



Weekly Report

MAY 23-29, 2014

- 1** Pakistani Taliban splits as divisions grow within insurgency
- 2** Pakistan Ranks Third for Bomb Violence in World
- 3** Pakistan army launches major offensive against Taliban in North Waziristan
- 4** Pakistan Sikhs threaten protests against holy book desecration

“They are demoralizing the people, and if they use IEDs ... then the masses are losing the confidence in the government, then it is almost a destabilization...”
- Shafqat Malik, head of the bomb disposal unit for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province

Pakistan

Olivia Howard

Pakistani Taliban splits as divisions grow within insurgency

- The Pakistani Taliban has split into two groups. They disagree over whether to talk to the government and whether to carry out activities such as killings, robberies, and extortion.
- Source: Reuters

<http://ca.reuters.com/article/topNews/idCAKBN0E80QN20140528>

Pakistan Ranks Third for Bomb Violence in World

- Pakistan has the third highest homemade bomb and suicide blast rate in the world. From 2008-2013, it saw around two major bombings per day, each time wounding or killing an at least five people on average.
- One new trend is sending small bombs to people who do not give in to extortion demands.
- Underfunded public hospitals are not compensated for treating victims.
- More people are reporting to police where bombs are being placed, but few are willing to inform on the perpetrators, out of both tribal loyalty and fear.
- Source: Voice of America

<http://www.voanews.com/content/pakistan-ranks-third-for-bomb-violence-in-world/1925085.html>

Pakistan army launches major offensive against Taliban in North Waziristan

- Pakistani forces launched their first major offensive in years against the Taliban near the Afghan border after the failure of rounds of government-led talks with militants.
- Source: DNA India

<http://www.dnaindia.com/world/report-pakistan-army-launches-major-offensive-against-taliban-in-north-waziristan-1990654>

Pakistan Sikhs threaten protests against holy book desecration

- This month saw several incidents of people burning the Sikh holy book, the Guru Granth Sahib.
- Dozens of Sikhs stormed Pakistan's parliament. The Pakistan Sikh Council has threatened countrywide protests if those who allegedly desecrated the book are not arrested.
- There are around 20,000 Sikhs in Pakistan.
- Source: DNA India

<http://www.dnaindia.com/world/report-pakistan-sikhs-threaten-protests-against-holy-book-desecration-1991655>