



KASHMIR RIGHTS FORUM CUSTODIANS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN KASHMIR

The Kashmir Rights Forum (KRF) is an informal, secular, apolitical and forward looking interactive platform highlighting human rights violations perpetuated against innocent Kashmiri population by terrorists either directly supported by separatists and their over ground workers or indirectly by sympathizers over last three decades as a result of proxy war initiated by Pakistan on our homeland.

KRF is a dexterous, focused forum with overarching mission to mobilize expertise and public opinion to counter the organized attempt to violate human rights of common innocent Kashmiris of all generations by the nexus and tarnishing the image of government and security forces by certain section of media, intelligentsia and conflict entrepreneurs by flaring up allegations of human rights violations on them, thus diverting attention from the real perpetrators of these violations.

We, at KRF encourage response by likeminded or otherwise, people and organizations, on documents, articles & video content produced on multiple social media platforms by us to apprise all citizens of such violations. KRF will endeavor to expose the designs of the perpetrators by studying the past, present events and producing the facts for public scrutiny as part of our research and highlight such events in present, earliest on occurrence.

A Review of Human Rights Violations in Kashmir *For the months of APRIL and MAY 2024*



Non-Local Tourist Guide Shot by Terrorists in Shopian

In a grievous act of violence on April 8, a non-local tourist guide was brutally attacked by terrorists in the Shopian district of Jammu and Kashmir. The victim, namely Dilranjan Singh, 45, son of Parman Singh, sustained severe bullet injuries while performing his duties as a guide for two foreign tourists.

The harrowing incident unfolded around 8:25 PM in the serene locality of Hirpora, within Shopian's Padpawan area. Singh, alongside his foreign charges, was partaking in a meal at a local eatery when the tranquility was shattered by a sudden onslaught of gunfire. The armed terrorists, targeted Singh, leaving him with critical injuries to his abdomen and arm. In the aftermath of the attack, Singh was swiftly administered first aid before being referred to the Shri Maharaja Hari Singh (SMHS) Hospital in Srinagar for advanced medical intervention. The two foreign tourists, although physically unscathed, were understandably shaken and have been placed under protective custody by local law enforcement agencies to ensure their safety and well-being.

This egregious act underscores the persistent security challenges in the region, which has been striving to shed its image of conflict and promote tourism. Despite numerous initiatives to bolster tourist safety and revive the local economy, such incidents pose significant setbacks. The safety and security of visitors remain



paramount, and authorities are intensifying the security protocols in response to such incidents.

The local community and business owners have expressed profound sorrow and condemnation over the attack. Many have stressed the importance of peace and stability, which are crucial for the sustenance and growth of the tourism sector. Government officials alongside civil society have also denounced the attack, reaffirming their commitment to safeguarding the region's tourism industry. "We are deeply aggrieved by this deplorable act of violence against an individual who played a pivotal role in our tourism sector. Ensuring the safety of all tourists is our utmost priority, and we will take stringent measures to prevent the recurrence of such incidents," stated a local vendor. The attack on Dilranjan Singh is another blow to the valley's tourism industry, targeting efforts to diminish the growing employment opportunities. The assault on Dilranjan Singh is a poignant reminder of the volatility that continues to plague certain areas of Jammu and Kashmir. As investigations proceed, there is an urgent call for heightened security measures and vigilance to protect those who contribute to the region's tourism industry and to maintain a peaceful environment for residents and visitors alike.

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SCHOOL HEAD-MASTER ARRESTED WITH FOREIGN-MADE PISTOL AND GRENADES IN POONCH

In a significant operation, Jammu and Kashmir Police, in collaboration with the Special Operations Group (SOG) and the Indian Army's 39 Rashtriya Rifles (RR) of 6 Sector, Romeo Force, apprehended a registered Over Ground Worker (OGW) who is also a school headmaster. The arrest took place in the Hari Budha area of Poonch district. The individual Qamaruddin, was found in possession of a foreign-made pistol and Chinese grenades, raising concerns about the security of the upcoming elections in the region.

The operation was meticulously planned and executed following credible intelligence inputs. On Sunday, the joint forces conducted a raid at Qamaruddin's residence, leading to the discovery of a Pakistan-made pistol and two Chinese grenades. The recovered consignment was intended to disrupt the electoral process in Poonch, which is on high alert due to the upcoming elections. The security forces emphasized the potential threat posed by the recovered weapons. The consignment, including the two Chinese grenades and the Pakistan-made pistol was smuggled in to create unrest during the elections. In a related development, security forces in Jammu and Kashmir carried out a separate operation in the Thannamandi area of Rajouri on April 14. This operation, conducted by SOG Rajouri and the 61 Rashtriya Rifles, led to the recovery of several rounds of arms and

The timely apprehension of Qamaruddin along with seizure of dangerous weapons by security forces highlights their unwavering commitment to safeguarding citizens and maintaining stability in the region shines as a beacon of valor.

ammunition. Items recovered included:

1 kg IED packet, seven half kg IED packets, two wireless sets, three AK-47 magazines, one ammunition pouch, 102 rounds of AK-47 ammunition, one charger. These seizures followed another successful operation on Saturday, where Jammu and Kashmir Police dismantled a terrorist hideout in the Arnas area. The hideout was found to contain a substantial quantity of arms and ammunition, including: Two detonators, 12 Assault Rifle cartridges, One pull-through, One hand-held tape recorder IED enabled, One calculator IED enabled, One battery, Various connecting wires. The arrest of Qamaruddin and the recovery of these weapons have heightened security concerns in the Poonch district and surrounding areas. The authorities are intensifying their efforts to ensure a peaceful electoral process. The presence of such sophisticated weaponry indicates the seriousness of the threat posed by militant elements attempting to destabilize the region. With the arrest of this OGW, security forces are continuing their search operations and investigations to uncover any further threats. They have urged the public to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activities to help maintain peace and security during the election period. The swift action by the joint forces in apprehending Qamaruddin and recovering dangerous weapons highlights the ongoing challenges faced by security forces in Jammu and Kashmir. The successful operations underscore the commitment of the security agencies to safeguard the democratic process and ensure the safety of the citizens. As investigations continue, the focus remains on neutralizing any threats and maintaining stability in the region.

TERRORIST HIDEOUT BUSTED IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR, ARMS AND AMMUNITION RECOVERED

In a chilling display of terrorism on April 28, a 40-year-old Junior

Assistant in the Social Welfare Department, Mohammad Razak, was brutally killed in a terror attack at Kunda Topa in the Shahdara Sharief area of Rajouri district during the night hours. The attack has sent shockwaves through the community and left his family and friends reeling in grief. Razak who is brother of a Territorial Army (TA) Jawan, Mohammad Tahir Choudhary was shot dead by two LeT-affiliated foreign terrorists who barged into his house. Tahir, who

The family of Razak is still grappling with the devastating loss. His mother, Resham Bi, who had already been traumatized by the loss of her husband, Mohammad Akhtar, 20 years ago. She is now left to mourn the loss of her second son. Akhtar was also killed by militants at the same location. Razak was appointed in the Social Welfare Department on compassionate grounds following his father's death. Razak's wife, Gulnaz Akhter, was inconsolable during the burial, leaving behind five young children, including three daughters and two sons, aged between 5 and 10. The family's grief is palpable and their pain is a stark reminder of the devastating impact of terrorism on innocent lives.

"I was yet to come out of the shock of my husband's killing but now they have snatched my son," Resham Bi lamented, urging the security forces to hunt down her

son's killers. Gulnaz Akhter, Razak's wife, was inconsolable during the burial. Razak leaves behind five young children, including three daughters and two sons, aged between 5 and 10.

The terrorists involved in the attack are two LeT-affiliated foreign terrorists, including the notorious Abu Hamza. In order to eliminate them, Jammu and Kashmir Police has announced a reward of Rs 10 lakh for information leading to the capture of Abu Hamza, who is believed to be hiding in the Shahdara Sharief and Dera Ki Gali areas. The attack has prompted heightened security measures throughout the area. The nefarious role of terrorists in the region is well-documented. They have been responsible for numerous terrorist incidents, including terror attacks, radicalization, recruitment, and terror financing. The attack on Razak is just the latest in a long line of such incidents, and it highlights the need for a sustained and coordinated effort to combat terrorism. The main reason for Razak's killing is his brother's affiliation with the TA, which they saw as a threat to their activities. The attack was a deliberate attempt to intimidate and terrorize the family and the community, and it underscores the need for the security forces to remain vigilant and proactive in their efforts to neutralize the terrorist threat.

The overwhelming turnout at Razak's funeral underscores the community's grief and resilience. The presence of senior Army and police officials at the burial and their commitment to the search operations reflect the determination of security forces to bring the perpetrators to justice. The tragic incident has once again highlighted the sacrifices made by the families of security personnel in the region. As the search for the terrorists continues, the community remains united in its support for the security forces and their efforts to restore peace and security in the area. As the search for the terrorists responsible for the attack continues, the community remains united in its support for the security forces and their efforts to restore peace and security in the area. The tragic incident has once again highlighted the sacrifices made by the families of security personnel in the region, and it serves as a stark reminder of the importance of standing united against terrorism. Further, the killing of Mohammad Razak has left a deep scar on his family and the community. As security forces intensify their operations to hunt down the terrorists responsible, the courage and resilience of the affected families and the community stand as a testament to their strength. The nation's resolve to combat terrorism and ensure justice remains unwavering.

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TERRORISM'S GRIM SHADOW; VDC GUARD KILLED IN FIERCE GUN BATTLE WITH TERRORISTS

In the serene valleys of Jammu and Kashmir, a dark cloud looms over the landscape as terrorism rears its ugly head once again, shattering the fragile peace that the residents strive to maintain. The recent tragic loss of innocent life in a deadly encounter with infiltrated terrorists serves as a poignant reminder of the relentless threat that looms over the region. In a devastating turn of events, a Village Defence Guard (VDG) member has fallen victim to the scourge of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district. The brave guard, Mohammad Shareef, 48, from Lower Ponar, Basantgarh, lost his life in a gunfight with terrorists on April 28. This tragic incident is a stark reminder of the challenges faced by armed civilians in the region, who are fighting to protect their communities from the menace of terrorism. The fateful encounter took place in the Chochru Gala heights area of Udhampur, where security forces, including the police and VDG members, had launched an operation to track down suspected terrorists. As the security personnel approached the hiding terrorists, they were met with gunfire, resulting in the fatal injury of Shareef. Despite being rushed to the hospital, he succumbed to his injuries, leaving behind a grieving family and community.

The picturesque village of Basantgarh, once a symbol of resilience after being cleared of terrorism two decades ago, now finds itself thrust back into the throes of violence and fear.

The echoes of gunfire and the somber sight of security forces paying tribute to their fallen comrade paint a stark picture of the havoc wreaked by terrorism on the lives of ordinary Kashmiris. As the security forces launch a relentless pursuit of the terrorists who have infiltrated from across the border, the people of Jammu and Kashmir find themselves trapped in a cycle of fear and uncertainty. The lush forests that once provided solace now serve as hiding grounds for militants, turning the tranquil landscape into a battleground of terror and tragedy.

The cries for peace grow louder as each life lost to terrorism deepens the wounds of the community. The villagers, like Mohammad Shareef, stand as a bulwark against the encroaching darkness, risking their lives to protect their homes and loved ones. Their plea for a return to normalcy, for a life free from the shadow of violence, resonates across the valleys and mountains of Jammu and Kashmir. Amidst the chaos and despair, the resilience of the Kashmiri people shines through, as they refuse to be cowed by the forces of terror. The demand for peace, for a future where children can play without fear and families can thrive without dread, is a beacon of hope in the midst of turmoil. The sacrifices made by brave individuals like Mohammad Shareef serve as a testament to the unwavering spirit of the Kashmiri people in the face of adversity.

This attack is not an isolated incident. In recent months, there has been a resurgence of terror activities in the region, with terrorists attempting to revive their bases in areas south of Pir Panjal. The killing of an Indian Air Force corporal in a terrorist attack on an IAF convoy in Poonch district has further heightened tensions. The security forces have intensified their search operations in the twin-border districts of Poonch and Rajouri to track down the terrorists responsible for these attacks. The people of Jammu and Kashmir are caught in the midst of this violence, yearning for peace and stability. However, the constant threat of terrorism is suffocating their lives, making it difficult for them to live without fear. The revival of the Village Defence Committees, now renamed Village Defence Guards, is a testament to the region's determination to fight back against militancy. Despite the challenges, the VDGs remain committed to protecting their communities, often at great personal risk. As the search for the terrorists continues, the people of Jammu and Kashmir mourn the loss of Mohammad Shareef, a brave son of the soil who laid down his life in the line of duty. His sacrifice will not be forgotten, and it is hoped that his death will not be in vain. The region's cry for peace and an end to terrorism grows louder, and it is imperative that the authorities take decisive action to ensure the safety and security of its citizens.

It is a call that echoes through the valleys and reverberates in the hearts of every Kashmiri, a plea for an end to the reign of terror and a return to the tranquility that once defined this beautiful land.

BRAVEHEART SOLDIER LOSES LIFE IN A DEADLY AMBUSH ON INDIAN AIR FORCE CONVOY IN POONCH

On May 4, a deadly attack on an Indian Air Force (IAF) convoy in Poonch District, Jammu and Kashmir, resulted in the death of one brave soldier and injuries to four other warriors. The convoy was ambushed by heavily armed terrorists at Bakrabal Mohalla near Sanai in Surankote Tehsil, marking the first major incident in the Jammu region this year. The attack targeted a group of five IAF personnel who were traveling through the area. The ambush, executed by terrorists, resulted in a fierce exchange of gunfire. Despite the rapid response and evacuation of the wounded to a nearby military hospital, one brave heart soldier, Corporal Vikky Pahade, succumbed to his injuries. The remaining four personnel sustained injuries of varying severity and were promptly treated.

In the aftermath of attack, security forces launched an extensive search operation in the region with a goal to track down these terrorists responsible for the ambush. Several suspected individuals were detained for questioning to gather intelligence on the assailants and their possible hideouts. This attack in the border district of Poonch, along with the adjoining Rajouri district, highlights a disturbing trend of increased terrorist activity in the region over the past two years. This resurgence comes after a relatively peaceful period from 2003 to 2021. The heightened activity has prompted security agencies to reassess and strengthen their counter-terrorism strategies in these volatile areas.



The Indian Air Force mourned the loss of Corporal Vikky Pahade, who was honored for his bravery and sacrifice. The Chief of Air Staff led the tributes, expressing deep condolences to Corporal Pahade's family. His sacrifice underscores the perils faced by the armed forces in their mission to safeguard the nation.

The attack's timing, just weeks before the Lok Sabha elections in the region, underscores the terrorists' attempt to undermine the peace and stability in the area. The relentless efforts of the security forces to track down the perpetrators continue aiming to restore peace and stability in the region. The timing of the attack is particularly significant, occurring just weeks before the Lok Sabha elections in the region. In response, authorities have intensified security measures across Poonch District, including increased security checks and patrols to ensure the safety of civilians and the smooth conduct of the elections. The attack on the IAF convoy in Poonch District is a stark reminder of the ongoing threat posed by terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. The terrorists' tactic of ambushing convoys and targeting security personnel reveals their fear of direct confrontations with the armed forces. The Indian Air Force's tribute to Corporal Vikky Pahade, a fallen hero, reflects the nation's respect and gratitude for those who lay down their lives in the line of duty. The relentless efforts of the security forces to track down the perpetrators continue, aiming to restore peace and stability in the region.

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BRUTAL ATTACK IN SOUTH KASHMIR: FORMER SARPANCH AND BJP WORKER AJAZ AHMAD SHEIKH SHOT DEAD BY TERRORISTS

On May 18, 2024, Ajaz Ahmad Sheikh, a former Sarpanch and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) worker, was shot dead by terrorists in Heerpora village, located in the Shopian district of South Kashmir. The attack occurred at Sheikh's home, where he was brutally targeted by the terrorists. Despite being rushed to the hospital, Sheikh succumbed to his injuries, marking another tragic episode in the region's ongoing strife. This heinous attack on Ajaz Ahmad Sheikh is highly reprehensible and is a deliberate attempt to disrupt the peace and stability of Jammu and Kashmir. Sheikh was known for his dedication to the BJP and his commitment to the development of his community. His assassination is not just a loss to his family and party but also a setback to the efforts to restore normalcy in the region.

The BJP has strongly condemned the attack, calling it a cowardly act of terrorism. Party leaders expressed their solidarity with Sheikh's family and reiterated their resolve to fight against the forces of terror. This incident underscores the continued threats faced by political workers and community leaders in Jammu and Kashmir. In response to the attack, security forces launched a massive operation to track down the terrorists responsible for this barbarity. The security forces, displaying bravery and

determination, vowed to bring the perpetrators to justice. The Kashmir Zone Police issued a statement condemning the attack and assuring the public that all efforts were being made to apprehend those responsible. The Lt Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Manoj Sinha, expressed deep shock over the incident and promised a stringent crackdown on terrorists and their supporters. Meanwhile, in a related incident, a tourist couple from Rajasthan, nature of terrorist violence.

Tabrez and Farha, were attacked by terrorists in the Pahalgam area of the Anantnag district. Tabrez sustained critical injuries, while Farha's condition was reported to be stable. These attacks highlight the persistent security challenges in the region and the indiscriminate

The killing of Ajaz Ahmad Sheikh has drawn widespread condemnation from political leaders across the spectrum. Farooq Abdullah, the leader of the National Conference, condemned the attack and called for an end to terrorism for peace to prevail in the Valley. Leaders emphasized that such acts of violence are a direct attack on the democratic fabric of the region. The government, civil society and security forces remain committed to restoring peace and stability in Jammu and Kashmir. The recent attacks serve as a grim reminder of the ongoing turmoil, but the determination to maintain law and order and ensure the safety of the people remains unwavering. The people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve to live in an environment free of fear and violence. The authorities are taking all necessary measures to safeguard the region's peace and bring about a lasting resolution to the conflict.



Killing of a senior political worker in South Kashmir is a direct attack on peace and stability, undermining the concerted efforts of security agencies in Jammu and Kashmir.

TERROR STRIKES PAHALGAM: JAIPUR TOURISTS INJURED IN VICIOUS ATTACK, TERRORISTS CAPTURED

On May 18, 2024, a tourist couple from Jaipur, Rajasthan, was grievously injured in a terrorist attack in the Yannar area of the Pahalgam tourist resort, located in the Anantnag District of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K). The couple namely innocent Farah Khan and Tabrez Khan, were among a group of 50 holidayers from Jaipur who had ventured to the picturesque Valley for leisure and relaxation. The attack transpired shortly after the couple had disembarked from their van at the resort. In a sudden and unprovoked act of violence, terrorists opened fire on them from a distance of approximately 15-20 feet. This brutal assault resulted in Farah sustaining a gunshot wound to her shoulder, while Tabrez narrowly escaped fatal injury. A bullet grazed his nose, causing significant trauma to his eyes.

In an impressive display of efficiency and resolve, security forces in Anantnag swiftly apprehended two hybrid terrorists in connection with the attack. The arrested individuals, Waseem Ahmad Shah and Adnan Ahmad Beigh, are residents of Anantnag. They were found in possession of a pistol with a loaded magazine, a grenade and 120 AK-47 rounds. This rapid response underscored the security forces' commitment to maintaining peace and thwarting terrorist activities in the region. The government of Rajasthan responded promptly to the crisis. Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma announced financial assistance of Rs1 lakh each for Farah and Tabrez from the Chief



Minister's Relief Fund. In his statement, the Chief Minister vehemently condemned the terrorist attack and assured the injured couple of comprehensive support, including medical assistance and any other necessary aid to ensure their full recovery.

The resolute actions of the security forces in capturing the assailants have sent a powerful message against terrorism. Their success in solving the Pahalgam terror attack highlights a zero-tolerance stance towards such acts of violence. This operation forms part of a broader strategy aimed at eradicating the terror ecosystem in Kashmir and restoring peace and normalcy to the Valley. The security forces remain steadfast in their mission to create a secure environment free from the menace of terrorism, reinforcing the message that any threats to peace will be met with unwavering resistance and decisive action. This incident, while tragic, has also showcased the resilience and solidarity of both the local and national authorities in their fight against terrorism, ensuring the safety and security of all citizens and visitors to the region.

Attacking innocent tourists in valley is a deliberate attempt at undermining the growth & development of tourism industry in Jammu and Kashmir.