Pakistan's Tribal Militants: A Militant Leadership Monitor Special Report

Personalities Behind the Insurgency

QUARTERLY SPECIAL REPORT • FEBRUARY 2013

Profiles from the Pashtun and Baloch Insurgencies
A TIMELINE OF KEY FATA AND BALOCH EVENTS By Caitlin Buckley and Nicholas A. Heras
PART ONE: FATA
A POST-MORTEM ANALYSIS OF MULLAH NAZIR: THE "GOOD TALIBAN" KILLED IN A CIA DRONE STRIKE By Brian Glyn Williams
THE NEW LEADER OF THE TEHRIK-E-TALIBAN PAKISTAN IN BAJAUR AGENCY: A PROFILE OF MAULVI ABU BAKR By Syed Adnan Ali Shah Bukhari
PAKISTAN'S NEW MOST WANTED: A SHORT SKETCH OF THE TTP'S ADNAN RASHEED By Syed Adnan Ali Shah Bukhari
NASIRUDDIN HAQQANI (A.K.A. DR. KHAN): THE HAQQANI NETWORK'S EMISSARY AND FUNDRAISER By Animesh Roul9
FAZAL SAEED HAQQANI FORMS NEW TTP SPLINTER GROUP By Arif Jamal
PART TWO: BALOCHISTAN
SEPARATISTS, ISLAMISTS AND ISLAMABAD STRUGGLE FOR CONTROL OF PAKISTANI BALOCHISTAN By Chris Zambelis
A PROFILE OF DR. ALLAH NAZAR BALOCH: LEADER OF THE BALOCHISTAN LIBERATION FRONT By Zia Ur Rehman
OUTLOOK By Nicholas A. Heras

Introduction

In this Special Report "Pakistan's Tribal Militants: Profiles from the Pashtun and Baloch Insurgencies," we examine some of Pakistan's tribal militant leaders in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and the North West Frontier Province (NWFP) as well as the tribal insurgency in Pakistan's south, the Balochistan insurgency, which has important strategic dimensions. Tribal militant groups covered in this report include Tehrik-e-Taliban, the Haqqani Network and the Balochistan Liberation Front. The Special Report does not include profiles of leaders of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT); profiles of LeT leaders will appear in a separate, future Special Report that will deal with the LeT exclusively.

Pakistan has the world's second largest Muslim population but is rife with sectarian divisions, which present challenges to Islamabad's authority. In addition to internal and geo-political security challenges, Pakistan is burdened with issues such as an increased cost of living, a stagnant economy, a fuel crisis, deficient public infrastructure and widespread political corruption, while the country is debating the appropriate balance of power between federal and local government bodies and the authority of Shari'a.

This Special Report is broken into two parts, the first part covers tribal militant leaders in the FATA and the NWFP, and the second part focuses on the lesser known conflict in Balochistan. The Special Report concludes with an article that includes a few prognostications concerning the future directions of the FATA, NWFP and Baloch insurgencies.



Baloch Insurgents

Militant Leadership Monitor, the Jamestown Foundation's premier subscription-based publication, allows subscribers to access unique biographies and insightful analyses about key militants and leaders in countries around the world.

The opinions expressed within are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of The Jamestown Foundation.

This Quarterly Special Report (QSR) includes articles from Terrorism Monitor, Jamestown's Global Terrorism Analysis publication.



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