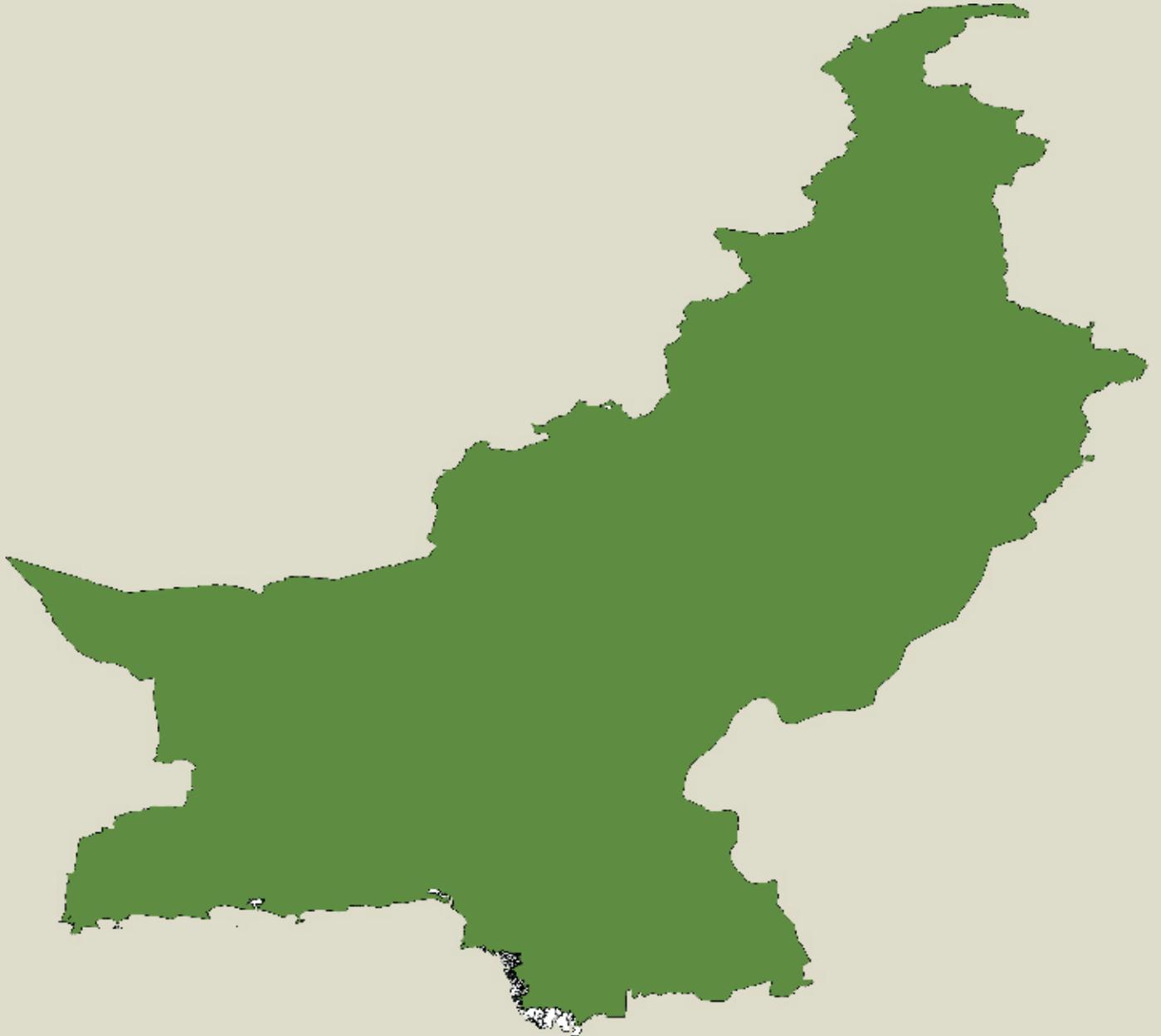


October 2014

PAKISTAN NEWS DIGEST

*A Selected Summary of News, Views and Trends
from Pakistani Media*



*Prepared by
YaqoobulHassan*



INSTITUTE FOR DEFENCE
STUDIES & ANALYSES
रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

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PAKISTAN NEWS DIGEST, OCTOBER 2014

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ABBREVATIONS

AIIB : Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
AG: Attorney General
BRP: Baloch Republican Party
CPS : Country Partnership Strategy
DG: Director General
DGMOs: Directors General of Military Operations
ECC: Economic Coordination Committee
ECNEC: Executive Committee of the National Economic Council
FIA: Federal Investigation Agency
GHQ: General Head Quarters
IMF: International Monetary Fund
ISAF: International Security Assistance Force
ISIS: Islamic State of Iraq and Syria
ISPR: Inter Services Public Relations
IWT: Indus Water Treaty
JI: Jamaat-i-Islaami
KP: Khyber Pakhthunkhwa
LI: Lashkar-i-Islam
MQM: Muttahida Qaumi Movement
MWM: Majalis-i-Wahadat-Muslimeen
NAB: National Accountability Bureau
NADRA: National Database and Registration Authority
NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organization
Nespak : National Engineering Services of Pakistan
NSA: National Security Adviser
OGDC: Oil and Gas Development Company
PC: Privatisation Commission
PML-N: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz
PMO: Prime Minister's Office
PPP: Pakistan People's Party
PTI: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf
QWP: Quami Watan Party
SBA: Standby Agreement
SBP: State Bank of Pakistan
TTP: Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

PROVINCIAL POLITICS

PTI striving to make inroads into rural Sindh, *The Nation*, October 13¹

Though the PTI leadership is making aggressive efforts to make inroads into the political arena of rural Sindh, they are not certain about breaking the influence of traditional political forces in the land of Pirs and tribal chieftains. PTI will launch its first aggressive effort on November 21 to establish its foothold in rural Sindh through a public rally at Larkana but is not even sure about grabbing the support of few notable political figures being reported in the national media. Unconfirmed media reports claimed that Ghinwa Bhutto, Chairperson PPP (Shaheed Bhutto), Mumtaz Bhutto, Liaquat Jatoi are most likely to join the PTI at Larkana show but the PTI top leadership tasked to organise the party in rural Sindh termed the reports speculations. Shah Mehmood Qureshi, PTI Vice Chairman who is leading the Sindh task, told *The Nation*: "We are not expecting major turnaround but we will break the influence of traditional political forces slowly but surely."

Another group likely to emerge in PML-N, *Dawn*, October 13²

A third group is likely to emerge in the KP chapter of PLM-N as many of its office-bearers have joined hands to raise voice against the leadership for what they call its failure to solve their problems. No doubt the party has a sizeable vote bank in the province but the internal rifts have stopped its further progress, according to insiders. Sources said that two groups already existed in the party in the province; *one was led by Eng. Amir Muqam and the other by Pir Sabir Shah*. The workers associated with Mr Shah are stated to be senior while members of the other group are considered newcomers in the party. Although the annoyed leaders are not ready to be described as third group yet they have announced complete boycott of all kinds of meetings and functions of the party and refused to hold negotiations with the provincial leadership.

CM wants constitutional path to resolve OGDC Issue, *Dawn*, October 15³

Sindh Chief Minister Qaim Ali Shah has said that matters pertaining to natural resources be settled in accordance with the 18th amendment of the Constitution to avoid any confusion. Presiding over a meeting at the Chief Minister House on October 14 to discuss divestment of 10 per cent Oil and

¹<http://nation.com.pk/editors-picks/13-Oct-2014/pti-striving-to-make-inroads-into-rural-sindh>

²<http://www.dawn.com/news/1137681/another-group-likely-to-emerge-in-pml-n>

³<http://www.dawn.com/news/1138032/cm-wants-constitutional-path-to-resolve-ogdc-issue>

Gas Development Company (OGDC) shares, the chief minister said that the Sindh government would follow the constitution and seek services of senior lawyers on the issue. *The meeting was informed that KP government had challenged the divestment move of the federal government in the high court and had got a stay order and the federal government had challenged the KP petition in the Supreme Court.*

KP govt removes AAG, *The News*, October 16⁴

The KP government has removed Additional Advocate General Ambreen Abbas. The Law, Parliamentary Affairs and Human Rights Department issued a notification in this respect. The PTI-led provincial government had appointed her as AAG for the Supreme Court of Pakistan. However, sources said that she was young and inexperienced for the post and did not represent the provincial government well in the cases in apex court. The PTI lawyers had also raised objection over appointment of the junior woman lawyer as AAG.

Infighting a hurdle in PPP revival in Punjab, *Dawn*, October 16⁵

Efforts of PPP co-chairperson Asif Ali Zardari to revive his party in Punjab may not succeed *until he manages to overcome deep-rooted differences in party's local ranks. Okara, dubbed as second Larkana during the ZAB era, is one such district where the party has suffered badly because of infighting at the local level. The infighting accelerated when Manzoor Wattoo was made the Punjab president as Jialas never accepted him as a PPP man. Power politics at the local level surfaced after the 2008 elections between PPP MNA Chaudhry Sajjadul Hasan and MPA and district president Muhammad Ashraf Khan Sohna.The two MPs came at daggers drawn when a group backed by Sajjadul Hssan launched a campaign to remove elderly and founder PPP worker Alam Sher Khan Lodhi from the office of Okara city PPP president as he was loyal to Ashraf Sohna.*

Tit-for-tat: PPP 'destroyed' Karachi, MQM claims, *Dawn*, OCTOBER 19⁶

The MQM on October 19 condemned remarks made by PPP's Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari against party chief Altaf Hussain. In a statement issued by the MQM's Central Rabita (Coordination) Committee on the party's website, the PPP was accused of "*destroying Karachi*". The statement said that MQM Chief Altaf Hussain had always stood against feudalism and dynastic politics and had remained popular in the hearts of party supporters despite the "*conspiracies of his enemies*".

⁴ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-2-278638-KP-govt-removes-AAG>

⁵ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138096/infighting-among-local-ranks-a-hurdle-in-ppp-revival>

⁶ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138982/tit-for-tat-ppp-destroyed-karachi-mqm-claims>

Bhuttoism can save country from civil war, *The Nation*, October 19⁷

PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on October 18 said that *only Bhuttoism could save the country from civil war* as it's the only political philosophy that calls for unity of the people and the state. He said there are in fact only two political forces in Pakistan, one is Bhuttoism and the other comprises followers of dictators like Ziaul Haq and Pervez Musharraf. Bilawal said the script of certain forces would continue to be played until the installation of a stooge prime minister.

Reorganising PPP in Punjab may be tough for Bilawal, *Dawn*, October 20⁸

PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's upcoming visit to Lahore may yet hold more challenges for the political prodigy. In the midst of efforts to reorganize the party in Punjab after its dismal outing in the previous general election, there are indications that Bilawal may face opposition from within the party's ranks to his efforts to streamline the affairs of the party in the country's largest province. Bilawal is expected to celebrate the party's Foundation Day in Lahore. He will also hold a series of meetings with party leaders and workers.

Memon urges MQM to review its decision to pull out of Sindh government, *The Nation*, October 20⁹

Sindh's Information Minister Sharjeel Memon said that *mischief should not be created out of someone's statements*, adding that MQM should review impulsive decisions. Talking to journalists he said it is unfortunate that PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto's 'message of love' was misunderstood.

PM opposed to ouster of PTI govt in KP, *The News*, October 22¹⁰

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif stuck to his guns and refused to accept strong persuasion and *pressure from one of his allies to give a green signal to the ouster of the highly vulnerable PTI led government in KP*. Not only now, but back in 2013 after the general elections, JUI chief Maulana Fazlur Rahman had tried to prevail upon Nawaz to contribute his support to PML-N to form a coalition government instead of conceding it to the PTI. At the time, the prime minister had strictly followed a principle with which he still persists. *It was that any party which emerged as the largest force in an assembly has the right to form government*.

⁷<http://nation.com.pk/national/19-Oct-2014/bhuttoism-can-save-country-from-civil-war-bilawal>

⁸<http://www.dawn.com/news/1139165/reorganising-ppp-in-punjab-may-be-tough-for-bilawal>

⁹<http://nation.com.pk/national/20-Oct-2014/memon-urges-mqm-to-review-its-decision-to-pullout-sindh-government>

¹⁰ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-2-279727-PM-opposed-to-ouster-of-PTI-govt-in-KP>

Reko Diq case: Pak lawyers claim gain against TCC, *The Nation*, October 23¹¹

The Pakistani legal team which appeared before the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) against the Tethyan Copper Company (TCC) claim over billions of dollars Reko Diq copper and gold reserves believes it has achieved strategic objective of unlocking 14 deposits. *TCC had challenged the decisions of Pakistan's apex court and Balochistan government in ICSID.* However, the ICSID after hearing the arguments of Pakistan legal team and counsels of TCC reserved the judgment, which would be announced in 4 to 5 months, sources told *The Nation*. The ICSID decision will be binding on both sides. However, they have the option of reaching a mutually-negotiated settlement. *There are possibilities that a negotiated settlement is reached before the ICSID issues its verdict.* Cherie Blair, wife of Britain's ex-PM Tony Blair, Graham Dunning QC and Ahmer Bilal Soofi represented the federal government and the provincial government of Balochistan, while former Attorney General for Pakistan Makhdoom Ali Khan and Danawon, represented the TCC before the ICSID.

Qaim accepts 3 MQM resignations, *The Nation*, October 27¹²

Sindh Chief Minister Qaim Ali Shah on October 26 approved resignations of three MQM lawmakers, working as advisers and special assistant to chief minister in the provincial cabinet. On October 19, the three lawmakers along with two others - Dr Saghir Ahmed and Rauf Siddiqui, serving as health and industries and commerce ministers respectively – *resigned from their posts after the party decided to quit the coalition with the PPP over derogatory remarks by its leadership against Mohajirs and MQM chief Altaf Hussain.*

Drive for 20 new provinces to begin after Muharram, says MQM, *Dawn*, October 27¹³

The MQM staged a big rally on October 26 *in protest over the remarks of senior PPP leader Syed Khurshid Shah against the word 'Mohajir' and announced that it would launch a movement for 20 new provinces in the country after Muharram.* The rally was the culminating point of the MQM's 'black day' which was observed in the metropolis on against Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly *Khurshid Shah's remarks that he considered the word 'Mohajir' a swear word.*

Altaf demands immediate census under army, *The News*, October 29¹⁴

¹¹<http://nation.com.pk/editors-picks/23-Oct-2014/reko-diq-case-pak-lawyers-claim-gain-against-tcc>

¹² <http://nation.com.pk/national/27-Oct-2014/qaim-accepts-3-mqm-resignations>

¹³<http://www.dawn.com/news/1140617/drive-for-20-new-provinces-to-begin-after-muharram-says-mqm>

Altaf Hussain on October 29 called upon the government to undertake the exercise for a country-wide census under the supervision of Pakistan Army. Addressing a press conference at MQM Headquarters via telephone from London, Altaf Hussain said: *"It is our demand that the census exercise be carried out and completed at the earliest."* The MQM chief said *'Sindh One and Sindh Two' had been made in 1973 with the announcement of quota system for urban and rural parts of the province.* He said problems emanating from lack of census are aggravating with the passage of time.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

PAT will announce sit-ins across Pakistan, *The News,* October 12¹⁵

PAT leader Allama Tahirul Qadri said on October 12 not only his ongoing sit-in in Islamabad will continue but he will also announce such demonstrations across the country in the coming days. Addressing a big rally here, Tahirul Qadri said *"The status quo can not sustain itself any more. Because, no one can now prevent the revolution from coming,".*

PM cannot be removed forcefully, says Shah, *The Nation,* October 12¹⁶

Opposition leader in the National Assembly Syed Khursheed Shah said on October 11 that Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif could not be removed forcefully through unconstitutional means. Khursheed Shah said though the premier disappointed the nation as he did not fulfill his promises but it did not mean he should be removed forcefully. The opposition leader said the popularity graph of the prime minister had dropped significantly as the *promises made to the people including ending load shedding; checking price hike and provision of jobs had not been fulfilled.*

PM likely to visit China next month, *Dawn,* October, 13¹⁷

Minister for Railways Khawaja Saad Rafique has said on October 12 that Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif is likely to visit China next month to urge Chinese businessmen to make investment in infrastructure development projects in the country.

¹⁴ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/article-164075-Altat-Hussain-demands-immediate-census-under-army-supervision>

¹⁵ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/article-162353-Will-announce-sit-ins-across-Pakistan:-Qadrit>

¹⁶ <http://nation.com.pk/national/12-Oct-2014/pm-cannot-be-removed-forcefully-says-shah>

¹⁷ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1137631/pm-likely-to-visit-china-next-month>

PPP, PML-N may act together to stall CEC's appointment, Dawn, October 15¹⁸

There seems to be an understanding between the ruling PLM-N and the main opposition PPP that the appointment of the permanent chief election commissioner should be delayed for as long as it takes for the parliamentary committee on electoral reforms to complete its job. Hours after a Supreme Court ruling calling on the government to fill the post by Oct 28, Opposition Leader in the National Assembly Syed Khurshid Shah said in a statement that he would explain the reasons for the delay in the appointment of the CEC before the apex court. The two parties believe that any appointment on the key constitutional office, carried out in haste, could create legal and political problems in future.

No room for technocrats and dictators, says Zardari, Dawn, October 15¹⁹

PPP co-chairperson Asif Ali Zardari sees *no room for technocrats (government) and dictators in the prevailing situation*. Speaking at a reception given by Manzoor Wattoo and a meeting of women wing activists in Lahore on October 14, he said *Pakistan always progressed when politicians were in power. Alluding to the 'humiliating' attitude of the media towards politicians, he said some people associated with TV channels had the mentality of Gullu Butt and that the political activists would have to change this mindset.*

Imran sees end to Hashmi's politics, Dawn, October 17²⁰

PTI Chairman Imran Khan avoided mentioning the name of Amir Dogar, the independent candidate supported by PTI who defeated Javed Hashmi in the Multan by-election, at his party's sit-in on October 16. Addressing his supporters, he said: *"I am upset because the politics of Mr Javed Hashmi is going to end."* Mr Khan said he was upset when Javed Hashmi had alleged that *"Imran is trying to topple the government with the support of the military"*, adding that he won't malign Mr Hashmi.

SC moved for declaring general election of 2013 void, The News, October 17²¹

A constitutional petition was filed on October 17 in the Supreme Court, *praying to declare general election of May 2013 null and void on the grounds of a number of irregularities, including pre-poll rigging and use of un-prescribed ink in the polls. Former Federal Minister Mian Zahid Sarfaraz filed the petition under Article 184 (3) of the Constitution, making the ECP, through its secretary; the*

¹⁸<http://www.dawn.com/news/1138024/ppp-pml-n-may-act-together-to-stall-cecs-appointment>

¹⁹ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138115/no-room-for-technocrats-and-dictators-says-zardari>

²⁰ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138521/imran-sees-end-to-hashmis-politics>

²¹<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-2-278836-SC-moved-for-declaring-general-election-of-2013-void>

Federation of Pakistan, through Ministry of Law, Justice and Human Rights secretary as respondents.

No fresh polls; govt to complete tenure: PM, *The Nation*, October 19²²

While ruling out the possibility of midterm elections, Nawaz Sharif has said the PML-N government got the public mandate to rule for five years and it will complete its constitutional tenure. No question of ouster of the government on the demand of a handful of people arises, he said while presiding over a high-level meeting at Model Town Lahore on October 18. Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif was also present. He said development of the country and prosperity of the nation depended on the democratic and political stability.

Nisar issues FIA stern warning, *The Nation*, October 23²³

After the incident of travelling of 10 Afghan nationals from Islamabad airport to UK with the alleged connivance of the Federal Investigation Agency Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan visited FIA Headquarters and chaired a high level meeting there to review the performance of the agency. *"It is time for FIA officials to buck or pack up. FIA has been freed from all political pressures and now FIA should deliver. FIA can turn around the country by its dedicated services,"* he said.

Unicef warned of polio funding cut, *Dawn*, October 27²⁴

In a letter to Unicef Executive Director Anthony Lake, Independent Monitoring Board (IMB) Chairman Sir Liam Donaldson warned that the initiative might have a tough time in obtaining funding in the future if the priorities of the programme were not rearranged to focus on ridding Pakistan of the curse of polio and focusing on immunisation as a top priority.

PM cools down MQM temper, *The Nation*, October 29²⁵

Terming the difference of opinion as beauty of democracy, Nawaz Sharif stressed the need for resolving differences among political forces through dialogue and discussion. Premier Sharif was talking to MQM delegation led by Farooq Sattar which called on him on October 28. Other members of the delegation included Abdul Rashid Godil, Kahlid Maqbool and Nasreen Jalil. Sources informed *The Nation* that *Nawaz wanted MQM to dilute tension with PPP and even offered to play a mediatory role in this connection.*

²² <http://nation.com.pk/national/19-Oct-2014/no-fresh-polls-govt-to-complete-tenure-pm>

²³ <http://nation.com.pk/islamabad/23-Oct-2014/nisar-issues-fia-stern-warning>

²⁴ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1140589/unicef-warned-of-polio-funding-cut>

²⁵ <http://nation.com.pk/national/29-Oct-2014/pm-cools-down-mqm-temper>

AZADI MARCH

PTI leadership decides to continue sit-in, rallies, Dawn, October 14²⁶

The core committee of the PTI decided on October 13 to continue its sit-in in Islamabad and hold rallies in cities across the country. The party's top decision-making body laid down strict guidelines for its rallies to avert a recurrence of the Multan tragedy which claimed seven lives. In future public meetings, only a limited number of PTI leaders will be allowed on the stage after clearance by the party leadership. *The PTI will hold a public rally in Sargodha on Oct 17 and in Faisalabad on Oct 23. Imran Khan announced that his party will demonstrate its strength in Larkana, the home town of the Bhuttos, on Nov 21.*

ANP leader slams PTI-PAT sit-ins, Dawn, October 15²⁷

Central Secretary of ANP Mian Iftikhar Hussain has slammed the sit-ins staged by PTI and PAT in Islamabad. The motive behind the sit-ins, he added, was to 'rollback' the 18th Constitutional Amendment. Addressing the participants of a gathering arranged in the honour of party leader Arbab Zahir Kasi over his safe recovery and a meeting of provincial chapter of ANP, he asserted that *renaming of the province as Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, shelving of Kalabagh dam, announcement of NFC award, naming of Peshawar Airport as Bacha Khan Airport and establishment of several universities in KP were results of successful policies of ANP-led coalition in the province.*

IHC suspends FIRs against PM, police on Red Zone violence, Dawn, October 16²⁸

The Islamabad High Court ordered suspension of FIRs lodged against Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and police personnel over resorting to violence on Aug 30 as implicated by the PTI and PAT. A one-member bench of Justice Shaukat Siddiqui heard the case today with police officials arguing that their job was only to obey government orders. Additional Attorney General Waqar Rana appearing before the court submitted that both the protesting parties *had been given conditional permission for holding sit-ins* but they violated the agreement.

²⁶ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1137793/pti-leadership-decides-to-continue-sit-in-rallies>

²⁷ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138028/anp-leader-slams-pti-pat-sit-ins>

²⁸ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138396/ihc-suspends-firs-against-pm-police-on-red-zone-violence>

Pakistan can't afford anarchy amid army operation in NWA, *The News*, October 16²⁹

Protest is a right of everyone in a democratic country, *but Pakistan cannot afford any anarchy at a time when its armed forces are involved in a difficult military operation against terrorists in North Waziristan*, this was said by speakers at the Jang Forum held on October 15. These views were shared by PML-N MPA Mian Marghob Ahmed, senior PPP leader and former Opposition Leader in Punjab Assembly Raja Riaz, central leader JUI-F Maulana Amjad Khan and Head of the Department of Political Science Punjab University Prof Dr Ambreen Javed at a Jang forum hosted by Aslam Javed.

5,000 PAT supporters leave sit-in venue, *The News*, October 17³⁰

Around 5,000 sit-in participants of PAT on October 16 left the D-Chowk after wrapping up more than 500 tents established at the spot for 60 days. However, *major allies of PAT, including PML-Q, MWM and AML, are still trying to convince Dr. Tahirul Qadri to continue the sit-in in Islamabad*, 'The News' has learnt.

PAT's 'exit strategy' making PTI nervous, *Dawn*, October 18³¹

As the PAT prepares to pack up its sit-in in Islamabad, no one is more worried than the PTI. For nearly two months, the parties had been camped out side-by-side, *first on Khayaban-i-Suharwardy and then, after protesters forced their way into the Red Zone, in front of Parliament House*. The die-hard nature of PAT supporters and their almost spiritual commitment to Dr Tahirul Qadri's cause made them indispensable for both parties. But as Dr Qadri prepares to leave Islamabad, PTI leaders are apprehensive. Dr Qadri told his followers on Friday night: *"We began the sit-in and we will end it when we want," he said, insisting that he would not be dictated by anyone.*

Qadri calls off capital sit-in, *The Nation*, October 22³²

"Pack up and prepare to leave for your homes!" ordered Dr Tahirul Qadri to his followers finally, freeing them from his more than two months long sit-in in the federal capital. *After the appointment of new spy chief Dr Qadri found himself with no support but still he tried his level best to drag the armed forces into the matter but failed. At the final stage, Qadri also faced difficulties in arranging funds and he was unable to feed his several thousand protesters. Consequently, first he shrank his sit-in few days ago and now finally wrapped it up.*

²⁹ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-2-278636-Pakistan-cant-afford-anarchy-amid-army-operation-in-NWA>

³⁰ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-2-278832-5000-PAT-supporters-leave-sit-in-venue>

³¹ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138773/pats-exit-strategy-making-pti-nervous>

³² <http://nation.com.pk/national/22-Oct-2014/qadri-calls-off-capital-sit-in>

Imran Khan vows to stay at D-chowk, *The News*, October 22³³

PTI chairman Imran Khan has demanded of the National Assembly Speaker to accept resignations of PTI lawmakers. Addressing participants of the sit-in late night on Oct 21, Khan said: *"I am not going anywhere, I will stay here, and tsunami will stay at D-Chowk"*. PAT on October 21 decided to end its sit-in after that thousands of protesters left for their homes.

Acceptance of PTI resignations may lead to mid-term polls, *Dawn*, October 30³⁴

While members of the PTI camped outside the National Assembly speaker's office on October 29, *political leaders from the JI as well as the opposition jirga* — which has been trying to negotiate a settlement between the government and protesters — *campaigns vociferously with the government in an effort to delay the acceptance of the resignations even further.*

Stop playing both sides, Imran tells Siraj, *The News*, October 31³⁵

The PTI Chairman, Imran Khan, has asked the JI Ameer Sirajul Haq to stop playing on both sides of the wicket and clear his position on whether he stood for the status quo or change in Pakistan. In a statement issued here on October 30, Imran termed the JI chief's reported assertion that both the PML-N and PTI had similar interests as disappointing. The JI leader has denied having issued a statement that the PML-N and PTI were two sides of the same coin. Earlier, a statement by JI's Liaquat Baloch had not gone well with the PTI, wherein he had said that *by songs and dances, no real change could take place.*

Doors still open for dialogue with PTI, *The Nation*, October 31³⁶

Railways Minister Khawaja Saad Rafique says government's doors are still open for dialogue with the protesting PTI to strengthen the democracy in the country. He further said the PML-N wants continuity of democratic system and supremacy of the parliament. *Saad Rafique said that the PTI chief Imran Khan should announce his resignation on floor of National Assembly if he so desires.* Rafique said that the PTI has apprehensions about resigning from the National Assembly and that is why *the party leadership is not allowing the MNAs to meet the Speaker individually.*

³³ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/article-163239-Imran-Khan-vows-to-stay-at-D-chowk->

³⁴ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1141266/acceptance-of-pti-resignations-may-lead-to-mid-term-polls-leaders>

³⁵ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-13-33812-Stop-playing-on-both-sides-of-wicket-Imran-tells-Siraj>

³⁶ <http://nation.com.pk/national/31-Oct-2014/doors-still-open-for-dialogue-with-pti-saad-rafique>

MILITARY AFFAIRS

Admiral Zakaullah meets air chief, *The Nation*, October 15³⁷

Newly appointed Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Muhammad Zakaullah on October 14 visited Air Headquarters, Islamabad and met Air Chief Marshal Tahir Rafique Butt. The air chief assured Admiral Zakaullah of all-out support to Pakistan Navy in strengthening defence of Pakistan.

PAF playing lead role in Operation Zarb-e-Azb, *The Nation*, October 16³⁸

Nawaz Sharif lauded the lead role played by PAF for law enforcement during operation Zarb-e-Azb. During a visit to the PAF Headquarters, the Prime Minister assured full support of Government for future development plans of PAF.

Civil-military leadership discuss national security, *Dawn*, October 16³⁹

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on October 16 chaired a high-level meeting comprising the country's civil and military leadership to discuss national and regional security at the Prime Minister House. The meeting's agenda was to discuss *the ongoing military operation, Zarb-i-Azb, along with the situation at the country's eastern and western borders*. Recent incidents of firing at the LoC and the working boundary also came under discussion. *Defence Minister Khawaja Asif, Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan, Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz, Chief of Army Staff General Raheel Sharif, Director General Inter-Services Intelligence Zaheerul Islam and Rizwan Akhtar, who will take over from Zaheerul Islam in the near future, attended the meeting.*

Resolving Kashmir issue vital for peace, *Dawn*, October 18⁴⁰

Chief of Army Staff General Raheel Sharif on October 18 said *the resolution of Kashmir issue was imperative in order to establish sustainable peace in the region*. Addressing a passing-out parade held at Pakistan Military Academy in Kakul, *the army chief said that the Kashmir issue should be resolved in light of United Nations resolutions*. Speaking on the ongoing military operation in North Waziristan, General Raheel said the army's objective was to eliminate

³⁷ <http://nation.com.pk/islamabad/15-Oct-2014/admiral-zakaullah-meets-air-chief>

³⁸ <http://nation.com.pk/national/16-Oct-2014/paf-playing-lead-role-in-operation-zarb-e-azb-pm>

³⁹ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138399/civil-military-leadership-discuss-national-regional-security>

⁴⁰ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138801/resolving-kashmir-issue-vital-for-peace-general-raheel>

terrorism from the country and *that the network of terrorists had been effectively tackled in North Waziristan.*

Army chief departs for Indonesia, *Express Tribune*, October 20⁴¹

Army Chief General Raheel Sharif on October 20 left for Indonesia on a three-day official visit, according to an Inter Services Public Relations statement. The statement added that the army chief is visiting Indonesia on the special invitation of Indonesian defence authorities.

Pakistan will retaliate to any aggression: DG ISPR, *Dawn*, October 22⁴²

Pakistan's military spokesman on October 22 said the country wants peace on its borders, but is ready to respond to any form of aggression from its neighbours. "We do not want to disrupt peace but if the other side resorts to aggression then it will be responded accordingly," said Director General Inter-Services Public Relations Major General Asim Bajwa while speaking to reporters.

Army chief to visit US next month for strategic talks, *Dawn*, October 27⁴³

Gen Raheel Sharif will visit the United States next month for talks with senior US military commanders and defence officials. This will be Gen Sharif's first visit to the US as the army chief, a position he assumed on Nov 29, 2013. Official sources told Dawn that *Gen Sharif is coming to the US on a personal invitation from Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen Martin Dempsey. During the week-long visit, starting on Nov 16, he is expected to meet Defence Secretary Chuck Hagel, Gen Dempsey, Commander of the US Central Command Gen Lloyd J. Austin and other members of the American defence establishment. He is also likely to visit Centcom headquarters in Tampa, Florida, as its area of responsibility includes both Afghanistan and Pakistan.* The visit also marks the first formal consultations between the top military brass of the two countries after Sept 30, when the United States and Afghanistan signed a bilateral treaty agreement.

Operation Zarb-e-Azb led to decrease in terrorism, *The News*, October 29⁴⁴

Director General ISPR, Asim Bajwa said on October 28 that Operation Zarb-e-Azb was proceeding successfully and as a result terrorism had decreased in Pakistan. Briefing the media, Bajwa said areas cleared of terrorists were being handed over to the administration while no timeframe could be given for the completion of Operation Zarb-e-Azb. The DG ISPR told media that *Khyber-I*

⁴¹ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/778310/army-chief-departs-for-indonesia-on-three-day-visit/>

⁴² <http://www.dawn.com/news/1139630/pakistan-will-retaliate-to-any-aggression-dg-ispr>

⁴³ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1140619/army-chief-to-visit-us-next-month-for-talks-on-strategic-issues>

⁴⁴ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/article-164059-Operation-Zarb-e-Azb-led-to-decrease-in-terrorism:-DG-ISPR->

Operation had been launched against terrorists who had fled to the Khyber Agency. He added that over 40 terrorists had been killed during the operation in Khyber Agency while over 100 terrorists had laid down their arms. The DG ISPR further said the operation would continue to target terrorist hideouts.

Drone issue to be discussed during army chief's US visit, Dawn, October 30⁴⁵

The US and Pakistan are likely to discuss the future of drone attacks during Army Chief Gen Raheel Sharif's visit to this country, according to the US Army Times newspaper. Gen Sharif is coming to the United States on Nov 16 on a week-long visit for talks on future ties between the two militaries. The US Army Times noted in an article that this would be the first visit by a Pakistani army chief since October 2010, when relations between the two militaries began to deteriorate. This will also be Gen Sharif's first visit to the United States as the army chief.

Military laments 'disappointing' Afghan response, The Express Tribune, October 30⁴⁶

Maj Gen Asim Salim Bajwa, DG, ISPR told the media in an official briefing on October 20, that while operations in the tribal agencies of North Waziristan and Khyber have been successful, *the response and cooperation from Afghanistan during Operation Zarb-e-Azb has been 'disappointing'.* "Before we launched the operation in North Waziristan, we established contacts with Afghanistan at every level and sought cooperation in the dismantling of militant networks.....Militants, including chief of the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan Mullah Fazlullah and his accomplices, are sheltering across the border in Kunar and Nuristan provinces, from where they are carrying out terrorist acts," he said. The presence of such militants in Afghanistan is "a serious security threat to Pakistan," he added. "The militants are using Afghan mobile SIMs. The Afghan government has failed to address our demands to dismantle mobile towers installed along the Pak-Afghan border."

FOREIGN POLICY

Pak-Russian strategic talks held, The Nation, October 22⁴⁷

The 2nd round of bilateral strategic dialogue between Pakistan and Russian Federation was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 21 October. Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Morgulov Igor Vladimirovich and Nadeem Riyaz, Additional Secretary (Europe), held the dialogue that focused on a review of political, economic, parliamentary and cultural relations. Possibilities were also explored for enhancing cooperation in various sectors including energy. Both the sides shared their resolve to undertake concrete steps to enhance

⁴⁵ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1141259/drone-issue-to-be-discussed-during-army-chiefs-us-visit>

⁴⁶ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/783355/military-laments-disappointing-afghan-response/>

⁴⁷ <http://nation.com.pk/national/22-Oct-2014/pak-russian-strategic-talks-held>

their cooperation, especially in the economic sphere to strengthen the existing cordial relations. It was also agreed that the next round of strategic dialogue will be held in Moscow at mutually convenient date.

Pak-Iran agree on intelligence cooperation, Dawn, October 22⁴⁸

Pakistani and Iranian officials met in Tehran on October 22 where, "*The two sides agreed to boost intelligence cooperation with regard to border security,*" said Khan Wasey, a spokesman for the Frontier Corps. The meeting was between Inspector General FC Balochistan Major General Ejaz Shahid and Iranian border force's chief General Qasim Razai and it took place in the Iranian capital and was aimed at discussing ways and means to end border skirmishes.

Pakistan-US ties moving to trade from aid: US envoy, Dawn, October 29⁴⁹

US Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan Daniel Feldman said that *Pakistan-US ties were moving from aid-based to trade-based relationship.* Speaking to a group of journalists at the US Embassy in Islamabad, he *ruled out extension in Kerry-Lugar legislation* under which Washington provided about \$5 billion in civilian assistance to Pakistan over the past five years. *The Kerry-Lugar-Berman authorisation was for five years and wouldn't be further extended, he said.* The special envoy, however, said the US was trying to avoid a '*precipitous decline*' in assistance funding for Pakistan and the executive would continue to request Congress for appropriations. *Under the aid legislation enacted by the Congress in 2009, the US was to provide \$7.5bn in non-military aid over five years to help the civilian government to deliver essential services.* Feldman described the ties as '*realistic, optimistic and productive*'.

Immense potential in Pak-China cooperation, The Nation, October 31⁵⁰

Advisor to the Prime Minister on the National Security and Foreign Affairs, Sartaj Aziz, met the Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Beijing *ahead of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process,* to be hosted by China. They discussed a wide range of bilateral economic and security issues. Aziz said that as strategic partners, both countries had a common stake in regional cooperation, peace and stability. Pakistan and China agreed to intensify efforts to contribute towards peace and stability in Afghanistan.

⁴⁸<http://www.dawn.com/news/1139633/pak-iran-agree-on-intelligence-cooperation-following-border-unrest>

⁴⁹ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1141027/pakistan-us-ties-moving-to-trade-from-aid-us-envoy>

⁵⁰ <http://nation.com.pk/national/31-Oct-2014/immense-potential-in-pak-china-cooperation-sartaj>

EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS

Need for new survival kit, Babar Sattar, *Dawn*, 13 October⁵¹

The personal challenge for Sharif is two-fold. One, the policy space left with him as a civilian prime minister has shrunk drastically (he's already pulled all favours with the khakis as well as his competitors in parliament). And two, faced with PTI animus and public angst, he would be tempted to recede to the comfort of being surrounded with sycophants as opposed to reaching out to critics. The first threatens to reduce him to a lame duck in the first quarter of his term, the second to isolate him further and accelerate his downward spiral. [...] *Sharif often comes across as someone deliberately dragging his feet just to get fired, either because he thinks his job is too much work or because he is bored out of his mind.* If the impression is false, he should tell people that.

Act Faster, Editorial, *The Nation*, October 13⁵²

The overriding legacy of the PMLN leadership seems to be *an almost enviable ability to put things off*. Whereas the previous PPP regime preferred not to address issues at all and did not bother even with the pretence of trying... (but) Very slowly. Very minimally. Be it the political crisis created because too much had been put off for too long (and this remains to be the case), or the IDP camps which continue to be organised largely under the army, *the Sharif leadership will sit on an issue until it goes stale, until it explodes, or until a big enough vacuum has been created.* [...] When the floods hit the Punjab, the first response team in most cases was Jamaat ud Dawa, who arrived with boats and organised rescue missions, followed by the army. *In the absence of the government to provide help, shelter, food and care in the immediate aftermath of the floods, public sympathy swayed and sat firmly with the people who came to their help. When the government's narrative is invisible, people will flock to other narratives... The government must realise that if it doesn't act prudently at a time of crisis, there are others with nefarious intentions, just waiting to step in and pull the rug out from under them.*

Where do we go from here? Rasul Bakhsh Rais, *Express Tribune*, October 15⁵³

It seems that polarisations among the political class .. has been the story of political fragmentation and cycles of confrontation in Pakistan over the past three decades. What fuels and sustains polarisation? One easy way to explain this problem is that someone is pulling the strings, and all the political players or a section of them trying to destabilise the political order are puppets. While not entirely untrue, *that is only the partial truth, not the whole truth.....* It is the degree of

⁵¹ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1137573/need-for-new-survival-kit>

⁵² <http://nation.com.pk/editorials/13-Oct-2014/act-faster>

⁵³ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/775324/where-do-we-go-from-here/>

autonomy and independence of the political class that defuses the power of the invisible influences. *That will require coherence, cooperation and consensus among the political elite to change the balance of power...*The solution lies in strengthening consensus on democratic institutions— Constitution and parliament. However, two requisites must be kept in mind. *Parliament must be larger than the majority. Majoritarian politics played out here has weakened democracy and continues to do so. Second, democratic politics is not and must not be a zero-sum game, it is positive and must be inclusive. Last, compromise and conciliation are political virtues that all sides need to embrace.*

Can the PPP rise again? Zahid Hussain, *Dawn*, October 15⁵⁴

...Once the country's most formidable political force, the PPP is now only a relic of its past, isolated from the country's new political reality. Will it be possible for a political novice to make a demoralised and fragmented party rise from the ashes just by invoking the Bhutto charisma? Can the party regain the space it has already lost to the new political forces on the scene? It will be interesting to see how the PPP redefines itself in the fast-emerging social and political milieu. [...] *Wiped out from the urban areas, the PPP has long been reduced to a rural-based party. Whatever support base it had in Punjab has now been swept away by the onslaught of Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf. The party does not have anything to offer to the burgeoning youth population. It is in vain to hope that a youthful Bhutto will turn the tide in favour of the PPP, which is in complete tatters in the country's largest and most powerful province.... Politics based on martyrdom and dynasty may not work for long in a fast-changing situation. It is difficult to say whether or not the PPP leadership has any realisation of its failure. Perhaps it does not. At a recent PPP central committee meeting, Mr Zardari reportedly snubbed a senior member who dared to raise the issue of bad governance in the province.*

Split in Taliban ranks, Editorial, *Dawn*, October 17⁵⁵

The rise of the self-styled Islamic State was always going to have repercussions for the militant complex in Pakistan. The only real question is: how much of an effect wills IS have here? The announcement this week by several TTP commanders, headlined by Taliban spokesperson Shahidullah Shahid, that their allegiance now lies with Abu Bakar al-Baghdadi has underlined the lure of IS has for splashy headlines, but the real impact may be limited.....*The resumé of the six TTP commanders may be semi-impressive, but the reality is that they are on the run and unlikely to have much to offer in terms of furthering the IS agenda in Pakistan. [...]*If the TTP fracturing and the lure of IS is rooted in something more than localised factors, the state here will have an even bigger challenge to deal

⁵⁴ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1137991/can-the-ppp-rise-again>

⁵⁵ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138449/split-in-taliban-ranks>

with.Surely though, even if IS is not destined to gain much ground in Pakistan, an old truth still applies: when the existing militant threat is not dealt with, the future threat invariably is more dangerous and complicated.

Golden boy Bilawal, Editorial, *The Nation*, October 17⁵⁶

..The Bhuttos understand the importance of legacy and symbolism. This is why Bilawal's name was aptly changed to Bhutto-Zardari; this is why his father, co-chairman of the party and former President Asif Ali Zardari is being advised from within the party to now distance himself from the PPP. The interim is over, and it is time for the baton to be passed back to a true blue-blooded Bhutto to reawaken the spirit of legacy. [...] *The October 18th jalsa is being pitched as the first "mega-event" since the attack in Karsaz which killed 150 PPP workers two months before Benazir Bhutto's assassination...* A young boy with no experience of politics, created before our very eyes to be shamelessly... Bhutto. To scream the slogans of his mother, to dress like his grandfather, to gesture like the primed politician of Sindh that he is not. It is all rather pitiful, and shameful.

Lashkars in the war, Editorial, *The News*, October 17⁵⁷

There is an impression that the military operation in North Waziristan *has put militant groups on the back foot, unable or unwilling to strike back with devastating attacks.* This is true only to the extent that major urban areas have not witnessed as many attacks as before. *In the tribal areas, the situation has remained as dire as before, with militant groups still operating with seeming freedom.* The latest piece of evidence for this came with a suicide attack on the Zakhakhel Amn Lashkar in Tirah Valley which left seven dead and another 17 injured. The Mangal Bagh-led Lashkar-e-Islam, which is allied to the TTP and the dominant militant group in the area, has denied responsibility for the attack, but there is no group as motivated to attack lashkars in Tirah Valley as them. [...] *Even though the military now holds Tirah Valley, at least on paper, this latest attack on the lashkar is an indictment of our policy in the area.* Here and elsewhere, the government has relied on poorly-armed, badly-trained and underfunded lashkars to do its work. *The policy backfired completely, to the point where the lashkars in Tirah Valley felt so abandoned that they had no choice but to ally with the brutal militant group Ansar-e-Islam, if for no other reason, than that it too was fighting Lashkar-e-Islam. ...It is no wonder then that tribesmen are as mistrustful of the state as they are of militant groups and seek any help they can find, no matter how dubious the source. [...].*

⁵⁶ <http://nation.com.pk/editorials/17-Oct-2014/goldenboy>

⁵⁷ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-8-278780-Lashkars-in-the-war>

Realignment of militants, Muhammad Amir Rana, *Dawn*, October 19⁵⁸

Five Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) commanders have announced their oath of allegiance to ... Islamic State. The development may encourage other militant groups and commanders to do the same — particularly those who are now critically reviewing their oath of allegiance to Mullah Omar and association with Al Qaeda after the emergence of the Islamic State in the Middle East.....By declaring allegiance to the IS, the Taliban commanders not only took the lead but also captured the title of Khorasan. *Previously, leaders of Jamaatul Ahrar tried to tag themselves as Khorasani claiming they were the first troops of the prophesied Islamic state of Khorasan.* They believe the time has come for the establishment of an Islamic state in this region comprising some parts of Central Asia, and Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan. [...]The most important question relates to the future of the TTP. *No doubt IS inspiration has worsened the TTP's internal crisis.....*But we cannot predict the collapse of the TTP. The IS factor has provided new life to the group. The movement is undergoing an extensive transformation, *but it has the potential to re-emerge as a stronger ideological militant movement, maybe under a different name.* [...].

The army's view, Editorial, *Dawn*, October 20⁵⁹

When the army chief speaks, listening can be instructive, *especially if the chief is dilating on issues of national security and foreign policy.....*With violence along the LoC and Working Boundary having flared up recently, tensions with India still high, a military operation in North Waziristan looking set to continue into the winter, a new dispensation in Afghanistan and civil-military relations having taken more than a few knocks in recent months, Gen Sharif's words were all the more important. *And it is more than likely they indicated state policy direction on key issues in the near future.[...]* While the army's Afghan policy may not fundamentally have changed as yet, *there are signs that if the Afghans find a way to establish relative peace and stability in their country, Pakistan will not intervene against or scuttle an internal Afghan settlement.* Finally, on internal security and Operation Zarb-i-Azb, Gen Sharif suggested that *"cohesive, dedicated and timely involvement of all stake holders and state institutions is essential"* for peace. But then, what has the army really done to encourage civilian input?

Murders in Balochistan, Editorial, *The News*, October 21⁶⁰

The inhuman kidnapping and killing of eight Punjabi labourers in Balochistan is both a personal and political tragedy. *These poultry farm workers had come to*

⁵⁸ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138867/realignment-of-militants>

⁵⁹ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1139052/the-armys-view>

⁶⁰ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-8-279528-Murders-in-Balochistan> also see <http://www.dawn.com/news/1139239/targeting-of-non-baloch>

Hub only last month to escape the floods that had ravaged Punjab....On a political level, this is yet another incident that shows how the cycle of violence in Balochistan is now out of control. There can be no doubt that these labourers were killed for their ethnicity. Two other workers who had been held were freed because they were Baloch. The tragedy of the conflict in Balochistan is how helpless people are ensnared simply because their ethnic identity trumps all other considerations. The Baloch are stereotyped as evil and traitors while any Punjabi is marked as an occupier, no matter how long they have been living in the province and what their individual situation might be.....The best way to reduce tensions in Balochistan is to make its people feel they are an equal part of the country. This means addressing the issue of the 'missing' and allowing the Baloch to decide how best to exploit their resources. [...].

Mother Sindh, Editorial, *The Nation*, October 21⁶¹

MQM stole some of Tahir-ul-Qadri's thunder on October 19, with an announcement that *it was to quit the Sindh government*; for all the love and support that it has given to the PPP, it has received none back. Basically what it seemed to come down to at their press conferences was that Boy Wonder Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, had hurt their feelings in his Oct 18 rally though his repeated "verbal attacks." That he had divided the province into "Sindh 1 and Sindh 2." *The decision to separate shows that the MQM is desperately trying to remain relevant to Pakistan, when it is actually only relevant in urban Sindh. [...] Is the germination of a new MQM-PTI alliance completely inconceivable?* Now that the PPP have lost their hold over South Punjab, would the MQM seek other alliances that are relevant in the Punjab? The MQM is also trying to get rid of the Leader of the Opposition in the National Assembly, Syed Khurshid Shah. It can do so if it decides to support PTI, and if PTI withdraws its resignations... It's a lot of drama, and not wrong to wonder if the uncertainty is exactly what the MQM wants to play at.

Foreign policy: An orphan, Ashraf Jehangir Qazi, *The Dawn*, October 21⁶²

Foreign policy covers interactions and relations between nation states and with international and regional institutions. ..Will [the emerging world] order be underpinned by a global consensus or by global hegemony? The US assumes it will be the lynchpin and enforcer of 'stability' for any global order. ...Others see US global policy as the seed-bed of global chaos, instability and environmental catastrophes entailing a range of threats to human survival. The current US-led world order allegedly breeds inequality and violence emanating from injustice and exclusion. It apparently serves the interests of a small minority of corporate, political and military bosses whom the Financial Times describes as the "Masters of the Universe". [...] *This is where the concept*

⁶¹ <http://nation.com.pk/editorials/21-Oct-2014/mother-sindh>

⁶² <http://www.dawn.com/news/1139235/foreign-policy-a-political-orphan>

of civil-military relations as understood by the security establishment has been particularly dubious....The military have political power. The people have political rights. Their representatives have no political conscience. Foreign policy remains a political orphan.

Tensions on Pak-Iran border, Editorial, *Dawn*, October 22⁶³

...The basic problem is well known. Iran accuses Pakistan of allowing its territory in Balochistan to be used to destabilise the Sistan-Baluchestan region in Iran... Yet, the problem is much wider..and not necessarily uni-directional. The porous Iran-Pakistan border that runs over 900km is a magnet for smugglers — of humans, drugs and petroleum products — criminal elements and even militants. While Iran has invested more than Pakistan in shoring up its border controls, security officials here have privately over the years suggested that Iran is not above interfering in Balochistan and southern Afghanistan, especially given the Shia Hazara population in the region. [...]The Pak-Iran relationship has over the years been characterised by coolness towards each other, not just because of Pakistan's closeness to Saudi Arabia and its relationship with the US, but also because neither country's leadership has been willing to think in creative or innovative ways to improve ties. [...]

Naval partnerships, Editorial, *The Express Tribune*, October 27⁶⁴

The navies of Pakistan and Russia have conducted a joint exercise recently in the Arabian Sea. One might wonder what shared interest Pakistan and Russia have that suggests they work together — the simple answer is 'drugs', specifically heroin. Afghanistan, with which we share a long and leaky border, is responsible for 90 per cent of global poppy production, and of that, 40 per cent is trafficked by sea. It is by no means unusual to find raw opium originating in Afghanistan, turning up on ships that dock in Russian ports in the far north, beyond the Arctic Circle.the recent exercise was an opportunity for the special forces of Russia and Pakistan to test procedures and protocols....Given that we do not enjoy the best of relations with most of our neighbours or even with the US, engagement with the Russians is most welcome.

A dangerous divide, Zahid Hussain, *Dawn*, October 29⁶⁵

It is not hard to guess why the MQM is often described as the enfant terrible of Pakistani politics. The party has once again stirred a hornet's nest of ethnic politics by demanding the carving up of Sindh to create a new 'Mohajir' province. After its failed experiment focusing on the creation of a new multi-ethnic identity for itself, the MQM has now returned to its original politics....This narrow political

⁶³ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1139502/tensions-on-pak-iran-border>

⁶⁴ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/781501/naval-partnerships/>

⁶⁵ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1141042/a-dangerous-divide>

approach is a dangerous game that may further widen the divisions among various ethnic groups in the province. *It is shocking the way the MQM has invoked the blasphemy law against PPP leader Khursheed Shah for making a rather benign remark on the term 'Mohajir'.*

Talks with the Taliban, Editorial, *Dawn*, October 29⁶⁶

The last time the government tried to negotiate with the banned TTP, *it did so from a position of weakness*: the TTP was in the ascendant, the TTP was regularly attacking state and society....Now though, as the government negotiates with a breakaway Mehsud faction of the TTP, there are marked differences. For one, *the military operation in North Waziristan Agency has scattered the TTP and denied it a vital base from which to organise and plot attacks against Pakistan*. For another, *the state is attempting a dual track of dialogue and fighting— exactly what should have happened before.....while there is nothing inherently wrong in seeking to negotiate with any enemy, there need to be certain red lines.....Time and again Afghan and Pakistani officials insist that the only way to ensure regional stability and peace is to eliminate all sanctuaries, but then quietly do things — or look the other way in times of crisis — that nudge peace and stability a little further out of reach*. Militants are a danger to everyone. *Allowing some to survive if they focus elsewhere is not a winning strategy.*

Who guards the guards? Editorial, *The Express Tribune*, October 30⁶⁷

A grim reminder of how easily extremism can flourish, given the right fertiliser, is provided *by the shooting of a British-Pakistani prisoner in Adiala Jail recently*. The prisoner was shot by one of the prison guards and the *subsequent enquiry has discovered that the attack was religiously motivated and was incited by the imprisoned policeman, who had shot dead former Punjab governor Salmaan Taseer*. [...]The internal report finds that Mumtaz Qadri also incited two other guards *to hunt down and kill those convicted of blasphemy*. The guard who shot Mr Asghar had spent two weeks guarding Mr Qadri, who convinced him in that time to carry out the attack. If this can happen once, it can happen again. *Prisons are overcrowded and hold a population of extremists and terrorists, who may be incarcerated, but still propagate their ideologies, with a poorly paid and motivated prison staff as their audience.*

Afghan reconciliation, Editorial, *Dawn*, October 30⁶⁸

Barely three perfunctory lines are dedicated to the Pakistan visit; while five lines are reserved for the next leg of the trip — China — with words like

⁶⁶ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1141046/talks-with-the-taliban>

⁶⁷ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/783130/who-guards-the-guards/>

⁶⁸ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1141170/afghan-reconciliation>

'senior', 'key' and 'important' sprinkled liberally across the China-related part of the statement....The US is committed to Pakistan; but assistance is going to be dramatically scaled back. ...The US is not abandoning Afghanistan; but US language on Afghanistan seems increasingly noncommittal. And the US wants the peace and reconciliation process in Afghanistan to move forward; but is not really willing to do anything about it.....Pushing reconciliation further down the list of priorities — as appears to have happened given the fraught Afghan presidential transition and the diversion of the US foreign policy establishment's attention to other areas — only sets up a more complicated problem for the region: *dealing with the Taliban just as the latter believe they have defeated not one, but two superpowers in three decades.*

Balochistan: murders most foul, Dr Mohammad Taqi, *Daily Times*, October 30⁶⁹

Balochistan gushes blood and there seems no imminent desire by Pakistani civilian or military leaders to stem that bleeding. In yet another round of brutality, eight dirt-poor people from the beleaguered Shia Hazara community of Quetta were singled out for their faith, identified by their unmistakably mongoloid facial features and slaughtered by the Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) terrorists who had hopped on to the bus carrying them....In fact, not a single terrorist has been punished to date in the murders of well over 500 Hazaras killed in attacks since 2008 or, for that matter, *in the genocidal killings of the Pakistani Shia underway since at least 2007. Ironically, the LeJ lynchpin, Malik Ishaq, the man charged for inciting, planning and/or executing dozens of attacks on Shias, was freed by the Pakistani courts in March 2014, for lack of evidence. [...]*The Hazaras in Quetta are killed because of their Shia faith; their facial features and forced ghettoisation do make it easy to pick them out. *It is not an issue of social integration or ethno-chauvinism. The jihadists, for example, have no problem coopting different looking and alien sounding Chechens and Uzbeks. The systematic, relentless targeted killings of the socially well-integrated Shia communities from Peshawar to Karachi, indicates that the jihadist agenda is a sectarian purge.....*All murders are horrible but the murders in Balochistan, whether of the Shia Hazara, Baloch Zikris or the Baloch separatists, are especially heinous, grotesque and unnatural as elements of the state stand by idly or, worse, protect and egg on the killers. [...].

Jamaat and PTI, Editorial, *The News*, October 31⁷⁰

Through the course of his protest Imran Khan has managed to alienate friend and foe alike. *The one remaining ally he had left was the Jamaat-e-Islami, which is now the PTI's only coalition partner in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.* But even that

⁶⁹ <http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/opinion/30-Oct-2014/balochistan-murders-most-foul>

⁷⁰ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-8-281772-Jamaat-and-PTI>

relationship has frayed in recent days. *The impetus for the dispute between Sirajul Haq and Imran were remarks attributed to the JI chief claiming that Imran and Nawaz were different sides of the same coin. Although the JI has denied Siraj ever said this, Imran took great offence and launched a broadside accusing Siraj of playing on both sides of the wicket....Ideologically, PTI members would fit in the JI. All of this should in theory be worrying for the PTI but Imran is playing a different game right now. His entire protest is based on the rejection of politics and he seems not to worry about any damage.*

ECONOMIC ISSUES

FISCAL ISSUES

ADB to earmark \$2 bn loan for energy sector, *Express Tribune*, October 22⁷¹

Despite raising concerns about the lack of transparency in payments made to IPPs to decrease the circular debt, the ADB is planning to offer \$2.1 billion in loans for the country's ailing energy sector. The investment, planned under the new Country Partnership Strategy (CPS) 2015-19 estimated at \$5.1 billion, is expected to be effective from early next year, with 41% of the financing focusing in the energy sector alone, according to finance ministry officials. *With the country facing debilitating energy infrastructure, the new investment will be allocated for transmission, distribution, grid connectivity, hydropower generation and import of gas, according to the draft CPS.* However, Pakistan will be required to take hard decisions aimed at increasing power tariffs, reducing line losses and shifting the energy mix. These conditions to funding are being described as in line with the government's 2013 National Power Policy.

Dar unveils 14-point economic roadmap, *Dawn*, October 29⁷²

Finance Minister Ishaq Dar announced on October 29 a 14-point 'future roadmap' aimed at achieving over seven per cent growth by 2018 and making Pakistan a globally competitive and prosperous country with particular emphasis on macroeconomic stability through inclusive growth. Speaking on the final day of an international investment conference in Islamabad, the finance minister said that to achieve the growth rate it was necessary to address poverty incidence and unemployment while improving socio-economic indicators, including health and education. Other main features of the roadmap are: *containing inflation to single digit; bringing down fiscal deficit to 4pc; increasing foreign exchange reserves to \$22 billion, investment-to-GDP ratio to*

⁷¹ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/779095/benchmark-adb-to-earmark-2-billion-loan-for-energy-sector/>

⁷² <http://www.dawn.com/news/1141014/dar-unveils-14-point-economic-roadmap>

20pc and industrial sector growth by 8pc; bringing down public debt to 55pc of GDP; increasing tax-to-GDP ratio to 15pc and exports to \$32 billion; spending 4pc of GDP on education and health sectors; alleviating poverty and supporting vulnerable sections of society; reducing power outages and meeting the shortage of natural gas with enhanced supplies through increased exploration and production as well as through imports.

TRADE

Karachi stocks shed 172 points, *The Nation*, October 21⁷³

Stocks closed bearish amid thin trade on political uncertainty after MQM decision to quit coalition government in Sindh. Banks cannot invest more than 30 percent of their paid up capitals as per SBP regulation also a reason which supported bearish spell at local bourse, market sources informed *The Nation*. The Karachi equity market benchmark KSE-100 share index shed 171.98 points or 0.58 percent to end the day at 29711.12 points compared to 29883.10 points of the last working day on October 17.

ENERGY

Electricity demand to touch 30,000MW in six years, *The Nation*, October 13⁷⁴

With 18 hydel generation projects and dozens in coal, nuclear and thermal sector, Pakistan Water and Power sector is struggling to add 20,000MW electricity in energy basket till 2020. According to the sources at Wapda and Pepco, the electricity demand would touch around 30,000MW after six or seven years but the addition of around 20,000MW would help meet the demand and generation gap.... The independent observers; however, claimed that ...majority of the projects existed only on papers, ..and "It will be a miracle, if the government added 3,000MW to 4,000MW in the national grid during next four years but the electricity need will be doubled in that period". Power generation of 1000MW from the Thar Coal Project at Gaddani in next five years only a dream.

Energy projects main feature of Pak-China economic corridor, *The Nation*, October 19⁷⁵

Finance Minister Ishaq Dar... said that energy projects were the prime feature of the Pak-China Corridor which would be facilitated in every possible manner. The Committee opined that framework of investment in the power

⁷³ <http://nation.com.pk/business/21-Oct-2014/karachi-stocks-shed-172-points-on-political-uncertainty>

⁷⁴ <http://nation.com.pk/business/13-Oct-2014/electricity-demand-to-touch-around-30-000mw-after-six-years>

⁷⁵ <http://nation.com.pk/national/18-Oct-2014/energy-projects-main-feature-of-pak-china-economic-corridor-dar>

sector under the current power policy provided adequate guarantees for domestic and foreign investors on the basis of a level playing field. Pakistan will also welcome *Chinese investors for projects in the proposed Pak-China Economic Corridor such as Railways and Highways.*

30 paisa surcharge per unit, *Express Tribune*, October 20⁷⁶

The federal government today decided to impose 30 paisa per unit EQ surcharge. According to the notification issued by the Ministry of Water and Power, the government has imposed fresh taxes on the consumers in the name of equalization (EQ) surcharge. 30 paisa per unit would be received through the new surcharge that was likely to pull Rs 4 billion per month. ..Imposition of EQ surcharge is one of the conditionality's of IMF.

Chinese delegation shows interest in energy sector, *The Nation*, October 21⁷⁷

A Chinese delegation, led by Li Tong, Chief Executive Officer/*Chairperson Bank of China International*, called on Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources Shahid Khaqan Abbasi. The delegation comprised of the representatives of *M/s China Tianrui Group, M/s Metallurgical Corporation of China, M/s BOC International Holdings Limited, M/s GCL-Poly Energy Holdings Limited and M/s Shandong Hi-Speed Group Co*, a press release said. The Chinese delegation is on a four-day visit to Pakistan to look into the investment opportunities available in Pakistan. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi briefed the delegation on the energy sector of Pakistan, its ongoing projects and the projects in the pipeline.

IP gas pipeline: A middle ground found, *The Express Tribune*, October 30⁷⁸

Pakistan and Iran authorities, in a meeting held in Tehran on October 28, have reached an understanding to look for a middle ground to implement the Iran-Pakistan (IP) gas pipeline project amid threats of possible sanctions by the US. According to sources, the Pakistani delegation, led by Minister for Petroleum and Natural Resources Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, informed the Iranian side that *the US sanction on Iran was the main hurdle in materialising the IP pipeline project.* The ECC recently approved *laying an LNG pipeline from Gwadar to Nawabshah and setting up an LNG terminal at the Gwadar port.*

⁷⁶ <http://nation.com.pk/national/20-Oct-2014/government-imposes-30-paisa-per-unit>

⁷⁷ <http://nation.com.pk/business/21-Oct-2014/chinese-delegation-shows-interest-in-energy-sector>

⁷⁸ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/783190/ip-gas-pipeline-pakistan-iran-agree-to-find-middle-ground/>

IMF LOAN

Pakistan to get \$1.1bn from IMF in December, Dawn, October 13⁷⁹

Finance Minister Ishaq Dar sounded confident on simultaneous release of two IMF tranches, totaling \$1.1 billion in December, *after an agreement was reached with the Fund on combining the fourth and fifth reviews of the country's economic performance*. The IMF has said Pakistan's economic reforms are on track and that the Executive Board would meet in early December for approval of the combined release. *The Pakistani delegates had 44 meetings during the IMF-World annual autumn meetings.*

REMITTANCES

Remittances grow 19.5%, hit \$4.69bn, Express Tribune, October 16⁸⁰

Despite Khan's call to abandon formal banking channels for transferring money to their home country, *overseas Pakistanis sent remittances amounting to \$4.69bn in the first quarter of the current fiscal year*. This reflects growth of 19.52% as the remittances totalled \$3.92 billion during the same three-month period of the previous fiscal year.

INVESTMENT

Pakistan Railways: China to inject \$3.5bn into infrastructure development, Express Tribune, October 22⁸¹

A 23-member delegation of Chinese technical experts, led by Meng Wenli, Chief Engineer Alignment, will come on a trip to Pakistan at the weekend to *pick the areas for an investment of \$3.5 billion and complete the rehabilitation and replacement of tracks from Karachi to Peshawar*. The delegation, comprising representatives of *China Railway Eeyuan Engineering Group Company*, would arrive on October 25 and *undertake a comprehensive study of a 1,400-km rail track with the technical support of the Nespak and the Pakistan Railways Consultancy and Advisory Service*, said an official. *The survey will also cover 2,340 bridges and 11 tunnels from Karachi to Peshawar via Hyderabad, Bahawalpur, Multan, Sahiwal, Lahore, Gujranwala, Gujrat, Jhelum, Rawalpindi and Attock.*

Govt plans to generate \$4bn through privatisation, The Nation, October 29⁸²

Minister of State for Privatisation Muhammad Zubair on October 28 said that the government would generate 4 billion dollars through privatisation process during ongoing financial year 2014-2015, as the government planned

⁷⁹ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1137688/pakistan-to-get-11bn-from-imf-in-december-dar>

⁸⁰ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/776017/remittances-grow-19-5-hit-4-69b/>

⁸¹ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/779029/pakistan-railways-china-to-inject-3-5b-into-infrastructure-development/>

⁸² <http://nation.com.pk/business/29-Oct-2014/govt-plans-to-generate-4b-through-privatisation>

to privatise more than a dozen public sector entities this year. *“The government does not want to generate money only from privatising the public sector entities but it also wants to improve the services of these entities with public-private partnership mode”,* the state minister said while addressing the second day of the International Investment Conference. The amount to be generated through privatization process could enhance to four and a half billion dollars if country’s situation remains stable, he added.

Doing business gets tougher in Pakistan, *The News*, October 31⁸³

Doing business in Pakistan has become tougher and its ranking has dropped from 127 to 128 in the world business ranking 2015. This was revealed in the World Bank’s report ‘Doing Business.’ The bleak economic scenario, political instability, *dharnas* and *protest rallies* are the main reasons for the decline in the rank of Pakistan among the comity of nations....India has been placed at No 42. According to the report, there are several complexities in business in Pakistan. The businessmen have to take permission before starting business.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

Kerry-Lugar Act: US unlikely to extend civilian aid package, *Express Tribune*, October 14⁸⁴

There are *very slim chances that the US Congress would extend the \$7.5 billion civilian assistance package under the Kerry-Lugar Act of 2009 that would expire by September next year, according to sources in the finance ministry and diplomatic circles. Officials said that the government received discouraging signals about the continuation of the civilian aid package beyond 2015 during meetings with US authorities, particularly with Ambassador Robin Raphel, the senior adviser to the US special representative on Afghanistan and Pakistan, who visited Islamabad between September 27 and October 6. They added that Ambassador Raphel also lowered Pakistan’s expectations from the investors’ conference held in Washington on October 8. Pakistan expected commitments worth \$5 billion from US investors for the Diamer-Bhasha dam but couldn’t secure anything but promises.*

Agriculture credit surges 38%, *The Express Tribune*, October 22⁸⁵

Agriculture credit that banks disbursed during the first quarter of 2014-15 amounted to Rs98.1 billion, up 38% from the disbursement of Rs70.8 billion made during the corresponding three-month period of the last fiscal year. According to the SBP, the disbursement is almost 20% of the overall annual

⁸³<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-13-33810-Doing-business-gets-tougher-in-Pakistan>

⁸⁴<http://tribune.com.pk/story/775049/kerry-lugar-act-us-unlikely-to-extend-civilian-aid-package/>

⁸⁵ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/779030/1qfy15-agriculture-credit-disbursement-surges-38/>

agriculture credit target of Rs500 billion....Among major banks, Allied Bank and United Bank achieved 24.7% of their respective annual targets while Habib Bank and MCB Bank attained 23.1% and 20% of their annual targets, respectively.

Infrastructure financing and AIIB, *The Express Tribune*, October 27⁸⁶

Ishaq Dar has said that Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) would provide financing support to developing countries in Asia including Pakistan for infrastructure development to promote regional connectivity. He told this to Chinese daily *Global Times* after the decision of the establishment of AIIB in Beijing on October 26.

Anti-privatisation protest: Scores injured as police, OGDCL workers clash, *Dawn*, October 30⁸⁷

Clashes between police and protesting employees of the Oil and Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL) left dozens from both sides injured, police. The employees of the OGDCL were trying to reach Parliament House to record their protest against the privatisation of the company. The police, however, succeeded in arresting 25 employees. *About 400 workers first gathered in front of their building in Blue Area and then started marching towards the Parliament House via Attaturk Avenue.*

EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS

Difficult times, Editorial, *Express Tribune*, October 15⁸⁸

After a push by the US, Pakistan has agreed to the IMF proposal of clubbing the fourth and fifth reviews of the \$6.7 billion Extended Fund Facility. *The government had earlier turned down the offer to club the incomplete fourth review with the fifth, hoping that the IMF would approve the \$550 million loan tranche despite it being unable to implement the economic reforms it had promised to the international lender. The conditions— which included increasing power tariffs by seven per cent, privatising state-owned entities and other critical reforms— have wedged the government into a corner where it fears public backlash on account of increasing the tariffs....Despite this Ishaq Dar sounded confident when he stated that Pakistan would get the \$1.1 billion in December. Someone needs to ask him how this will come about. This is a difficult time for a government that seems content in adopting a wait-and-see approach.*

⁸⁶<http://tribune.com.pk/story/781730/infrastructure-financing-aiib-to-help-regional-development-says-dar/>

⁸⁷ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1141288/anti-privatisation-protest-scores-injured-as-police-ogdcl-workers-clash>

⁸⁸ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/775326/difficult-times/>

Falling FDI inflows, Sakib Sherani, *Dawn*, October, 17⁸⁹

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows into Pakistan have been drying up over the past few years. *After hitting an all-time peak of \$5.4 billion in 2007-08, net FDI sank to a low of \$824 million in FY12, before recovering moderately. The net inflow for July-August in the current year, however, presents yet another dismal picture. Net FDI has collapsed to a paltry \$87m, from \$138m in the same period in 2013. The sharp decline in FDI comes at a time of global recovery in outward FDI from developed economies.Studies on the motivation for making an investment decision in a particular country by a foreign investor point to the fact that FDI is associated with either of two main reasons for choosing a location: market size and/or a productive and relatively cheap labour force. To complement these two basic factors are assessments about the country's investment regime and the general business environment, and the economic as well as political risks associated with the investment. Pakistan offers market size but little else to a world-savvy investor. Policy and political instability is high, lack of a serious commitment to economic reform means a macroeconomic crisis is never far away, the labour force is largely semi-educated and unskilled, technological innovation is rare, and the tax regime is complicated and chaotic....Finally, FBR's harassment of large businesses to offset the government's unwillingness and inability to tax the powerful and connected has to be stopped. Only with a comprehensive approach can the country's investment fortunes be turned around.*

Economy problems, Editorial, *Express Tribune*, October 22⁹⁰

The textile ministry recently requested the prime minister to intervene and help *resolve the gas shortage issue* as mills prepare for export orders ahead of winter. This development was followed by a press conference in which SM Tanveer, the central chairman of the All Pakistan Textile Mills Association, said the finance minister had promised to provide gas to the textile sector. *After celebrating attaining the GSP Plus status that was supposed to grant the country duty-free access to the European Union, Pakistan had hoped for an increase in its exports. [However,] the current gas shortage ...has caused a persistent crisis, which is felt not only by the textile sector, but by CNG stations as well as consumers at home. A delay in resolving the issue means that textile exports — which constitute a large portion of the country's total exports — are going to decline....With the prime minister having a lot on his plate already, it appears that Pakistan's economy will continue to suffer.*

⁸⁹ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138456/falling-fdi-inflows>

⁹⁰ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/778984/economy-problems/>

Widening trade deficit, Editorial, *Express Tribune*, October 21⁹¹

In a development that should shake the authorities out of their slumber, the trade deficit widened by 45 per cent to \$6.5 billion in the first quarter of the ongoing fiscal year, due to the contraction in exports and double-digit growth of imports. The trade deficit is higher than what the IMF projected for Pakistan during this period and will also put severe pressure on our foreign exchange reserves.The widening trade deficit will also cause an erosion of the central bank's foreign currency reserves that stand at \$8.882 billion, according to latest data released by the State Bank of Pakistan.....Figures continue to be disappointing and if it were not for loans and grants by friendly countries, Pakistan would be facing a major economic catastrophe. Recent floods have not helped the country's cause and the ongoing political unrest continues to disturb the economy. Maybe it is time our officials woke up and tried achieving real goals instead of painting a rosy picture that does not exist.

Falling exports, Khurram Husain, *Dawn*, October 23⁹²

Pakistan's exports are falling, and the drop is setting off alarm bells at the highest levels. In the past few days, the finance minister has held a full court meeting with a large delegation from the textile industry, led by representatives from the spinning sector. [...] So what is the problem that has everybody so concerned? First quarter exports have dropped by about 10pc from the corresponding period last year. Exports in September, when compared with the same month last year, show an even steeper drop of 17pc. These may not sound like big numbers, but if the trend keeps up it could spell some amount of trouble for the government, especially considering that the trade deficit is continuing to widen.....Why would the energy crisis and high interest rates impact output in some industries more than others? I'm sure there are good answers to these questions, but I'm also fairly sure that the declines in exports are the result of factors that go far beyond what the industry reps are willing to share. This merits a more detailed look before laying blame in any particular area.

Reforms don't come with help of foreign loans, Shahbaz Ranad, *The Express Tribune*, October 26⁹³

Economic reforms, a slogan that has emerged again and again in history, particularly in the 1990s, have remained a hot topic for different governments and international lending agencies that extended billions of dollars to restructure many sectors with advice from foreign consultants. But nothing has changed. Historical data compiled by leading economist Dr Kaiser Bengali shows that Pakistan has obtained \$28 billion in programme loans from the World

⁹¹ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/778424/widening-trade-deficit/>

⁹² <http://www.dawn.com/news/1139689/falling-exports>

⁹³ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/781413/reforms-dont-come-with-help-of-foreign-loans/>

Bank and Asian Development Bank (ADB) in the name of undertaking structural reforms. The number is staggering. These loans were acquired for implementing 301 programmes in the economic and social sectors. Project loans that are taken for building infrastructure are in addition to the borrowing made for introducing reforms. Between 1990 and 2014, the World Bank gave 107 programme loans worth \$11.6 billion while the ADB offered 127 programme loans amounting to \$14.2 billion. The size of the credit suggests that the country must have implemented reforms by now across the targeted sectors and the goals would have been achieved. But unfortunately, after spending that much, the country is still standing in the middle of the road without knowing the direction it is headed. Economists point to a fundamental flaw in the strategy of pressing on with reforms by borrowing money....Economists argue that empirical data suggests that reforms can never be implemented with the help of foreign consultants. "You do not need to hire expensive consultants to improve collection of electricity bills and stop theft. What is required is political will," an economist suggests.

SECURITY SITUATION

TERRORISM

Sajna, Ramzi declared terrorists by US State Dept, *The News*, October 22⁹⁴

United States State department has included banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan's Khan Sajna and Osama bin Laden's former doctor Ramzi Mowafi in the list of international terrorists. All their assets in America have been frozen and the American citizens have been advised to avoid any dealings with Syed Sajna and Ramzi Mowafi.

KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA AND FATA

Uch Sharif police kill three TTP men, *The Nation*, October 12⁹⁵

Three Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan activists were shot dead in *Mauza Bakhri, Uch Sharif*, in an encounter with the police in the wee hours of October 11. According to details, TTP activists Qari Nazeer Ahmed, Ehsan and Ghulam Hassan were in the custody of Naushera Jadid police for investigation purposes when their six unknown armed accomplices attacked the police station on October 10 night at 11:30pm and got them freed. On receiving the information, the patrolling police parties started to chase the TTP activists and Uch Sharif police succeeded in encircling them in Mauza Bakhri where all the three freed TTP activists were killed in a shootout with the police. Bahawalpur DPO

⁹⁴ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/article-163263-Sajna,-Ramzi-included-in-terrorist-list-by-US-State-Dept>

⁹⁵ <http://nation.com.pk/national/12-Oct-2014/uch-sharif-police-kill-three-ttp-men>

Sarfraz Ahmed Falki and Ahmedpur East DSP Shafqat Atta also rushed to the scene and greeted the police.

Doctor who deserted army asks officers to join Taliban, Dawn, October 17⁹⁶

Jamaat-ul-Ahrar (JA), a splinter group of proscribed TTP has released video of a renegade army doctor, asking military officers and soldiers to join Taliban'. Sitting beside JA spokesman Ehsanullah Ehsan in the video, the man with black beard and wearing black turban is introducing himself as *Capt Dr Tariq Ali who claimed to have served in Frontier Corps Balochistan, 80 Brigade Siachen, and various places in Punjab*. He cited posting in Waziristan the reason for leaving the army. He said in fluent English that he had spent two tenures in North and South Waziristan agencies and refused order of the Second in Command official when he was asked to go for the third time. "I refused to obey the orders of 2-IC (Officer Second in Command) and a few days later I took a flight to London," he said. Addressing senior officers and soldiers in Urdu and English *Tariq Ali who is also known by the name of Abu Obaidah Al-Islamabadi* said that his "PA" number was 103907 and he passed out with 18th course of the Army Medical College. *He said that he worked in the army for nearly seven years and about nine years ago he left the army and migrated to London where he did general surgical training in London and Cambridge*. Simultaneously, he said he used to call non-Muslims to Islam. "Allah blessed me with the passion of Jihad. I left Britain with an intention to go to Iraq and join Islamic State, but I was arrested on the way and sent to prison in Croatia," said Dr Tariq. Then he was deported to Pakistan and initially he faced some difficulties. Later he joined JA. "May be it was the will of Allah that I should join the Mujahideen of Khorasan instead of Iraq and Syria," he said.

Khyber militants warn 'human shield' to stay put, Dawn, October 21⁹⁷

With a major military operation expanding into the restive Khyber Agency, Bara-based militants warned local tribesmen on October 20 against leaving the area — a move aimed at using the local population as human shields. Local and official sources confirmed that *militants made announcements on the radio, warning that they would take over and blow up the houses of those who leave the area or pledge support to the government. The militants have already destroyed the homes of around 30 of their own fighters, including two militant commanders, who had surrendered to the authorities. Earlier, key commanders of the outlawed militant group LI, Hafi Faqeer and Malam Khan, had surrendered to the security forces along with more than*

⁹⁶<http://www.dawn.com/news/1138524/doctor-who-deserted-army-asks-officers-to-join-taliban>

⁹⁷<http://www.dawn.com/news/1139403/khyber-agency-militants-warn-human-shield-tribesmen-to-stay-put>

80 of their men. Militants later destroyed the homes of LI activists who had defected and surrendered to the government.

TTP announces sacking of its spokesman, Dawn, October 21⁹⁸

The TTP has announced *the sacking of Shahidullah Shahid* and said that he was being replaced by another spokesman. The *TTP statement, posted on its Omar Media site*, said that Shahidullah Shahid was the *nom de guerre* for the TTP spokesman and the group had allowed *Abu Omar Sheikh Maqbool* to use it. However, it added, that Sheikh Maqbool continued to use the pseudonym despite his removal from the position. It said that Sheikh Maqbool was removed and another “brother” was named to replace him, but since the decision was not made public, the former TTP spokesman took advantage of the situation. “*Sheikh Maqbool is not Shahidullah Shahid,*” it said. It is a *nom de guerre* of the TTP spokesman, it added in its Urdu, Pashto and Arabic statement.

11 member jirga to hold talks with Mehsud Taliban, Dawn, October 27⁹⁹

A Mehsud tribal jirga, likely to be headed by the father-in-law of the slain Taliban leader Baitullah Mehsud, will negotiate for peace talks between the *Taliban’s Mehsud faction led by Khan Said ‘Sajna’* and the government, sources said. Well-placed sources confirmed that the jirga will comprise of eleven key Mehsud tribal elders and that a consensus has been reached on its name. The sources also said that *a secret meeting was held on October 25 by the Mehsud tribal jirga in Tank*, where they agreed to negotiate between the government and the Mehsud Taliban. *The Mehsud faction, which Said leads, split from the TTP in May 2014*. In a public statement following the split, *Said Sajna had stated his commitment to continue carrying out terrorist acts in the country*.

BALUCHISTAN

300,000 people have left Balochistan, says HRCP chief, Dawn, October 13¹⁰⁰

Zohra Yusuf, the chairperson of the HRCP, has said that *Balochistan has been made a fertile place for armed religious extremists under a plan and as a result about 300,000 Shias, Zikris, and Hindus have migrated to other areas of the country*. Addressing a press conference on October 12, she expressed concern over the migration of Shias, Zikris, settlers and Hindus due to lack of security in Balochistan. She said strengthening of religious extremists had caused the migration of innocent citizens but the real objective was to weaken the Baloch nationalist militants.

⁹⁸ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1139316/ttp-announces-sacking-of-its-spokesman>

⁹⁹ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1140518/eleven-member-jirga-to-hold-talks-with-mehsud-taliban>

¹⁰⁰ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1137636/300000-people-have-left-balochistan-says-hrcp-chief>

Iranian border guards fire mortar shells, Dawn, October 18¹⁰¹

Iranian border guards on October 18 fired three mortar shells in Mashkail, Pakistan's bordering town with Iran, officials said. A security official who requested anonymity told Dawn that mortar shells fired by Iranian guards landed in deserted areas close to the sparsely populated Balochistan's Mashkail town. FC and Levies personnel reached the spot and security was tightened around the border. No casualty was reported in the attack, the official added.

No information about presence of ISIS in Balochistan, Dawn, October 27¹⁰²

Chief Minister Balochistan Dr. Malik Baloch on October 26 said that some elements want to impose their agenda on the people through the use of force. Speaking to journalists in a local hotel, after chairing a function regarding the promotion of the Balochi language, the chief minister said he had no information about the presence of ISIS in the volatile province. He said however that there are fundamentalists whose approach is similar to that of ISIS.....Baloch stated that his government was determined to restore peace in the province through political means. "I stand for peace and I strive for a negotiated settlement of issues relating to Balochistan," he said.

Massive terror bid foiled in Balochistan, The News, October 31¹⁰³

Security forces on October 30 claimed to have foiled a massive terror bid by seizing a huge cache of arms and explosives, including four tons of high power explosive material, over 100 missiles and 18 suicide vests, in various raids conducted in three districts of Balochistan ahead of Ashura. The troops of FC, on specific information, launched massive search operations in the Gulistan Tehsil of Qilla Abdullah district, Yaru area of Pishin district and Kanak area of district Mastung. The FC foiled a major bid of terrorism ahead of Ashura, Muharramul Haram, by seizing a huge cache of arms and explosive material.

SINDH

MQM leaders receiving 'extortion letters' from Taliban, Dawn, October 14¹⁰⁴

Militants of the Pakistani Taliban have been demanding extortion money from at least 11 key members of the MQM in Karachi, the party revealed on

¹⁰¹ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138805/iranian-border-guards-fire-mortar-shells-inside-pakistani-territory>

¹⁰² <http://www.dawn.com/news/1140520/no-information-about-presence-of-isis-in-balochistan-dr-malik>

¹⁰³ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-13-33809-Massive-terror-bid-foiled-in-Balochistan>

¹⁰⁴ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1137711/mqm-leaders-receiving-extortion-letters-from-taliban>

October 13. Speaking to reporters, MQM senior leader Farooq Sattar said that party leaders have been receiving threatening letters from the banned outfit in the recent past, asking them to immediately pay up extortion money or face dire consequences. Among the leaders said to have received the 'extortion letters' are Farooq Sattar, Haider Abbas Rizvi, Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui, Nasreen Jalil, Babar Ghauri, and Abdul Rasheed Godil.

ISIS wall chalking in Karachi, *The Nation*, October 17¹⁰⁵

ISIS has entered Pakistan's biggest city and industrial hub Karachi, local media reported today. According to reports, unknown group have done wall chalking of 'ISIS' in the different areas of the largest metropolis and financial hub of the country. *The chalking can be seen in the areas of Sohrab Goth, Gulshan-e-Maymar, Manghopir and their surrounding areas of Karachi. ISIS has announced to spread roots of its organization in Kharasan, a region referred to Iran, Afghanistan and Indian-subcontinent including Pakistan. ISIS pamphlets and wall-chalking was seen in Peshawar and tribal areas, strongholds of local Islamists militants.*

Intelligence report reveals TTP attack plan during Muharram, *The Nation*, October 31¹⁰⁶

Pakistan's intelligence agencies have warned government about possible terror attacks on specific targets in Karachi during the holy month of Muharram. Agencies have reported that the rebellious TTP has planned to attack specific places in different areas of Karachi. *Taliban's top leadership have assigned the task to Amir Khalil, belonging to M.P.R Colony.*

RELATIONS WITH INDIA

Army prepared to respond if India imposes war on Pakistan: Ishaq Dar, *The News*, October 13¹⁰⁷

The Pakistan army is prepared to respond if India imposes any war on Islamabad, said Finance Minister Ishaq Dar on October 13. *"We want to establish relations with India as promotion of trade between the two countries is vital for regional prosperity,"* he said that Pakistan wanted peace in the region and war was not a good thing for any country and region. The finance minister expressed the hope that Indian side will use wisdom in the prevailing situation.

¹⁰⁵ <http://nation.com.pk/national/16-Oct-2014/isis-performs-wall-chalking-in-karachi>

¹⁰⁶ <http://nation.com.pk/karachi/31-Oct-2014/intelligence-report-reveals-ttp-attack-plan-during-muharram>

¹⁰⁷ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/article-162373-Army-prepared-to-respond-if-India-imposes-war-on-Pakistan:-Ishaq-Dar>

UN receives Pakistan's letter on LoC violations, *The News*, October 13¹⁰⁸

The UN has received Pakistan's letter regarding ceasefire violations by Indian on the LoC. Pakistan's Ambassador to the US, Jalil Abbas Jilani, said Islamabad is ready for an independent probe of the ceasefire violations. Jilani said the US State Department has also been informed of the investigation into Indian aggression at the LoC.

Pakistan seeks UN role to calm LoC, *The Nation*, October 13¹⁰⁹

In the letter addressed to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz sought the world body's intervention in resolving the issue between the two neighbouring countries. *The letter also underlines the need to resolve the issue of Kashmir in accordance with the resolutions of the UN Security Council*, and recalls the role and responsibility of the United Nations and the international community in that regard, said the Foreign Office.

Pakistan conveys concerns to US delegation, *Dawn*, October 14¹¹⁰

Pakistan on October 13 conveyed its concerns over ceasefire violations across the LoC and the working boundary between India and Pakistan to a visiting two-member US congressional delegation. The delegation met with top government functionaries in Islamabad, including Adviser to Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on National Security and Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz. The US delegation comprised Senators Tim Kaine and Angus King. During the meeting, ...Aziz highlighted the steps taken by the government for the country's economic revival and good governance.

Pakistan needs to incite those fighting in Kashmir: Musharraf, *The Express Tribune*, October 16¹¹¹

Former president General Pervez Musharraf on October 16 said Pakistan needs to incite those fighting in Kashmir. *"We have source (in Kashmir) besides the (Pakistan) army...People in Kashmir are fighting against (India). We just need to incite them,"* Musharraf, who assumed power in 1999 soon after the Kargil conflict as hostilities erupted between Indian and Pakistani troops in the area, claimed that the Pakistan army is ready for war with India. But He cautioned India against any misadventure. *"India should not be under the illusion that Pakistan will not hit back,"* he warned. *"In Kashmir, we can fight with the (Indian)*

¹⁰⁸<http://www.thenews.com.pk/article-162394-Pakistan-ready-for-independent-probe-of-ceasefire-violations->

¹⁰⁹ <http://nation.com.pk/national/13-Oct-2014/pakistan-seeks-un-role-to-calm-loc>

¹¹⁰ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1137706/pakistan-conveys-concerns-over-border-skirmishes-to-us-delegation>

¹¹¹<http://tribune.com.pk/story/776475/pakistan-needs-to-incite-those-fighting-in-kashmir-musharraf/>

army from both the front and back...We are Muslims. We will not show the other cheek when we are slapped. We can respond tit for tat," he said, while commenting on the recent firing along the Line of Control and working boundary.

Bilateralism on Kashmir has failed: Aziz, *The Nation*, October 17¹¹²

Adviser to Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs Sartaz Aziz told lawmakers that disputed issues with India could not be resolved bilaterally and that the world should intervene to solve core problems between the two nuclear states. The adviser made this statement at a meeting of National Assembly Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs while briefing the parliamentarians on the prevailing ceasefire violations on the Line of Control and working boundary by the Indian forces. The committee met under its chairman Awais Leghari and was attended by Aftab Ahmed Khan Sherpao, Amir Khusro Bakhtiar, Dr Fehmida Mirza, Marvi Memon and Naeema Kishwar Khan. Foreign Secretary Aizaz Chaudhry and other top officials of Ministry of Foreign Affairs also briefed the parliamentarians about the current tension on Line of Control and the working boundary.

US concerned over Pak-India tensions, *The Nation*, October 17¹¹³

The United States has raised the issue of continuing violence along the LoC in the disputed Kashmir region, with both Pakistan and India and asked them to resolve the tensions through dialogue, a senior American diplomat has said. "We are extremely concerned by reports of violence over the last two weeks along the Line of Control and the working boundary," US Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan Dan Feldman told a Washington think tank. "I've personally raised these concerns with each side – and urged them to engage in dialogue to reduce tensions and end the violence," he said in a speech to the Atlantic Council. Feldman noted that "there is no relationship more critical to Pakistan's future than its relationship with its neighbour." "And I am convinced that India's rise in prosperity and global leadership cannot be fully realised until it has a better relationship with Pakistan," he added.

India, US planning attacks on Islamists here: JuD, *Dawn*, October 20¹¹⁴

India with the connivance of the US is aspiring to carry out surgical strikes against Islamists in Pakistan, Jamaatud Dawa Emir Hafiz Saeed alleged. "A plan regarding surgical strikes against Islamists in Pakistan was finalised in the recent meeting between US President Barack Obama and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi after which India started violating Pakistan's territorial integrity," a press release quoted Saeed as telling his party's central, zonal and district

¹¹² <http://nation.com.pk/national/17-Oct-2014/bilateralism-on-kashmir-has-failed-aziz>

¹¹³ <http://nation.com.pk/national/17-Oct-2014/us-concerned-over-pak-india-tensions>

¹¹⁴ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1139091/india-us-planning-attacks-on-islamists-here-jud>

leadership October 19. He urged the government to stop promoting trade ties with New Delhi arguing that better relations with India were impossible until resolution of the Kashmir dispute.

Pakistan urges India to resolve Kashmir through dialogue, *The Nation*, October 20¹¹⁵

Minister for States and Frontier Regions Abdul Qadir Baloch has asked India to resolve the Kashmir issue through negotiation as war is no solution to any problem. In an interview with state media today, he said the South Asian region needs economic prosperity for which both countries should resolve their issues amicably. The Minister said Pakistan is fully capable of defending its borders. He said the people of Occupied Kashmir should get their right to self-determination in accordance with the UN resolutions.

Khawaja Asif dismisses ‘water terrorism’ by India, *Dawn*, October 21¹¹⁶

Minister for Water and Power Khawaja Muhammad Asif on October 20 dismissed in Senate the impression that vast areas of Pakistan came under floodwater due to “water terrorism” by India. He said heavy rain occurred in Indian controlled Kashmir and Pakistan at the same time and the time to respond to floods was only three to four hours.....The minister said as per the policy of the government, work on Kalabagh dam would not be started without the consensus of the provinces. “It was the stated policy of the government that works on Kalabagh dam would not be started without evolving consensus of the provinces,” he reiterated.

India warns Pakistan of more pain in Kashmir, *The Nation*, October 22¹¹⁷

India warned Pakistan on Tuesday of more “pain” if it continues to violate the ceasefire along the Kashmir border. Defence Minister Arun Jaitley told NDTV it’s up to Islamabad to create the conditions for a resumption of talks. “Our conventional strength is far more than theirs. So if they persist with this, they’ll feel the pain of this adventurism,” the Indian defence minister said to NDTV.Meanwhile, Adviser to Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz has said that Pakistan has the capability to thwart any aggression and India should have no doubt in this regard. Speaking in a PTV programme, he said, “We will never accept India’s supremacy and hegemony and protect our vital interests at all costs.”

¹¹⁵ <http://nation.com.pk/national/20-Oct-2014/pakistan-urges-india-to-resolve-kashmir-issue-through-dialogue>

¹¹⁶ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1139216/khawaja-asif-dismisses-water-terrorism-by-india>

¹¹⁷ <http://nation.com.pk/national/22-Oct-2014/india-warns-pakistan-of-more-pain-in-kashmir>

India-Pak troops exchange fire at Sialkot sector, Dawn, October 22¹¹⁸

An exchange of fire took place at Sialkot's Charwa sector between Indian and Pakistani troops, sources in the Chenab Rangers said. No casualties were reported in the firing, sources said, adding that the exchange took place when Indian troops opened unprovoked fire aiming towards the Pakistani side. Sources added that firing from the Indian side subsided following retaliation from Pakistan. During the past few weeks, Indian and Pakistani troops have been trading gunfire across the LoC and the working boundary, with the series clashes having claimed at least 20 civilian lives.

India seeks transit facility for wheat export to Afghanistan, Dawn, October 27¹¹⁹

As the Indians seek permission to export over a million tonnes of wheat to Afghanistan through Pakistan's land route, *the flour milling industry here is up in arms, threatening protests and warning of the adverse impact that it would have on its business.* It is exerting active pressure on federal ministries to pre-empt the move. The industry thinks that *subsidised Indian wheat would drive it out of the Afghan market,* which it takes more of an extension of its business for two reasons: proximity and high profits. *It is not only the general subsidy on farm inputs that makes the Indian wheat cheaper as compared to Pakistan, but the Indian government, if the Pakistani industry is to be believed, has also offered a specific \$50 per tonne additional subsidy to exporters, thus driving the price further down. Indian wheat would cost PKR2,900 per tonne in Afghanistan, against Pakistani commodity at Rs3,400 per tonne.* This difference of Rs500 per tonne is bound to tilt the competitive edge in favour of the Indian wheat and Pakistan would lose its traditional market that consumes over half a million tonne of flour from Pakistan.

India deploys UAVs to patrol its border, The Nation, October 27¹²⁰

The Northern Command of the Indian Army has recently purchased 49 miniature unmanned aerial vehicles to patrol its border region with China and Pakistan. The Indian Army will deploy the drones to carry out reconnaissance mission over its disputed border areas after 50 soldiers from China's People's Liberation Army were found setting up camp in the remote region of eastern Ladakh, which is also claimed by India, on the night of April 15. The PLA soldiers were located 10 kilometers inside the Line of Actual Control, a de facto border that runs across the Himalayas between China and India. An official border

¹¹⁸ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1139630/indian-pakistani-troops-exchange-fire-at-sialkots-charwa-sector>

¹¹⁹ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1140643/india-seeks-transit-facility-for-wheat-export-to-afghanistan>

¹²⁰ <http://nation.com.pk/national/26-Oct-2014/india-purchases-49-drones-from-israel-to-spy-pakistani-and-chinese-borders>

between the two countries was never drawn following a border conflict in 1962.

Indian high commissioner summoned, *The Express Tribune*, October 30¹²¹

Ministry of Foreign Affairs on October 29 summoned the Indian high commissioner in Islamabad to lodge a protest over the killing of another civilian by firing of Indian Border Security Force troops deployed at Tashpura Post. According to a statement released late on October 29 Pakistan condemned the action of the BSF troops, which was in violation of the Border Ground Rules.....The Indian side was reminded that earlier an inadvertent crosser, Kala Khan, was shot dead by the Indian security forces on the LoC in August 2014. The incident had coincided with, reportedly, a BSF soldier's inadvertent crossing who was treated well by Pakistani troops and returned safely as a gesture of goodwill.

EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS

LoC and peace, Editorial, *The News*, October 15¹²²

Relations between Pakistan and India seem forever mired in the *one-step-forward-two-steps-back* rut. There was hope that tensions across the Line of Control, which has led to the deaths of over a dozen civilians in Pakistan, *may be resolved when the DMOs of the two countries finally spoke*. Both countries had agreed to use the hotline between the DMOs more frequently after the last round of firing across the LoC this year, but its use will be minimal at best. *As long as the core issue of Kashmir remains unresolved, tensions along the de-facto border will remain....* There have been no terrorist attacks in India with any hint of Pakistani involvement since the Mumbai attacks of 2008. *India should be welcoming this as an opportunity for better relations but the hawkish BJP government is stuck in confrontational rhetoric....* As long as it does not countenance any flexibility and believes it can fire first across the border and still maintain the moral high ground, there can only be temporary periods of quiet and no lasting peace. *Our first priority has to be bringing an end to the current firing but, at the same time, efforts to involve the international community cannot be abandoned.*

Back to square one, Malik Muhammad Ashraf, *The News*, October 16¹²³

Hopes of a new beginning in relations between Pakistan and India, rekindled as a result of a meeting between Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and Indian

¹²¹<http://tribune.com.pk/story/782967/pakistan-lodges-protest-over-civilians-killing-by-indian-army/>

¹²² <http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-8-278400-LoC-and-peace>

¹²³ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-9-278587-Back-to-square-one>

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 27 and their resolve to settle disputes through dialogue, *have been dashed to the ground* in the backdrop of the renewed and unprovoked firing by Indian troops along the LoC and the Working Boundary and the bellicose blustering by Indian ministers and Modi himself. We are back to square one. *During 2013 also there were more than 15 incidents along the LoC, which resulted in a number of military and civilian casualties on both sides. The hostilities finally subdued after a meeting between the prime ministers of the two countries on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly. [...]The position taken by the Modi government is simply the reiteration of the stance taken by all the Indian governments after the Simla Agreement. But the fact remains that it has not changed the legal status of the Kashmir dispute and the relevance of the UN role in resolving it.*

Modi on the warpath, Farooq Hameed Khan, *The Nation*, October 17¹²⁴

After more than three weeks of unprovoked Indian army aggression on the LOC and Sialkot working boundary, the Indian Prime minister Modi has reconfirmed his anti-Muslim and anti-Pakistan credentials....*Prime minister Nawaz Sharif's sweet mango diplomacy was bound to fail.* While India unilaterally called off the foreign secretary level talks in end August this year, Modi's visit to the White House a few weeks later was the game changer. From a villain of the 2002 Gujrat massacre to the new darling of the west, a different Modi returned displaying more confidence and arrogance in his newly assigned role of regional bully to deal with India's nuclear armed neighbour. Buoyed by President Obama's support for India's permanent seat in the UN Security Council, that acknowledged India's regional and global role, *the joint statement issued at end of the visit reiterated enhanced Indo-US defence cooperation as well as joint and concerted efforts to dismantle terrorist safe havens including Al Qaeda, Lashkar e Taiba, Jaish Mohamad and the Haqqanis.* With India buying almost \$2 billion of military hardware from the US in 2013, the United States surpassed Russia as India's biggest supplier of weapons/equipment. But where credit is due, it must be given wholeheartedly. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif must be commended for taking *a bold position on the Kashmir issue in UN general assembly that more than compensated for his silence on the same during his visit to New Delhi to attend Modi's oath taking ceremony last year.* [...]Prime Minister Modi must understand that *Pakistan will resist Indian hegemony in the region.* Instead he should focus on peaceful coexistence as well as dispute resolution through a sustained dialogue process in the spirit of Simla Accord and Lahore Declaration. If this is not possible, then it is time for third party international mediation to bring peace to the region. India stands to gain more economically by sincerely making definite and meaningful progress towards the resolution of outstanding disputes like Kashmir, water, Siachen and Sir

¹²⁴ <http://nation.com.pk/columns/17-Oct-2014/modi-on-the-warpath>

Creek. *If this happens, then the normalization of relations including grant of MFN/ NDMA (non discriminatory market access) to India as well as the Indian dream to gain access to vital energy/ trade corridors via Pakistan to Central Asia/ Gwadar/ Kashgar (China) could well become a reality in the coming years.*

Heights of Simla, F.S. Aijazuddin, *Dawn*, October 23¹²⁵

It is a small desk, ornate but unexpectedly small. Forty-two years ago, it bore the weight of two hands that signed the 1972 Simla Agreement. Today, that desk bears the lighter burden of two framed photographs— one of the Indian and Pakistani delegations in Congress, and the other of their leaders Mrs Indira Gandhi and Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto signing a common document in the pre-dawn of July 3. *The desk in Simla's Raj Bhavan has been made the focal point of a mini-shrine to commemorate the event, just as the Simla Agreement itself has become the source, the Ganga-dhara of India's attitude to Pakistan vis-à-vis Jammu & Kashmir.....Mr Modi's next steps at diplomacy are of vital significance to Pakistan. Extremists have been heard on Indian television channels demanding that Mr Modi should rescue the 'oppressed people of Balochistan and Sindh' from their brutal 'masters'. Gen Musharraf was dismissed by one rabid anchorman as being a 'coward' for not answering yet another question about Kargil. And most frighteningly, voices that were once regarded as pro-Pakistan moderates are being denounced now as anti-Indian. There is a sinister echo of a 1971 jingoism in the air.*

Gambling against Armageddon, Munir Akram, *Dawn*, October 27¹²⁶

In an opinion piece last year, Henry Kissinger observed that over the next couple of decades *a nuclear war was likely to take place between India and Pakistan*. The nuclear factor was in play in four major and one minor India-Pakistan crises: in 1987, 1990, 1998, 1999 and 2002. In 1987, when an Indian army chief launched the Brasstacks military exercises along Pakistan's exposed desert borders, Pakistan responded by deploying its forces in the north where India was vulnerable. *Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's agreement to a mutual stand-down no doubt also took into account the informal threat from Islamabad to bomb India's nuclear reactors in case Pakistan was attacked.* (After the crisis ended, the Pakistan-India agreement not to attack each other's nuclear facilities was jointly formulated in one day.) [...] During the parallel dialogue initiated by the US with Pakistan and India following their 1998 nuclear explosions, *Pakistan proposed a 'strategic restraint regime' with India which would include mechanisms to resolve disputes, including Kashmir; preserve a conventional arms balance and promote mutual nuclear and missile restraint.* India rejected the concept of a mutual restraint regime. The US at first agreed

¹²⁵ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1139687/heights-of-simla>

¹²⁶ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1140381/gambling-against-armageddon>

to consider Pakistan's proposal. However, as their talks with India transitioned from restricting India's nuclear programme to building a "strategic partnership" (against China), the Americans de-hyphenated policy towards Pakistan and India, *opened the doors to building India's conventional and nuclear capabilities and disavowed any interest in the Kashmir dispute*. Currently, Indian belligerence is bolstered by *US pressure on Pakistan to halt fissile material production and reverse the deployment of theatre nuclear-capable missiles*. If a South Asian Armageddon is to be prevented, *it is essential to build a structure of stable deterrence between India and Pakistan* and find ways to deal with Kashmir and other outstanding disputes. Reviving consideration of a strategic restraint regime would be a good place to start.

De-escalation only way forward, Editorial, *The Express Tribune*, October 26¹²⁷

For a long time, a scenario has been discussed in which *tensions between Pakistan and India start off a nuclear war between the two states that have a long history of hostility*, and this then enwraps other parts of the world. Judging from recent events and pronouncements of leaders on both sides of the border, but especially so from the Indian side, it would seem that such a nightmare may not be ruled out altogether. [...] Add to this a whole new element of danger. *PML-N MNA Major (retd) Tahir Iqbal raised the horrendous idea that the existing tensions could trigger a nuclear conflict. Other members of Parliament endorsed the idea*. We know that Islamabad and New Delhi have control mechanisms in place to handle nuclear weapons, but whether these will work under the existing circumstances is an open question. It is essential that they do. It is also *essential that the present rate of tension be lowered one way or the other so the fears being expressed now and the mention of a nuclear war can go away*. This is simply not an option that can even be contemplated. The consequences would be too terrible to even discuss. Well before we reach a point where tensions worsen, it is important that representatives and the government focus on finding ways to maintain peace and thus, make all of us feel a little safer.

'Occupied Pakistan', Ustad Ahmed Farooq, *Nawa-i-Afghan Jihad*, October 2014.

I extend heartiest congratulations to you all my brethren on this Independence Day! As usual, this year also, there were celebrations with same fervour and gusto!

Our country, occupied by political leaders and military generals, must celebrate in a special way! But the poor Pakistanis should ask themselves, "Why should we enjoy and celebrate this day?" Should we do it: (i) when our anti-Islamic rulers are making fun of Islamic injunctions? (ii) when vulgarity

¹²⁷ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/781499/de-escalation-the-only-way-forward/>

and nudity are celebrated in public? (iii) when the state is encouraging a Western life style? (iv) when instead of Sharia law, laws made by humans are imposed on us? (v) when our youth is discouraged to wage jihad and the spirit of jihad is quelled with full fury? (vi) when the agenda of foreign powers is implemented by our government?

What kind of celebration is this, when the Pakistani awam is being forced to follow man-made laws instead of the laws of "Deen"? How could our people celebrate when the military is targeting them with F-16 jets and for upgrading these aircraft our pilots are being sent to the US for further training? *Out of 60 F-16 jets, six are stationed at Jacobabad, which are solely controlled by American officers. This is common knowledge and is known to every man on the street. At least 30 US officers are always stationed there and no plane could take off without their permission.*

Further, all Pakistani air assets are meant to fulfill the objectives of the US. *These fighter planes are very much under US control so they, at no time, could be used against Bharat. Moreover, the GPS system, which is fixed in these planes, contains the maps of the qabayali (tribal) region of Pakistan; hence, they cannot be used against India! In short, all these sophisticated instruments fitted in these aircraft are only meant to target our mud houses, the hideouts of Taliban. Today, we see these planes, flying high, are sent only to target our bazaars, masjids, hospitals, and madrasas.*

My dear friends, now tell me, if the basic aim of our air squadron is directed by American officers, and the battle-field is also to be determined by them and whimsical British officers, then how could say we are an 'Azad' nation and how can we celebrate our "Azadi". It is only a mockery.

A country, where Islam is subservient to the dictates of its rulers and no Shariat rule prevails, where a Musalman is not living a dignified life, and where Kafir is not condemned, where there is no judiciary and justice, where there is no peace and happiness, when the black *deen* (black religion) is sucking the blood of Muslims, mixing poison in their day to day life, how can its people taste *azadi*?

It is not possible to celebrate 'azadi' in such conditions. We cannot celebrate our independence unless we bring in Shariat and Islamic laws *and free ourselves from the clutches of Uncle Sam and Bharat*. The Independence Day observed by our rulers on 14 August is an unhappy reminder of the curse visiting us at every step. To reconcile to such subordination is greater curse.

All hopes of US victory are dashed to ground: Mullah Omar, *Nawai Afghan Jihad*, October 2014.

Congrats to all Muslim brethren on occasion of Eid ul Zuha. May God shower his blessings upon you all and all your efforts and sacrifices made by

you may be accepted by Him. [Last month during Ramadan stiff opposition was offered by our Palestinian brethren and this is an occasion for rejoicing.]

Jihad initiated by you against America's Satanic barbarity has brought "defeat" to the US and allies. All their plots and intrigues have failed. You must have noticed that these tyrants and their Afghan puppets have perpetrated their tyranny and oppression upon our innocent brethren. *They conducted presidential elections and when the results came; it was contrary to their expectations despite the fact that they spread false rumours to mislead and misguide gullible Afghan voters.*

The US has been involved in a prolonged war in Afghanistan and this has proved a costly venture and damaged the position and prestige of Uncle Sam at the international level. Now US authorities in White House are very much confused. To downgrade US prestige further and to make our efforts result-oriented following measures may please be adopted:

1. Please pay special attention to keep all jihadi groups united. You must behave cordially with the public because that will boost our movement.
2. *We have to gain the confidence of the people. And with God's blessings, this will ultimately destroy the morale of the enemy.*

The US and its allies are scared of our "jihad". Jihad is the key to our ultimate happiness. *You should give first priority to the invitation to war sent by the security forces. You should give special attention to protection of houses/properties, children and women.*

Now we are maintaining proper coordination between efforts made by the Islamic Emirates of Afghanistan and the international jihadi movement so that aims and objectives of jihad are being elevated to a high pedestal. On the political plane, it should be made clear that maintaining of rapport with all internal and outside agencies is the responsibility of the Taliban political office. Without permission of the leader you should not maintain any relationship with anybody.....

Needless to say, we will continue to defend of our country and will not rest till we bring and "end" to the excesses committed upon gullible innocent Afghans and install a truly Islamic government in Afghanistan. We are quite sanguine that our tireless efforts coupled with innumerable sacrifices made by our Afghan brethren will ultimately bear fruit, and we have full faith in Allah.

Pakistani Mujahideens's Operation against US Naval Ships, Ustad Osama Mehmood, *Nawa-i- Afghan Jihad, Oct. 2014.*

All praise for Allah the great, whose blessings enabled us to establish a new tanzeem, i.e. Jamait Qaeda al Jihad. *We hail the brave hearts who planned a successful attack on the US naval ship anchored in the Indian Ocean.*

In this connection, a statement emanating from Spokesman of ISPR and Naval Deptt tried to camouflage the facts and said that Pakistan Navy had made an attempt to foil an attack by terrorists on the naval dockyard in Karachi. *But the fact remains that this operation was conducted by commissioned officers of the Pakistan navy who are working with the Jamaat Qaeda al Jihad.* They targeted US naval vessels including PNS Zulfiqar. We whole heartedly salute these brave hearts.

This was not just an attack against an American naval ship; it was actually a "mutiny" or rebellion against the Pakistani lackeys and pro-U.S. policies followed by our puppet leaders. All these rebel officers were finally put to death to appease the US. However, *this incident exposed the cracks in the mirror of US-Pak relations and this is only the beginning.* Jamaat Qaida ul Jihad is following the foot-steps of Sheikh Osama bin Laden. So fight against US hegemony is our first priority and the main objective of our armed opposition due to the following reasons:

- (i) Uncle Sam considers Islam to be its enemy number one and a potential danger to its existence and dictatorship.
- (ii) The US is the chief patron of Israel and mainly responsible for the creation of this artificial State.
- (iii) Uncle Sam is solely responsible for spilling the blood of innocent Muslims in Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Male, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bharat and other Muslim countries!
- (iv) Uncle Sam has sought to extend its hegemony by installing puppet regimes everywhere. Through these puppets the US has been looting precious resources all over the world to enrich itself. The US has now started a media campaign in favour of atheism and apostasy to misguide gullible Muslims.

New Puppets of uncle Sam in Afghanistan, *Nawa-i-Afghan Jihad, October 2014*

Hamid Karzai told Afghans in his last address that the United States did not want to permanently stay in Afghanistan. They came here to serve their interests. They do not want peace to prevail in Kabul. He urged Afghans not to trust Uncle Sam. He also has given anti-US speeches and refused to sign the Bilateral Security Agreement with the US.

As we know Karzai himself was subservient to the US for 13 long years. *By holding Uncle Sam responsible for the present deteriorated conditions Karzai cannot be included in the List of "Well wishers" of Afghanistan.* He led a very harsh and dictatorial regime for 13 years in Afghanistan and he cannot nullify all the excesses even if he regrets all his deeds.

After leaving office, his main intention now is to endear himself to the masses. Whether he will succeed in his efforts only time will tell. But Abdulla

Abdullah does not want him to hold any post in the government. The new Afghan government has demanded US\$ 537 million because Afghan treasury is empty. If payment is not made, salaries of the government employees would not be paid. It is well known that the US is paying salaries to 350,000 soldiers. If this is not done there would be grave problem.

A few months earlier, President Obama said that we should turn the pages of history (on Iraq and Afghanistan) and move ahead. But the new Afghan government is dependent on Uncle Sam. The US should remember that it would not be that easy to leave Afghanistan.

On 5 May, the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (Taliban) initiated operation "Khyber-e-Jihadi" wherein its forces targeted Nato allies, Afghani soldiers, U.S. convoys, supplies depots, check posts, and targeted Pak intelligence officials and their spies and high ranking military officials. This operation still continues. As a result, area under Taliban control has further increased. According to spokesman of Islamic Emirate Qari Yusuf Ahmed 188 commanders and high-ranking officials were killed. Impact of this killing upon Afghan *faujies* could be very well understood.

According to a Report in *New York Times* wherein it says that the US has miserably failed to bring real change in Afghanistan:

1. The US promised to introduce a democratic form of government in Afghanistan and also a strong and stable regime.
2. The unstable political condition and weak government in Afghanistan is well-known to the international community. Also there has been huge rigging in recent presidential elections which cannot be ruled out.
3. To procure a strong government and stability in the country, strong enough to withstand the Taliban onslaught.
4. The military and land police force of Afghanistan is so weak that most areas hitherto controlled by Afghan military have been captured by Taliban.
5. The other promise made by US was to strengthen the economic condition of the country. However, Afghanistan continues to be dependent on external assistance.

Up till now the Americans could not maintain their control over the movement of Taliban across the Durand Line. The province of Ghazni has been the epicenter of jihadi activities. Its chief-Maulvi Mohmmad Shameem Hifzullah in his interview made the following salient points: (i) the condition for Jihad is quite satisfactory in Ghazni and (ii) The three districts of Nawar, Rasheedan and Zunkhan have been captured by Taliban. Geerad, Khogyano,

Daghaz are under permanent control of Taliban. The mujahideen are well-entrenched in Akhand Khelo area of district Wazhaz. In the districts of Gellan, Aab Band, Qarah Bagh 70 per cent of the inhabitants are mujahideen. The rest of 30 districts inhabited by enemies of Taliban, but they cannot live in peace.

Mujahideen of Ghazni are maintaining good relations/rapport with the general public. By interaction, they try to address the problems faced by common people. Afghan Interior Minister, Mohammed Omar Darzi has said that the Afghan people had a tough time for last six months. *Today the condition is that in 18 provinces out of 33 there is civil war. Afghan army is barely able to safeguard government facilities. There is the possibility of Helmand falling into Taliban hand very soon. If that be so, whole of Southern Afghanistan would be under Taliban control.*

Protests, Corruption and Gilgit-Baltistan, Editorial, Daily Bang-e-Sahar¹²⁸

The political condition at present in Pakistan is very volatile and uncertain.... Although the intensity of *dharna* is somewhat reduced and public participation has come down, Nawaz Sharif and his ministers are greeted by the popular slogan "Go Nawaz Go" wherever they go.

The past record reveals, the sapling of democracy was smothered by the Martial Law Administrators time and again. It may be recalled that Ms. Benazir Bhutto and Nawaz Sharif, during President Musharraf's rule, signed a charter of democracy in London, wherein they pledged not to do anything that would work against democracy. By implementing this charter, Zardari completed his five years' tenure. Now at this difficult juncture, Zardari is supporting Nawaz Sharif. However, there were other issues in the charter like good governance, end of corruption and "merit" based administration in the country which are not being given due attention by either Zardari or Nawaz.

Now the condition in Gilgit & Baltistan is no better, by virtue of having joined Pakistan! Here "good governance" is a nightmare! Mehdi Shah (Chief Minister) would be completing his 5-year tenure by December 2014 and he is still repeating his old tune that he has done a lot for the people. Needless to say, it has become a joke of town. Leaders of his own Jamaat even do not accept this claim. According to them, corruption has reached new heights during his regime. The fact remains that Mehdi Shah has brought bad name to the Peoples Party. As a matter of fact during the last 5 years, he could not implement a single development project. Furthermore, the federal govt. drastically reduced the allocation of funds for development. Whatever funds were allocated, were drained away through corruption!...The Chief Secretary suspended several officers (in Development Projects programme) as they were involved in

¹²⁸ Link: <http://www.bangesahar.net/popup.php?r-date09-30-2014page2-1>.

corruption and ordered investigation. Enquiry is going on in one very big project. It is an open secret that new appointments are being secured through bribes. Bribery is rampant in all departments including departments of Excise and Taxation. *So, "good governance" has remained a dream for the people.*

Complaint by Shah Mehmood Qureshi, Daily Jang, Hamid Mir

Not too long ago, American spy planes spotted and killed Osama bin Laden. They even took away his body. Abbotabad operation gives rise to many questions. Pakistani people were living in ivory tower and thinking that they were the seventh big atomic power and there was no parallel to the efficiency of their intelligence agency in the world. This issue could not be discussed as much as it should have been, because of the 'memogate' storm, which shifted the attention of our media and shook the foundations of the Zardari's government. ..To seal my lips, the intelligence agencies alleged that Zardari had given me one bullet proof car to me. In a very crafty manner, Hussain Haqqani, then Pak Ambassador to the US, was made to resign and the then present Army Chief was given an extension, and the storm kicked off by 'memogate' was made to die out.

It is with great regret, I want to say that the ruling elite did not learn anything from their past mistakes! They forget one basic thing that conditions in Pakistan have changed. They think Pakistan is like Egypt or Thailand! Initially, our friend Imran Khan, in collusion with some past masters of intrigue started shouting slogans of a "New Pakistan". In this game, a new race began between T.V. anchors and column writers, which turned bizarre. Some of my friends lost their balance. They felt hat they were real Messiahs. They started giving dates when the govt. would collapse. This time my sincere and humble submission was that the only way to bring down this govt. was through constitutional means. I made repeated appeals that in no case Raheel Sharif General should be thought of as an umpire for the simple reason that in no circumstances he would raise his finger! Once again this allegation was levelled against me by some journalists that I had taken huge sums of money from Nawaz Sharif. This was not so because statements of my bank accounts were made available. Despite all this, they want me to be part of *Qafla* (convoy) of new Pakistan!

.....Imran Khan, despite having failed in the long march, does not want to accept it gracefully. After having a gathering in Karachi, he also arranged a huge gathering in Islamabad. His call for "civil disobedience" failed miserably. Even his family members/confidants paid the elec. Bills. Despite all this, he is quite sure that Nawaz Sharif government would fall and would not complete its term.

The poor quality of governance and inefficiency of Sharif government were exposed when no one took responsibility for the mistakes made in the

electricity bills. Rather the ministers were throwing mucks at each other. Secondly, instead of applying balms on the wounds of Karachi (ongoing fight between rangers and PPP and MQM), some ministers are pouring petrol over these wounds. *May be this is the reason why* Shah Mohammed Qureshi is quite sanguine about one thing that sooner or later, the present Sharif government would chop its own legs and would not be able to stand on its own feet ever again.

Crushing Reply to Indian Barbarity in National Security Committee, Editorial, *Nawa-i-waqt*, 11 October 2014¹²⁹

There was serious discussion on Operation *Zarb-e-Azb* and tension along the Line of Control at the recent meeting of National Security Committee chaired by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif. Later on, while briefing the media persons, Choudhary Nisar Ali Khan, said that Pakistan would not tolerate any foreign interference or intervention. From the military's side, we have been assured that they are capable of meeting any kind of eventuality. It was also decided that any kind of adventurism would be given a fitting reply. "Kashmir" is the fundamental issue between both the nuclear countries. Neither of them can conquer the other. Our military wants to avoid any such eventuality which will result in full scale war.

A day before, P.M. Sharif while addressing the forces in North Waziristan had said that Pakistan, under Army Chief Raheel Sharif was fighting the *Zarb-e-Azb*, the biggest war against terrorism and he was sure that Pakistan would soon win it. He also said that Indian Def Minister Arun Jaitley had been repeatedly blaming that Pakistan was the first to start this attack and we would have to pay the price for it. However, our forces are fully alive to such threats. Across the LoC is the Kashmir valley which Pakistan considers its vital organ. He further added *that thousands of Kashmiris have pledged their allegiance to Pakistan and have scarified their lives for it. Now can Pak army ever think of bombarding these innocent people, who would in near future, by UN Resolutions, by the grace of God, be part and parcel of Pakistan?*

Nissar Ali, Interior Minister, briefing the conference held that India had resumed unprovoked firing with the sole purpose of harming Pakistan. *He also said that there are many instances of Indian interferences in Fata and Balochistan. On one side, India continues shelling the LoC while the Indian PM, his ministers and the Indian media are spewing venom against Pakistan.*

Now all the discussions made at National Security Committee are alright. But this discussion should not end there. It appears we are not implementing the decisions taken at these meetings. Can we stop India from its barbarity? We

¹²⁹ Link: [http://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E.Paper/Lahore 2014-10-11/detail-5](http://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E.Paper/Lahore%202014-10-11/detail-5)

know India has a seven times bigger army than ours. We can never match its capacity. The tragedy is that when Modi is bashing Pakistan, Nawaz Sharif is silent. Unfortunately, our defence minister knows everything but still he is silent. Our Defence Ministry is like an “orphan”.

It is essential on our part to make a thorough analysis of all the trade agreements and all other agreements with India and review our position on them. We should do everything to protect national honour and dignity and aspiration of Kashmiris. *Let us not forget that our military is very much capable of meeting any challenge from outside and can give fitting response to barbarity perpetrated by Indian forces.*

Modi is fanning with the flames of fire, Agha Masood Hussain, *Daily Dunya*, 17 October 2014.¹³⁰

Since 14 August, Indian army has been continuously firing on the international working boundary and Line of Control. The life in villages is very much disturbed. At least 145 schools have been closed. *Ironically no one has openly condemned this un-announced barbarity by India.* Even Ban Ki Moon, UN Secy. Gen. has only said that the firing should stop from both sides and dialogue should be resumed.

At the present, United Nations is under the influence of Uncle Sam especially after the disintegration of Russia. Now, the whole world is feeling the impact of US hegemony and the UN is unable (or has failed) to mediate between two warring states. India and Pakistan are moving towards a “big war” and for this Modi is to be held solely responsible. *This is what he wants. By fighting one more war with Pakistan, he would occupy and control Kashmir so that his name is immortalized in the history of region.* And with assistance coming from allies (read the US) he is compelling Pakistan to enter into war with India. Though Pakistan does not war, there is a limit to its patience. On the other hand the UN without the consent of the US cannot stop this barbarity perpetrated by Bharat upon Pakistan.

Though prime facie, the US is Pakistan’s number one ally, behind the screen, it has been cooperating with those countries who are bent upon dismantling the existence of Pakistan. Now, Allah be thanked that Pak rulers have by now understood Indian strategy. And they are exposing Indian policy in international forums. *Modi’s attitude towards Pakistan could be seen from his speeches made during electioneering period, when he wanted to win Hindu votes by demonstrating his desire to wage war with Pakistan.* Now to fulfill that, he is following policy of harming Pakistan.

India’s barbaric attitude towards Pakistan, its neighbour, tells us a lot about the shallow thinking and a vacuum in the policy of adopted by Modi and his

¹³⁰ <http://e.duniya.com.pk/detail.php?>

ministers. They are not able to gauge the dangers involved in this immature policies. On the other hand, statements of Sartaj Aziz are also not helpful in finding some sort of reconciliation between the two countries. It is our tragedy that Pakistan's foreign policy is focussed on India only.

We have good relations with China but the current unstable political economic situation has negatively impacted Pak-China friendship. Pakistan army is carrying on successful campaigns against terrorists in North Waziristan. But support from public is very vital for these operations.

India's Barbarity, *Daily Dunya*, Qayoom Nizami, 12 October 2014.

Pakistan forces have been successfully fighting our internal war with the terrorists. Their hideouts, wherefrom they used to launch their attacks, have also been wiped out. Army Chief visited North Waziristan on Eid day (on front lines) and added 14000 new recruits into our security forces. These recruits would be imparted free training in schools and would also be deployed in other countries. Although the original orders are with the Prime Minister, our *Fauj* has been authorised to implement these orders.

If India were really serious in its approach they would have resumed dialogue with us. But India does not want Pakistan to be a stable country. The statistics reveal that 43 persons have been wounded, and 40,000 evacuated in the Indian firing. Thousands of houses have been destroyed. But our brave soldiers have given fitting reply to Indian attack. Later, the P.M. convened a session of National Security Committee wherein important decisions were made.

Our public is very much concerned about Indian Defence Minister's threat. In such a situation, it was the duty of our PM to issue a statement and make them understand that both political and military leadership are on the same page. Opposition has accused Prime Minister that he is silent because he contemplates trade and commercial relationship with India. However, Sartaj Aziz has given a satisfactory statement. Let us not forget that Prime Minister controls both defence and foreign ministry and so the public expects the P.M. to fulfil his obligations; otherwise, he should delegate this job to someone else so that our national security is not at peril.

At UN General Assembly, our Prime Minister took a very brave and correct stand when he said that there should not be any increase in the number of the present membership of the UN Security Council. *It is foolish to imagine that the Indian PM would want to protect Nawaz Sharif's government, although Bharat does not want Taliban to be well-entrenched inside Pakistan.*

Whether the Baloch are dead or alive, who cares for us? Editorial, *Daily Tawar*, 29 September 2014¹³¹

Media reports suggest that the Chinese companies have been authorized to use coal-containing 6.5 per cent sulphur content. It will lead to climate pollution when the companies would use coal in Quetta Electricity houses. Due to heavy sulphur content, the exhausts from the power houses could cause diseases like cancer and asthma, and de-sulphurization plant must be set up too. Coal with 1% sulphur content is used in the whole world. *Ironically, neither our Government is concerned about it nor is China worried about it. They have their own interests to serve and want to make money at all cost. A situation may soon happen when China will steal our wealth and leave only cancer and asthma for us. Any way who bothers?*

Recko Dik dispute and Balochistan Govt., *Daily Tawar*, 17 Oct 2014.

Nowadays, there is the case of a Copper project in the International Court of Justice. The dispute is between Tethayan Copper company and Balochistan govt. Under the Agreement this project was allotted by the former govt. to Tethayan copper company, but later on, *there were some dispute between the company and the Baloch govt.* As a result, the coper company had to go to international court. According to media reports, Pakistan govt. came out with a new formula to resolve the differences between the two parties. *Under this agreement, the dispute has to be withdrawn from the international court and it was required to be resolved through bilateral discussions.* For this, it was essential that (i) *Tethayan copper company should be inclined to review the agreement and whatever objections have been raised by the Pak govt. should be amicably resolved/settled.* Amongst the list of objections by Pak govt., is (a) increase in the share of Pak.govt and (b) some amendments to be made in the technical issues should be resolved. It may be mentioned that Tethayan Copper Co has filed a case for 14 billion dollars in the International Court of Justice. According to reports emanating from the Information Deptt of Balochistan, *the move (peshkash) has not come from Pakistan govt. but Tethayan Copper Co. that they are agreeable to an out-of-court settlement.* During a briefing between Federal govt. and high ranking officials, Pakistan's lawyer, Omar Bilal Sufi, had disclosed that the Tethayan Company had come out with this proposal. *The stand adopted by provincial govt. was that they had no objection to dialogue, but keeping in view the progress in the case, they are yet to take any decision whether they should resort to this option or not.*

Now as far as the question of "compensation" is concerned, both federal as well as the provincial govt are equally responsible. *It may also be clarified that*

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<http://www.dailytawar.net-all.php?page=&date2014.09.29&dir-newspapers&image=edarati-page.glf>

as far as the issue of "resources" of Balochistan is concerned, all concerned authorities have been given to understand that they should not enter into any agreement without ascertaining Baloch consent.

According to some observers, China is the main cause of quarrel in creating differences between Baloch govt and Tethayan Copper Company. China wants Tethayan Company to snap ties with provincial govt. As we know all the major projects in Balochistan have been given to China. And even 20 per cent of its share is not given to Balochistan. Hence this dispute.

Spurt in Killings/Missing Persons in Balochistan, *Daily Tawar*, 17 Oct 2014.¹³²

In the month of September, there had been a sudden spurt in killings and missing of persons in Balochistan. *According to media report 12 persons were missing, while more than 15 dead bodies had been recovered. There has been a debate between Baloch govt. and Jamat leaders on whether there has been a decline in the number of missing/kidnappings now.* But in the month of September, their claims were exposed. Although there is no visible decline in these kidnapping incidents, Jamat leaders have been harping on this issue of reduction in the number of missing persons. But the actual figures about kidnappings and murders of persons are there before the media persons. This has alarmed the media as well as International Human Rights Organizations.

On 2 September, two persons went missing in an operation in Gokdan and one person, Sharif, was taken into custody and later murdered at some unknown place. The number of dead bodies received has gone up to more than 15. In Kech district, Ghaus Bakhsh and Zahid Alif have disappeared since 1 September. Later on Farid Shah Beg's bullet-ridden body was found. He was picked up by armed forces in August.

On 13 September armed forces fired upon houses in Khotamp, wherein a Baloch Taliba Shahnaz Bibi was killed. On 23rd September, in Pedarak, two bodies were recovered and their identification would be made from their shoes and clothes. On 25 Sept, four dead bodies were recovered from Panjgur. Only one of them could be identified. Three unidentified bodies were recovered in gunny bags. In addition, one body was recovered, Ghulam Rasool by name.

International media and Human Rights Agencies in Balochistan have emphasized upon government to take notice of these kidnappings and missing persons in the province. *Otherwise, this could lead to the complete annihilation of Baloch community.* It has become a matter of great concern. Well-qualified Baloch people, i.e., poets, political leaders, doctors and engineers are

¹³² <http://www.dailytawarnet/get-all.php=?PAGE=EDARATI-PAGE&date=2014-10-017dr=newspapers&image=edarati-page.gif>

being eliminated. *Don't you realize that Baloch community is on the verge of extinction?*

HRCP and Balochistan, Daily Tawar, 1 Oct 2014¹³³

The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) has given a very disturbing picture of the living conditions of people in Balochistan. Minority religious *tanzeems* are taking roots in the soil. There is no progress in talking to Baloch separatists and the number of missing persons has been rising every day. After three days' tour of Balochistan, Zohara Yousf, Asma Jahangir, Chairperson of HRCP Fact Finding Mission, while briefing to press at Quetta said that condition with regard to corruption and peace prevailing in the province has somewhat improved and Baloch nationalists' participation in the Election was a right step. However, the issue of Missing persons was the most disturbing reality in the province. Thousands of dead bodies were being found. During last 5 years, 200,000 Shia Muslims have been killed and 100,000 settlers from other provinces of Pakistan, 100,000 Hindus have migrated. Journalists not allowed inside civil Secretariat. Federal authorities did not permit HRCP delegates to see the condition of graveyards. So far, 40 journalists have been killed but no arrest has been made so far. The menace of missing persons/kidnappings should be stopped, otherwise there would be no peace and prosperity in Balochistan.

Eid and sacrifice of thousands in Balochistan, Daily Tawar, 9 Oct 2014¹³⁴

While on one side, people were celebrating Eid by sacrificing animals on 5-6 October, the land of Balochistan was covered with human blood. Along with animal sacrifices there were human sacrifices also. Media reports says, in port area, the security forces, away from the general public, lobbed mortars/bombs upon the civilian population, wherein three members of one family died [Khair Baksh-36, Gul Naaz-10 and Javed Reza 7 years]. We could see a rally organized by a Baloch along with women crying aloud for Baloch missing persons. More than 20,000 people were on the streets of Karachi dressed in shiny dresses hugging each other and exchanging greetings. *At the same time, people were aggrieved because their near and dear ones were missing and in a way Balochistan was became a graveyard!* The protesters lamented that how could they celebrate Eid festival when their near and dear ones were missing and no news about their whereabouts and also what conditions they were in?

Militant Operation in North Waziristan-A Review by Abdul Rehman Hafizullah. *Nawa-i-Afghan Jihad* September 2014

¹³³ http://www/daily_tawar.net/get-allphp?page_edarati=2014-10-01&dir_newspapers&image=edarati-page.gif

¹³⁴ http://www/daily_tawar.net/get-all_php??page-edarati-page & date 2014.10.09 &dir-Newspapers &Image=edarati page9

[This letter was written by Abdul Rehman in beginning of July, wherein he describes in details the conditions for last 3-4 months. Also details of Mujahideen's activities]

By God's grace, we are all quite safe and sound here. Pakistan army has resumed military operation and aerial bombings in North Waziristan. *The name of the operation has been the "Sword" used in war by Prophet Hazrat Mohammed. By this, Pakistan military has resumed unholy war based on falsehood and Kufr!* They are committing further atrocities upon the Muslim brethren. As per military sources, upto now about 400 terrorists have been killed. Less we talk about, the better. May God merciful punish these liars! Up till now a few mujahideen have been wounded, one Arab brother attained martyrdom! Our intelligence reveals that in jet bombardment, about 10 local residents, 3-4 Uzbek women and children, and one Arab woman, 2 Arab children, 3 or 4 Mehsud ladies have been injured. Apart from this, one chicken, few cows, goats killed in bombing. This apart, there has been no loss of life in the current bombings! Several houses have been razed to ground, and some madrasas, mosques and hospitals have been destroyed in the indiscriminate bombing by Pak *faujis*.

Pak army continued its aerial bombing and ground operation in Mir Ali and captured the mountainous areas. But there are number of mujahideen in Mir Ali and despite heavy ordeals they continue their fight! God would come to our rescue! Only a few days ago, *five Uzbek fidayeen barged into a military camp and started firing upon Paki soldiers and inflicted heavy losses upon them.* May God accept these martyrs! As regards Miran Shah, as we know, Pak army has cordoned off this area and now military has gained control over the mountains. That is why there is no Mujahideen and all of them have evacuated the area. Our comrades are hiding in Miram Shah wherefrom they sneak inside to carry out their attacks before returning to their hideouts. In the remaining areas of Mir Ali the performance of the Pakistan military has been very poor. There was a sudden attack on Pak military camp in Boya. And intermittent firing continues with snipers in Kiz Qamar camp. One convoy from this camp was attacked and four vehicles destroyed. Again in Datta Khel camp, Mujahideen continued their attack with heavy arms and ammunition. Apart from this, reports suggest that local Taliban have destroyed 4 vehicles and 1 tank in their ambush attack upon a convoy coming from Miran Shah to Boya camp. At least 35-40 *faujis* were killed in this attack. *The tank which was destroyed stands there on the roadside as an example of our bravery!* As we know, in war, both the sides have to bear the losses. *Therefore, at times the Pak army have been advancing at some places and thus gaining an edge over us! Sometimes Mujahideen have to retreat as the situation demands. God may help us in all our efforts to defeat the tyrant.*

In short, all this *military operations coupled with Mujahideen attacks have, no doubt, caused innumerable difficulties for the local residents*. Thousands and thousands of people have evacuated their homes and that also at very short notice to save their lives! *They leave their homes on foot, on some vehicles just to save themselves from the indiscriminate bombing*. In North Waziristan majority of the dwellers have already evacuated. So only the Mujahideen are left in this terrain.

These days, we find different types of planes hovering in the skies in North Waziristan. *These planes make different noises, quite irritating in the skies in North Waziristan. It appears Uncle Sam has been conducting experiments with different types of planes to find out their results. Perhaps North Waziristan has become a training ground for different American planes – jets, drones, fighter planes!* Evidently, United States is conducting aerial bombing while ground attacks are launched by Pak army. Jet fighters continue their bombing. I feel that this is not by Pakistani planes as they have never resorted to such bombing in the past. *Drone attacks continue. Since this operation was launched, there have been Four attacks and the news of the last attack have not been given to media persons so that an impression is formed that U.S. has nothing to do with these bombings*. As we know, the main objective of drone attacks was related to *Hqaaqani Saheb group and Arab comrades*. May God shower His grace upon these martyrs. Surely, these are quite difficult days, wherein one could see a perennial struggle going on between goodness, sincerity (*vafaa*), chivalry and falsehood and betrayal. *We are however winning this battle. Allah may kindly include us among the pious persons on a high pedestal!*

Amir Hafiz Gul of North Waziristan has launched a campaign – “Zarb-e-Momin” against Pakistan army! In his very strong and bellicose speech (on wireless) he asked his followers to fulfill their duty towards ‘jihad’! May God give us enough strength so that we may be able to leave a permanent imprint on the sands of time! In short, refugees and their compatriots are eager to organize their ranks and file with the some objective that in war-like conditions, we may be facing in guerrilla type war situation. And Allah may bestow courage upon so that we may remain firm in our resolve and succeed in our Mission to wipe out the tyrants.

Although it is a long and agonizing journey for Mujahideen as we are besieged from all sides, we are confident that this difficult phase would soon be over and jihadi campaign would ultimately emerge victorious and more glorious. So we have to strive hard in our fight for righteousness and truth. And, we strongly believe that Allah’s mercy would shower upon his sincere worshippers and won’t let us down! *After this trial phase is over, God would bequeath upon our selected pious followers his choicest blessings*. I would request you all to be bold enough and have patience in this venture. Also we ought to be extra vigilant in every step

we take in this mission which is wrought with pitfalls, dangers and quagmires. So we would be on guard while treading on the path of righteousness and truth (*Haq*) to save our religion. I would also request our elders, ladies and children to pray to Allah to protect us from all this calamity, despair and evil so as to enable us to strive ahead with fortitude and courage. *You should pray for our ultimate victory! Ameen!*

Future of Shariat in Pakistan, Khabab Ismail, *Nawai Afghan Jihad*, Sept.2014.

It seems that the international Unholy alliance led by Uncle Sam has been using Pakistan army as its 'maid seroant' while a gang of Pakistani military generals do not hesitate to dance to the tune of Kafirs!

Pakistan army does not feel slighted or degraded in complying with Uncle Sam's orders wherein (i) they spill the blood of gullible Pakistani Muslim brethren, (2) displace thousands and thousands of persons from their homes and hearths, (3) target our pious religious places – mosques and madrasas, (4) spew gun-fire upon busy streets/bazaars and highways, (5) bomb civilian boroughs and (6) cooperate with Uncle Satan in its drone attacks to earn the praise of their American bosses in the discharge of their unholy duties.

So in a way, we see that *America has reduced Pak army to a caged parrot whose wings are clipped to face the onslaught of its eternal enemy i.e. Bharat*. Any further arms deal settled by Pakistan with the US or European countries is made with a clear warranty from Pak authorities that all these military supplies won't be used against its only enemy– *India*. In such circumstances, the new military doctrine initiated by General Raheel Sharif makes an effort to clear the phobia of perennial enmity from the minds of not only military generals but also that of ordinary Paki soldiers. As a result, whether it is a festival of Eid or our Independence Day, *the Hindu and Muslim faujis are seen exchanging greetings and sweets amongst themselves!*

Hands of the Hindus are drenched with the blood of Indian Muslims, who have joined hands with Pakistani Muslim faujis of Pakistan and *in this handshake and hugging we see our enemies (Hindus)- the enemy of Shariat*.

Now this has become a regular phenomenon, which is not restricted only to *Muslim festivals but also Hindu festivals like Diwali and Raksha Bandhan wherein one finds a deluge of so called love and affection between the two communities*. This frenzy of friendship and peace has in a way dwarfed our religion – Islam and Islamic culture. Formal gatherings between DGMO's also take place wherein there is exchange of gifts. Sorry to say that in this rush of greetings we forget that thousands of Muslims were murdered, our women were raped and molested, and several children were killed.

The (hidden) purpose for the start of present skirmishes along LoC by Pak military against India was to make money! To further augment this enmity

towards India was termed "patriotism" so that it could procure luxurious life for its military generals. Hence billions of rupees were wasted on defence budgets every year. How could this be digested by Pakistani people? *The military authorities took the excuse of "enmity with Bharat" and started their tirade against India only to befool the gullible public.* There was no doubt in the minds of the GHQ warlords they were the real gainers in this game. Just look at how many buildings are owned in Pakistan by these generals?

Pakistani people are completely ignorant of this game of betrayal being played by Pakistani generals. The common man is deceived and does not mind flow of resources to the military. They are given to understand that "When you are sleeping at night, we, our jawans, keep awake whole nights to protect you and keep India at bay in Kargil and Khokhrapar". No one questions the generals as to what is the actual position on the ground. No one asks them if they performed their duties according to Islamic principles. Can they answer the following questions? Who compelled our *qabayils* (tribal population) to retreat from Srinagar in 1948? Who was responsible for withdrawal of our forces during Operation Gibraltar in 1965? Everyone is aware as to who was responsible for turning our fertile lands into deserts by signing the *Sindh Taas* Agreement, wherein our generals agreed to handover our right to control and distribute Indus water resources to Indian authorities. In 1971, they surrendered before Hindu *Kafir* generals and were quite proud of doing so. In 1984, they failed to gain control of Siachen yet secured decorations for them by the state.

When the US forces attacked us (after 9/11), our disgraced General Musharraf shook hands with US authorities and *started echoing the slogan that by doing that had saved the Kashmir cause*", i.e. *Maine Kashmir ko bacha liya!* Within few months, voice of Kashmir's Azadi was silenced. Thereafter, he started parroting *Bharat dosti and forgot Bharat dushmani.* In the name of confidence building measures the interests of Kashmiri Muslims are sacrificed. At the behest of Pakistani ISI, the voice of Kashmir jihad has died forever!

Instead of protecting Islam, Pakistani military succumbed to the infidels (the US) and engaged itself in anti-Islamic activities. As a result, the infidels have established themselves in conspicuous position at the international level while so many innocent Pakistani citizens have been killed. Who is responsible for all this? The Pak military should be made accountable for their crimes. *Rather than attacking Hindu infidels and silencing their guns, we find our military collecting dead bodies from the border/LoC. Now where is the sanctity of our forces?*

On 16th August, one Indian security personnel (Inspector) Sheetal Yadav crossed the border in the Sialkot sector. Chenab rangers arrested him. After three days with all goodwill and hospitality, he was handed over to Indian authorities. Actually, he was

a spy and carried some maps and gadgets with him. At a function organized by Indian authorities, Yadav expressed his utmost thanks and gratitude to Pakistani rangers for their cordiality. *This incident reveals the evil designs of our military top brass.*

After a few months, the Indian side reciprocated our goodwill gesture by dispatching us the bullet ridden bodies of Abdul Suroor and his two brothers. Although we keep our eyes open on the Eastern side (Indian), we take care to keep Indians in good humour. However, on the Indian side, the situation is different. The chief of Hindu fanatics and butcher of Muslims of Gujarat has now become the Chief (PM) of Bharat! From the beginning, he has kept aside formalities and displayed barbaric behaviour. His policy is distinctly anti-Muslim. *He has initiated new rules for Muslims in India. The voice of "Azaan" (calls for Namaz) is muffled in the loud noises of Hindu festivals. The fast of Roza is broken per force. This is not done by ordinary Hindus but by BJP legislators in the Lok Sabha. Every now and then efforts are being made to declare "Haj pilgrimage" unlawful.*

Jihad waged by the Kashmiris has been sabotaged by Pakistani security agencies, especially the ISI. India is now trying to woo Pakistani Muslims to bring them into the national mainstream of Bharat. To accomplish this objective, Indians are in a frantic purchase spree. They are acquiring sophisticated arms and ammunition and advanced military gadgets. Some people are of the opinion that all these are aimed at countering China. *But who would make these gullible Muslims understand that manufacture of all military gadgets in Europe/ American factories are basically meant to destroy our faith and make Islam an extinct religion? Be it China, Bharat, Israel, America or even Russia, all these infidels stand united on one platform to terminate Islam. There is no difference between atrocities committed by China upon Muslims in West Turkistan and tyranny perpetrated by India upon gullible Gujarati Muslims. It is the poor Muslim whose head is rolling on the streets.*

Editorial, *Nawa-i-Afghan Jihad, October. 2014.*

As there are only few selected persons who have the privilege to go for Hajj, there are only a few who join the jihadi caravan. These honest, pious souls have to confront the intrigues hatched by Satanic states, who are planning to bomb Kaaba and holy mosques. On the other hand, those ruling Muslim states, with the sole purpose of perpetuating their regimes, have betrayed their people and sacrificed Islamic principles at the altar of their self-interest.

U.S. sources reveal that 80% of the bombers engaged in aerial bombings against ISIS in Syria took off from Saudi Arabia and Emirates. Syria is the place where these butchers have carried out their bloody attacks for last 3 and half years. ..Similarly in Gaza, Israelis have vowed to terminate all Muslims. All the Arab Sheikhs are busy leading their luxurious lives do not bother about all this.

But as soon as the US made up its mind to stop the jihadi wave sweeping Syria, the leaders of the Arab league states joined hands with the US against the Jihadi groups.

As we know Prophet had told Umar that “Don’t you know that to bring Islam is to destroy all sins? All sins committed by a Muslim before embracing Islam would be erased by Allah.” So today we should congratulate all those who have joined Jihad for the protection of Islam. There will be a day when only voices of Unity of God and praise of Allah ring in the air. That day would be the day of “Eid” for the race of Ibrahim. All tactics used by Kufr would fail and we would triumph over the evil. Amen.

Barbarity of Pakistani Khakis, Muasab Ibrahim, *Nawa-i-Afghan Jihad*, Oct 2014

Of late, infidels and their officers have taken a strong beating at the hands of Mujahideen! Hence, they have resorted to unethical crimes committed upon our innocent people, killing women, children and elderly persons and destroying the mosques and madrasas and religious places. *They have, in a way, caused collateral damage to highways, schools and market places!*

When the *mujahideen* are arrested, they are kept in a small cell with no sunlight. On the other side, when the mujahideen imprisoned Prof. Ajmal Khan¹³⁵ in mountain caves, because of his failing health, every time he fell sick, three or four of our comrades were sent to Peshawar for purchase of medicines with great risk. Contrary to this, *Pakistani soldiers perpetrate all kinds of torture on our brethren and fleece their skins. Instead of medicines, they put salt on the wounds! As compared to this, we provide all possible facilities and take good care of the captives.* Despite our limited means and paucity of funds, all possible facilities are provided to the prisoners.

On the contrary, the jails maintained by Pakistan are secret houses. No regular meals are provided. They throw rotten bread, stale salad and impure water inside the cells of the mujahideen. Following incident will illustrate to you some more examples of Pak barbarity:

- (1) The terror Pak army perpetrated upon the students of Lal Masjid and the way they dragged the dead body of Maulana Sultan Ghani Arif on the roads of Swat!
- (2) On 16th June in an interview to English Daily Guardian one security official said that Pak. Military does not arrest Taliban rather they kill them!

¹³⁵ Vice Chancellor of Islamia University, Peshawar, and a close relative of ANP chief Asfandyar Wali Khan, kidnapped by Taliban in September 2010 and freed in August 2014 by Pakistan Army.

- (3) No action by the Pak judiciary on 350 or more murders committed by Pak army.
- (4) I was myself brought before the High Court on a wheel chair in sub-conscious condition. I lost 25 kgs and stood before the judge in a skeletal form.
- (5) Deputy of Amir ul Momineen Mulla Mohammad Umar, Mulla Obaidullah Akhund was killed in front of Pakistani Intelligence officers in prison.
- (6) Ustad Yasir Allah, Chief of Afghanistan Cultural Commune, attained martyrdom at the hands of Pakistani secret agents. Several Jihadi leaders are still languishing in the prisons and they are being regularly whipped with canes. What a barbarity!
- (7) Madam al Umar Raheefa Bibi was also killed by them in torture. At the time of her burial her daughter cursed all the security officials.
- (8) A few days ago Amna Masood Janjua¹³⁶, the same lady who was dragged and kicked on Highway-80 is was arrested and put behind the bars. She is now in the custody of the Khakis and the police is loudly saying that no excesses have been committed upon prisoners!

Now the practice of torture (before murdering) has become a new phenomenon! Number of killings has increased *especially with the introduction of Pakistan Protection Ordinance*. Intelligence agencies have got “carte blanche” (unrestricted power) to arrest any person who is suspected to be an anti-national.

When we dwell upon the present conditions, we see that same is the condition of so called “independent judiciary” of Pakistan. These judicial officers have dirty minds and dirty hearts and dirty spirits. How could we bring any improvement in the situation in such circumstances?

In brief, although Pakistan been there for last seven decades, the rule of Sharia was not even implemented even for one day! Most of the time, during these 7 decades, the Khakis ruled Pakistan. The parliament was just like its hand-maid. The media has been placed on the tip of the Khaki shoes. The Khaki generals were neither concerned about deen in the past, nor would they care about it in future. There is no sign of any improvement in future. As we see, Pakistan is plagued with many chronic diseases. So the mujahideen feel as a doctor that “implementation of deen-e-Islam” will serve as a panacea for our problems and save us from disaster. We have taken a resolve to save our country from the clutches of the khakis!

¹³⁶ She is the chairperson of rights group Defence of Human Rights Pakistan. She is a pioneer in raising the voice against enforced disappearance in Pakistan. She started her activist career following the disappearance of her husband Masood Ahmed Janjua on 30 July 2005.

Message from Seven Days' War of 1973, Tahir Sultan, *Nawa-i-Afghan Jihad*, October 2014

It was the year 1973 and conditions in Middle East were so volatile that the war between the Arabs and Israel could erupt at any time. Incidentally, one US Senator, who was also the chief of arms and ammunition committee, made a sudden visit to Israel, ruled by a lady Prime Minister, Golda Meir.

Ms. Golda Meir welcomed the US Senator in a very informal and rather homely manner. She asked him to come to the dining table where she served him a cup of tea. While they were sipping tea, the lady Prime Minister finalized the "deal" with the Senator to purchase missiles, planes and sophisticated arms from the US. She then asked him to start preparatory work for this.

It may be recalled that Israel at that time was facing an administrative crisis. But due to her tenacity and farsightedness, she could foresee the future shape of things clearly which prompted her to go in for such a huge order for arms supply. Ironically, this was not supported by her Cabinet colleagues, who argued that this huge order would deprive them of one day's meal. To this, she retorted that when posterity would record victory for Israel, it would not bother about how many eggs we enjoyed at the supper table. All her cabinet colleague finally succumbed to her reasoning. Subsequently, after seven days' war, it was all quiet on the Middle East front. *And the world knew that all the Arab countries were defeated by one "old lady"*. Israel emerged triumphant!

Many years later, one US representative asked the iron lady whether the idea of purchase of huge military hardware came up suddenly to her mind or had she already made up her mind about it? To this, she made an amazing reply. She said, *"I learnt this from my enemy, Prophet Muhammad*. In school days, I studied Arab history wherein I learnt that after fighting a war successfully, there was no oil left in Prophet's house to celebrate his victory, but there were nine swords hanging on the wall. His wife had used all her resources to keep Muhammad prepared for the war. *Taking cue from this story, I resolved that my nation may even have to die of hunger and my people may have to stay in tents, but we have to prepare ourselves for the war at all costs"*. No one now remembers the poor economic conditions that prevailed during her time in Israel; history only remembers that one old lady defeated the whole Muslim world!

Never-ending list of failures of Pak Operations, Kashif Ali Al Khairi, *Nawa-i-Afghan Jihad*, October 2014

On 17 Dec 1971, Pakistani newspapers came out with headlines: "War Till Victory", Yahya Khan's Pledge. In reality, on 16 December Pakistani fauj had surrendered in front of the Indian army at Paltan Maidan in Dhaka (East Pakistan).

In Quran, all movements of enemy have been compared to the “bee hive”. Now this bee hive has become too long and looks like a cobweb. This is why how our young commissioned military officers are getting entangled in this cobweb.

On 20 September, Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan carried the “news” of martyrdom of its Afghan-based mujahideen commander Mohammad Hassan while fighting the Pakistan military. The spokesman of TTP wrote: “Mohd. Hassan was engrossed in jihadi activities in Pakistan. ISPR’s information department along with Pakistan media succeeded in misguiding the Pakistani public and discarded the claims of mujahideen about its successful attempts at destroying command control of the Pak army, police and rangers in several cities including Karachi.

However, the truth is that Mohammad Hassan Shaheed was connected with the Afghan government in Kabul. He was actually required to remain within the borders of Afghanistan. Then, why did he join TTP fighters and fought the military of Pakistan?

Second thing, according to Pakistani media, the salaries of journalists and those working with the Pakistan information department were paid by the Info department. These journalists were engrossed in condemning the Mehsud group of Taliban as a “rebel” group within TTP and their leader Said Sajjana was projected as a “dissident” within TTP. Then how come Sajjana and Amir Fazlullah joined hands and attended the burial prayers of a martyr? It is clear that although there may be differences within some *jamaats* or outfits that should not be misconstrued. Allah the great has given them strength of mind by which they could sit together and sort out their petty differences and remain very good and loyal friends.

Third aspect of this is that since Shahid Mohammad Hassan attained martyrdom in Boya, his burial prayers were also organized there. Now from this Pakistani analysts have concluded that TTP has the power and capability to orchestrate attacks on Pakistan while sitting in Afghanistan. *While the fact is that as and when the need arises there is two-way traffic of mujahideen along Durand Line without any hesitation.* Amir Fazlullah has not only been carrying out his campaign against Pak military but also resolving differences amongst mujahideen groups and upgrading the movement.

Activities of Mujahideen.

The news about deteriorating conditions of Pakistani *fauj* in North Waziristan has been pouring in through the media. On 21 September they shot two gunship helicopters in North Waziristan and the pilots were killed.

On 19 September, 25 Paki soldiers were killed in a skirmish. In Mir Ali area, one ammunition laden truck was destroyed by remote control device. On 9

September, one military convoy was attacked wherein nine soldiers died. On 4 September, 14 Pak soldiers were killed in Dande area in Darpa Khail. On 30 August, one military vehicle was blown in an ambush on Ghulam Khan Road wherein all soldiers were killed.

Uncle Sam is duping/deceiving us.

Whatever funds are given by the US to us, it is disbursed after lot of persuasion. We have presented ourselves just like slaves. They have bombarded us indiscriminately and filled their coffers with money.

On 28 August under Coalition Sport Fund Pak govt received US\$ 38 million. On 20 September, the US State Department took away 20 million for purchase of 160 armoured vehicles to clear the mines in the tribal areas. These vehicles are called Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP), which are immune to any ambush. We may remember that Mujahideen in Afghanistan have destroyed these armoured vehicles with the bombs-laden pressure cookers. In a way, Uncle Sam is extending its weapons market (*dukandari*).

On 18 August the ISAF chief, General Dunford had a meeting with Pak Army Chief Raheel Sharif. Though it was its farewell meeting, surprisingly, at this meeting Raheel told Dunford that there would be no laxity in following the latter's instructions. On 15 September, the new ISAF commander, Gen Campbell met Gen Raheel Sharif and lauded the efforts of the Pak army in their 'Zarb-e- Kazb' (the fake war)¹³⁷ exchanged views on US-Pak defence ties. These talks prove that the US forces are fully involved in this campaign;

On 14 September drone attacks killed 7 mujahideen.

On 23 Sept spy planes lobbed 4 missiles resulting in the death of 11 persons and destruction of 1 house and 1 vehicle.

On 28 Sept US spy planes lobbed missiles on Kari Kot- Dana in South Waziristan, wherein 4 persons were killed and 2 injured.

Crucial test of mujahideen's ability/capability

On 16th Sept, there was a comprehensive press conference conducted by D.G.-ISPR which was given wide publicity in the newspapers. Ironically, Asim Bajwa, Chief of ISPR continued with same hackneyed stories and repeated claims of victory made by Pak army with pride and pomp. But no one knows when these generals are on the battlefield, how many mistakes they commit. Bajwa reiterated that they had brought an end to the so-called capability of Mujahideen and they won't be able to attack again.

In the beginning we had said that let them start the operation; we will bring it to a close with victory for ourselves. *If the record of successes gained by*

¹³⁷ As per Taliban, the operation should be called Zarb-e-Kazb rather than Zarb-e-Azb)

Mujahideen since 2001 were to be put together, it will prove that we will succeed in the end.

In the chapters of *Nawai Afghan Jihad* (October issue) it has been emphasized that the efforts of all the lackeys of super power and the slaves of infidels would be dashed to ground. The true story of the alliance between infidels and rebels of Allah will come to light very soon. How much funds and finances Pak army is getting is not hidden from public gaze. But we will win at the end.

STATISTICS

BOMBINGS, SHOOTINGS AND DISAPPEARANCES

(Select incidents culled out from the Pakistan media)

Place	Date	Description	Killed	Injured
Balochistan				
Quetta ¹³⁸	19/10/2014	Eight labourers killed in Balochistan.	8	1
Quetta ¹³⁹	23/10/2014	Two killed, 12 injured as FC vehicle targeted in Quetta blast.	2	12
Quetta ¹⁴⁰	23/10/2014	Quetta: Eight members of Hazara community killed.	8	1
FATA				
Bajaur ¹⁴¹	20/10/2014	Cross-border attack: 3 FC men injured from TTP firing in Bajaur.	0	3
Bajaur ¹⁴²	22/10/2014	Three injured in attack on polio team in Bajaur.	0	3
Punjab				
Attock ¹⁴³	16/10/2014	Gunmen kill retired Ahmadi	1	0

¹³⁸ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/777839/eight-labourers-killed-in-balochistan/>

¹³⁹ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1139846/two-killed-12-injured-as-fc-vehicle-targeted-in-quetta-blast>

¹⁴⁰ <http://nation.com.pk/national/23-Oct-2014/quetta-eight-members-of-hazara-community-killed-in-sectarian-attack>

¹⁴¹ <http://tribune.com.pk/story/778325/cross-border-attack-3-fc-men-injured-from-ttp-firing-in-bajaur/>

¹⁴² <http://www.dawn.com/news/1139628/three-injured-in-attack-on-polio-team-in-bajaur>

		air force official in Attock.		
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa				
Orakzai ¹⁴⁴	13/10/2014	Blast kills one, injures another in Orakzai .	1	1
Tirah Valley ¹⁴⁵	14/10/2014	Five killed in suicide attack in Tirah Valley.	5	7
Peshawar ¹⁴⁶	16/10/2014	Father-in-law of Peshawar Press Club president shot dead.	1	0
Khyber Agency ¹⁴⁷	18/10/2014	Six suspected militants killed in Khyber Agency.	6	0
Bajaur ¹⁴⁸	18/10/2014	Bajaur IED blast kills two security personnel.	2	2
Sindh				
Karachi ¹⁴⁹	29/10/2014	Blast outside Karachi imambargah kills girl	1	8

DRONE STRIKES

Place	Date	Description	Casualties
Shawal ¹⁵⁰	12/10/2014	US drone strike kills 4 in Shawal	4
Peshawar ¹⁵¹	30/10/2014	Drone strike kills four suspected militants in North Waziristan.	4
Wana ¹⁵²	31/10/2014	Two Arab fighters among seven killed.	7

¹⁴³ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138405/gunmen-kill-retired-ahmadi-air-force-official-in-attock>

¹⁴⁴ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1137293/blast-kills-one-injures-another-in-orakzai>

¹⁴⁵ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/article-162561-Five-killed-in-suicide-attack-in-Tirah-Valley>

¹⁴⁶ <http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-2-278640-Father-in-law-of-Peshawar-Press-Club-president-shot-dead>

¹⁴⁷ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138795/six-suspected-militants-killed-in-khyber-agency>

¹⁴⁸ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1138802/bajaur-ied-blast-kills-two-security-personnel>

¹⁴⁹ <http://nation.com.pk/national/29-Oct-2014/blast-outside-karachi-imambargah-kills-girl>

¹⁵⁰ <http://nation.com.pk/national/12-Oct-2014/us-drone-strike-kills-4-in-shawal>

¹⁵¹ <http://www.dawn.com/news/1141332/drone-strike-kills-four-suspected-militants-in-north-waziristan>

¹⁵² <http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-13-33813-Two-Arab-fighters-among-seven-killed>