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Analyzing the Terrorist Activities and Their Implications in Pakistan through Datamining

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Abstract- the events of September 11, 2001 changed the global political scenario fundamentally. The U.S. traced the terrorist outrages in New York and Washington to the Al-Qaeda and the Taliban regime in Afghanistan. As a result, the U.S. declared war against international Terrorism, targeting Afghanistan, for which Pakistan's support was imperative. The cooperation with the U.S. required withdrawing support to the Taliban and start crackdown on the militant Jihadi and sectarian outfits, which had close links with the Taliban and Al-Qaeda, for which Pakistan had to pay a high price. In 2008, Suicide Attacks in Pakistan reached an unprecedented level in the history of modern terrorism. It has been the scene of horrific acts of terrorist violence, and suicide bombings in different areas of Pakistan most notably in NWFP and FATA. The deteriorating law and order situation in the NWFP and FATA resulted in many deaths and casualties of the security forces and civilians.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Pakistan as a country of first line of defense has greater contribution in the ongoing 'war on terror' in Afghanistan and in the adjacent tribal territories of Pakistan. In 2001, after the US's military campaign in Afghanistan that ousted the Taliban from power, many members of the Taliban retreated to the FATA or Pakistan in general, to establish an exile base [1]. The Pakistan military entered Fata in 2003; since then insurgency in Fata and NWFP has grown at an alarming rate. In stark contrast there was hardly any militancy in the years 2001- 2002 and Taliban were rare. The start of militancy coincides with the move of the military into South Waziristan in 2004 and which led to repeated stabilization operations in Waziristan [2].

Citizens faced a terrible wave of terrorism in the urban cities of the country, especially in the North-West Frontier Province (NWFP), Pakistan. These terrorist activities in the crowded urban places include bomb blasting, explosions, target killings, suicidal bomb attacks, and mortar/missile attacks from unseen places.

Pakistan provides al Qaeda with many of the same advantages it had when it was based across the border in Afghanistan. According to the assessment, the safe haven in the FATA serves as a staging area for al Qaeda's attacks in support of the Taliban in Afghanistan. Further, it serves as a location for training new terrorist operatives for attacks in Pakistan, the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and the United States. U.S. government officials in Washington and Pakistan also acknowledge that al Qaeda has established a safe haven near Pakistan's border with Afghanistan. for example, State's April 2007 Country Reports on Terrorism states that Pakistan remains a major source of Islamic extremism and a safe haven for some top terrorist leaders, including those of al Qaeda [4].

Pakistani Military forces are positioned around the FATA. Its progress in removing militants, however, is hindered due to low moral—in part because of soldiers' repulsion at Muslim killing Muslim—and secondly, due to its inability to build bases in the region since locals continue to reject the military and prefer to rely on their own tribal forces. Furthermore, the military and increasingly law enforcement are targeted by suicide bombings or threatened with beheadings by Taliban elements [5]

By 2005-06, the militants had grown into a force and began their expansion outward into the adjoining districts of Tank, D.I Khan, Bannu, Lakki, Kohat, Peshawar, Nowshera, Charsadda, Mardan, Swat, Dir and Kohistan [6].

Such wrenching violence has been the fate already of the neighboring Swat Valley, and of nearby Bajaur, an area of the tribal region, where the army and militants have been locked in heavy fighting. Civilian casualties are high. The task of pushing back the Taliban is taking far longer than the army had anticipated. In Swat, the army has been unable to stop the burning of more than 100 girls schools or the murders of politicians and their families. About one-third of the police force has deserted in Swat, and some of the deserters have joined the Taliban, even as trainers, according to senior police officials. [7]

The TTP did not wait long to claim responsibility for the killing, stating that the attack was a response to the Pakistan army's air strikes in Waziristan. "We warn the government to stop the operation [...] in Waziristan

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otherwise we will continue such attacks all over Pakistan," said Hakimullah Mehsud, a top commander of the TTP. [8]

With more than 140 suicide attacks and 1700 victims between 2002 and 2008, the use of the method is clearly on the rise. Pakistan has now surpassed both Iraq and Afghanistan in this disturbing ranking. [9]

II. METHODOLOGY

The original data of deaths and injuries of the Police, Army, FC and civilians as well as the number of terrorist activities in 2008 was mined from the databases of Pakistan Society of Criminology (PSC) as well as other public and private sources of information about terrorism in Pakistan. The data was compiled under various variables for the entire period. Then analysis was carried out through various statistical measures and relationship between the data has been established.

The data includes the deaths and casualties of Local Police, Frontier Corps, Army, and Civilians in the North-West Frontier Province (NWFP). There are 483 registered cases of terrorism in 17 districts of NWFP in the year 2008. These 17 districts are further classified into three geographical regions that are the Central NWFP, Northern NWFP and Southern NWFP.

1) District-Wise Terrorist Activities In Nwfp

The present research data shows 17 districts of NWFP compared against the registered cases in 2008 as shown in Fig 1.0.

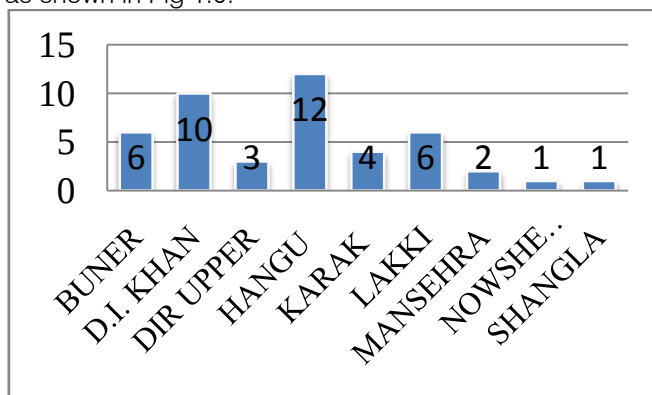


Fig 1.0a: District-Wise Terrorist Activities

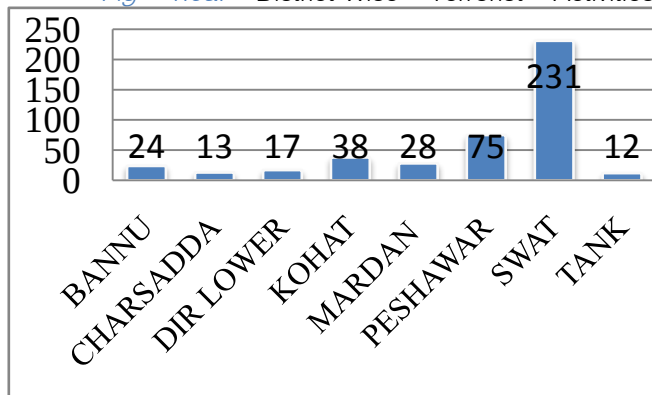


Fig 1.0b: District-Wise Terrorist Activities

Above figure shows, that Swat registered most of the terrorism related activities because of its large area and it was the main hideout for the terrorists and the proportion of registered cases is much more when compared to other districts.

2) Comparison Of Police, Fc, Army And Civilians Killed

Figure 2.0 shows the relationship among four groups of people (Police, Frontier Constabulary, and Army & Civilians) killed in these terrorist activities.

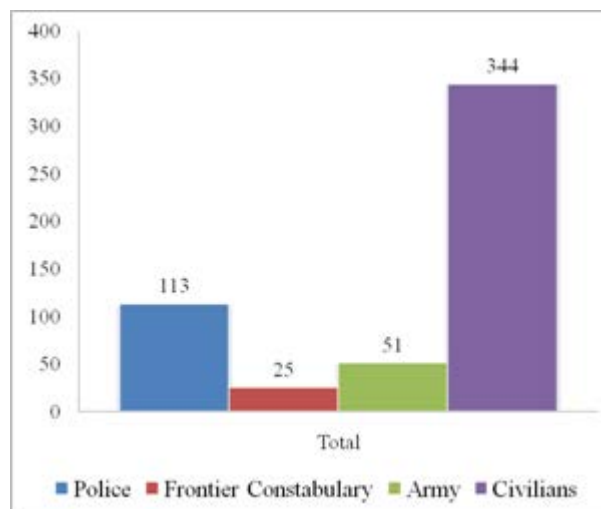


Fig 2.0: Groups of People Killed in Terrorist Activities

The above figure shows that civilians were mostly targeted and killed in the attacks which also explain that these activities mostly took place in public places like markets, bazaars and civilians populated areas. Police are also the affectees of these attacks and more than hundred police constables have lost their lives while on duty. Around 50 Army personals and 25 FC men were also martyred in the span of one year. The killing of security personals significantly affects the morale of these soldiers and it creates a sense of insecurity among them.

3) COMPARISON OF POLICE, FC, ARMY AND CIVILIANS INJURED

The trend in the injuries is almost similar to the killings but the figures are magnified. Figure 3.0 shows that more than 850 Civilians were injured in the 17 districts and casualties were shifted to hospitals in Peshawar because of better treatment facilities. As a law-enforcement agency, the local police are struggling very hard against this situation and despite many resource constraints and technical weaknesses, the police are evolving a new approach to combat such terrorist attacks but still around 250 police personals

were injured in 2008. Around 200 FC and Army men were also injured due to terrorist activities in NWFP.

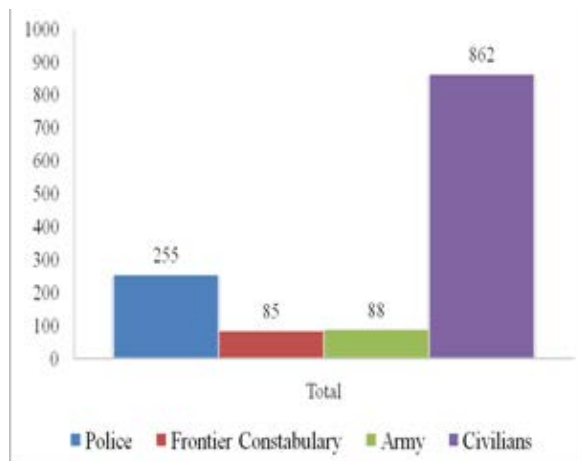


Fig 3.0: Groups of People Injured in Terrorist Activities

4) Total Deaths And Injuries

Figure 4.0 illustrates that total people injured are almost double of the total killed in terrorist activities and this relation is similar for all districts.

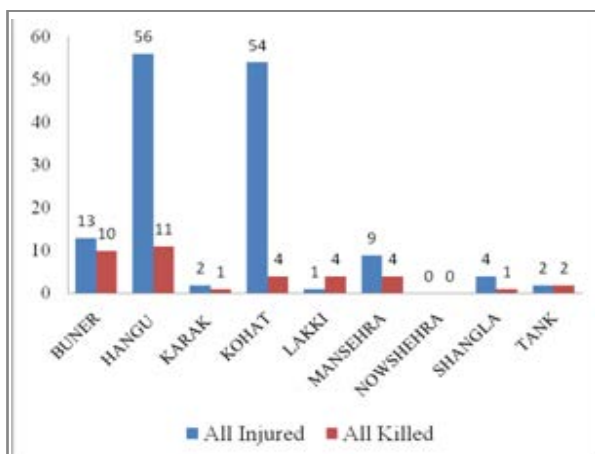


Fig 4.0a: Comparison of All Persons Killed and Injured

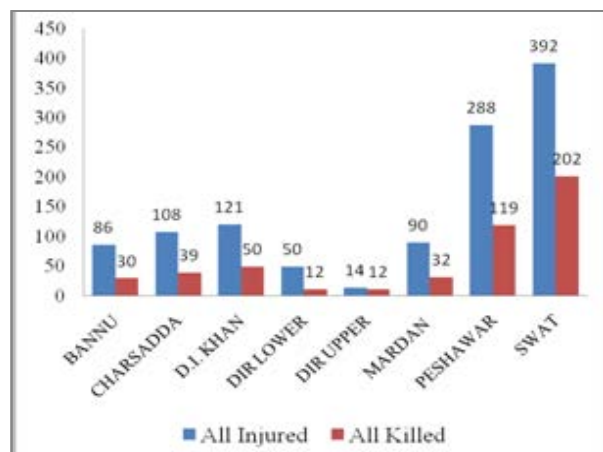


Fig 4.0b: Comparison of All Persons Killed and Injured

Swat and Peshawar are clearly more affected by such activities when compared to other districts. Figures for Mardan and Bannu are very similar though Mardan is comparatively bigger than Bannu, but as Bannu is bordered with the tribal's is has been more damaged. There have been more than 100 injuries in Charsadda and D.I. Khan.

5) District-Wise Comparison Of All Groups Killed

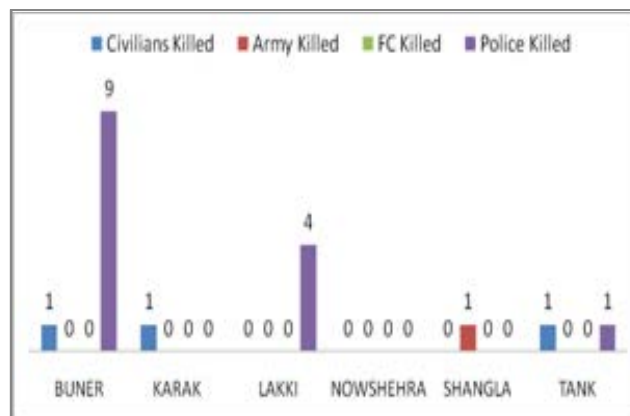


Fig 5.0a: Comparison of All Groups Killed

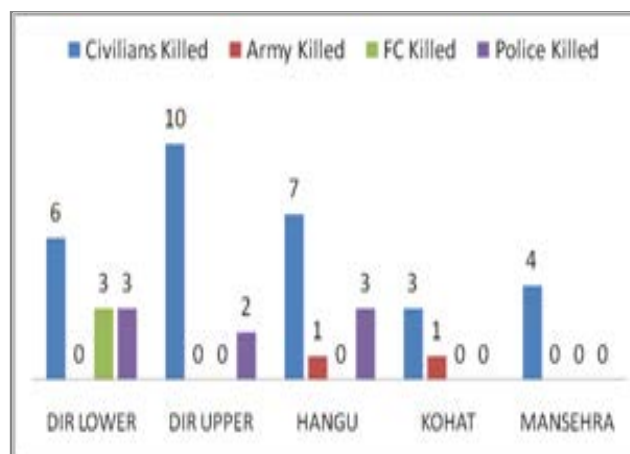


Fig 5.0b: Comparison of All Groups Killed

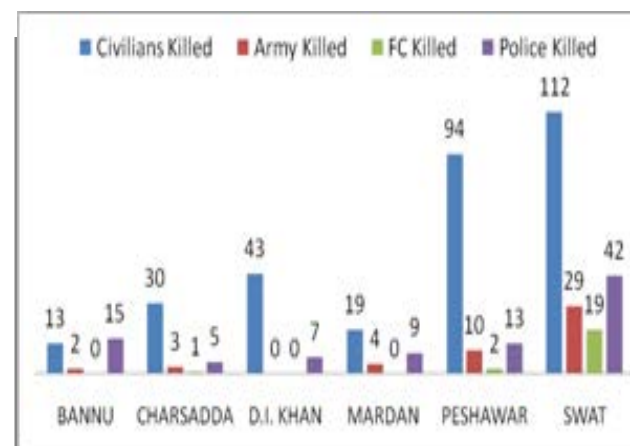


Fig 5.0c: Comparison of All Groups Killed

In figure 5.0 all four group of people killed by terrorists are compared among 17 districts. From previous charts we know that civilians have been more affected than the other three groups and here the difference in proportion is evident that how many residents of NWFP have lost their lives. D.I.Khan has seen a bloody surge in sectarian schism which caused a loss of many innocent lives. The death toll of Charsadda suicide attacks and bomb blasts sum up to 39 lives. Swat and Peshawar are noticeable here because of the high number of civilians targeted and killed. 94 civilians in Peshawar and 112 in Swat were among the unlucky ones who faced the tragedy of death.

6) District-Wise Comparison Of All Groups Injured

Figure 6.0 shows comparison of all injured in NWFP and we get a bit different result from what we have previously seen in the killings. The number of injuries in Peshawar even exceeds Swat by 42 people, the reason maybe because Peshawar is the provincial capital of NWFP having population of 2.98 Million with density of 1,309.4/km². Charsadda and D.I.Khan follows the similar trend with more civilians injured than the other groups.



Fig 6.0a: Comparison of All Groups Injured

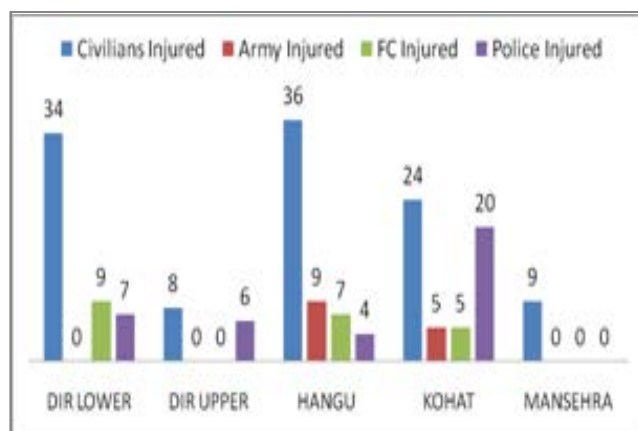


Fig 6.0b: Comparison of All Groups Injured

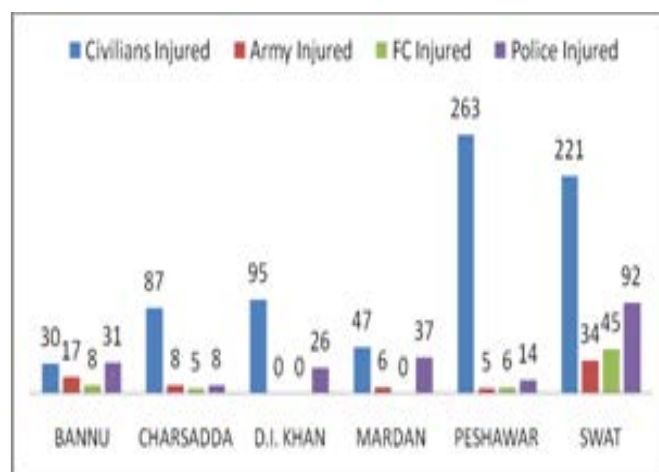


Fig 6.0c: Comparison of All Groups Injured

7) Percentage Of Terrorist Activities

This pie chart in figure 7.0 is the representation of all the terrorist activities within the period of 12 months in NWFP. Almost half of all the incidents occurred in Swat only, with the result of 202 killed and 392 injured. 16 percent of terrorism hit Peshawar in 2008 killing 119 innocent people. Kohat, Mardan and Bannu also witnessed terrorism with the percentage of 8, 6 and 5 respectively.

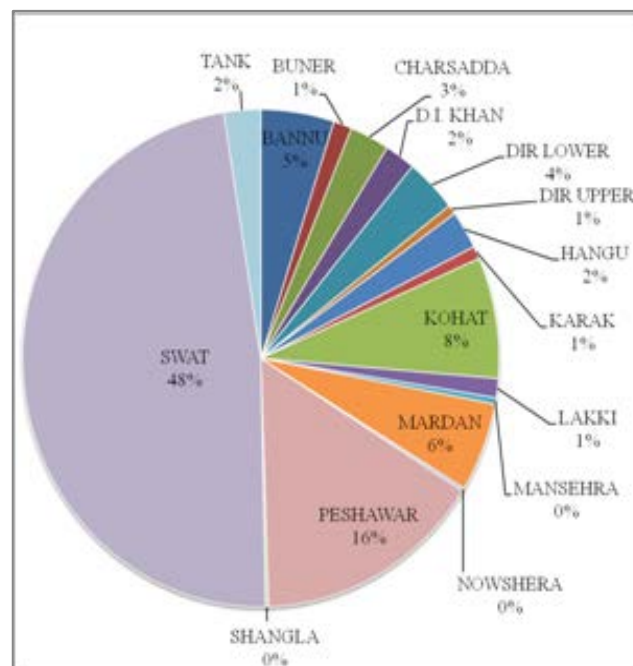


Fig 7.0: Percentage of Terrorist Activities

8) Region-Wise Terrorist Activities

In table 8.0, the 17 districts of the province are divided into three geographic regions for the analysis.

Northern NWFP	Central NWFP	Southern NWFP
Swat	Peshawar	Kohat
Shangla	Charsadda	Hangu
Buner	Nowshehra	Karak
Dir lower	Mardan	Bannu
Dir upper	Mansehra	Lakki
		D.I. Khan
		Tank

Fig 8.0: Three Geographic Regions of NWFP

Figure 8.1 shows that 53 percent of the terrorist activities were operated in the Northern NWFP while 25 percent of it operated in Central and 22 percent were operated in Southern NWFP. It should also be noted here that Northern and Southern NWFP's are area wise much bigger than Central NWFP but Central NWFP is densely populated as compared to the others.

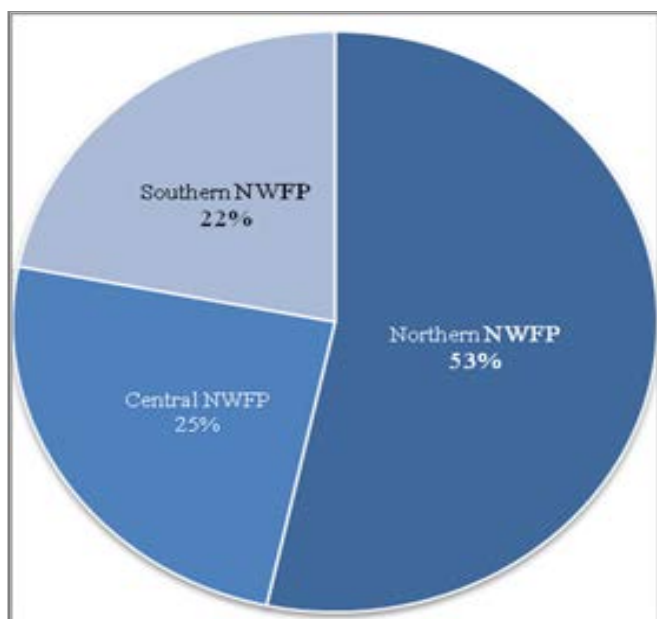


Fig 8.1: Region-Wise Terrorist Activities

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