



# TERROR TRACKER

*Newsletter by Counter Terrorism Centre*



MANOHAR PARRIKAR INSTITUTE FOR  
DEFENCE STUDIES AND ANALYSES  
मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान



**PAK LINK TO KILLED PAHALGAM TERRORISTS**

**MALEGAON VERDICTS DEBUNKS FALSE NARRATIVE**

**BALUCH CHILD FACES TERROR CHARGES**

**+ MORE NEWS & ANALYSES**

# Proof of Pak Identity of Neutralized Pahalgam Terrorists Found

In a significant counter-terrorism victory on 29 July 2025, Union Home Minister Amit Shah confirmed in the Lok Sabha that the three terrorists killed in **Operation Mahadev** were responsible for the **April 22 Pahalgam attack**, which took 26 lives.

The operation, carried out jointly by the Indian Army, CRPF, and J&K Police in Lidwas, led to the elimination of **Lashkar-e-Taiba commander Suleiman**, along with senior operatives Afghan and Jibran.

Home Minister Shah declared their deaths as a crucial blow to the terror network behind the attacks in **Pahalgam and Gagangir**.

Security forces recovered an array of items from the terrorists, including **LoRa communication sets**, Pakistani **NADRA** (a **Pakistan** government agency) **ID cards**, multiple **mobile phones**, and local **Aadhaar cards**. These proofs clearly underscored cross-border infiltration and local logistical support.

Intelligence agencies believe the Aadhaar cards helped the infiltrators evade police scrutiny, while the Pakistani identity documents confirm the foreign origin of the terrorists.

The **LoRa (long-range) devices**, which don't rely on satellite or mobile networks, are increasingly used by Pakistan-backed terrorists for secure communications.

Although hard to intercept, these sets provide security forces with location approximations and evidence of movement patterns.

Analysts suggest these tools have played a critical role in several high-casualty attacks in Jammu & Kashmir, including those in **Poonch-Rajouri**.

Mr Amit Shah's statement underlined the government's firm resolve, when he made the announcement: "The terrorists who killed our citizens in Baisaran Valley have now been eliminated." – [DD News, The Indian Express](#)

# Acquittal in Malegaon case debunks false narrative against Hindus

**O**n 31 July 2025, Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma celebrated the acquittal of all seven accused in the **2008 Malegaon bomb blast case**, calling it a “victory of justice” and a reaffirmation that “Hindus can never be terrorists”.

Citing the core Hindu philosophy of '**Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam**', Sharma echoed Home Minister Amit Shah's earlier remarks in Parliament and said the verdict is a moment of pride for all Sanatanis.

He also accused the Congress of promoting a false narrative of “Hindu terror” for political gain.

The **Special NIA Court in Mumbai** ruled that the prosecution failed to provide sufficient evidence to link the accused—among them BJP MP **Sadhvi Pragya Singh Thakur** and **Lt Col Prasad Purohit**—to the blast that killed six people and injured over 100 in Malegaon, Maharashtra.

The court acknowledged that a blast had occurred but could not establish that the bomb was planted using Sadhvi Thakur's motorcycle, or that the accused were involved beyond reasonable doubt.

BJP leaders, including **Ravi Shankar Prasad**, hailed the acquittal as the collapse of a “calculated conspiracy” by the Congress to tarnish the image of Hindu saints and army personnel. He accused the previous UPA government of weaponising the legal system for **vote-bank politics** and demanded an apology from Congress leaders Sonia and Rahul Gandhi for fabricating the term “Saffron terror.”

Mr Prasad further called for **compensation and restitution** for those acquitted, noting the severe physical and reputational damage suffered by individuals like Sadhvi Pragya and Col Purohit over the past 17 years. [\*The Indian Express\*](#), [\*ETV Bharat\*](#)

# Seven-Year-Old Baloch Boy Faces Terror Charges in Pakistan

**A** deeply unsettling case in **Balochistan**, has drawn widespread condemnation after a **seven-year-old boy was charged under Pakistan's Anti-Terrorism Act** for allegedly sharing a TikTok video featuring a speech by detained human rights activist **Gulzar Dost**.

The child was presented before an **anti-terrorism court**, prompting fierce criticism from human rights groups and legal experts who call this an alarming misuse of counter-terrorism laws.

The **Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP)** denounced the action as a **gross violation of children's rights**.

It argued that the incident reflects a disturbing trend wherein **national security laws are abused to suppress dissent**, especially in the province of Balochistan.

Gulzar Dost, whose speech was featured in the video, has been detained for weeks without any proven links to militancy.

This has in itself raised concerns about the misuse of legal provisions to stifle activism and free speech.

Sources within Pakistan's intelligence and civil society have voiced alarm over the **weaponisation of anti-terror laws**, particularly against Baloch minorities and activists.

Critics say the incident is symptomatic of a larger pattern where Pakistani **state institutions are being used to harass critics and silence voices**, including children, under the guise of national security.

The HRCP has demanded the immediate **withdrawal of the FIR**, protection for the child and his family, and proper **training of law enforcement** on children's rights.

Citing the **Juvenile Justice System Act, 2018**, the commission also called for the case to be moved to a juvenile court and urged the government and judiciary to act before more children fall victim to **judicial overreach and systemic repression**. – [News18](#), [The Hans India](#)

## Rising Terror in the Sahel

In June 2025, al-Qaeda-linked group Jama'a Nusrat ul-Islam wa al-Muslimin (JNIM) launched a deadly attack on the Malian town of Boulikessi, killing over 40 soldiers and capturing a military base, while also attempting to seize Timbuktu. These attacks highlight the growing insecurity in Mali and neighboring Burkina Faso, where terrorist groups control large swathes of territory.

Experts link the rise in such assaults to the loss of the U.S. drone surveillance base in Niger, increased human rights abuses by security forces fueling local grievances, and the collapse of regional counter-terrorism coalitions like the G5 Sahel.

The militants have also adopted more sophisticated tactics, including suicide drone strikes, challenging the military's ability to respond effectively. To combat this escalating threat, analysts urge Sahelian nations to rebuild surveillance capabilities, enhance regional cooperation, and improve the protection of civilians by addressing human rights concerns.

Additionally, cutting off terrorist funding sources and regulating drone use are critical steps to reversing the growing wave of violence across the Sahel. – [\*The Conversation\*](#)

## Online Neo-Nazi Trio Convicted for Terror Plot in West Yorkshire

Three men—Brogan Stewart, Marco Pitzettu, and Christopher Ringrose—have been convicted for planning a violent extremist attack as part of an online extreme right-wing group in West Yorkshire.

Following a nine-week trial, the trio was found guilty of terrorism and firearms offenses after being arrested in February 2024.

Their self-styled “militant” group shared hateful racist content, idolized the Nazi regime, and prepared for a “race war” by stockpiling weapons, body armour, and military gear. Targets included mosques, synagogues, and religious education centers.

Authorities praised the successful infiltration and arrest of the group before any attack could be carried out. The prosecution presented evidence from disturbing online chats and the illegal manufacturing of a 3D-printed firearm.

Counter Terrorism Policing and the Crown Prosecution Service emphasized the importance of public vigilance in preventing extremism and terrorism, stressing that such hate-fuelled violence threatens community safety and will be met with strong legal action. – [\*Counter-Terrorism Policing\*](#)

## **Swedish Jihadist Sentenced to Life for Brutal War Crimes in Syria**

**O**sama Krayem, a Swedish jihadist already convicted for his roles in the deadly Paris and Brussels terrorist attacks, has been sentenced to life in prison by a Stockholm court for “serious war crimes and terrorist crimes” linked to the brutal killing of Jordanian pilot Lt Moaz al-Kasasbeh in Syria.

The pilot was captured in 2014 during a mission against ISIS, and though Krayem denied direct involvement, the court found him complicit in guarding and transporting the victim to the site where he was burned alive.

Krayem’s sentence adds to his existing 30-year and life sentences for his terrorist activities in Europe.

Lt Kasasbeh’s family received compensation from the court, expressing relief at the delivery of justice despite the painful memories. Krayem, originally from Malmö, Sweden, had traveled to Syria to join ISIS and was involved in planning attacks beyond Europe, including one on Amsterdam airport.

The verdict highlights the ongoing legal efforts to hold ISIS members accountable for atrocities committed abroad, reinforcing the global fight against terrorism and war crimes. –

[\*BBC News\*](#)