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Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 5 - Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan

Aka Pakistani Taliban; Tehreek-e-Taliban; Tehrik-e-Taliban; Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan; TTP.

Description: Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan (TTP) was designated as an FTO on September 1, 2010. Formed in 2007, TPP is a Pakistan- and Afghanistan-based terrorist organization that opposes Pakistani military efforts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, the former tribal areas, and other areas of the country. TTP aims to push the Government of Pakistan out of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province and establish Sharia by waging a terrorist campaign against the Pakistani military and state. TTP draws ideological guidance from al-Qa'ida, while elements of al-Qa'ida rely in part on TTP for safe haven in the Pashtun areas along the Afghanistan-Pakistani border. This arrangement has given TTP access to both al-Qa'ida's global terrorist network and its members' operational expertise.

Activities: TTP has carried out and claimed responsibility for numerous terrorist acts against Pakistani and U.S. interests, including a 2009 suicide attack on a U.S. military base in Khost, Afghanistan, which killed seven U.S. citizens, and a 2010 suicide bombing against the U.S. Consulate in Peshawar, Pakistan, which killed six Pakistani citizens. TTP is suspected of involvement in the 2007 assassination of former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. The group directed and facilitated Faisal Shahzad's failed attempt to detonate an explosive device in New York City's Times Square in 2010.

Between 2011 and 2018, TTP continued to carry out attacks against the Government of Pakistan and Pakistani civilian targets, as well as against U.S. targets in Pakistan. These attacks killed and wounded hundreds of civilians and Pakistani government and law enforcement officials. In 2014,

TTP carried out two consecutive attacks against Karachi's international airport and a siege on a primary school in Peshawar that killed 145 people, 132 of whom were children.

TTP's rate of attacks increased after it announced a merger with splinter groups Jamaat-ul-Ahrar and Hizbul Ahrar in 2020. In 2021, TTP claimed responsibility for an increased number of attacks in the months following the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan, claiming 69 attacks in a two-month span. In 2022, TTP and its affiliate groups conducted more than 290 attacks, most of which targeted Pakistani security forces and occurred in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan provinces. In June, TTP agreed to an indefinite ceasefire with the Government of Pakistan as part of peace talks brokered by the Taliban, though their attacks continued. In late November, TTP ended the ceasefire and dramatically increased attacks against security forces throughout December.

Strength: TTP is estimated to have between 4,000 and 6,000 fighters.

Location/Area of Operation: Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Funding and External Aid: TTP likely raises most of its funds through kidnapping-for-ransom payments, extortion, and other criminal activity.

Associated documents

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Afghanistan

Annual report on terrorism (covering 2022)

Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 1 - Afghanistan (Periodical Report, English)

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Pakistan

Annual report on terrorism (covering 2022)

Country Report on Terrorism 2022 - Chapter 1 - Pakistan (Periodical

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Brief description of the Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan (Excerpt of chapter 5 of the country report on terrorism 2022)

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