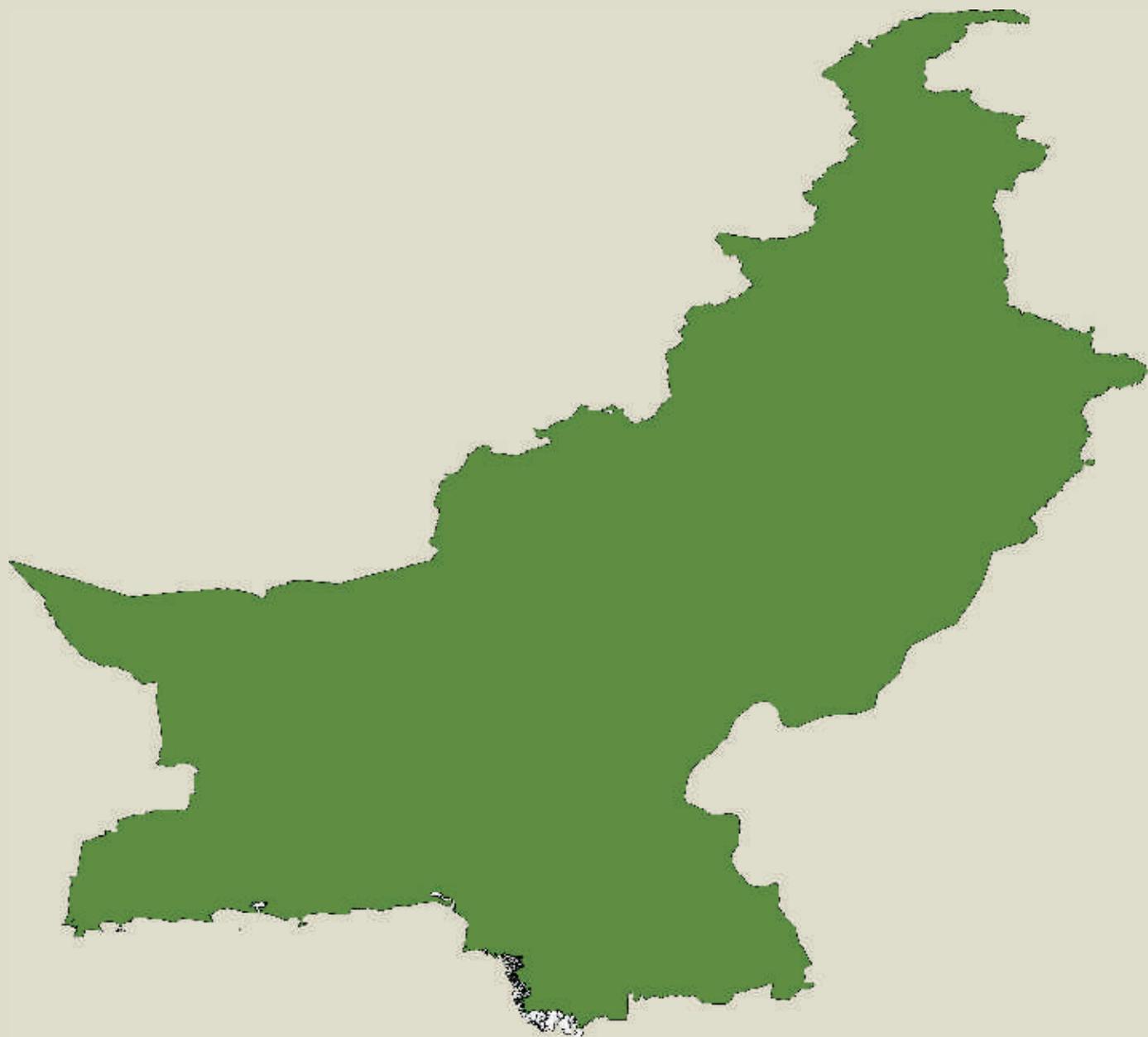


*April 2016*

# PAKISTAN NEWS DIGEST

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



*Prepared by  
Dr Ashish Shukla &  
Manzoor Ahmed Bhat  
(Research Assistants, Pakistan Project, IDSA)*

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INSTITUTE FOR DEFENCE  
STUDIES & ANALYSES  
रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

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## PAKISTAN NEWS DIGEST, APRIL 2016

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## ABBREVIATIONS

ADB: Asian Development Bank  
ANP: Awami National Party  
APC: All Parties Conference  
ATC: Anti-Terrorism Court  
CPEC: China- Pakistan Economic Corridor  
CTD: Counter Terrorism Department  
ECP: Election Commission of Pakistan  
FIA: Federal Investigating Agency  
IHC: Islamabad High Court  
IMF: International Monetary Fund  
ISI: Inter-Services Intelligence  
ISPR: Inter Services Public Relations  
JI: Jamaat-i-Islami  
JuD: Jamat-ul- Dawa  
JUI-F Jamiat-Ulema-e-Islam (Fazal)  
KP: Khyber Pakhthunkhwa  
LHC: Lahore High Court  
MQM: Muttahida Qaumi Movement  
NAB: National Accountability Bureau  
NADRA- National Database and Registration Authority  
NAP: National Action Plan  
PAT: Pakistan Awami Tehreek  
PML-N: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz  
PPP: Pakistan People's Party  
PTI: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf  
QWP: Qaumi Watan Party  
TTP: Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan

## **EDITOR'S NOTE**

April witnessed a number of crucial developments within and outside the country. On the domestic political front, the controversy over the Panama Papers, which mentions the name of about 200 Pakistanis having availed the services of the law firm Mossack Fonseca including the three children of the incumbent Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, is refusing to die down. With each passing day, the opposition is getting united to attack the top leadership of the ruling PML-N.

### ***Panama-gate***

The demand of the opposition ranges from the resignation of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to judicial inquiry and forensic audit. There are some like the Chairman of the Council of Islamic Ideology (CII), Maulana Mohammad Khan Shirani, who considered these leaks a western conspiracy to destabilise Pakistan. There are others who believe that it might invite an army intervention (read coup). The two most important opposition parties—PPP and PTI— have launched a no-holds-barred attack on the ruling dispensation, especially the Prime Minister. Imran Khan has again threatened to go on *dharna* and surround Raiwind with millions of people, if his demands are not met. Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has suggested Nawaz to step down till an independent inquiry absolves him of all the charges.

The Pakistan Army too seems to have decided to take advantage of the Panamagate. Gen. Raheel Shareef is now talking about the “across the board” accountability after taking action against some top army officers involved in corruption cases. The government’s response has so far been a measured one. It has denied any wrongdoing by the prime minister and proposed a judicial commission headed by the Chief Justice of Pakistan to investigate into the case. The government has also finalised Terms of reference (ToR) to this effect; however, the opposition is not ready to accept that. It wants to dictate its own ToR. The standoff continues. It would be interesting to watch how this issue is going to pan out in the coming month.

### ***Indo-Pak relations***

In a welcome development, Pakistan’s Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry met his Indian counterpart Subrahmanyam Jaishankar on the sidelines of the Heart of Asia conference in New Delhi. The two foreign secretaries had a good ninety minutes’ meeting. Both called it a constructive dialogue which included discussion on all outstanding issues. The Pakistani side raised the “core” issue of Kashmir along with the arrest of the alleged “Indian spy” Kulbhushan Jadhav from Balochistan. India, on its part, asked Pakistan to tackle the menace of terrorism, demanded action against those involved in

Pathankot and Mumbai attacks. It also raised the issue of consular access to Kulbhushan Jadhav. In a nut-shell, both sides traded concerns and issued separate statements. The absence of a joint statement and no clear indication of reviving the Comprehensive Bilateral Dialogue denote that there was no significant outcome from the meeting. However, the interaction made it clear that both the sides are still willing to engage each other on a variety of issues.

### ***Afghanistan***

The situation in Afghanistan is far from encouraging, The Taliban have put forward conditions to participate in the negotiation. Pakistan's position is a bit complicated. The officials say that they will ask the Taliban to be part of the negotiation. They also claim to have influence on the Taliban, as their family members are in Pakistan and enjoying the facilities there. However, when it comes to producing expected results, they falter every time. Recently, around the launch of the spring offensive by the Taliban, the Pakistani authorities reportedly asked Taliban to call off their spring offensive or face the consequence. After two days, Taliban attacked the National Directorate of Security (NDS) in Kabul which left around 70 dead and close to 350 injured. The attack infuriated the Afghan establishment. President Ashraf Ghani not only vowed to take revenge but in a joint session of the parliament stated that Afghanistan no longer needed Pakistan's role in the ongoing peace talks with the Taliban. He denounced the "good terrorist, bad terrorist" theory and labelled Islamic State, Haqqani network and certain segment of Taliban as enemies of Afghanistan.

### ***Economy***

The economic situation in the country too is not very encouraging. International Monetary Fund (IMF) wants Pakistan to curtail development spending. It expects the country to curtail its overall development budget by PKR 360 billion so that the fiscal deficit could be tackled. The country's total debt too swelled to PKR 18,694 billion. The transparency on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is still an important issue which remains unresolved. The federal government has a lot to do to address the concerns of the smaller provinces. The Gwadar port, being developed by China, is expected to be fully operational by the end of this year. Zhang Baozhon, the CEO of China Overseas Ports Holding Company Ltd, has recently said that the port would see roughly one million tons of cargo going through it by 2017.

### ***Civil-Military Relations***

There has been no improvement in the civil-military relations in Pakistan. After the Gulshan-e-Iqbal park terror attack, Pakistan Army unilaterally announced launching of operations in Punjab to flush out the militants. Given the fact that Punjab is the stronghold of PML-N, it was a very crucial development. Soon

after the Army Chief went public about the operation, Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan and Shahbaz Sharif met him and a compromise was reached. After this meeting, it came out that the army will launch a joint operation in South Punjab in which the civil and military law enforcement agencies would cooperate. The operation was later came to be known as "Zarb-e-Ahan." After more than two weeks the operation ended with the surrender of a rather a criminal named Ghulam Rasool alias Chotu. It is important to note that the surrender was not unconditional. Chotu, through Sher Mazari, offered to surrender in return for protection of his own life and his family's. In between, the criminal gang had abducted around two dozen policemen and tried to negotiate their release with the law enforcement agencies. In this particular operation against a small criminal gang, the Pakistan army had to use gunship helicopters.

### ***Parallel Justice System***

The existence of parallel judicial system in parts of the country was already known. Possibly for the first time Jamatud Dawa (JuD) Chief Hafiz Muhammad Saeed accepted heading such "Sharia courts." A Judge, Mufti Muhammad Idrees, reportedly told a private TV channel that at least seven Sharia courts were functional in the country—one each in Lahore, Gujranwala, Bahawalpur, Multan, Quetta, Karachi, and Islamabad. Hafiz Saeed tried to justify the existence of these courts by saying that these courts accepted only those cases involving family disputes. However, as per the reports, the courts often issue summons to people to appear before the Sharia court for any case. Recently, a businessmen from Punjab approach Lahore High Court against one of such Sharia courts. This is quite disturbing. The inaction by both the federal and provincial governments raise many questions. The most important question is that elements like Hafiz Saeed are still being protected by the establishment.

**Dr Ashish Shukla**

## **POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS**

### **NATIONAL POLITICS**

**Shahbaz, Nisar and COAS discuss operation in Punjab**, *The Dawn*, April 2<sup>1</sup>

After initially resisting the military operation in Punjab, the provincial government is now trying to reach an understanding with the army on the issue that at one stage appeared to be disturbing the civil-military equation. Punjab Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif and Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan quietly met Army Chief Gen Raheel Sharif at the General Headquarters on Thursday (March 31) evening. [...] ***The government had been deeply upset over the military's decision to initiate the action in Punjab, without getting a nod.*** The cancellation of PM Sharif's visit to Washington for attending the Nuclear Security Summit was said to be for standing in solidarity with the victims of Lahore bombing, but it is widely believed that the premier decided against the trip due to developing situation in Punjab, which is PML-N's stronghold.

**Govt for compulsory 'Quranic education' in schools**, *The Dawn*, April 20<sup>2</sup>

***The government is planning to make 'Quranic education' compulsory in all public schools in Pakistan.*** Minister of State for Federal Education Muhammad Balighur Rehman said that 'Nazra Quran' will be taught to students of grade 1 to 5, and proper 'Quranic education' with translation will be imparted to students from grade 6 to 10 in all public schools.

### **THE PANAMA PAPERS**

**Nawaz's family hit back after Panama leak**, *The Express Tribune*, April 4<sup>3</sup>

The family of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif was defiant on Monday (April 4), defending their ownership of offshore companies after they were named in the Panama Papers, one of the biggest leaks in history. The leak, comprising 11.5 million documents from Panama-based law firm Mossack Fonseca, shows how some of the world's most powerful people have secreted away their money in offshore jurisdictions. ***Among those named are three of Sharif's four children — Maryam, who has been tipped to be his political successor; Hasan and Hussain, with the records showing they owned London real estate through offshore companies administrated by the firm.***

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1249512/shahbaz-nisar-and-army-chief-discuss-anti-terror-operation-in-punjab>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1253281/govt-planning-to-make-quranic-education-compulsory-in-schools>

<sup>3</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1078521/pm-nawazs-family-hit-back-after-panama-papers-leak/>

**What the Panama Papers disclose about politicians, *The Dawn*, April 4<sup>4</sup>**

[...]Based on a trove of more than 11 million leaked files, the investigation exposes a cast of characters who use offshore companies to facilitate bribery, arms deals, tax evasion, financial fraud and drug trafficking. The leak reveals a lot about politicians and notables in Pakistan. [...] **Former prime minister Benazir Bhutto, her nephew Hassan Ali Jaffery and former interior minister Senator Rehman Malik are reported as the only three shareholders of a company Petroline International Inc., reports *The News*.** [...] Punjab Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif's relative Ilyas Mehraj has been mentioned as a major shareholder of a company though he firmly denies it. Another relative of the Punjab CM Samina Durrani owns three companies; the latest was opened in 2010.

**Panama leaks: Opposition parties call for probe, *The Nation*, April 5<sup>5</sup>**

Opposition parties called for a thorough investigation after a massive leak of secret files from a Panamanian law firm revealed that children of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif also "owned or had the right to authorise transactions for several offshore companies". **The leaks revealed around 200 Pakistanis belonging to different walks of life had availed services of the law firm, the children of PM Nawaz, late PM Benazir Bhutto and former interior minister Rehman Malik being most prominent among them.** The loudest voice for investigating the sources of wealth of Sharif family was that of Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf chief Imran Khan, who said the country's accountability watchdog (NAB), tax authorities and the election commission must take action.

**Imran demands independent probe of Panama Papers, *Daily Times*, April 10<sup>6</sup>**

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan has announced to march towards Raiwind if Panama Papers revelations were not probed by an independent judicial commission. [...] **Imran promised the nation he will not back off this time and continue to push for the demands.**

**PPP demands forensic audit of Panama Papers, *Daily Times*, April 10<sup>7</sup>**

Senior leader of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Senator Aitzaz Ahsan on Sunday (April 10) called for a forensic audit of the Panama Papers, the world's largest ever data leak that has been exposing how the rich and powerful use tax havens to hide their wealth.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1249906>

<sup>5</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/05-Apr-2016/opposition-parties-call-for-probe>

<sup>6</sup> <http://dailytimes.com.pk/pakistan/10-Apr-16/imran-demands-independent-probe-of-panama-papers>

<sup>7</sup> <http://dailytimes.com.pk/pakistan/10-Apr-16/ppp-demands-forensic-audit-of-panama-papers>

**Two ex-CJPs refuse to investigate Panama leak, Daily Times, April 10<sup>8</sup>**

Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar on Saturday (April 9) said that government was ready to get revelations made by Panama Papers investigated by the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA). Talking to reporters, the minister said two former Supreme Court chief justices had already refused to head the judicial commission instated to probe claims made by Panama Papers regarding offshore assets belonging to Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's family.

**In search of answers, Editorial, The Express Tribune, April 12<sup>9</sup>**

[...]Making a public address on April 10, Imran Khan reiterated his demand for an impartial judicial inquiry and a forensic audit into the matter and that if this was not forthcoming, he urged the people "to rise before it is too late". [...] **Mr Khan may be prone to hyperbole but he does have a point.** [...] Where Mr Khan falls down is in statements like "the evidence is already there" — because it is not. The evidence of wrongdoing may appear upon inquiry but at the moment, the prime minister is clean; and 'innocent until proven guilty' is as applicable to the prime minister as it is to Mr Khan or anybody else.

**No scope of enquiry into Panama leaks: Qadri, Daily Times, April 12<sup>10</sup>**

There is not any scope of enquiry into the Panama leaks as people and facilitators, who have benefited from the offshore accounts are in every department of the country. This was stated by Pakistan Awami Tehreek Chairman Dr Tahirul Qadri while addressing the meeting of the PAT lawyers wing from Canada via video link on Monday (April 11). **The PAT chairman said that there is no mention of the two offshore accounts by the prime minister in the accounts details he had submitted before the Election Commission after winning the elections.**

**Ji, PTI to join forces for PM's ouster, The Nation, April 12<sup>11</sup>**

Jamaat-e-Islami and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf have agreed to launch joint protest movement for the ouster of prime minister if the government shows reluctance to form judicial commission according to their demand on Panama Leaks issue. In first phase, both parties decided to take on board all opposition parties in parliament to start a powerful movement against the government. The political parties outside the parliament could also be requested to be part of the movement in second phase.

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<sup>8</sup> <http://dailytimes.com.pk/pakistan/10-Apr-16/two-ex-cjps-refuse-to-investigate-panama-leak-nisar-offers-probe-into-scandal-through-fia>

<sup>9</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1082859/in-search-of-answers/>

<sup>10</sup> <http://dailytimes.com.pk/pakistan/12-Apr-16/no-scope-of-enquiry-into-panama-leaks-tahirul-qadri>

<sup>11</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/12-Apr-2016/ji-pti-to-join-forces-for-pm-s-ouster>

**PPP, PTI agree to give tough time to govt, *The Nation*, April 13<sup>12</sup>**

PPP and PTI, erstwhile bitter rivals, yesterday inched towards forming an anti-government alliance as their top leaders met amid the rulers' struggle to defend themselves in the Panama leaks scandal. The two major opposition parties vowed to give a tough time to Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif as his family is facing the allegation of making billions of rupees through corruption. ***PPP leader Asif Ali Zardari, the party sources, said had given a go-ahead to give a tough time to the government – a hint the PPP-PTI alliance could be on the anvil.***

**It Begins Again, Editorial, *The Nation*, April 13<sup>13</sup>**

PTI's 20th Foundation Day is looming ever closer and closer, and it appears that the party wants it to be celebrated with a twist this year. Preparations are afoot to make this anniversary memorable, not just for its supporters, but the country at large. ***Imran Khan is making plans to hold his next sit-in Raiwind and with the government not reacting to his demands, it seems that he might get his wish after all.*** One big problem however, with Imran Khan's grand scheme is that his claim of representing the wishes of the people is false. Contrary to what he believes, his party is not the biggest opposition of the country. [...] ***Asking for the resignation of the Prime Minister is also unwise,*** considering the last time this demand was made, Imran Khan based the success of his Azadi March on a condition that never made any sense. Before anything is proven with regards to the Panama Leaks, asking for a resignation again is premature.

**Panama Papers: Terms of reference finalised, *The Dawn*, April 17<sup>14</sup>**

A government team, headed by Finance Minister Ishaq Dar, on Saturday (April 16) finalised the terms of reference (ToRs) for the proposed inquiry commission being formed to investigate the Panama Papers leaks. [...] According to the ToRs, sources said, the commission would be empowered to look into allegations not only against Sharif family members, but all other Pakistanis mentioned in the Panama Papers. They said the commission would also have the power to seek assistance from experts in the banking sector, or any firm dealing with international trade and banking.

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<sup>12</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/13-Apr-2016/ppp-pti-agree-to-give-tough-time-to-govt>

<sup>13</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/editorials/13-Apr-2016/it-begins-again>

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1252569/terms-of-reference-finalised-for-panama-inquiry-commission>

**The Panama leaks**, Malik Muhammad Ashraf *Daily Times*, April 18<sup>15</sup>

[...]The Panama leaks, undoubtedly, have created quite a stir around the globe, including Pakistan, where the opposition parties are trying to capitalise on the opportunity to settle a score with government on the information revealed by an anonymous source. ***The point that is being conveniently overlooked is that the authors of the Panama leaks while giving details about the ownership of offshore companies cautioned: "We do not suggest that all this was done unlawfully or by illegal means."*** [...]Of late, an alarming aspect of the Panama leaks, revealed by another famous agency, WikiLeaks, is that it is said to be orchestrated by the US Organised Crime and Corruption Reporting Project, with the purpose to target Russia, particularly President Vladimir Putin.

**Panama inquiry**, Editorial, *The Dawn*, April 18<sup>16</sup>

[...]There is no credibility that can flow from any commission whose very existence and purview are determined solely by government ministers and PML-N advisers who already declared their belief that no wrong whatsoever has been committed by any member of the first family.

**'Billionaire PM' has no assets abroad: ECP**, *The Pashtun Times*, April 22<sup>17</sup>

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has no assets abroad, but continues to receive colossal amounts from his son, Hussain Nawaz, who is settled in the UK, reveal the statements of MNAs' assets released by the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Thursday (April 21).

**Sharif evasions inviting intervention**, Ayaz Amir, *The News*, April 22<sup>18</sup>

***The writing is on the wall for those who can read.*** The army chief has already delivered a sharp warning, stressing the need for "across-the-board" accountability if stability and peace are to come to Pakistan. Today the government can still do something. Tomorrow might be too late, for somebody else then will be doing the deciding. Then politicians, democracy paladins and those who specialise in holding candle-light vigils will denounce the army and beat loudly the gong of democracy violated, forgetting the dithering and the outright lies that will have brought the nation to that pass. ***This is not intervention being contemplated. This is intervention being invited.***

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<sup>15</sup> <http://dailytimes.com.pk/opinion/18-Apr-16/our-politicians-and-panama-leaks>

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1252733/panama-inquiry>

<sup>17</sup> <http://thepashtuntimes.com/billionaire-pm-has-no-assets-abroad-ecp/>

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/print/114420-Sharif-evasions-inviting-intervention>

**Shirani sees western plot behind Panama leaks, *The Dawn*, April 25<sup>19</sup>**

Council of Islamic Ideology Chairman Maulana Mohammad Khan Shirani has said that the US and Europe were behind the Panama leaks through which they wanted to destabilise Pakistan and derail democracy in order to implement their nefarious designs in the country.

**Panama imperatives, Ashraf Jehangir Qazi, *The Dawn*, April 25<sup>20</sup>**

[...]Will the Panama Papers become a watershed for change? The COAS has made a statement linking corruption with terrorism and promising support for rooting out corruption on a non-discriminatory basis. [...]This was followed by reports that several senior military officers had been dismissed on charges of corruption and incompetence which was seen by many as proof of the COAS' determination to implement his declared policy. [...]Civil society and its institutions should normally be able to generate sufficient political pressure to compel appropriate political, judicial and investigative responses without the military having to take an active role beyond its legal remit and responsibility. Is this the case in Pakistan? If not, what is to be done? Is greater judicial activism the answer in such a situation? What about the responsibility of political parties?

## PROVINCIAL POLITICS

**ANP protests killing of its Swat leader, *The Dawn*, April 14<sup>21</sup>**

The workers of Awami National Party held a demonstration here (Peshawar) on Wednesday (April 13) to protest the killing of their local leader in Swat Syed Jamshed Ali Khan and other colleagues killed during the recent months. ***The protesters threatened to stage sit-ins outside Chief Minister's House and Governor's House if targeted killings of ANP workers continued. They said that after losing around 800 workers and leaders, ANP was still a target for terrorists.***

**How to talk about Balochistan?, *The Dawn*, April 17<sup>22</sup>**

"You cannot discuss Balochistan without talking about the political situation there, it will be dishonest," said former ambassador Ashraf Jahangir Qazi at a panel discussion on 'Baloch Literature and Society'. ***Again and again, moderator Mujahid Barelvi insisted that the discussion not be politicised, but the panellists, in turn, emphasised the need to highlight Balochistan's struggle for acceptance.***

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<sup>19</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1254299/shirani-sees-western-plot-behind-panama-leaks>

<sup>20</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1254227/panama-imperatives>

<sup>21</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1251968/anp-protests-killing-of-its-swat-leader>

<sup>22</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1252624/how-to-talk-about-balochistan>

**MQM slams Kamal for allegations, *The Dawn*, April 18<sup>23</sup>**

In a thinly veiled reference to the repeated allegations of former Karachi mayor Mustafa Kamal, the Muttahida Qaumi Movement on Sunday (April 17) condemned those accusing it of being an 'anti-state' organisation and demanded a stern action against those 'doubting patriotism of the Mohajirs'.

**MQM urges army chief for meeting, *The Express Tribune*, April 19<sup>24</sup>**

The Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) has sought a meeting with Army Chief General Raheel Sharif to provide him evidence of the threats their leaders and parliamentarians are receiving to join the new party led by dissident Mustafa Kamal. **"We appeal to army chief to intervene, play his role and end the game being played with us," urged MQM Convener Nadeem Nusrat** during a press conference in Karachi via video link from London on Monday (April 18).

## EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS

**'Operation' time, Asha'ar Rehman, *The Dawn*, April 1<sup>25</sup>**

[...]For long our friends in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa would be frustrated with the Lahore-based for plainly refusing to recognise the dangers bred close to them. They were often angry over the Lahori- or Islamabad-based journalists' insistence on treating militancy as a north-western disease, a media tendency that augmented the narrow official view about terrorism being a KP-specific issue. The news is that we in the Punjab capital have been shaken out of our old belief and in the process we have overcome the north-south divide. It seems that we are finally prepared to concede that all is not well in southern Punjab. [...]The campaign that we call an operation has to include an exercise in enabling the police department that can still offer some deep insights and meaningful leads into militant areas. That it has been unable to efficiently control militants doesn't mean it doesn't know where the problem lies.

**The Rising Tide, Editorial, *The Nation*, April 4<sup>26</sup>**

[...]At the Mansura headquarters of the Jamaat-e-Islami, participants said would jointly organise conventions in Rawalpindi, Karachi, Peshawar, Lahore and Gilgit and later hold a million-march in Islamabad to mount pressure on the government to 'enforce Islamic laws and make Pakistan a corruption-free state'. JI chief Sirajul Haq presided over the meeting while JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman, and heads of other religious seminaries and custodians of different shrines attended this 'Nizam-e-Mustafa Conference.' [...]Any

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<sup>23</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1252745/mqm-slams-kamal-for-allegations>

<sup>24</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1087492/mqm-urges-army-chief-for-meeting/>

<sup>25</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1249170/operation-time>

<sup>26</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/editorials/04-Apr-2016/the-rising-tide>

***challenge to the government needs to be called out, because if the mullahs are right, and they deserve space without being elected, that means the government does not believe in its own legitimacy.***

**Democratic politics under threat**, Editorial, *The Express Tribune*, April 18<sup>27</sup>

Pakistan's politics moves from crisis to crisis. It seemed, in mid-March, that the PML-N-led federal and Punjab governments had overcome the major political challenges and their relations with the military had stabilised. [...] This dream received a setback by a number of quick political and security developments in the final week of March and the first two weeks of April. ***The latest crisis was triggered by the release of the Panama Papers, which revealed the off-shore financial activities and foreign assets of about 200 Pakistanis.*** [...] The army is sitting quietly on the sidelines, watching how the politicians manage the new political crisis. The military's capacity to influence political change will increase if the current conflict escalates to open and widespread confrontation.

**Politics a-stir**, Editorial, *The Express Tribune*, April 26<sup>28</sup>

The weekend of April 23-24, 2016 saw something of a stirring in the political ranks. Rallies in Karachi, Islamabad and Lahore by the PTI, the Jamaat-Islami (JI) and the newly formed Pak Sarzameen Party (PSP) all had a core theme of accountability. Primarily accountability relating to the Panama Papers (which it is worth noting entered the world as a criminal hack, not a leak) — and what if any taint may attach to Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and his extended family. ***The JI and the PTI made no mention of accountability in their own ranks, and the PSP starting from a political Ground Zero maintained that accountability must start from the grass roots — which nobody is about to argue with but hardly constitutes a policy statement.***

## FOREIGN POLICY

**Pak attaches great importance to nuclear security: Fatemi**, *The News*, April 2<sup>29</sup>

[...] Speaking at a dinner hosted by President Barack Obama for leaders attending the Nuclear Security Summit in Washington, Syed Tariq Fatemi, Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs, said that ***"Pakistan has ratified the 2005 Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM)."*** "This was a commitment that Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif made at the 2014 Hague Summit. Our delivering on this commitment demonstrates the importance we attach to strengthening global nuclear security architecture," Fatemi said.

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<sup>27</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1086639/democratic-politics-under-threat/>

<sup>28</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1091656/politics-a-stir/>

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/109822-Pak-attaches-great-importance-to-nuclear-security-Fatemi>

**Media asked to refrain depicting Iran as hostile, *The News*, April 2<sup>30</sup>**

Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan on Saturday (April 2) urged “a section of media” to refrain from depicting Iran as a country hostile to Pakistan while discussing arrest of Indian spy. **“Iran has stood by Pakistan in difficult times. Iran President said Pakistan’s security is Iran’s security,” he said** while addressing a press conference a day after Iranian Ambassador met him.

**Son of Mulla Omar made head of military commission, *The Nation*, April 5<sup>31</sup>**  
***The Taliban appointed the son of its late founder Mulla Mohammad Omar as head of a military commission on Monday (April 4) and named him and his uncle to its powerful decision-making body, a spokesman said.*** Mulla Omar's eldest son Mulla Mohammad Yaqoob and brother Mulla Abdul Manan were both called to the Rahbari Shura or leadership council, Taliban spokesman Qari Yousaf Ahmadi said.

**Pak-China partnership to ensure regional peace: Aziz, *The Dawn*, April 6<sup>32</sup>**

The Prime Minister’s Adviser on Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz said on Tuesday (April 5) that the all-weather strategic partnership between Pakistan and China was an anchor for regional peace and stability.

**Pakistan has remained a symbol of global peace: Janjua, *Daily Times*, April 6<sup>33</sup>**  
***National Security Adviser Lt General (r) Nasir Khan Janjua said on Tuesday (April 5) that Pakistan has always remained a symbol of global peace and stability.*** Addressing the opening session of a day-long international conference titled “Promoting Global Peace: Drivers for Transnational Cooperation”, he said people of Pakistan and its armed forces rendered unmatched sacrifices in the war against terrorism and for the cause of peace.

**At UN, Pakistan assails ‘nuclear doublespeak’, *The Express Tribune*, April 7<sup>34</sup>**

[...]Speaking in a session of the UN Disarmament Commission, a subsidiary of the General Assembly, Ambassador Maleeha Lodhi said that a handful of nuclear weapon states advocate abstinence for others but are unwilling to give up their large inventories of nuclear weapons or their modernisation.

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<sup>30</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/109836-Nisar-asks-media-to-refrain-from-depicting-Iran-as-hostile-country>

<sup>31</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/05-Apr-2016/son-of-mulla-omar-made-head-of-taliban-military-commission>

<sup>32</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1250257/pak-china-partnership-to-ensure-regional-peace-aziz>

<sup>33</sup> <http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/national/06-Apr-2016/pakistan-has-remained-a-symbol-of-global-peace-janjua>

<sup>34</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1080251/disarmament-debate-at-un-pakistan-assails-nuclear-doublespeak/>

[...]“Instead of fulfilling their legal disarmament obligations, these States have exclusively pursued non-proliferation with messianic zeal,” she said. **“This gap between legality and reality has eroded faith in these processes.” With obviously US-India nuclear pacts in mind, Ambassador Lodhi said that some nuclear weapon states have also concluded discriminatory nuclear cooperation agreements and helped grant waivers in an unfortunate departure from long held non-proliferation principles.**

**Iran assured not to allow its soil against Pakistan**, *The News*, April 7<sup>35</sup>

Iran has assured it would not allow its soil to be used against Pakistan, Foreign Office said Thursday (April 7).

**US, Afghanistan urge Taliban’s return to peace process**, *The Nation*, April 10<sup>36</sup>

The United States and Afghanistan have urged the Taliban to return to peace talks with the government in Kabul. US Secretary (April 9) of State John Kerry, who visited Kabul on Saturday (April 9) for talks with Afghan leaders, said the Taliban’s participation in the peace process could help end the violence and suffering that the Afghan people have endured during years of war.

**Gwadar to be operational by 2017: China**, *The Nation*, April 13<sup>37</sup>

Multi-million dollar Gwadar Port being developed by China is set to be at ‘full operation’ by the end of the year, a Chinese official said on Tuesday (April 12), part of Beijing’s ambitious economic plans in the region. “The port cranes are almost ready, and we are thinking that the port will be (at) full operation by the end of this year,” said Zhang Baozhong, chairman and CEO of China Overseas Ports Holding Company Ltd. Gwadar Port will see roughly one million tonnes of cargo going through it by 2017, said Zhang Baozhong. “We’re expecting at least one million tons of material will go in and out” next year, Zhang said, speaking at a day-long conference in Gwadar city.

**Shun violence or pay price: Taliban told**, *The Express Tribune*, April 18<sup>38</sup>

**In a latest push to resurrect the fledgling Afghan peace process, Pakistan has warned the Taliban to call off their ‘spring offensive’ or face the consequences, officials familiar with the development said on Sunday (April 17).** Last week the Taliban announced the start of large-scale attacks against the government strongholds. Named after the late Taliban spiritual leader Mullah Omar,

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<sup>35</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/110979-Islamabad-says-Iran-assured-not-to-allow-its-soil-against-Pakistan>

<sup>36</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/10-Apr-2016/us-afghanistan-urge-taliban-s-return-to-peace-process>

<sup>37</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/13-Apr-2016/gwadar-to-be-operational-by-2017-china>

<sup>38</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1086863/pakistan-to-taliban-shun-violence-or-pay-a-heavy-price/>

'Operation Omari' is seen as a major setback to efforts seeking revival of the Afghan reconciliation process.

**Taliban attack rattles Kabul, *The Dawn*, April 20<sup>39</sup>**

At least 30 people were killed and hundreds wounded when a Taliban truck bomb tore through central Kabul and a fierce firefight broke out Tuesday (April 19), a week after the insurgents launched their annual spring offensive. [...] **Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed their fighters had managed to enter the offices of the National Directorate of Security (NDS), the main spy agency.**

**Ghani vows revenge as death toll doubles, *The Nation*, April 21<sup>40</sup>**

Afghan President Ashraf Ghani vowed on Wednesday (April 20) to avenge "every drop of blood" from this week's suicide attack in Kabul, as officials doubled the death toll to 64. [...] Most of the casualties, including 347 wounded, were civilians, Interior Ministry spokesman Sediq Sediqqi said. But around 30 members of the National Directorate of Security (NDS) died in the attack, most shot by gunmen who rushed into the complex after a vehicle packed with explosives blew up at the entrance to the compound, according to lawmakers.

**'US failed to remove Pak-Afghan tensions', *The Dawn*, April 25<sup>41</sup>**

The biggest failure of the United States in Afghanistan is its inability to persuade Afghanistan and Pakistan to cooperate, says the former US ambassador to Kabul, Zalmay Khalilzad. **In an interview to Voice of America, broadcast this weekend, Mr Khalilzad described the Pak-Afghan tension as "the mother of all problems" in the Pak-Afghan region. "The two countries need each other and they should cooperate," said the Afghanistan-born scholar.** [...] Mr Khalilzad said the main reason why the United States could not achieve more in Afghanistan was because Pakistan created sanctuaries for the Taliban. "I was the first administration official at that level to say a 'sanctuary' was being developed," said the former US diplomat, regretting that nobody believed him then but "now, if you say that no one would challenge that."

**Taliban delegation arrives in Islamabad, *The Express Tribune*, April 25<sup>42</sup>**

A three-member delegation of the Afghan Taliban has arrived in Islamabad to discuss possibility of negotiations with the Afghan government, sources privy to the development said on Monday (April 25). [...] The delegation includes

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<sup>39</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1253071/taliban-claimed-suicide-bombing-gunfire-rattle-central-kabul-near-nds-office>

<sup>40</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/21-Apr-2016/ghani-vows-revenge-as-death-toll-doubles>

<sup>41</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1254306/us-failed-to-remove-pak-afghan-tensions>

<sup>42</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1091327/taliban-delegation-arrives-in-islamabad-to-discuss-peace-talks/>

Maulvi Shahabuddin Dilawar, a former diplomat in Islamabad and Jan Muhammad Madni, who has served as Afghan ambassador to UAE during the Taliban.

**No help from Pakistan in peace efforts: Ghani**, *The Express Tribune*, April 25<sup>43</sup>  
In a major shift in his policy, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani on Monday (April 25) said ***Kabul will no longer seek Pakistan's role in the ongoing peace talks with Taliban.*** "Pakistan had promised to aid peace talks but we no longer expect Islamabad to bring Afghan Taliban to the negotiating table," Ghani said while addressing a joint session of the Afghan parliament. [...] ***Describing the Taliban as 'ignorant', the Afghan president said there is no difference between good terrorists and bad terrorists and that Pakistan should act as a responsible government.*** Ghani also labelled the Islamic State, Haqqani network and certain segments of the Taliban as 'enemies' of Afghanistan.

**China pivotal to Pakistan's foreign policy: Maleeha**, *The News*, April 27<sup>44</sup>  
Pakistan's relationships with China are strategic, historic, trouble free and pivotal to the country's foreign policy, Ambassador Maleeha Lodhi said during a talk at Harvard University here (Cambridge).

**US denies visa to Afghan VP Dostum**, *The Nation*, April 27<sup>45</sup>  
Afghanistan's Vice President Abdul Rashid Dostum has been denied a US visa for his alleged war crimes, including the killing of hundreds of Taliban prisoners by his militia, according to an American media report. [...] Though he was eager to visit Washington and discuss how best to overcome the Taliban, US officials found themselves in the unusual position of threatening to deny him a visa this month, *The New York Times* reported. The message was passed to the Afghan government days before Dostum was to leave for a trip to New York and Washington, the newspaper quoted multiple Afghan and US officials as saying. ***To avoid a "humiliating public spectacle", the Afghan government quietly cancelled Dostum's visit, the report said.***

**Pakistan not solely responsible for Afghan talks: FO**, *The Nation*, April 27<sup>46</sup>  
Pakistan yesterday hit back at Afghan President Ashraf Ghani and made it clear Islamabad was not sheltering the Taliban or other terrorists. Foreign Office spokesman Nafees Zakaria said Pakistan did not make a distinction between

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<sup>43</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1091321/will-no-longer-seek-pakistans-help-in-peace-talks-says-afghan-president/>

<sup>44</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/115743-China-Pakistans-foreign-policy-Maleeha-US-Afghanistan-India>

<sup>45</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/27-Apr-2016/us-denies-visa-to-afghan-vp-dostum>

<sup>46</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/27-Apr-2016/pakistan-not-solely-responsible-for-afghan-talks-fo>

good or bad terrorists as alleged by President Ghani. He said Pakistan was making serious efforts for peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan. Zakaria said Pakistan hosted the first round of direct talks between Afghan government and Taliban. He, however, added Pakistan alone was not responsible for bringing the Taliban back to the table.

**Afghan Taliban confirms delegation visiting Pakistan, *The News*, April 27<sup>47</sup>**

[...]A spokesman for Afghan Taliban Muhammad Naeem told VOA on Wednesday (April 27) the Taliban delegation has traveled from its Political Office in Qatar to hold the discussions in the light of close relations, long border and commercial transactions between the two neighboring countries. [...] ***Naeem said Taliban negotiators will particularly discuss with Pakistani authorities the release of Mullah Bradar and some other prisoners.***

## EDITORIALS AND OPINION

**Pak-Iran concerns, Editorial, *The Dawn*, April 3<sup>48</sup>**

THE allegation that Indian spy Kul Bhushan Jadhav was based out of the Iranian port city of Chabahar has put a cloud over the Islamabad-Tehran relationship. In fact, the affair has overshadowed Iranian President Hassan Rouhani's visit to Pakistan last month. However, it is welcome that both governments appear to be handling the affair maturely and without acrimony. [...]The details that have emerged in the aftermath of the Jadhav affair are very serious and Iranian authorities need to follow up on the leads given by their Pakistani counterparts to ensure their soil is not being used by elements to destabilise this country. Whether it is Tehran's concerns of militant groups such as Jundullah or Jaishul Adl allegedly finding refuge in Balochistan, or Islamabad's reservations that RAW may be using Iranian territory for anti-Pakistan operations, both sides must realise that until they satisfy each other's security concerns, regional connectivity and improved economic ties will remain a pipe dream.

**Unruly Demands, Editorial, *The Nation*, April 3<sup>49</sup>**

***China has proven for the umpteenth time what it means to be a strong ally as it blocked India's call to ban Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Masood Azhar at the United Nations (UN).*** They proceeded to move the Resolution 1267 Sanctions Committee to include the name of Masood Azhar on the sanctions list as Jaish was already banned since 2001. [...]China defended its stand to block India's

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<sup>47</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/115755-Afghan-Taliban-confirms-delegation-visiting-Pakistan>

<sup>48</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1249654/pak-iran-concerns>

<sup>49</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/editorials/03-Apr-2016/unruly-demands>

move in the UN that called for action against Pakistan on the release of the Mumbai attack mastermind Zakiur Rehman Lakhvi early last year as well, claiming that it values objectivity and facts in the face of such accusations.

## **MILITARY AFFAIRS**

### **No indigenous armed movement in Balochistan: FC, *The Dawn*, April 4<sup>50</sup>**

Inspector General Frontier Corps (FC), Major General Sher Afgan said on Saturday (April 3) that there is no indigenous armed movement in Balochistan. ***“The arrest of the Indian spy has proven Indian state sponsored terrorism in Pakistan,” said Afgan while speaking in detail regarding Indian and Afghan intelligence’s involvement in acts of terrorism in Balochistan.***

### **Nation’s faith in army real asset: Gen Raheel, *The Nation*, April 5<sup>51</sup>**

Chief of Army Staff General Raheel Sharif has said the unflinching faith of the entire nation is the real asset of the Pakistan Army and it will always live up to their expectations. He stated this during his visit to training area near Pabbi and witnessed concluding ceremony of Pakistan Army Team Spirit competition near Mangla on Monday (April 4).

### **Pakistan spent \$735m on import of arms last year, *Daily Times*, April 6<sup>52</sup>**

Despite spending \$735 million on import of arms last year, Pakistan did not make it to a list of 15 countries with the highest military expenditure in 2015, revealed a report published by a Swedish think-tank on Tuesday (April 5).

### **Military determined to block hostile acts, *The News*, April 7<sup>53</sup>**

The military leadership has resolved to take all measures to block hostile acts against Pakistan, which can undermine the security and progress of the country, Inter Services Public Relations said. According to ISPR statement issued here (Rawalpindi) on Thursday (April 7), the military leadership showed its resolve at a Corps Commanders Conference, held today at the General Headquarters.

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<sup>50</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1249551/no-indigenous-armed-movement-in-balochistan-ig-fc-balochistan>

<sup>51</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/05-Apr-2016/nation-s-faith-in-army-real-asset-gen-raheel>

<sup>52</sup> <http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/national/06-Apr-2016/pakistan-spent-735m-on-import-of-arms-last-year-think-tank>

<sup>53</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/110981-Military-leadership-determined-to-block-hostile-acts-against-Pakistan>

**Attack on Hamid Mir: Inquirey Report**, *The Express Tribune*, April 10<sup>54</sup>

An inquiry commission, led by Chief Justice of Pakistan Anwar Zaheer Jamali, has ruled out the involvement of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) in the attack on veteran journalist Hamid Mir two years ago. In a 41-page report, the three-judge commission, which also includes justices Ejaz Afzal Khan and Iqbal Hameedur Rehman, observed that allegations the country's premier intelligence agency possible involvement in the attack were based on 'suspicions, assumptions or apprehensions'.

**Shun confrontation, focus on cooperation: COAS**, *The Nation*, April 13<sup>55</sup>

Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Raheel Sharif, stressing the need for political stability in the country, yesterday said it was important for all to shun confrontation and focus on cooperation so that mega projects could be completed in prescribed times.

**Review of expenses on Zarb-e-Azb**, *Daily times*, April 17<sup>56</sup>

A meeting between Federal Minister for Finance and Economic Affairs Senator Ishaq Dar and officials of the Pakistan Army on Sunday (April 17) discussed and reviewed the expenses on the Zarb-e-Azb military operation in different parts of the tribal areas. During the meeting, proposals of the Pakistan Army for the budget 2016-17 were also discussed, according to a press release.

**The Bahria Town**, Fahim Zamam and Nazia Saeed Ali, *The Dawn*, April 18<sup>57</sup>

[...]The name of that real estate: Bahria Town Karachi (BTK), a sprawling, upmarket gated community being constructed off the Super Highway in the outer reaches of Pakistan's largest city. [...] ***The multibillion-rupee enterprise known as Bahria Town Karachi depends for its success on the brazen manipulation of the law by the political elite and land officials who, hand-in-glove with influential figures in the establishment, are using the state's coercive powers to deprive rightful owners of their land.***

**Shawal operation successful: COAS**, *The Express Tribune*, April 18<sup>58</sup>

The Pakistan Army has announced the completion of last phase of full-scale military offensive in North Waziristan Agency (NWA) after terrorists were driven out of strategic Shawal Valley. Army Chief General Raheel Sharif made

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<sup>54</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1081983/attack-on-hamid-mir-charges-against-isi-were-based-on-assumptions-says-inquiry/>

<sup>55</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/13-Apr-2016/shun-confrontation-focus-on-cooperation-coas>

<sup>56</sup> <http://dailytimes.com.pk/pakistan/17-Apr-16/govt-army-review-expenses-on-zarb-e-azb-military-action>

<sup>57</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1252809/bahria-town-karachi-greed-unlimited>

<sup>58</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1087194/army-chief-announces-successful-completion-of-shawal-operation/>

the announcement while visiting the forward positions in NWA on Monday (April 17).

**Army Chief on 'across the board' accountability, *Daily Times*, April 19<sup>59</sup>**

Chief of Army Staff General Raheel Sharif on Tuesday (April 19) said that “across the board accountability is necessary for solidarity, integrity and prosperity of Pakistan,” the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said in a statement issued here (Rawalpindi). “War against terrorism and extremism being fought with the backing of entire nation cannot bring enduring peace and stability unless the menace of corruption is uprooted,” he said while addressing troops at the Signal Regimental Centre in Kohat.

**Six high ranking Army officers sacked, *The News*, April 21<sup>60</sup>**

The Pakistan Army has sacked six senior officers over corruption charges, in what is being hailed as a bold move by the military days after Army Chief General Raheel Sharif called for uprooting corruption and across-the-board accountability. **According to sources in the military, the senior officers were forcefully retired after a long-running internal inquiry being conducted within the Army for over a year.** The sacked officers include one lieutenant-general, one major-general, three brigadiers and one colonel. The officers served in the Frontier Corps (FC) in Balochistan. The top names in the list include former Inspector-General Frontier Corps (IGFC) Balochistan Lieutenant-General Obaidullah Khattak, and Major-General Ijaz Shahid. Other senior names in the list of sacked officers include Brigadier Asad Shahzada, Brigadier Amir, Brigadier Saifullah and Colonel Haider.

**30 hideouts, bunkers destroyed near Darra, *The Dawn*, April 25<sup>61</sup>**

Security personnel destroyed more than 30 bunkers and caves during a search operation in an area between Darra Adamkhel and Orakzai Agency late on Saturday night (April 23). According to officials of the tribal administration, the security forces carried out the day-long operation after getting a tip that militants had turned the region, known as Tora Cheena, into a sanctuary from where they carried out attacks on security forces. **And in Mohmand Agency, the security forces gunned down five suspected militants after fighting off an attack on a checkpost on Saturday (April 23).**

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<sup>59</sup> <http://dailytimes.com.pk/pakistan/19-Apr-16/across-the-board-accountability-necessary-for-pakistans-integrity>

<sup>60</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/114324-Six-high-rank-Army-officers-sacked-over-corruption-charges>

<sup>61</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1254312/30-hideouts-bunkers-destroyed-near-darra>

## EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS

**The 'clean-Karachi operation'**, Editorial, *Daily Times*, April 4<sup>62</sup>

In two separate cases, the anti-terrorism courts (ATCs) in Karachi have issued non-bailable arrest warrants for a number of politicians belonging to the Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM), the newly formed Pak Sarzameen Party (PSP), and Pakistan People's Party (PPP). [...] Since the launch of the operation in Karachi almost one and a half years ago, a series of incidents have occurred that have put the MQM squarely in the spotlight. **A gradual tightening of the noose around the MQM has been in progress.** The MQM is a soundly entrenched urban political party and its chief Altaf Hussain enjoys a lot of influence over the public in Karachi. Hence the orchestration of a campaign against the MQM is a delicate matter, and if not handled well, could prove problematic.

**Army chief's view**, Editorial, *The Dawn*, April 21<sup>63</sup>

Inevitable as it may have been, it is still a bad idea. With political controversy still swirling around the revelations in the Panama Papers, army chief Gen Raheel Sharif has contributed his — and, most likely, his institution's — view on the issue of accountability. While the army chief and his PR managers would never be so gauche as to speak officially and plainly about the Panama Papers themselves, there is little doubt what Gen Sharif had in mind when he was quoted as saying that “across-the-board accountability is necessary for the solidarity, integrity and prosperity of Pakistan”.

## ECONOMIC ISSUES

**IMF wants Pakistan to curtail development spending**, *The Dawn*, April 4<sup>64</sup>

**The International Monetary Fund expects Pakistan to curtail its overall development budget by Rs360 billion (almost 24pc) of allocations to limit the fiscal deficit.** [...] The IMF wants the federal government to keep the PSDP expenditure at Rs620bn, down 12pc, of the Rs700bn authorised by parliament. On the other hand, the cumulative annual development plans of the four provinces would be reduced to Rs535bn, down about 35pc from Rs813bn announced by the provincial assemblies. Under the IMF programme, the government has to keep the fiscal deficit at 4.3pc of GDP, including 0.3pc

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<sup>62</sup> <http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/editorial/04-Apr-2016/the-clean-karachi-operation>

<sup>63</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1253334/army-chiefs-view>

<sup>64</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1249886/imf-wants-pakistan-to-curtail-development-spending-by-rs360bn>

expenses for military operations against terrorists in the tribal region and resettlement of temporarily displaced persons.

**IMF chief praises Pakistan's 'outstanding performance'**, *The Nation*, April 19<sup>65</sup>  
International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Christine Lagarde has lauded Pakistan's "outstanding performance" in improving its economic and financial sectors. In a meeting with the Pakistani delegation to the spring IMF-World Bank meetings, which is headed by Finance Secretary Waqar Masood Khan, the **IMF chief congratulated Pakistan on continuing with reform process which required politically tough decisions, according to a press release of the Pakistan embassy here (Washington)**. [...]The IMF chief particularly commended the "strong leadership of Finance Minister Senator Ishaq Dar in achieving this outstanding performance".

**Country's total debt swells to Rs18,694 billion**, *The Nation*, April 21<sup>66</sup>  
The Senate was informed on Wednesday (April 20) that the present government had repaid foreign debt of \$10,730.2 million including repayment of \$4,415 million to IMF during June 2013 to January 2016. **Federal Minister for Finance Ishaq Dar in a written reply to a question said that total foreign and domestic debt stock was Rs. 18,694.2 billion by end of January, 2016**. He said this includes foreign debt Rs5,573.6 billion (\$53,122.0 million) and domestic debt 13,120.6 billion.

**Afghanistan losing trade interest with Pakistan**, *The Pashtun Times*, April 21<sup>67</sup>  
**Afghan authorities appear to have lost interest in pushing forward any trade related agreements with Pakistan with the alternative route via Iran close to being finalised**. Last week, on April 11, Iran, Afghanistan and India finished negotiating the details of the trilateral transport and transit pact, meant to provide legal framework to operate trade corridors via Iran's Chabahar port. This development could possibly downgrade Pakistan's importance from being the primary facilitator of India-Afghanistan trade to a mere back-up.

## CHINA-PAKISTAN ECONOMIC CORRIDOR

**Is the western route of CPEC dead?**, Hurmat Ali Shah, *The Nation*, April 12<sup>68</sup>  
Looking at the surface it may seem that people of the smaller provinces have forgotten about their due right in CPEC, but winds may disappear for sometime only to reappear with more power. **The state of federation in Pakistan is not a balanced one, and such blatant disregard for rights and**

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<sup>65</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/19-Apr-2016/imf-chief-praises-pakistan-s-outstanding-performance>

<sup>66</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/21-Apr-2016/country-s-total-debt-swells-to-rs18-694-billion>

<sup>67</sup> <http://thepashtuntimes.com/afghanistan-losing-interest-in-trade-links-with-pakistan/>

<sup>68</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/blogs/12-Apr-2016/is-the-western-route-of-cpec-dead>

**development of small provinces will only add to inter-provincial distrust and further weaken the federation.** If western route of CPEC is part of history, its repercussions are part of future. And a future built on grievances and deprivations doesn't bode well for the country.

**The CPEC trick**, Muhammad Amir Rana, *The Dawn*, April 24<sup>69</sup>

[...] **CPEC is not just a flagship project for the Chinese to incentivise other regions for similar projects, it's also a test case for them to intervene in and acclimatise to the politico-economic and administrative structures, and business cultures of partnering nations.** [...] Experts believe that China's involvement in Afghanistan's peace process resulted not just due to its Istanbul Process commitments, but that internal security issues in Xinjiang province also compelled China to seek cooperation from Afghanistan against the East Turkestan Islamic Movement militants (who are based in Afghanistan). CPEC also requires a stable Afghanistan in order to be realised — particularly in northern parts of the country, where insurgency has been strengthening in recent years. While this is a challenge, experts believe that China can do the trick.

## EDITORIALS AND OPINION

**Relying on the IMF**, *The Express Tribune*, April 10<sup>70</sup>

After \$6.6 billion and a set of structural reforms that otherwise were very likely not to be implemented if it wasn't for the accountability that comes with a bailout package, Finance Minister Ishaq Dar has declared that the country no longer needs the IMF's financial support. [...] **The IMF bailouts help the country, which in turn provides packages to loss-making public-sector companies. This cycle will not end unless the end-part of the chain is fixed.** The IMF director has already stated that all political parties need to form a consensus on the national economic agenda. Consistently agitating against literally every move the government makes to enhance economic growth is not the answer.

## SECURITY SITUATION

### TERRORISM

**PM, COAS agree to continue IBOs**, *The Nation*, April 5<sup>71</sup>

Political and military leadership decided to continue intelligence based operations (IBOs) across the country to smash the militants' hideouts and hunt down militants at the run. A high-level security meeting was held yesterday

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<sup>69</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1253998/the-cpec-trick>

<sup>70</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1082212/relying-on-the-imf/>

<sup>71</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/05-Apr-2016/pm-coas-agree-to-continue-ibos>

under the chair of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif to review the overall security situation in the country in the wake of Lahore terror attack and taking up the arrest of the RAW spy from Balochistan and other related issues at appropriate forums.

**Hafiz Saeed heads 'Sharia courts', *Daily Times*, April 10<sup>72</sup>**

***Jamatud Dawa (JuD) chief Hafiz Muhammad Saeed is head of 'Sharia courts, the supra-constitutional 'judicial' system established by his 'missionary' group across Pakistan, a private TV channel reported.*** Quoting Mufti Muhammad Idrees, a 'judge' at the Masjid Al-Qadsiya, the channel reported that seven 'Sharia courts' have been functional for long, one each in Lahore, Gujranwala, Bahawalpur, Multan, Quetta, Karachi and even in Islamabad. [...] "Our arbitration councils accept only those cases involving family disputes in which both parties agree on arbitration by councils, and 95 per cent of such cases are decided according to Quran and Sunnah," said Hafiz Saeed in his clarification.

**Clerics adopt 10-point code of conduct, *The Dawn*, April 11<sup>73</sup>**

A convention of clerics held under the auspices of Pakistan Ulema Council here (Lahore) on Sunday (April 10) adopted a 10-point code of conduct for administration, faculty and students of mosques and seminaries with the council and for Wafaqul Masajid Pakistan. ***The code binds the seminary administration to keep complete bio-data of their students, teaching staff and other employees and refuse admission to foreign students except Afghans, who too would have to produce refugee cards issued to them by Pakistan government.*** [...] The mosques associated with Wafaqul Masajid will discourage unfair use of loudspeakers and ensure implementation of the law in this regard. During Friday sermons, Dars-i-Quran and other congregations, clerics will not pass abusive or vicious remarks against other sects.

**Man summoned by JuD 'sharia court' moves LHC, *The Dawn*, April 20<sup>74</sup>**

***A property developer summoned by 'Shariat Court' of Jamaatud Dawa (JuD) on a complaint regarding a monetary dispute has moved the Lahore High Court, seeking action against Qazi (judge) of the organisation's 'court' for running a parallel judicial system.*** Khalid Saeed of Samanabad has made interior secretary, federal law minister, Punjab chief secretary, Punjab IG, Lahore CCPO and Qazi Hafiz Idrees of JuD parties in the petition filed through Advocate Maqbool Hussain Sheikh.

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<sup>72</sup> <http://dailytimes.com.pk/pakistan/10-Apr-16/hafiz-saeed-heads-sharia-courts-with-all-powers-to-appoint-judges-dismiss-decisions>

<sup>73</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1251376/clerics-adopt-10-point-code-of-conduct>

<sup>74</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1253195/man-summoned-by-jud-sharia-court-moves-lhc>

## KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA AND FATA

### **Security forces kill 15 terrorists in Kurram, *The News*, April 7<sup>75</sup>**

Pakistani security forces thwarted a militant attack on a check-post in Lower Kurram Agency and killed at least 15 terrorists in retaliatory fire early on Thursday (April 7). According to details, a group of militants launched attack on a check-post in Mingorsar area, where armed forces retaliated in a befitting manner and shoot dead 15 of them. More than 50 assailants were injured and managed to flee.

### **ANP leader killed in Swat, *The Dawn*, April 11<sup>76</sup>**

#### ***Awami National Party (ANP) local leader Syed Jamshaid Ali was shot dead by unidentified attackers in Manglore area of Swat on Sunday (April 10).***

[...]Jamshaid Ali was an active peace activist and had served as nazim of the area thrice. He was also a member ANP's district and provincial councils. Reacting to the incident, ANP district president Sher Shah Khan said that Jamshaid Ali was an active peace volunteer and after a full-fledged military operation, occurrence of such an incident raised questions on the efficacy of the operation in the area.

### **DSP Shangla gunned down in Swat, *The Nation*, April 13<sup>77</sup>**

Gunmen killed Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Shangla in Mingora city's Shahdara area on Tuesday (April 12). According to details, DSP Muhammad Ilyas, a serving police officer at Shangla district, who was in Swat in connection with some official work, was on his way back to Shangla near Sabzi Mandi when armed men opened indiscriminate fire on his vehicle. The DSP sustained bullet injuries and died on the spot. A constable was also injured in the attack.

### **9 terrorists killed in airstrike near Afghan border, *The Nation*, April 13<sup>78</sup>**

Following an aerial strike, nine terrorists were killed and their hideouts were destroyed in remote area of Barman in North Waziristan Agency, close to Pak-Afghan border. The aerial strike was carried out on night between Monday (April 11) and Tuesday (April 12), news update issued by Inter-Services Public Relations here stated.

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<sup>75</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/110967-Security-forces-foil-attack-kill-12-terrorists-in-Kurram>

<sup>76</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1251377/anp-leader-killed-in-swat>

<sup>77</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/13-Apr-2016/dsp-shangla-gunned-down-in-swat>

<sup>78</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/13-Apr-2016/9-terrorists-killed-in-airstrike-near-afghan-border>

**Two killed in attack on pro-govt lashkar chief, *The Dawn*, April 18<sup>79</sup>**

An activist of a pro-government armed group and a would-be suicide attacker were killed in the Bazaar Zakhakhel area of Khyber tribal region late on Saturday night (April 16). A spokesman for the group, Hakim Khan, told reporters that the target of the suicide attack was one of their leaders, Bilal Afridi.

**Suicide blast at Mardan Excise & Taxation Dept, *The Nation*, April 19<sup>80</sup>**

At least 18 people got injured in a suicide attack at Excise and Taxation Department building at Mardan, Waqt News reported. According to reports gunshots were also heard after the blast within the building. While talking to media the DPO of Mardan said almost 8-10 kilograms of explosives was used in the attack.

**Peshawar police apprehends three terrorists, *Daily Times*, April 23<sup>81</sup>**

The police have arrested three terrorists of banned terror outfit during search operations from Badda Bher and Atta Muhammad Garhi areas, a suburb locality of district Peshawar on Friday (April 22), police official said. The police also seized arms and explosives from the custody of the arrested terrorists who were identified as Wisal, Asmatullah and Wasid Gul.

## **BALUCHISTAN**

**Two killed in train bomb attack, *The Dawn*, April 6<sup>82</sup>**

Two passengers of Quetta-bound Jaffar Express were killed and five others injured when a bomb hit at a railway track near Mithri area of Sibi district on Tuesday (April 5). Police said the bomb had been planted at the track linking Quetta with the rest of the country, near Mithri, about 30 kilometres from Sibi town. The bomb exploded when the train was passing through the area.

**34 suspected militants killed in Kalat, *The Dawn*, April 10<sup>83</sup>**

Security forces on Saturday (April 9) claimed to have killed 34 suspected militants, including a key commander in Balochistan's Kalat district. One security official was killed while two others sustained injuries during the exchange of fire. **"A key militant commander, Abdul Nabi Bangulzai, was also among the dead," said Home Minister Sarfaraz Bugti in a press conference.** The

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<sup>79</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1252792/two-killed-in-attack-on-pro-govt-lashkar-chief>

<sup>80</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/19-Apr-2016/suicide-blast-at-mardan-excise-taxation-dept-injures-at-least-15>

<sup>81</sup> <http://dailytimes.com.pk/khyber-pakhtunkhwa/23-Apr-16/peshawar-police-apprehends-three-terrorists>

<sup>82</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1250252/two-killed-in-train-bomb-attack>

<sup>83</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1251055/34-suspected-militants-killed-in-balochistans-kalat-district>

operation was launched by personnel of security forces and intelligence agencies, against elements involved in target killings and bombings in the Johan area of Kalat, added Bugti. "Abdul Nabi was involved in the assassination of Balochistan High Court Justice Nawaz Marri in 2000," stated the home minister.

**Three killed, kidnapped boy recovered, *The Dawn*, April 11<sup>84</sup>**

Three suspected members of a kidnapers' gang were killed in an encounter with police in the eastern bypass area of the provincial capital (Quetta) on Sunday (April 10). Speaking at a press conference here, the Quetta Deputy Inspector General of Police, Syed Imtiaz Shah, said police had recovered a 12-year-old boy, who had been kidnapped two weeks ago from the Satellite Town area, and arrested two kidnapers.

**Surge in 'civilian casualties' worries HRCP, *The Dawn*, April 13<sup>85</sup>**

Concerned over reports of an increase in civilian casualties from the Johan area of Kalat and the Isplingi area of Mastung allegedly as a result of an operation by security forces, chairperson of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) Zohra Yusuf said on Tuesday the authorities needed to ensure excessive force was not being used, as it would further alienate the people of Balochistan.

**RAW funded weapons seized in Balochistan, *Daily Times*, April 15<sup>86</sup>**

***Frontier Corps (FC) seized a huge cache of weapons and explosives from Noshki area, which were funded by Indian spy agency, Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) to militant organisations in Balochistan.*** This was disclosed by Home Minister, Mir Sarfaraz Bugti along with Balochistan government spokesman Anwarul Haque Kakar and Balochistan's FC Deputy Inspector General Brig Tahir was addressing a news conference on Friday (April 15).

**144 Baloch insurgents renounce violence, *The Express Tribune*, April 19<sup>87</sup>**

At least 144 insurgents affiliated with banned Baloch armed groups, including four high-ranking commanders and 12 of their deputies, have laid down their arms and announced their reintegration into mainstream society. Addressing a news conference held at the Khuzdar Press Club on Monday (April 17), the former militant commanders said they had been enticed to take part in a conflict which used 'the pretext of independence' but was actually being fought

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<sup>84</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1251385/three-killed-kidnapped-boy-recovered>

<sup>85</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1251806/surge-in-civilian-casualties-in-balochistan-worries-hrcp>

<sup>86</sup> <http://dailytimes.com.pk/balochistan/15-Apr-16/raw-funded-weapons-seized-in-balochistan>

<sup>87</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1087476/farewell-to-arms-144-baloch-insurgents-renounce-violence/>

for 'some foreign agenda'. They added that they had decided to lay down their arms and would henceforth work for the prosperity and development of Pakistan.

**Three killed in Dera Bugti landmine explosion, *The News*, April 27<sup>88</sup>**

At least three people were killed in a landmine explosion in tehsil Sui of Dera Bugti early on Wednesday (April 27). Levies sources said, the incident took place in Hamzani village. Three people were traveling on tractor when it hit the roadside bomb. In the explosion, all the three died on the spot.

**PUNJAB**

**Six more mutilated bodies found from Chashma barrage, *The News*, April 2<sup>89</sup>**

Police recovered six more mutilated bodies from Chashma barrage on Saturday (April 2), raising the toll to 34 in 40 days. Panic has gripped the area following strange turn of events. The bodies also included two women. Most of the deceased were severely tortured and their bodies found packed in gunny bags. Local police says that each time they find a body they send a report to the Punjab government, with the description and picture. Police said only one of the bodies found has been identified so far.

**Forensic report hints at Khorasani group's involvement, *The Dawn*, April 6<sup>90</sup>**

The first analysis report of the Punjab Forensic Science Agency (PFSA) about the identity of the suspected suicide bomber indicates that Khorasani group, an offshoot of the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), was behind the Gulshan-i-Iqbal Park attack. Khorasani group of the TTP (Jamatul Ahrar) was said to be most notorious since it had leanings towards the Islamic State (IS) militant group.

**OPERATION ZARB-E-AHAN**

**Pakistan launches operation in South Punjab, *The Express Tribune*, April 6<sup>91</sup>**

Pakistan Army launched on Wednesday (April 6) the much-awaited targeted operation against militant outfits in Southern Punjab, days after the deadliest attack in Lahore's Gulshan-e-Iqbal park. [...] ***The operation is being carried out by civil and military law enforcement agencies, including Rangers, police and Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) against 'hardened criminal and ferraris', it has been learnt.***

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<sup>88</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/115734-Three-killed-in-Dera-Bugti-landmine-explosion>

<sup>89</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/109829-Six-more-mutilated-bodies-found-from-Chashma-barrage>

<sup>90</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1250289>

<sup>91</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1079770/pakistan-launches-much-awaited-operation-in-south-punjab/>

**Punjab operation**, Editorial, *The Dawn*, April 10<sup>92</sup>

***It has all the hallmarks of a compromise.*** The operation against criminal elements hiding in a stretch of forested area in south Punjab has been billed as a historic first. Civilian law-enforcement agencies in coordination with paramilitary personnel have set out to eliminate the threat posed by criminal gangs in Rajanpur and adjoining districts. [...] ***The names of the groups that have been bandied about have no national recognition. Neither is there a clear link to militancy and terrorism that is being fought under the umbrella of Operation Zarb-i-Azb. So, it does appear to be a compromise between the political government and the military leadership.*** [...] What the province needs — what Pakistan needs — is a counter-terrorism operation that is full-fledged, unflinching and across Punjab. And the operation must be civilian-led with maximum cooperation from the military.

**Two gunship helicopters sought for operation**, *The Nation*, April 12<sup>93</sup>

***Police personnel on Tuesday (April 12) sought two gunship helicopters for aerial operation against Chotu gang in Rajanpur.*** Operation conducted against Chotu Gang has entered its tenth day while the Rangers and police personnel have made special ships to advance towards Kacha Moro, Kacha Jamal 1 and Kacha Jamal 2. However, 1,600 personnel belonging to Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD), Rangers, army and Punjab police have cleared around 70 percent Kacha area while more than 50 check posts have been established.

**Chotoo gang frees a few captives**, *The Dawn*, April 18<sup>94</sup>

The Chotoo gang released a few of the two dozen hostage policemen on Sunday (April 17) and demanded a safe passage in return for the release of the remaining hostages. A well-placed source, however, told Dawn that the demand that also included the release of the family of the ringleader of the Chotoo gang was rejected and the gangster was given a final warning to surrender along with his accomplices.

**Gunship helicopters strike Chotu gang**, *The Nation*, April 18<sup>95</sup>

Pakistani helicopter gunships on Monday (April 18) pounded the island hideout of an armed gang that has been holding 24 hostages on a 10-km (six-

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<sup>92</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1251200/punjab-operation>

<sup>93</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/12-Apr-2016/two-gunship-helicopters-sought-for-operation-against-chotu-gang-in-rajanpur>

<sup>94</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1252793/chotoo-gang-frees-a-few-captives-retreats-into-dense-forest>

<sup>95</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/18-Apr-2016/gunship-helicopters-strike-chotu-gang-in-full-scale-offensive>

mile) long island in the centre of the Indus River, media and army sources said. [...] "We (army) had given the Chotu gang until 2 p.m. today to surrender but they did not abide by the deadline," said a military official based in the district of Rajanpur in southern Punjab where the battle is taking place. "Now there is no option left but a full-scale operation, which has started."

**Does Chotoo gang have links with Baloch militants?**, *The Dawn*, April 20<sup>96</sup>  
***The Zarb-i-Aahan operation against the Chotoo gang in the riverine area of Rajanpur has entered a 'complex phase' after security forces have detected some phone numbers the gang dialled to talk to Balochistan-based militants and seized a truck loaded with sophisticated weapons.***

**Chotu becomes approver against chieftains**, *The Nation*, April 21<sup>97</sup>

Ghulam Rasool Mazari alias Chotu has become approver against the same chieftains and officials who helped him dig in the Rajanpur riverine to run a "criminal enterprise" for mutual benefits during the last 28 years. Chotu who surrendered to the military authorities Tuesday night (April 19) has promised a "straight talk" to his interrogators with regard to his facilitators whether the local tribal leaders or officials who assisted him to become the unchallenged "crime lord" of southern Punjab Rajanpur riverine for the last 28 years, security agencies' officials close to the development told *The Nation* yesterday.

**Terms of Chotu's surrender**, *The Nation*, April 27<sup>98</sup>

Notorious crime lord Ghulam Rasool Mazari alias Chotu had surrendered to security agencies after certain assurances in return for his cooperation to expose his godfathers, officials close to the development told *The Nation* yesterday. [...] ***He contacted Sher Mazari – a nephew of Mir Balakh Sher Mazari – on April 18, offering his surrender to the army command in return for protection of his own life and his family's, said the officials.***

## SINDH

**Seven policemen shot dead in Karachi**, *The Dawn*, April 20<sup>99</sup>

Seven police officials guarding polio workers were killed in two separate attacks in Orangi Town Wednesday afternoon (April 20), officials said. DIG West Feroz Shah told *Dawn News* that eight gunmen riding four motorcycles carried out the killings in two separate attacks in the neighbourhood. "The

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<sup>96</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1253255/does-chotoo-gang-have-links-with-baloch-militants>

<sup>97</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/21-Apr-2016/chotu-becomes-approver-against-chieftains>

<sup>98</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/27-Apr-2016/terms-of-chotu-s-surrender>

<sup>99</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1253283/seven-policemen-guarding-polio-workers-shot-dead-in-karachi>

gunmen first opened fire on three policemen in the streets of Orangi Town, killing them all," he said, adding: "Later they shot dead four policemen, who were sitting in a police mobile van" a few streets away.

## EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS

**Balochistan's security**, Editorial, *The Dawn*, April 4<sup>100</sup>

[...] **Let us be under no illusion: when it comes to Balochistan's security affairs, the military is very much in charge, as both FC and the intelligence apparatus take their cue from the army.** [...] While the need to pacify Balochistan is undeniable, we must also ask the security establishment what is being done to address the political problems of Balochistan. What has become of the process to bring in the 'angry Baloch' from the cold? This process was continuing apace under former chief minister Abdul Malik Baloch, but has considerably slowed down under Nawab Zehri's watch.

**Fighting terrorism together**, Editorial, *The Dawn*, April 4<sup>101</sup>

[...] While the marginalisation of the civilians is explained as an unfortunate necessity because of the need for speed and the lack of will and capacity among civilians, it has a pernicious effect. **The militarisation of security policy will be to the long-term detriment of the fight against militancy. But what of the political class as a whole and the PML-N in particular?** Zarb-i-Azb and the National Action Plan injected no urgency in civilian counter-terrorism capacity building. Nacta was left to languish, legislative reforms were ignored and judicial overhaul left in limbo. It is not just the federal government, but the provinces too that have been unable to come out of their myopia. Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are indifferent to policing reforms, while Balochistan is mired in fighting separatists. [...] The military may be encroaching, but it is the civilians who are abdicating.

**Guardians of Pakistan**, Abdul Majeed Abid, *The Nation*, April 4<sup>102</sup>

[...] TTP Ideologues realise that attacking Punjabi Christians or Shias would not affect the majority Sunni Muslim population of this country much and they have continued to push the envelope. **The reason why parties like Jamaat-e-Islami or its softer version—Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaaf—have supported the TTP is because their ideas about Pakistani nationalism coincide frequently.** On the issue of Women Protection Bill, Blasphemy Law and honour killings, most religious parties and TTP are on the same page. **TTP wants to dismantle the current democratic setup and replace it with an 'Islamic' style government, whatever that is. This goal is shared by many political and 'apolitical' groups**

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<sup>100</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1249772/balochistans-security>

<sup>101</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1249776/fighting-terrorism-together>

<sup>102</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/columns/04-Apr-2016/guardians-of-pakistan>

**in the country as well.** One reason the army finds it difficult to confront the Taliban—apart from its former association with them—is the fact that they share very similar ideology.

**JuD's Shariah Court**, Editorial, *The Nation*, April 8<sup>103</sup>

Ostensibly fed up with the national court system Jamatud Dawa (JuD) has set up 'Darul Qaza Sharia', smack in the heart of Lahore, to dispense 'justice' among people in light of Sharia laws. [...]The government has to shut it down quickly if it wants to maintain any credibility about its anti-terror ambitions. Unfortunately, when it comes to Punjabi extremists, things are not so simple. [...] **This is not an innocent 'arbitration panel' as the JuD spokesperson claims, where people come and go voluntarily. It actively issues 'summons' backed by the threat of "strict action" to the accused in its cases – which is the domain of the state.** It has also styled itself as a 'court', complete with the trappings of one. It has a Qazi (judge) who is assisted by Khadmins (court associates) and has its own court procedures.

**Punjab's militancy problem**, Muhammad Amir Rana, *The Dawn*, April 10<sup>104</sup>

It may be unfair to link this particular operation to the elimination of terrorism infrastructure in Punjab. The nature of links and nexuses between the criminal gangs and terrorist groups in Punjab, if it exists, still needs to be studied and established. However, there are two contexts in which Punjab is important to counter terrorism nationally. Firstly, there are small militant groups in the province (including sleeper cells), as well as support networks of regional and international terrorist organisations. Secondly, it hosts several banned militant groups and ultra-radical religious groups, which not only serve as a recruitment base for multiple militant groups, but also provide ideological direction to violent Islamist movements. To counter the former — coordinated, intelligence-based operations should be considered the best approach, as these small militant cells and networks do not operate freely, and usually hide among communities. [...]For the latter, banning groups and ultra-radical religious organisations — the state has to deny them safe spaces to operate within.

**Can Pakistan's F-16s fight terror?**, Pervez Hoodbhoy, *The Dawn*, April 16<sup>105</sup>

[...] **Waging an aerial war against your own population is not a good idea. Even if you have to, shouldn't much cheaper weaponised drones be preferred over advanced fighter aircraft whose real job is to shoot down other planes?** [...]More importantly, F-16s or drones can't even dent the enemy's real armour — his ideology. The Taliban are fighting to forcibly transform Pakistan into a

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<sup>103</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/editorials/08-Apr-2016/jud-s-shariah-court>

<sup>104</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1251201/punjabs-militancy-problem>

<sup>105</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1252330/can-pakistans-f-16s-fight-terror>

state run by Sharia law. In the last two to three decades millions of Pakistanis have come to share enthusiasm for Sharia. Even while fighting the Taliban, many of our soldiers have agreed with their goal while disagreeing with their method. [...]To destroy terrorism will require a massive change of public attitudes and a complete repudiation of Pakistan's current policy. [...]Religiously motivated terrorism threatens Pakistan's existence. **We have entered a state of permanent conflict where victory may not be possible even in 100 years. Drones or F-16s are not a solution. They may help in tribal areas but not in city environments where the enemy is thickest.**

## **RELATIONS WITH INDIA**

**Indian investigators seek visit to Pakistan**, *The News*, April 1<sup>106</sup>

India's National Investigation Agency (NIA) has requested for a team of its officials to visit Pakistan to carry out its own probe of the Pathankot airbase attack, Indian media reported on Friday (April 1). [...]“The Pakistan JIT welcomed the idea that a team of NIA would like to visit Pakistan and carry forward the probe (into the attack),” Indian media quoted NIA chief Sharad Kumar as saying. Kumar, however, said no date has been fixed for the visit of the Indian investigation team to Pakistan.

**RAW involved in terrorism: IG Frontier Corps**, *The News*, April 2<sup>107</sup>

Inspector General Frontier Corps Balochistan Maj General Sher Afgan on Saturday (April 2) said Indian spy agency RAW and Afghan intelligence agency were involved in militancy and terrorism in the province.

**Gilani 'gave India proof against RAW'**, *The Dawn*, April 4<sup>108</sup>

Former prime minister Yousaf Raza Gilani said on Sunday (April 3) that interference in Balochistan by the Indian intelligence agency, Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), had been continuing for many years. Talking to reporters after arriving at the Sheikh Zayed International Airport, he said India had always provided assistance to the separatists of Balochistan. He said that during a meeting in 2008 with former Indian prime minister Manmohan Singh, he had discussed the issues of Kashmir, Balochistan, Siachen and Sir Creek and provided proofs of RAW's interference in the province.

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<sup>106</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/109601-Pathankot-probe-Indian-investigators-seek-visit-to-Pakistan>

<sup>107</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/109840-RAW-involved-in-terrorism-IG-Frontier-Corps>

<sup>108</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1249884/gilani-gave-india-proof-against-raw>

**Peace process stands suspended: Basit, *The News*, April 7<sup>109</sup>**

Pakistan's High Commissioner in New Delhi, Abdul Basit Thursday (April 7) said the peace process between India and Pakistan stands suspended. "I think at present the peace process between India and Pakistan is suspended," said Abdul Basit while addressing a press conference here at the Foreign Correspondents club.

**'Pakistan has backtracked on NIA visit', *The Dawn*, April 9<sup>110</sup>**

Pakistan has backtracked from its promise to allow the team of Indian investigators to visit there to investigate the Pathankot attack case apparently after finding that the NIA has enough evidence to nail ISI's links with terrorists involved in it, Press Trust of India said on Friday (April 8).

**Heavy shelling on Line of Control, *Daily Times*, April 10<sup>111</sup>**

Indian troops across the Line of Control (LoC) resorted to unprovoked firing and shelling once again last night, in the latest violation of the ceasefire agreement on Pakistan-India border, according to the Pakistan Army on Sunday (April 10).

**Pakistan, India trade 'concerns' at Delhi meeting, *The Nation*, April 27<sup>112</sup>**

The top diplomats of India and Pakistan met on Tuesday (April 26) for talks after a hiatus of several months and both raised issues of their own concern and made demands from the other side on contentious issues. Though both sides called it a constructive session where they discussed 'all issues', the low-key meeting between the foreign secretaries of the two hostile neighbors did not produce any significant measure of forward movement. [...] "The meeting provided a useful opportunity to exchange views on recent developments in bilateral context," Foreign Office Spokesman Nafees Zakaria said, as posted on his official twitter account.

**India sees dialogue only way forward: Aizaz, *The Express Tribune*, April 27<sup>113</sup>**

Foreign Secretary Aizaz Ahmed Chaudhry said on Wednesday (April 27) India has realised dialogue is the only way forward to discuss all outstanding issues which hampered the ties between the two neighbouring countries. "There is a realisation on part of India that dialogue is the only way forward to discuss all

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<sup>109</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/110988-Pakistan-India-peace-process-stands-suspended-Abdul-Basit>

<sup>110</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1251012/pakistan-has-backtracked-on-nia-visit>

<sup>111</sup> <http://dailytimes.com.pk/pakistan/10-Apr-16/ceasefire-violation-heavy-shelling-on-line-of-control-in-kashmir>

<sup>112</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/27-Apr-2016/pakistan-india-trade-concerns-at-delhi-meeting>

<sup>113</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1093029/indo-pak-ties-india-sees-dialogue-only-way-forward-says-aizaz/>

outstanding issues," he told reporters a day after his visit to New Delhi where he attended a secretary-level meeting. However, Chaudhry said there was no major breakthrough in his meeting with Indian Foreign Secretary S Jaishankar. "The two sides raised their respective concerns in cordial and forthright manner," he added.

### THE "SPY ARREST" ROW

**Fresh spy suspects detained**, *The Express Tribune*, April 1<sup>114</sup>

Pakistan confirmed on Thursday (March 31) that security agencies have arrested several suspects who are believed to be working for the Indian spy agency as its Foreign Office launched a diplomatic offensive to expose New Delhi's sponsoring of terrorism in Pakistan. The latest arrests were made last week and were based on information divulged by Kulbhushan Yadav during interrogation, officials familiar with the developments told *The Express Tribune* on Thursday (March 31).

**Spy on the Wall**, Marvi, Sirmed, *The Nation*, April 12<sup>115</sup>

In an unprecedented development, Pakistan's security forces arrested a "RAW agent" from Balochistan. Looking at the subsequent developments, it appears that the story was mainly for domestic consumption. This perception is reinforced by the facts that neither a substantive protest nor any follow up lodged with Indian government. ***Neither the story was used for lobbying with Washington or Beijing, nor it has made any rounds in the UN. No other government has so far been involved except Iran. That too was badly busted by the visiting Iranian President who rejected the reports attributed to DG ISPR of bringing the RAW agent issue with Iranian President by Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff.*** [...] But listening to Jadhav, it seems this has not happened so suddenly. Despite the standard procedure followed by all the intelligence agencies, of not divulging any information and admitting espionage under any circumstances, Jadhav started singing like a canary within three weeks of his being in custody.

**Two fishermen held over 'RAW links' in Karachi**, *The Dawn*, April 17<sup>116</sup>

The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) of police on Saturday (April 16) claimed to have arrested two fishermen over their alleged links to the Indian spy agency RAW.

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<sup>114</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1076870/yadavs-confession-fresh-spy-suspects-detained-amid-diplomatic-offensive/>

<sup>115</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/columns/12-Apr-2016/spy-on-the-wall>

<sup>116</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1252567/two-fishermen-held-over-raw-links-in-karachi>

## EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS

**India's Pakistan strategy**, Munir Akram, *The Dawn*, April 3<sup>117</sup>

[...] **India has adopted a complex strategy to wear down Pakistan's resistance. This strategy encompasses: military and political pressure; subversion; terrorism; diplomatic isolation; media and public defamation and cultural domination.** [...] India's strategy has a wide canvas. One element of the strategy is the attempt, pursued in tandem with the West, to neutralise Pakistan's nuclear deterrence capabilities. [...] Substantial proof has been gathered by Islamabad's agencies of Indian sponsorship of terrorism against Pakistan through the TTP, in collaboration with Kabul's National Directorate of Security and certain power brokers. [...] At the opposite end of India's kinetic actions, is the wide and successful use of its "soft power", epitomised by Bollywood. This song and dance culture has been warmly embraced by large segments of Pakistan's young and moneyed elite. Over time, this can lead to greater acceptance in Pakistan of India's political and strategic goals.

**'Indian hand behind terrorism' in Pakistan**, Editorial, *Daily Times*, April 4<sup>118</sup>

[...] **While there can be no doubt of subversive activities by India on Pakistani soil, they must not be used as pretence for endangering the delicate Pakistan-Iran relationship.** In the meantime, the Pakistani government should talk to Iran on an equal footing, while refraining from making matters prematurely bitter. The relationship seems as tenuous as ever as Iran conducts its own investigation over whether Yadav was captured in Iran or Pakistan. However, the Iranian government's cooperative gesture should allay fears of impending Iranian animosity.

**India exploits our contradictions**, Talat Masood, *The Express Tribune*, April 5<sup>119</sup>

[...] On the surface, Prime Minister Modi tries to give an impression of improving relations with Islamabad. In sharp contrast, his government is literally pursuing policies that aim at deliberately undermining and destabilising the state. **The double speak, combined with a well-orchestrated campaign of defaming Pakistan at international forums and the world's capitals, have become the norm.** [...] **The rise of Hindu nationalism under the BJP government, has weakened the polity. In this environment, the policy of destabilising a nuclear neighbour could backfire. Coupled with this insane hostility, India is pursuing its aggressive Cold Start doctrine and Pakistan countering it with the development of short-range tactical weapons.**

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<sup>117</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1249653/indias-pakistan-strategy>

<sup>118</sup> <http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/editorial/04-Apr-2016/indian-hand-behind-terrorism-in-pakistan>

<sup>119</sup> <http://tribune.com.pk/story/1079264/india-exploits-our-internal-contradictions/>

**Deoband variations**, Owen Bennett Jones, *The Dawn*, April 22<sup>120</sup>

HERE'S a tale of two madressahs: one Deoband north of Delhi, the other in Akora Khattak, Pakistan. Today in Deoband, at the madressah where it all began in 1866, the 4,000 students focus on religion. The institution was created to preserve a purist, back-to-basics interpretation of Islam and it has remained true to that purpose. [...] **When students have been tempted to stray into militancy, the Indian state has been quick to lay down the law.** [...] When it comes to militancy, then, Sami ul Haq's Deobandism is very different to the Indian version. The question is why Pakistani Deobandism as represented by Akora Khattak has so quickly diverged from the attitudes prevalent in the mother institution in Deoband itself. [...] **Deobandi militancy might look like a force that cannot be controlled. But India's experience suggests that the degree of militancy espoused by some Deobandis is a function of state policy. The answer lies in the contrasting attitudes and policies of the Indian and Pakistani states.**

**Talks, terror and spies**, Editorial, *The News*, April 28<sup>121</sup>

[...] We have finally, after years of allegations, gathered sufficient evidence of Indian interference in Balochistan, thanks to the capture of a senior RAW official in the province. India, meanwhile, continues to blame us for the attack in Pathankot, which may have originated from Pakistan but has no link to the state. Against this backdrop, **the meeting of the two countries' foreign secretaries in New Delhi – on the sidelines of the Heart of Asia conference on Afghanistan – promised little and delivered even less.** The two sides couldn't even agree on a joint statement. [...] What is positive is that a meeting in which Pathankot, RAW and Kashmir were mentioned did not end in a public spat between the two countries.

**Pak-India diplomacy**, A. G. Noorani, *The Dawn*, April 30<sup>122</sup>

The Comprehensive Bilateral Dialogue is in deep freeze despite the announcement of its resumption by the foreign ministers in Islamabad last December. India's grievances on the terrorist attack on the Pathankot air base are valid. Their gravity cannot be exaggerated. India was perfectly justified in raising the issue at the talks. What is ill-advised is making resolution of such issues a precondition to the talks. **It is time to give a thought to the utter wastefulness of diplomacy by sulk. Stand-offs do not last; they only invite American pressures for resumption of talks, which neither India nor Pakistan can resist for long.**

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<sup>120</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1253337/deoband-variations>

<sup>121</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/print/115868-Talks-terror-and-spies>

<sup>122</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1255240/pak-india-diplomacy>

**EXCERPTS FROM URDU MEDIA & SELECT JIHADI LITERATURE**

**INDIA-PAKISTAN**

**India not showing any interest in talks**, Editorial, *Daily Ausaf*, April 8.<sup>123</sup>

India once again showed disinterest in talks and surprisingly blamed Pakistan for that. ***The Indian foreign secretary Jaishankar has said that talks will be held only after action is taken against perpetrators of Pathankot attack because this has become India's first priority.*** Foreign secretary said that earlier talks between two countries was the first priority but now that is changed.

**Written Agreement between MQM and RAW**, *Daily Ummat*, April 12.<sup>124</sup>

***The former British diplomat has revealed that there was a written agreement between Altaf Hussain and RAW, the copy of which lies with British government as well.*** During interrogation Altaf Hussain had told Scotland Yard officials that he is working for RAW. ***The British government had brought this to the notice of then interior minister, Abdul Rehman Malik, but he did nothing and instead tried to protect Altaf.***

**The ill-intentions of RAW**, Editorial, *Daily Jang*, April 17.<sup>125</sup>

***The infamous intelligence agency of India, RAW, always created problems for Pakistan and after the arrest of their serving member and former naval officer, Kulbushan Yadav and several others, it is necessary that the real face of India be unmasked at the global level.*** Gen Raheel Sharif and the Home Minister of Balochistan have already made their statements about the ill intentions of India. Foreign ministry also tried its bit on Friday when it asked the Arab and Asian diplomats to use their influence and ask India to stop such activities

**Meeting with Jaishankar useless: Azaz Chaudhary**, *Daily Ausaf*, April 28.<sup>126</sup>

***The foreign secretary of Pakistan, Azaz Chaudhary has said that his meeting with Indian counterpart in New Delhi hardly produced any results as India did not give any time frame for resuming the dialogue process between two countries. During his press briefing, Azaz Chaudhary said that we talked about issues of mutual interest but no significant development happened in the***

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<sup>123</sup> [http://www.ausaf.pk/wp-content/uploads/2016-04-08/news/detail\\_11.php](http://www.ausaf.pk/wp-content/uploads/2016-04-08/news/detail_11.php)

<sup>124</sup> <http://ummat.net/2016/04/12/news.php?p=news-01.gif>

<sup>125</sup> [http://e.jang.com.pk/04-17-2016/lahore/pic.asp?picname=08\\_02.gif](http://e.jang.com.pk/04-17-2016/lahore/pic.asp?picname=08_02.gif)

<sup>126</sup> [http://www.ausaf.pk/wp-content/uploads/2016-04-28/news/detail\\_17.php](http://www.ausaf.pk/wp-content/uploads/2016-04-28/news/detail_17.php)

**meeting.** He said India has realized that all issues can be resolved through dialogue but no time frame for future course was mentioned.

**Pressure needs to be put on India,** Editorial, *Nawai Waqt*, April 28.<sup>127</sup>

***In the recent foreign secretary level talks, the Indian foreign secretary Jaishankar sought consular access to RAW agent Kulbushan Yadav, which the foreign secretary, Azaz Chaudhary denied by expressing concerns about Indian interferences in Karachi and Balochistan and also the release of Samjota Express convict. [...] Foreign secretary of Pakistan stressed on the resolution of Kashmir issue through UN resolutions while his Indian counterpart raised the issue of Maulana Masood Azhar and asked for speedy investigation on Pathankot and Mumbai attacks.*** He also accused Pakistan for allowing terrorists to use its territory against India.

### **PAKISTAN-AFGHANISTAN AND TALIBAN**

**The arrest of Afghan intelligence officer,** Editorial, *Daily Ausaf*, April 8.

The security agencies have arrested serving Afghan intelligence officer from Chaman area. ***After initial interrogation he identified several places from where huge ammunition was recovered. Search operations to find his other aides are going on. The arrested Afghan intelligence officer was taking all this ammunition to Balochistan to instigate violence.*** He was also planning terrorist attacks in various areas. After Kulbushan Yadav, his arrest is an important development. ***[...] There was information that India and Afghanistan are trying to sabotage the CPEC and the Afghan intelligence officer was linked to that. We suspect that Israel must also be having its agents in Balochistan. So our agencies need to expand their circle because Israel and India are allies against Pakistan.*** The arrested Afghan intelligence officer had contacts with Balochistan Liberation Army and other separatist groups and he used to supply weapons to them. ***Sometime ago a meeting was arranged between him and RAW operator in Kandahar who gave him the task of establishing a network. He was taking money from both Afghanistan as well as from RAW.***

**Taliban delegation from Qatar reached Karachi,** *Daily Tawar*, April 26.

***Taliban delegation from Qatar office reached Karachi for direct negotiations with Afghan government. Ministry of foreign affairs said nothing about this delegation as yet. According to sources the Taliban leaders in the delegation include Mullah Shahab-u-din, Mullah Jan Muhammad.*** Mullah Shahab-u-din served in Taliban council in Peshawar during Taliban government. The Taliban delegation has arrived in Pakistan at a moment when Afghanistan president expressed dissatisfaction over what Pakistan is doing.

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<sup>127</sup> <http://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/Lahore/2016-04-28/page-14/detail-5>

**The future of Quadrilateral talks**, Aqeel Yousufzai, *Hilal*, April.

[...]The question is why has Taliban rejected to join talks and what are their conditions that they want Afghan government and other stakeholders to accept. In this regard there are various theories doing rounds but the two groups are silent on this issue. **Some sections are of the opinion that those commanders who were in touch with Pakistan are, due to some reason, not happy with Pakistan and they want certain conditions to be accepted before negotiations begin but Pakistan is not in a position to do that. Some sections believe that America is playing a double game as usual. America does not want China to take any credit in this process. This section accuse America for supporting Daesh and other such groups in Afghanistan. Through Daesh America is trying to build pressure not only on Afghanistan but on China and Russia as well. And in all this there are some Afghan officials also assisting America. America does not like the growing relationship of Pakistan with China and Russia.**

## **BALUCHISTAN**

**Because of JuD that people are raising Pakistani flags**, *Daily Tawar*, April 8.

The chief of Jamaat-ud-dawa, Hafiz Saeed, has said that we are training more than one lakh volunteers for rescue operations and throughout Pakistan 168 medical centers are operational. Ambulance service and water rescue network has been extended to all districts of Pakistan. He further said that we have reached all those areas which are neglected by government of Pakistan. **In Baluchistan medical centers and ambulances are doing well and it is because of these services that people there are raising the flags of Pakistan.**

**Negotiation under International supervision: Kareema**, *Daily Tawar*, April 26.

The chairperson of BSO, Kareema Baloch said in an interview that they don't have any kind of contact with Indian agency RAW or any other agency. This propaganda has been started by government of Pakistan to defame Baloch liberation movement. [...] **About Iran she said that in 1970, Iran supported Pakistan army to end the movement in Baluchistan, so the allegation that India is intervening in Baluchistan through Iran is mere eyewash and nothing else. [...] About China she said that the heavy investment by China in Baluchistan is not for the development of the region but their main aim is to secure control of Gwadar so that they could use it against India and America. [...] About Talks with Pakistan she said pre conditions for talks with Pakistan is the end of occupation and that they accept our separate identity.**

**STATISTICS****BOMBINGS, SHOOTINGS AND DISAPPEARANCES***(Select incidents culled out from the Pakistan media)*

Place	Date	Description	Killed	Injured
<b>Balochistan</b>				
Sibi <sup>128</sup>	6/4/2016	Two killed in bomb attack	2	0
Kalat <sup>129</sup>	10/4/2016	34 militants killed	35	2
Quetta <sup>130</sup>	11/4/2016	Three kidnappers killed	4	0
Sui <sup>131</sup>	27/4/2016	Three killed in landmine blast	3	0
<b>FATA</b>				
Barman <sup>132</sup>	13/4/2016	Nine terrorists killed	9	0
Landi Kotal <sup>133</sup>	18/4/2016	Two killed in attempt on pro-govt lashkar chief	2	0
<b>Punjab</b>				
Mianwali <sup>134</sup>	2/4/2016	Six mutilated bodies found	6	0
<b>Khyber Pakhtunkhwa</b>				
Kurram <sup>135</sup>	7/4/2016	15 militants killed	15	50
Mingora <sup>136</sup>	11/4/2016	ANP leader killed	1	0
Swat <sup>137</sup>	13/4/2016	DSP killed	1	1
Mardan <sup>138</sup>	19/4/2016	Suicide blast in Mardan	0	18
<b>Sindh</b>				

<sup>128</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1250252/two-killed-in-train-bomb-attack>

<sup>129</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1251055/34-suspected-militants-killed-in-balochistans-kalat-district>

<sup>130</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1251385/three-killed-kidnapped-boy-recovered>

<sup>131</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/115734-Three-killed-in-Dera-Bugti-landmine-explosion>

<sup>132</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/13-Apr-2016/9-terrorists-killed-in-airstrike-near-afghan-border>

<sup>133</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1252792/two-killed-in-attack-on-pro-govt-lashkar-chief>

<sup>134</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/109829-Six-more-mutilated-bodies-found-from-Chashma-barrage>

<sup>135</sup> <http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/110967-Security-forces-foil-attack-kill-12-terrorists-in-Kurram>

<sup>136</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1251377/anp-leader-killed-in-swat>

<sup>137</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/13-Apr-2016/dsp-shangla-gunned-down-in-swat>

<sup>138</sup> <http://nation.com.pk/national/19-Apr-2016/suicide-blast-at-mardan-excise-taxation-dept-injures-at-least-15>

Karachi <sup>139</sup>	20/4/2016	Seven policemen shot dead	7	0

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<sup>139</sup> <http://www.dawn.com/news/1253283/seven-policemen-guarding-polio-workers-shot-dead-in-karachi>