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Report
Profiling the Violence in Karachi

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Contents

1. A Sketch of the City	3
1.1 Demography.....	3
1.2 Economy	3
1.3 Strategic Importance	3
1.4 Urbanization and Migration	4
2. Political Violence	6
3. Ethno-Political Conflicts.....	6
4. Religious, Sectarian and Militant Conflicts	8
5. Criminal Syndicates	8
6. Militant and Sectarian Groups	9
6.1 Jundullah	9
6.2 Lashkar-e-Jhangvi.....	10
6.3 Harkat ul-Jihad al-Islami (HuJI), Arakan.....	11
6.4 Harkat ul-Mujahideen al-Alami (HuMA).....	11
6.5 Tehreek-e-Islami Lashkar-e-Muhammadi (TILM).....	12
6.6 Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan (SSP).....	13
6.7 Sunni Tehreek	14
6.8 Taliban.....	16
6.9 Sipah-e-Muhammad.....	16
6.10 Jafria Alliance	17
6.11 Tehreek-e-Jafria.....	17
7. Criminal Syndicates	17
7.1 Shoaib Group	17
7.2 Lyari Gangs	18
7.3 Rehman Dakait Group	19
7.4 Arshad Pappu Group.....	19
7.5 D-Gang.....	21

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Editor's Note

Karachi, a megacity of 15 million people, emerged as a locus of ethno-political and religious-sectarian violence in the last three decades in Pakistan. At the same time the jihadist networks and criminal syndicates with regional links shape the security threats' contours. According to Gizewski and Homer-Dixon:¹

Violence in Karachi stems from a variety of factors that interact to magnify the impacts each might produce separately. Criminal elements exploit state weakness and societal conflicts to their advantage and import small arms that raise the ability of all contending parties to engage in violence. All the while, the social fabric and economy continue to erode, and state and social capacities to address the plethora of problems further diminish.

In view of its national and regional economic and strategic importance, there was a need for an in-depth study on the roots of violence, mapping the threat level, profiling the players and to look in its security, political and economic implications. No exaggeration to say that scattered data—mainly media reports and academic papers—is available on different aspects of the issue. Among them are some threat assessments by several international and regional institutes and academic theses by students of Universities in Karachi, which are lying idle in libraries. There, however, is little hope that those findings will be published, if at all.

The Pak Institute of Peace Studies (PIPS) took this task to collect and arrange data on the violent landscape of the city of Karachi in order to facilitate the researchers, experts, analysts, policy makers and media in a bid to further expand the knowledge base on the issue. Following is the first report on the players involved in the conflicts in Karachi. The profiles of the organizations are extracted from the open source arena—media and academic reports—and the fieldwork was done by a team of PIPS researchers. The profiles may not cover all the complexities of the phenomenon, but PIPS will continue its efforts to develop the database. In the coming issues, PIPS will further elaborate on various facets of the subject. PIPS welcomes suggestions and recommendations from its loyal readers.

KNOWLEDGE FOR PEACE

1. A Sketch of the City

Karachi is the capital of the Sindh Province with the accompaniment of the provincial assembly, Governor's Seat, Sindh High Court and Sindh Secretariat. In addition to the Pakistan army's powerful corps headquarters, Karachi has a large presence of paramilitary forces, the Pakistan Rangers. Sindh province's police headquarters are also located in Karachi.

1.1. Demography

Karachi has a population of 15 million with an annual growth rate of 4.8 percent compared to the national growth of three percent.² Higher population growth in Karachi is mainly attributed to rural-urban migration from all provinces of Pakistan. An estimated 200,000 heads or 35,000 households are added to the metropolis every year so that by the year 2010, Karachi City will reach a population mark of 17 million. The latest demographic profile shows Muhajir population at 55 percent, Punjabis 14, Pakhtuns 9, Sindhis 7, Balochis 4 and others 12 percent.³

Occupying an area of around 3,366 square kilometers, Karachi is divided into 18 towns, six Cantonments and other agencies. The urban area of Karachi extends over 1800 square kilometers. The city enjoys the company of a vast coastline from Cape Monze in the west to Gharo in the east. Gadani and the Sonmiani Coast of Balochistan adjoining Karachi have picturesque beaches, which along with its embedded islands provide unmatched locations for recreation and tourism.

1.2. Economy

The financial and commercial hub of Pakistan, Karachi contributes to almost sixty percent of the country's economy and is home to the central bank or State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), the Stock Exchange and head offices of national and multinational companies including banks, financial institutions and real estate companies. In addition, major media houses in Pakistan have their head offices in Karachi. According to Federal Government's figures, Karachi generates about 15 percent of the national GDP, 42 percent of value added in manufacturing sector and 25 percent of the revenues of the Federal Government.⁴ The city's economy is large and diverse which is highly benefitted by the presence of the largest and most dynamic Industrial giants in the country like the Sindh Industrial & Trading Estate (SITE), Korangi Industrial and Trade Estate and North Karachi Industrial & Trade Estate. Their productions include a wide variety of goods from textiles to chemicals to steel and machinery. Because of its geo-strategic location, Karachi offers an ideal location for businesses and investment. It is predicted that the city will maintain its dominant role as the major industrial and commercial center of the country over the next decade, provided peace and stability remain intact.

1.3. Strategic Importance

Being the only deep seaport of the country, Karachi serves as the shipping and maritime hub for Pakistan as well as for landlocked Afghanistan. The fact makes it the lifeline for the world's two strategically-located countries. Karachi is linked to other cities of Pakistan through air, metalled roads and broad gauge railway. Three-quarters of NATO supplies land at Karachi seaport⁵ and are then lugged away to the North-Western city of Peshawar in containers passing through a 1200 kilometers long highway. Some supplies are sent to the Western city of Quetta—the capital of Balochistan. NATO containers pick up the supplies from Peshawar and Quetta and carry them over to their military bases in neighboring Afghanistan.⁶ Although the Naval Headquarters is in Islamabad, Pakistani Naval Dockyard is in Karachi and all naval assets are located in and around Karachi sea. The Pakistan Navy (PN)

Dockyard is a fairly comprehensive naval construction and fortified with state-of-the-art facilities. Since its inception in 1952, it has been undertaking repair works, modernization and rebuilding of Pakistan Naval Ships, Submarines and other sea crafts.⁷

1.4. Urbanization and Migration

Like many urban centers in the developing world, Karachi too is described as an “urban mess.” Laurent Gayer, sums it up thus:⁸ “Since Partition, Karachi is no longer divided between a “white” and a “black” city, but between “planned” and “unplanned areas”. The former consist of residential and commercial areas developed by the Karachi Development Authority (KDA) or integrated into its development plans. The latter, which provide shelter to 50 percent of the 15 million inhabitants of the city, refer to squatter settlements developed through the illegal occupation or subdivision of public land, at the periphery of the city, along its natural drainage channels and its railway lines and inside its river beds. Housing conditions and access to basic utilities such as education and healthcare greatly vary between planned and unplanned areas.

In the unplanned areas health, education and recreational facilities are developed incrementally over time by the informal sector but remain inadequate and badly operated.⁹ In this way, “the dominating position of the rulers was reflected in the spatial structure of the city in which separation was the main element.”¹⁰

Table: Comparison between Planned and Unplanned Areas of Karachi

Item	Planned Areas	Unplanned Areas
Demography		
a) Average household size	6.9	7.3
b) Gender distribution (male) (%)	54	65
c) Population (under twenty)	48.6	56.4
d) Crude Birth Rate	1.3	3.6
Housing		
a) Permanent structures (%)	70-90	20
b) Semi-permanent structures (%)	10-30	75
c) Temporary structures (%)	-	5
d) Built Up M2 per person	19.25	11.59
e) Number of persons per room	0.5	3.3
Access to Utilities		
a) Water connections (%)	83	50.3
b) Gas connections (%)	98.4	75.8
c) Sewage connections (estimated) (%)	75	35.1
Education		
a) Population rate (under ten)	85	12
b) Population with primary education (%)	76	48-67
c) Population with intermediary education (%)	9.5	21.7
d) Population with Bachelor and above (%)	19.8	16.3
Employment		
	19	13.1

a) Population employed (%)	65	64.7
b) Population unemployed (%)	24.9	25.3
c) Housewives (%)	31	34
Income / Expenditure		
a) Average Income (Rs. per month)	3808–4930	1899–2158
b) Earned through wages (%)	50.8	77.7
c) Earned through profit (%)	20.2	16.8
d) Average expenditure (Rs. per month)	3083	1648–2109
e) Spent on food (%)	53	58
f) Spent on rent (%)	18	13
g) Spent on savings (%)	30	2.3

[Adapted in Laurent Gayer from Arif Hasan, *Understanding Karachi*, Based on data compiled by Arif Hasan and Asiya Sadiq for UNCHS *Global Report on Human Settlements*, 1996]

According to Waseem (1998),¹¹ rural-urban migration from all provinces of Pakistan to Karachi shaped its urbanization process after partition in contrast to the natural growth. He identifies *four waves of population* comprising Muhajirs (1940s–50s), Punjabis and Pakhtuns (1960s–80s), Sindhis (1970s–90s) and foreigners including Afghans and Iranians among others (1980s–90s). The influx of Muhajirs of India was the first wave of migration and the largest in the country's history. While some influential Muhajir families occupied the houses and other buildings left behind by the Hindus who migrated to India fearing backlash, a large majority of poorer Muhajirs, however, settled in *Katchi Abadis* (slum areas) along the coastal belt in conditions of acute residential and financial insecurity, because they were unable to receive any help from the local government.¹²

The second wave of migration to Karachi in the mid sixties represented the Pakhtuns and Punjabis and it continued till the eighties.¹³ Unlike the Muhajirs who cut off links with their relatives in India because of visa restrictions, the Pakhtun and Punjabi kept in touch with their relatives and supported them with the income from labor jobs in the new industrial units mainly set up by wealthy Muhajirs. A little less than half the total annual migration to Karachi (around 350,000) came from the North-West Frontier Province and Punjab.¹⁴ Tough Pakhtuns occupied in the construction industry or worked as diggers and transport workers. Pakhtuns and Punjabis managed to keep their ethnic identity intact.

The third wave of migration comprised the Sindhis.¹⁵ The federal capital had shifted to the newly founded Islamabad in northern Punjab and Karachi had been integrated into the Sindh province in terms of administration and Sindhi political affinity. The job quota system under the Sindhi nationalist leader Mumtaz Bhutto, ascendancy of Sindhi as the official language of Sindh and the rise of Sindhi-dominated Pakistan People's Party encouraged middle-class Sindhis, tenants and peasants to take up "prestigious" jobs in the "big city."

The fourth wave of migration began taking shape after the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan in 1979.¹⁶ This comprised a large number of political refugees from Afghanistan who became economic migrants searching for better opportunities in Karachi. Legally, they were not allowed beyond the UN's earmarked refugee camps in the NWFP and Balochistan. Registered political refugees from Iraq (Kurds), Iran (Bahais) Sri Lanka (Tamils) and economic migrants totaled a staggering 1.5 million. As a result,

Karachi became a hub of underground criminal and other unlawful activities such as drug (including heroin) smuggling and human trafficking.¹⁷

2. Political Violence

Political violence continued to mar the security scenario of Karachi with the highest number of disturbing incidents taking place throughout 2008. During the year, 66 incidents of political violence were reported from Karachi and another four from Interior Sindh—the highest figure for political violence among all the provinces (*see* Table). In these 66 ethno-religious and political incidents 143 persons were killed and 333 injured.¹⁸

Table: Incidents of Political Violence in 2008

	Total Incidents	Killed	Injured
Karachi	66	143	333
Interior Sindh	4	8	16
Punjab	6	5	25
NWFP	5	5	13
Balochistan	1	-	16
Azad Kashmir	1	1	16
Total	89	162	419

[Data was compiled through monitoring the Pakistani (national as well as local) print media throughout the year].

Most incidents of political clashes in Karachi were reported between the Sunni Tehreek (ST) and the Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM). The Jamaat-e-Islami (JI), the Awami National Party (ANP) and the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) were also dragged into such violence on ethnic or political basis. Also, a considerable number of criminal groups in the city which enjoy political backing from one party or the other, too, were involved in violence.

3. Ethno-Political Conflicts

The highly complex nature of the ethno-political landscape of the city could be identified as the main reason behind the social unrest in Karachi. According to the history books of Karachi, the ethnic conflicts between Muhajirs and Sindhis started soon after the first wave of migration from India.¹⁹ The problem of settlement, the question of distribution of Hindu evacuee property and competition over dominant positions within the Muslim League continued to be main points of contention.²⁰ Evacuee property distribution was the task of the Muslim League which had emerged as the *de facto* state of Pakistan.

Partition changed the face of socio-political course in Sindh. Prior to the partition, Hindus formed middle and urban class in the Sindh society. In 1947, they migrated to India and left a vacuum of middle and urbanized class in the province. Peasant and feudal lords were the remaining classes forming post-partition Sindhi society.²¹

Problems cropped up when the leadership of the only political party was divided on ethnic lines—Sindhi waderas versus Muhajir elders, particularly the religious leaders and the intellectuals.²² In Karachi, however, Muhajirs did manage to dominate the Muslim League in the early years of independence but in Hyderabad they began thinking on the lines of setting up their own organization. The first Muhajir organization was set up in Hyderabad by a blind *hafiz* (who has memorized whole of the Quran) who had migrated from Jaipur, Mubarak Ali Shah. The Jamiat-ul-Muhajirin did not fare well in the Sindhi politics but the first chief minister of the province, Ayub Khoro expressed his displeasure against the emergence of such groups in his speech in 1954: “Formation of sectarian, social and political organizations, especially for the new settlers, has resulted in antagonizing the old Sindhis,”²³ he said.

The pro-ethnic messages continued to gain popularity in the Muhajir-dominated squatter areas of Karachi and in Hyderabad’s Pakka Qila and Latifabad neighbourhoods. In the seventies, even the universities provided a platform for the crystallization of Muhajir Qaum consciousness.

Riots based on language policies and issues broke out in 1972 (*see details infra*) over the declaration of Sindhi the official language of the province and making it a compulsory subject in schools and colleges. Muhajirs resisted the government move and took to the streets. Two years later, semester system was introduced at the Karachi University. Some 27 students who failed to get admission raised the “Intermediate Students Action Committee” to demand mid-term admission. Altaf Hussain was its president. Students were admitted out of turn as the vice-chancellor resigned.²⁴

On June 11, 1978, Muhajir students formed the All-Pakistan Muhajir Students Organisation or APMSO. The success of the action committee had provided a fillip.²⁵ Waseem (1996), however, argues that the APMSO was a product of the perceived Muhajir grievances in terms of non-delivery of promises of the Pakistan National Alliance (PNA) leaders to eliminate the quota system and to secure the lives of Muhajirs against the tyranny and violence. Regarding the ethnic question, Professor Moonis Ahmar of Karachi University writes:²⁶

During the Zia years, the Mohajirs had augmented their search for identity, and mobilization of their ranks along ethnic lines was only a matter of time. Their economic and political sense of deprivation reached its peak during this period and by the mid-1980s there was enough fertile ground to raise the slogan of “Mohajir Nationalism” and promote the unity of Mohajirs under one leader and one party. The All-Pakistan Mohajir Student Organization (APMSO), formed in June 1978, took on the task of mobilizing young Mohajirs in the country to demand their rights. The MQM was formed in March 1985, six days after General Zia ul Haq had extended the rural-urban quota system for another 10 years, and in August 1986 in a public meeting in Karachi, the MQM chief, Altaf Hussain, vowed to unite the Mohajirs under the MQM banner and launch a struggle for the attainment of the rights of this community.

The ethnic rioting has been a hallmark of Karachi’s checkered history. Some dismiss it as a natural part of urbanization in a city which lacked proper planning. Therefore, in an environment where the different ethnic communities tended to stick together in ghettos, getting hold of a place to live resulted

in violence. MQM which consists of Urdu-speaking migrants set a platform for a face-off with Pakhtoons who control the transportation and construction arenas in Karachi.²⁷

First ever language based riots—Urdu-speaking youth versus Pakhtuns — took place in 1965 soon after the elections.²⁸ Seven years later, in 1972-1973, Muhajirs in Karachi and Hyderabad clashed with Sindhis.²⁹ In April 1985 and October-December 1986, fresh riots broke out gripping the metropolis for two years when Pakhtuns attacked the Bihari migrant community in Orangi and Liaquatabad and MQM retaliated in their defence.

Two years later, in September 1988 and then in May 1990, Muhajirs clashed with Sindhis for the second time. In September 1988, the ill-fated Black Friday killed 200 people in Karachi and Hyderabad. MQM and Sindhi nationalists attacked each other's strongholds when the former renamed the centrally located Haider Chowk and replaced it with posters of Muhajir heroes. People of Hyderabad remember the last five years of the 1990s as the "Years of War."

During these years the newly formed Muhajir Qaumi Movement (Haqiqi) also became active and violence erupted between the MQM and its break-away faction. Inter factional violence seems to have ceased after the ill-fated May 12, 2007 incident which took the lives of some 48 people including Muhajirs, Pakhtuns, activists of the PPP and the police.

The General Elections in 2008 where the Awami National Party secured two seats for Sindh Provincial Assembly for the first time in its history rang the alarm bells for MQM.

4. Religious, Sectarian and Militant Conflicts

Dozens of sectarian groups and militant organizations exist in Karachi, but only a few of the multiple Islamic groups are militarily active. Among them are outlawed Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, Jaish-e-Muhammad, Jamaatul Furqan, Harkatul Mujahideen, Jandullah, Lashkar-e-Taiba and Harkatul Jihad-e-Islami. Many sectarian organizations such as outlawed Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan, Tehrik Jafriya Pakistan and Sunni Tehreek are active on political fronts, too. Apart from sectarian and militant outfits, Karachi remains an important support base for mainstream religious parties, most prominently Jamaat-e-Islami, Jamiat Ulema-e-Pakistan, Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam, Markazi Jamiat Ahle Hadith, Jamiat Ghurba-e-Ahle Hadith, Jamaatul Muslimeen, Dawat-e-Islami and Tableegi Jamaat. Many religious charity organizations have their headquarters in the city; banned Al-Rasheed Trust, Al-Akhter Trust, and Al-Furqan Trust are among them. At the same time, the religious seminaries across the city contribute to the shaping of the religious landscape of Karachi. Not only do these religious and sectarian groups have contradictions of interest with each other but also play a role in ethno-political tensions in the city. Especially, JI and Sunni Tehrik have sharp political rivalry against MQM.

5. Organized Crime

Karachi has emerged as a major battleground for some 200 gangs involved in organized crime, says Abdul Sattar, a TV Journalist based in Karachi.³⁰ Crime syndicates such as Dawood Ibrahim Group and Lyari Gangs have exploited Karachi's weak governance systems and also growing commercial activities in order to gain a basis for their operations. Most of the commercially-driven criminal activities are

politically-motivated and have links to terrorism, either directly or indirectly. Organized crime poses a serious threat to the security and social fabric of Karachi.

The criminal groups and syndicates in Karachi are involved in diversified crimes, tells Khurram Waris, Superintendent Police, Anti Violence Crime Cell (AVCC), Garden Town, Karachi.³¹ One of their permanent sources of 'income' remains the *bhatta* (extortion money) collection. Underground criminal syndicates are behind the gangs involved in killing, kidnapping for ransom, robbery, theft, *bhatta* collection, dacoity, gambling, narcotics, terrorism and others forms of crimes and violence.³²

One of their permanent sources of "illegal income" remains the *bhatta* collection. In perfect Chicago mafia style, the gangs simply send a slip of paper bearing the amount of cash. They demand protection money for holding a marriage ceremony and guarding the groom from kidnappers. Flourishing drug dens sell contrabands—including *charas*, *kopi*, *tariaq* and heroin—to dealers and users, while teenagers and children are exploited to sell these illegal substances.³³ From December 1, 2005 to November 30, 2006, at least 30,000 incidents of theft, robbery and dacoity were reported in Karachi.³⁴

6. Militant and Sectarian Groups

6.1. Jundullah

The self-styled Islamist terrorist group Jundullah came into limelight following the arrest of eight of its members in Karachi three days after an ambush on a corps commander's motorcade on June 10, 2004. Jundullah has been involved in the deadly terrorist attacks in the city besides being involved in the criminal activities like bank robberies, ransom and car snatching.

Jundullah was formed by Atta ur-Rehman, who was expelled from Jamat ul-Muslimeen in 2003. After the arrest of Atta ur-Rehman, Qasim Toori was leading the organization. The new organization was apparently inspired by the nomenclature of Iranian Jundullah, already active in Iran's Sistan and Balochistan province. The outfit comprised some disillusioned youths inspired by al-Qaeda, residing in the areas of Shah Faisal Colony, Model Colony and Landhi.

Soon after its inception, Jundullah carried out an attack on Corps Commander Ahsan Saleem Hayat in Karachi in which several soldiers were killed. Later, law-enforcement agencies arrested several members of the group, including Atta ur-Rehman, after which the network was thought to be largely shattered. Qasim Toori was given the task to reorganize the group after Atta ur-Rehman. He recruited young boys from Karachi and sent them to WANA for training. Last year (in 2007), Jundullah established its hideout in Karachi and allegedly committed several bank robberies including one in Saudabad in which seven policemen were killed. It was nearly two years after the pronouncement of court verdict that police raided a house in Shah Latif Town, a residential area in the outskirts of the city along the National Highway. After a heavy exchange of fire, which resulted in six casualties, police managed to arrest Qasim Toori, Tayab Dad and Talha and killed Junaid and Abdullah.³⁵

Being a pure militant organization, one of the main objectives of Jundullah is to target the U.S. and U.K. assets and interests in Pakistan, as well as pro-western military leadership. Atta ur-Rehman told the investigators that his group was acting in retaliation against the government's campaign to eradicate al-Qaeda-linked fighters from its northwest border regions. Some leaders have their affiliation with Jamat-

e-Islami and Jamat ul-Muslimeen but these parties said that they expelled these members from their group and have no links with Jundullah.

Jundullah in its recruitment targeted youth in Karachi and also from religious seminaries. But the organization doesn't have any political support of any group or party except al-Qaeda and Taliban. Wasif Qureshi, Deputy Superintendent Police of the Anti Violent Crime Unit Karachi, who was a member of the team in interrogating Jundullah terrorists, admitted that usually terrorist groups in Karachi use their traditional tactics to hit the targets, and the police can easily assess the group through these usual means of tactics. But in Jundullah's case it always remains confused, he said.

6.2. Lashkar-e-Jhangvi

There are more than six Lashkar-e-Jhangvi factions operating in Karachi including Qari Zafar, Qari Shakeel, Farooq Bangali and Akram Lahori groups. Qari Zafar group is more prominent because of its strong links with al-Qaeda. It operates in Karachi and targets Shias and the Western interests.

Muhammad Zafar alias Qari Zafar (34), belonging to Millat Colony, Orangi Town, Karachi, is the head of LeJ faction known as the Qari Zafar Group, which has links with al-Qaeda and the Taliban. The group hails from the Southern Punjab, but at present it is hiding in Tribal Areas of NWFP and FATA. Qari Zafar has allegedly remained involved in many suicide attacks in Pakistan. He was declared a proclaimed offender by Anti Terrorism Court in the US diplomat killing case. He fought in Afghanistan with the Taliban in the 1990s, and forged links there with al-Qaeda. After the fall of the Taliban regime, Zafar took refuge in South Waziristan and sometimes ventured into rural parts of Sindh Province.³⁶

After the detentions and killings of major commanders of the outfit, Qari Zafar formed his own group. He started criminal activities in Karachi to collect funds in order to reorganize his group. The group activities surfaced when three of its major militants, Shahid, Farhan and Ghani Subhan were arrested in Karachi on February 16, 2007. Shahid, who hails from Hyderabad's upper-middle class of Latifabad, was arrested once in a house robbery case. A local Jihadi known as Qari Akbar in Hyderabad had tasked Shahid with robbing the Shia houses. Farhan (alias Nasir) also hails from Hyderabad where he joined the company of a local Jihadi known as Mushtaq. Farhan told the police during interrogations that he bought 60 kg of ball bearings and took them to Wana where he gave them to Qari Zafar. The third suspect Ghani Subhan went to Kabul in 2001 where he fought alongside the Taliban and was injured, according to CID police sources. He in many occasions met some senior Taliban leaders during this period. He was also close to Al Qaeda's Nek Mohammad after whose death Ghani became close to Waziristan's Faqir Mohammad.³⁷

The group members are involved in suicide attacks and criminal activities like dacoity, car snatching, bank looting and target killing in Pakistan. A member of Qari Zafar Group, Anwarul Haq has been sentenced to death on his involvement in suicide attack at the US consulate Karachi. A large number of cadres of Qari Zafar Group had spent time in Taliban ranks fighting against the Northern Alliance in Afghanistan, and they also fought in Kashmir under the banners of Pakistani Jihad groups, Jaish-e-Mohammed and Harkat ul-Mujahideen.

Qari Zafar group is also accused of providing the manpower for Al Qaeda bomb attacks in Pakistan. The group killed two officials of Intelligence Bureau on arrest of Anwar who is Qari Zafar's brother and al-Qaeda operative wanted in several cases of terrorism.³⁸

Qari Zafar is still at large and the group has enough activists in Karachi to launch an operation in less than no time. With its headquarters in Wana and links with al-Qaeda, the group activities still continue with a considerable effectiveness.

6.3. Harkat ul-Jihad al-Islami (HuJI), Arakan

One could find in Karachi a large concentration of Burmese Muslims from Arakan. The Korangi area is also known as the Burmese town and is called 'mini Arakan'. Thirty Arakani madaaris are working here. The Pakistani branch of Harkat ul-Jihad al-Islami, Arakan, has been established in Karachi through the efforts of the teachers and students of these madaaris.

Maulana Ahmed Hussain, principal Madrasa Islamia Aurangi Town, is the patron of Harkat ul-Jihad al-Islami in Pakistan. Its central emir is Maulana Abdul Qaddus, who is also in Pakistan, and deputy emir is Maulana Rauf ul-Alam Wafa. The organization has following departments in Pakistan:

- Military department: Secretary, Maulana Abdul Qaddus
- Communication and Publication: Maulana Sadeeq Arakani
- Department of Management and Bangladesh-Burma Relations

This management has links with Harkat ul-Jihad al-Islami Alami (World Huji). Of course, Arakani Mujahideen received their training at HuJI Pakistan's camp at Kotli. But most of them complain that members of HuJI Pakistan do not fully cooperate with them. In Karachi they have 48 madaaris in total of which 30 are in Burmese colony. These madaaris impart special training for jihad also. The activists of this Karachi HuJI from Bangladesh and Burma have also been involved in sectarian violence and terrorism.

6.4. Harkat ul-Mujahideen al-Alami (HuMA)

Harkat ul-Mujahideen al-Alami is mere an offshoot of Harkat ul-Mujahideen (HuM). Some sources say that it was formed in 2002 after parting ways with the latter on a dispute over organizational affairs. Harkat ul-Mujahideen has enjoyed a long career in Afghan and Kashmir jihad. The HuMA is based in Karachi.

The Jihadi militias in Pakistan tend to change their names constantly when launching their activities. They also change names whenever an internal struggle results in the wrangling of leaders dividing the original organization into splinter groups. Harkat ul-Mujahideen al-Alami is the group that was formed after the outlawing of some groups by the government. Asif Zaheer was the founder of the organization who was trained as an explosives and chemical expert at al-Qaeda camps in Afghanistan. He belonged to the Banori Masjid, was inspired by Harkat-e-Jihad-e-Islami of Qari Saifullah Akhtar, and made bombs for half a dozen Deobandi-based groups. Asif Zaheer was sentenced to death for masterminding the killing of French engineers but the activities of his organization continued. It blew up 21 Shell petrol stations in Karachi in May 2003.³⁹

Most of its activists and its top leaders are currently under detention while Muhammad Imran as the emir (chief) and Muhammad Hanif as the deputy chief and in-charge of its *askari* (military) wing operated the outfit. Both Imran and Hanif were arrested on July 7, 2002, for their alleged involvement in the plot to assassinate President Musharraf. Subsequently, on April 14, 2003, Karachi Anti-Terrorism Court sentenced them to death.⁴⁰

At least nine activists of the banned Harkat ul-Mujahideen al-Alami were arrested in March 2004. The police said these activists were intended to avenge upon the Macedonian government over the killing of eight Pakistanis who were killed at the Macedonian border in March 2002 on suspicion of being al-Qaeda members. The Anti-Terrorism Court in Karachi sentenced them for a 60-year imprisonment on August 25, 2004.

The group had the potential to carry out high-intensity attacks, as it was equipped with sophisticated weapons, including rocket launchers and detonators. However, following the arrest of its leaders the group lost its capability to carry on its activities. The group was involved in the murder of police constables, explosion at the honorary Macedonian consulate, target killing and dacoity. The group also orchestrated the Agha Khan Flats blast in the limits of Pirabad Karachi, a suicide attack outside the Sheraton Hotel in Karachi in which 11 French engineers were killed and a suicide attack outside the US Consulate building, killing 12 Pakistani nationals.

6.5. Tehreek-e-Islami Lashkar-e-Muhammadi (TILM)

Tehreek-e-Islami Lashkar-e-Muhammadi (TILM) is another ruthless terrorist group that consists of ex-members of different defunct militant outfits. It aims at targeting non-Muslim and foreign NGOs.

The TILM was formed by the terrorists, who were from defunct Jaish-e-Muhammad and Harkat-ul-Mujahideen after the Lal Masjid military operation in 2007.⁴¹ The group members, who were also involved in Jihad-e-Afghanistan, organized a new group after developing differences with the Jaish and other militant groups.⁴² The main objective of the outfit was to target politicians whom they categorized as non-Muslims who supported the Lal Masjid and Jamia-Hafsa military operation.⁴³

Although most of the group members are still at large, many of the outfit activists have been arrested. The hierarchy of the cadre positions of the organization has not yet been identified. It is, however, said that there are two major groups of the TILM and members of one group, who were allegedly involved in killing eight employees of a Christian NGO on February 26, 2008, had been arrested.⁴⁴

Target killing, bomb blasts, abduction, dacoity, and use of explosive material are TILM's main tactics. The group has used latest ammunition and weapons for its targets. Police have seized explosives, electrical circuits, compact discs and hit lists of high-profile people including politicians, international and national NGOs and police officials from the captured militants.⁴⁵

The group imported ammunition from Swat where the weapons were snatched from police constables. The group ran a chemical laboratory in Korangi Industrial Area where items were used for preparation of poisonous chemical materials and bombs. The laboratory was used for preparation of latest remote controlled and time bombs, Boobi Traps and chemical poisonous materials.⁴⁶ The group members hired

big stores in Karachi where they kept abductees and challenged the government to meet their demands in exchange of captives. They kidnapped Liaquat Hussain (Vice President National Bank of Pakistan), Dara Ferooz Mirza and Dr Hameed Ullah. They tortured them and got information about the members of Rotary Club, Lions Club and Theosophical Society. Most of those individuals were killed by this group after receiving information about them.⁴⁷

The group had the potential to carry out high-intensity attacks, as it was equipped with sophisticated weapons. NGOs working in Karachi continued to receive threats from the group.⁴⁸

6.6. Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan (SSP)

Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan is the largest Deobandi sectarian outfit that was banned by the government on 12 January 2002. But it managed to carry out its activities under different names.⁴⁹ First, it changed its name to Millat-e-Islamia but it was also outlawed on 16 November 2003. The outfit has now been renamed as Ahle Sunnat wal-Jamaat Pakistan (ASWJP) but the name of Sipah-e-Sahaba is still being used by its activists. The wall chalking in the city explains the reality.

SSP was formed on September 6, 1985 in the Punjab city of Jhang. Maulana Haq Nawaz Jhangvi, Maulana Ziaur Rehman Farooqi, Maulana Eesar-ul-Haq Qasmi and Maulana Azam Tariq were the original founders of the SSP. At the time of its inception, it was named “Anjuman Sipah-e-Sahaba” and Maulana Haq Nawaz Jhangvi was declared its supreme leader. In February 1990, Haq Nawaz Jhangvi was killed in Jhang. His murder helped the outfit rise to power in Jhang as Maulana Eesar Qasmi was elected member of National Assembly. He was also assassinated in 1991 and Maulana Ziaur Rehman Farooqi took the lead. On 18 January 1997, Maulana Ziaur Rehman, along with other leaders of SSP died in a car bomb blast.⁵⁰ Then, Maulana Azam took the charge as the *Ameer* and tried to redefine the SSP as a moderate religious political organization, and earned the support of Deobandi organizations. He had already been elected three times to the National Assembly from Jhang. The assassination of SSP leaders continued and Maulana Azam Tariq was shot and killed in an attack on October 4, 2003 near Islamabad. Maulana Mohammed Ahmed Ludhianwi succeeded Azam Tariq.

Maulana Muhammad Ahmad Ludhianwi, Maulana Abdul Ghafoor Nadeem, Maulana Ali Sher Hadiery, Khalifa Abdul Qayyum, Khadim Hussain Dhalon and Maulana Aalim Tariq are the prominent leaders of SSP. Maulana Aurangzeb Farooqui, who leads its Sindh chapter and Ilyas Zubair, who leads its Karachi chapter are also in the list.

The main objectives of Sipah-e-Sahaba (SSP) are as follows:

- a) to establish Pakistan as a purely Sunni Muslim state;
- b) to restore the Khilafat system (Khilafat-e-Rashida);
- c) to protect the Sunnis in Pakistan and uphold the Sharia law;
- d) to attack Shiites or Shias because they are considered “non-Muslims.”

SSP was formed as a reaction to Shia organization “Tehreek-e-Nifaz Fiqh Jafria” that was set up in 1979. In the beginning, they aimed at damaging the Shia community through militant activities. However, following its entrance to the National and Provincial Assemblies Sipah-e-Sahaba tried to weed out terrorist elements from its rank and file. Though SSP claimed that they have a religious political

ideology, they still work on their sectarian agenda. Members supporting violence broke away from SSP time to time and formed various organizations. Lashkar-e-Jhangvi is believed to be the armed wing of the Sipah-e-Sahaba. The two groups have similar goals. Many analysts in Pakistan believe that the so called 'split' between SSP and LeJ in 1996 was a tactical move to enable the SSP to concentrate more on political activities without having to defend itself against the stigma of sectarian violence.⁵¹ In January 2009, the CID department released a Red Book of most wanted terrorists which included the names of those affiliated with the Sipah-e-Sahaba.

SSP has a strong network throughout the country. They get full support from the Deobandai Madrassas of the region especially Karachi. In 2008, SSP started its activities again through a protest against the blasphemous caricatures of the holy Prophet published in some Danish newspapers, and declared jihad against Denmark and the West if they continued to insult Islam. The protest took place at their headquarters at Masjid-e-Siddique Akbar in the Nagan Chowrangi area in Karachi. It was the first major public rally by the SSP since it was banned in 2001.⁵²

According to media reports, defunct sectarian organization, SSP has resumed its activities across the province especially in the city. They are gaining strength day-by-day.

SSP organized three major gatherings in the earlier months of 2009. At the congregation held at Khuda Ki Basti Karachi they showed up in sizeable numbers (approximately five to seven thousands). They have reestablished their offices in different parts of the city including Mehmoodabad and Khuda Ki Basti.⁵³ The central information secretary of the SSP and ASWJP, Maulana Abdul Ghafoor Nadeem said in an interview that they had started work in the name of the ASWJP because of the ban on the SSP. The leaders were released in 2003-04 and started work under ASWJP.⁵⁴

After its reorganization, sectarian violence increased in Karachi. Many of its activists were killed, including two prominent legal advisors, Mazhar Hussain Ansari (on 15 April 2009) and Hafiz Ahmad Bakhsh (on 30 June 2009) by the rivals.

6.7. Sunni Tehreek

Sunni Tehreek (ST) is a sectarian organization of Barelvi school of thought of Hanafi Islam. The government put it under surveillance on 12 January 2002.

Muhammad Salim Qadri founded Sunni Tehreek in 1990. He was from Saeedabad, Karachi. After his matriculation examination Qadri started driving an auto rickshaw for livelihood. When Dawat-e-Islami was founded in 1980, he became leader of its Saeedabad chapter. His rise commenced from then onwards. His incendiary speeches soon ensured a place for him in Dawat-e-Islami and Jamiat Ulema-e-Pakistan. In the 1988 general elections, Jamiat Ulema-e-Pakistan nominated him as its candidate for PA-75 in the Sindh Assembly but he was defeated. After the elections, Salim Qadri left his taxi driving job and started a fabric business and also a poultry farm. In 1990, he broke away from Dawat-e-Islami and formed Sunni Tehreek.

After Salim Qadri's murder, ST grew in strength in Karachi, rather than weakening. Its network spreads over fourteen districts of the country. However, Karachi remained its nerve centre. After its entire

leadership was killed, a six-member committee was formed comprising Shahid Ghauri, Engineer Abdur Rehman, Qari Khalilur Rehman, Shahzad Munir, Sarwat Ejaz and Khalid Zia. Its central secretariat located in a huge building at the Baba-e-Urdu Road in Karachi. The building houses offices of the central emir and other leaders. There is also the office of Ahl-e-Sunnat Khidmat Committee, which is engaged in building new mosques and madaaris in Karachi, Hyderabad and other parts of Sindh. This committee has also established a hospital on a 2000-yard plot in Saeedabad, Karachi. Several departments like ambulance centre, computer institute, students' assistance, *jahez* (dowry) fund, and food distribution programs are under the supervision of this committee. A mosque and a madrasa are also attached to the secretariat.

The ST came into being as a reaction to the growing influence of Ahl-e-Hadith and Deobandi organizations. It received support from Jamat Ahle Sunnat, Anjuman Naojawan-e-Islam and the leaders of Jamiat Ulema-e-Pakistan. The ST was funded by the Barkati Foundation to safeguard the rights of Ahle-e-Sunnat. However, the ST declared itself as a non-political organization and concentrated on four-points:

- 1) To safeguard the interests of the Ahl-e-Sunnat
- 2) To protect Ahl-e-Sunnat mosques
- 3) To protect common people from false beliefs
- 4) Handing over of the Ahl-e-Sunnat mosques and shrines by the administration to the Barelvis.

The ST complained that the Deobandi and Ahle-e-Hadith had monopoly over the administration, government posts, and religious and government institutions. The representation of the Barelvi sect was minimal. It asserts that Ahl-e-Sunnat cannot achieve their rights till they adopt the same tactics employed by Ahl-e-Hadith and Deobandi organizations.

From its very inception, ST styled itself as a violent sectarian organization and began to target Sipah-e-Sahaba and Lashkar-e-Taiba. It had a number of clashes with these two groups in Karachi, Hyderabad, Sahiwal (Punjab), and Nawab Shah in which seventeen Sunni Tehreek workers had been killed until 1998. Sunni Tehreek's main targets were Ahle-e-Hadith and Deobandi mosques. It maintains that these mosques belonged to Ahle-e-Sunnat earlier but were later encroached by others.

The ST made its first show of strength on 18 December 1992 when it organized a rally at MA Jinnah Road in Karachi. The objective of this rally was to put pressure on the administration to hand over Masjid Noor (Ranchorh Line) to it. Soon the rally turned violent and cars were put on flames. Dozens of people were injured; thirty-four ST workers were arrested. After this incident, the Tehreek caught public attention. After such incidents, Sunni Tehreek increased the frequency of attacks on Deobandi and Ahle-e-Hadith mosques in Punjab and Sindh.

Salim Qadri was killed along with five others on 18 May 2001 after which sectarian clashes broke out in Karachi. Sipah-e-Sahaba was blamed for this and Deobandi and Ahl-e-Hadith madaaris and mosques were attacked. One of the killers of Salim Qadri was killed on the spot in the cross firing. Later he proved to be a Sipah-e-Sahaba activist.

There was also a strong MQM connection, in the sense that both organizations have common enemies. Many of the elements of the ST were former MQM activists who had crossed over to ST after the army's

crackdown on the MQM in the early 1990s. But ST emerged as a challenge to MQM in October 10, 2002 elections when ST leadership decided to adopt a political posture after January 2002 to avoid any sanctions.

6.8. Taliban

Taliban are trying to consolidate their position in Karachi. Karachi has already been one of their major sources of financial accumulations through criminal activities. And recently the leadership of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), MQM and Awami National Party in Karachi has been informed by intelligence agencies that they are at Baitullah Mehsud's hit list, who was the former head of Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP).⁵⁵ Meanwhile the MQM chief, Altaf Hussain, has also claimed that a number of people from NWFP and FATA were being brought to Karachi in trucks.⁵⁶ Taliban in Karachi not only do have links with FATA militants but also with al-Qaeda and some banned militant outfits as well.

One of the major sources of the TTP is its reliance on bank robberies, thefts, car snatching, kidnapping for ransom. The TTP has sought the help of well-established criminal gangs in various cities of Pakistan, including Karachi. Similarly, the TTP has also recruited many criminals in to their ranks. The Taliban justify their actions by telling their cadres that it is not a criminal act to loot banks or offices and residence of wealthy people and private companies, since the banks, companies and such individuals have accumulated all this wealth through un-Islamic means, including charging an interest. The TTP also justifies by claiming they are in a state of war against the Pakistani security forces and the mighty armies of the US, NATO and ISAF, and it is incumbent upon them to resort to illegal ways for generating funds to fuel the "holy war."

To attain this objective, the TTP has organized "commando groups" of varying sizes that are dispatched to various parts of Pakistan to conduct bank robberies and other criminal activities. These 'commando' groups are assisted by the TTP agents based in various cities of Pakistan who select targets and conduct surveillance of various business organizations, including banks, and conduct basic arrangements for such criminal activities. These commando groups then successfully strike at the designated targets. After committing the crime, they at once leave the city and head to South or North Waziristan to handover the loot to the TTP leadership. According to various sources, the 'Commando' team receives a share of the 'income.'

6.9. Sipah-e-Muhammad

Sipah-e-Muhammad (SM) is a sectarian militant group of Shia school of thought. The outfit was banned by the government on 14 August 2001 but it is still active in Lahore and Karachi. It did not even change its name and functions in secret by using its original name.⁵⁷

Sipah-e-Muhammad was formed as a reaction to Sipah-e-Sahaba and Lashkar-e-Jhangvi. In 1993, under motivation by the senior leaders, president Tehreek-e-Jafria Jhang chapter, Ghulam Raza Naqvi, announced the formation of Sipah-e-Muhammad. Many youth from Imamia Students Organization (ISO) and Imamia Organization (IO) joined the group. SM held its first general meeting in Lahore in which about 2,000 activists participated. After the meeting, the leaders of SM called a press conference in which they said publically, "we are weary of carrying corpses. God willing, we will settle all the scores now. We will wipe out the name of Sipah-e-Sahaba from history."⁵⁸ Sectarian clashes between Shia and Sunni started when Sipah-e-Muhammad claimed responsibility of the attack on Azam Tariq of SSP in Sargodha. Police and intelligence agencies have credible reports about the presence of the activists of

Sipah-e-Muhammad in Karachi. Ali Mustehsan reportedly operates its network in the city.⁵⁹ The outfit has a strong hold in the areas with Shia population, including Shah Faisal Colony, Ancholi, Al-Noor Society, Jaffer Tayyar, Malir and Liaquatabad.

The outfit is backed by the Shia political and religious organization of Shia sect. The outfit is involved in killing of many SSP leaders and activists across the country.

6.10. Jafria Alliance

The Jafria Alliance consists of different small Shia groups. Muttahida Qaumi Movement's senator, Allama Abbas Kumeli is the chief of Jafria Alliance while the other leaders include Maulana Quratulain Abidi, Maulana Nisar Qalanderi, Maulana Hussain Masoodi, Allama Furqan Haider Abidi, Sulaiman Mujtaba, Maulana Munawwar, Allama Aftab Haider Jafri, Maulana Muhammad Aun Naqvi, Mujahid Abbas and Allama Nisar Qalandri, All Pakistan Shia Action Committee (APSAC) Chief Allama Mirza Yousuf Hussain were also prominent Shia leaders in Karachi.

Jafria Alliance has a strong network and influence among the Shia community in the city. It is the only religious group that demonstrates against the action of their rival groups in the city. The group enjoys a huge support by MQM and Peoples Party.

6.11. Tehreek-e-Jafria

Tehreek-e-Jafria headed by Allama Sajid Naqvi is a main Shia political party in Pakistan. The party was banned on 12 January 2002 due to its sectarian beliefs but is still active and renamed to Millat-e-Jafria. After the killing of Allama Hassan Turabi, head of Tehreek-e-Jafria Karachi, in 2006, the organization lost its political support.

7. Criminal Syndicates

7.1. Shoaib Group

The notorious gang known as the Shoaib Group had a strong network in Karachi but it disappeared following the mysterious death of Shoaib Khan who ran a large number of gambling dens in Karachi. He was familiar with gambling as his father Akhtar Ali Khan, was a *Satta* operator (gambler) in Liaquatabad. He moved from petty crimes into the realm of big-time underworld operations and contract killings in Karachi and abroad.

Shoaib Khan known as Aka Shoaib Rummy walla⁶⁰, started his career from the slums of Karachi, a perfect environment for any wannabe gangster. Within a few years his underworld activities took him and his families from the slums to palatial houses in Karachi's Defence Housing Authority. The small-time gangster struck gold when he got in touch with the notorious Dawood Ibrahim, and started working for him in Karachi. In the mid '90s Shoaib started a gambling den in Dubai. It was in Dubai that Shoaib made contact with Dawood through their mutual passion for gambling. Both of them became friends and Shoaib took over Dawood's extortion operation in Karachi.⁶¹

Differences with Dawood Ibrahim: In 1998, Shoaib allegedly murdered a Pakistani businessman, Irfan Goga, who had won a lot of money through gambling in Shoaib's den in Dubai. Irfan's body was never

recovered but his abandoned car was found in the parking lot in Dubai airport. Goga's family accused Shoaib of the murder, but before warrants were issued, Shoaib fled to Pakistan. Dawood also knew Irfan and as reported when the former questioned Shoaib about the killing, he admitted that he killed Irfan because the victim had been abusing Dawood, but he could not convince his explanation. Later on, Shoaib kidnapped Ibrahim Bholoo a closed collaborator of Ibrahim Dawood and killed him. Reportedly, on January 8, 2001, Ibrahim Bholoo visited the Defense residence of Shoaib Khan to settle monetary dispute involving USD 700,000 and was never seen again.⁶²

In 2005, the government of Sindh decided to take action against the underworld syndicates.⁶³ Shoaib went underground. However there were reports that he was arrested from Lahore and later on shifted to Karachi. He expired on January 27, 2007 when he was being taken to hospital from Central Jail in Karachi owing to chest pain. During interrogation, Shoaib exposed police officials and politicians who had links with him. The police registered more than sixteen cases against Shoaib.⁶⁴

7.2. Lyari Gangs

Lyari, one of the ancient towns in Karachi, has become epicenter of gang warfare and criminals resulting into a huge number of killings of innocent people. Different groups have been operating in the area, including Sheru, Dadul, Lalu, Allah Bukhsh alias Kala Nag and Iqbal alias Babu Dakait, Arshad Pappu and Rehman Dakait.⁶⁵ Gang war in Lyari flared up again recently and the crime rate has increased in the adjacent towns due to spill over affects, usually the gangsters get out of Lyari, steal, rob people and go back to gangs, reveals Waseem Mohammad, Station Head Officer (SHO) Lyari.⁶⁶

Lyari was a small town with limited population of fishermen but after construction of the seaport, the people of different areas of Balochistan migrated to Lyari. Number of cinema houses, bars and drug dens also increased. With the passage of time, the people developed affiliations with different groups.

Opening of distilleries had been increased in the locality and later on drug related business like hashish and heroin got momentum when people of the area became jobless after ban on liquor business by Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto in 1974 and restriction on film industry by Zia-ul-Haq. The personal vendetta converted into clashes between groups in these circumstances. In this situation, underworld managed to flourish in this area.

Lyari has become a stronghold of criminals whose networks also cover areas as far as Turbat, Khuzdar, Gwadar, Panjgure, Quetta, Thatta and Gharo. Bus service in the areas of Chakiwara, Sheedi Village, Picture Road and other areas has further strengthened the gangsters' network through smuggling. The smuggled items include garments and fabrics, dry fruit, narcotics, ammunition from Iran. Smuggling of drugs and ammunition has given new impetus to the wrongdoers. Beside, extortion of money, kidnapping for ransom and contract killing have become a routine matter.⁶⁷

The transport network in Lyari adds fuel to the fire between rival criminal groups. Buses plying on routes from Chakiwara, Sheedi Village Road and Lee Market to Balochistan, NWFP and Sindh are parked on main roads of Lyari and they have to pay from Rs 100 to Rs 500 for each turn to these syndicates. Besides bus-drivers and conductors, at least six time-keepers were killed in fighting due to extortion of money.⁶⁸

7.3. Rehman Dakait Group⁶⁹

Until recently the group had a control over more than 85 per cent area of Lyari. Abdur Rehman known as Rehman Dakait, son of Haji Dad Muhammad alias Dadul, carries head money of Rs 5 million, and is allegedly involved in a number of cases like narcotics and ammunition smuggling, kidnapping for ransom and killing attempts.⁷⁰ Haji Lal was also a notorious criminal in Lyari. Rehman Dakait was working under patronage of Haji Lal known as Lalu, father of Arshad Pappu. Previously he was working with Babu Dakait, from his age of 14 to 17, but a rivalry started between them when latter killed former's uncle Taj Muhammad which led to separation between them. After killing of his uncle, Rehman Dakait tried to establish his own group but could not do so. Rehman Dakait killed Babu Dakait on June 23, 2004 on backing of Haji Lal in order to avenge his uncle's murder.

Rehman Dakait and Irfat, son of Haji Lal, were arrested by the police. Irfat was released on bail whereas Rehman Dakait remained in jail that triggered differences between Rehman and Haji Lal. After detention of Haji Lal, Rehman Dakait gang warfare is led by Arshad Pappu, another son of Haji Lal.⁷¹

Rehman Dakait was arrested from Quetta in June 2006 and was transferred to an unknown destination. After remaining around three months in the custody of police and intelligence agencies, Rehman Dakait escaped from police custody on August 22, 2006.⁷² Rehman Dakait was planning to flee to Iran after escaping from the police custody but he could not do so owing to hemiplegia.⁷³

Rehman Dakait formed a team consisting of thirty boys for controlling the areas of Darleen, Gabol Road, Lasi Nara, New Kamhara Warah, Cheel Chowk, Meerab Khan, Isa Khan Road, Faqir Muhammad Dar Khan Road, Dhoubi Ghat, Noor Muhammad Village, Mill Area and Nawaleen in Lyari whereas he has appointed different competent accomplices for different sectors to control his business. Noor Muhammad known as Baba Ladla, Mulla Nisar, Abdul Jabbar known as Jhengo and Sattar Baloch are his key gangsters. He has also Baloch and Iranian miscreants in his ranks.

The group operates drug-dens, casinos and extorts money from transporters and businessmen. They also earn money through kidnapping for ransom and smuggling. It is also involved in police encounters and clashes with their rival groups to maintain monopoly. The gang members also capture the properties of the opponents.⁷⁴

Rehman Dakait gang enjoys monopoly in different areas and it also compromises with political leaders, different movements and personnel of law enforcement agencies of the area. Gang mates use different tactics to achieve their targets, including torture, killing, kidnap for ransom, explosives and firing with automatic weapons.

7.4. Arshad Pappu Group

It is the second biggest criminal gang operating in Lyari of which Arshad Pappu is the leader. He acquired expertise from his father Haji Lalo who is a notorious gangster of the area. Arshad Pappu has a mastery in using automatic weapons. He has a good reputation as a sharp marksman. He became

victorious every time in achieving the targets at competitions his father used to organize in Khuzdar. His father had good relations with the PPP leaders but was arrested later.

Haji Lalu used his son Arshad Pappu along with Rustum Barohi for kidnapping for ransom and collecting *bhatta*. Rustum Barohi had good links with Mashooq Barohi but after detention of Haji Lalu, he joined Rehman Dakait group.⁷⁵ Ghaffar Zikri invited Arshad Pappu in Lyari after arrest of Rustum Barohi and he persuaded a number of Rehman's collaborators to join him.⁷⁶

Arshad Pappu collaborated with Majeed Aspeed and Hussain Irani, both drug smugglers, to run his drug-dens in Lyari after detention of Rehman Dakait. But after mysterious disappearance of Rehman Dakait from police custody, Majeed Aspeed and Hussain Irani did not contact Arshad Pappu and he closed his dens.⁷⁷ In an interview, he said that Rehman Dakait was on the top of his target, then Baba Ladla, Rauf Nazim, Sajid Tanda and Head Constable Anwar Kalya. He said that it was a difficult task to establish a gang and lead it as it requires a large sum of money. He has property in Gulshan Iqbal and Defecne Area, Pak Colony, Lyari, Veendar, Turbat, one bungalow in Quetta and two in the Hub, but no bank balances. He had to give money to the police in order to carry on the "business," he revealed.⁷⁸

Carrying a head money of Rs 3 million, he is demanded in over 60 cases of murder, kidnapping for ransom and police encounters. He was arrested along with his accomplice policeman Imam Bukhsh from Karachi. Balochistan government has requested Sindh to hand over Arshad Pappu as he was involved in number of cases in Balochistan.⁷⁹ After detention of Arshad Pappu, Ghaffar Zikri is leading his group.

Ghaffar Zikri, Tariq Irani, Nasir Bengali, Hassan Hasso, Mullah Sultan, Muhammad Ali Tangou, Nadeem Irani, Haris, Aamar Dalmya, Mullah Nawaz, Shahzaib, Abdul Qadir, Hameed known as Mashooq, Asif, Abdul Hameed were members of Arshad Pappu group. Some of them were arrested whereas some others were killed but some of them are still working in the network.

Arshad Pappu had formed a number of teams to perform different duties. Abdul Dubai Wala has been appointed in Dubai Chowk Lyari and his duty is to restrict entry of Baba Ladla in the area. Second team consists of Mullah Mehboob and its duty is to control Gul Muhammad Lane. Similarly, Shoaib and Jabbar Langra head the third team and its duty is to control the area of Singulane. Ghaffar Zikri also heads a group. Aamar Dahobi rules the area of Dalmya.⁸⁰ Saeed known as Kalo Current, UC Nazim, his brother, Aamar Dhobi and Ayyaz Pathan work for Arshad Pappu. Arshad Pappu supports his gang members through thick and thin. He pays Rs 500 to 1000 to each guy per day along with their intoxications. He has to pay the families of those colleagues who are in the jail or who expired during different clashes.

Arshad Pappu group conducts many types of criminal activities including killing, highway robbery, kidnapping for ransom, smuggling, drugs business, casinos, extortion of money (*Bhatta*). Arshad Pappu had a strong network in Mewa Shah Graveyard and he received Rs 500 from gravedigger for one grave otherwise they were subjected to torture in secret cells in Jehanabad. Nasir, a collaborator of Arshad Pappu, was appointed to collect money from the gravedigger.⁸¹ They also collect money from transporters in Lyari.

7.5. D-Gang

The D-Gang is known for pirating CDs which are sold at cheaper rates. The gang is also involved in preparing CDs for terrorist outfits. Zubair Motiwala and Seth Dilawar are believed to be the gang's ringleaders. Zubair Motiwala is an important member of the D-Gang and is now reportedly in Malaysia. He escaped before the FBI raid in Karachi. Seth Dilawar owner of 'DC-Code Company' also escaped to Singapore and operates his international business from there and exports pirated CDs to Europe and the Middle East. The main profit source is the export of these CDs abroad where they are sold in USD 4 to 5 per CD. Some of the Karachi Airport officials were also involved in the CDs export. Dubai is the transit route for this illegal trade.

The group is very much capable to deceive the security agencies. The Federal Investigation Agencies (FIA) officials not only failed in arresting the owners of the factories involved in manufacturing pirated DVDs and CDs but were even reluctant to disclose the names of those engaged in the business, despite the claim of raids conducted at their residences in different parts of the city. According to an insider, persons arrested during the raids were mostly the agents and paid employees of the CD mafia who run their business from abroad.

Though, the group has no ideological links with the terrorist groups, it deals with them on account of business and trade.

Notes

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