



# TERROR TRACKER

*Newsletter by Counter Terrorism Centre*



MANOHAR PARRIKAR INSTITUTE FOR  
DEFENCE STUDIES AND ANALYSES  
मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान



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# AFGHAN OUTRAGE OVER PAK AIRSTRIKES ON TTP SITES

PAKISTANI PLANES BOMB INSIDE AFGHANISTAN, KILL 47 INCLUDING CHILDREN



Protestors in Khosht protested against Pakistan's airstrikes.

The Afghan Taliban and its patron Pakistan are again at logger heads. The latter's attempts to persuade the de facto rulers of Afghanistan to clamp down on Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) leaders have been in vain. The continued attacks on Pakistani armed forces, particularly the deaths of at least seven armed officers in the Datakhel district of North Waziristan on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022, have spurred retaliatory action by the Pakistani establishment, pitting it against its ally.

On 16<sup>th</sup> April 2022, the provinces of Khost and Kunar witnessed air strikes by the Pakistani air force, killing at least 47 people, including women and children. The bombings were widely condemned by the Taliban regime, and government spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid asserted that "The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan condemns in the strongest possible terms the bombardment and attack that has taken place from the Pakistan side on the soil of Afghanistan." He also warned that it will not be in the interest of any of the parties if war breaks out. These air raids purportedly targeted TTP militants based inside Afghanistan. On 21<sup>st</sup> April 2022, Afghan Foreign Minister and Deputy Defence Minister summoned Pakistan's Ambassador to Afghanistan Mansoor Ahmad Khan to his office and registered Afghanistan's protest.

Meanwhile, a formal complaint against Pakistan has been filed by Naseer Ahmad Faiq of the previous Ashraf Ghani regime, while the Taliban, the Haqqani Network and the TTP have joined hands in opposing the airstrikes. – [France24](#), [Times of India](#), [Hindustan Times](#), [Gandhara Radio Free Europe /Radio Liberty](#)

## TEACHER AND MOM OF TWO KILLS THREE CHINESE IN SUICIDE BLAST



Shari Baloch, the suspected suicide bomber

A burqa-clad woman suicide bomber struck a van on the campus of Pakistan's University of Karachi, killing three Chinese nationals and their local driver in a targeted suicide strike.

The Balochistan Liberation Army's Majeed Brigade has claimed responsibility for the attack, which occurred near the university's China-built Confucius Institute, whose Director Huang Guiping, Ding Mupeng, was identified as among the victims.

The blood of the Chinese people should not be shed in vain and those behind the incident should surely pay the price", China's Foreign Ministry told Pakistan in a statement.

The woman suspected of carrying out the suicide bombing was reportedly a well-educated mother of two. Shari Baloch (30)—who hailed from Niazar Abad in Balochistan's Turbat—held a Master's degree in Zoology and was married to a doctor.

— [WIONS](#), [India Today](#)

## YOUSUF KANTROO 'OLDEST' AMONG TERRORISTS IN VALLEY KILLED



File picture of LET commander  
Yousuf Kantroo

Top Lashkar-e-Taiba commander Yousuf Kantroo, known as possibly the longest surviving terrorist from Jammu and Kashmir was killed in an encounter in the Malwah area of Baramullah district on 21 April 2022. Two other terrorists accompanying the 51-year-old were also killed in the encounter. A militant since 2000, Kantroo had become particularly aggressive since 2017, IGP (Kashmir) told the press. The other two unidentified terrorists are suspected to be from Pakistan. The IGP tweeted a list of the police's "top 10 targets", out of which seven (Saleem Parray, Yousuf Kantroo, Abbas Sheikh, Reyaz Shetergund, Farooq Nali, Zubair Wani and Ashraf Molvi) are named as 'old terrorists, while Saqib Manzoor, Umar Mast Khandey and Wakeel Shah are classified as 'new terrorists'. Six of these have been killed within a year. — [Times of India](#)

# HIZBUL MUJAHIDEEN TERROR MODULE BUSTED IN KULGAM

62 TERRORISTS KILLED SO FAR THIS YEAR: JAMMU & KASHMIR POLICE



Two other terrorists from terrorist group Jaish-e-Mohammed arrested in Baramulla.

Three terrorist associates of the proscribed organisation, Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) – Nasser Ahmad Wani, Adil Manzoor Rather and Majid Rather – were arrested by the J&K Police for their involvement in the murder of a sarpanch - Mohammad Yaqoob Dar – in March 2022. The arrest took place on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

They had carried out this targeted killing in close coordination with Raja Nadeem Rather, an active terrorist, who had received instructions from Farooq Ahmad Bhat, to target members of Kulgam's Panchayati Raj Institutions. Bhat had been relayed this information by his Pakistani handlers.

The police also recovered the pistol used in Yaqoob Dar's murder along with two grenades from the terrorist's possession. It has also been uncovered during the ongoing investigation that another terrorist – Idrees Ahmad Dar – had a role to play in the sarpanch's murder. He is currently on the run and is believed to have joined the terrorist's ranks. Meanwhile, police also arrested two hybrid terrorists linked with terror outfit Jaish-e-Mohammed in the Pattan area of Baramulla.

According to a statement by IG J&K Police, Mr. Vijay Kumar, at least 62 terrorists have been eliminated in Jammu and Kashmir since the beginning of the 2022. Out of these, 39 were affiliated with the proscribed organisation, LeT, 8 with HM and 2 with Al-Badr.

"Due to enhanced Humint, Techint and focused operations, the surviving rate of terrorists is drastically decreasing," the J&K Police recently tweeted. The Ministry of Home Affairs had previously presented its findings in Rajya Sabha on 6<sup>th</sup> April regarding the reduction in terrorism in the UT. — [India Today](#), [Hindustan Times](#), [Zee News](#)

# FAR-RIGHT, ISLAMIST FIRES SWEEP ACROSS SWEDEN

RIOTERS RAMPAGE ACROSS CITIES IN DISPLAY OF VIOLENT EXTREMISM



Picture shows benches set on fire by angry rioters in a Swedish city.

Known as a peaceful country, Sweden witnessed several days of violent unrest in the month of April 2022, after a far-right group announced it planned to burn copies of Islam's holy book, which caused irate mobs to riot in several cities causing injuries to 40 people and damage to public property across the country.

The far-right Swedish party Stram Kurs (translated as 'Hard Line') — led by Rasmus Paludan — declared a "tour" of Sweden, planning to visit cities and towns with large Muslim populations with the intent of burning copies of the Quran during the holy month of Ramadan. The announcement led to a spate of demonstrations on 14 September by Muslim groups that soon turned to riots across several cities over weeks, causing injuries to at least 40 individuals, including 14 civilians and 26 police officials. Paludan had to later call off his planned tour.

Stone pelting and burning of cars, bins, and buses rapidly spread across several cities. At least eight people in Norrköping and 18 others in Linköping were reportedly been arrested by the police. In Norrköping, no less than 150 anti-Stram Kurs protestors were involved in stone pelting. A total of 40 rioters were arrested across the country. Furthermore, over 20 vehicles were destroyed in the rioting.

Anders Thornberg, the Swedish National Police Chief, expressed shock at the scale and intensity of the violence. Swedish Prime Minister Magdalena Andersson stated: "Although it is a heinous message of hatred that Paludan stands for, it is unacceptable, unjustifiable and illegal to react with this serious violence. I want to be very clear: whoever attacks the Swedish police attacks the Swedish democratic society. Those responsible must be arrested, sentenced and serve their sentences." — [The Hindu](#), [Al Jazeera](#), [The Indian Express](#), [BBC News](#), [France24](#)

## PALUDAN THE FACE OF SWEDISH FAR-RIGHT



RASMUS PALUDAN

Rasmus Paludan founded the Stram Kurs (Hard Line) Party in 2017. Based on an anti-immigration and anti-Islam ideology, the party calls for the deportation of all Muslims from Sweden. In the past, Paludan has committed acts of Quran burning in Muslim-dominated immigrant neighbourhoods. Some analysts predict that the recent rioting may improve his prospects in upcoming elections. However, some winning a seat in parliament might still remain elusive for the politician. Paludan was sentenced to 14 days in jail in 2019 for making a racist speech in Denmark. A year later, he faced one month of imprisonment with two additional months of a suspended sentence after being found guilty of 14 different charges of racism, defamation and hazardous driving. — [DW](#), [Ground Report](#), [Al Jazeera](#)

## IS-K Takes Responsibility for Two Mosque Blasts in Kabul and Mazar-i-Sharif

A powerful explosion killed over 50 worshippers during the last Friday prayers of Ramadan, said the head of the Khalifa Agha Khan Mosque in western Kabul on 29 April 2022.

In a message posted on its Telegram account, The Islamic State-Khorasan (IS-K) took responsibility for the attack and claimed that it detonated an explosive device that was placed near a bus in Kabul's Sector 6, close to the mosque. Afghanistan's interior ministry put the official death toll at 10, with 30 injured. Afghan officials said the attack targeted members of the minority Sufi community performing rituals after completing Friday prayers. Another blast at a Mazar-e-Sharif mosque claimed by IS-K on 28 April 2022, killed 10 people. A spokesman for the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres issued a statement condemning the attack: "Attacks against civilians and civilian objects, including mosques are strictly prohibited under international law."— [Reuters](#), [ABP News](#)

### Three Israelis Killed in Tel Aviv Terror Attack

Three Israeli citizens were killed in an attack by a Palestinian man who opened fire into a crowded bar in central Tel Aviv on 7 April, after Israeli security forces said they hunted down and killed the 28-year attacker early on 8 April 2022.

The shooting in a downtown area caused scenes of mass panic in the heart of the bustling city. Two people were instantly killed and more than 10 were injured. The third death happened later that day. — [The Guardian](#)

### Keep Quds Force on Terror List: US General

Top US General Mark Milley, who serves as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the US military, has said he does not support removing Iran's elite Quds Force from Washington's list of "foreign terrorist organizations", an apparent key demand from Tehran to revive the multilateral nuclear deal.

Although Milley's comments do not necessarily reflect the stance of the Biden administration, they may fuel Republican opposition to possible concessions the US may offer Iran to secure a deal. — [Al Jazeera](#)

### Iran Puts Former US Officials on its Terror List

Iran's Foreign Ministry published a list of 24 former senior US officials and other US citizens sanctioned over their involvement in terrorist acts and gross violations of human rights.

Former Army Chief of Staff George Casey, former commander of US forces in Afghanistan Gen.

Austin Scott Miller, former Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, and ex-President Donald Trump's attorney Rudy Giuliani made it to the list. — [ANI](#)

### Pakistan Court Gives Hafez Saeed 31 Years in Jail

The mastermind of 26/11 attacks, Hafiz Saeed, has been sentenced to jail for 31 years by an anti-terror court in Pakistan on 8 April 2022. The court also ordered that all his assets be seized.

The chief of the Jamaat-ud Dawa and founder of terror group Lashkar-e-Taiba, was sentenced to two new terror financing cases. The judge also imposed a fine of PKR 3,40,000 on Saeed. According to experts, Hafiz Saeed has still not been tried in Pakistan for his involvement in planning terrorist attacks, particularly the 2008 Mumbai terror attack. Analysts also feel that the punishment has come only after intense international pressure on Pakistan, particularly FATF's threat of putting economic sanctions on Pakistan. — [The Indian Express](#), [DNA](#)

### Terrorist hiding for 12 years nabbed in Punjab

The Anti-Gangster Task Force (AGTF) of the Punjab Police arrested Babbar Khalsa terrorist Charanjit Singh, alias Patialavi on 24 April 2022, who had been evading arrest for the past 12 years. The arrest was made by the AGTF from near a gurdwara at Lali village in Dera Bassi. — [Tribune News Service](#)

### NIA Charge Sheets 20 Maoist Terrorists

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a charge sheet against 20 cadres of the banned CPI-Maoist in Edakkara Maoist case of Kerala. They are charged with conducting physical and arms training, and holding a meeting of Western Ghats Special Zonal Committee in Nilambar forest of Kerala with intention to conduct terrorist acts against the government, an NIA spokesperson said on 24 April. — [PTI](#)