

Weekly POK News Digest

(A weekly news digest on Pakistan Occupied Kashmir)

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30 June - 06 July 2025

POK
eco-tourism
capitalocene
Gilgit-Baltistan
Environmental Protection Agency
environmental rights
Ashura Processions
tourism



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Political Developments

PTI faces blow in 'AJK' as two key lawmakers defect to PPP

The Nation, 30 June 2025

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) suffered a significant political setback in 'Azad Kashmir' as two senior members of the Legislative Assembly officially joined the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP). The development was announced following a high-profile meeting with Faryal Talpur, President of PPP's Women Wing, held at Zardari House in Karachi on Monday.

Chaudhry Rafiq Nayyar, PTI 'Azad Kashmir's Senior Vice President and MLA, along with 'AJK' Transport Minister Javed Butt, declared their decision to align with the PPP, expressing full confidence in the leadership of President Asif Ali Zardari and Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. Former 'AJK' Prime Minister Sardar Tanveer Ilyas, present at the occasion, praised the PPP as the only party genuinely dedicated to promoting the Kashmir cause and the development of 'Azad Kashmir'.

Faryal Talpur warmly welcomed the new entrants into the party, accompanied by their supporters. 'AJK' Minister and PPP 'Azad Kashmir' General Secretary Faisal Mumtaz, along with Chaudhry Muhammad Riaz, also attended the gathering.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/30-Jun-2025/pti-faces-blow-in-ajk-as-two-key-lawmakers-defect-to-ppp>

'AJK' PM lauds field marshal for voicing Pakistan's stance on Kashmir

Dawn, 30 June 2025

'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (AJK) Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwarul Haq paid tributes to the chief of the army staff for once again articulating Pakistan's stance on the Kashmir issue.

"By forcefully echoing the aspirations of the Kashmiri people in his address at the maritime warriors' parade, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir has not only reaffirmed Pakistan's historic position but also reminded the world that the Kashmir issue remains central to peace and stability in South Asia," the 'AJK' premier said in a statement. Mr Haq said the field marshal's remarks were a powerful demonstration of Pakistan's bond with the oppressed people of 'Indian-Occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IOJK).

Referring to the field marshal's observation that the Kashmiri struggle for freedom was a legitimate movement and not terrorism, the 'AJK' premier said: "India may try to malign our struggle with false narratives, but the world knows the difference between a people's fight for their rights and acts of terror."

"Our enemy, India, is intoxicated by arrogance and driven by hegemonic ambitions. But the people of Kashmir and Pakistan are united in exposing its lies and resisting its oppression." The 'AJK' prime minister asserted that the armed forces of Pakistan and the

Kashmiri people were on the same page when it came to defending the rights of the Kashmiri nation.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1921058/ajk-pm-lauds-field-marshal-for-voicing-pakistans-stance-on-kashmir>

The Monster in Attabad

Pamir Times, 3 July 2025

Attabad Lake, with its turquoise waters, cradled by rugged mountains, is a balm for the heart. When the Sun shines, its golden rays dance upon the lake's surface, casting a magical shimmer that feels almost unreal. Locals, as well as national and international tourists, are drawn to this natural wonder. It's the kind of place one imagines in a fairy-tale – a lake where fairies and unicorns dwell, hidden among the mountains. As in every fairy-tale, there is always a lurking monster. And here, that monster arrived too – black with greedy green eyes – its name: Capitalism.

In recent years, a wave of luxury hotels has begun to rise along the lake's edges, with many more still under construction. These establishments flaunt their proximity to the lake as a prime selling point, urging tourists to experience "lakeside luxury." The largest tourist facility on Attabad is the Luxus Hunza, whose brightly colored resorts at first glance appear charming. Yet the old saying stings with truth here: "Never be deceived by appearances."

The shining blue Attabad lake displayed on Luxus Hunza website is turning murky brown due to hotel's discharge of its own kitchen and toilet waste into water. As noted by Sarosh Sultan in 2023, hotels around Attabad routinely discharge sewage directly into the water due to absence of proper sewage systems. It's the classic capitalist shortcut: it's easier and cheaper to dump than to care. A recent Instagram reel by international tourist George Buckley captured the unsettling contrast between the usual blue and concerning brown water patches near the hotel zone. However, the most damning evidence lies in 2020 official investigation by the Forest, Wildlife and Environment Department, Government of Gilgit-Baltistan. According to the report, although soakage pits for Luxus Hunza were found behind the restaurant at a safe distance, open dumping of waste was clearly observed when the team visited. This waste inevitably finds its way into the lake. Even more concerning, the survey team found that a new kitchen was under construction dangerously close to the lake and concluded that its "effluent would directly seep into the water" once operational.

In response to the viral reel, Luxus Hunza defended itself with two claims: (1) that it had obtained all necessary environmental approvals before beginning operations, and (2) that the brown discoloration in the lake is merely glacial silt. However, the 2020 investigation report by the Forest,

Wildlife and Environment Department of Gilgit-Baltistan (FWE) tells a different story. It clearly notes that only a conditional No Objection Certificate (NOC) was issued — one that required the hotel's new construction to be at least 20 feet away from the lake's edge. But as is too often the case in Pakistan, such conditions were soon forgotten, and no follow-up investigations have since been carried out. As for the claim of glacial silt, it's not so easily verifiable. While reports from 2013 (Dawn) confirm that GLOF events (Glacial Lake Outburst Floods) were common in Gulkin Glacier, which feeds the Attabad Lake, there is no information available to see whether the brown patches indeed caused by glacial silt or not. The FWE Department and Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) should conduct the experiments for verification. However, even if it is glacial silt right now, this still does not explain or excuse the multiple documented instances of poor waste management linked to Luxus Hunza. It is imperative to note that Luxus Hunza is not alone in this. The 2020 report named several other resorts such as Dolphin Floating Resort, Hidden Valley Lake Resort, Whispering Lake Resort, among others that were constructed so close to the water with no room left for filtration systems to be installed. Gray, brown and black waste from kitchens, septic tanks and soak pits directly flows into the lake.

The real tragedy however lies not only in these profit-driven companies but

also in the state's willful indifference which enables and sustains capitalism. The government and its departments often only remember climate change and the environment during floods. Later, the officials go on luxurious international aid tours, the outcomes of which remain unclear always. The GB government, following the recent social media outcry, has now conducted an investigation, sealed Luxus Hunza, and imposed a fine of Rs. 1.5 million. However, this raises an important question: if the authorities were already aware of these issues as far back as 2020, why was no action taken at the time?

We live in the age of the Anthropocene — a chapter of deep harm written by human hands on our home, earth. But as some scholars argue that perhaps this is not humanity's footprint at large but the footprint of capitalism. Hence, they emphasize to call this age capitalocene (Matthews) — an era where profit is prioritized over nature. It is now no longer just important — it is urgent — to resist and stop this. To protect what remains. Water does not only sustain life — water itself is life.

<https://pamirtimes.net/2025/07/02/the-monster-in-attabad/>

'AJK' Judge jailed for contempt after illegally releasing drug trafficker despite SC ban

The Nation, 2 July 2025

In a rare move, police in Haveli, Kahuta ('Azad Jammu and Kashmir') arrested Sessions Judge Raja Imtiaz Ahmad for

contempt of court after he unlawfully granted bail to a known narcotics trafficker, defying a clear directive from the Supreme Court of 'AJK'.

The 'AJK' Supreme Court, headed by Chief Justice Raja Saeed Akram Khan, sentenced Judge Imtiaz to three days in jail. The judge, posted at the Anti-Narcotics Court in Haveli, had controversially ordered the release of Raja Dilawar Khan on February 16, 2023. Dilawar had been caught with a significant quantity of heroin and had previously been denied bail at all judicial levels, including the apex court.

Despite an explicit Supreme Court order denying any future bail and instructing that the trial conclude within six months, Judge Imtiaz proceeded with the release. Shortly after being freed, Dilawar absconded abroad while his appeal was still pending. The judge was suspended last month on the Supreme Court's orders, and a formal investigation into his misconduct was initiated.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/02-Jul-2025/ajk-judge-jailed-for-contempt-after-illegally-releasing-drug-trafficker-despite-sc-ban>

Hunza Faces Environmental Crossroads: EPA Urges Immediate Ban on New Hotel Constructions in Central Hunza, Duikar, Attabad, and Borith Lake

Pamir Times, 4 July 2025

In a move that could mark a significant turning point for tourism and environmental management in Gilgit-

Baltistan, the Gilgit-Baltistan Environmental Protection Agency (GB-EPA) has formally recommended a five-year moratorium on all new hotel construction and expansion in four of the region's most ecologically sensitive zones: Central Hunza, Duikar, Attabad Lake, and Borith Lake.

The letter addressed to the Deputy Commissioner of Hunza, issued by the Director of GB-EPA, highlights a deepening environmental crisis fuelled by rampant and unregulated tourism infrastructure development. The agency's findings—drawn from recent investigations and environmental assessments—present a stark warning about the deteriorating water quality, air pollution, habitat degradation, and overburdened local resources, particularly in the context of mass tourism.

Unregulated Tourism Threatening Public Health and Ecosystems

In Central Hunza, the EPA has reported that a majority of hotels operate without functional sewage treatment systems, resulting in direct discharge of waste into freshwater sources, including the Hunza River. The contaminated water poses serious health risks such as typhoid, dysentery, and hepatitis for both residents and visitors. Additionally, the excessive use of diesel generators by hotels has been flagged for causing significant air pollution, undermining the valley's image as a pristine, nature-based tourist destination.

The EPA warns that the carrying capacity of Central Hunza has already been exceeded, and further expansion of tourism facilities could result in “irreversible damage to the environment and a declining tourist experience.”

Duikar and Attabad Lake at Risk

The hilltop settlement of Duikar, famous for its panoramic sunrise views, is experiencing rapid environmental degradation due to mushrooming hotel structures, which lack proper waste disposal mechanisms. Solid waste, sewage, and over-extraction of local resources are putting pressure on the fragile mountain ecosystem.

Meanwhile, Attabad Lake, recently designated as a critical drinking water source under the Greater Hunza Water Supply Scheme, is under immediate threat from lakeside hotel construction. The EPA warns that if unregulated development continues, it could jeopardise the quality of drinking water, increase the risk of flash floods and landslides, and disturb the delicate ecosystem of the lake.

The EPA has called for a strict ban on any further construction around Attabad Lake, along with regulation of boating activities to keep them within safe carrying capacity limits.

Borith Lake’s Protected Status Undermined

Borith Lake, a high-altitude wetland recognised under the Gilgit-Baltistan

Forest Act, 2019, serves as a crucial habitat for migratory and endangered bird species. The EPA has raised alarms over sewage runoff from nearby hotels, which risks eutrophication and collapse of the lake’s aquatic ecosystem. Boating and human activity have also been cited for disturbing bird nesting grounds. To safeguard its ecological integrity, the EPA has recommended that Borith Lake be formally designated as a protected eco-tourism zone, with a complete halt on all construction and strict regulation of activities around the lake.

Legal Backing and the Call for Sustainable Tourism

The letter cites a comprehensive legal framework that mandates protective action, including the Gilgit-Baltistan Environmental Protection Act (2014) and the newly framed Ecologically Sensitive and Critical Areas (ESCA) Rules (2024). These instruments empower district administrations to restrict harmful development and uphold environmental rights. More importantly, the EPA is urging the district administration to lead a strategic shift from mass tourism to eco-tourism—one that prioritises minimal ecological footprint, promotes community-led businesses, and safeguards Hunza’s cultural and environmental heritage.

Key Recommendations from GB-EPA

Immediate halt to all hotel construction lacking wastewater treatment systems. Five-year moratorium on hotel

construction and expansion in Central Hunza, Duikar, Attabad Lake, and Borith Lake. Full construction ban around Borith Lake and regulation of boating and recreational activities. Adoption of a sustainable urban planning framework and carrying capacity assessments before lifting the moratorium.

Formal designation of Borith Lake as an eco-tourism zone.

A Crossroads for Hunza

In concluding its letter, the GB-EPA warns that failure to act now will lead to irreversible loss of one of the world's most iconic mountain landscapes. The short-term profits of unchecked tourism growth, the agency notes, cannot be allowed to outweigh long-term health, environmental, and economic sustainability.

<https://pamirtimes.net/2025/07/03/hunza-faces-environmental-crossroads-epa-urges-immediate-ban-on-new-hotel-constructions-in-central-hunza-duikar-attabad-and-borith-lake/>

PPP eyes power in 'AJK' amid PTI defections

The Nation, 4 July 2025

Pakistan People's Party (PPP) is eyeing power in 'Azad Jammu Kashmir' amid defections within the Pakistan Tehrik-e-Insaf (PTI) which currently rules the state.

The current Legislative Assembly will complete its five-year term next year but the PPP has seen an influx of the PTI dissidents much earlier. This even

prompted some to predict an in-house change.

The PPP leaders however, denied this. "Unless there is a major shift, we will wait for the general elections (in 'AJK')," said a key leader of the party. In the 'AJK' Legislative Assembly there are 53 members in total and a simple majority would be 27 votes.

The PTI emerged as the largest party in the 2021 'AJK' Legislative Assembly elections by winning 25 out of 45 general seats, recent developments suggest a shifting political tide in favour of the PPP, which had originally secured 11 seats. The Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) had managed 6 seats, while the Muslim Conference and the Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Party (JKPP) secured one seat each.

The PPP, which has previously ruled the 'AJK', is now rapidly solidifying its position as a dominant political force. In a significant political development this week, two key PTI figures, Chaudhry Rafiq Nayyar, Senior Vice President of PTI 'AJK', and Javed Butt, Transport Minister, officially joined the PPP following a meeting with PPP Women Wing President Faryal Talpur at Zardari House in Karachi. Both leaders expressed their full confidence in the leadership of PPP President Asif Ali Zardari and Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

Earlier, former 'AJK' Prime Minister Sardar Tanveer Ilyas, declared PPP as the "only party truly dedicated" to advancing the Kashmir cause and

ensuring the development of 'Azad Kashmir'. The PPP's rise in 'AJK' politics was further underscored when Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari held a high-level meeting with a delegation of newly joined Kashmiri political leaders, including former PM Sardar Tanveer Ilyas, PM's Advisor Sardar Sagheer, and several lawmakers and Kashmir Council members. Among them were Rafiq Nayyar, Ali Shan Soni, Javed Butt, Umar Tanveer Ilyas, and Sardar Adnan Sayab, all of whom have now pledged allegiance to the PPP.

During the meeting, Bilawal welcomed the leaders and commended their commitment to democratic values and regional development. He noted that their inclusion would significantly strengthen the PPP's organizational structure and political outreach in 'AJK'.

Praising Bilawal's consistent advocacy for Kashmir at global forums, Sardar Tanveer Ilyas said: "You have represented the voice of Kashmir across the globe, and for that, we are deeply grateful." Other leaders echoed this sentiment, highlighting Bilawal's credibility as a regional and international advocate for Kashmiri rights.

In a separate political engagement, PPP 'AJK' central leader and former advisor Chaudhry Riaz met 'AJK' President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry at Jammu Kashmir House in Islamabad to discuss current political affairs and regional developments. Barrister

Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry had been associated with the PPP in the past and after changing parties multiple times could again consider returning to the PPP.

"If a few more influentials join the PPP, we will be in a position to form government in the 'AJK'. We have done it before," said a senior PPP leader. He said President Asif Ali Zardari and PPP chief Bilawal Bhutto Zardari were optimistic to make a comeback in 'AJK' before the general elections in Pakistan.

"This ('AJK' elections) will be a test. We are aiming to elect Bilawal Bhutto as the Prime Minister (of Pakistan), so we will hope to start off well," he added.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/04-Jul-2025/ppp-eyes-power-in-ajk-amid-pti-defections>

Ancient History of Gilgit-Baltistan – Part I

Pamir Times, 5 July 2025

A nation that disregards the importance of its history risks having no future. Unfortunately, the history of Gilgit-Baltistan has long remained in dismay due to the negligence of our society, government, and especially the youth. The absence of history departments in Karakoram International University, Gilgit and Baltistan University, Skardu reflects a troubling indifference toward preserving our heritage. As a result, newer generations remain unaware of their rich historical roots-be it religious, political or social. In an effort to revive this forgotten legacy, I am presenting a

series of writings on the ancient history of Gilgit-Baltistan, focusing on its ancient names, languages, and religions. This work aims to spark awareness and appreciation for the deep cultural and historical identity of our region.

Part 1: Ancient Names of Gilgit-Baltistan:

Destinies of states are normally determined by their physical environment as well as by their past histories, which manifest from Gilgit-Baltistan, one of the eccentric regions of the world. The mighty mountains of Gilgit-Baltistan preserved the centuries-old ancient human traditions and folk tales. Nonetheless, in later epochs, geographers and travelers have unveiled the story of mountains and their peoples to the external world.

Gilgit-Baltistan is comprised of a 72,496 sq. km area and a population of over 1.49 million in 2017 according to Gilgit-Baltistan at Glance Report 2020. It has three administrative divisions; Gilgit, Diamer, and Baltistan, further demarcated into ten districts; Gilgit, Hunza, Nagar, Ghizer, Astore, Diamer, Skardu, Shigar, Kharmang, and Ghanche. On its northwest lies a thin arm of Afghan territory known as the Wakhan strip, which stretches out of its main body in Afghanistan to the north of Hunza and also includes the Little Pamir Mountain ranges. The former Russian states of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan are found across this Wakhan strip, while the uppermost tip

of this strip meets with Xinjiang, a province of China, forming the northern boundary of Gilgit-Baltistan. Likewise, from the east, it is isolated by rigid frontiers of 'Indian administered' states of Kargil, Ladakh, and Jammu and Kashmir via a temporary cease-fire line which was established in 1948; runs down from the Karakoram Pass towards the Nanga Parbat divides Kashmir into hermetically sealed halves. Similarly, it also meets with the NWFP (KPK) province in the southwest.

Origin of the Present Name

Historically, Gilgit-Baltistan was divided into several independent principalities ruled by the local rulers. The whole region of Gilgit-Baltistan never remained united in her entire political history. Therefore, no common name was available for the entire region. Various writers used different names by using various geographical features.

Herodotus (d. 425 BC), the first Greek historian, mentioned the country of Pactyica, the country of war-like Indian tribes in the north. They were famous for their immense quality of gold, which was either extracted from sand by using gold-digging ants bigger than foxes but smaller than dogs or washed down by rivers. Almost all the scholars agreed that here Herodotus referred to the country of Darada. He also referred to these lands when he said, "the greater part of Asia was discovered by the Persian king Darius as he wanted to

find out where Indus joins the Sea because Indus is the only river other than Nile where crocodiles are found. So, he sent an expedition under Scylax, who followed the course of river Indus until it reached the sea.” Claudius Ptolemy (d. 170 AD), the Greek geographer and astronomer, mentioned the nation of the Byltae/Balti, who lived in the west of the Akhass region near the Imus Mountains (mountains of Pamir and Hindu Kush).

Fa-Hien (d. 422 AD), a Chinese Buddhist monk, in his travels in India and Ceylon (Sri Lanka) from 399 to 414 described the country of Kee-cha where he found four great monasteries. It has not been identified but scholars believe that it was Ladakh or Skardu or some well-known place in it. Before entering North India, he reached the kingdom called To-lie, identified with the country of Dardae, where monks belonged to the Hinayana branch of Buddhism.

Kalhana's *Rajatarangini*, an ancient account of the history of Kashmir, the first time mentioned the word Daraddesa for the Gilgit region. The late 4th-century Kharoshthi inscription of a Daraddraya (king of the Daradas) was found at the Alam Bridge near Gilgit.

Mirza Haider Doughlat invaded the country of Bolor in 1528. He gives the following description as,

“Bolor is an infidel country and most of its inhabitants are mountaineers. Not

one of them has religion or creed. Nor is there anything which they abstain from or to avoid but they do whatever they list and follow their desires without check or compunction. Baluristan is bounded on the east by the provinces of Kashghar and Yarkand; on the north by Badakhshan; on the west by Kabul and Lumghan; and the south by the dependencies of Kashmir. It is the fourth month's journey in circumference. Its whole extent consists of mountains, valleys, and defiles, in so much that one might almost say that in the whole of Baluristan, not one farsakh of level ground is to be met with. The population is numerous. No village is at peace with another, but there is constant hostility, and fights are continually occurring among them.”

The Mughal sources used Tibet-i-Khurd (Little Tibet) for the Baltistan region. The Chinese sources mentioned Po-lu-lo in connection with the 7th-century local ruling dynasty of Patola Shahis. It was later changed into Bolor by the Muslim sources. Bolor at that time consisted of two parts; eastern parts were called Great Bolor identified as Baltistan and western parts were called Little Bolor identified as Gilgit.

Chilas is the Headquarter of Diamer district. It also includes sub-divisions of Darel, Tangir, and Astor. It is the ancient city that lies at the crossroads of communication for traders and pilgrims. Its ancient names are Shiltas, Silavata, and Semanangara, all derived from 6th-century AD old rock inscriptions. The Northern Areas of

Pakistan was later renamed as Gilgit-Baltistan by the Pakistan Peoples Party's government in 2009.

<https://pamirtimes.net/2025/07/05/ancient-history-of-gilgit-baltistan-part-i/>

Economic Developments

Six Daanish schools for Balochistan, 'AJK' okayed

Dawn, 4 July 2025

A special meeting of the Central Development Working Party (CDWP) approved six Daanish school projects — in regions of Balochistan and one in 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (AJK) — with a total estimated cost of Rs19.25 billion.

The meeting, chaired by Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal, was convened at the prime minister's directives.

The approved projects include the establishment of Daanish schools in the Qilla Saifullah district of Balochistan at an estimated cost of Rs2.93bn, while another school would be set up in the Sibi district at an estimated cost of Rs3.35bn. The establishment of a Daanish school at Baiker in Dera Bugti district of Balochistan would cost Rs2.67bn, while the one in the Musakhel district would be set up for Rs3.63bn. Another such school in the Zhob district would cost Rs3.63bn.

A similar project in 'AJK's Bagh district is also planned, with an estimated cost of Rs 3.04bn. All six school projects are based on a fifty-fifty cost-sharing

formula between the federal government and the respective provincial and regional governments. The federal government has also planned to establish new Daanish schools in underserved districts.

For this purpose, land has been proposed and detailed visits will be conducted during the feasibility stage. The core objective of the project is to establish fully functional boarding schools with staff residential facilities, equipped with modern educational systems. These institutions will serve both boys and girls from Grade 6 to 12. Each school is envisioned as a model institution that combines advanced learning technologies with traditional values, focusing on innovation, entrepreneurship and digital literacy, all within a safe and inspiring learning environment.

While reviewing the proposals, the planning minister stated that more than 25 million children in Pakistan were currently out of school, which is a serious national concern. He stressed that raising the literacy rate to 90 per cent is essential for the country's development.

He reaffirmed the federal government's commitment to investing in education and supporting the provinces in building modern, quality institutions, such as Daanish Schools, under the Public Sector Development Programme.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1921933/six-daanish-schools-for-balochistan-ajk-okayed>

From Vernacular Urdu Media

‘Azad Kashmir’ Election, decision on PTI’s tickets will be done by Imran Khan: Sheeraz Ikram

Jammu and Kashmir Times, 4 July 2025

‘Azad Kashmir’s PTI’s Deputy President Mirpur Khadi Shareef Chaudhry Sheeraz Akram said that during recent days PTI’s ‘Azad Kashmir’ President Sardar Abdul Qayoom Niyazi in a personal gathering gave green light for Chaudhry Hameed Pothi for Kharri Shareef ticket. This announcement has caused despair among the workers of the PTI, who also happen to be angry over this decision. In the wake of PTI worker’s reaction, the president of PTI ‘Azad Kashmir’ Abdul Qayoom Niyazi in his personal Facebook post mentioned that the confirmation of the allotting of the tickets will be done by Imran Khan. He further said that to whom Imran Khan will allot the tickets, we will support that candidate. Regarding Kharri Shareef ticket, Niyazi said that choosing Chaudhry Hameed was his personal decision and final decision on it too will be done by none other than Imran Khan. He further added that the tickets will be allotted as per performance of the candidates.

<https://jammukashmirtimes.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Resize-of-PAGE-03-1-2.jpg>

Foolproof security for Ashura Processions in Gilgit, 1421 police personnel deployed

Urdu Point, 5 July 2025

Under the care of District Police Officer (DPO) Gilgit, for the 10th Muharram ul Haram procession a plan of full security has been established. As per plan, strict measures will be in place throughout the district. According to the police officer, nearly 1421 police personnel will be performing the security duties. Besides this, 105 personnel of Gilgit-Baltistan Scouts in ten mobile teams will be on the ground, and 100 personnel’s from the frontier constabulary will be taking part in the security order. Twenty mobile vehicles of Pakistan rangers will remain alert to deal with any kind of problem. As per the security plan, police personnel’s donned in civil clothes will keep a close watch on specific people taking part in the processions.

According to police, all the entry points of the processions will undergo a strict check and every effort will be made for people’s protection. For smooth traffic movement, announcements about specific roads have been made and police has requested the general people for cooperation so that the Ashura procession occurs peacefully.

<https://www.urdupoint.com/pakistan/news/gilgit/national-news/live-news-4481005.html>

From Social Media

JAMIL NAGRI @jamilnagri

4 July 2025

Sectarian sensitivity, a clash incident between two groups in Chhamogarh area in Gilgit, created uncertainty across Gilgit-Baltistan.

Link to the tweet:

<https://x.com/jamilnagri/status/1941214873817674024>

WAJAHAT ALI @wajahatgilgiti

6 July 2025

For security reasons, mobile service has been suspended in Gilgit city since night.

#Gilgit

Link to the tweet:

<https://x.com/wajahatgilgiti/status/1941598471586263042>

PAMIR TIMES @pamirtimes

5 July 2025

Chilas, the headquarters of District Diamer in Pakistan's Gilgit-Baltistan region, sizzled under extreme heat as temperatures soared to 48.5°C (119.3°F), marking one of the hottest days ever recorded in the area.

According to the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PakMet), temperatures in both Chilas and nearby Bunji hovered around 46°C the previous day.

PakMet has also issued an alert warning of potential Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) in the region, due to rising temperatures accelerating glacier melt

#GLOFs #ClimateChange #Pakistan #GilgitBaltistan #Chilas

<https://x.com/pamirtimes/status/1941536432306208877>

WAJAHAT ALI @wajahatgilgiti

4 July 2025

Incompetent government, end load shedding, or we will start a civil disobedience movement. Gilgit-Baltistan Youth Movement

#gilgitbaltistan #loadshedding #crises

Link to the video:

<https://x.com/wajahatgilgiti/status/1940845209736433705>

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Disclaimer

PoK weekly News Digest is a collection of news reports and press releases published in various newspapers and local media related to Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK), referred to as 'Azad Kashmir' and 'Gilgit Baltistan' by the government of Pakistan. The news reports have been edited and abridged to provide clarity. MP-IDSA is not responsible for the accuracy and authenticity of the news items.



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