

# FRC SECURITY REPORT FIRST QUARTER 2014 (January-March)



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DEDICATED TO THE PEOPLE OF FATA

# About FRC

FRC is a non-partisan, non-political and non-governmental research organization based in Islamabad. It is the first ever think-tank of its kind that focuses on the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) in its entirety. The purpose of FRC is to help concerned stake holders better understand this war-ravaged area of Pakistan with independent, impartial and objective research and analysis. People at FRC think, write, and speak to encourage all segments of Pakistani society and the government to join their strengths for a peaceful, tolerant, progressive and integrated FATA. This FRC Quarterly Security Report reviews recent trends in conflict such as the number of terrorist attacks, type of attacks, tactics used for militancy and the resulting casualties. It gives updates and other security trends. The objective of this security report is to outline and categorize the forms of violent extremism taking place, the role of militant groups and the scale of terrorist activities. This report is the result of intensive monitoring and research by the FRC team. FRC also inherits certain limitations due to the persistence of high-intensity security zones in FATA. The research center collects data through its field reports and other reliable sources present on the ground. The area under discussion is security sensitive so spans of curfew, cross firing and / or other limitations on mobility are common in different parts at different intervals. Thus, the number of actual occurrences of violence may be greater than those are being quoted here, mainly due to under reporting.

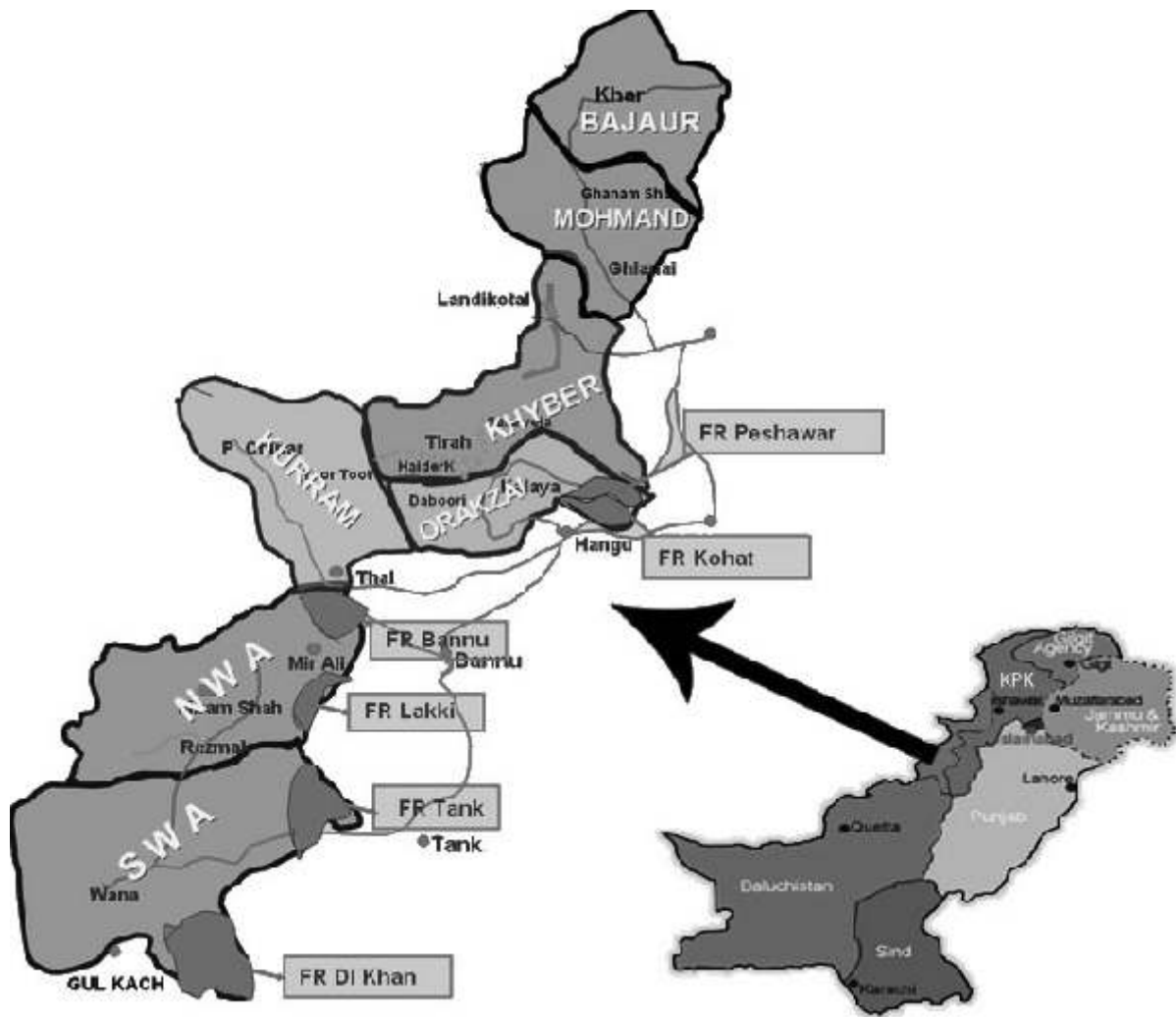
# Acknowledgement

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The Security Report was supervised by Mansur Khan Mehsud (Director Research), reviewed and managed by Mehran Ali Khan Wazir (Programme Manager), and was shared with Dr. Ashraf Ali (President FRC).

# Map of FATA



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# Acronyms

AI:	Ansar-ul-Islam
APA:	Assistant Political Agent
BA:	Bajaur Agency
FATA:	Federally Administered Tribal Areas
FC:	Frontier Corps
FCR:	Frontier Crimes Regulation
FDA:	FATA Development Authority
FR:	Frontier Region
IDP:	Internally Displaced Persons
IED:	Improvised Explosive Device
KA:	Kurram Agency
KHA:	Khyber Agency
KPK:	Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa
LI:	Lashkar-e-Islam
MA:	Mohmand Agency
NATO:	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NWA:	North Waziristan Agency
OA:	Orakzai Agency
Sect:	Sectarian
SF:	Security Forces
SWA:	South Waziristan Agency
TI:	Tauheed-ul-Islam
TTP:	Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan

# Methodology

FATA Research Centre comprises of an enthusiastic team of qualified researchers and academics that have a thirst for knowledge and passion for improvement. FRC's way of work is a collective struggle for authentic information to report. The research team collects information and data from both primary and secondary sources and presents the analysis and expert opinion on the security issues. The security report at hand presents analysis of the security situation in FATA, based on the first hand information and data gathered from the field coupled with the other media sources and the reports of the correspondents.



# Glossary

**Operational Attacks:** Large-scale operations launched by military and paramilitary troops against militants in FATA to preserve law and order and writ of the state. This category includes search operations, attacks on military and military operations in the region

**Militant Attacks:** Indiscriminate use of violence by militant outfits both locals and foreigners such as Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), Al-Qaeda, Uzbeks, Lashkar-e Islam (LI), Ansar-ul-Islam (AI) and other Taliban groups including Wana Taliban, Gul Bahadar group etc respectively , manifested through suicide attacks, beheadings and destruction of educational institutions, CD/video shops, etc.

**Security Forces:** Include the military , frontier corps, frontier constabulary , khassadar force, levis force and the police to combat militants and militant attacks.

**Inter-tribal Clashes:** Clashes or feuds reported between tribes, mainly in FATA.

**Peace Forces:** People from tribes of FATA who are battling militants and terrorists on the ground. Examples include the *Aman Lashkar/ Civil Militias/ Peace Committees* often backed by the state.

**Terrorist Attacks:** The category includes suicide attacks, firing, mortar shelling and terrorist insurgent attacks.

**Bomb Blasts:** The category of bomb blasts include the explosions including IED, landmine blasts, roadside blasts, remote controlled bomb blasts and other explosions.

**Total Number of Casualties:** The sum of total killed and injured in FATA due to violence and social unrest.

# Introduction

In today's world, Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) is often cited as a region rife with militants and is seen as the epicenter of militancy and a global source of terrorism. However, in the past, despite having some administrative and political problems, the region was generally considered one of the most peaceful areas of Pakistan. This was until the Russian invasion in 1979. Previously, there were both formal and informal working institutions that played an instrumental role in keeping intact the social fabric of the tribal belt. There were only three main actors in the region, namely the Political Agent, the tribal citizens and the Maliks who were operating as a bridge between both. There was great synergy between these three actors, but that equilibrium was put at stakes by various Civil and Military regimes throughout the country's troubled history. Political expediencies and the geo-political environment of the region played a major role in shaping the FATA into what it is today. Although the shocking 9/11 incident was geographically far removed from this part of the world, the subsequent events that followed it, brought great havoc to this region. A historically rich and promising vibrant culture comprising of great people living in relative harmony, had in a very short time-span, transformed into a brutal and hellish existence, making victims of many of its inhabitants.

Since 9/11, FATA has continuously found itself in the line of fire and it is the innocent civilians who are paying a heavy toll for the state's flawed policies and goals. The war on terror has resulted in great suffering for locals, both man and material, and still there is no positive end in sight. The social fabric of FATA has gone through major ruptures and the tribal culture is regressing under the miasma of violent extremism which is evident from our annual and quarterly security reports.

These chilling reminders need to be seriously considered by the government as they pose an existential threat to the state. The government must approach the situation with clarity and accurate threat perception and come up with a holistic and effective long-term strategy in order to defuse the situation on its western borders. FATA Research Center (FRC) considers the National Assembly the right forum to take lead in this regard; however, armed forces consultation is of utmost importance in charting out any future counter-terrorism and counter-extremism strategy.

## FATA Profile

FATA is strategically located on the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, between the settled areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. FATA, both historically and traditionally, has had a unique administrative and political status since British control over the area in 1894. In 1893, a demarcation line was drawn between Pakistan and Afghanistan known as the Durand Line, marking the boundary of British control and artificially dividing the lands held by the local tribes between the two domains. British colonizers controlled the agencies through an effective combination of Political Agents and Tribal Elders while allowing people to practice their traditions with internal independence. The administrative head of each tribal agency is a Political Agent who wields extensive administrative as well as judicial powers. Each agency, depending on its size, has about two to three assistant political agents, about three to four Tehsildars, four to nine NaibTehsildars and requisite supporting staff. Pakistan inherited this system and it continues with a few minor changes even today. FATA is characterized by a very strong tribal structure, and a very diverse, ethnic cultural heritage. There are 26 main tribes with approximately 32 sub tribes in FATA. The population of FATA is estimated to be 4.45 million with an average growth rate of 3.76 percent and an average household size of 12.2 since 1998. Administratively, the Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) is the chief executive for FATA as an agent of the President of Pakistan. There are three administrative set-ups, namely, the Ministry of States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON), the FATA Secretariat, and FATA Development Authority (FDA) which supports and runs FATA under the direction of the Governor KPK. FATA is governed through the Frontier Crimes Regulation Act (FCR) of 1901, amended in 2011.

# First Quarter 2014: Overview

Federally Administered Tribal Areas were found deeply unsettled during the last three months, January to March, of the current year as shock-waves of terrorism sent ripples across all seven agencies. The level of impact however varied from agency to agency. Those agencies, Khyber, Kurram, SWA, where peace was established in previous quarters after undergoing military offensives were again found drowning in violent activities this quarter.

A total of 74 incidents of terrorism were recorded in seven agencies of the tribal belt of Pakistan claiming 257 lives and leaving 135 people wounded. The most shaken agency remained the Khyber Agency where 22 incidents of terrorism were noted killing 83 people and leaving 56 others wounded. The blood-thirsty behemoth of terrorism has once again reared its ugly head in the Khyber Agency. Jamrud sub-division of Khyber Agency is currently the most terror affected area of Khyber Agency while Bara tehsil that was once the worst affected area there, has been found to be relatively peaceful after the reportedly covert and implicit truce between security forces and Mangal Bagh led Lashkar-e-Islam. The situation in Landi Kotal tehsil was found volatile.

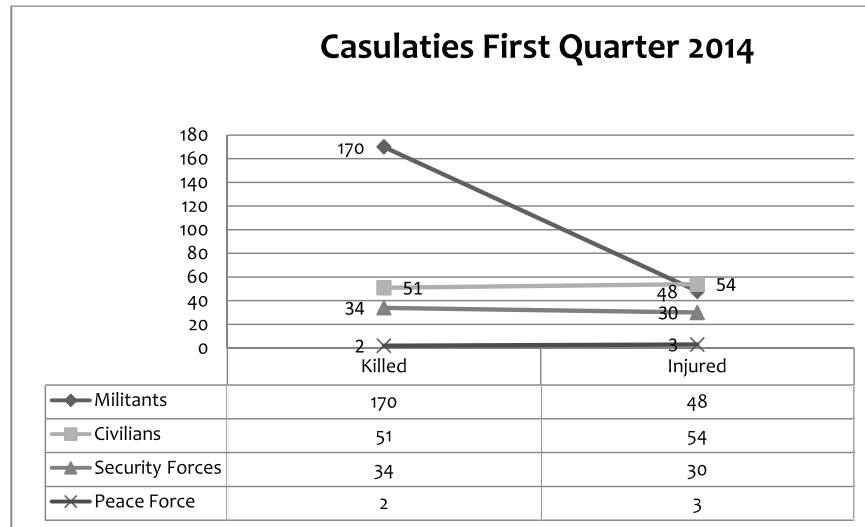
Jamrud sub-division of Khyber Agency has become a hot bed for terrorists and outlawed outfits since Lashkar-e-Islam of Mangal Bagh in Bara tehsil concluded a covert and implicit truce with the security forces stationed in the agency. As it is an implicit agreement hence terms and conditions of the agreement have not been made public so far.

After Khyber Agency, the second most disturbed agency this quarter remained North Waziristan Agency where 20 incidents of terrorism were recorded that caused 106 deaths with 39 injuries. Most common trends of militancy remained bomb blasts, target killings, surgical military operation and attacks on security check posts. Aside from these incidents, the most vulnerable threat that was found in the agency was the crippling Polio virus that played havoc in the agency during the last three months. According to the agency health experts, it is feared that the viral infection has turned into an epidemic in the agency and is feared to spread to adjacent areas of districts Bannu, Lakki Marwat, D.I.Khan, Karak, Orakzai Agency and FR regions. According to details provided to FRC by the head of Health Department, North Waziristan Agency, Dr. Saddiq Khan, the total number of polio affected children in North Waziristan Agency in the first three months of 2014 were 29 out of 36 cases have been detected.

Another important development that occurred this quarter with respect to NWA was peace talks between TTP and the government. Though the peace dialogue meant that peace remained in the pipeline, certain positive developments took place during the last two months where the

nominated members from both sides, TTP and the government, met at an undisclosed location in North Waziristan Agency. However, despite these apparent efforts, it seems unlikely for any fruitful outcomes due to a number of reasons, chief of which is the division within the Taliban ranks over the proposed dialogue.

Up until the recent reports pertaining to the ongoing peace dialogue, the government undertook a bold step and released more than a dozen Taliban from different internment centre's in South Waziristan Agency in order to provide stimulus to the process.



The security situation in Kurram Agency was heading towards an uneven turn, particularly in Central Kurram, during the closing days of the first quarter. Central Kurram areas like Parrachamkani were cleared off militants during Koh-e-Sofaid military operation conducted in May-June 2013 but portions, other than the above mentioned ones, were reportedly under the influence of militants. Ironically the people of the agency refer to Central Kurram areas as 'Tribal Areas' due to its sensitivity and the enhanced respective militant activities therein. Crimes like Kidnappings for ransom and implanted bomb blasts were the main trends found pervasive in the agency and in the Central Kurram areas as well. It merits mentioning here that IED explosions were not the remnants of war but rather purposely implanted in these areas. There are two reasons for it, the first of which is the sectarian tension between Shia and Sunni sects resulting from the Muharram incident that took place in Raja Bazaar, Rawalpindi, Punjab Province in November 2013. In this event the Muharram procession attacked a sunni seminary and killed innocent people. Subsequently out of vengeance, Major Mast Gul conducted two main blasts killing Shia community persons belonging to Kurram Agency, Pak Hotel in Peshawar and in busy Peshawar chock in Kohat this quarter. Feeling the heat of sectarian tensions in the Kurram Agency, locals of both sects resorted to placing landmines in areas of high vulnerability, resulting in many civilian casualties.

The second reason is that militants in the agency resorts to landmine and IEDs' between intervals, causing damages to the civilians.

Bajaur Agency passed through a calmer period, this quarter, and witnessed less incidents of terrorism. The area recorded two incidents causing two deaths and three injuries in Mamond tehsil of the agency.

As far as polio vaccination campaigns are concerned, this agency presents very encouraging figures as it has recorded one of the highest success ratios in terms of achieving the set targets. In the past three months six polio campaigns were launched that targeted more than 2,27,000 under five years children.

Security situation in Mohmand Agency remained calm with slight disturbances in areas near the Afghan border. Such areas of agency witnessed attacks and bomb blasts on security forces and

check posts. However, an important event happened this quarter when twenty three security officials, captured from Shoonghari Post located in Mohmand Agency in June 2010, and killed by the banned outfit Tehreek-e-Taliban Mohmand chapter. According to Umar Khalid Khurassani, head of TTP Mohmand chapter claimed that these killings were carried out in revenge of TTP fighters killed by the government and the police in different fake police encounters.

Orakzai agency also went through a calmer period in the past three months, however, it witnessed few casualties incurred due to bomb blasts and target killings.

Similarly the situation in South Waziristan Agency experienced low number of incidents this quarter since the agency has been undergoing a period of tranquility for the past many months where, according to FRC sources, Taliban are in tacit peace agreement with the security forces stationed there. During the first quarter of 2014, the area witnessed five incidents that cost 19 lives. It merits mentioning that most of the casualties happened in areas that border the restive North Waziristan Agency where surgical operations were launched that were also extended to the border areas of South Waziristan Agency. The government also released Taliban prisoners from different internment centers claiming it would provide stimulus to the ongoing peace dialogue. Most of the released prisoners belonged to Mehsud tribe of South Waziristan Agency.

The table below delineates the violent incidents recorded in each agency. In this quarter, the most exhibited incidents remained operation attacks conducted by security forces rendering 155 people dead and 46 wounded across the whole tribal belt. In total, 74 incidents killed 257 people and wounding 135 others. Khyber Agency, this quarter, witnessed more terrorism incidents, 22, than any other agency of the tribal belt causing 83 deaths and 56 injuries and the most common trend being found in incidents was bomb blasts followed by operational crack downs against the militants. North Waziristan Agency follows Khyber Agency in terms of receiving second highest number of incidents, 20, being the causative agent of 106 killings and 39 injuries with 5 bomb blasts, and 4 target killings remained the major militancy trends this quarter.

Nature of Attacks	Incidents	Number of Killings and Injuries															
		BA		MA		KH A		OKA		Ku A		NWA		SWA		Total	
		K	I	K	I	K	I	K	I	K	I	K	I	K	I	K	I
Operational Attacks	12	0	0	0	0	58	20	0	0	0	0	79	26	18	0	155	46
Clashes b/w Security Forces and militants	1	0	0	0	0	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	5
Cross Border Attacks	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Terrorist Attacks	8	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	3	4
Bomb Blasts	29	0	2	1	1	17	29	1	4	13	29	6	8		1	38	74
Kidnappings	7	0	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	0
Drone Attacks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Target Killings	9	2	1	0	0	2	1	6	0	2	0	18	4	0	0	30	6
Suicide Attacks	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3	0
Clashes between Militant groups	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Total	74	2	3	24	1	83	56	7	4	16	29	106	39	19	3	257	135

## Casualty Types of First Quarter 2014

The table below gives details on those killed and wounded in all seven agencies of FATA this quarter. Unfortunately the ratio of civilian injuries (54) remained higher than any other party involved in the conflict i.e., militant, security forces and peace lashkar members.

Casualty Types	BA		MA		KHA		OA		Ku A		NWA		SWA		Total	
	K	I	K	I	K	I	K	I	K	I	K	I	K	I	K	I
Militants	0	0	0	0	62	23	0	0	0	0	90	24	18	1	170	48
Civilians	0	2	1	1	17	20	7	4	10	19	16	7	0	1	51	54
Security Forces	0		23	0	4	13	0	0	6	8	0	8	1	1	34	30
Peace forces/ <i>Aman</i> lashkar	2	1		0	0		0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>135</b>

Agencies Security Overview:  
First Quarter 2014



# Bajaur Agency

Bajaur is the smallest of tribal agencies, situated on the extreme north of FATA, which has been reported as the most vulnerable region for cross border attacks from Afghanistan. It has 52 Kms of border with Afghanistan's troubled province of Kunar which is known for extensive militants' activities in Afghanistan. According to analysts the roots of militancy in Bajaur could be traced back to the activities of Sufi Muhammad<sup>1</sup> a former member of Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) and a veteran of the Afghan jihad (Rahmanullah, April 2010), which later on reemerged with a much stronger force in the shape of anti-government militancy. The Lal Masjid operation also owns to the first military operation in August 2008 against Faqir Muhammad<sup>2</sup> who started steering religious sentiments of innocent tribesmen on the account of government and Lal Masjid administration standoff. Presently, militants in the region belong to different groups, including the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), the Dr. Ismail Group, and the Maulana Abdullah Group. The government responded to counter militancy in Bajuar Agency by forming *Lashkars*<sup>3</sup> along with military operations against the militants in the agency. Besides the counter militancy on the ground by the Pakistani security forces three drone attacks have been reported since 2001 in which one militant commander and 18 other militants have been killed. Like other tribal agencies military cantonment is under construction in the agency and is in the completion phase which can depict military presence in the area.

## Security Situation in Bajaur Agency

During the past three months, January to March 2014, Bajaur Agency drifted on calmer waters, with only a few incidents of terrorisms. The area recorded two incidents causing two deaths and three injuries in Mamond tehsil of the agency.

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<sup>1</sup>Sufi Muhammad Head of *Tehrik-i-Nifaz-i-Shariat-i-Muhammadi (TNSM)* in Swat Valley which has been noticed in Bajaur Agency and in Mohmand Agency.

<sup>2</sup>Faqir Muhammad has recently arrested by the Afghan Government in Afghanistan.

<sup>3</sup>Civil militia comprising of the local civilian supported, in majority cases, by the government of Pakistan

Security Situation in Bajaur Agency			
First Quarter 2014			
Nature of Attacks	Incidents	Killings	Injuries
Operational Attacks	0	0	0
Clashes b/w Security Forces and militants	0	0	0
Cross Border Attacks	0	0	0
Terrorist Attacks	0	0	0
Bomb Blasts	1	0	2
Kidnappings	0	0	0
Drone Attacks	0	0	0
Target Killings	1	2	1
Suicide Attacks	0	0	0
Clashes between Militant groups	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Total Casualties</b>			<b>5</b>

### Casualty Types

Casualty Types First Quarter 2014 Bajaur Agency	Killed	Injured
Militants	0	0
Civilians	0	2
Security Forces	0	0
Peace Forces/ <i>AmanLashkar</i>	2	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Total Casualties</b>	<b>5</b>	

Mamond tehsil of Bajaur Agency which in 2008 was a stronghold of Taliban, security forces used aerial and ground artillery to break them, was found quiet this quarter. However this relatively peaceful situation may not be sustained for long, as its strategic location keeps it vulnerable and open to militant strikes. This area, comprising of two main territories; small and large Mamond, lies close to Afghanistan and shares considerable territory with her. Due to its strategic location, is hard to contain the infiltration of insurgents into the area from the other side of the border which often leads to anti state activities, including bomb blasts, cross border attacks and attacks on security forces check posts<sup>4</sup>.

Another significant feature of the area is that it is considered a breeding ground for militants since 2008 and all prominent leaders of TTP are believed to have emerged from this region of the agency.

Not only has this area experienced disturbances but also its gateway, Inayat Kallay in tehsil Khar,

<sup>4</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/cross-border-attack-in-bajaur-agency/> ,

faces the same situation at most time. This locality is the hub of business activities second after Khar city but also very vulnerable to militant activities as on numerous occasions, forces had thwarted terrorist activities<sup>5</sup> thereby defusing implanted bomb blasts. The reason being that it is a business hub and it serves as a gateway to Mamond tehsil whereby political officials and security forces contingents, convoys etc. pass through it.

To contain militancy and confront militants in war torn areas of the tribal belt, the role of peace lashkars remained not only effective but also very efficient. Salarzai peace

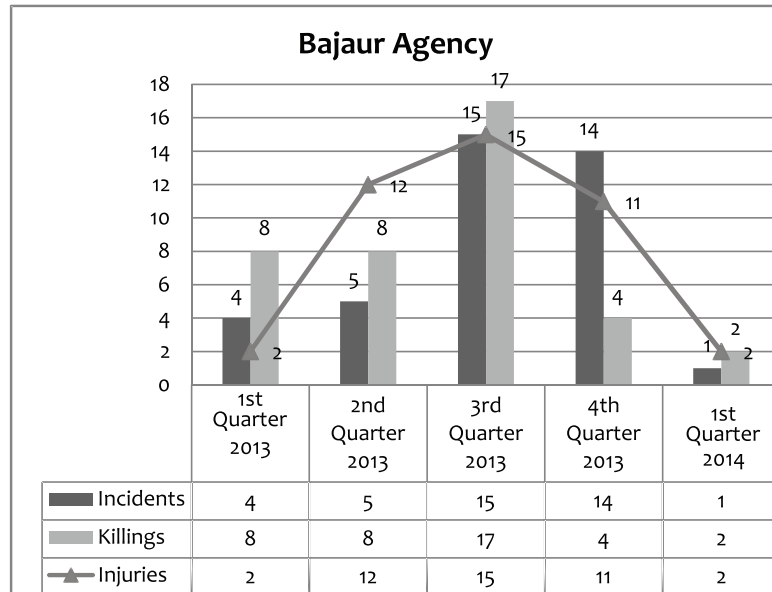
lashkar is one such example which has effectively restricted Taliban from infiltrating into their areas. Salarzai tehsil, being at borders with Mamond tehsil, evolved peace lashkar which remained very instrumental in containing militancy. Its first chief was Maj (rtd) Fazal Karim who later died in a suicide attack. The most important tool this peace lashkar used against militants was demolishing their houses. The peace committee current elders including, Malak Mohammad Yunas, Malak Hifzul-janan, Malak Ayaz and Malak Mohammad Yaar held a Jarga with the government functionaries' thereby ensuring them of full support in working for the maintenance of peace in their tehsil like the past.

In the agency, polio campaigns present one of the highest success ratio despite being the fact that it has become a dangerous endeavor in present times. According to health officials more than 227,000 were vaccinated. This figure is higher than other figures of FATA, and represent the age-group of five and under, in the agency. The success ratio of polio campaigns comes around 95 to 97 percent, which is one of the highest ratios in FATA.

According to FRC reports provided by local political administration a total of six phases of polio campaigns have been launched in Bajaur agency this quarter with two phases each month. The target for all six phases put the number at 227,224 children. The following teams acted out; 636 mobile teams with two members in each team, 18 transit teams with 2 members in each, 40 fixed teams each with one individual, 164 supervisors, 26 individual in UCPW 'Union Council Polio Workers' and 07 union council communication officers 'UCO'.

The number of refusal cases in each phase this quarter remained 365 in the first phase in January, 153 in second phase of January, 20 refusal cases in first phase of February and 44 in second phase of the same month while 27 and 11 in first and second phases of March.

According to health department officials, this quarter was the most peaceful quarter since many years as no attack on polio teams was reported<sup>6</sup>.



<sup>5</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/weapons-recovered-in-bajaur/>

<sup>6</sup>Details regarding Polio Campaigns were provided by 'Agency Surgeon Office' Bajaur Agency

# Mohmand Agency

Mohmand Agency (MA) shares its border with Bajaur Agency in North, Khyber Agency in its South, Malakand and Charsadda districts in the East and Peshawar District in the Southeast. According to 1998 census, the population of the agency was 334,453 with a population density of 171 persons per square kilometer. Ghalanai is the agency headquarters. Mohmand Agency is comparatively more integrated into the main land of Pakistan though it has been ignored same as the rest of FATA by the government. This ignorance may be the sole reason of Sufi Mohammad's<sup>7</sup> movement that affected the region. Indigenous Taliban emerged as a major social force in the agency in 2006, when armed militants began patrolling the area and ordering residents to follow strict social codes. The nature of militancy is clearly anti-government in Mohmand where the anti-government sentiments increased soon after 2007 Lal Masjid (Red Mosque) operation by the security forces of Pakistan (Raza Khan, April 2010). Besides local militant activities, non-local and foreigner militant groups also affected peace in the region. To counter this variety of militancy, Pakistani security forces had operated at various levels including involving the local people in shape of forming civil militia against militants. Moreover military operations of 2011 and 2012 have cleared most areas of Mohmand Agency from the miscreants that was helpful significantly in bringing back the normal life to the natives of the area.

## Security Situation in Mohmand Agency

Mohmand Agency experienced five incidents of terrorism including Bomb Blasts and attacks over security check posts. However an important event happened in the quarter wherein twenty three security officials were killed by banned outfit Tehreek-e-Taliban Mohmand chapter. Terrorists in the border areas of the agency were recorded while attacking security forces check posts and attempts of explosive blasts that were successfully thwarted by law enforcers.

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<sup>7</sup> Sufi Muhammad Head of *Tehrik-i-Nifaz-i-Shariat-i-Muhammadi (TNSM)* in Swat Valley which has been noticed in Bajaur Agency and in Mohmand Agency.

Security Situation in Mohmand Agency			
First Quarter 2014			
Nature of Attacks	Incidents	Killings	Injuries
Operational Attacks	0	0	0
Clashes b/w Security Forces and militants	0	0	0
Cross Border Attacks	0	0	0
Terrorist Attacks	2	0	0
Bomb Blasts	2	1	1
Kidnappings	1	23	0
Drone Attacks	0	0	0
Target Killings	0	0	0
Suicide Attacks	0	0	0
Clashes between Militant groups	0	0	0
Total	5	24	1
Total Casualties			25

### Casualty Types

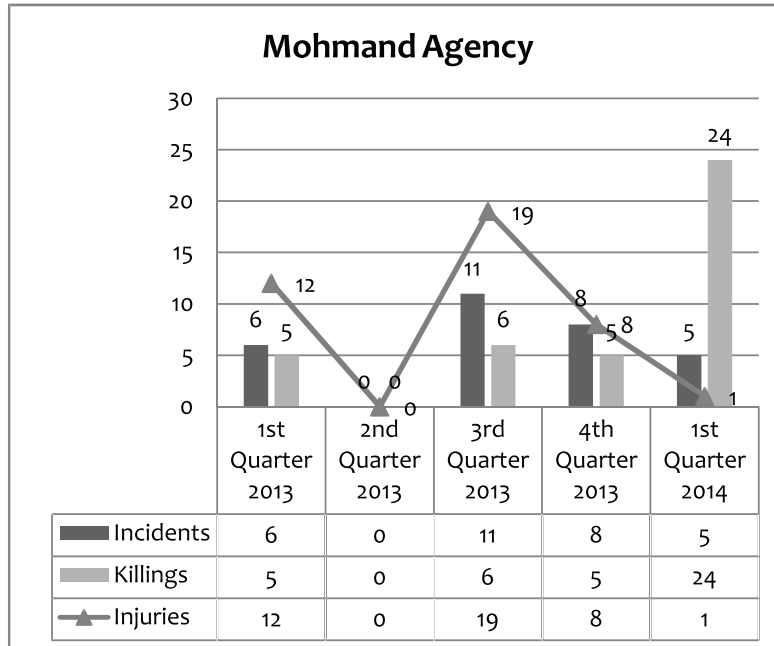
Casualty Types First Quarter 2014 Mohmand Agency	Killed	Injured
Militants	0	0
Civilians	1	1
Security Forces	23	0
Peace Forces/ AmanLashkar	0	0
Total	24	1
Total Casualties		25

In mid-February, 2014, Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan Mohmand Agency chapter killed twenty three security personnel previously abducted in June 2010 from Shoonghari area of Mohmand Agency. The chapter chief of the banned organization "Umar Khalid Khurasani" claimed that these killings have been carried out in retaliation of extrajudicial killings of their commanders/members across the country and particularly in KPK and FATA, "to take avenge of our killed imprisoned fighters we put to death twenty three FC soldiers that were captured by TTP from Shoonghari Post, located in Mohmand Agency, in June 2010". The commander tried to pressurize the government by resorting to the act as, according to him, the government didn't listen to their demands, "The government of Pakistan didn't stop their activities directed against the TTP despite our several warnings and we knew how to avenge the killing of our beloveds"<sup>8</sup>.

According to the TTP Mohmand Chief, the following were prominent figure killed, leading to them blaming the government departments; Mr. Kifayat along and his companion Gul Rehman were killed by the security agencies on 28th January 2014, who belonged to Zairat Kaly, in tehsil Safi of

<sup>8</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/ttp-killed-23-security-forces-personnel-in-retaliation/>

Mohmand Agency, 6th February 2014, Naveed and Hamza belonging to Koki Khel tribe of Khyber Agency were shot dead in jail and their corpses were dumped in University Town Peshawar, on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2014, Qari Umer and Imadad hailing from Malik Din Khel tribe of Khyber Agency, were found dead in University Town Peshawar that were veteran commanders of TTP, on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2014 Commander Hameed was shot dead in Peshawar, on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2014, law



enforcement agencies took out a brutal action and killed sixteen TTP members in Nowshera and dumped their dead bodies. Umer Khalid Khurrasani is one of the key commanders of the TTP that belongs to Safi tribe of the agency. His name is Abdul Wali Khan and is one of the powerful commanders of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). He was appointed emir 'Ameer' of the TTP Mohmand Chapter by Baitullah Mehsud. In 2007 he laid siege to the shrine of an anti-colonialist fighter from Mohmand area and renamed it as Lal Masjid. Also he managed to kill one of the pro-Afghan Taliban commanders, Shah Khalid alias Shah Sahib and became an important figure within the Mohmand Agency.

The Mohmand Agency chapter of the TTP led by Abdul Wali was the first militant group to claim responsibility for the suicide bombings in Karachi that took the life of Chaudhry Aslam and two other policemen. The Karachi Police neither named Omar Khalid Khurrasani nor his spokesman Sajjad Mohmand as the accused in the case. They appear to be the masterminds in this case but instead the police have named the Afghanistan-based Maulana Fazlullah and the TTP central spokesman Shahid Ullah Shahid as the main accused in the FIR lodged after Chaudhry Aslam's death<sup>9</sup>.

A total of six polio campaigns were launched in Mohmand Agency this quarter to reach out to 89500 children throughout the agency. Two campaigns were launched in January 2014 where 363 mobile teams, 39 fixed teams and 10 transit teams took part to reach out to 89500 target children. In February, 363 mobile teams, 40 fixed teams and 10 transit teams were deputed to reach to 89450 under aged children, while in March 2014, 3 polio eradication campaigns were launched with 363 mobile teams, 39 fixed teams and 8 transit teams to administer polio drops to 89310 children across the agency, the success ratio for them remained around 85-90%.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>9</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/ttp-took-the-responsibility-of-karachi-attack/>

<sup>10</sup>Polio Campaigns statistics were provided by 'Agency Surgeon Office' Mohmand Agency

# Khyber Agency

Khyber Agency is geographically a very important tribal belt and the famous Khyber Pass<sup>11</sup> further increases its strategic importance. It borders Afghanistan to the west, Orakzai Agency to the south, Kurram Agency to south west and Peshawar to the east. The total population of 546,730 is divided, administratively, into three units—Bara, Jamrud and Landi Kotal. Its population is also divided into four main tribes in which Afridi tribe is the biggest one. The other three tribes include Shinwari, MullaGori and Shilmani. The agency has multifaceted militancy: sectarian violence, Sunni groups aiming to establish a Taliban-style government and drug mafias add fuel conflict in the area. Although the current militancy is the offspring of the sectarian differences in KHA noticed between Mufti Munir Shakir, founder of Lashkar-e-Islam (LI) and Pir Saif-ur-Rehman.<sup>12</sup> Lashkar-e-Islam is currently headed by Mangal Bagh. TTP also has reasonable bases in Khyber Agency which is recently in a 'war time alliance' with Mangal Bagh in the fight with Ansar-ul-Islam in Tirah valley. The nature of conflict is quite different in Khyber Agency where even counter militancy<sup>13</sup> measures ironically accelerated militancy. The recent clash between the militants and anti-militants groups displaced many families in Tirah Valley.

## Security Situation in Khyber Agency

Khyber Agency once again witnessed a disturbing quarter and stood next to the volatile North Waziristan Agency in terms of it suffering a high number of casualties and terrorist incidents. In total of 22 incidents, 83 people were killed and 56 others were wounded. The agency has three sub-divisions and out of them Jamrud sub-division was found disturbed.

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<sup>11</sup>Khyber Pass has throughout served as the corridor connecting the Indo-Pak sub-continent with Afghanistan and Central Asia.

<sup>12</sup>Mufti shakir was follower of Deobandi school of thought while Pir Saif-ur-Rehman was a Baralvi muslim

<sup>13</sup>Counter militancy strategy involved the local people through forming Lashkars. These tribal Lashkars later on turned in terror and militancy.

Security Situation in Khyber Agency			
First Quarter 2014			
Nature of Attacks	Incidents	Killings	Injuries
Operational Attacks	4	58	20
Clashes b/w Security Forces and militants	1	3	5
Cross Border Attacks	0	0	0
Terrorist Attacks	2	2	1
Bomb Blasts	11	17	29
Kidnappings	1	0	0
Drone Attacks	0	0	0
Target Killings	2	2	1
Suicide Attacks	0	0	0
Clashes between Militant groups	1	1	0
Total	22	83	56
Total Casualties		139	

### Casualty Types

Casualty Types First Quarter 2014 Khyber Agency	Killed	Injured
Militants	62	23
Civilians	17	20
Security Forces	4	13
Peace Forces/ AmanLashkar	0	0
Total	83	56
Total Casualties	139	

The evil of terrorism has again resurfaced in Khyber Agency. Jamrud sub-division of Khyber Agency is currently the most terror affected area of Khyber Agency while Bara tehsil, that was once the worst affected area of the agency, is comparatively peaceful after the reportedly covert and implicit truce between security forces and Mangal Bagh led Lashkar-e-Islam. However security situation in Landi Kotal tehsil is also not satisfactory.

Jamrud sub-division of Khyber Agency has currently become a hot bed for terrorists and outlawed outfits shortly after Lashkar-e-Islam of Mangal Bagh in Bara tehsil concluded a covert and implicit truce with the security forces stationed in the agency. As it is an implicit agreement hence terms and conditions of the agreement have not been made public so far.

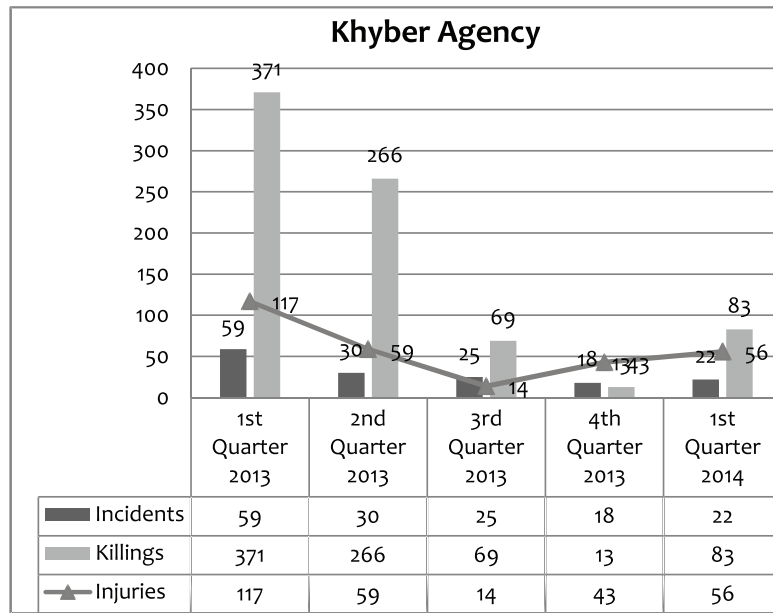
Landi Kotal based outfit 'Jaish Osama', formerly known as 'Abdullah Azam Brigade', has been reported active in Jamrud tehsil in this quarter which has carried out successful attacks on Khassadar Force, Levies Force and Polio workers besides attacks on NATO supply trucks<sup>14</sup> on Khyber Pass.

<sup>14</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/afghanistan-bound-container-attacked-in-jamrud/>



Koki-Khel tribe in Jamrud tehsil has been reported to have turned into an abode for criminal groups and miscreants. Due to the unclear nomenclature of terrorists and their uncertain affiliation with banned organizations it is very hard to ascertain whether militant groups carry out terrorist attacks or the criminals.

Jamrud-based militants are reportedly of the view that they would keep targeting polio workers in Jamrud tehsil to take aveng of the



late Osama Bin Laden that was also traced through such campaign in Abbottabad city. It is to mention here that militants are in fact not opposed to polio drops and other vaccines that are considered good for health but they fear that spies are active under the garb of polio workers to trace them out. Also they argue that they would not hesitate to attack NATO supply truckers on the same grounds. So in this backdrop Jamrud sub-division of Khyber Agency has become a very dangerous zone at present. So far, the militants have targeted security forces personnel, Khassadar Forces and Levies Force personnel besides polio and NGO workers and female teachers.

Extortion of money from wealthy persons in Jamrud tehsil has taken a dreadful turn. Militants constantly approach wealthy figures of the area using different techniques of extortion, however, the most common strategy they apply is through letters inscribed with the amount of money being demanded. If the addressed person fails to comply with their demands then he has to face the music as the militants target their homes with bomb blasts, IED attacks<sup>15</sup>, missile attacks and target killings. Ironically these methods have been used round the clock has and have forced locals to migrate to safer areas in lower districts of the country.

The deplorable point, however, is that so far the local political administration has not taken any credible extra security measures to discourage and thwart these types of incidents in Jamrud. Instead they have banned the public to hold Jargas in its traditional way which has raised many questions in the minds of the locals about the determination of the administration in eliminating this menace from the area.

Similarly, instead of pushing the area security forces to bring improvement in the law and order situation, the Political Administration ordered to withhold salaries of grade-4 employees belonging to Koki-Khel sub tribes like Tor-Khel, Sikandar-Khel, Karon-Khel and Mishak-khel working in the agency. This act of the administration was strongly condemned by all political parties calling it a brazen act of reforms in FCR, in light of which the territorial responsibility clauses of FCR has been limited to the nearest family members, such as immediate cousins. The political leadership has time

<sup>15</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/peace-lashkar-members-attacked-in-khyber-agency/>

and again demanded from the government to take serious action against the concerned authorities who have, so far, failed to maintain the law and order situation.

Landi Kotal remained the second volatile area in the agency in the past three months, as it lies near the Pak-Afghan border. During the whole quarter unknown militants carried out various IEDs attacks planted on roadsides targeting security forces and KKF personnel in which many personnel lost their lives and many sustained serious splinter wounds. These IED explosions have scared the local masses, particularly school going children, but the respective political administration does not ensure proper security measures to protect the lives and properties of the people.

Similarly, in the far flung Zakha Khel area of Landi Kotal, the pro-government peace lashker, Tawheed-UI-Islam has established considerable peace thereby flushing out other militants groups like TTP, LI and Abdullah Azam Brigade.

Bara is presently run through a covert peace deal between forces and Mangal Bagh led LI. It has also been learnt that forces and LI militants in order to avoid confrontation and misunderstandings travel by adopting different routes in Bara. However, the forces recently bombarded Ayoubi base at Bara which was a centre of the militants other than that of LI. Ayoubi base was targeted through jet fighters soon after an IED attack on KKF personnel in Jamrud tehsil.

Security forces, along with Ansar-UI-Islam, a pro-government group, have cleared Miadan Bagh Tirah Valley and its surroundings off the militants particularly TTP and LI. However, local reports say that Koki-Khel tribe inhabited areas in Tirah are still under the control of the TTP and LI militants. Aka-Khel and Sepah tribes' areas while some parts of Zakha-Khel tribes serve as strong bases for LI and TTP militants in the restive valley.

Formerly, Tirah valley was under the influence of Qazi Mehboob-ul-Haq led Ansar-ul-Islam, but the bases of this pro-government militant group, though announced as a banned outfit, were assaulted jointly by fighters of the TTP and LI, which were later followed by attacks from the army. Now the central part of Tirah has been occupied by the army while pockets in the surrounding areas are still under the control of militants.

In this backdrop, to contain insurgency, the government has initiated construction work on the Peshawar-Torkham road, which is scheduled to be completed this year. Agency headquarter hospital Landi Kotal expansion project is also in full swing with financial aid from Federal Republic of Germany.

Similarly, repair and reconstruction of government schools damaged during the period of militancy is under progress under the USAID RAHA project in Landi kotal. In order to contain corruption and misuse of the funds, SAFRON sub-standing committee recently held a meeting at FATA secretariat to devise a mechanism under which the malice of corruption was aimed to be minimized. The meeting was chaired by MNA Sahibzada Tariq Ullah besides Political Agent Khyber Agency and other officials of administration.

Whereas Bar Qamber Khel tribes that have long been the main bastion of the Haji Namdar Group, Amar Bil Maruf has reduced their activities to a greater extent. This group believes in Jihad against the US-led forces in Afghanistan. The group also enjoys strong influence in Bar Qambar-Khel areas and tries to avoid challenging the government or its forces in the agency.

# Orakzai Agency

Orakzai Agency is administratively divided into two sub-divisions; Upper and Lower Orakzai with total population of 450,000, having population density of 250 square km (650/sq mi). The agency with total area of 1,538 square kilometers is bound in the north by Khyber Agency, in the east by FR Kohat, in the south by Kohat and Hangu districts and in the west by Kurram Agency. It is the only tribal agency which has no direct borders with Afghanistan but still a variety of militancy exists in the agency. Apart from the local sectarian violence, TTP and TNSM also have their bases in the agency. The Students' Movement (Tehrik-i-Tulaba Movement (TTM))<sup>16</sup> led by Maulvi Muhammad Rehmin, a local cleric who has contributed in militarizing the religious society of the agency. According to reports and analysis sectarian conflict between Shia and Sunni Muslims exists in Orakzai agency but its intensity is comparatively lower than Kurram agency. The agency was once a safe haven for the TTP ex-chief, Hakimullah Mehsud, who launched hundreds of attacks on NATO supply vehicles from the agency.

## Security Situation in Orakzai Agency

Security situation in Orakzai Agency presents a picture of serenity during the first quarter of the year 2014. Overall, three incidents of terrorism happened in the three months period (Jan-Mar) that left seven people killed and four others injured.

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<sup>16</sup>TTM executed those guilty in crimes in a large public gathering

Security Situation in Orakzai Agency			
First Quarter 2014			
Nature of Attacks	Incidents	Killings	Injuries
Operational Attacks	0	0	0
Clashes b/w Security Forces and militants	0	0	0
Cross Border Attacks	0	0	0
Terrorist Attacks	0	0	0
Bomb Blasts	2	1	4
Kidnappings	0	0	0
Drone Attacks	0	0	0
Target Killings	1	6	
Suicide Attacks	0	0	0
Clashes between Militant groups	0	0	0
Total	3	7	4
			11

### Casualty Types

Casualty Types First Quarter 2014 Orakzai Agency	Killed	Injured
Militants	0	0
Civilians	7	4
Security Forces	0	0
Peace Forces/ AmanLashkar	0	0
Total	7	4
Total Casualties		11

The agency is undergoing a period of calmness since the start of the third quarter of 2013; however, sporadic incidents of terrorism have been reported. The agency was cleared off anti-state elements through Operation Khwakh-Ba-Day-Sham that lasted from April 2010 to March 2013. During the launched operation the initial targeted areas were namely Andkhel, Utman Khel, Baizoot and Feroz Khel which are parts of the lower Orakzai division. These areas lie on the north of lower Orakzai and border Khyber Agency. However a strategically important position named KhawaDarra located in UtmanKhel area remained a hub of militant hideouts. The strategic location of this area barred security forces from entering, as its altitude was too high while on the other hand it was bordering rugged and hilly areas of Khyber Agency. Militants were taking advantage of the location and used to hit military from the adjacent Khyber Agency hill tops. The militant commander who manned areas' of lower Orakzai was Aslam Farooqi, having links with Mangal Bagh group. The military took control of this area in January 2013, however the said militant commander still enjoys considerable influence in areas that border Khyber Agency but his whereabouts remain unknown. It is generally believed that since Mangal Bagh has entered into a tacit truce agreement with security forces in Bara sub-division of Khyber Agency in recent past, Aslam Farooqui is also obeying the rules of a tacit agreement he has concluded with the law enforcers in the Orakzai area.

Towards the end of January this year, there were reports that Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan Orakzai

chapter Hafiz Saeed Khan was killed in clashes with security forces, however, the TTP spokesman for the agency, Shaikh Maqbool, refuted such reports warning that media should refrain from engaging in baseless propaganda or face harsh retaliation.

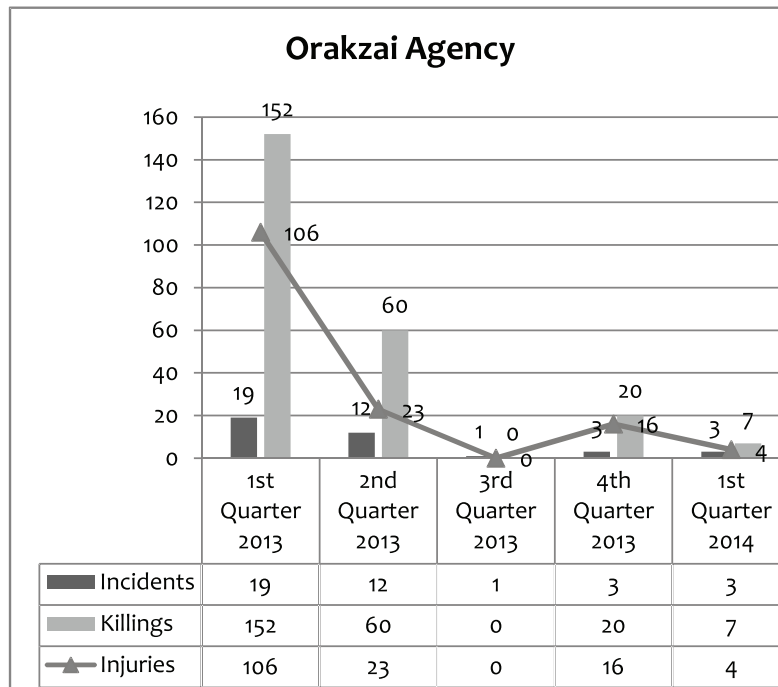
Internally displaced people hailing from Upper Orakzai held a Jarga in this quarter demanding their safe repatriation. Upper Orakzai areas like Ali-Khel, Mulla-Khel and Mamozai are still under the control of security forces debarring its people to

enter. The Jirga was attended by elders and tribesmen of 10 different clans of Orakzai Agency and was held at Thara Nago. The elders were disgruntled by government and military officials' claim to have cleared 92 percent of the area of Orakzai Agency, while being unable to repatriate the tribal people.

Agency health department has conducted many successful polio eradication campaigns in Orakzai agency in the first quarter of the year. The administration has cooperated fully with the health department officials taking part in vaccination campaigns as many groups were sent to the villages, with foolproof security that lies adjacent to the volatile Khyber Agency.

A total of six phases of oral vaccinations took place in Orakzai Agency during the first quarter of the current year in which 317 health teams took part. During the month of January, as two rounds of campaigns were held in each month, a total of 30837 children below the age of five were targeted in which 30254 were approached while 583 were missed. Similarly, during February 2014, the target was 30371 while target achieved stand at 30371 with 307 missing. Similarly, in March these figures stand at 32765 with the set target whereas the achieved target was 32427 with 338 missing. It is worth mentioning here that the missing figures were not refused cases but rather the target children were not approached due to their unavailability.

A total of 154 teams participated in these campaigns with 124 mobile teams, two persons in each team, 27 fixed teams at hospitals, and 3 transit teams. The transit teams also included 3 temporary transit teams, one in Sepoy area working within the agency, second was the KhawaDara transit team that was working on the boundary with Khyber Agency and third was Mishti-Milla transit team that was working on the boundary with Maidan area of Khyber Agency. Few permanent teams also participated in the vaccination campaigns. They were; one in Darband village located on border with Hango district, second in Shaho-Khelvillage on Orakzai-Hango border, third was in Zerra area



located on Kohat-Orakzai border, fourth in Habib Dandarea on border with Khyber Agency<sup>17</sup>. Since the third quarter of 2013 the agency underwent a peaceful phase with sporadic terrorist incidents and the first quarter of 2014 also remained mostly peaceful. To the established peace polio campaigns were successfully launched in the region with high success ratio but it couldn't be launched throughout the agency as many areas are still under the control of the security forces where repatriation is yet to start. Areas like Ali-Khel, Mulla-Khel and Mamozai of Upper Orakzai are still under the control of the security forces barring its people from entering. A Jarga was held in this regard at Thara Nago area where the displaced people of these areas demanded government to repatriate them on a priority basis.

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<sup>17</sup>The details about Polio Campaigns were provided by Agency Surgeon Office Orakzai Agency

# Kurram Agency

Kurram Agency is bordered by Afghanistan in the north and west (the provinces of Ningarhar and Puktia respectively), in the east by Orakzai Agency and Khyber Agency, in the southeast by Hangu and on the south by North Waziristan Agency. The agency is 115 kilometers long with a total area of 3,380 square kilometers. The population, according to the 1998 census, was 448,310. It is suffering from the sectarian violence which has been reported since the Islamization of Pakistan by General Zia. This violence has been fueled since 1980s' and amplified by advanced weapons that passed through the agency during the Afghan Jihad. Strategically the agency is very important. Therefore, Taliban from the Mehsud and Wazir tribes of North and South Waziristan began their activities in the agency in 2006, and since 2007 have been involved in anti-shia fighting. In response, many local and non-local Shia militant organizations clashed with these Sunni groups. The agency has witnessed full scale military operations to keep the agency peaceful but still militancy exists in the area.

## Security Situation in Kurram Agency

Kurram Agency security situation throughout the quarter was found unstable and uncertain as, with frequent intervals, explosions of bomb blasts, improvised explosive devices explosions, cross-border attacks, kidnappings for ransom and tremors of sectarian rifts were seen. In light of increased terrorist incidents in the agency, the locals fear an increase in its intensity in the near future.

Remotely controlled and IED explosions in upper Kurram agency in particular while in rest of the agency in general inflicted high damages to the locals leaving many with having to undergo splinter surgeries. These blasts mostly happened on dust paths and fields where locals travelled routinely using vehicles or as pedestrians. One cannot hold it as a remnant of war because of two reasons; one, these paths are in regular uses of locals and two, political administration often conducts clearance operations of landmines, in intervals, in areas where blasts have been reported or believed to host such materials due to its sensitivity. Another reason for such blasts is the sectarian divide. Areas where Sunni sect followers consider themselves defenseless or feel vulnerable to attacks from certain fanatical members of the Shia sect, they resort to using landmines. This practice is also exercised by the shia sect in areas where they feel vulnerable to sunni attacks.

Cross border attacks and attacks on security forces check posts were reported, this quarter, mostly

Security Situation in Kurram Agency			
First Quarter 2014			
Nature of Attacks	Incidents	Killings	Injuries
Operational Attacks	0	0	0
Clashes b/w Security Forces and militants	0	0	0
Cross Border Attacks	4	1	0
Terrorist Attacks	0	0	0
Bomb Blasts	7	13	29
Kidnappings	5	0	0
Drone Attacks	0	0	0
Target Killings	1	2	0
Suicide Attacks	0	0	0
Clashes between Militant groups	0	0	0
Total	17	16	29
			45

### Casualty Types

Casualty Types First Quarter 2014 Kurram Agency	Killed	Injured
Militants	0	0
Civilians	10	19
Security Forces	6	8
Peace Forces/ <i>AmanLashkar</i>	0	2
Total	16	29
Total Casualties		45

from lower and upper kurram area that lies near the Pak-Afghan border. Militants from across the border, bordering Khost Province of Afghanistan, are assumed to be behind these attacks. Casualties from these attacks couldn't be ascertained due to remoteness and operational nature of the area.

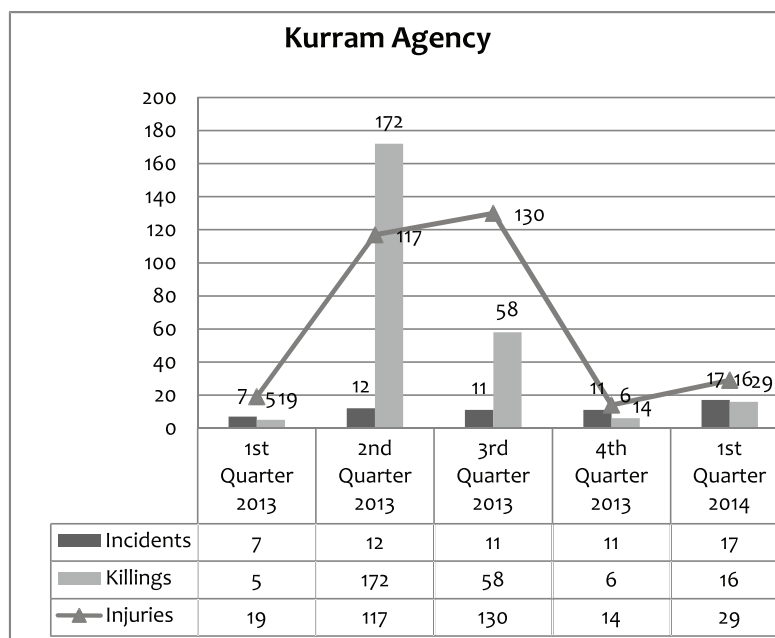
Incidents of kidnappings for ransom were also reported in the agency during this quarter. Such cases were stated to have occurred in central Kurram territories, in particular, and in lower Kurram in general. In lower Kurram area extending from Sadda to Chappry check post is stated to be unsafe owing to such incidents.

The security situation in Central Kurram is stated to be turning once again towards uncertainty and insecurity. The area hosts, according to FRC reports, a large number of banned outfit members and extremists and according to local administration officials this area serves as a hub for terrorists, as terrorist plans are mostly hatched in this area.

According to most recent reports, security forces were planning to strike back against the terrorists



with significant zeal and show of force<sup>18</sup>. The Parachamkanni area of central kurram has already underwent military operation<sup>19</sup> in May-June 2013, but portions, areas, other than Parrachmkani are still regarded as lawless areas by the locals as revealed in FRC reports. It is feared that sectarian tensions<sup>20</sup> may resurface in the agency after the dramatic emergence of 'Major Masst Gul' who has claimed the responsibility of killing of Shia



community persons, belonging to Kurram Agency, in Pak Hotel in Peshawar and in busy Peshawar chock in Kohat in the past three months.

Yet another grave incident that happened this quarter when four political administrators including Political Agent Kurram Agency, received bullet wounds as their vehicle came under a terrorist<sup>21</sup> attack at TorrGhar locality of district Hangu. In accordance with details provided by political administration, Political Agent Kurram Agency, Riaz Mesud, along with his staff members including Assistant Political Agents Fazle Qadir and Naeem Toru and Political Tehsildar Akbar were travelling by an official car to Kurram Agency from Peshawar when it became a target of an IED explosion.

Unlike North Waziristan Agency polio campaigns in kurram agency were launched and remained very effective despite the prevailing trends of target killings and bomb blasts in the agency during the first quarter of 2014. However, the areas that were declared as no-go areas by local political administration remained out of bounds for the polio teams.

Six polio campaigns were launched during the first quarter of this year that targeted 12, 0762 children under the age of five. In January 2014, two rounds of campaigns were launched; one was from 6th to 8th January targeting 120762 children where the success rate remained 97% (116543 children were immunized), second was from 20th to 22nd January with success ratio of 97% (116704). During first round of campaign from 10th to 12th February success rate was 96.33% (116342) while in second round, 24th to 26th February 2014, 119970 children were immunized with 99% success rate. During the month of March in first round of campaign, launched from 10th to 12th March, success rate was found to be 98%, 118425 children were approached, while in second round, from 24th to 26th March, success rate remained 97.3% where 117508 target children were approached.

<sup>18</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/attack-on-military-convoy-in-kurram/>

<sup>19</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/military-cleared-off-parrachamkani-area-from-militants/>

<sup>20</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/shia-leader-killed-in-peshawar/>

<sup>21</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/kurram-agency-political-administration-officials-attacked/>

127 areas were set to be reached out to during these campaigns; however, some areas in every campaign remained inaccessible to security reasons. Had Mela (419 target children missed) and Khawaja Barat (414 target children missed) of central Kurram cannot be approached due to security reasons during two campaigns of January 2014. KhawajaBaat (414 children missed), Mahmanda (527 children missed) and Dhambaki (826 children missed) areas of central Kurram agency remained inaccessible due to security and operational reasons in first and second rounds of polio campaigns during February. In March, campaign areas of Central Kurram like Mahmanda (527 children missed) and Dhambaki (826 children missed) remained out of approach for the polio teams due to security and operational reasons.

In total 487 polio teams took part in these campaigns including 417 Mobile Teams, going from house to house, 21 Transit teams and 49 Fix Centre Teams whereas 125 'Area Supervisors' took part in the campaigns.

According to health officials of the agency, since the last polio case that was reported from the agency, 15th September 2012 from Tatang Dara of Central Kurram, no new case has been reported then and since 1999 no polio case from upper Kurram has been reported<sup>22</sup>.

In a nutshell it is feared that insurgency in the agency might take an ugly turn as this quarter the agency witnessed an unusual increase in terror incidents. This increase in incidents, some analysts and local reporters link with an incoming stream of insurgents into the agency from North Waziristan, after the military targeted operation this quarter.

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<sup>22</sup>The details about Polio Campaigns mentioned above were provided by Dr. Hameed Ali, FSMO EPI Unit Kurram Agency

# North Waziristan Agency

North Waziristan Agency (NWA) on the north is bordered with Kurram Agency and Hangu district, on the east with Tribal areas adjoining Bannu district and Tribal areas adjoining Karak and Bannu districts, on the south with South Waziristan Agency, and on the west also with Afghanistan. It has a population of about 0.6 million. NWA is famous for the Haqqani Network<sup>23</sup>, an Afghan Taliban organization based in NWA. There are three kinds of militant groups in the agency; the local militants' group (s), the foreign militants' organizations and the non-local militant groups which include Punjabi Taliban, the TTP and other groups. The nature of conflict is different in NWA where a huge number of foreign militants<sup>24</sup> are anti-government while the dominant local militant groups in NWA headed by Hafiz Gul Bahadar are pro-government in<sup>25</sup> nature. Where there is strong tribal system or strong tribal bond, militants in those areas often observed cold peace with the government. Same is the case of NWA where Gul Bahadar belonging to MadaKhel clan of the Uthmanzai Wazir is in cold peace with government since 2006. Peace agreement (s) may be one of the reasons of not having full scale military operation in the agency. The other reason, according to analysts, is the strategic importance of the agency from where Pakistan can operate its strategic depth in Afghanistan. The agency served in the unification of the Taliban under single Shura (Taliban council)<sup>26</sup>.

According to reports, drone attacks particularly target foreign militants in NWA therefore it can be easily assumed that extensive presence of foreign militants is the dominant reason for the highest number of drone attacks directed toward the agency.

## Security Situation in North Waziristan Agency

North Waziristan Agency is the most affected and turbulent agency being found this quarter, January-March, of year 2014. The agency not only witnessed targeted military operations, target killings, remote controlled bomb blasts, and attacks over military convoys across its landscape, but also remained a hotly debated issue in national and international politics.

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<sup>23</sup>Sirajud-din Haqqani is the current head of the Haqqani Network before it was headed by his father Jalaluddin Haqqani, the aging former anti-Soviet insurgent leader.

<sup>24</sup>Foreigner militants include Afghan Taliban, Al-Qaeda, Uzbeks, Tajiks, Chechens etc.

<sup>25</sup>There are peace agreements in 2006 and 2008. The local tribal people renewed many times the 2006 peace agreement with government of Pakistan

<sup>26</sup>The February 2009 *Shura Ittihad-ul- Mujahideen*, a united front among Hafiz Gul Bahadur, Mullah Nazir, and Baitullah, militant commanders in South and North Waziristan.

Security Situation in NWA			
First Quarter 2014			
Nature of Attacks	Incidents	Killings	Injuries
Operational Attacks	6	79	26
Clashes b/w Security Forces and militants	0	0	0
Cross Border Attacks	2	0	0
Terrorist Attacks	2	0	1
Bomb Blasts	5	6	8
Kidnappings	0	0	0
Drone Attacks	0	0	0
Target Killings	4	18	4
Suicide Attacks	1	3	0
Clashes between Militant groups	0	0	0
Total	20	106	39
		145	

### Casualty Types

Casualty Types First Quarter 2014 NWA	Killed	Injured
Militants	90	24
Civilians	16	7
Security Forces		8
Peace Forces/ AmanLashkar		
Total	106	39
Total Casualties	145	

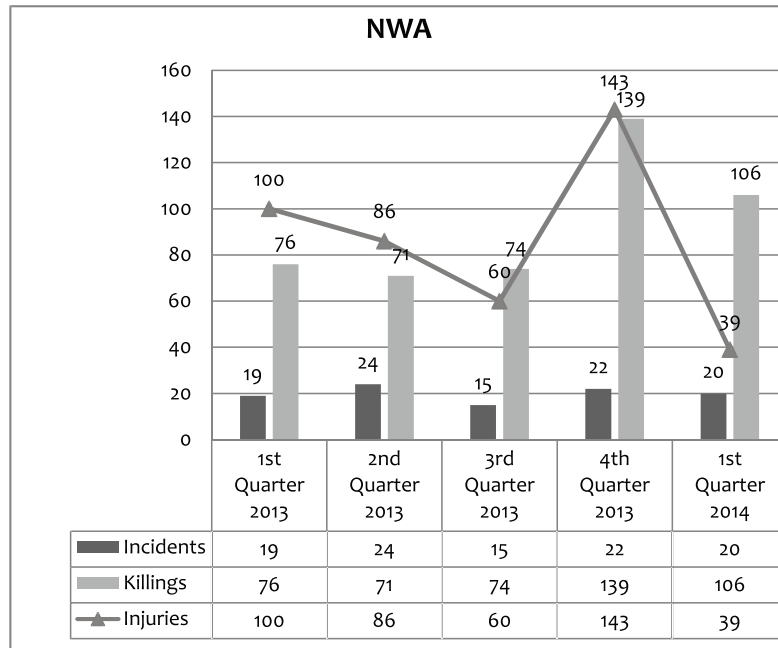
According to FRC reports, militants belonging to the TTP and other outfit organizations operating in NWA have been facing internal rifts that surfaced in the past three months. Organizations like, TTP, Hafiz Gul Bahadur and Haqqani groups have been at logger heads with each other and this rivalry has placed all of them at risk as they resort to target killings of opponents.

The TTP has been faced with internal rifts as Khan Syed alias Sajjna and Sherhyar Mehsud are at loggerheads. Both of them are contesting to represent Mehsud tribe, as its head, in the organization. However, Sajjna and Fazal Ullah, the current head of TTP, seems to be at one page as at several occasions their spokesmen i-e., Azam Tariq of Khan Syed group and Shahid Ullah Shahid of Fazal ullah, engaged in joint press conferences.

Sheryar Mehsud came into the limelight in NWA soon after the death of Hakeem Ullah Mehsud in a US drone strike in November 2013. As per our reports Sheryar Mehsud was not in good terms with Bait Ullah Mehsud, former head of TTP who was killed in August 2009 drone attack. The rivalry started since the time of Bait Ullah Mehsud ascending to the slot of central leadership of the TTP. Sheryar believed that he had every right to rise to the central command of the TTP and represent Mehsud tribe because his family background is stronger than that of Bait Ullah Mehsud, who till that

time was unknown in Taliban circles as his tribe was living in Ladi Dhoge aera of Bannu district. While the family of 38-year-old Sheryar Mehsud belonging to Shobi-Khel clan of Mehsud tribe was well known in Taliban circles as the incumbent Sheryar was leading his own Taliban faction back in 2005-06.

This rivalry got strengthened when Bait Ullah became the head of the TTP and Sheryar then described the newly elected leader, Bait Ullah, of the TTP, in derogatory terms. This led to increased internal tensions and Bait Ullah ordered killing Sheryar Mehsud in 2008. The latter, in order to save his life, fled to Afghan territory and remained there till the killing of Hakeem Ullah and re-emerged in November 2013.



Target killings remained one of the most reported incidents in the agency this quarter. Many important commanders of the banned outfits operating in NWA became prey to these incidents. This was due to the growing internal differences within the ranks of the Taliban.

In mid-January, five Taliban belonging to Khan Syed group were targeted and killed in Miranshah, including an important commander Shafeeq alias Sargardan. No militant group accepted the responsibility of the attack but the Khan Syed group suspected involvement of Shehryar and his companions.

After some time unknown assailants targeted a vehicle carrying Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan commander Asmat Ullah Shaheen Bhattani, 36, in Darga Mandi area of North Waziristan Agency. Resultantly, Asmat Ullah Shaheen was killed<sup>27</sup> along with his three bodyguards while the fourth received serious bullet wounds. Asmat Ullah Shaheen was the head of the TTP, FR Jandola Chapter, and was also heading the important Taliban Shoora (Grand Assembly). He was running a CD shop in Jandola city before joining the Taliban movement in Pakistan and Afghanistan. He had fought in the Afghan war after the American invasion in 2001. In 2003, he became member of Abdullah Mehsud group and later on was among the founding members of the TTP.

According to FRC reports, Asmat Ullah was suspected of killing five members of Khan Syed group as publically he was known to have been involved with the Khan Syed group while in reality his sympathies were with Shehryar group. Reports reveal that he was then targeted in revenge by Taliban affiliated with Khan Syed group.

<sup>27</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/asmata-ullah-shaheen-died-a-major-blow-to-ttp/>

Owing to threats in light of the ongoing rivalry, Shehryar Mehsud has shifted to Bobar area of NWA but constant acts of vengeance and target killings continue.

In mid of February, unknown militants targeted seven members of Hafiz Gul Bahadur militant group in Kutab Khel area of Miranshah tehsil. According to FRC reports all seven died on the spot including 'Commander Hassan'. Our reports reveal that an Afghan Taliban commander named Siddiqui was suspected in the killing. Hafiz Gul Bahadur group operates in Afghanistan in collaboration and with assistance from Haqqani group. An attack was launched in Khost province of Afghanistan during the month of February where, including expensive weaponry, snipers rifles, latest short range rifles and war vehicles, fell into the hands of attackers as bootie. Commander Hassan of Hafiz Gul Bahadur was reluctant to share it with his companions belonging to Haqqani network and took all looted treasure to Miranshah. This became the bone of contention between both the parties and led to the death of commander Hassan and his mates in Miranshah. Yet in another important incident former spokesman of Hafiz Gul Bahadur group, Abdur Rehman alias Ahmad Ullah Ahmad<sup>28</sup>, was targeted and killed along with his guards near Sargardan Chock in Miranshah. It was reported that Ahmad Ullah Ahmad was killed by Haqqani network members due to the ongoing infightings between the two groups.

Another important development that occurred this quarter with respect to NWA were the peace talks between the TTP and the government. Certain developments took place in the past two months wherein nominated members from both sides, the TTP and the government<sup>29</sup>, met at an undisclosed location in North Waziristan Agency. Despite these efforts, it seems unlikely that these struggles would bring about some fruitful outcome due to several reasons.

Foremost among them is the division within Taliban ranks over dialogue. Few Taliban groups are in favor of the proposed talks while others resist and due to this division they all are not on one page. Secondly, Taliban knew that it is difficult for the government to accept their set demands; which included the complete withdrawal of the army from FATA, release of imprisoned Taliban, implementation of shariah in the country etc. Thirdly, the government is also mindful of the reality that they can't accept all demands of the Taliban because if they do it will benefit the Taliban more than the government and the former may take advantage of the situation at the expense of the country's citizenry. Fourth, the government fears that Afghan and Indian intelligence may influence the Taliban in Pakistan and would use them as a proxy against the territory and interests of Pakistan. There are such incidences in the past, for example when Latif Mehsud was captured in Afghanistan by US intelligence from Logar province of Afghanistan on October 5, 2013. After arrest, Latif was taken to Bagram Air Base for interrogation.

It now appears from various reports that Latif Ullah Mehsud was working closely with the Afghan intelligence to carry out terrorist attacks across Pakistan. Apparently, Latif had been working for Afghan intelligence for several months which has now been acknowledged by the Afghan government as well. It is also a known fact that Afghan intelligence has close ties with the Indian intelligence. Latif's arrest and interrogation helped Americans track down both Hakim Ullah Mehsud (Killed in November 2013) and Naseer-ud-Din Haqqani<sup>30</sup> (November 2013) who were wanted for the murder of American spies and soldiers in Afghanistan. Fifth, both the security forces and Taliban are engaged, according to FRC sources, in strengthening their positions in NWA by accumulating necessary food stuff and ration in their respective basis for future battles.

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<sup>28</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/former-spokesman-of-hafiz-gul-bahadar-attacked/>

<sup>29</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/ttp-members-meeting-with-peace-delegation/>

<sup>30</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/son-of-jalaluddin-haqqani-shot-dead/>

A new militant group, Ahrar-ul-Hind, emerged in North Waziristan Agency in this quarter. The group is headed by Omar Qasmi, 38, who belongs to Multan of Punjab province of Pakistan and its' spokesman is Assad Mansoor. Most of its members are said to be Punjabi Taliban besides members of Ilyas Kashmiri group who, according to reports, have joined it. Assad Mansoor holds that Sharia Law cannot be enforced through peace talks and secondly the peace agreement, if struck between the TTP and the government, would only be confined to FATA excluding militants belonging to other cities and villages of Pakistan. He maintains that TTP militants, of FATA, would benefit from this agreement as they would be allowed to live in their areas and will amnesty but non-FATA militants will hardly benefit from it which is unjust and unfair.

In a nut shell, from the above discussion it seems that NWA will remain a hot bed for militant activities in the upcoming few months of the current year. It is feared that infighting among different militant groups will not only take lives of many key commanders of Taliban but will also leave them considerably weak. Targeted military operations in the agency might also take place if the current peace talks prove futile, and in that case, the federal and provincial government of KPK would be hard-pressed to cope with the influx of 'Displaced People' of NWA like in crippling polio disease that is now turning epidemic in the agency.

### Widely Spreading Polio Virus in NWA

The crippling Polio virus wreaked havoc in the agency during the last three months and according to health experts it is feared that the viral infection has turned into an epidemic with the possibility of it spreading to neighboring areas<sup>31</sup>. According to details provided to FRC by the head of Health Department North Waziristan Agency, Dr. Saddiq Khan, the total number of polio affected children in North Waziristan Agency in the first three months of the current year were 29 out of total of 36 cases that have been detected in the same period of year 2014. Dr. Saddiq revealed that due to an imposed ban over polio vaccination by the Taliban in NWA they are unable to take the risk of launching a vaccination program across the agency; however, polio vaccines are available to the general public at Miranshah and Mirali civil hospitals. The majority of polio cases registered so far are from tehsil Miranshah, Mirali, Shawa, Speen warm and Razmak. The figure of vulnerable children stands at 160,000 in the restive agency and no vaccination campaign has been launched in the area since June 2012. It is worth noting that a total of 93 cases were registered in Pakistan in 2013 out of which 35 were from North Waziristan Agency. The ban on polio in NWA was imposed by local militant commander Hafiz Gul Bahadar on June 16, 2012<sup>32</sup>.

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<sup>31</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/polio-virus-hitting-children-hard-in-nwa/>

<sup>32</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/seven-polio-cases-detected-in-nwa-in-2-weeks/>

# South Waziristan Agency

South Waziristan Agency (SWA) is the largest in size of all the other agencies in FATA. It is bordered, on the north, with North Waziristan Agency, on the north-east with Bannu and Lakki Marwat districts; on the east with Tribal area adjoining Tank, Tank district and Dera Ismail Khan districts; on the south with Zhob District of Baluchistan Province and the tribal areas adjoining Dera Ismail Khan district; and on the west with Afghanistan. South Waziristan has a population of around 0.8 million. SWA has been home to three kinds of militants, foreign, non-local and local militants since the US invasion of Afghanistan in October 2001 when they crossed the border in search of a safe haven. The local militants were closely affiliated with Afghan Taliban; when Afghan Taliban were ousted from Afghanistan by the US, the local Taliban started organizing themselves into organizations which later in December 2007 appeared in the shape of Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), initially headed by Baitullah Mehsud<sup>33</sup>. TTP with the passage of time confined to Mehsud tribes' while militants belonging to Wazir<sup>34</sup> tribes organized under the leadership of Mullah Nazir.<sup>35</sup> Mullah Nazir received the support of locals, especially from the religious community, when he compelled the Uzbeks from Wana, agency headquarters. Now there is no presence of Uzbeks in Wana though there are other foreign and non-local militants present in Wana among them Al-Qaeda and Punjabi Taliban are famous.

## Security Situation in South Waziristan Agency

Since the agency has been experiencing a period of tranquility for several months, according to FRC sources, it is because the Taliban there are in a tacit peace agreement stationed security forces. In the first quarter of year 2014 however, the area witnessed five incidents that took 19 lives. It merits mentioning that most casualties occurred areas of the agency that border restive North Waziristan Agency, where launched surgical operations there had extended to the border areas of South Waziristan Agency.

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<sup>33</sup>FazalUllah is the present head of TTP

<sup>34</sup>Wazir and Mehsud are the two major tribes in South Waziristan along with other small tribes such as Burki, SulemanKhel etc.

<sup>35</sup>Ayubi is the current head of Nazir's group in Wana



Security Situation in SWA			
First Quarter 2014			
Nature of Attacks	Incidents	Killings	Injuries
Operational Attacks	2	18	
Clashes b/w Security Forces and militants			
Cross Border Attacks			
Terrorist Attacks	2	1	2
Bomb Blasts	1		1
Kidnappings			
Drone Attacks			
Target Killings			
Suicide Attacks			
Clashes between Militant groups			
Total	5	19	3
			22

### Casualty Types

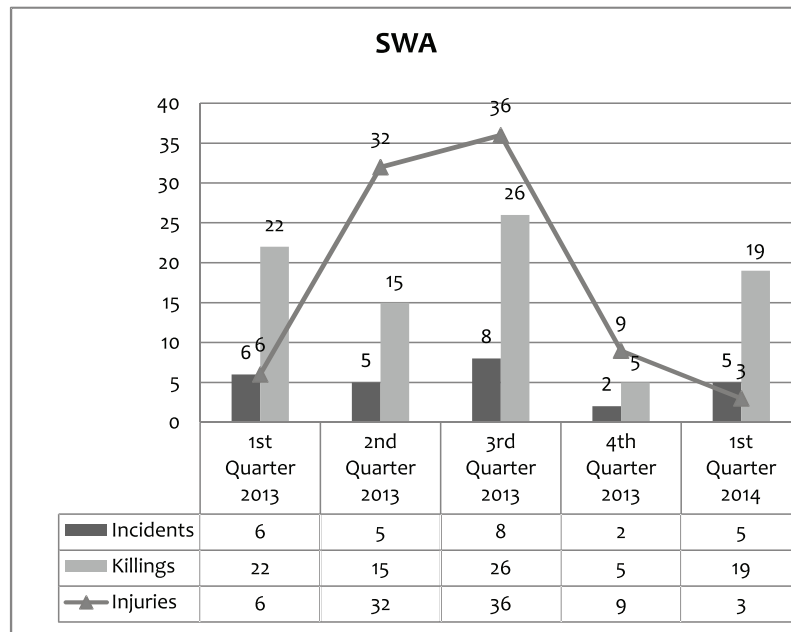
Casualty Types First Quarter 2014 SWA	Killed	Injured
Militants	18	1
Civilians		1
Security Forces	1	1
Peace Forces/ <i>AmanLashkar</i>		
Total	19	3
Total Casualties		22

An important development surfaced in the agency during the closing days of the first quarter in line with the on going peace process between the TTP and the government of Pakistan. The government released more than a dozen Taliban members, belonging to Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, from different internment centers in South Waziristan Agency. This release was made possible, according to FRC reports, after the intervention and following bail being provided by Senator Saleh Shah. According to our sources, Senator Saleh Shah visited tehsil Wana where he met higher ups of the government (Political Administration) and the area's stationed security forces. The release of the Taliban by the government at this critical juncture shows their interest in avoiding any possible deadlock in the ongoing peace process.

The development was also endorsed by the agency's Political Agent Islam Zeb. And majority being released belonged to Mehsud tribe of the agency. The released Taliban include members include the following individuals; <sup>36</sup> Meera Khan S/O Saleem Khan, from Machi Khel tribe, Abdullah Jan S/O

<sup>36</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/ttp-members-released-from-internments-in-wana/>

MaulaJan of Keekarry tribe; Salamat Khan S/O Sher Ali of Machi Khel tribe; BadshahGul S/O Fazal Mohammad of Keekary tribe; Abdul Aziz S/O Noor Ali of MachiKhel tribe; Noor Zada S/O Saleh Khan of Keekary tribe; Sata Jan S/O Wazir Alam of Manzar Khel tribe; Saddam Hussain S/O Khood of Manzar Khel; Zia Uddin S/O Abdul Malik of Kanjrai tribe; Sherpao S/O Khoona Gul of Machhi Khel tribe; Raz Wali S/O



Ajmeer Khan of Keekary tribe; Mir Alam S/O Mohammad Alam of Warmar Khel tribe; SherAlam S/O Ashraf Khan of Machi Khel tribe; Ahmad Khan S/O Abdur Rauf of Shoobi Khel tribe; Iqbal S/O Suleman Khan of Danny Khel; Noor Alam S/O Emaan Khan of Sahmoon Khel tribe. These militants were arrested by the security forces during search operations conducted in the area from time to time.

In the closing days of the first quarter in restive SWA, local Taliban, Wana chapter, imposed a ban over consulting Amaan Committee, Peace committee, offices throughout the sub-division Wana and warned the locals, including Taliban, to refrain from violating the imposed sanction or be dealt with an iron fist. The message was conveyed through a pamphlet distributed in the area. According to the paper, the ban would be applicable from 30<sup>th</sup> March 2014 till 30<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

In case the locals are having reservations over Taliban's attitude during the imposed ban, they may consult the following members of a committee specifically organized for complaints; Qari Zia Ur Rehman Madni, Tehsil Khan Sohail, Mohammad Akbar Zaman, Noor Ali Speen Zheeray and Abdul Ghafoor Walaswaal.

# District Peshawar & KPK

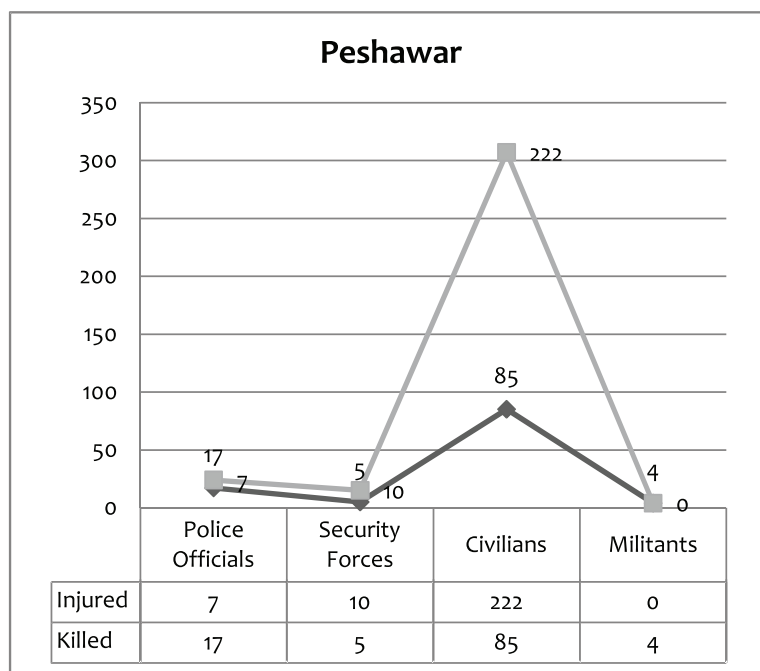
Peshawar metropolis remained one of the most vulnerable areas of Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa during the first quarter of year 2014. Those areas of the district that lie adjacent to Khyber Agency and the Frontier Region, FR Peshawar, witnessed huge devastation in terms of human and material loss. Bomb blasts, target killing, brazen attacks on patrolling law enforcers and suicide bombing were common. The major trend that was found in the district remained Target killing, 21 incidents were reported, that was followed by improvised explosive devices explosions and bomb blasts targeting police and security forces patrolling parties. In target killing a total of 42 casualties were reported while 147 were reported in bomb blasts incidents.

Security Situation in District Peshawar First Quarter 2014				
	Incidents	Killings	Injuries	Total
Bomb Blasts	19	31	116	147
Target Killing	21	35	7	42
Suicide Bombing	4	24	65	89
Attacks on Police	6	19	51	70
Attacks on Security Forces	1	1	0	1
Attacks on Polio Teams	1	1	0	1
Kidnapping	3	0	0	0
Total	55	111	239	350

## Casualty Types

Casualties Type District Peshawar First Quarter 2014			
	Killed	Injured	Total
Police Officials	17	7	24
Security Forces	5	10	15
Civilians	85	222	307
Militants	4		4
Total	111	239	350

In Batathal Bazaar eleven persons were killed and around 50 were injured when a suicide bomber targeted an armored personnel carrier (APC) of the police in the mid of March. The area lies near the boundary of Bara subdivision of Khyber Agency. The APC of the Sarband Police Station was damaged in the attack and the cops inside the vehicle sustained injuries. Police, along with the Frontier Constabulary, have established a number of check posts along the boundary with Khyber



Agency to stop the militant attacks and infiltration into the provincial capital. Almost all routes connecting tribal areas with Peshawar are strictly patrolled. According to police officials the attack was to target a police vehicle in order to weaken its capacity in the area.

Yet another suburb area of Peshawar, Budhbair, witnessed a large number of terrorist attacks including bomb blasts and target killing during the first quarter of this year. During the second week of February, in wee hours, militant killed nine members of Mashkhel Qaumi Lashkar<sup>37</sup>, belonging to a single family, and let a minor son of one of the deceased to convey the news to the rest of Peace Lashkar members. According to Police officials, more than twenty armed militants took part in the attack that took all the men out of their houses into open fields and shot them dead one by one.

Bazargai area of Frontier Region Peshawar<sup>38</sup> witnessed a number of terrorist attacks including attacks over military convoys.

Peshawar city witnessed few devastating terrorist attacks this quarter including three consecutive hand grenade blasts at Shama Cinema located near Bacha Khan Markaz that caused 14 deaths and injured more than 24. According to Police officials cinemas in the city have been receiving threats from militants for the last couple of weeks and they have also informed the owners about the intimidations. The incident of Shama Cinema occurred after eleven days where militants had attacked a cinema in Kabali bazaar near historic Qissa Khwani Bazar where 6 people were killed.

Another terrorist attack in Peshawar occurred this quarter when a bomb went off in a religious centre, Tableeghy Markaz, that left at least 15 people dead and more than 60 others injured. However, Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan spokesman, Shahid Ullah Shahid, condemned the attack and distanced itself from it.

<sup>37</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/nine-aman-lashkar-members-killed-in-peshawar/>

<sup>38</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/military-convoy-attacked-in-fr-peshawar/>

After an attack on processions in Raja Bazaar located in Rawalpindi city of Punjab Province in November 2013, incidents of targeting Shias were witnessed in Peshawar metropolis during the first quarter of 2014. Targeting the Iranian Consulate in Peshawar<sup>39</sup> a local hotel in Peshawar<sup>40</sup> and bomb blasts in Peshawar Chock in Kohat. A militant commander Major Mast Gul, once renowned in Pakistan for his role in fighting Indian rule in Kashmir, took responsibility for these brazen attacks saying it was to avenge of the Rawalpindi Incident of November 2013. Another grave incident in the city was Shama Cinema attack in February this year where more than 20 people were killed and over 55 wounded.

Trends that largely mirrored the nightmarish situation in Peshawar were prevalent throughout Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa, where target killing claimed many lives across the landscape. However, bomb blasts caused the highest casualty rate in KPK as 47 killings and 80 injuries were recorded in the quarter. Areas that lie adjacent to North Waziristan Agency, including districts of D.I.Khan, Tank and Bannu remained vulnerable to attacks on polio teams and on police mobile teams.

Security Situation in KPK First Quarter 2014				
	Incidents	Killings	Injuries	Total
Bomb Blasts	17	47	80	127
Target Killing	20	30	5	35
Suicide Bombing	1	2	0	2
Attacks on Police	3	3	4	7
Attacks on Security Forces	2	1	0	1
Attacks on Polio Teams	4	4	2	6
Kidnappings	1	0	0	0
Total	48	87	91	178

## Casualty Types

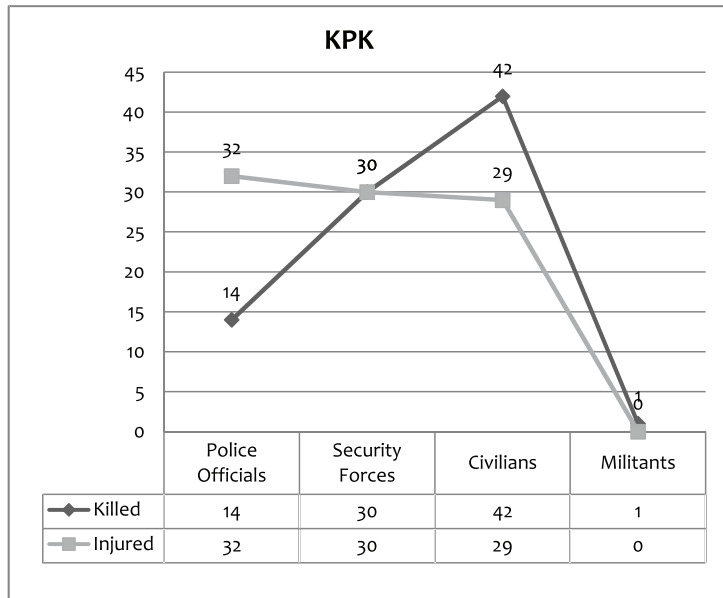
Casualties Type KPK First Quarter 2014			
	Killed	Injured	Total
Police Officials	14	32	46
Security Forces	30	30	60
Civilians	42	29	71
Militants	1	0	1
Total	87	91	178

A convoy of security forces was attacked with improvised explosive devices causing high casualties that resultantly forced the government to revise its strategy of dealing with the outlawed militant

<sup>39</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/suicide-attack-near-iranian-consulate/>

<sup>40</sup><http://frc.com.pk/news/suicide-blast-in-peshawar/>

organizations. One such incident that merits mentioning here is the bomb blast that targeted a security force convoy near Razmak gate in Cantt area of Bannu district. In the attack more than 20 security forces personnel were killed and 30 others were injured and its responsibility was taken by the outlawed Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan. The convoy, comprising of military and civilian vehicles, was about to leave for Miranshah, NWA, tribal region from a ground near Razmak Gate in Cantt area of Bannu when the explosion occurred in one of the coaches.



# CONCLUSION

Many parts of Federally Administered Tribal Areas have been found largely disturbed. In light of the prevailing violent trends in these areas, it is feared that terrorist activities will gain momentum in the coming months. The Trend of target killings was most common, being prevalent in agencies like Khyber, Kurram, Orakzai, NWA and in portions of SWA that borders NWA. Agencies like Bajaur and Mohmand were also not cushioned from the effects of target killings. It was fortunate that the target killer failed to achieve objectives this quarter, although these parts remained disturbed during previous quarter. The re-emergence of Sheryar Mahsud and his claim to TTP leadership give rise to clashes among different factions of TTP. This rift led to targeting each other's member in NWA.

Political administration, in previous quarters, in order to counter the menace of target killings, banned pillion riding across Bajaur Agency and proved effective in the countering of target killing this quarter. Government can extent such policies to the rest of FATA where it is becoming difficult to counter menace of target killing.

Another common trend being found rampant this quarter was bomb blasts across FATA and KPK. This trend of bomb blasts remained high in Kurram and Khyber agencies. In Kurram these blasts have been used for sectarian violence while in Khyber the militants resorted to extortion of influential people.

Preventing such attacks, providing safety and upholding the interests of indigenous people suggests great responsibility and expectations from political administrators in the area. The administration should opt for conflict management mechanism through negotiation between the two sects along with identifying the elements involved in these activities from both sides. The administration must also carry out occasional operations to clear the area of life-threatening mines.

The demands to not conduct drone strike during [at least] the peace talks seems to have been realized, as there were no drone attacks witnessed during this quarter.

It is worth noting that previously, during several occasions, ending drone attacks during peace talk sironically hampered peace efforts.

Once the ongoing peace process succeeds it will benefit not only the militancy affected agencies but the rest of the country as it would help prevent this malicious activity from spreading. First, we may assume that militancy will come to an end as TTP would hopefully refrain from carrying out their mindless acts of violence across FATA and KPK. The militancy affected agencies will also then get ample time to re-develop their tarnished society if the peace process proves a success. Second, this will help the government in identifying and acting diplomatically against the hidden hand of anti-

state organizations<sup>41</sup> that have been creating disturbance across Pakistan under the garb of TTP. Third, the government would then be able to focus on eradicating the lethal polio virus from North and South Waziristan Agencies by negotiating with the Taliban there and chalking out a workable plan for vaccination campaigns in the region. Fourth, the long pressed Pakistani security forces will get a chance to recuperate. Hopefully, positive results from the peace process will give the indigenous tribal people some breathing space, allowing their younger generation to obtain at least basic education. This development would also help to limit extremism in the area due to the resultant increase in knowledge and awareness.

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<sup>41</sup> According to public opinion of few quarters, there are various anti-Pakistan foreign funded organizations active in creating disturbance.



