

# TGD TERRORISM MONITOR

MONTHLY SECURITY ASSESSMENT – VOL. 4

APRIL 2026

Regional Threat Trends, Militant Activity,  
and Counter-Terrorism Response

## KEY FOCUS AREAS



MILITANT  
ACTIVITY



BORDER  
SECURITY



CT  
OPERATIONS



THREAT  
OUTLOOK

TRACKING THREATS. · MAPPING RESPONSES. · ASSESSING RISK.



FOCUS REGION: PAKISTAN–AFGHANISTAN BORDER BELT

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**The Global Decipher (TGD) provides in-depth, non-partisan analysis and coverage of terrorism, armed conflicts, and global security trends. By leveraging open-source intelligence, expert insights, and continuous monitoring, TGD aims to deliver accurate, timely, and actionable information to researchers, policymakers, and security professionals worldwide.**



### **Compiled by:**

**Muhammad Sameer Gulzar  
Sayeda Farani Fatima**

### **Edited By:**

**Aamir Hayat  
Mudassir Khattak**

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# Table of Contents

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<b>I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>II. OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>IV. THREAT ACTORS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>V. PROVINCIAL SECURITY ASSESSMENT.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>1. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>II. Balochistan.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>III. Gilgit Baltistan: .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>IV. Punjab and Sindh .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>VI. TACTICS .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>VII. KEY TAKEAWAYS: .....</b>	<b>10</b>



***PAKISTAN MONTHLY TERRORISM & COUNTER-  
TERRORISM ASSESSMENT***

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## I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In April 2026, Pakistan's security landscape remained highly kinetic, defined by a sustained operational tempo among militant groups, particularly in the border regions. The record for April reflects a heavy concentration of activity in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) and Balochistan, where threat actors demonstrated an ability to strike both Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA) and soft targets. During April, a total of 85 militant attacks were reported. In response, security forces conducted various Intelligence-Based Operations (IBOs), resulting in the killing of 109 militants. Additionally, 82 militants were injured, of whom 2 were subsequently arrested. The month's intensity was underscored by significant high-impact events, most notably the devastating Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Device (VBIED) in Bannu on April 2nd and the increasing integration of advanced technology, specifically quadcopter drone strikes in the Khyber District. These incidents, alongside frequent hit-and-run cases, indicate that militant groups have maintained operational capacity despite the pressure of cross-border operations. The security threat remains resilient, characterized by a deliberate widening of the collateral damage threshold and a strategic expansion into previously stable northern corridors.

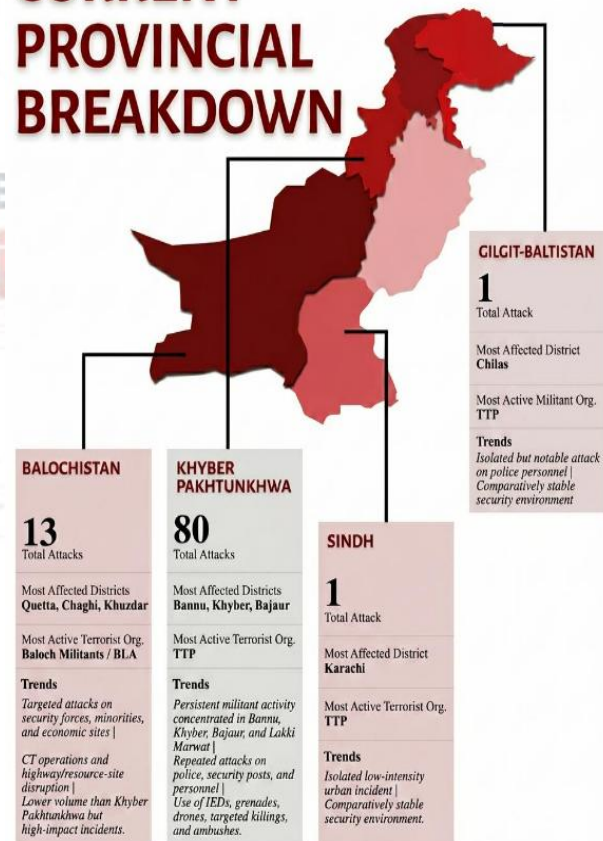
## II. OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW

The transition from March to April 2026 was marked by a shift from the high-frequency, low-intensity to more lethal, high-visibility strikes. While March saw militants focused on survival and dispersal, April revealed a reorganization of efforts to challenge state mobility and administrative presence. The geographical center of gravity remains entrenched in the southern districts of KPK, specifically Bannu, Lakki Marwat, and Tank and the western borderlands of North and South Waziristan. In the KPK theater, the conflict was characterized by suicide missions and sophisticated stand-off weaponry. Conversely, the Balochistan theater (Sorab, Mastung, Gwadar, and Quetta) functioned as a primary front for nationalist insurgent groups employing a harassment strategy designed to deny state mobility and sabotage transport infrastructure. This dual-theater friction continues to exert significant attrition on local law enforcement resources.

Police and security forces have been subjected to lethal assaults. Key incidents include the heavy exchange of fire at the NADRA office in Bannu and the attack on the Kangar Pul police post, which resulted in the martyrdom of Police Official Sher Muhammad Khan. Militants have transitioned to multi-directional assaults on fixed posts (e.g., the three-sided attack on the Mazanga police post) and have intensified strikes against polio vaccination security teams and mobile patrol units, such as the IED strike on a police patrol that injured five officers, including ASI Jamaluddin.

Militant actors are increasingly prioritizing the destruction of state assets to create governance vacuums. This includes the demolition of a Government Boys Primary School and a Government

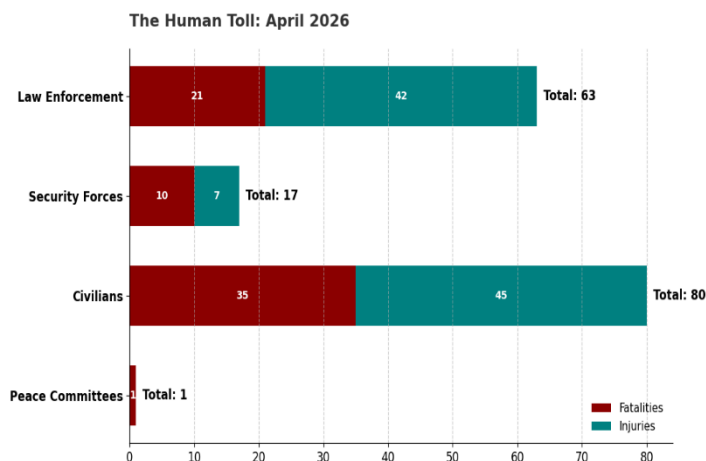
### CURRENT PROVINCIAL BREAKDOWN



Girls High School. These actions are clearly designed to discourage civilian participation in development.

### III. QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS: CASUALTIES

During the reporting period in April 2026, a total of 161 individuals were affected by militant violence across Pakistan, including 67 fatalities and 94 injuries. Civilians remained the most affected group, suffering 35 fatalities and 45 injuries, for a total of 80 casualties. Law enforcement agencies (LEAs) recorded 21 fatalities and 42 injuries, amounting to 63 casualties overall. Security forces sustained 10 fatalities and 7 injuries, bringing their total casualties to 17, while peace committees recorded 1 fatality. These figures reflect the human cost of ongoing militant activity and illustrate the continued operational risks faced by both state actors and the general population.



Counterterrorism and Intelligence-Based Operations (IBOs) conducted during April 2026 resulted in the neutralization of at least 109 militants across multiple operational theatres in Pakistan, while several others were injured or arrested during targeted raids and armed engagements. This included 37 militants killed during phases of Operation Ghazab-ul-Haq, 22 militants neutralized in a single joint Intelligence-Based Operation (IBO) in Bara, Khyber District, and the remaining 50 eliminated during border clearance and targeted counterterrorism operations.



### IV. THREAT ACTORS

In April 2026, militant violence across Pakistan was dominated by several major insurgent and terrorist actors operating across distinct regional theatres. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and the Hafiz Gul Bahadur (HGB) group were primarily responsible for militant activity in the newly merged districts of the province, particularly the southern belt, including North Waziristan, South Waziristan, Bannu, Lakki Marwat, Tank, and Dera Ismail Khan, which remained the primary centers of violence during April 2026. In Balochistan, Baloch nationalist militant groups, particularly the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA/Jayand Faction) and the Balochistan Liberation Front (BLF), directed violence through coordinated assaults, ambushes, and attacks targeting transport infrastructure. Furthermore, the BLA attack on a Coast Guard patrol boat at sea marked an alarming escalation and set a new precedent for militancy in Pakistan's maritime domain. The subsequent announcement of the BLA's so-called

“Hammal Maritime Defense Force” indicates an apparent attempt by the group to expand its operational theatre beyond conventional land-based insurgency into coastal and maritime environments.

The Islamic State – Khorasan Province (ISKP) expanded its operational footprint in Bajaur District by conducting targeted assassinations and IED attacks against individuals accused of collaborating with the state, as well as against local security personnel and religious figures. Meanwhile, Ittehadul Mujahideen Pakistan (IMP) remained notable for its pioneering use of quadcopter drone strikes, marking a gradual tactical evolution in militant operations.

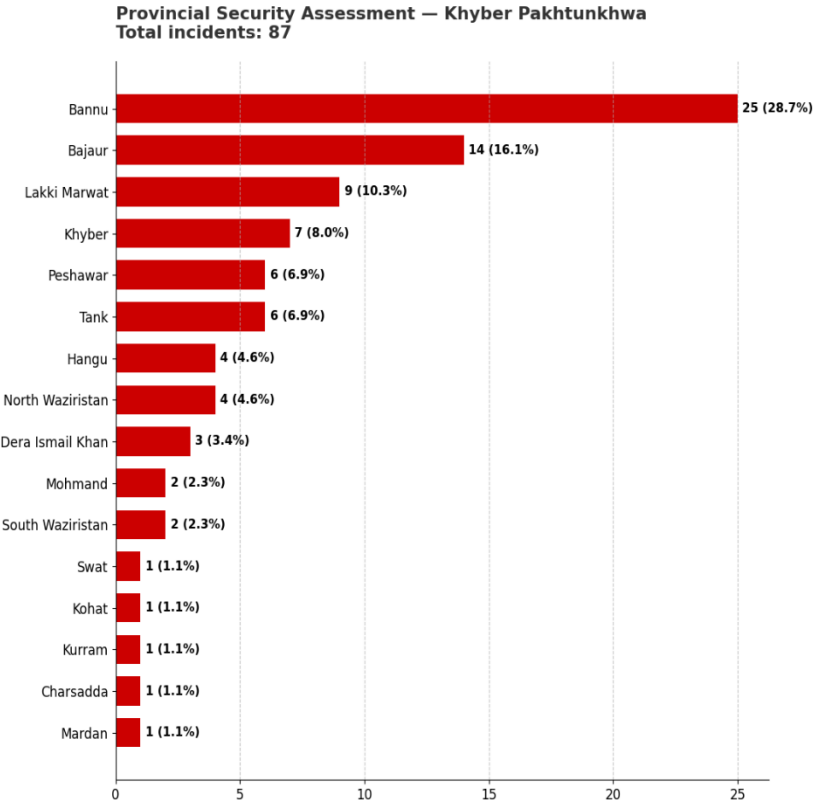
The April 2026 record also documents multiple attacks carried out by unidentified armed individuals and motorcycle-borne assailants, many of which remained unclaimed. These incidents are analytically assessed as operations conducted by proxy elements or splinter cells employed to maintain plausible deniability in targeted assassinations of political, tribal, and religious figures. Notable cases included the killing of Muhammad Roshan on 7 April in Bannu, the assassination of Maulana Khalid Amin on 8 April in Sarai Naurang tehsil, Lakki Marwat, and the targeted killing of a political leader and former peace committee member on 27 April in Kabal, Swat District.

## V. PROVINCIAL SECURITY ASSESSMENT

### 1. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa remained the primary theater of militant violence in April 2026, with conflict dynamics concentrated in strategically significant border districts where the state’s administrative reach continues to face persistent challenges. Districts including Bannu, Lakki Marwat, Peshawar, Bajaur, and the Waziristan corridors experienced a sustained wave of attacks aimed at undermining local law enforcement and security structures. A critical indicator of this pressure was the martyrdom of Police Official Sher Muhammad Khan during an intense exchange of fire at the Kangar Pul police post.

A total of 87 incidents were reported across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during the month. These include security forces and police intelligence operations against militant hideouts. Bannu recorded the highest number with 25 incidents, followed by Bajaur with 14 and Lakki Marwat with 9 incidents. Khyber District reported 7 incidents, while Peshawar and Tank each witnessed 6 incidents. Furthermore, Hangu and North Waziristan recorded 4 incidents each. Dera Ismail Khan reported

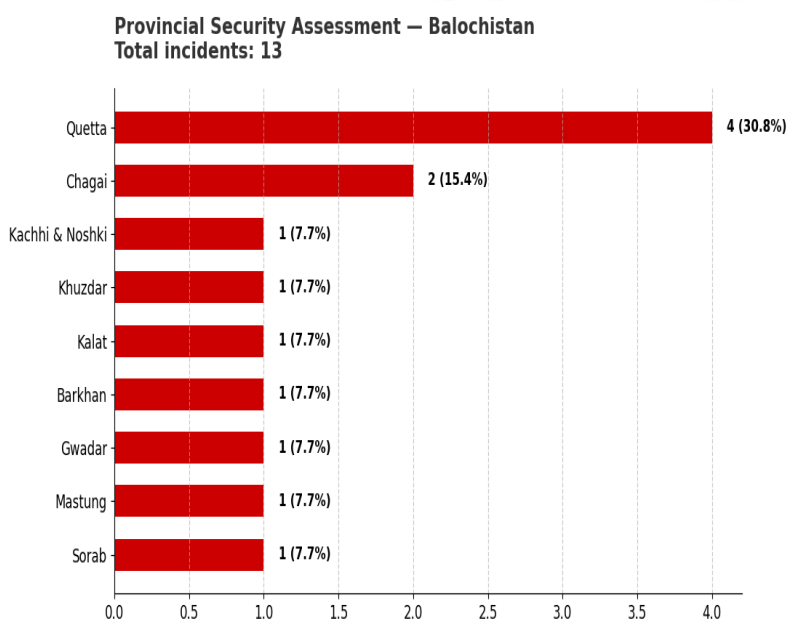


3 incidents, whereas South Waziristan and Mohmand witnessed 2 incidents each. One incident each was reported in Swat, Kohat, Kurram, Charsadda, and Mardan.

According to Information Minister Attaullah Tarar, security forces successfully foiled major insurgent maneuvers during the reporting period, neutralizing 109 militants nationwide, including approximately 30–40 militants in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, while injuring more than 80 others. Around six high-profile Intelligence-Based Operations (IBOs) were conducted in the province, resulting in the elimination of TTP commander Hussain Ullah alias Khalid and militant figure Faridullah Toofan. However, the continued assassinations of political and religious figures, including Mohammad Roshan of Jamaat-e-Islami and Maulana Khalid Amin, indicate that despite operational successes, militant networks retain the capacity to sustain localized assassination campaigns and targeted violence across the province.

## II. Balochistan

Activity in Balochistan during April 2026 remained concentrated along transit corridors, urban centers, and security checkpoints. A total of 13 militant incidents were recorded across the province during the month. Quetta emerged as the most affected district with 4 incidents, followed by Chagai with 2 incidents. One incident each was reported in Kachhi, Noshki, Khuzdar, Kalat, Barkhan, Gwadar, Mastung, and Sorab. In response, security forces conducted approximately four Intelligence-Based Operations (IBOs), resulting in the neutralization of several militants and the disruption of militant activities across the province. A notable



operational success was the interdiction of a militant roadblock on the N-85 highway near Sorab on 6 April, which helped maintain the security of a critical provincial logistics route.

The most alarming development was the 12 April attack by the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) on a Pakistan Coast Guards patrol boat off the coast of Jiwani. This marked a significant shift from conventional land-based ambushes toward maritime targeting and coincided with the announcement of the BLA's so-called "Hammal Maritime Defense Force," indicating an apparent expansion of the group's

operational theatre toward coastal and maritime domains surrounding Gwadar and Pakistan's western coastline.

## III. Gilgit Baltistan:

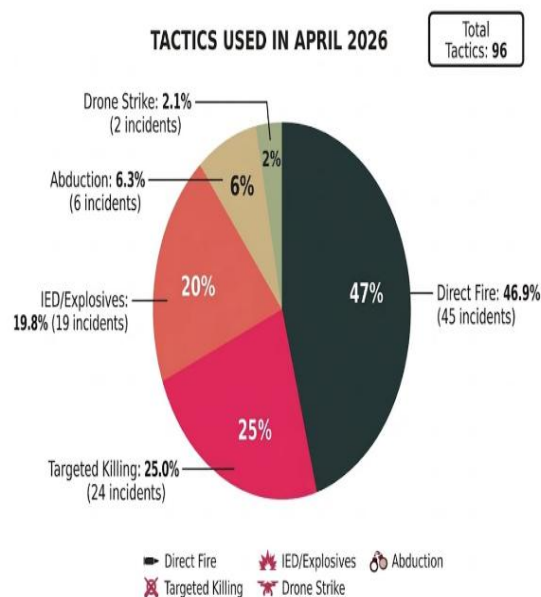
Gilgit-Baltistan remained relatively calm during the reporting period, with only one militant incident reported in April 2026. On 13 April, gunmen opened fire on a police team conducting an anti-narcotics operation in Thor Nala, Chilas, resulting in the deaths of three police personnel and injuries to four others. The attack was claimed by the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). When viewed alongside the previous month's attack reportedly claimed by Ittehadul Mujahideen Pakistan (IMP), the incident may indicate a gradual shift of militant attention toward the strategically sensitive Gilgit-Baltistan region, although the overall security situation remained comparatively stable during the reporting period.

## IV. Punjab and Sindh

In Sindh, one incident was reported in Karachi, specifically in the Manghopir area, involving clashes between police personnel and armed motorcyclists affiliated with Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). The incident resulted in the martyrdom of one police officer. No militant incidents were reported in Punjab during the reporting period. These provinces maintained a relatively stable posture. Security activity was largely limited to preventative IBOs and the interdiction of spillover cells rather than active insurgent combat.

## VI. TACTICS

Direct fire and armed assaults remained the most frequently employed militant tactics during April 2026, accounting for 45 incidents (46.9%) of the total recorded militant activity. Targeted killings constituted the second most common tactic, with 24 incidents (25%), reflecting a continued focus on assassinations of political, tribal, religious, and security-linked individuals. Improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and explosive attacks remained another major component of militant operations, with 19 incidents (19.8%) involving roadside bombs, planted explosives, and vehicle-targeted attacks against security personnel and state infrastructure.



Abductions accounted for 6 incidents (6.3%), demonstrating the continued use of coercive tactics to intimidate local populations, pressure communities, and undermine state authority in conflict-prone districts. Militants also employed low-cost quadcopter drone strikes in 2 incidents (2.1%), particularly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Khyber and southern districts, signaling a gradual tactical evolution toward the use of aerial capabilities. In Balochistan, direct fire assaults, ambushes, and attacks on highways and transit infrastructure reflected a broader strategy aimed at restricting state mobility and disrupting logistical networks. Collectively, these tactics demonstrate a diversified militant operational approach combining conventional armed assaults with asymmetric and technologically adaptive methods.

## VII. KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- **Technological Adaptation:** The continued use of quadcopter drones by militant groups, particularly Ittehadul Mujahideen Pakistan (IMP), highlights a growing technological adaptation that increasingly challenges conventional static defense mechanisms used by police and paramilitary forces, especially in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's southern and merged districts.
- **Expansion of Maritime Militancy:** The Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) attack on a Pakistan Coast Guards patrol boat near Jiwani, alongside the announcement of the so-called "Hammal Maritime Defense Force," signals an alarming expansion of militant operations into Pakistan's maritime domain and coastal security environment.

- **Targeting of Transit and Logistics Corridors:** Militant attempts to establish roadblocks and attacks along critical highways, including the N-85 corridor in Balochistan, confirm a strategic focus on disrupting economic connectivity, restricting state mobility, and undermining logistical supply routes.
- **Persistent Threat in Southern KP:** Southern districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, including North and South Waziristan, Bannu, Lakki Marwat, Tank, and Dera Ismail Khan, remained the principal centers of militant violence, reflecting the sustained operational capacity of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and affiliated groups.
- **Expansion Toward Gilgit-Baltistan:** The Thor Nala attack in Chilas, claimed by the TTP, when viewed alongside the previous month's incident, reportedly linked to IMP, suggests a possible gradual shift of militant attention toward the strategically sensitive Gilgit-Baltistan region, which has traditionally remained relatively insulated from sustained militant violence.

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