system would be deployed in West Bank settlements to detect prospective armed infiltrations. A short siren will sound along with a loudspeaker message shouting "terrorist infiltration" many times if an incursion into a settlement is detected.

SOURCE: <https://www.timesofisrael.com/military-rolls-out-terrorist-infiltration-phone-alert-for-west-bank-settlements/>

9. An NGO, Splendor Child Empowerment Foundation, claims to have started establishing peace clubs in schools across the country in an effort to combat terrorism. Ms. Splendor Joe-King, the organization's founder, announced this during the Nigerian News Agency Forum in Abuja. "Violence will not get you anywhere; it will only make you worse," he explained. "That is why I founded this peace club to tame peace in schools." The project was created out of events in society as a result of the killings, according to the founder, who founded the charity at the age of nine. He stated that the country would soon begin the process of electing new delegates to govern the country for the next four years.

SOURCE: <https://nnn.ng/curbing-terrorism-foundation/>

10. Sheikh Dr. Abdullatif Bin Abdulaziz Al Al-Sheikh, Minister of Islamic Affairs, Call and Guidance, has praised the Kingdom's efforts to promote moderation, renounce violence, and combat extremism, as well as to spread compassion and a sense of security among people, and what citizens and residents enjoy in this safe and stable country. He emphasised the implementation of judicial rulings against 81 terrorists in a statement made on the sidelines of the closing ceremony to honour the winners of the King Salman Bin Abdulaziz Prize for Memorization, Recitation, and Interpretation of the Holy Qur'an for Male Participants at its 23rd session in Riyadh. He emphasised that these terrorists had no care or respect for any religious, moral, or humanitarian ideals, and that they perpetrated dangerous deeds that no one should have to face.

SOURCE: <https://saudigazette.com.sa/article/618353/SAUDI-ARABIA/Dr-Al-Al-Sheikh-Terrorists-disregard-all-principles-of-religion-morals-and-humanity>