

DAILY TRACKER

Taliban's extremist implementation of sharia law

1. The Taliban publicly whipped a man accused of adultery in Afghanistan's southern Uruzgan Province. According to Agha, the Taliban stated that the "public punishment is meant as a lesson" in accordance with Sharia Law. "The accused was humiliated, and I do not believe he will be able to live a dignified life like the rest of society after this." During the Taliban's previous regime, which lasted from 1996 to 2001, such public punishments were common. However, this is the first time the militant group has meted out such a punishment in public since regaining power in August. There was no word on the fate of the woman allegedly involved in the case.
SOURCE: <https://theshillongtimes.com/2022/02/24/taliban-publicly-flogs-man-accused-of-adultery/>
2. According to the Taliban, all activities in Kabul and the provinces will be conducted in accordance with Islamic Law. Despite the fact that Charmaghz has resumed operations and our library in Mazar-i-Sharif remains open, the recovery of the reading culture and book industry appears to be a distant dream. Ehsas, sitting alone in the once-bustling library, tells me that books are like lights. "The lights are off" because no one is coming to the library and opening the books. Afghanistan is in the grip of a power outage.
SOURCE: <https://theconversation.com/afghanistans-libraries-go-into-blackout-it-is-painful-to-see-the-distance-between-people-and-books-grow-176219>
3. The four women were able to flee the country after the Taliban took control, hiding out for months in safe houses with relatives and friends and spending some of their life savings to stay in a hotel because they didn't want to endanger other people's lives. Since the implementation of Sharia Law, the fate has remained unknown, as has its reach in terms of safety and criminal punishments.
SOURCE: <https://www.tapinto.net/towns/new-brunswick/sections/rutgers-university/articles/afghan-human-rights-activist-daughters-make-fraught-journey-to-rutgers>

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

1. The Federal Reserve Board announced a \$20.4 million penalty for anti-money laundering violations against the National Bank of Pakistan, a foreign bank operating in the United States and headquartered in Pakistan, on Thursday. In addition, the Board will require the company to improve its anti-money laundering programme. According to the consent cease and desist order issued against the National Bank of Pakistan, the firm's U.S. banking operations lacked an effective risk management programme and adequate controls to comply with anti-money laundering laws.

25th February 2022

SOURCE: <https://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/pressreleases/enforcement20220224a.htm>

Positive stories on steps taken against radical Islam

1. Ten terrorists were killed by Pakistani security forces during a military operation in the Hoshab area of Pakistan's southwest Balochistan province. The ten terrorists killed included a militant commander, and they were involved in recent firing and attacks on security forces in the Balochistan towns of Turbat and Pasni.

SOURCE: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2022/02/25/news/world/10-killed-in-fierce-shootout-in-pakistan/1834218>

2. Minority leaders have praised Pakistan's state-run council of clerics, which advises the government on religious matters, for declaring mob violence over blasphemy, which is contrary to Sharia or Islamic canonical law. The Council of Islamic Ideology declared that "subjecting any person to violence on allegations of dishonouring religion, desecration of the Holy Quran, and Namoos-i-Risalat (sanctity of prophethood) was Sharia, inhumane, and contrary to Islamic principles.

SOURCE: <https://www.ucanews.com/news/pakistani-clerics-declare-violence-over-blasphemy-un-islamic/96243#>

3. Jammu and Kashmir police, in collaboration with the Special Operations Group (SOG), averted a major terror plot by recovering a large consignment of arms and ammunition dropped by drone by the Resistance Front (TRF), an offshoot of Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba terrorist outfit on the behest of Pakistan agency ISI in the Arnia area of RS Pura sub-division in Jammu district. After receiving information about drone activity and the dropping of arms and ammunition by Pakistan-based terrorist outfits Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT)/The Resistance Front (TRF), SOG (Special Operations Group) and Jammu Police launched a special search operation in the Arnia area of RS Pura sub-division.

SOURCE: <https://www.firstpost.com/india/jk-security-forces-recover-large-consignment-of-arms-ammunition-from-trf-drone-avert-major-attack-10405961.html>

4. A Pakistani man was found guilty of murdering the daughter of a prominent ambassador in a grisly beheading case that prompted renewed calls for better protection of domestic abuse victims. On Thursday, an Islamabad tribunal sentenced Zahir Jaffer to death for killing Noor Mukadam last July at Jaffer's family home in an affluent area of the country's capital. Jaffer, a 30-year-old dual Pakistani-American citizen, was apprehended at the scene of the attack and charged with premeditated murder, rape, kidnapping, and detention.

SOURCE: <https://www.wionews.com/south-asia/pakistan-tycoons-son-sentenced-to-death-for-raping-beheading-ex-diplomats-daughter-456193>

25th February 2022

5. With Benjamin Smith now facing second-degree murder and other charges, we are getting a better picture of what led up to the deadly shooting at Normandale Park on Saturday. Smith's roommate told KOIN 6 that he was "radicalised," and that he had become more "right-wing" in recent years. The roommate continued, "All of us who live in this apartment complex are shocked and heartbroken, but none of us are surprised because he's been talking about wanting to do something like this for a long time." SOURCE: <https://www.koin.com/local/multnomah-county/roommate-normandale-park-suspect-was-radicalized/>
6. While Tanzania and Mozambique have been conducting joint military operations against terrorists along their shared border, they have also collaborated to organise deradicalization programmes through education and other means to keep youth from falling into the trap of terror groups. Authorities in both countries claim that terrorist groups such as Daesh/ISS, which has killed hundreds of people and displaced thousands more, use religion and youth vulnerabilities to radicalise them. SOURCE: <https://www.yenisafak.com/en/world/tanzania-mozambique-launch-deradicalization-programs-to-combat-terrorism-3590049>
7. At a conference on Wednesday, Vietnam's Ministry of Public Security identified six international terrorism risks, including Islamic extremism and weapons trafficking. Dinh Viet Dung, deputy head of the Department of Homeland Security, said at an international anti-terrorism cooperation conference that terrorists and terrorist organisations may choose Vietnam as a refuge or a transition hub for a third location to evade authorities. SOURCE: <https://e.vnexpress.net/news/news/vietnam-names-islamic-extremism-among-terrorism-risks-4431627.html>
8. The UAE Cabinet has designated one individual and five organisations as "terrorist supporters" due to their ties to Yemen's Houthi militia. The move is part of an effort to "target and disrupt networks associated with the financing of terrorism and its associated activities," according to state news agency Wam. The cabinet issued a resolution adding the parties to its approved list of terrorist-supporting individuals and organisations (Local Terrorist List). All regulatory authorities were directed to monitor and identify all persons or entities who have a financial or commercial relationship with those listed, and to take any necessary legal action, including freezing financial assets, within 24 hours. SOURCE: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/uae/government/2022/02/24/uae-declares-one-person-and-five-entities-supporters-of-terrorism-over-houthi-links/>
9. Jammu and Kashmir Police, in collaboration with security forces, apprehended three active terrorists from Budgam and Baramulla, including two hybrid terrorists from the proscribed terror organisation Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). In addition, one terrorist associate was apprehended. They were found to be in possession of incriminating materials, weapons, and ammunition. SOURCE: <https://zeenews.india.com/india/jammu-and-kashmir-3-let-terrorists-1-associate-arrested-in-kashmir-2439587.html>

25th February 2022

10. The police said the new partnership also aims to create a safer and more secure industry, citing several terrorist attacks abroad involving vehicles, as well as the foiled Jemaah Islamiyah attempt to use truck bombs to mount simultaneous suicide attacks on targets in Singapore in 2001.

SOURCE: <https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/courts-crime/police-launch-watch-group-with-transport-association-to-combat-terrorism-and-crime>

11. Expose terrorist sponsors now, says the Senate to the FG. The call was made in a six-point resolution passed by the chamber after a motion on the urgent need to stop a spate of kidnappings and insecurity across the country.

SOURCE: <https://www.sunnewsonline.com/expose-sponsors-of-terrorism-now-senate-tells-fg/>

12. "The United States Embassy collaborates with Kyrgyz law enforcement to provide counter-terrorism training." The seminar took the form of an active discussion, with participants asking questions about their areas of expertise. The training was beneficial and informative, and the knowledge gained will be applied in daily professional work. We express our gratitude to the seminar's organisers and trainers – training and confidence in future fruitful collaboration.

SOURCE: <https://kg.usembassy.gov/u-s-embassy-partners-with-kyrgyz-law-enforcement-for-counter-terrorism-training/>

13. On March 1st, the Assize Court in Nicosia is expected to announce the sentence for a 21-year-old Cypriot in connection with a terrorism case in which an Azeri was initially arrested, followed by another five people. The 21-year-old Cypriot student of Medicine faces charges of assisting after a crime as well as terrorism-related charges. According to the indictment, despite knowing about a terrorist attack, the man did not reveal it. Following his conviction, the man may be called upon to testify against the other individuals who are facing serious charges related to terrorism and the attempted murder of five Israelis.

SOURCE: <https://in-cyprus.philenews.com/first-sentence-for-terrorism-case-expected-1st-march/>