

Weekly POK News Digest

(A weekly news digest on Pakistan Occupied Kashmir)

Volume 3 | Issue 48

27 November - 03 December 2023

Town Cultural appropriation
Management outages
Society power-shedding
climate change Baltistan
Gilgit-Baltistan University Highway
glacial POK Karakoram
lakes Unregulated Development



MANOHAR PARRIKAR INSTITUTE FOR
DEFENCE STUDIES AND ANALYSES
मनोहर पर्रिकर रक्षा अध्ययन एवं विश्लेषण संस्थान

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Political Developments

Amnesty International urged to act for the release of Kashmiri Politician Yasin Malik from Indian jail

Daily Parliament Times, 27 November 2023

Amnesty International (AI), the global human rights organization, has confirmed receiving an appeal for the early release of Kashmiri politician and Chairman of Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) Yaseen Malik from continual detention, currently languishing in an Indian infamous jail. In response to this appeal, Amnesty International has been urged to intervene immediately and advocate for his release to facilitate constructive dialogue and establish lasting peace in the internationally acknowledged disputed region of Jammu Kashmir state. US-based Raja Muzaffar, Acting Chairman of JKLF and Director of Board South Asia Democracy Watch USA, while appealing to AI, expressed deep concern over the prolonged detention of Yasin Malik. Recognizing Amnesty International's steadfast commitment to promoting justice, protecting human rights, and advocating for prisoners of conscience, Muzaffar believes that the organization is well-positioned to address Malik's case. Yasin Malik, a prominent figure in Kashmiri politics, has been detained for an extended period, casting a shadow over the region's prospects for peace and stability. His release is seen as a crucial step towards initiating a constructive dialogue and fostering a

peaceful environment in Jammu Kashmir.

<https://www.dailyparliamenttimes.com/2023/11/27/amnesty-international-urged-to-act-for-the-release-of-kashmiri-politician-yasin-malik-from-indian-jail-2/>

BJP-led Hindutva regime plotting to seal over 4000 more properties in 'IIOJK'

Pakistan Observer, 29 November 2023

India's Hindutva regime led by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has prepared a list of over 4000 more private properties for confiscation shortly in 'Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK). According to Kashmir Media Service, India's dreaded agencies State Investigation Agency (SIA) and National Investigation Agency (NIA) have collected the list of the targeted properties comprising agricultural land, schools, houses, and offices of the Kashmiri people. These people are accused of advocating the resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute through the UN-recognized right to self-determination. The Modi regime has already sealed about 500 hundred properties in the territory since 2019. Now over 4000 more properties have been included in the list of the Indian Home Ministry for seizure. A senior official said the properties would be sealed once the formalities for the same are completed. People associated with Jamaat-e-Islami, Hurriyat organizations, journalists, social activists, and religious leaders are particularly on the radar of the Indian

Home Ministry and its agencies as prime targets.

<https://pakobserver.net/bjp-led-hindutva-regime-plotting-to-seal-over-4000-more-properties-in-iiobjk/>

Baltistan University in turmoil over VC's controversial tenure extension

Pakistan today, 30 November 2023

The University of Baltistan (UoB) finds itself embroiled in a heated controversy surrounding the extended tenure of its Vice Chancellor Dr Naeem Khan. The uproar intensifies as Senate members advocated against the prolonged extension, raising questions about the university's integrity. The situation within Skardu's sole public university escalated during a recent Senate meeting when two vocal members were suspended by Chairperson Batool Qureshi for challenging Dr Naeem Khan's overstretched term. Despite the crucial issue at hand, discussions against the VC were abruptly halted with Chairperson Qureshi firmly stating, 'I will not listen to anything against the VC.'

The controversy stems from Dr Naeem's tenure extension beyond his original term which was supposed to be completed in May 2021. The Senate granted him an extension under vague circumstances, citing an unwarranted situation until a regular VC could be appointed. However, Dr Naeem continued to occupy the position, influencing the recruitment process and even challenging the Search Committee's recommendations in court, as his name did not make it to the

merit list due to a lack of qualification in interviews. In a recent Senate session, members from Baltistan reiterated their concerns over the illegal tenure extension, persisting despite opposition and legal battles.

Amidst the chaos, the Higher Education Commission clarified that there's no formal procedure or legal backing for removing a Senate member without specific clauses in Baltistan University's statutes. However, recent actions suggest a clampdown not only on Senate members but also on senior faculty members who voiced dissent. The administration's pressure tactics and removal of faculty members aim to sway opinions on Dr. Naeem's appointment. This power struggle doesn't end with the VC; the university Registrar Waseemullah Jan, was granted a three-year extension on the post at the end of his tenure. With both heads wielding control, the institution teeters on the edge of potential destruction in their bid to shield each other.

<https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2023/11/30/baltistan-university-in-turmoil-over-vc-s-controversial-tenure-extension/>

Indian military involved in the genocide of Kashmiris: Mushaal

The Nation, 1 December 2023

Prime Minister's Special Assistant on Human Rights Mushaal Hussein Mullick claimed that the Indian military was involved in the genocide of Muslims in 'Illegally Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir'

(IIOJK). While addressing a seminar titled 'Repression on minorities in India and atrocities in Kashmir,' she expressed deep concerns over the human rights violations in the held territory. She claimed that the people of the 'occupied valley' could never be defeated through oppression and negative tactics like jailing the political leadership. The seminar was jointly organized by Kashmir International and Kashmir Media Service (KMS).

Caretaker Federal Minister for Human Rights Khalil George deplored that India had adopted the same policy in the 'occupied territory' that Israel was following in Palestine. He claimed that the main objective of the Bharatiya Janata Party government was to turn the majority of Muslims in 'IIOJK' into a minority but the people of the 'occupied territory' would foil all such nefarious designs of the Modi regime. The minister said that India was a so-called democracy where minorities were being mistreated and victimized by the majoritarian Hindu hardliners. He said after the unfortunate Jaranwala incident, the government of Pakistan expressed solidarity with the victims, but the Government of India never supported the victims of the atrocities of the Hindutva brigade.

The event was attended by various leaders including former AJK' president, Sardar Yaqoob Khan, president of Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Party Hasan Ibrahim, APHC-'AJK' chapter, Muhammad Farooq Rahmani, Chairperson of Friends of Kashmir International Ghazala Habib, Senator Danish Kumar, Anchor,

Harmeet Singh and Analyst Waqar Hassan.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/01-Dec-2023/indian-military-involved-in-genocide-of-kashmiris-mushaal>

Complete shutdown to be observed in 'IIOJK' on December 1

The Nation, 1 December 2023

A complete shutdown will be observed in 'Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK) on Friday against the posting of a blasphemous video about Prophet Muhammad by an Indian student studying in an institute in Srinagar. According to Kashmir Media Service, the call for the shutdown has been given by the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) and supported by the United (Muttihida) Jihad Council. The shutdown is also aimed at protesting against illegal arrests, booking of seven Kashmiri students under draconian law, dismissal of Kashmiri government employees, and confiscation of properties of people. The APHC in a statement urged the people of the 'occupied' territory to make the strike a success.

<https://www.nation.com.pk/01-Dec-2023/complete-shutdown-to-be-observed-in-iiojk-on-december-1>

8 killed, 26 injured, after passenger bus is attacked by terrorists on Karakoram Highway

Pamir Times, 2 December 2023

At least 8 passengers were killed and 26 are reported injured after a bus was attacked by yet unidentified terrorists on the Karakoram Highway at Hudur,

near Chilas, in the Diamer district of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB). The bus reportedly lost control after coming under fire and collided with a truck, killing the truck's driver on the spot. The truck also caught fire due to the impact of the collision, said local journalists. Confirming the reports of the attack, and the casualties, Deputy Commissioner of Diamer said that the passengers were from different parts of Pakistan, including two soldiers of the Pakistan Army and a Police official of the Special Protection Unit (SPU). The DC said that three of the 8 bodies have been identified so far. He said that a religious scholar (Mufti) from the Gupis region of Ghizer was injured but his condition was stable. The bus (Number BLN 4647) was traveling from Gahkuch, the district headquarters of Ghizer, operated by K2 Travels, a private transportation company. This isn't the first time passenger buses have been attacked on the Karakoram Highway by terrorists. Unlike the past attacks, in which passengers from the Shia community were targeted, this time the victims are not from a particular faith group.

<https://pamirtimes.net/2023/12/02/8-killed-26-injured-after-passenger-bus-is-attacked-by-terrorists-on-karakoram-highway/>

India has turned 'IIOJK' into a hell for its inhabitants: Saghar

Pakistan Observer, 3 December 2023

The All Parties Hurriyat Conference 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (APHC-AJK) chapter has said that the RSS-backed Hindutva Indian government led by Narendra has turned 'Indian

illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir' (IIOJK) into a hell for its inhabitants for demanding their UN-recognized right to self-determination. The APHC-'AJK' Convener, Mehmood Ahmed Saghar, in a statement, claimed that the Indian troops are committing the worst atrocities on the people of 'occupied Kashmir.' He alleged that the 'Indian state terrorism' witnessed an unprecedented upsurge since the Modi regime's 05 August 2019 illegal actions. He said the silence of the international community has emboldened India to continue its brutalities in the occupied territory. Saghar denounced the continued house detention of senior APHC leader, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, and the ban on Friday prayers at Jamia Masjid, Srinagar. This is a grave violation of the basic human and religious rights and sheer interference in religious affairs of Muslims of 'IIOJK', he said.

<https://pakobserver.net/india-has-turned-iiojk-into-a-hell-for-its-inhabitants-saghar/>

Six held, case registered after attack on passengers bus in Chilas

Pakistan Today, 3 December 2023

The Diamer Police registered the first information report (FIR) and claimed to have arrested six suspects on a charge of the attack on the Islamabad-bound bus in the Chilas area of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), which claimed nine lives. According to officials, the nine slain passengers included two soldiers while 25 others received injuries on Saturday evening after unknown assailants targeted the bus from nearby hills. The bus then collided with a goods truck

head-on when its driver accelerated to flee the attack. The GB interior minister also confirmed the fact that the bus driver attempted to flee the attack, which led to its head-on collision with a goods truck.

So far, no organisation has accepted responsibility for the incident. Diamer Deputy Commissioner Capt (r) Arif Ahmad also confirmed the development, saying that everything possible would be done to bring the culprits to the book. On the other hand, the public relations officer (PRO) Raja Ashfaq Tahir to the Diamer Commissioner said a case had been registered against unknown miscreants by Diamer SHO Azmat Shah. Six suspects have been taken into custody at two police stations so far, the PRO said. The official said all entry and exit points of GB had been closed and security in the region was on high alert. The police have launched search operations across Diamer and traffic on the Karakoram Highway remained suspended on Sunday, Tahir added.

Separately, the funeral for the deceased persons was offered and GB Chief Minister Haji Gulbar Khan, Chilas Assistant Commissioner Sadaqat Ali, and top army officials attended it. Meanwhile, hundreds of passengers traveling to GB were stranded in Bisham, Kohistan, and other areas due to the closure of the Karakoram Highway. Protests were also held in Chilas and Hunza against the incident. The demonstrators demanded immediate action and arrest of the culprits.

No one would be allowed to sabotage GB peace: PM

Meanwhile, in a statement, caretaker Prime Minister Anwaarul Haq Kakar affirmed that anti-state elements would not be allowed to sabotage peace in GB. According to state-run Radio Pakistan, the premier condemned the incident. He said the war against terrorism would continue till the complete elimination of terrorism in the country.

<https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2023/12/03/six-held-case-registered-after-attack-on-passengers-bus-in-chilas/>

Economic Developments

What Is the Cost of Unregulated Development in Hunza?

Pamir Times, 27 November 2023

Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) has witnessed a surge in domestic tourism in recent years, with Hunza in particular becoming a favorite vacation destination for domestic tourism. However, this influx of tourists has also brought about a proliferation of unregulated tourist infrastructure, leading to a multitude of issues that threaten the very essence of life in the valley. The pressing environmental, social, and cultural challenges posed by unchecked tourism growth and the construction of mega-hotels, often by non-local investors, take center stage in these issues. With construction work underway for several multi-million-dollar hotels in Hunza, there is an urgent need to comprehend the risks these ventures pose for the local population and demand regulations to control these uncontrolled initiatives.

Water is a precious resource in Hunza, and its scarcity has always been a concern for the local population. Local tribal customs have created a complex and delicate system of water distribution in effect for several centuries, providing people with domestic use and irrigation water. The precisely laid down system with regulated priorities for different crops and farms ensures an equal share for each indigenous farmer. Such water management systems sustain agriculture in the region, which is the livelihood of around 90 percent of the residents in GB. With the inundation of tourists and the construction of numerous hotels, the water demand has surged to unprecedented levels. Hotels require vast quantities for their operations, from sanitation to landscaping, often exceeding the local supply capacity.

As a result, communities face greater struggles to access sufficient clean water for their daily needs. Climate change has added to water insecurity, with sources like the Passu glacier receding by as much as 10 percent in less than four decades, making the issue even direr. The lack of proper sewage and wastewater treatment facilities in many of these hotels exacerbates their environmental impact. Without adequate infrastructure to manage wastewater, hotels resort to crude disposal methods, such as dumping raw sewage into septic tanks that leech into nearby water bodies. Luxus Hunza Hotel, a luxury resort built in partnership with the Lahore-based Luxus Grand Hotel,

has soakage pits dug at the brinks of Attabad Lake which contaminate the water used by the population downstream. The severe disregard for health and sanitation, and a dismissive attitude towards the warnings issued to Luxus regarding their practices, raises questions of how checks on development are crucial to mitigate harm to local populations.

Another major issue is electricity. Electricity supply in Hunza has been limited for decades now, with power outages upwards of 15 hours being an unfortunately common occurrence. The surge in tourism has aggravated this issue, as hotels demand a consistent and often excessive supply of electricity to cater to their guests' needs. Residents face extreme electric shortages, and with unregulated constructions, the issue is only bound to worsen. Residents have long demanded additional hydro-power plants to meet local consumption but have received little response from local authorities. As the tourist industry booms and uncontrolled development continues, the strain on local resources grows exponentially. When hydroelectric power is insufficient, many hotels rely on generators running on fossil fuels like diesel or petrol. These generators contribute to the energy crisis and contribute significantly to air and noise pollution in the valley.

As a result of these challenges, concerns are being raised by local organizations about resource management for many of the new projects. Serena Hotels' expansion in Karimabad is adding over 100 more rooms in the five-star,

creating a five-storied steel and concrete mass that includes a business center, two swimming pools, and a spa, all while also blocking the skyline view of the Karimabad valley and infringing on the privacy of residents in the neighborhood. The huge under-construction concrete structure has also jeopardized the prominence of the ancient Baltit Fort. How resources for running this hotel will be obtained is yet to be understood. The hotel has also remained uncooperative and hostile towards requests for transparency by the Town Management Society (TMS), a native-run community organization that undertakes care of municipal affairs. This attitude of nonchalance is the antithesis of the very fundamental principles of inclusive development and participatory approach that the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) has been advocating.

Another factor that requires attention is the unchecked construction of hotels by non-local investors, posing a threat to Hunza's social fabric. Traditionally, people refrained from selling land to outsiders due to land scarcity and difficulty in assigning community responsibilities for essential services, like maintaining waterways. With non-local investors acquiring land and erecting hotels, they often bypass local customs but still demand a share of the already limited resources. Luxus, after claiming a stake in water resources from Shishkat Valley in Hunza, is now demanding a share in the community-owned meadow where they allegedly plan to build a resort. This gentrification has also led to

skyrocketing land prices, making it increasingly unaffordable for the locals. If this trend continues, it may result in people being displaced from their ancestral homes, a situation reminiscent of similar issues in places like Hawaii or, closer to home, Murree.

Hunza Valley is renowned for its rich culture and traditions, which are at risk due to the rapid growth of unchecked tourism. Cultural appropriation is rampant, with little more than lip service paid to local concerns. Indigenous customs and heritage are overshadowed by the commercialization of the land. The situation in Hunza underscores the urgent need for balanced and sustainable tourism development. Unregulated tourism and mega-hotel construction, based solely on myopic and profit-driven interests have caused severe environmental, social, and cultural challenges. To preserve the beauty and authenticity of this remarkable valley, both the government and the private sector must collaborate on comprehensive regulations that ensure sustainable growth, respect for local customs, and protection of the valley's precious environment.

A master plan of urban development regulating land zoning and defining building rules and regulations needs to be introduced on a war footing. Since the formation of a municipal committee is underway, it is high time that we learn from similar experiences elsewhere in the world and form regulations under an integrated masterplan which is approved and

implemented through an elected municipal committee. To ensure long-term sustainability, comprehensive regulations and sustainable tourism practices must be put in place. Local and national authorities, in collaboration with the tourism industry, must work together to address these pressing issues, preserving the valley's natural beauty and ecological balance for generations to come. Locals' demands for transparency must be met, and private enterprises must respect the integrity of Hunza.

Hunza represents a unique culture that has flourished in the Karakoram for hundreds of years. Only through responsible tourism can the valley truly continue to captivate the hearts of travelers while safeguarding the interests of its people and heritage. Without sustainable tourism practices that prioritize conservation, resource management, and community involvement, Hunza is doomed to turn into yet another sad example of gentrification.

<https://pamirtimes.net/2023/11/27/what-is-the-cost-of-unregulated-development-in-hunza/>

CLIMATE BYTE: From GB to Sindh, rapidly melting glaciers pose serious risks

Dawn, 28 November 2023

How is climate change impacting GB's ecosystem?

Pakistan is ranked among the top ten countries most affected by climate change in the last two decades. In the last 50 years, the annual mean

temperature has increased by roughly 0.5 degrees Celsius, and it is expected to rise by 3°C to 5°C by the end of this century. It is estimated that there are around 7,000 glaciers in Pakistan, most of which are located in GB. Some of the largest glaciers, including the Siachen, Baltoro, Biafo, and Shisper glaciers in GB, are retreating at a rapid rate due to rising temperatures, causing GLOFs. Climate change is negatively affecting GB's ecosystem as shifts in sowing and harvesting seasons are being witnessed. Due to unpredictable rainfall, rising temperatures, and insect attacks, crop productivity and forage availability have decreased. The biodiversity loss has resulted in shrinking habitats for species, pushing them on the brink of extinction, for example, snow leopards.

How does GLOF pose a threat to GB?

The frequency and likelihood of GLOFs have increased in the last decade. The whole region has been identified as either at high or very high risk concerning the GLOF hazard. These glaciers are shrinking by approximately one percent per year, creating more than 3,000 glacial lakes. The melting of glaciers in GB affects not only locals but also the population living downstream. These glaciers feed the Indus River. While their rapid melting is increasing the water flow in the short term, in the long term it is likely to cause water shortages as river flows would decrease due to depleting glaciers. This will damage the agriculture sector and threaten food security. How can these impacts be mitigated?

There is a need to implement robust and sustainable climate change adaptation strategies. Climate literacy should be increased among GB residents, and they should be encouraged to adopt sustainable practices and participate in conservation activities. Promote nature-based solutions in developmental projects to increase the resilience of the local community along with integrated water resources management for sustainable water consumption.

[https://www.dawn.com/news/1793156/climate-byte-from-gb-to-sindh-rapidly-melting-glaciers-
pose-serious-risks](https://www.dawn.com/news/1793156/climate-byte-from-gb-to-sindh-rapidly-melting-glaciers-pose-serious-risks)

People of Nagar Colony in Gilgit protested against flour and power-shedding

Dailyk2, 29 November 2023

Residents of Gilgit's Nagar Colony protested against the wheat crisis and power outages by blocking Karakoram International University (KIU) Road, with women and children fully blocking the road and chanting slogans against the officials of food and power departments. The women protesting noted that owing to load shedding, the children are unable to do their homework alongside their studies and that because the children's exams are taking place at the same time, the children are having difficulties preparing for the exams. They noted that power department authorities were also warned, but no hearing was convened, and a wheat crisis was also

ongoing which has affected the lives of locals. Protesters observed that the administration was having a good time in Islamabad, and no one in power was prepared to intervene. The women stated that if no action was taken to address the power outage and wheat was not delivered on time and at the previously agreed-upon pricing, this symbolic protest would grow into a prolonged sit-in.

<https://www.dailyk2.com/Post/18660>

Protests in GB against Wheat Rate Hike

Dawn, 2 December 2023

A shutter-down strike was observed across Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) against an increase in the rate of subsidised wheat. The rate of wheat, which was heavily subsidised for the region, has significantly increased over the past six months, first from Rs 7.5 to Rs 20 per kilogram in June and then recently to Rs 52 per kg. The Awami Action Committee (AAC), an alliance of political parties and traders' unions, had called for the strike in ten districts of GB. Markets, shopping malls, and restaurants remained deserted, with business activities suspended from morning to evening. In Skardu, a protest was held at the Yadgar Chowk. The protesters rejected the hike in wheat prices and chanted slogans against the government. Speakers said the subsidy was 'a right of the people of GB', which is being taken away. They said the protest would continue if the price hike was not withdrawn.

GB CM meets protesters

GB Chief Minister Haji Gulbar Khan presided over a joint meeting of ministers and AAC leaders at the CM Secretariat. While addressing the meeting, he said it is people's right to criticise the government. Justifying the increase in wheat prices, the CM said it was inevitable given the current economic challenges. He rejected the impression that the subsidy on wheat was being removed. He also demanded a share for GB from the National Finance Commission award just like the 'Azad Jammu and Kashmir' (AJK). The meeting agreed to take a final decision regarding the rate of subsidised wheat through mutual consultation in a week.

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1794397/protests-in-gb-against-wheat-rate-hike>

From Vernacular Urdu Media**Jaamate-e-Islami desires a free Kashmir and Palestine: JI Amir**

Jasarat, 27 November 2023

The Amir of Jamaat-e-Islami (JI), Siraj-ul-Haq in his presentation to the party workers, stated that we want to see a thriving and developed Pakistan. He emphasised that JI wants to see Kashmir and Palestine free and that disadvantaged Palestinians and Kashmiris are appealing to Pakistan for assistance. Siraj-ul-Haq stated that JI has always supported the people, be it during floods or other tough times and that the performance of all parties has been in front of you for 75 years. He said that JI is always fighting for Kashmiris, Palestinians, and the

common people and farmer's rights in Pakistan.

<https://www.jasarat.com/2023/11/27/sirajul-haque-28/>

The NAB court summoned GB CM Gulbar Khan

Dailyk2, 27 November 2023

The National Accountability Court of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) summoned six suspects, including the current Chief Minister of GB, Haji Gulbar Khan, in the case of alleged mega-corruption in the GB Forest Department. The ruling was issued by Accountability Court judge Amina Zameer against GB Chief Minister Haji Gulbar Khan, former conservator Muhammad Zamra, Abdul Samad, Karamat Khan, Muhammad Qasim, and Dilzeer Ahmed for alleged serious corruption in the Forestry Department. All six suspects have been summoned to appear in court on 20 February 2024. The alleged large-scale corruption case has been before the Accountability Court for a long time, and the six accused were earlier granted bail by the Chief Court of the GB. This case was also suppressed during the former Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) government's tenure due to amendments to the NAB rules; however, the Supreme Court of Pakistan later rejected the amendments to the NAB rules as unconstitutional and continued the proceedings against the accused in the NAB courts. The GB Accountability Court, Amina Zameer, has already started hearings on pending cases.

<https://www.dailyk2.com/Post/18601>

Pakistan's diplomatic backing will remain until Kashmir is independence: Murtaza Solangi

Jasarat, 29 November 2023

Murtaza Solangi, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs, has stated that the presence of Pakistan ensures the rights of all minorities, including Kashmiris, and that the stronger Pakistan is, the greater the voice of the oppressed in India will be. He stated that Narendra Modi has never sided with the oppressed and that in India, a brutal rule of a small minority implementing rules in the name of the majority, with atrocities committed against religious minorities. He claimed that minority mistreatment in India is being exposed by various regional and international human and civil rights organisations. He asserted that Pakistan has always morally, politically, and diplomatically supported the Kashmir cause and that this will continue till 'occupied Kashmir' is free.

<https://www.jasarat.com/2023/11/29/murtaza-7/>

From Social Media

HafizUllah Chilasi @Hafiz_Qureshii

30 November 2023

Throughout the year, Shia-Sunni organisations make it extremely difficult for the people of Gilgit-Baltistan to live peacefully, and when the people of Gilgit-Baltistan stand up for their rights, these government-

sponsored organisations turn against the people of GB.

https://twitter.com/Hafiz_Qureshii/status/1730161686152458568

Araib Ali Baig @The_North_Blood

02 December 2023

In yet another December, a protest rally took place in Yadgar Skardu, Gilgit-Baltistan, opposing the termination of wheat subsidy. Thousands joined in as the people of Gilgit Baltistan voiced their objection to the reduction in wheat subsidy.

#GilgitBaltistan #Skardu #Gilgit

https://twitter.com/The_North_Blood/status/1730723236735066240

The Khorasan Diary @khorasandiary

02 December 2023

BREAKING: At least 5 people have been killed and 8 injured in firing on a passenger bus about 15 kilometres from Chilas en route to Kohistan, Gilgit Baltistan. Unidentified gunmen opened firing on the bus, "we are still investigating the incident": Police.

<https://twitter.com/khorasandiary/status/1730988957528195345>

PAMIR TIMES ® @pamirtimes

3 December 2023

Protesters in #Chilas demand the immediate arrest of the culprits behind the attack on the passenger bus on KKH, stating that these incidents have defamed the people of Diamer. Eight

people were killed, and 26 were injured on a passenger bus attack. #GilgitBaltistan

Video link:

<https://twitter.com/pamirtimes/status/1731230220940972220>

Basharat Issa @BasharatIssa

3 December 2023

In Gilgit-Baltistan we are deprived of fundamental rights & basic needs like healthcare, job opportunities, higher education & when we travel in search of the basic needs we are killed on the way. Our people deserve much much better than this. We are more than just fancy posters.

<https://twitter.com/BasharatIssa/status/1731213534871318663>

Zaighum Abbas @harf_e_nagufta

3 December 2023

Attacks on passengers on KKH indicate a clear ploy of mass distraction from wheat subsidy issue in #GilgitBaltistan. We have seen such tactics since 71. Don't fall for sectarianism, maintain unity, they'll fall.

https://twitter.com/harf_e_nagufta/status/1731192171817037951

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Disclaimer

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