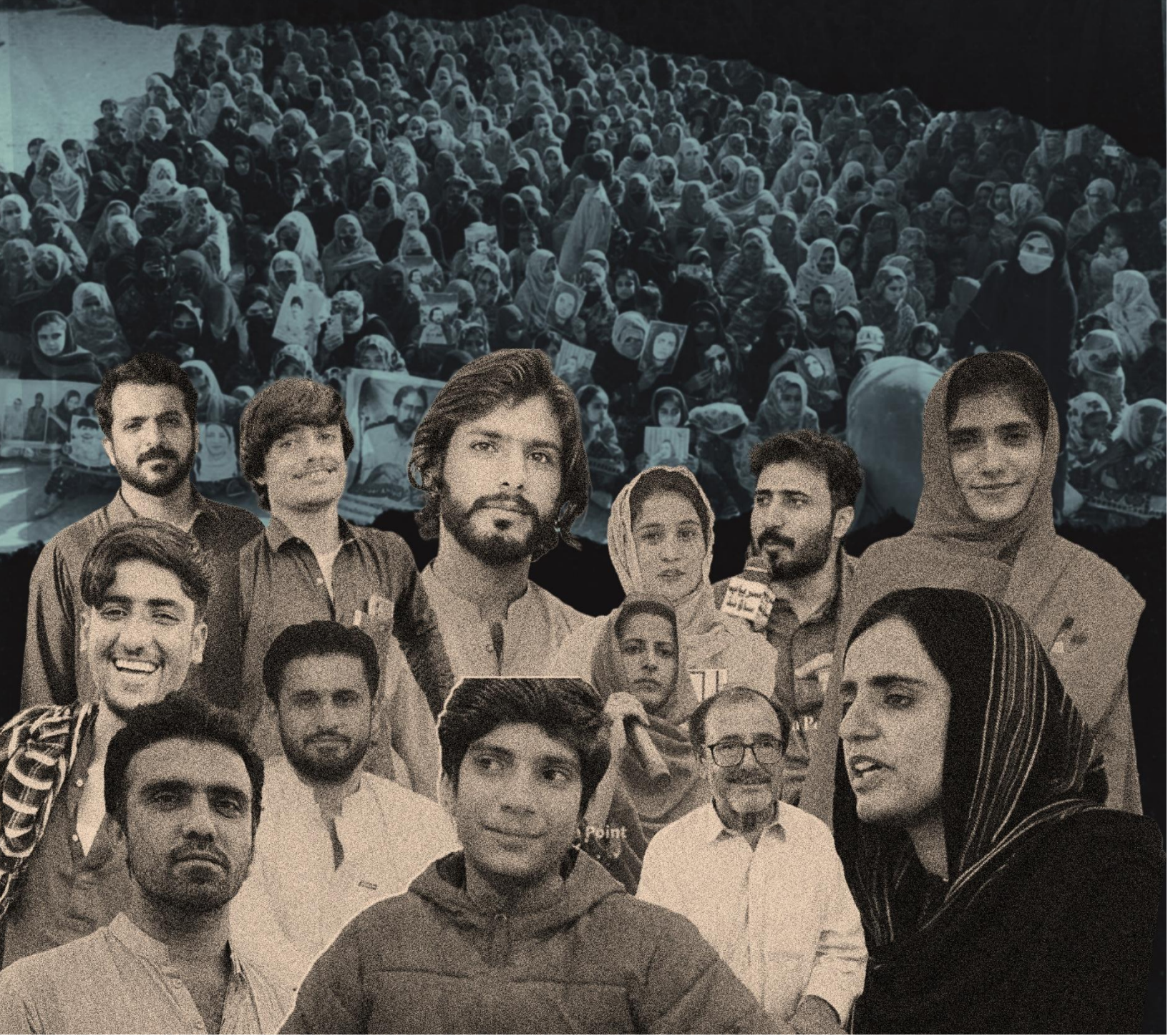


BI-ANNUAL REPORT - 2025

AN OVERVIEW OF HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN BALUCHISTAN

814 FORCIBLY DISAPPEARED, 365 KILLED



Balochistan: Biannual Review of Human Rights Situation (January–June 2025)

Introduction

The first six months of 2025 have witnessed a grave escalation of human rights violations across Balochistan. The Human Rights Council of Balochistan (HRCB) documented 814 cases of enforced disappearances between January and June, nearly surpassing the 830 cases recorded throughout the entire year of 2024. This alarming rise reflects the systematic and institutionalized nature of enforced disappearances carried out by state authorities, primarily targeting students, activists, laborers, and other civilians.

Alongside these disappearances, the first half of the year saw a troubling surge in the case of extrajudicial killings. At least 131 cases were reported. These include custodial killings, staged encounters, and killings during indiscriminate military operations. Security forces such as the Frontier Corps, Counter-Terrorism Department, intelligence agencies, and affiliated armed groups have been repeatedly implicated in these incidents. The widespread use of lethal force, often without accountability or due process, has contributed to a climate of fear and collective punishment across the province.

A particularly troubling development has been the intensification of the state's crackdown on the Baloch Yakjehti Committee (BYC), a peaceful civil movement advocating for justice and human rights. The authorities have targeted BYC leadership and members with arrests, threats, violence, and propaganda on social media. Central organizer Dr. Mahrang Baloch was detained alongside several activists during peaceful protests, underscoring the government's zero-tolerance approach to dissent. Efforts to silence the BYC have included harassment, fake and baseless FIRs, violent dispersal of rallies, arrests, killings, and raids on supporters' homes.

In June, the Balochistan Assembly passed the Anti-Terrorism (Balochistan Amendment) Act, 2025, which grants sweeping powers to security agencies. This legislation enables warrantless arrests, 90-day detentions without trial, and vague classifications of individuals as threats to public safety. The law also sanctions the creation of so-called de-radicalization centers that closely resemble internment camps, raising serious concerns about forced ideological compliance, cultural erasure, and the criminalization of political belief.

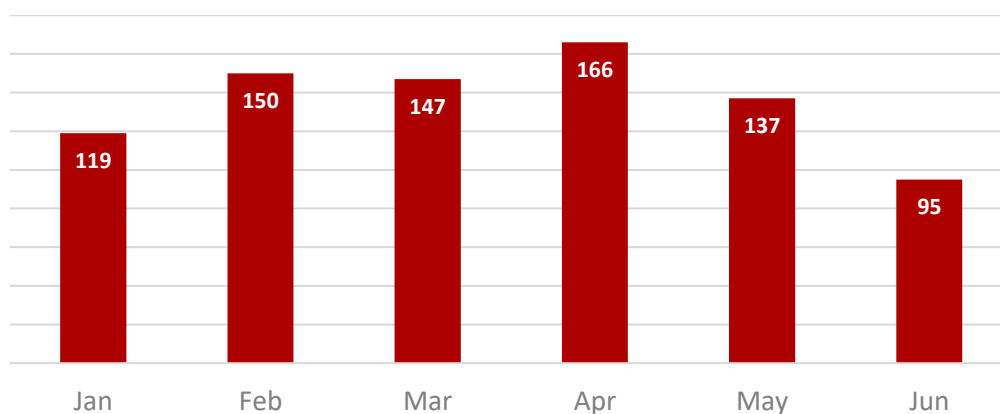
These developments have unfolded alongside a series of violent incidents targeting children, women, and entire communities. Among the most alarming was the killing of three protesters, including 13-year-old Nehmat Baloch, during a police assault on a peaceful sit-in. The protest had been organized in response to a brutal state crackdown on civilians following the Jaffar Express attack in Mach.

Despite repeated appeals from national and international human rights bodies, the Pakistani state continues to operate in Balochistan with complete impunity. This report provides a detailed account of the abuses committed from January to June 2025. It seeks to document the expanding machinery of state violence. It calls on global and domestic institutions to take urgent action to end enforced disappearances, extrajudicial killings, and the persecution of Baloch civilians.

Enforced Disappearances:

Of the 814 documented individuals, 555 remain missing, 211 have been released, 46 were killed, and 2 were shifted to jail. Among the victims, 811 were male and 3 were female.

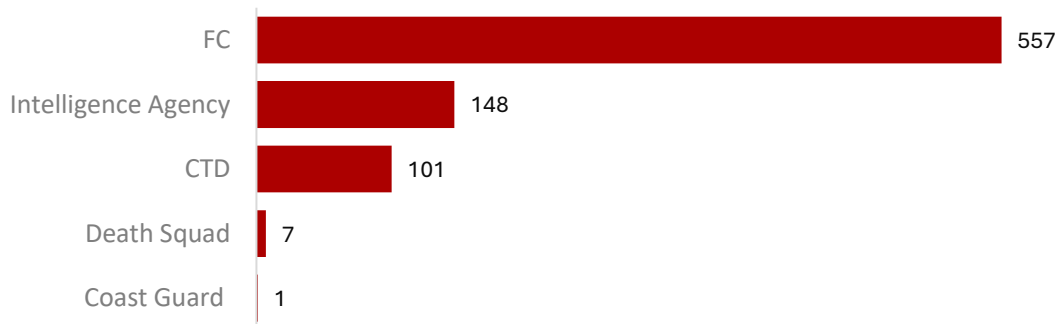
Monthly Breakdown



Modes of Abduction

House raids were the most common method of abduction, accounting for 529 cases (65%), followed by detentions at checkpoints and other places (268), and those summoned to military camps (17).

Perpetrators

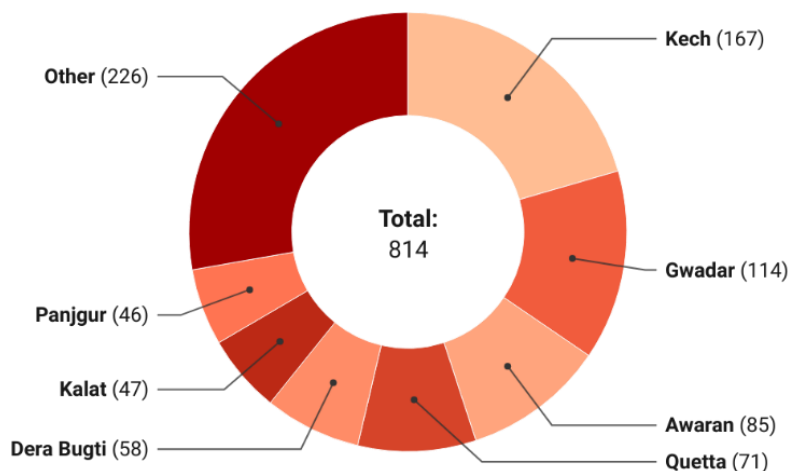


Professions of Victims

Students represent the largest known group with 163 cases, followed by laborers (59), drivers (40), and shopkeepers (21). Other professions include farmers, government employees, fishermen, security personnel, and various skilled trades. While the profession of 447 individuals could not be confirmed.

Places of Abduction

The highest number of abductions occurred in Kech (167), followed by Gwadar (114), Awaran (85), and Quetta (71). Other major hotspots include Dera Bugti, Kalat, Panjgur, and Barkhan. Cases were reported from both urban centers like Karachi and Islamabad, as well as remote districts across Balochistan.



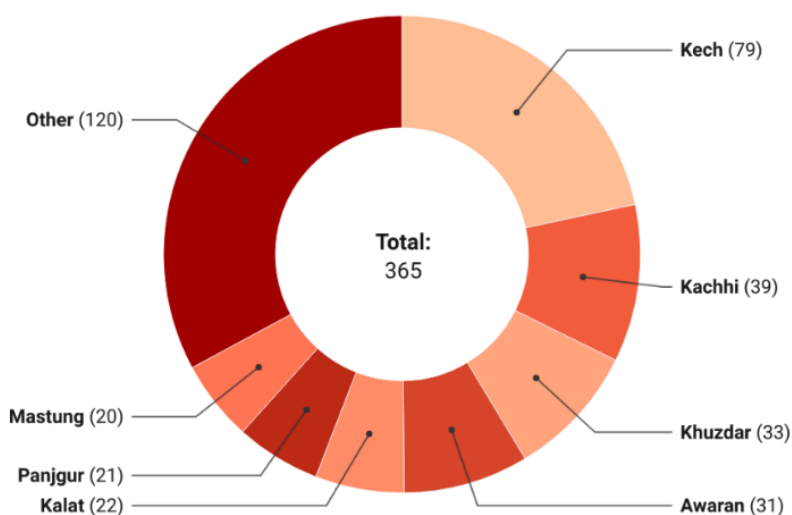
Abduction of Minors

During this period, 52 minors were abducted. Of these, 2 were later killed, 16 have been released, and 34 remain missing. The high number of minors raises serious concerns about their safety and the urgent need for protective measures and accountability.

Killings:

At least 365 killings, including 343 male and 22 female, were reported in six months.

Geographic Distribution of Killings



Perpetrators

Out of 365 documented killings, 113 were attributed to unknown perpetrators. State forces were involved in a significant number, with the FC linked to 84 cases, the Pakistani Army and CTD each to 33, and intelligence agencies to 24. Militant groups were also responsible, including BLA (31), BLF (10), and BLA (Azad) (3). Death squads were linked to 22 cases. A small number of killings were attributed to family members and non-state actors like ISIS and UBA.

Methods of Killing

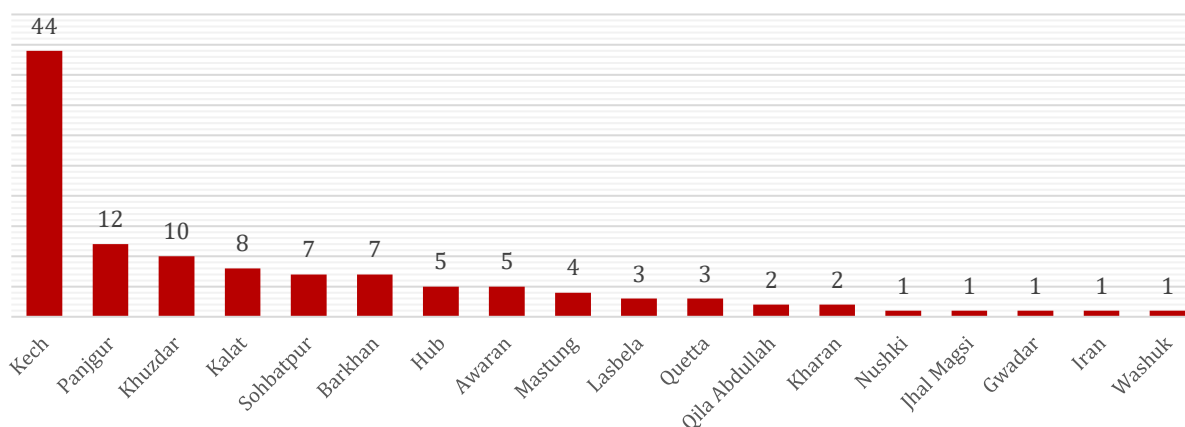
- Target Killings – 117
- Custodial Killings – 51
- Fake Encounters – 49
- Alleged Encounters – 47
- Body Discoveries – 30
- Indiscriminate Firing – 17
- Bomb Attacks – 15
- Honor Killings – 9
- Deaths following Injuries Sustained in Custody – 3
- Land Disputes – 2
- Staged Explosion – 1

1. Target Killings

A total of 117 people were killed in targeted attacks in Balochistan. Of these, 108 victims (92.3%) were male and 9 (7.7%) were female.

Out of 117 cases, unknown perpetrators were responsible for 65 (55.6%). The Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) accounted for 23 cases (19.7%), death squads for 19 (16.2%), the Baloch Liberation Front (BLF) for 9 (7.7%), and the United Baloch Army (UBA) for 1 (0.9%).

These killings occurred in 18 locations.



1.1 Targeted Killings of Forcibly Disappeared Persons After Release

Six victims of targeted attacks had previously been abducted by security forces and later released. Two cases occurred in Kech, two in Khuzdar, and two in Gwadar. Only one victim survived, while the remaining five were killed.

2. Custodial Killings

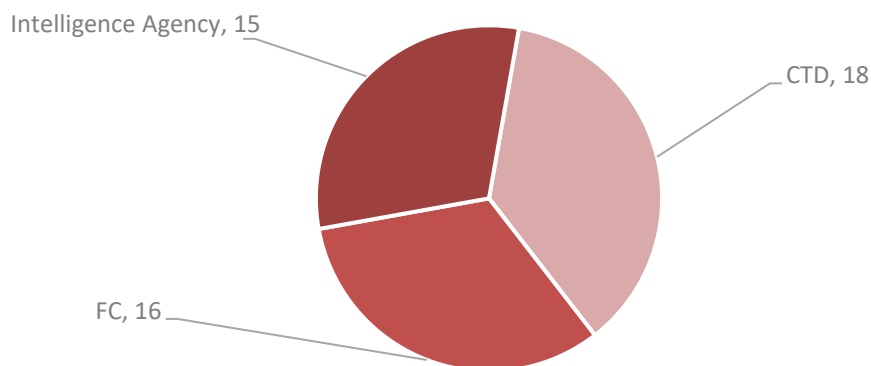
Fifty-one custodial killings were reported, including 40 previously disappeared persons killed by state forces — 26 by the Frontier Corps, 9 by intelligence agencies, 4 by the CTD, and 1 by a state-backed death squad. Baloch militants killed 8 after taking them into custody, claiming they were state agents, while 3 were killed by unknown perpetrators.

Awaran recorded the highest number with 15 cases, followed by Panjgur with 6, and Gwadar, Kech, and Khuzdar with 4 each. Dera Bugti reported 3 cases, Kalat 2, and Barkhan and Musakhel 1 each.

3. Fake Encounters

Forty-nine fake encounter cases were recorded. Mastung reported 10 cases, Awaran and Dukki 7 each, and Kech 6. Harnai, Musakhel, Khuzdar, and Quetta each saw 4 incidents, while Barkhan reported 3.

The CTD was responsible for 18 incidents, the FC for 16, and intelligence agencies for 15.



4. Alleged Encounters

Forty-seven alleged encounters were reported in the region. The Pakistani Army was involved in 33 cases (70.2%), the CTD in 11 (23.4%), and the FC in 3 (6.4%).

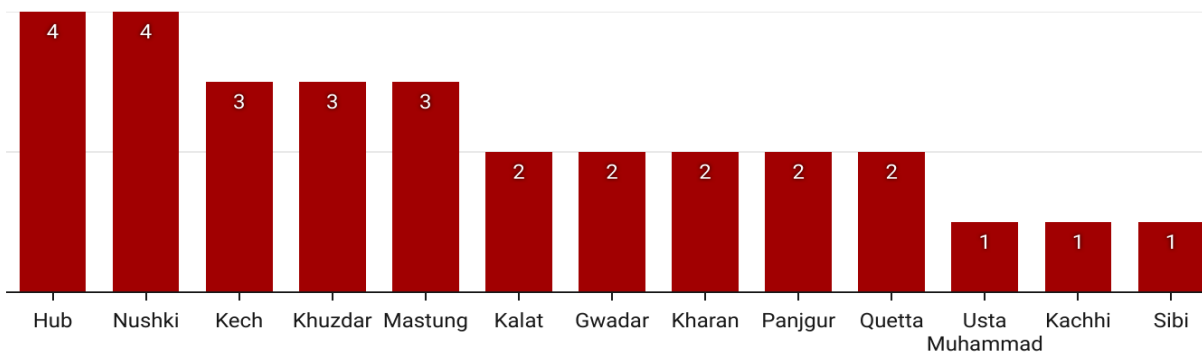
Only three victims were identified by name; the rest remain unidentified. Despite being presented as genuine encounters by security forces, victim names are routinely withheld, raising serious concerns about accountability and transparency.

Kachhi district reported 33 cases (70.2%), followed by Pishin with 9 (19.1%), Kech with 3 (6.4%), and Quetta with 2 (4.3%).

5. Body Discoveries

Thirty dead bodies were discovered under suspicious circumstances. Unknown perpetrators were responsible for 27 cases (90%), death squads for 2 (6.7%), and ISIS for 1 (3.3%).

Hub and Nushki each reported 4 cases (13.3%), followed by Kech, Khuzdar, and Mastung with 3 each (10%). Kalat, Gwadar, Kharan, Panjgur, and Quetta recorded 2 cases each. Usta Muhammad, Kachhi, and Sibi each reported 1.



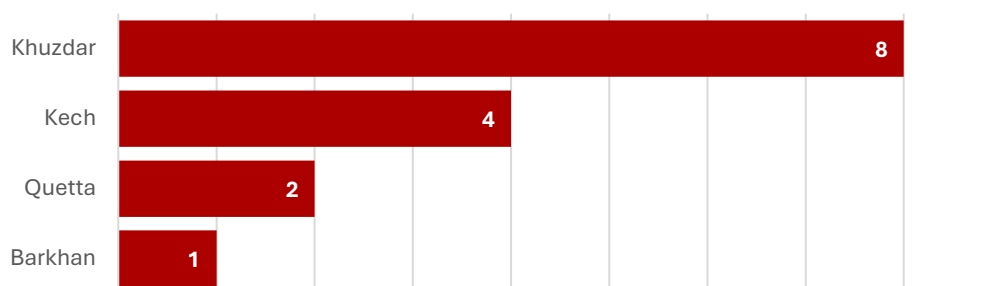
6. Indiscriminate Firing

Seventeen people were killed in indiscriminate firing by security forces. The FC was responsible for 12 cases, police forces for 3, and the Coast Guard for 2.

Fourteen victims were male and 3 were female. Kech and Quetta each recorded 3 cases, Awaran and Kalat 2 each, while Chagai, Khuzdar, Gwadar, Mastung, Mashky, Nushki, and Panjgur each reported 1.

7. Bomb Attacks

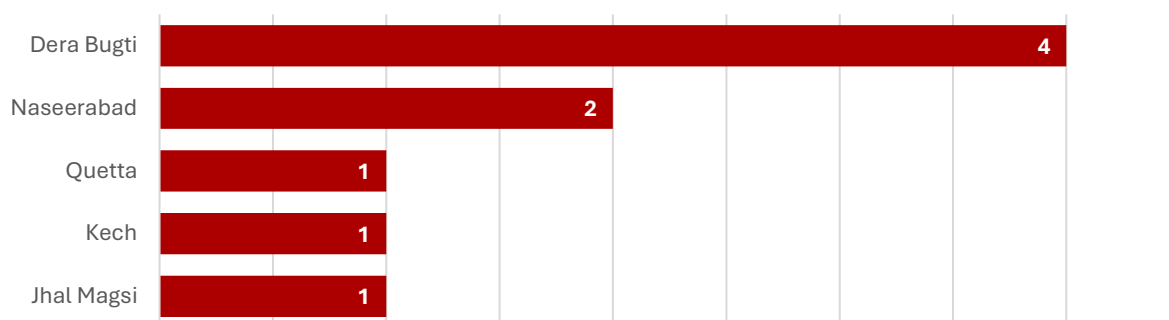
Fifteen individuals were killed in bomb attacks. Twelve victims were male and 3 were female.



8. Honor Killings

Nine honor killing cases were recorded. Seven victims were female and two were male.

In four cases, perpetrators remained unknown. Among identified ones, brothers were responsible in 2 cases, while fiancé, husband, and father each accounted for one case.



9. Fatalities following Injuries Sustained in Custody

Three victims who had been tortured and released later died from their injuries. The FC was responsible for all three cases.

Two cases occurred in Kalat and one in Barkhan.

10. Land Disputes

Two individuals were killed in incidents related to land disputes. These cases highlight ongoing conflicts over land ownership and resources, which continue to contribute to violence and loss of life in Balochistan.

11. Staged Explosion

One incident was reported in Jusak, Turbat. Police claimed the victim, Ittefaq (Afzal), son of Manzoor, was killed while planting a bomb. However, his relatives state he was detained and forcibly disappeared by Pakistani forces on December 10, 2024, and later killed in custody.

Other Major Incidents:

State Violence and Repression – January 2025

January 2025 witnessed severe state-led repression and violence across Balochistan.

On January 6, a newborn tragically died from the cold after a pregnant woman was delayed at the Rakhni Customs Check Post, forced to give birth on the roadside due to excessive security checks.

From January 12 to 23, authorities launched a crackdown on the BYC to suppress Baloch Genocide Remembrance Day, an awareness campaign organized by the group in Dalbandin, Chagai district. The state responded by banning gatherings, cutting communication channels, and violently targeting activists. An assassination attempt on Sammi Baloch was also reported during a rally in Hub. Educational efforts were attacked as police shut down the Baloch Students Action Committee's "Kitab Karawan" bookstalls and arrested students across several districts.

On January 30, forces and state-backed groups raided the home of Balochi singer Minhaj Mukhtar in Tump, using grenades and gunfire, and torturing his family—part of a continued campaign of violence against cultural figures.

Targeted Violence, Abductions, and Abuse of Power – February 2025

On February 1, unidentified men attacked the Singanisar residence of Sharif Zakir Baloch with a grenade and gunfire. Days later, on February 11, he was shot and injured in Kech, while his son and cousin, Ehsan Sawar, were forcibly disappeared in Turbat and remain missing.

On February 3, the CTD falsely announced the arrest of Chakar Bugti for alleged links with BLA, though he had already been forcibly disappeared in November 2024. He was released on March 13.

On February 6, a state-backed group led by Zahoor Jamalzai abducted Asma Jatak from her home in the Police Lines area after torturing her family. She was released following public protests. That same day, fisherman Akram from Koldan accused the Coast Guard and Levies of forcibly using and damaging local boats, leaving him without a livelihood.

State Repression Following Jaffer Express Hijacking – March 2025

After the BLA hijacked the Jaffer Express on March 11, 2025, Pakistani authorities launched a sweeping crackdown under the guise of counterterrorism, targeting peaceful Baloch activists. While the military claimed to kill 33 "terrorists," the BLA confirmed only 13 of its members were killed. On March 18, security forces brought 23 unidentified bodies to Quetta Civil Hospital. They

secretly buried 13 at Kasi Graveyard, triggering fear and outrage among families of missing persons who were barred from identifying the dead.

When families tried to enter the hospital, they were attacked and arrested, including Saeeda Baloch and her sister. The crackdown escalated with pre-dawn raids, including the abduction of Bebag Zehri, Dr. Hammal Baloch, and the brief detention of Dr. Ilyas Baloch and his family. Protests led by the BYC were met with violent force. On March 21, police opened fire on a peaceful sit-in in Quetta, killing three, including 13-year-old Nehmat Baloch.

Despite repression, BYC continued protests and called for a shutdown strike on March 22. Authorities responded with more arrests, including Dr. Mahrang Baloch and Beebow Baloch, and confiscated the victims' bodies. Protests spread to Karachi, where Sammi Deen Baloch and others were violently detained on March 24. While some were later released, arrests of leaders like Sibghatullah Baloch and Gulzadi Baloch followed.

Throughout the crackdown, hundreds were arrested, injured, or forcibly disappeared, including the fathers of Beebow and Dr. Sabiha Baloch. Despite international condemnation, detained BYC leaders remain in illegal custody.

Crackdown on Activists, Journalists, and Protesters – April 2025

April 2025 saw an intensified crackdown on activists and journalists across Balochistan. Elderly political activist Zaheer Baloch was arrested in Quetta on April 1 for participating in protests supporting BYC leaders. The following day, authorities blocked parts of the Quetta-Karachi Highway with containers to prevent protesters from entering the city.

On April 5, Ghaffar Qambrani was arbitrarily detained after being summoned to a police station and remains in custody without trial. Javed MB, admin of “Gwadar-e-Tawar,” received death threats from unknown sources on April 12. A day later, Mullah Farhad, a Haqq-do-Tehreek leader, was arrested by Panjgur police under Section 3 of the MPO. On April 17, masked men raided the home of BYC lawyer Israr Baloch in Quetta, held his brothers hostage, and confiscated books. Journalist Niaz Baloch also reported threats from intelligence officials, including warnings of enforced disappearance.

Widespread Violence and Civilian Suffering– May 2025

In May 2025, Pakistani forces escalated military operations in Sheikhr, Kalat, resulting in civilian deaths, enforced disappearances, and mass displacement. Bakhtiar Ahmed Baloch was shot dead after pleading with forces to stop house raids, while his son and nephew were abducted. Homes, crops, and solar systems were destroyed, forcing families to flee.

In Balicha, a rocket attack on Jangiyan Baloch's home injured three civilians, including two women. In Turbat, the secret burial of three youths by police without family consent caused deep

distress. In Nasirabad, a grenade attack on a home injured multiple family members, including women and children.

Legitimisation of Repression – June 2025

In June 2025, Balochistan witnessed intensified state repression and violence.

The Balochistan Assembly passed a controversial amendment to Pakistan's Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA) of 1997, granting sweeping powers to security forces under the pretext of counterterrorism. The Anti-Terrorism (Balochistan Amendment) Act, 2025 allows authorities to detain individuals for up to three months without trial, establish de-radicalisation and detention centers, and form Joint Investigation Teams (JITs) with military involvement. This amendment raises alarming concerns about its potential to legitimize enforced disappearances, suppress dissent, and erode civil liberties in the region.

BYC leader Sammi Deen Baloch reported a military siege and constant surveillance in her native village, Mashkay.

Pakistan's Cyber Crime Agency summoned BNP chief Akhtar Mengal, his family, and others over a social media post supporting Dr. Mahrang Baloch.

In Gwadar, three civilians were injured after forces opened fire following a blast.

Nisar Ahmed survived an attempted abduction in Panjgur, while grenade attacks in Tump, Turbat injured a woman and damaged property.

Former BSO chairman Imran Baloch was re-arrested after a brief release. The CTD also filed a politically motivated FIR against human rights defenders Syed Gulzar Dost and Waseem Safar for participating in a peaceful protest.