

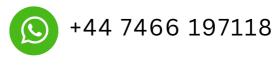
### About AHRF

**Asian Human Rights forum** is a forum of **Human Rights Defenders**, Highlighting Human Rights Situations in Asia, particularly South Asia. We will bring stories of human rights violations round the clock on our website. Our team will also participate in different human rights conferences to highlight violations of human rights in Asian countries.

We will contribute in meetings with United Nations Human Rights Council, European Parliament, Parliaments of different European countries, USA Senate & Congress, International NGOs & Think Tanks.

A monthly newsletter will be issued and sent to all human rights defenders.

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Email: info@asianhumanrightsforum.com

## Atrocities on minorities and forced conversion in Pakistan



**Mr. Mahesh Vasu** (Human Rights Activist)

Twitter & Facebook @maheshmvasu Religious Minorities of Pakistan are most oppressed people on this planet. Hindus in Sindh province of Pakistan are the biggest victims of State patronised attrocities. Attacks on Hindu businesses, kidnapping of Hindu businessmen, attack on Hindu Mandirs & Houses, worst form of discrimination against Hindus in education & jobs are unnoticed practices of daily life.

The most heinous of the attrocities against Hindus in Sindh are forced conversions. Young and minor girls are kidnapped in broad daylight, raped, often gang raped, kept captives and then forced to convert to Islam and then married to an older man, thus becoming sex slaves for life. These girls are subjected to coercion, threats, and physical or emotional abuse to make them comply with the forced conversions. Often these girls are sent for flesh trade.

Law enforcement agencies and judiciary do not provide them justice. As per Islamic Shariah, when a person becomes Muslim, cannot leave Islam in any conditions. Punishment for leaving Islam is death. Although Pakistan's constitution does not allow conversion or marriage of minor children, yet both forced conversion and forced marriages are order of the day in Sindh, Pakistan. Police officers & judges fear for their and their family lives, therefore refrain to decide in favor of victims. The legal system in Pakistan has faced criticism for not providing adequate protection to the victims of Forced conversion and forced marriages of minor minority girls are order of the day. The girls and their families face challenges in securing justice and retrieving their daughters due to complex legal procedures and Islamic extremists' pressure.

Various human rights organizations, both within Pakistan and internationally, have raised concerns about the issue of forced conversions. They advocate for the protection of the rights of religious minorities, particularly Hindus, and call for stricter legislation to address this problem.

The main culprits of this crime against humanity are religious clergy and custodians of the Mazaar and shrines. Biggest criminal of this inhuman crime is "Mian Mithu", a nickname commonly used for Pir Abdul Haq, a controversial figure in Pakistan. He is a spiritual leader and custodian of the Bharchundi Sharif shrine, located in the Ghotki district of Sindh, Pakistan. Mian Mithu has been involved in various controversies, particularly regarding cases of forced conversions of Hindu girls. His name has been associated with facilitating, supporting and patronising such conversions, which has drawn significant criticism and concern from human rights organizations and minority rights advocates. Mian Mithu was once elected in National Assembly. He is closely associated with top Generals and politicians of Pakistan including ex Army Chief General Bajwa and ex playboy Prime Minister of Pakistan, Imran Khan.

Another criminal of forced conversions crime is Peer Hafiz Ghulam Mohammed Soho alias "BABA SAI". Over 18 thousand Hindus forcibly converted at his hands of alone till sept 2017 claims PAK TV Channel "news 92".

Over 1774 Hindus in total reportedly converted during 2019-2023

Meet the deadliest Peer "BABA SAI", a Python, who swallows the entire village of Sindh at a time converting Hindus to Islam thru mass conversions who runs a Dargah "Satyani Sharif" which is one of the major hub for mass conversions situated at Mirpur Bathoro of Sujawal district, Sindh, Pakistan.

As per the regional TV news report of "NEWS 92", around 250 Hindus living in a small village Dargah Shah Yaqiq of Chauhar Jamali were converted to Islam on 16.09.2017.

Reportedly 80 Hindus on 15thJune 2019 and 254 Hindus on 04th May 2021 from villages in Golarchi Khorwah, Kadio Ghawar and Mirpur Bathoro were also converted, a total of 590 Hindus converted at the hands of "BABA SAI" from 2017-2021.

It is beyond doubt that the Mullahs & Imams get institutional backing for mass conversions of Hindus. As a matter of fact, 50 Hindus of 10 Bheel families were reportedly converted at Baitul Eman New Muslim colony, Naukot by none other than the Religious Affairs Minister Mohammad Talha Mahmood himself.

Majority of Hindus (i.e. over 4.5 million) in Pakistan are marginalised and poorest than the poor, engaged as Bonded labourer for generations, often trapped in spiral debts forced to pay their inherited debts, in Islamic terms imposed Jizya for being a Hindu, by their landlords or business owners, failure to pay, they are confined in private prisons.

A total mass conversion of over 1774 Hindus took place in various places of Sindh in the year 2019 - 2023 majorly at the hands of other Peers & Maulvis like Maulana Mufti Mohammed Ali (204), Peer Sai Agha Umar Jaan Sarhandi (200), Noor Ahmad Dashar (171), Chaudhari Ghulam Ahmad Khaskeli (100+), Agha Ghulam Nabi Pathan (100), Mullah Umar Shaikh (88), Peer Hassan Shah Bukhari, Suleman/Khuda Bux Malla (78) and Maulvi Sai Abdul Qayyum (61),

Ultimately Hindus are left with no choice either accept Islam, Pay Jizya, be exiled or killed.

Migration of Hindus from Pakistan in significant numbers is continuing becasue of attrocities on minorities in Pakistan. Hindu communities in Pakistan have faced religious discrimination and persecution. This can manifest in various ways, including forced conversions, attacks on temples and religious sites, and social discrimination.

## Atrocities on minorities and forced conversion in Pakistan

Economic disparities and social challenges are also contributing factors to Hindu migration. Hindu communities face limited access to resources, education, and economic opportunities, leading to a desire to seek better prospects elsewhere.

Concerns about the protection of minority rights in Pakistan have been raised by international organizations. Perceived inadequacies in safeguarding the rights of religious minorities can prompt Hindus to consider emigration. There have been concerns raised by human rights organizations and minority rights advocates about the Pakistani justice system being biased towards religious minorities. The concerns primarily revolve around issues of discrimination, unequal treatment, and difficulties faced by minority communities in accessing justice.

Pakistan has laws that are perceived to discriminate against religious minorities, such as the blasphemy laws. These laws have been criticized for being misused to target minorities and for lacking adequate safeguards to prevent abuse.

There have been instances of violence and persecution against religious minorities, and the justice system's response has been criticized for being insufficient to protect the rights of minorities.

Societal and cultural biases, that influence the functioning of the justice system, leading to unequal treatment of minority individuals in legal matters. In most of the cases, witnesses from minority communities face intimidation or pressure, making it difficult for them to testify in court.

We therefore urge international community, in particular, the human rights defenders accross the world, to raise their voices to defend human rights of Pakistani minorities, particularly rights to freedom of faith, freedom of education and health, equal treatment as granted in Universal Declaration of Human Rights by United Nations, to which, Pakistan is a signatory.

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## Human Rights violations in Iran

Iran has been criticized by international human rights organizations for its treatment of religious and sectarian minorities. The country's constitution officially recognizes Islam as the state religion and grants official status to Shia Islam. While there are protections for recognized religious minorities, including Christians, Jews, and Zoroastrians, they still face various forms of discrimination and human rights violations. Moreover, non-recognized religious groups and sects experience even more significant challenges. Here are some of the notable human rights violations:

#### Persecution of Baha'is:

The Bahá'í Faith is a monotheistic religion founded in the mid-19th century by Bahá'u'lláh in Iran. It emphasizes the oneness of humanity, the unity of all religions, and the importance of world peace. Bahá'ís believe in the essential harmony of science and religion and the progressive revelation of spiritual truths by divine messengers throughout history. They promote the elimination of prejudice and the establishment of a global society based on principles such as the unity of mankind, equality of men and women, and the elimination of extremes of wealth and poverty. The Baha'i faith is not recognized in Iran, and its followers face severe discrimination and persecution. Baha'is are often denied access to higher education, employment, and government services. They have been subjected to arbitrary arrests, imprisonment, and property confiscations based solely on their religious beliefs.

#### Religious Freedom Restrictions:

Iran's legal system is based on Islamic law (Sharia), and conversion from Islam to another religion is not recognized. Apostasy from Islam can be punishable by death, leading to the persecution of those who choose to leave Islam.

#### Treatment of Sunni Muslims:

Iran is predominantly Shia Muslim, and there have been reports of discrimination and marginalization of Sunni Muslims in various aspects of life, including education, employment, and religious practices.

#### Harassment of Christian Minorities:

Iran's Christian community, especially converts from Islam, often faces surveillance, arrests, and pressure to renounce their faith. Christian churches and gatherings are monitored, and pastors and Christian leaders have been arrested and imprisoned.

#### Suppression of Sufi and Dervish Communities:

Sufi and Dervish communities, who follow mystical Islamic practices, have also been targeted for their religious beliefs. There have been instances of violent clashes with security forces and arbitrary arrests of Sufi practitioners.

#### Discrimination Against Ethnic and Religious Minorities:

Iran's Arab, Kurdish, Baluchi, and other ethnic minorities have faced religious and cultural discrimination. Minority communities often experience limited access to education, employment opportunities, and representation in the government.

#### Freedom of Expression:

The Iranian government tightly controls freedom of expression, which includes restricting religious minorities from freely expressing their beliefs and practices. Independent religious and cultural activities are subject to surveillance and censorship.

Iran is facing a decades of economic embargo. Human rights violations in Iran cannot be solely attributed to international embargoes, but they can have an impact on the country's socio-economic conditions and, in turn, exacerbate some human rights issues. Iran has faced various international sanctions and embargoes over the years, particularly in response to its nuclear program and other perceived human rights abuses.

While international sanctions have targeted specific sectors of Iran's economy and limited its access to international markets, they have also had unintended consequences on the overall well-being of the population. Economic sanctions can lead to reduced access to essential goods, including food, medicine, and medical equipment, which can have adverse effects on public health and human rights.

However, it's crucial to recognize that human rights violations in Iran have deeper-rooted causes that go beyond international sanctions. Some of the key factors contributing to human rights concerns in Iran include:

#### **Government Policies:**

The Iranian government's adherence to an interpretation of Islamic law (Sharia) as the basis for its legal system and governance has led to restrictions on religious and political freedoms, as well as limitations on women's rights and freedom of expression.

#### Lack of Accountability:

The lack of transparency and accountability within the Iranian judicial system and security forces can lead to impunity for those responsible for human rights abuses.

#### Discrimination and Marginalization:

Certain religious and ethnic minorities face systemic discrimination, resulting in limited access to education, employment, and representation in government institutions.

#### Suppression of Dissent:

Political activists, journalists, and human rights defenders critical of the government often face harassment, arbitrary arrests, and imprisonment.

#### Religious Intolerance:

The government's treatment of religious minorities, including Baha'is and converts from Islam to other faiths, reflects religious intolerance and discrimination.

#### Restrictions on Freedom of Assembly:

Peaceful protests and public gatherings are often met with a heavy-handed response from security forces.

It is crucial to address the systemic issues within the country's governance and legal systems to promote and protect human rights for all Iranians. International engagement and dialogue can play a role in advocating for improved human rights conditions, but ultimately, the responsibility for addressing human rights violations lies with the





### China's violations of Human Rights and International laws, Particularly in Hong Kong

**China** is a dictatorial country, ruled by its brutal Communist Party of China. Human Rights violations are common practices in China, denying freedom of speech, religion or assembly. Here we would emphasise our research on Hong Kong.

Hong Kong is a Special Administrative Region (SAR) of the People's Republic of China. It operates under the "One Country, Two Systems" principle, which grants it a high degree of autonomy compared to mainland China. Hong Kong became a Special Administrative Region (SAR) in 1997 when the United Kingdom handed over its sovereignty over the territory to China. The arrangement was part of the Sino-British Joint Declaration, which established the terms for the transfer of sovereignty.

The concept of "One Country, Two Systems" was agreed upon, allowing Hong Kong to maintain its separate legal system, economic system, and way of life for 50 years after the handover. This special status was granted to preserve Hong Kong's unique characteristics and maintain a high degree of autonomy within the People's Republic of China. As a result, Hong Kong is allowed to have its own government, legal system, and limited diplomatic relations, while still being part of China as a SAR. In recent years, there have been concerns regarding China's actions that some perceive as undermining Hong Kong's autonomy and freedoms.

In 2019, protests erupted in Hong Kong over an extradition bill, was an encroachment on the city's autonomy and an infringement on civil liberties. The bill was eventually withdrawn, but tensions persisted. China has also imposed a National Security Law on Hong Kong in 2020, which restricts civil liberties and political freedoms in the territory. This law gives authorities broader powers to suppress dissent and has raised international concerns about Hong Kong's autonomy.

As the situation is complex and evolving, the views on whether China has fully honored Hong Kong's SAR status vary depending on perspectives and interpretations. It's essential to continue monitoring the developments and diverse opinions to have a comprehensive understanding of the ongoing situation in Hong Kong.

There have been numerous concerns raised by international organizations and human rights advocates regarding alleged human rights violations in Hong Kong by the Chinese government. Some of the key issues and incidents include:

#### **National Security Law:**

In June 2020, China imposed the National Security Law on Hong Kong, which grants authorities broader powers to suppress dissent, subversion, secession, and terrorism. This law has been used to target pro-democracy activists, leading to arrests, prosecutions, and disqualifications of legislators.

#### Crackdown on Protests:

The pro-democracy protests that started in 2019 were met with a heavy-handed response from authorities. There were reports of excessive use of force by the police, arbitrary arrests, and allegations of police brutality.

#### Censorship and Media Freedom:

The Chinese government has been accused of exerting pressure on media outlets and online platforms in Hong Kong, leading to self-censorship and restricted freedom of the press.

#### ${\bf Disqualification\ of\ Lawmakers:}$

Several pro-democracy lawmakers have been disqualified from the Hong Kong Legislative Council based on their political views, leading to concerns about the erosion of democratic representation.

#### **Electoral Reforms:**

The Chinese government's proposed electoral reforms in 2021 would significantly reduce the number of directly elected seats in the Legislative Council, further limiting democratic participation in the city's governance.

#### Suppression of Pro-Democracy Organizations:

Several pro-democracy organizations have faced increased scrutiny, leading to arrests, asset seizures, and closure.

#### Arrest of Media Tycoon Jimmy Lai:

In August 2020, media tycoon and pro-democracy activist Jimmy Lai was arrested under the National Security Law, raising concerns about the stifling of dissenting voices.

#### **Education and Freedom of Expression:**

Reports emerged of a push to impose patriotic education in schools, raising concerns about the potential curbing of academic freedom and biased historical narratives.

Over the last 50 years, China's history has been marked by several instances of alleged atrocities against its own people. Here are some notable events during this period:

Some major violations of Human Rights in last 50 years:

#### The Cultural Revolution (1966-1976):

As mentioned earlier, this was a decade-long campaign initiated by Mao Zedong to eliminate perceived enemies of the Communist Party. It resulted in widespread political persecution, purges, torture, and forced labor camps, leading to the deaths of millions of people and significant social upheaval.

#### Tiananmen Square Massacre (1989):

In June 1989, the Chinese government deployed the military to suppress pro-democracy protests in Beijing's Tiananmen Square. The exact death toll remains uncertain, but hundreds, possibly thousands, of protesters were killed, and many more were arrested and imprisoned.

#### Forced Abortions and Sterilizations:

China's population control policies, including the "One-Child Policy" (1979-2015) and later the "Two-Child Policy," have been associated with reports of forced abortions, sterilizations, and other human rights abuses, especially in rural areas.

#### Persecution of Falun Gong:

Since 1999, the Chinese government has conducted a campaign to suppress the spiritual practice of Falun Gong. Reports suggest widespread arbitrary arrests, torture, forced labor, and allegations of organ harvesting from detained practitioners.

#### **Human Rights Abuses in Xinjiang:**

In recent years, there have been reports of mass arbitrary detention of Uighur Muslims and other minority groups in Xinjiang. The detainees are subjected to forced labor, cultural and religious repression, and alleged forced sterilizations.

Internet Censorship and Surveillance: China employs a sophisticated system of internet censorship and surveillance, known as the Great Firewall, to control information flow and monitor citizens' online activities, restricting freedom of expression and privacy. Major global social media platforms are banned in China.

### China's violations of Human Rights and International laws, Particularly in Hong Kong

#### Forced Labor in Xinjiang:

There have been allegations of forced labor in Xinjiang, with reports suggesting that detained Uighurs and other minority groups are subjected to forced labor in factories and agricultural fields.

Hong Kong is protected by An international agreement between China and United Kingdom. China is perhaps, biggest violator of all kinds human rights in the world. United Nations, global powers and all human rights defenders should campaign in unity against the tyrannical regime of China.



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## Violations of Women Rights in Pakistan

**Pakistan** has a high rate of domestic violence, honor killings, and acid attacks. Women have been subjected to physical and emotional abuse, with no legal recourse.

Despite laws against child marriage, it remains prevalent in some parts of the country. Women and girls are often forced into marriages against their will, leading to serious consequences for their health, education, and overall well-being.

On the name of Honour Killings, there are murders committed against women who are perceived to have brought shame or dishonor to their families. Such killings are perpetrated by family members and are a significant challenge to gender equality and women's rights in Pakistan.

Girls and women in Pakistan face barriers in accessing education, leading to low literacy rates among females compared to males. Cultural norms, early marriages, and security concerns are some of the factors contributing to this issue.

Some laws and societal norms perpetuate gender-based discrimination. For instance, the controversial Hudood Ordinance, made it challenging for women to report rape cases, often leading to the victim being punished for adultery.

Inadequate representation in politics and public life. Women are significantly underrepresented in political and decision-making roles, limiting their influence and impact on policies that directly affect them.

Lack of economic empowerment. Women in Pakistan face challenges in accessing economic opportunities and are often limited to traditional roles, leading to financial dependence and vulnerability.

Limited reproductive rights. Women's access to reproductive health services and family planning remains restricted, impacting their ability to make informed choices about their bodies and lives.

Rape and kidnapping of women is at a very high in Punjab province of Pakistan. On one hand students of women colleges and universities accross Punjab province of Pakistan are subject to sexual assault by male teachers and staff member or by powerful elites. On the other hand, women of co-education colleges and universities face continued harassment by goons of extremist Jamaat-e-Islami, an extremist political party, famous for creating terrorist outfits, on the instructions of Pakistan's notorious spy agency Inter Services Intelligence (ISI).

As per latest report by Punjab Police, 5551 women were kidnapped in last 4 months in Punjab province of Pakistan. It is necessary to mention that majority of kidnapping and rape cases are not reported by families, because of the pressure by powerful kidnappers and rapists.

The case of Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Punjab, Pakistan has come up as a horrible picture of situation of women in general in Pakistan and Punjab province in particular.

In the hallowed halls of Islamia University Bhawalpur (IUB), a scandal of unimaginable magnitude of blackmail, drug peddling and sexual harassment has come to light, shaking the very foundations of trust within academia.

A staggering 5500 allegedly unearthed videos have exposed a nightmare of exploitation, with female students falling victim to the most heinous forms of abuse. Shockingly, the Chief Security Officer, Ijaz Shah, a retired Pakistan Army officer, is embroiled in this scandal.

The involvement of powerful figures in Government in this case will certainly hinder justice being delivered to victims. The amendment to the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) Section 354 in 2013, which criminalizes recording sexual videos, should be applied stringently. Moreover, the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) must actively investigate under Section 21(d) of the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act (PECA) 2016. Perpetrators who induce others to engage in sexually explicit acts through information systems to harm, blackmail, or create hatred should face the full force of the law.

This incident also sheds light on a disturbing trend where universities try to hide and defend their faculties at all costs. Prioritizing the reputation of the institution over the well-being of students is a shameful betrayal of their duty. Universities must embrace a zero-tolerance approach towards sexual harassment and collaborate with authorities to bring faculty harassers to justice.

In the pursuit of justice in the IUB scandal, it is imperative that we ensure the dignity and safety of the students who have faced this harrowing ordeal. The government must make sure that our typical culture of further harassing victims during investigations mustn't follow suit.

It is being alleged that one of the accused behind the crime is a son of federal minister Chaudhry Tariq Bashir Cheema who got addicted to drugs and was sexually exploiting hundreds of female students of the university.

Cheema was warned about the potential political damage if the videos of his son were made public, a report by Global Village Space said. After this, the minister contacted police officers who were related to him and sought their assistance in saving his son.

Major Ijaz Shah, the security chief of the Islamia University Bahawalpur (IUB), a retired Pakistan Army officer, with deep connections to his former institution, was central figure in the scandal.

## Violations of Women Rights in Pakistan

Ijaz was arrested and cops recovered several aphrodisiac pills and drugs in his possession. Also, offensive recordings and pictures of IUB students and employees.

After the cops analysed Ijaz's mobile phone, they tracked some students for supplying and buying drugs. The investigation revealed that 11 students enrolled in the university had criminal records and were involved in drug peddling.

During the interrogation, Ijaz revealed that he had been monitoring the security cameras at the IUB and used the footage to film female students hugging, smoking with friends under trees, and near university buildings.

These videos were then used to blackmail the students, threatening to share them with their parents.

Thousands of female students over the years have been victims of this heinous crime. These girls were forcibly raped, video filmed and then blackmailed. Often most of these girls were forced to provide sexual duties to powerful & wealthy segments of the society.

Pakistan's ruling oligarchy, (military, political and civil) is never interested in gender equality or providing Women's Rights, as granted in Universal Declaration of Human Rights by United Nations, to which, Pakistan is a signatory.

International community should black list Pakistan for Gross violations of Women's Rights and stop all the funding to Pakistan by United Nations, United States of America, Great Britain, European Union and other international institutions.

#### Eye-opening report unearths drug abuse, exploitation at Islamia University of Bahawalpur

IMRAN GABOL | MAJEED GILL



LAHORE / BAHAWALPUR: Police on Saturday arrested another official of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur (IUB) on drug charges, a day after the varsity's chief of security was detained for allegedly possessing crystal meth and 'objectionable' videos and images of IUB students and staff members.

On the other hand, a special report by police claimed that a "group of teachers" at the university was involved in the sale of drugs and sexual exploitation of female students and teachers.

### Reports Show 2,000 Women and Girls Kidnapped in Pakistan



06/04/2022 Pakistan (International Christian Concern) – Human rights groups have reported that roughly 1,000 Christian and Hindu girls are kidnapped annually in Pakistan to be subjected to rape, forced conversion, and forced marriages by Muslim men. One religious freedom advocate, however, says that the true number of kidnappings is twice that previously reported by other observers. Shahid Mobeen, professor of philosophy at the Pontifical University in Rome, asserts that about 2,000 forced conversions and marriages take place every year in Pakistan. Mobeen, who spoke on the issue at last week's International Religious Freedom Summit in Washington, DC, contends that the collective observations of volunteers, nuns, and lawyers testify to this much higher estimate.

#### Pakistan atrocities touch new low as abducted Baloch woman is docked as suicide bomber



Mahal Baloch and her daughters who were abducted by the

Pakistani security forces abducted five relatives, two women and three girls, from the home of Bibi Gul, chairperson of the HR Council of Balochistan (HRCB) – a human rights group based in Europe and Balochistan.





Seven abducted from Kasur in 24 hrs - Daily Times

Visit

# **Human Rights** of the people of **Lebanon** get effected due to **foreign imposed terrorism**

**Lebanon** has experienced various periods of conflict and violence throughout its history, which have resulted in human rights violations and atrocities. Some notable events include:

#### Lebanese Civil War (1975-1990):

This prolonged conflict involved various factions and foreign interventions, leading to widespread atrocities, including massacres, displacement of populations, and human rights abuses.

#### Hezbollah-Israeli Conflicts:

Lebanon has experienced several conflicts of Hezbollah and terrorist groups with Israel, leading to significant civilian casualties and human rights violations. Israel is a victim of terrorist attacks by Islamic extremist terrorist outfits in Lebanon. Thus Israel retaliates with attacks on terrorist outfits in Lebanon.

#### Syrian Civil War Spillover:

The ongoing Syrian civil war has had spillover effects in Lebanon, leading to violence and instability, particularly in border areas.

Lebanon has faced the presence and activities of various terrorist groups over the years. Some notable terrorist organizations that have operated in Lebanon include:

#### Hezbollah:

A Shia Islamist militant group and political party, Hezbollah is one of the most prominent and influential groups in Lebanon. It was formed in the 1980s with support from Iran and has been involved in armed conflicts against Israel and other regional conflicts. Hezbollah maintains a significant military presence in parts of Lebanon and is designated as a terrorist organization by several countries.

#### Al-Qaeda:

While not as active as other groups in Lebanon, Al-Qaeda has had a presence in the country and has been involved in some attacks. However, it has faced opposition from Hezbollah, which has limited its activities.

#### Islamic State (ISIS):

ISIS has also attempted to establish a presence in Lebanon, particularly in the northeastern border areas with Syria. Lebanese security forces, along with Hezbollah, have been successful in countering ISIS's efforts, preventing the group from gaining a strong foothold in the country.

#### Fatah al-Islam:

This Sunni jihadist group emerged in the Nahr al-Bared Palestinian refugee camp in northern Lebanon. In 2007, the Lebanese Army engaged in a prolonged and intense battle against Fatah al-Islam, resulting in significant casualties and destruction in the camp.

#### Abdullah Azzam Brigades:

This militant Sunni group has claimed responsibility for several rocket attacks and bombings in Lebanon, targeting Hezbollah and areas considered to be Hezbollah strongholds.

Terrorist groups, Hezbollah in particular, in Lebanon have been involved in armed conflicts, bombings, kidnappings, and other violent activities. The country's proximity to conflict zones and regional instability have contributed to the presence and activities of these groups. The Lebanese government and security forces, along with international support, have been working to counteract these terrorist threats and maintain stability in the country.

A brief chronology of some significant terrorist acts in Lebanon:

- \* 1970s-1980s: During the Lebanese Civil War (1975-1990), various terrorist attacks were carried out by different factions, leading to widespread violence and atrocities.
- \* 1983 Beirut Barracks Bombings: On October 23, 1983, two truck bombs targeted the U.S. Marine and French paratrooper barracks in Beirut, killing 241 American and 58 French peacekeepers. The attacks were attributed to Hezbollah.
- \* 1985 TWA Flight 847 Hijacking: In June 1985, a Trans World Airlines (TWA) flight was hijacked by Hezbollah-affiliated terrorists. The ordeal lasted for over two weeks and resulted in the death of a U.S. Navy diver.
- \* 1992 Israeli Embassy Attack: On March 17, 1992, a car bomb exploded near the Israeli Embassy in Beirut, killing one person and injuring many others
- \* 1994 AMIA Bombing: In July 1994, a van packed with explosives destroyed the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association (AMIA) building in Buenos Aires, Argentina, killing 85 people and injuring hundreds. Hezbollah and Iran were accused of planning and executing the attack.
- \* 2005 Hariri Assassination: On February 14, 2005, a massive car bomb in Beirut killed former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri and 21 others. The incident led to widespread protests and political turmoil, eventually leading to Syria's withdrawal of troops from Lebanon.
- \* 2006 Lebanon-Israel War: In July 2006, Hezbollah launched crossborder attacks on Israel, leading to an Israeli military response and a month-long war, resulting in significant casualties and destruction on both sides.
- \* 2013 Iranian Embassy Bombing: On November 19, 2013, twin suicide bombings targeted the Iranian Embassy in Beirut, killing 23 people and injuring around 150. The Abdullah Azzam Brigades claimed responsibility.
- \* 2015 Burj el-Barajneh Bombings: On November 12, 2015, two suicide bombers attacked a crowded residential area in Burj el-Barajneh, Beirut, killing 43 people and injuring over 200. The attack was claimed by ISIS.

Please note that this is not an exhaustive list, and there have been other acts of terrorism in Lebanon over the years. The security situation in the country remains complex, and the presence of various terrorist groups continues to be a challenge for the Lebanese government and security forces.

Lebanon's common civilians' human rights are constantly violated since decades because of the terrorist activities of above mentioned terrorist groups. United Nations, global forces and institutions should have joint efforts to get Lebanon rid of above mentioned terrorist organisations.

# **Human Rights** of the people of **Lebanon** get effected due to **foreign imposed terrorism**















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