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4/19/2025

# The Inundating Hybrid-Warfare Battle Fronts

A glimpse into the Indian HIAs and their unholy alliances with Terrorists in faltering attempts to destabilize Pakistan and to lockstep with other powers advancing in the region.

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## Contents

<b>THE INUNDATING HYBRID-WARFARE.....</b>	<b>2</b>
Sirkan Massacre of 27-Jan-2024 .....	2
Sirkan massacre of 12-Apr-2025 .....	2
Using Iranian Soil for Cross Border Terror .....	3
Mahrang's Claim .....	5
Horrrifying Aspect.....	7
Using Females as Cannon Fodder .....	9
Competing Claims .....	9
Resurrection of Baloch National Army (BNA).....	10
Jihadist Link.....	12
Threat to Religio-Political Parties.....	12
Expanding the ORBAT.....	12
Fading of BLA.....	14
Declaration of War.....	15
Intelligence Break Throughs.....	16
Hussain Afridi .....	16
Shri Ajith John Joshua .....	16
Ashok Chaturvedi .....	17
Dhan, alias Asif Chikna .....	18
Sajjad Shar, alias Bablu.....	19
Surrender of Commander Sakhiullah of TTP .....	19
IBO at Chakdarra Interchange .....	19
Intelligence Collaboration .....	20
Agenda .....	20
Other Possibility .....	20

## **THE INUNDATING HYBRID-WARFARE**

### Sirkan Massacre of 27-Jan-2024

1. On 27-Jan-2024, in *Sirkan* area of *Saravan* city, of *Sistan-Baluchestan* three gunmen barged into an auto-workshop early morning, and after identifying nationality of 12-Pakistani mechanics residing there, shot dead 09 while three (03) were left injured, to carry a message from terrorists.<sup>1</sup> Before fleeing the scene, the gunmen announced that it was a revenge of 18-Jan-2024, attack by Pakistani Security Forces on BLA and BLF camps in *Saravan*. Though, no group claimed responsibility for this gruesome attack on unarmed civilians, yet, the warning and subsequent events clearly point towards involvement of BLA and its sponsor HIAs. The incident was timed with visit of Iranian Foreign Minister to Pakistan scheduled for 29-Jan-2024, which was in continuation of finding resolution to the earlier exchange of missiles etc. during which Pakistan had launched a retaliatory attack *Marg Bar Sarmachar*, using Drones and precision missiles against the multiple targets in BLA and BLF camps in *Saravan* on 18-Jan-2024. The Pakistani operation *Marg Bar Sarmachar* was in retaliation to earlier Iranian attack on 16-Jan-2024 against alleged targets of *Jaish-al-Adl*, in *Panjgur* area, that killed two Pakistani children. Iran claimed that the Pakistani attack had killed non-Pakistanis. Subsequent diplomatic row was quelled at the highest level, both Iran and Pakistan had resolved that the cross-border terrorism is being perpetuated by common enemies of both Iran and Pakistan.

### Sirkan massacre of 12-Apr-2025

2. A year and a quarter later, in the small hours of 12-Apr-2025, a similar gory drama was re-enacted by the terrorists around the same area in *Siestan e Balochistan*, Iran. Several armed terrorists who had changed their skin from anonymous to that of *Baloch National Army (BNA)*, had barged into a workshop in the *Hizabad* of *Mehristan* district in *Saravan* area of *Siestan-e-Balochistan*, Iran. *Meharistan* is approximately 230-kilometres from Pak-Iran border. After tying the hands and feet of eight (08) innocent occupants, who were later identified as Pakistanis, executed them in cold blood, and fled afterwards. No condemnation from any traditional HR organisations that advocate BLA, were heard.

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<sup>1</sup> “9 Pakistani labourers shot dead in Iran” by Saleem Shahid, and Baqir Sajjad Syed, The Dawn, 28-Jan-2025, <<https://www.dawn.com/news/1809197>>;

Of the (08) deceased, 06-belonged to *Khanqah Sharif*, city of *Bahawalpur* and 02-from Tehsil of *Ahmedpur Sharqia*, who were legal residents and were working as motor-mechanics and residing in the workshop premises<sup>2</sup>. It is not known if the assailants had hurled any threats or otherwise, since by the reports it appears that there were no survivors from amongst the residents of the workshop.

3. According to Indian media, this attack was claimed by *Balochistan National Army (BNA)* who had alluded that the victims were working for Pakistan's Security Forces. However, according to AFP, the *Jaish-al Adl* had claimed the responsibility of this attack<sup>3</sup>. It was perhaps the first time that the Iranians, while announcing this incident had instead of using the term of foreigners, clearly identified the deceased as Pakistanis. Both Iran and Pakistan condemned the attack, and expressed their resolve to extend all support to the bereaved families. Pakistan has solicited maximum cooperation from Iran in the investigations and an early repatriation of the human remains of the victims. Pakistan's Prime Minister has reiterated his interest in improving the coordination, security and intelligence strategies related to counter-terrorism in the region<sup>4</sup>.

### Using Iranian Soil for Cross Border Terror

4. Earlier confession by Kulbhushan Jadhav who was arrested on 03-Mar-2016, confessions by surrendered Terrorists<sup>5</sup>, *Jaffar Express Hijacking* episode, and now this incident substantiates Pakistan's repeated allegations of Indian HIAs and its use of these terror outfits as its proxies against Pakistan<sup>6</sup>. Indian intelligence agencies are trying to turn the tide through propaganda and use of well-planned terrorist tactics to generate escalation in regional terrorism, to co-join it with the ongoing USA-Iran negotiations upon Iran's nuclear program. When seen in overall strategic picture, with USA-Iran

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<sup>2</sup> "Islamabad seeks answers after eight Pakistanis shot dead in Iran", by Abid Hussain, Al-Jazeera, 14-Apr-2025, < <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/4/14/islamabad-seeks-answers-after-eight-pakistanis-shot-dead-in-iran>>;

<sup>3</sup> "Pakistan hopes for Iran's 'full cooperation' in probe over killing of its 8 nationals: FO", by Tahir Khan, and Abdullah Momand, The Dawn, 13-Apr-2025, < <https://www.dawn.com/news/1903959/iranian-embassy-condemns-inhumane-and-cowardly-killing-of-pakistanis-in-its-country>>;

<sup>4</sup> "Iran urged to probe 8 Pakistanis' brutal murder", by Kamran Yousaf, The Express Tribune, 14-Apr-2025, < <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2539746/iran-urged-to-probe-8-pakistanis-brutal-murder>>;

<sup>5</sup> "Repentant Baloch separatist group founder Gulzar Imam says 'armed war' complicated province's problems", The Dawn, 23-May-2023, < <https://www.dawn.com/news/1755259>>; AND, "Key militant commander surrenders in Pakistan", by Aamir Latif, Anadolu Agency (AA), 20-Dec-2023, < <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/key-militant-commander-surrenders-in-pakistan/3088080>>;

<sup>6</sup> "Repentant Baloch separatist group founder Gulzar Imam says 'armed war' complicated province's problems", The Dawn, 23-May-2023, < <https://www.dawn.com/news/1755259>>; , AND, "BNA Commander Sarfaraz Bangulzai Along With 72 Militants Surrender", by Quetta Voice Web Desk, 20-Dec-2023, < <https://quettavoice.com/2023/12/20/bna-commander-sarfaraz-bangulzai-along-with-72-militants-surrender/>>;

negotiations, USA's rumoured presence in *Bagram Air Field*, improving clandestine relations between Taliban and USA, Israel's mounting pressures and *Hybrid-Warfare* attacks on Iran, these Indian contributions in the terror-matrix are simply an effort to broaden the aperture and build up a common *Hybrid Warfare* theatre involving *Balochistan* province of Pakistan, *Siestan-e-Balochistan* of Iran and the Afghan Balochistan, to resuscitate the ancient fable of *Greater Balochistan*.

5. Attacks on Pakistani auto-mechanics who were low-paid workers, providing labour support to in the border areas through lawful means, have been targeted cross-borders, establishing beyond doubt the presence of pseudo-Baloch Terrorists in Iranian territory. This aspect further strengthens the premise that these pseudo-Baloch nationalists in Pakistan including BLA and its cohorts are also out to destabilize Iran, and in this process try to create grave misunderstandings between both countries, to the benefit of India and its allies. According to another media report based on the AFP, stating that *Jaish-ul Adl* has also claimed the responsibility for this attack<sup>7</sup>. This further supports our view that the Baloch nationalists and *Jaish-ul Adl* are different sides of the same coin, who operate under different names on both sides of the borders. Already, *Siestan e Balochistan* and other provinces are in Israel's cross hair, where proxies like *Jaish-ul Adl*, and its predecessor, *Jundallah* have proven links with *MOSSAD* and its allies. The fact that these terrorists are operating in Pakistan under the guise of Baloch sub-nationalists, and have acquired names like BLA etc, are equally involved in destabilizing Iranian *Siestan e Balochistan* as *Jaish-ul Adl*. Ironically, Iran clearly alleges *MOSSAD's* handling and directing of these groups in Iran, while in Pakistan, we find Indian hand behind the terrorism, emanating from Afghanistan through BLA and TTP. The confluence of these terror outfits and their extensions in Iran and Afghanistan also allude towards the convergence of interests of both India and Israel, though perhaps limited to respective geographic Hybrid-Warfare ORBATs. Baloch nationalists, who are known for their collaboration with criminal gangs as well as few crooked facilitators and tribal elders, with help of Indian propaganda tools, are playing with the lives of innocent Baloch people and do not hesitate to exploit their religious feelings. In Iran they purport to be Sunnis

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<sup>7</sup> "Pakistan hopes for Iran's 'full cooperation' in probe over killing of its 8 nationals: FO", by Tahir Khan, and Abdullah Momand, The Dawn, 13-Apr-2025, < <https://www.dawn.com/news/1903959/iranian-embassy-condemns-inhumane-and-cowardly-killing-of-pakistanis-in-its-country>>;

who are engaged against Shias, while in Pakistan they profess distorted doctrines about Baloch Nationalism, which lacks any public support. It had been India's ulterior motive to sow seeds of mistrust between Iran and Pakistan since a long time and particularly when it was functioning in Afghanistan under the wings of the NATO and ISAF and was controlling NDS. India and its allies were effectively manipulating the *Jundallah* and later *Jaish-ul Adl* to carry out operations inside Iran and pass the buck to Pakistan in classic *False Flag Operations*. It is still pursuing the same modus operandi, but with a little bit of modification, which is further exposing its hand.

6. In wake of this incident of 12-Apr-2025, on the diplomatic level, Iran has shown greater concern and has made gestures which suggest that there is going to be a forward movement in the investigation and improvement in the coordination and intelligence between both the countries despite Indian efforts to the contrary. The Iranian diplomatic sources have also called for national and regional cooperation and expressed Iran's readiness to increase its collaboration and coordination<sup>8</sup>.

#### Mahrang's Claim

7. This incident further reconnects it with the earlier incident of Jan-2024 and goes further back when, as a result of Pakistan's *Surgical Strike* of 18-Jan-2024, when Pakistan had targeted several hideouts of terrorists holed-up in *Saravan*, in Iran for which *Dr. Maharang Baloch* had shown great sympathy and had expressed that certain relatives or people belonging to the missing persons had been targeted<sup>9</sup>. This spontaneous response had revealed her conscious awareness about the missing persons being involved in a diabolic scheme involving their families who get these recruits and terrorists registered as missing persons beforehand in order to bring the pressures on the government, while giving complete protection and anonymity to the terrorist operating against the same very state before which their families accuse of *Enforced Disappearances*. Curiously, both *Dr. Maharang Baloch*, while leading protest campaign for recovery of missing persons, and BLA claimed that those killed during Pakistan's attack in *Saravan* had been from amongst

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<sup>8</sup> "Iran mourns Pakistani workers killed in terror attack", The Tehran Times, 13-Apr-2025, <<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/511777/Iran-mourns-Pakistani-workers-killed-in-terror-attack>>;

<sup>9</sup> "Mahrang Baloch's shocking revelation...Terrorists killed in Iran by Pak were OUR family members", by Sumaira Khan, 19-Jan-2024, <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5K8IKKr3l0I>>;

those who were claimed to have been *Missing Persons* (Enforced Disappearance)<sup>10</sup>. This revelation came as no surprise for the Security Forces, who maintain that the so-called *Forcefully Disappeared* persons, in fact are terrorists, who had joined the terrorist groups, and were camouflaging their absence under cover of *Missing Persons*.

8. The various incidents, including the Pakistani attack on terrorists in *Saravan* on 18-Jan-2024, the claim by *Dr Mahrang Baloch* about those killed being from amongst the *Missing Persons*, for whom she was protesting, the subsequent cold-blooded murder of 09-Pakistani motor-mechanics on 27-Jan-2024 in *Saravan* in retaliation to Pakistani attack, failure to condemn the terrorists or show sympathy for the innocent victims by *Dr Mahrang Baloch* and her companions, later protests in support of the dead-terrorists from *Jaffar Express Hijack* scene of 11-Mar-2025, and snatching their dead bodies from the morgue on 21-Mar-2025<sup>11</sup>, and opening fire on the protestors and police, and subsequent follow up by some politicians ostensibly in support of *Dr Mahrang Baloch* and her actions, and in the process *Blocking Highways*, as announced earlier by BNA<sup>12</sup>, and then assassination of eight innocent unarmed motor-mechanics in *Saravan* on 12-Apr-2025, simply connect with each other and depict the blue-print of the conspiracy and highlights some of the characters. This nexus and related activities by *Dr. Mahrang Baloch* and others have compromised their credibility which is now being exposed in Pakistani media. The bias against Pakistan could not be concealed in the report of *Times of India* in which it has tried to cast doubts amongst the minds of its audience that Iran has given a lukewarm and ambiguous response to Pakistan's request for carrying out an investigation and carrying out actions against the groups<sup>13</sup>. The Indian media outlet has quoted that Iran has shown no desire or expressed its willingness in carrying out any action against the *Baloch National Army (BNA)*. Ironically, these remarks allude towards the presence of BNA on Iranian soil, which its Indian sponsors are desperately trying to create greater unrest and pressures upon Iran and trying to distance it from Pakistan, at

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<sup>10</sup> “Terrorists labelled as ‘missing persons’ killed in Pakistan’s strike on Iran, claims Jan Achakzai”, by Web Desk, Geo News, 21-Jan-2024, < <https://www.geo.tv/latest/527860-pakistans-missing-persons-killed-in-strike-inside-iran-jan-achakzai> >

<sup>11</sup> “Protesters take away bodies from Quetta hospital morgue”, Dawn Report, The Dawn, published 21-Mar-2025, < <https://www.dawn.com/news/1899300> >

<sup>12</sup> “Baloch resistance groups form unified military outfit to take on Pakistan, China”, by Shivani Sharma, Edited By: Vivek Kumar, The India Today, 03-Mar-2025, < <https://www.indiatoday.in/world/story/baloch-separatist-groups-announce-unified-military-outfit-baloch-national-army-to-counter-pakistan-china-2688411-2025-03-03> >;

<sup>13</sup> “Baloch separatists kill 8 Pakistanis in Iran”, by Omer Farooq Khan, The Times of India, 14-Apr-2025, < <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/pakistan/baloch-separatists-kill-8-pakistanis-in-iran/articleshow/120262403.cms> >;

a time that Iran is engaged in negotiations with USA on the nuclear program and needs maximum number of friends.

9. The Hostile Intelligence Agencies, namely the RAW, has recruited several *watchers* or *spotters*, which are broadly covered under the term of facilitators in the various cities and towns, who are thoroughly trained and briefed to notify about any particular situation or incident to the fastest means to the handlers or the higher echelon, who quickly instruct the relevant segments of the network to trigger appropriate response statements, spreading across statements, such as kinetic action of attacks, or to generate the apparently public reaction by passing on instructions, particularly to the family members of the recruits whom they are using as hostage and as well as their agents under coercion and other techniques. This kind of situation has already been observed in Karachi when a certain ethnic party whose disowned militant wing, which was heavily infiltrated by the Indian RAW, had developed a similar strategy of mobilizing particularly the female of the community in particular areas at a short notice by sending coded messages, by broadcasting coded messages on the then widely used pager systems.

#### Horrifying Aspect

10. This compromise further alludes towards the horrifying human rights abuses being perpetrated by the BLA terrorist group and their masters, through which they are not only luring innocent Baloch youth through their various techniques which are widely being used by the terrorist world over, and whose templates have been used by the ISIS-K, TTP, Al-Qaeda and similar other groups. The religious, ethnic and nationalist sentiments among the youth and other vulnerable targeted persons, are stoked and exploited to cultivate them, and nudge them into recruitment. These youth are being skilfully manipulated to jump over the fence to join the terrorist groups on false promises of material, spiritual gains and enjoy the power wielded from the weapons at their disposal. These terrorist groups and their handlers, once firmly in control or upon firmly ensnaring these victims who are new recruits, and have been subverted, coerced, blackmailed or simply drawn on basis of greed by brandishing their latest weapons and their force which they wield in the local societies, make them commit such crimes which would blow up all their bridges to return back to the normal society. While the family members who initially may, or may not, be aware of the recruit's leanings and movement



are coerced into not disclosing about their joining these groups, and unwittingly become hostages as far as their families are concerned. The families, whose dear-ones are now ensnared by the terrorist groups, are then compelled to get their family members who have joined these groups and are in fact the recruits, to be enlisted as missing persons. This is portrayed as the first safety measure or insurance for themselves and their dear ones. Subsequently, when the families are committed by listing their dear ones as *Missing Persons*, find their own bridges blown, and are then at the mercy of the terrorist groups for the safe-custody of the ones now in their control. Subsequently, as these young recruits are broken-in as terrorists and partners, they, on the behest of their masters, coerce their families to further join groups to agitate and participate in their so-called struggle and follow terrorist agendas as the second-line activity. In this manner, the terrorist groups and their handlers by recruiting one terrorist in fact, like buy-one-get-one-free, enjoy the benefit of resources of the whole family of that person who also comes under their obligation and duress. This is the second line of offence which participates into agitational activity on the call of few selected persons who are propped up by the master planners of the terrorist groups, operating in compartmentation. We find similar situation that whenever the people who have been killed by violent means and they are discovered in abandoned areas, even their families are compelled to believe that these people have been killed at the hands of the security forces and they were indeed the forcibly disappeared persons. Even in situations where the dear ones would suspect otherwise, they are compelled to keep quiet for the safety of the remaining members of their family. It is an innovated form of *Tiger Abductions*.

11. Unfortunately, these tactics and practices of the terrorists and their handlers have gone unnoticed by the worthy Human Rights bodies who failed to mention these, have gone unnoticed by the worthy human rights organizations which have got a keen interest in the developments and human rights coalition in the province of Balochistan only. This needs to be also highlighted along with the relevant circumstances and reports. There is a need for the state to develop such NGOs of sincere people who could help and assist the family members of the so-called missing persons and try to soothe them and try to bring out the factual position for their benefit and try to find means to negotiate recovery of their dear ones, either through exchanges of the arrested terrorists or through other pressure tactics which are available to the state. Such NGOs need to be empowered to

negotiate and provide the factual on-ground realities to the human right bodies so that a fair and a balanced picture can be provided by the all and sundry.

### Using Females as Cannon Fodder

12. It appears that a number of recruits of the terrorist groups have been lured for carrying out their purported struggles which they have sugar-coated with mesmerizing slogans and narratives of fake nationalism, while their hands are drenched in the blood of hundreds of innocent unarmed victims including women and children. These terrorists are dying to take hostage of women and children and are plunging their women folk into the line-of-fire while trying to shield themselves and hide behind their skirts. Unfortunately, the abuse of using the females and children as terrorist bombers have also missed the eye of several Human Rights bodies who have not outrightly condemned this practice of the terrorist groups and their handlers for recruiting the children and the females; who are mostly non-voluntary and the luring is targeted against the addicts, abused, mentally challenged and vulnerable groups.

### Competing Claims

13. The attack of Saturday, 12-Apr-2025 has been claimed by *Baloch Nationalist Army* and also by *Jaish-ul Adl*. Some critics observe that since the last 15-months, as the activity of the BLA had increased in Pakistan, leading to the crescendo on 11-Mar-2025, when BLA unsuccessfully attempted hijacking of *Jaffar Express*, Iran has been giving greater priority to curbing *Jaish-ul Adl*, while placing the native counter-terrorism efforts against the BLA and others on the back burner<sup>14</sup>. This inadvertent admittance of collaboration between *Balochistan National Army* (not to be confused with the now disappeared *Baloch Nationalist Army / BNA*) and *Jaish-ul Adl* will definitely lay more emphasis upon Iran to increase its intelligence and security cooperation with Pakistan and perhaps would also allow it to look at the issue from the perspective of the escalating *Hybrid War* in which India has an important role in partnership with Israel and other allies to equally destabilize Pakistan and Iran. Sensing this urgency, Iran has been visibly committing with Pakistan for dispensing justice for the perpetrators of these assassinations. On the other

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<sup>14</sup> "Islamabad seeks answers after eight Pakistanis shot dead in Iran", by Abid Hussain, Al-Jazeera, 14-Apr-2025, <<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/4/14/islamabad-seeks-answers-after-eight-pakistanis-shot-dead-in-iran>>;

hand, Pakistan is also reaching out to strengthen its security intelligence coordination with Iran, while the latter is also revisiting *Tajikistan* to enhance its security intelligence cooperation. Tajikistan, a member of CSTO, has been providing India access to its *Ayni Air Base* while has also allowed India to use its *Farkhor Air Base* for its use in the region<sup>15</sup>. It is believed that India has been actively using this base for its clandestine safe haven, while it was also used it for the evacuation post for its citizens and diplomatic corps from Afghanistan in anticipation to Taliban take over in 2021. Tajikistan is swiftly being sucked-in the vortex of Hybrid Warfare as several training camps and safe havens of several anti-Chinese and anti-Tajikistan terrorist groups have dug-in deep in *Badakhshan Province*, and there has been a sharp rise in narcotics smuggling via *Gorno Badakhshan's Dushanbe-Khorog-Kulma* highway<sup>16</sup>, while western media has been propagating that China has established a base in Tajikistan, perhaps to function as a first line of defence against the rising terrorism tide from Afghanistan<sup>17</sup>. Perhaps time has arrived for *Pakistan, Iran, Tajikistan, China* and other friendly states in the region to put-together their intelligence-security effort to shield against the debris that is expected to fly as the building-up volcano of terrorism in Afghanistan erupts.

#### Resurrection of Baloch National Army (BNA)

14. The *Baloch Liberation Army (BLA)*, *Baloch Liberation Front (BLF)*, *Baloch Republican Guards (BRG)*, and *Sindhudesh Revolutionary Army (SRA)*, had participated in a meeting that was held under *Baloch Raj Ajoi Singer (BRAS)* on or about 03-Mar-2025 at some unidentified place and had agreed to launch what they called *National Army of Balochistan*. The morphing of these sub-groups into *Baloch National Army*, (not to be confused with the now disappeared *Baloch Nationalist Army / BNA*<sup>18</sup>) signalled the

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<sup>15</sup> “Indian interests in Tajikistan in the emerging regional dynamics”, Geopolitical Report 2785-2598 Volume 12 Issue 12, dated 27-Oct-2021, Authored by Silvia Boltuc, < <https://www.specialeurasia.com/2021/10/27/indian-interests-in-tajikistan-in-the-emerging-regional-dynamics/>>

<sup>16</sup> “Tajikistan Seizes 121 Kilograms Of Smuggled Methamphetamine Destined For China” Afghanistan International, 04-Feb-2025, < <https://www.afintl.com/en/202502048365>>

<sup>17</sup> “Chinese military base in Tajikistan: regional implications”, Geopolitical Report 2785-2598 Volume 12 Issue 13, dated 28-Oct-2021, Authored by Giuliano Bifulchi, < <https://www.specialeurasia.com/2021/10/28/chinese-military-base-in-tajikistan-regional-implications/>>;

<sup>18</sup> The *Baloch Nationalist Army (BNA)* was formed on 11-Jan-2022, when the *United Baloch Army (UBA)* led by *Mehran Marri* and the *Balochistan Republican Army (BRA)* led by *Brahmdagh Bugti*, who merged together and rebranded themselves. Both the groups UBA and BRA had agreed to appoint *Gulzar Imam*, alias *Shambay* as its leader. *Shambay* had remained second to *Brahmdagh Bugti* in his BRA until 2018, and was also the founder of BRAS, who had forged firm relations with Indian and Afghan HIAs. At this time, it was believed that a large number of *Parraris*, or *Guerilla Fighters* from the Bugti and marri tripe had joined various terrorist groups claiming to be sub-nationalists. Amongst them BLA was the largest such group, supported and patronised by Indian HIAs. The merger of the UBA and BRA into the BNA was considered as convergence of the militant and terrorist groups from both the Marri and the Bugti tribes, and it was expected that a strong potent force would be created by these two, which would attract other fighters already

dissolution of BRAS. This occurrence was announced through BLA's press release publicised by BLA's Indian mouthpieces<sup>19</sup>. During the meeting, it was revealed that the Sindhi group *Sindh Revolutionary Army (SRA)*<sup>20</sup>, an organisation that has been proscribed since 07-May-2020, has been collaborating with the BLA and other terrorist groups since more than a year. There have been several incidents in Sindh which have been claimed by BLA and Baloch groups. BNA appeared to be now confident to formally declare the Sindh chapter of *Sindhudesh Revolutionary Army (SRA)* as a member and a part and parcel of BNA.

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operating under the banner of various other pseudo-nationalist groups including BLA. The BNA had been functioning since before the formal announcement of merger, and had claimed responsibility of an explosion in *New Anarkali Bazaar*, Lahore on 12-Jan-2022 in which at least two (02) persons were killed and 26-injured. The BNA despite claiming the Lahore incident, was immediately contested by the Indian propaganda godfather, the *Tribune India*, which citing Pakistan's Interior Minister, announced that TTP had claimed the responsibility. It seemed that the Indian-backed HIAs were not comfortable with the creation of this merger, whom they had been trying to isolate and drive out because they were not totally under their control like BLA was. *Mehran Baloch*, the UBA leaders, was already under the clouds and was being accused of various wrongdoings within the BLA, which was ostensibly, at that time, being patronized and commanded by *Hyrbyair Marri*. Right from the creation of *BNA*, it had been marked as a potential competitor to the Indian-influenced BLA and all sorts of conspiracies were being hatched against it by the HIAs who were trying to control, manage and strengthen the BLA for its envisaged future role. With the devious planning of the hostile intelligence agencies operating from Iran and Afghanistan, several claims made by the BLA were also being claimed by other Indian proxies. By the first week of Apr-2023, *Shambay* fell prey to a plot by Pakistan's security agencies and was persuaded to surrender peacefully. In his subsequent interaction with the media, he had revealed the connections between the BLA, BRA, and UBA, and other nationalists with the Indian and Afghan HIAs. After his surrender, the command of the *BNA* went to *Sarfaraz Ahmed Bangulzai*, who barely after eight months, also surrendered before the authorities along with 70 members of his group. It is believed that a large number of the *BNA* guerrillas had been poached by the BLA and other militant groups, and likewise, the financiers and facilitators had also switched over their loyalties to other terrorist groups. In this manner, the *BNA* disappeared from the scene by Dec-2023, only to be resurrected by Indian HIAs on 03-Mar-2025 under a new brand name.

<sup>19</sup> Those media outlets which are primarily hosted by 5GW elements of a country. A plethora of such organisations has been revealed by "*Indian Chronicles: deep dive into a 15-year operation targeting the EU and UN to serve Indian interests*", by Gary Machado Alexandre Alaphilippe, Roman Adamczyk and Antoine Grégoire, for EU Disinfo Lab, 09-Dec-2020, <https://www.disinfo.eu/publications/indian-chronicles-deep-dive-into-a-15-year-operation-targeting-the-eu-and-un-to-serve-indian-interests/>;

<sup>20</sup> **SRA:** These attacks in Sindh ostensibly carried out by SRA had included random bombings, targeted killings, sabotage of communication infrastructures including railway tracks, electricity pylons, attempts to plant explosives on the railway tracks to disrupt railway traffic and destroy the trains etc. Several of its members have already been arrested and are undergoing necessary trials, while more leads are being exploited and its members are being hunted across the country. Their targets are not confined only to the security forces but are also directed against civilian infrastructures and entities, and some of their plans to attacks such targets, such as gatherings in Larkana, and Hyderabad that had been foiled. Last year on 10-Aug-2024, a major plot to disrupt and bomb the Independence Day celebrations in Larkana and attacking its jail were foiled by the CTD as two suspects who were planning the attack were captured along with explosive materials, detonators, hand grenades, safety fuses, wires, nuts and bolts, black powder etc. According to the police reports the members of SRA have been given a 15-day basic hands-on training in camps located in Kandahar, Afghanistan, where they have been trained in the IED making, use of latest weapons, handling and lobbing grenades, sabotaging communication systems, pylons, high-power-transmission lines, attacking trains-in-motion, taking hostages, and *Hostile Surveillance* techniques. They are reported to have been indoctrinated to attack security forces, politico-religious figures, and Chinese assets, and operate as *Lone Wolves* or to operate in small cells to evade compromise. Training to Sindh based SRA terrorists is also provided in covert safe houses run by RAW in India, where these persons are encouraged to cross Pak-India borders lying along Badin district. This training is usually a 52-days training covering the same syllabus, and imparted by RAW and NDS specialist instructors. Several recent incidents of hurling hand grenades on the security forces and other targets are attributed to these people.

### Jihadist Link

15. The handout also clearly says that the BRASS or the BNA has tried to also portray itself as a *Jihadists* and have tried to woo the religious elements to gain their sympathy and support while trying to morph it with their pseudo-nationalist agendas. The press-release has however completely ignored the other communities which reside in Balochistan and are a part and parcel. But more revealing is the fact that by referring to their *Jihadists* complexion, they have lain bare their nexus with the terrorists who claim that their terror activities are anchored in their self-interpreted Islamic aims, foremost being TTP and ISIS-K. The BNA is also rallying its intention to bring all other anti-Pakistan terrorist group under one confederate, which can be interpreted as a subtle threat to other competing terrorist, criminal and pseudo-political groups in the province, who in case of non-submission could be eliminated. This can also be interpreted as a call for other terrorists to defect and join BNA in a subtle form of poaching. This is also a warning to all sympathisers, facilitators and financers of other competing groups, to switch their loyalties towards BNA.

### Threat to Religio-Political Parties

16. The Indian media has tried to implicate leader of one of the religio-political parties on basis of his earlier statement of deteriorating situation in several districts of Balochistan. By referring to the political entity, the Indian media has subtly tried to suggest that the religio-political party is also endorsing the BNA's agendas. However, on the other hand, this when seen in the perspective of cloak-and-dagger games appears to be a signal to the terrorists to go flat-out against this religious party and its leadership. The leadership had refused to play facilitator for the terrorists and strictly opposes terrorism, including Suicide Bombing. Already local authorities have issued *Threat Alerts*, cautioning and warning about the plans of TTP to carry out terrorist and assassination attacks against this religious party's leadership across the province, since they have been found on the TTPs' *Hit List*.

### Expanding the ORBAT

17. Examining closely the statement posted by the *Baloch Raj Ajoi Singer (BRAS)* that has been published across the globe through the various Indian media outlets, it appears to be a broadcast to its accomplices, abettors, sympathisers and facilitators about the

expansion of the HIAs ORBAT by including Sindh in its area of terrorism. We should now expect increased attempts of terrorist activities in Sindh with the unmistakeable Indian hand in the glove of so-called *Baloch National Army*. We may recall that there have been previous terrorist attacks in Sindh, in which the sleeper cells, using various pseudonyms, had been carrying out random terrorist activities, mainly targeting the railway tracks, etc. However, with the announcement of this new setup, it is well understood that all those sleeper cells, through the Indian propaganda outlets, have been directed to coalesce and carry out coordinated and unified attacks in Sindh, broadening the radius of the terrorist activities.

18. The issue of press statements by BLAs unidentified entity and then it's further broadcast by *Grey Zone electronic media* outlets<sup>21</sup>, which are then picked up by mainstream media and splashed across the world giving it authenticity and credibility; is an old technique which has been frequently used. But in this particular case where BLA's statements are escalated, the broadcast and announcements are quite similar to the wartime-role of British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) services in support of *Special Operations Executive (SOE)* and *MI6* during the *World War II* where customised secret coded messages were broadcasted innocuously. Such messages would be gibberish to a common man but would convey the message to the concerned agent, who would monitoring the BBC broadcasts at pre-arranged timings. Som famous broadcasts of BBC on this nature in 1942 included "*John has long moustache*", a sentence, which were instructions for the *Fifth Columnists* in Czechoslovakia to begin their sabotage operations wherever they were against the broader German targets, and also included directions to assassinate *Reinhard Heydrich*. Similarly, another phrase in 1944, "*Napoleon's hat is in the ring*" was transmitted, instructing the Polish resistance force to commence armed resistance to for an uprising. Such transmissions or broadcasts are technically extremely difficult to be prevented, even if they are identified by any party, while at the same time, they can be sent to multiple targeted audience to carry out their operations. In rhythm, this covert and some overt nationalist groups, who have been often seen as proxies of HIAs in Sind, have become hyperactive, as intimidation of political figures has also

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<sup>21</sup> Those media outlets which are primarily hosted by 5GW elements of a country. A plethora of such organisations has been revealed by "*Indian Chronicles: deep dive into a 15-year operation targeting the EU and UN to serve Indian interests*", by Gary Machado Alexandre Alaphilippe, Roman Adamczyk and Antoine Grégoire, for EU Disinfo Lab, 09-Dec-2020, <https://www.disinfo.eu/publications/indian-chronicles-deep-dive-into-a-15-year-operation-targeting-the-eu-and-un-to-serve-indian-interests/>;

increased. With the failure of *Jaffar Express Hijacking* attempt, the Indian agencies are trying to rebuild the tempo and to attract the attention of domestic and international audience towards Pakistan, and are likely to further escalate the use of the 5GW warfare tactics and tools.

### Fading of BLA

19. It appears that in face of Pakistan's security forces and its counterterrorism strategies in Balochistan have foiled the major BLA attacks including the *Jaffar Express* hijack attempt on 11-Mar-2025, and the *Mach and Kolpur* coordinated attack of 30-Jan-2024, had forced the handlers to rate BLAs performance as dismal, that could not meet up the diabolic targets set by the HIAs for causing a coordinated disruption and uprising in the province against the government of Pakistan in synchronization with other regional strategic developments. Identification and compromise of the safe havens of BLA and its associates in *Siestan e Balochistan*, and the subsequent successful attacks by Pakistani Security Forces and increased Pak-Iran interaction against terrorism had forced the HIAs to activate the alternate contingency plans to change the façade of the terror machines by pushing BLA back into obscurity. To give BLA a parting kick, the HIAs had assigned a suicide mission to the BLA in form of *Jaffar Express hijack* assignment, a plan which was destined to a major human tragedy and a massive failure right from the onset, except it had to flee in face of the Pakistan's security forces and the strategies. .

20. This also suggests that BLA after failing to carry out various terrorist attacks and a wider compromise of its activities by its proxy entities including *Dr. Mahrang Baloch* and other people, has now become a dead weight for the HIAs. These appendices of BLA including the entities mentioned, have lost their public traction, thus, being completely compromised are of little intelligence and security value for the proxy terrorist role determined for them by the HIAs. The HIAs seem to be tactfully retrieving *Dr. Mahrang Baloch* and other assets of similar type, and are morphing them back into a political role and covering their tracks or clandestine links, to shield their implicitly with the terrorist groups. Thus, we find BRAS morphing into BNA in order to disappear from the scene and to escalate the terrorism under another pseudo-name organisations to use Indian trained specialist terrorists in the various teams across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan and Sindh. This would on one hand provide a smokescreen for the fading BLA in face of

Pakistan's pre-emptive strikes, and on the other, try to create more lethal and equipped covert force to operate on a wider canvass.

21. It has become evident to the handlers that a reasonable number of BLA cells have been compromised and in order to protect and conceal them, several terrorists have scuttled to the *Balochistan National Army*. It is expected that under this pseudonym banner, Indian HIAs would be using more advanced technologies, innovations and would broaden the scope of the terrorists by widening the infected areas to include *Siestan e Balochistan* in Iran, that is obvious from the recent attacks in *Saravan*. The attack in *Saravan* also indicates the extent of *Hostile Surveillance* that had been put in operation by HIAs, where the ethnic profiling had been effectively carried out in Iran.

22. Conduct of such *Hostile Surveillance* of targets by the terrorists in an area which is particularly threatened by *Jaish-ul Adl*, and is covered with higher levels of security, on one hand seems to be a desperate action and on the other suggests connivance of local facilitators or penetration of HIAs into the local administration. To locate and find out the residence of a single ethnic community and to identify their patterns, speaks volumes about the extent of penetration the HIAs and their subordinate terrorists have acquired in *Saravan*. Such information can only be verified and double-checked at the repository where the information regarding area visas and passports is maintained. It is, however, up to the Iranian authorities to explore and investigate in accordance to their procedures and practices in vogue.

### Declaration of War

23. The press release by *Baloch Raj Ajoji Singer (BRAS)*, that has been carried by Indian propaganda outlets is a clear declaration of war against Pakistan and China, where no words have been minced. It has further declared that the BNA would be using better technology and firepower. Considering the earlier recoveries of the *Left Behind Weapons* from the various terrorists, including BLA, and their use of high-tech communication equipment, besides reports of more lethal weapons falling in hands of these terrorists, courtesy HIAs, the risk has risen manifold<sup>22</sup>. This declaration of war should be seen as a

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<sup>22</sup> “US weapons left in Afghanistan sold to militant groups, sources tell BBC”, by Yasin Rasouli & Zia Shahreyar, BBC News, 17-Apr-2025, < <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cr78nkg548lo>>;



declaration of war by the Indian HIAs and their allies not only against Pakistan but also against Iran and China.

#### Intelligence Break Throughs

24. The Pakistani security forces are maintaining their pace and pushing back the BLA as they continue to dismantle cell after cell of the Indian HIAs which were directing and managing the terrorist activities through various pseudonym terrorist organizations including BNA, BLA, TTP, etc. Some of the significant achievements include prize catches of senior echelon of the HIAs who had dared venture into Pakistan on clandestine missions to escalate the terrorism. This further substantiates our earlier observation that regulars have entered the *Hybrid Warfare* arena, and were here to supervise and conduct the *Jaffer Express* hijack drama.

#### Hussain Afridi

25. Earlier, on 18-Mar-2025, in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, one *Hussain Afridi*, a senior member of *Pashtun Tahafuz Movement (PTM)* and former vice president of the *Zwan Kukikhel* organization in Khyber district, was arrested under *Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act (PECA)* on charges of spreading false information and targeting the state institutions. He, however, quickly disassociated himself from the PTM and assured the FIA that he would not be participating in the anti-state activities in future<sup>23</sup>.

#### Shri Ajith John Joshua

26. Yet in another move, in last week of mar-2025, one *Shri Ajith John Joshua*, who is ostensibly operating under white cover as a diplomat in Indian Mission at Iran and functioning at Indian Consulate general, Zahedan. According to several media reports, he is under-cover RAW senior official, holding position of a director, and assigned to handle the Terrorist activities of various terrorist groups operating in Pakistan. He conducts his clandestine business through *Resident Agents* stationed in Kandahar, who further delegate the terrorist tasks to BLA and other terrorist groups, through two *Higher Echelons (HEs)* settled under cover in safe havens in *Spin Boldak (Afghanistan)*, near Pak Afghan border crossing of Chaman. *Shri Ajith John Joshua* is said to be responsible for

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<sup>23</sup> “PTM leader declares loyalty to Pakistan after his arrest in Khyber”, The Lead Pakistan, 18-Apr-2025, <<https://leadpakistan.com.pk/news/ptm-leader-declares-loyalty-to-pakistan-after-his-arrest-in-khyber/>>;

conducting terrorist operations through BNA, BLA, and other terrorist groups in Balochistan and also oversees the 5GW operations. Though, just like the initial stages of reports circulating about capture of *Kulbhushan Jadhav* in 2016, all the Indian organizations are in a chorus, though accepting that he is a *Regional Passport Officer (RPO)*<sup>24</sup> from Bengaluru, thus partially refute the allegations of him being assigned to operate under RAW from Zahedan for operations against Pakistan.

27. According to some Indian sources, Minister of Information and Public Relations of Balochistan had claimed that *Shri Ajith John Joshua*, was a RAW agent and was handling its clandestine operations from the Indian mission in Iran. Some Indian outlets have accepted that in Nov-2017, *Shri Ajith John Joshua*, IFS-2014, was an *Under Secretary of Cader, CCP, PA-111 and Transport* posted at MEA, New Delhi in 2021. According to his profile on LinkedIn and as reported by the Indian outlet, *Shri Ajith John Joshua*, had been serving in the Consulate General of India in Hong Kong<sup>25</sup>, all confirming his lien with the MEA and giving credence to his position in RAW. The Indian media has accepted that his liaison with various departments, which themselves speak of his covert identity, did not confirm his current whereabouts, except conceding that he has been corrected. The Indian sources have not been able to completely deny his presence in Iran in the recent days, particularly at the time when the attempt was made to hijack Jaffar Express on 11 March 2025.

#### Ashok Chaturvedi

28. The kinetic involvement of the Indian Hostile Intelligence Agencies has also been exposed by the recently reported arrest of one of its regular agents operating in Pakistan near Pak-Afghan border. *Ashok Chaturvedi*, alias *Dastgir Baloch*, a.k.a *Arya*, was arrested from near Pak-Iran border recently while using forged Pakistani ID of *Dastgir Baloch*. Later investigations revealed that he was an Indian Secret Services officer, of *Assistant Director* level, assigned as *Senior East Handler* with responsibilities of a *Field Coordinator*. He was operating under cover of owner of a fake company named *Silk Route Crafts* in

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<sup>24</sup> It may be pointed out that all countries have their staff assigned to their Missions abroad to provide Passport and Visa services in the area. Thus, technically speaking, being an RPO in record is no reason for not being assigned on cover duties in a Mission, particularly, if the host country has no objection.

<sup>25</sup> “Fact-check: Debunking the Misinformation of Jaffer Train Hijack with respect to India”, by Digital Forensics, Research and Analytics Centre (D-FRAC), 28-Mar-2025, < <https://dfrac.org/en/2025/03/28/debunking-the-misinformation-of-jaffer-express-train-hijack-with-respect-to-india/>>;

Tehran, with its branch office close to Pak-Iran border<sup>26</sup>. He was ostensibly engaged in trade. However, as per the reports on the media, he was assigned to procure *Left Behind Weapons* from the Afghan black market and Taliban, and supply them to the Baloch terrorist groups. He was also responsible in leading segment of Baloch subversive 5GW brigades. *Ashok Chaturvedi*, himself was reportedly managing about 400-fake social-media accounts (Fake IDs)<sup>27</sup>, of which about 120-fake IDs were in the names of Baloch persons, while another 265-fake IDs were being used to propagate in English language, and was spreading fake news as well as coded directions to the various Baloch terrorists by generating more than 9-million impressions<sup>28</sup> each day, and concealing the incriminating messages through this maze<sup>29</sup>. His network of the fake IDs was further boosted by the other 5GW segments at disposal of the Indian HIAs Brigades dedicated against Pakistan and its allies in the region. A sense of wider insurgency was being precipitated to attract more recruits for terrorist organisations, cause demoralization amongst security forces and public, and prod the innocent public in towing the lines set by the terrorist groups. However, it is understood that should that such an arrest had been made, it must have been shared with Iran and we should be seeing some positive counter-terrorism developments, particularly after the recent incident of the murders of innocent persons in *Saravan*.

#### *Dhan, alias Asif Chikna*

29. On night between 18/19-Apr-2025, CTD Sindh, along with the intelligence agencies, conducted an IBO in *Saeedabad* area of Karachi, and arrested one *Dhan*, alias *Asif Chikna* and recovered unlicensed weapons from him<sup>30</sup>. His accomplice *Muhammad Shafi*, son of *Bahadur*, managed to escape and agencies are after him. All three are reported to be BLA members and their names are borne in the Sindh's *Counter-Terrorism*

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<sup>26</sup> "Another Raw Agent Arrested in Pakistan, All Details By Razi Dada" VBlog; Razi Naama, 19-Apr-2025, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=egZKBx0GIv0>;

<sup>27</sup> Fake IDs are misrepresented or ghost identities created for purposes of deception and spread of misinformation. These may be of various types including *Bot Accounts*, *Impersonators*, *Sock-puppet Accounts* or *Spam Accounts*.

<sup>28</sup> Impressions are the metrics or counts of times a content appears or is displayed on the target user's device. The impressions suggest the visibility and popularity of that content, though fake IDs or accounts may collectively create a multiplying result for the impressions, allowing it to be picked up and be quoted by interested main-stream media.

<sup>29</sup> "Pakistan Army big success Indian RAW Spy Ashok Chaturvedi arrested from Baluchistan Pakistan", vBlog; SJ Media, 18-Apr-2025, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T1Hehzu8qsU>;

<sup>30</sup> "Karachi CTD nabs key BLA operative in Saeedabad crackdown", by Staff Report, The Pakistan Today, 18-Apr-2025. < <https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2025/04/18/karachi-ctd-nabs-key-bla-operative-in-saeedabad-crackdown/>>;

Department (CTD)<sup>31</sup>. *Bahadur* is believed to have fled to *Siestan e Balochistan*, from where he is handling several cells of BLA in Hub and Karachi. The BLA, through its propaganda mouthpieces, has confirmed the arrest of *Asif Chikna*, and has also admitted that his and *Muhammad Shafi's* names are also borne on the Missing Persons list.

#### *Sajjad Shar, alias Bablu*

30. During the first fortnight of Apr-2025, CTD Sindh had also succeeded in arresting one *Sajjad Shar*, alias *Bablu*, from *Ghaghar Phatak* in Karachi, where he was plotting to plant explosives on the railway track near *Bohar village* in *Hyderabad* district. According to the CTD sources, *Sajjad Shar*, alias *Bablu*, is an active terrorist belonging to *Sindh Revolutionary Army (SRA)*, which is a member terrorist group of recently created BNA. He is believed to be a close confidant of the SRA Commander *Asghar Ali* and *Noor Chandio*. *Bablu* is said to have been a cut-out courier between several other members of SRA, including *Ghulam Shabbir*, *Bashir*, and *Sarang Ali*, who are known members of SRA. Besides, *Bablu* has been providing logistics, finances, spotting and recruitment services for the BLA through SRA<sup>32</sup>.

#### *Surrender of Commander Sakhiullah of TTP*

31. Reports are circulating in the social media for surrender of another TTP militant, *Commander Sakhiullah*, who had returned to Pakistan and voluntarily laid down his arms. He has also exposed the nexus between the Indian HIAs agencies and TTP and the BLA and its associated terrorists<sup>33</sup>. He had emphatically emphasized that the TTP is least religiously motivated, and instead, is driven by opportunistic and avaricious objectives, that are being ensured by the Indian agencies, who provide them logistics, training and select target for them, from where they could get ransoms, and forced donations, in other words live off the land.

#### *IBO at Chakdarra Interchange*

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<sup>31</sup> “BLA suspect arrested by CTD”, The Newspaper's Staff Reporter, The Dawn, 19-Apr-2025, <<https://www.dawn.com/news/amp/1905159>>;

<sup>32</sup> “SRA terrorist arrested in Karachi”, by Nazir Shah, Web Desk, ARY News, 19-Apr-2025, <<https://arynews.tv/sra-terrorist-arrested-in-karachi/>>;

<sup>33</sup> “Bharat Ka Bara Network Benaqabat, Indian Secret Service Operator Pakra Gya”, by Jawad Awan's Inside News, Khabar Gaam, 19-Apr-2025, <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ltmjHdhungQ>>;

32. As the security agencies in an IBO neutralized four TTP infiltrators on 19-Apr-2025, when they were intercepted at *Chakdarra Interchange* when they were on way to carry out a major terrorist attack in Swat.

### Intelligence Collaboration

33. This situation definitely calls for further intensified intelligence collaboration between *China, Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan*, and perhaps *Afghanistan*. Furthermore, there is a need for respective countries to reassess the partisan role of some civil, political, and human rights bodies for their polemic narratives and its propagation, and to adopt appropriate strategy to nip the evil in the bud for countering their nefarious propaganda at all levels.

### Agenda

34. Within the press release or the handout, the new BNA or the former BRASS has also emphasized upon the blockade of all important highways, which were subsequently reflected through the attacks by BLA and then followed up by *Dr. Mahrang Baloch* and subsequently by her like-minded political groups who are trying to block the important highways<sup>34</sup>. This, on one hand, clearly defines the alignment, nexus and collaboration between these political actors with the HIAs but also discloses the earlier collaborations in facilitating the terrorist attacks in order to preserve their own avaricious and narrow personal interests.

### Other Possibility

35. Considering the unity amongst the HIAs operating from Iran and Afghanistan against Pakistan and Iran, there is a possibility that the assassinations in *Saravan* on 12-Apr-2025, had been conducted under a well-planned *False Flag Operation* by the conglomerate of HIAs having common interests in the region. Should this be the situation, it could be a very serious development that confirms the presence of new, more violent conglomerate of HIAs in order to pull the situation towards the set timelines which co-join all the strategic developments taking place in the region and are clearly to the detriment of Pakistan, China and Iran.

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<sup>34</sup> “BLA, BLF, BRG & SRA to Form— National Army of Balochistan”, by Levina, Resonant News, -Mar-2025, <<https://resonantnews.com/2025/03/03/bla-blf-brg-sra-to-form-national-army-of-balochistan/>>;

36. Are USA and Israel going to pause and pend a direct kinetic attack on Iranian nuclear facilities in face of the strategic layout of the battlefields in the hybrid war where Russia, China and Iran are on one side while India, Israel and USA are on the other side of the line of confrontation? It seems that while the spectre of a possible war is raised, another alternate deceptive or a stand-by move, is being rolled-out to commence a fierce *Gray Zone Conflict* in the region to augment this temporary holding back of kinetic attacks on Iran. In such situation, there are all the possibilities that the Indian and Israeli lobbies along with their allies will multiply and intensify their *Covert Warfare* and use of the proxies while pivoting from the *Bagram airbase* on one side and from the Middle East *Hybrid Warfare* nodes just across the Gulf on the other, to carry forward the next battle whose plans are now emerging.

37. Will Iran submit to the American demands of rolling back its nuclear program, or would it, by hedging its support with Russia, China, and at least three European countries, try to make a sprint towards the finish line before any possible attack is yet to be seen<sup>35</sup>? Also, it is to be seen that what fortifications against such possible threats and coercion could be carried out by Iran on the diplomatic and international level, as it raced down to Rome to attend the second rounds of so-called proximity talks with USA on 19-Apr-2025<sup>36</sup>, that spread over several hours and were held at the Omani embassy in Rome's *Camilluccia* district, but after which no joint statement was issued. However, both parties expressed satisfaction and hoped for some better results after the next meeting<sup>37</sup>. Prior to these talks of 19-Apr-2025, a flurry of diplomatic activity between Saudi Arabia and Iran was noticed in which Saudi foreign minister had held a phone call with Iranian foreign minister on 14-Apr-2025, that was followed by a visit by the Saudi minister of defense to Tehran on 17-Apr-2025 to deliver a letter who carried a letter from the King Salman for the Iranian Supreme Leader<sup>38</sup>.

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<sup>35</sup> "Iran will have 'no choice' but to acquire nukes if attacked: Khamenei adviser Ali Larijani", AFP, The Gulf News, 01-Apr-2025, <<https://gulfnews.com/world/mena/iran-will-have-no-choice-but-to-acquire-nukes-if-attacked-khamenei-adviser-ali-larijani-1.500077978>>;

<sup>36</sup> "Iran confirms second round of nuclear talks with the US will be in Rome", by The Arab News, 17-Apr-2025, <<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2597397/middle-east>>;

<sup>37</sup> "Iranian FM says third round of nuclear talks with US to be held on April 26 in Oman", by AP, The Times of Israel, 19-Apr-2025, <[https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog\\_entry/iranian-fm-says-third-round-of-nuclear-talks-with-us-to-be-held-on-april-26-in-oman/](https://www.timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/iranian-fm-says-third-round-of-nuclear-talks-with-us-to-be-held-on-april-26-in-oman/)>;

<sup>38</sup> "Saudi defense minister meets with Iranian leadership during official visit", The Arab News, 17-Apr-2025, <<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2597417/saudi-arabia>>;