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DAILY TRACKER

Taliban's extremist implementation of sharia law

1. Poppies are the primary source of income for millions of small farmers and day labourers, who can earn up to \$300 per month harvesting and extracting opium from them. Even as farmers across Afghanistan began harvesting the bright red flower that produces the opium used to make heroin, Afghanistan's ruling Taliban announced a ban on poppy production on Sunday. Farmers are warned that if they continue with the harvest, their crops will be burned and they will face jail time. The ban is reminiscent of the Taliban's previous rule in the late 1990s, when the religiously motivated movement outlawed poppy cultivation.
SOURCE: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/taliban-announce-ban-on-poppy-production-in-afghanistan/article65286898.ece>
2. In the midst of ongoing concern about human rights violations in Afghanistan in the name of implementing Sharia Law, a European think tank claims that the Taliban has "begun to show its true colours" in recent weeks.
SOURCE: <https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/taliban-has-begun-to-show-its-true-colours-european-think-tank20220404064057/>
3. The Taliban ordered the closure of girls' high schools in Afghanistan just hours after they reopened for the first time in nearly seven months, causing much heartbreak and outrage but no substantive policy or political repercussions. On Thursday, leaders gathered at a United Nations pledging conference for Afghanistan to reiterate their condemnations, but they fell far short of establishing a red line. Persuading the Taliban to reverse its decision is critical to regional and international security because girls' education is about mobility, tolerance, conflict resolution, and basic human rights — the foundation of a peaceful society — as well as preventing the normalisation of extremism and terrorism. The schools were to be run according to Islamic principles, with separate classes for boys and girls.
SOURCE: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2022/04/03/world-must-demand-taliban-stop-restricting-girls-education/>
4. According to an order from the Taliban's supreme leader Haibatullah Akhundzada, "as per the decree of the supreme leader of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, all Afghans are informed that cultivation of poppy has been strictly prohibited across the country from now on." "If anyone violates the decree, the crop will be destroyed immediately, and the violator will be dealt with according to Sharia law," the order said at a news conference held by the Ministry of Interior in Kabul. The country's dire economic situation has prompted residents of the country's southeastern provinces to cultivate the illegal crop, which could provide them with faster and

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higher returns than legal crops like wheat. Taliban sources told Reuters that they expected stiff opposition from some elements within the group to the deal.

SOURCE: <https://edition.cnn.com/2022/04/03/asia/taliban-bans-drug-cultivation-opium-afghanistan-intl/index.html>

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

1. The issue of enforced disappearances has plagued Pakistan, particularly the Balochistan province, and according to official data, 348 names are from the province's Kohlu district, out of 22,600 cases of enforced disappearances.

SOURCE: <https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/enforced-disappearances-continue-to-plague-pakistan-especially-balochistan20220404124709/>

2. A woman from the Barra neighbourhood of the city was allegedly harassed by a Pakistani WhatsApp group. The woman has filed a FIR at the Barra police station in this regard. According to the woman's complaint, on March 29, a man named Arshad Ali added her phone number to a Pakistan-based WhatsApp group. "She was later mentally harassed by members of that group." "In the group, obscene remarks were made about her," she claimed. When she left the group, the members began to engage in obscenity via video calls.

SOURCE: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kanpur/barra-woman-harassed-by-whatsapp-group-of-pakistan/articleshow/90630050.cms>

3. On Sunday, a man from Gujranwala set fire to his wife because she had not given birth to a son. Another heinous case of femicide occurred in the Kot Shekhu area of Gujranwala, when a man named Ateeq burned his wife for having three daughters instead of a son. The man's sister-in-law, according to the details, also assisted him in committing the heinous act. According to police, Ateeq fled the scene with his three daughters after murdering his wife.

SOURCE: <https://pakobserver.net/husband-burns-wife-alive/>

4. With religious discrimination on the rise in Pakistan, a Christian organisation has been working hard to support community entrepreneurs from the minority. At the first national Christian Business Expo 2022, held at United Christian Hospital in Lahore, more than 70 Christian businesses and entrepreneurs displayed their wares.

SOURCE: <https://www.ucanews.com/news/first-christian-business-expo-held-in-pakistan/96753>

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Positive stories on steps taken against radical Islam

1. The most powerful weapon Israel has against terrorism is unity. It is important to note that the majority of Arab terrorism is perpetrated by extremists. The Arab terrorists who murdered civilians in Israel last week do not represent Arab-Israelis (who are also the victims here and who are also the ones treating wounded victims and are in the police force trying to stop the terrorists). Palestinians who celebrated death in the streets are extremists as well.
SOURCE: <https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-703126>
2. The Uttar Pradesh Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) will investigate an attack on police constables at Gorakhpur's Gorakhnath Temple. On Sunday, a man attempted to force his way into Gorakhnath Temple in Gorakhpur. He attacked two constables who tried to stop him with a sharp-edged weapon. The attacker, Ahmad Murtaza Abbasi, evaded security personnel at the temple for about ten minutes before being overpowered.
SOURCE: <https://www.indiatvnews.com/news/india/gorakhnath-temple-attack-yogi-adityanath-government-hands-over-probe-to-uttar-pradesh-ats-anti-terrorism-squad-2022-04-04-767582>
3. The IDF and Shin Bet arrested a suspect near the Nachshonim Junction on suspicion of "carrying out terrorist activity," according to a Border Police spokesperson on Sunday. The suspect, an illegal immigrant, was detained by the Shin Bet for questioning.
SOURCE: <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/article-703133>
4. The security services are working to "break this wave" of terrorism, and Israel is entering a "alert routine," Prime Minister Naftali Bennett said Sunday after meeting with the Shin Bet security service's head. Bennett claimed that the Shin Bet, the Police Special Anti-Terror Unit, and the Israel Defense Forces foiled an impending terror attack over the weekend. "[T]errorists have all kinds of ideas; therefore, both the [Shin Bet] and the Israel Police are on high alert in order to identify any fragment of an idea or planning for an attack and thwart it in time."
SOURCE: <https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/.premium-bennett-idf-shin-bet-working-to-break-wave-of-terrorism-1.10717651>
5. According to Israel's defence establishment, approximately 200 Israeli Arabs identify with the Islamic State, with 20 of them potentially carrying out attacks in Israel in the organization's name. Defense officials briefed politicians on their large-scale intelligence effort to monitor social media and take other steps to identify potential suspects during a situation assessment on Sunday. Six Israeli Arabs who identify with the organisation have received orders restricting their movement so far, with another round of orders awaiting judicial approval.
SOURCE: <https://www.gfatf.org/archives/more-than-200-israeli-citizens-identify-with-islamic-state-terrorist-group/>

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6. Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa Al Kadhimi has directed security forces to beef up security as Iraqis begin to observe Ramadan. Mr Al Kadhimi stated during a meeting with Interior Ministry officials on Sunday that "security leadership needs to adopt new and special measures that fit the social activities and needs during Ramadan." Mr Al Kadhimi, citing "security challenges," ordered the Civil Defence Corps to crowded areas and hotlines to be available for emergencies.

SOURCE: <https://www.gfatf.org/archives/iraqi-authorities-tightens-security-measures-during-ramadan/>

7. During the last 24 hours, Russian fighter jets have carried out nearly 25 airstrikes on separate areas in Syria's desert, targeting ISIS hideouts in Al-Sukhna desert in Homs' eastern countryside near the administrative border with Deir Ezzor and Al-Rasafah desert in Al-Raqqah province. There have been no reported casualties. As a result, the number of airstrikes carried out by Russian fighter jets on the Syrian desert has risen to nearly 55 since early April.

SOURCE: <https://www.gfatf.org/archives/more-than-20-russian-airstrikes-hit-islamic-state-hideouts-in-al-sukhna-and-al-rasafah-deserts/>

8. According to Channel 12, three Palestinian Arab terrorists killed in an Israeli counter-terror operation over the weekend were on their way to carry out a terrorist attack in central Israel. According to senior Israeli security officials quoted in the report, the three Islamic Jihad terrorists killed in the pre-dawn operation Saturday were on their way to cross into pre-1967 Israel to carry out an attack in the country's centre. The terror cell had even switched the licence plates on their vehicle from Palestinian Authority to Israeli licence plates in preparation for the crossing, according to officials from the Shin Bet internal security agency. The terrorist who carried out the recent shooting attack in Bnei Brak employed a similar strategy.

SOURCE: <https://www.gfatf.org/archives/eliminated-terrorists-were-about-to-carry-out-terror-attack-in-central-israel/>

9. Federal prosecutors in Germany announced on Monday that they had arrested a right-wing extremist in connection with a 1991 arson attack on a refugee home that killed one person and injured two others. Following German privacy laws, the suspect was only identified as Peter S. He is charged with murder, attempted murder, and arson resulting in death. German investigators announced in January that they had discovered new leads in the 30-year-old cold case and suspected it was the work of an extremist.

SOURCE: <https://www.dw.com/en/germany-far-right-extremist-arrested-over-fatal-1991-attack-on-refugee-home/a-61350888>

10. Any period of increased security tension in Israel is referred to as "Hamatzav." The Situation, but last week, after three terror attacks in eight days claimed the lives of 11 people, the defensive measures to halt the wave of terrorism were given their own name: Operation Break the Wave. The fact that the government and security forces have given it a name is significant. It is, first and

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foremost, an acknowledgement of the problem; second, a declaration of intent to take it seriously; and third, and perhaps most importantly, an indication of a new type of military operation.

SOURCE: <https://www.jpost.com/opinion/article-703116>

11. Pool Re is a nearly 30-year-old company that finances risk protection for cyber and terrorism. It was founded by the British insurance industry and is backed by the British government. Its members include 150 insurers and Lloyd's syndicates that provide commercial property insurance in-country. Members are given guarantees that ensure they can cover losses caused by terrorism, regardless of the size of the claims. Pool Re's success was aided by the government guarantee, which served as the payer of last resort if the reinsurer became overburdened. However, because Pool Re's reserves have grown since its inception, it has also paid a premium to the UK government for that guarantee.

SOURCE: <https://www.royalgazette.com/re-insurance/business/article/20220404/financing-risk-protection-for-cyber-and-terrorism/>

12. Two Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) modules were discovered and five militant associates were apprehended in Jammu and Kashmir's Bandipora district on Sunday, according to police. According to a police spokesman, four terrorist associates were arrested in the north Kashmir district based on specific information. He identified them as Irfan Ahmad Bhat, an Ashtangoo resident; Irfan Ahmad Jan, a Qazipora resident; and Sajad Ahmad Mir and Shariq Ahmad Mir, both Bandipora residents from the Arin area. According to the spokesman, two Chinese grenades and incriminating material were recovered from their possession.

SOURCE: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/chandigarh-news/let-modules-busted-in-j-k-s-bandipora-five-arrested-101649014881080.html>

13. Turkey's domestic security chief has labelled the European Union border agency Frontex a terrorist organisation, accusing it of attempting to limit migration at the Turkish-Greek border. Interior Minister Süleyman Soyulu stated at an event in Ankara on April 1, 2022, that the European Union established an agency that operates exactly like a terrorist organisation, claiming that its mandate is to cover up problems related to migration to Europe. "We were all witness to what happened in Greece. It's only a small part of the picture. Don't let them in, they say. "Let them die wherever they want," Soyulu said, adding that "[the West] remains silent if [migrants] freeze to death after being pushed back." Allow Frontex, an organisation it established that is eerily similar to a terrorist organisation, to cover it up. They show no mercy.

SOURCE: <https://nordicmonitor.com/2022/04/turkey-brands-european-union-border-agency-frontex-as-terrorist-organization/>

14. Officials said on Monday that security forces raided a terrorist hideout near the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district and seized a large quantity of arms and ammunition. The hideout was discovered during a joint search operation

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conducted by the army and police in Noorkote village, according to officials. Two AK-47 assault rifles and a Chinese pistol were seized from a terrorist hideout near the Line of Control in J&K. The hideout was in a village in the Poonch district. The weapons and ammunition seized from the hideout included two AK-47 assault rifles with two magazines and 63 rounds, one 223 bore AK shape gun with handgrip, two magazines, and 20 rounds, and one Chinese pistol with a magazine and four rounds, according to authorities. SOURCE: <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/terrorist-hideout-busted-near-loc-in-j-ks-poonch-huge-cache-of-arms-seized-2860877>

15. The Rajasthan Police Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) arrested three more people on Sunday in connection with a terror module busted on March 30, according to an official release. According to the report, a Special Investigation Team (SIT) has been formed to further investigate the case. On Wednesday, the ATS apprehended three suspected terrorists linked to the extremist organisation Al Soofa of Ratlam in Madhya Pradesh and recovered 12 kg of explosive material from their car in Nimbaheda, Chittorgarh. According to officials, they were required to deliver the consignment to a location near Jaipur.

SOURCE: <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/3-more-arrested-by-rajasthan-anti-terrorist-squad-in-terror-module-case-2859962>