

April 22, 2025

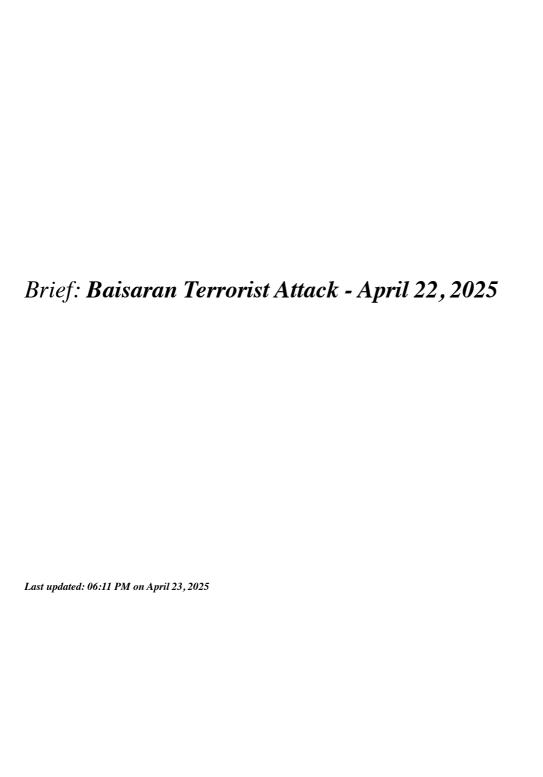
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# Baisaran Terrorist Attack - April 22, 2025

#### **Timeline and Location**

At approximately 1430 hrs IST on April 22, 2025, a group of terrorists (*number unclear; some reports suggest 4-5*) opened indiscriminate fire on tourists at Baisaran meadow, some 6 km from the tourist town of Pahalgam in Anantnag district, Jammu & Kashmir. The Pakistan backed islamist terrorists exploited the dense forest bordering the meadow to launch a deadly ambush on innocent tourists enjoying pony rides and foot tours of the so called "Mini-Switzerland".<sup>1</sup>

#### **Timeline of Radical Islamist Provocation:**

Some reports claim that terrorists did recce of the area 15 days prior to the execution of the plan.

April 16, 2025: Pakistan Army Chief Asim Munir gives an anti-Hindu, anti-India speech on

Jammu and Kashmir.

April 18, 2025: Lashkar-e-Taiba rally in Rawalkot. Commander Abu Musa declares:

"Jihad will continue... guns will rage... beheadings will continue in Kashmir."

April 22, 2025: Terrorists opened indiscriminate fire in Baisaran Meadow, Pahalgam to

launch a surprise ambush on unarmed tourists who were enjoying pony rides

#### **Attack Execution and Tactics**



Initial investigations indicate two to three assailants, clad in military-style fatigues and camouflage, who emerged from the tree line and unleashed sustained automatic fire. Security forces recovered

 $<sup>^{1}\</sup> https://www.livemint.com/news/kashmir-news-firing-shots-heard-tourists-attacked-in-pahalgams-baisaran-by-terrorists-in-ananatnag-district-11745315755346.html?$ 

between 50–70 spent cartridges at the scene, consistent with the use of M4 carbines and AK-47 assault rifles. Witness accounts describe the gunmen using controlled, burst fire sweeps to maximise civilian casualties before withdrawing along predetermined egress routes back into the forest cover <sup>2</sup>,<sup>3</sup>.

# Hindu Screening and Message to India's Leadership



Witnesses and survivors report that the gunmen conducted systematic Hindu screening to identify Hindu tourists. Assailants forced victims to recite the *kalma* (Islamic declaration of faith) and even checked for circumcision; those unable to comply were immediately executed at point-blank range<sup>4</sup>. In one particularly chilling account, Karnataka resident Pallavi Dwarkanath described how, after shooting her husband Manjunath in front of her young son, a militant spared their lives only to order, "Go tell this to Modi," signaling a direct threat intended for India's Prime Minister.<sup>5</sup>

# Perpetrators and Claim of Responsibility

A little-known group identifying itself as the "Kashmir Resistance," or "The Resistance Front", an offshoot of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), claimed responsibility via social media, citing opposition to the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://indianexpress.com/article/india/pahalgam-terror-attack-terrorists-were-wearing-camouflage-outfits-carried-m4-carbine-ak-47s-initial-probe-9959852/?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.livemint.com/news/india/pahalgam-terror-attack-foreign-terrorists-sniper-like-training-what-we-know-about-gunmen-11745372074916.html?

 $<sup>^{4}\</sup> https://www.firstpost.com/india/pahalgam-attack-tourists-killed-jammu-kashmir-anantnag-news-updates-13882238.html?utm\_source=chatgpt.com/india/pahalgam-attack-tourists-killed-jammu-kashmir-anantnag-news-updates-13882238.html?utm\_source=chatgpt.com/india/pahalgam-attack-tourists-killed-jammu-kashmir-anantnag-news-updates-13882238.html?utm\_source=chatgpt.com/india/pahalgam-attack-tourists-killed-jammu-kashmir-anantnag-news-updates-13882238.html?utm\_source=chatgpt.com/india/pahalgam-attack-tourists-killed-jammu-kashmir-anantnag-news-updates-13882238.html?utm\_source=chatgpt.com/india/pahalgam-attack-tourists-killed-jammu-kashmir-anantnag-news-updates-13882238.html?utm\_source=chatgpt.com/india/pahalgam-attack-tourists-killed-jammu-kashmir-anantnag-news-updates-13882238.html?utm\_source=chatgpt.com/india/pahalgam-attack-tourists-killed-jammu-kashmir-anantnag-news-updates-13882238.html?utm\_source=chatgpt.com/india/pahalgam-attack-tourists-killed-jammu-kashmir-anantnag-news-updates-liked-jammu-kashmir-anantnag-news-updates-$ 

 $<sup>^{5}\</sup> https://www.businesstoday.in/india/story/go-tell-this-to-modi-pahalgam-attacker-told-me-after-killing-my-husband-karnataka-survivor-473142-2025-04-22?$ 



The individuals accountable for the Pahalgam Terror Attack include two Pakistani terrorists from TRF. On the far right is Pakistani terrorist Suleman Shah, while Abu Talha, another Pakistani terrorist, is on the far left. Both belong to TRF.

settlement of non-local civilians in the valley. LeT is a Pakistani Islamist Salafi jihadist organisation, founded by Hafiz Saeed, Zafar Iqbal Shehbaz, Abdullah Azzam and several other Islamist terrorists headquartered in Muridke, Punjab, Pakistan and operating several terrorist training camps in Pakistan occupied territories of Jammu and Kashmir, India (POTJK). Authorities are reviewing the claim's authenticity while pursuing leads on terrorist infiltration routes from across the Line of Control<sup>6</sup>.

#### **Casualties and Victim Profile**

Official sources confirm at least 26 civilians were killed and over 20 wounded in the assault, the dead included 24 tourists and two local residents. Several local and national media outlets are quoting numbers as high as 50+. Among the fatalities were two foreign nationals, one each from Nepal and UAE, highlight the attacker's intent to generate international impact. Among those

<sup>6</sup> https://www.reuters.com/world/india/one-killed-seven-injured-militant-attack-indias-kashmir-india-today-tv-says-2025-04-22/

murdered also included IB & Navy officers. The list of victims spans multiple Indian states, reflecting the valley's diverse tourist demographic.<sup>7</sup>





Innocent victims of the Pahalgam Terrorist Attacks

 $<sup>^{7}\</sup> https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/jammu-and-kashmir-terrorist-attack-live-updates-pahalgam-anantnag-tourists-prime-minister-narendra-modiamit-shah-terrorists-news-8227401?$ 

TIME 1245 HOURS						DATED 23-04-2025	
	DEAD						
SNO.	NAME	AGE	PARENTAGE	STATE	STATUS	ADMITTED	
1.	MANJU NATH RAO		MAHABALHA RAO	KARNATKA	DEAD		
2.	VINAY NARWAL	26 YRS	RAJESH NARWAL	HARYANA	DEAD		
3.	SHUBHAM DWIVEDI		SANJAY	UP	DEAD		
4.	DILIP JAYARAM DESALE			MAHARASTRA	DEAD		
5.	SUNDIP NEVPANE			NEPAL	DEAD		
6.	BITAN ADHKERI				DEAD		
7.	NEERAJ UDHWANI			UAE	DEAD		
8.	ATUL SHRIKANT MONE		SHRIAM ACHAL	MAHARASTRA	DEAD		
9.	SANJAY LAKHAN LALI		LAKSHMAN LALI	MUMBAI	DEAD		
10.	SYED HUSSAIN SHAH		SYED HAYDER	ANANTNAG KMR	DEAD		
11.	SHAILASH BHAI HIMAT BHAI KALATHIAY			SURAT GUJRAT	DEAD		
12.	PRASANT KUMAR SATPATHI		BALESHWAR	ODISHA	DEAD		
13.	MANISH RANJAN		MANGLASH KR MISRA	BIHAR	DEAD		
14.	N RAMCHANDRA		NARAYAN MEONON	KERELA	DEAD		
15.	SUSHAL NATHYAL		JALRAID NATHYAL	INDORE	DEAD		
16.	HEMANT SUHAS JOSHI	43 yrs	DURAV JOSHI	MUMBAI	DEAD		
17.	DINESH AGARWAL		NEHA AGARWAL	CHANDIGARH	DEAD		
18.	SAMEER GUHAR	52 yrs	SHAHI GUHAR	KOLKATA	DEAD		
19.	J SACHANDRA MOLI			VISHAKAPATNAM	DEAD		
20.	MUDHUSUDAN SOMISETTY		TRILUPALA SOMISETTY	BANGALORE	DEAD		
21.	SANTOSH JAGHDA		EKNATH JAGHDA	MAHARASTRA	DEAD		

22.	KASTOOBA GANVOTAY			MAHARASTRA	DEAD	
23.	BHARAT BHUSHAN		CHANA VIRAPA	BENGALURU	DEAD	
24.	SUMIT PARMAR		YATESH PARMAR	GUJRAT DEAD		
25.	YATESH PARMAR		FATHER OF SUMIT PARMAR	GUJRAT	DEAD	
26.	TAGEHALYING			ARUNACHAL PRADESH	DEAD	
	INJURED					
1.	VINI BHAI	60 YRS	RUWANI BHAI	GUJRAT	INJURED	GMC ANANTNAG
2.	MANIK PATIL				INJURED	
3.	S.BALACHANDRU			MAHARASHTRA	INJURED	
4.	DR PARMESHWAR		ARUMUGAM	CHENNAI TAMIL NADU	INJURED	GMC ANANTNAG
5.	ABHIJAVA M RAO			KARNATAKA	INJURED	
6.	SANTANU	83 YRS		TAMIL NADU INJURED		GMC ANANTNAG
7.	SHASHI KUMARI W/O RANJIT KUMAR	65 YRS		ODISHA INJURED		GMC ANANTNAG
8.	SOBEDE PATEL			MUMBAI	INJURED	SKIMS
9.	DHOBI VINOBAH			GUJRAT	INJURED	PAHALGAM
10.	RENU PANDEY			NEPAL	INJURED	
11.	AKANSHA			MP	INJURED	
12.	JENNIFER			MP	INJURED	
13.	LAKSHITA DAS			CHANDIGARH	INJURED	
14.	JAYA MISHRA			HYDERABAD	INJURED	
15.	SHABARAIGUHA			KOLKATA	INJURED	
16.	HARSHA JAIN			MHARASTRA	INJURED	
17.	NIKITA JAIN			MAHARASTRA	INJURED	

Official list of casualties and injured released by J&K Government

# **Domestic Response**



Prime Minister landing in New Delhi after cutting short his Saudi Arabia visit on April 23, 2025.

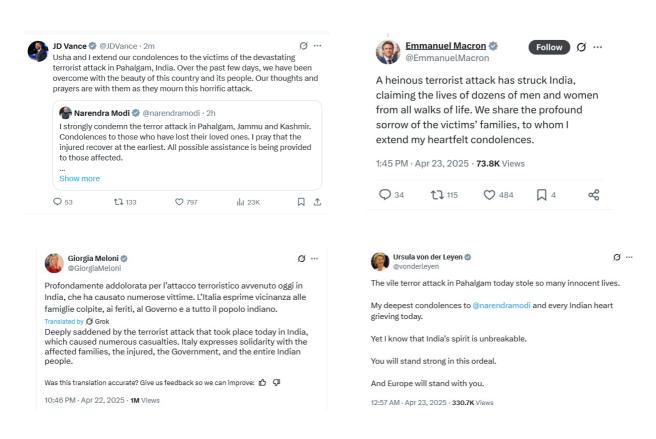
Within hours of the attack, Union Home Minister Amit Shah cut short his schedule in New Delhi and flew to Srinagar to spearhead on-ground security operations. Upon arrival, he chaired a high-level security review meetings with Jammu & Kashmir's Lieutenant Governor, J&K CM Omar Abdullah and senior police and army commanders, directing immediate reinforcement of counter-

terror assets and establishment of joint Army–police checkpoints across key egress routes from Baisaran meadow.<sup>8</sup> Prime Minister Narendra Modi cut short his state visit to Saudi Arabia, declaring on arrival that "those behind this heinous act will be brought to justice... our resolve to fight terrorism is unshakable." Upon PM's instructions, Union Home Minister Amit Shah immediately deployed additional central forces and chaired a security review in Srinagar to tighten force posture around high-value tourist and pilgrimage sites.<sup>9</sup>

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, then on official visits to the United States and Peruwas recalled by the Ministry of Finance and departed on the earliest available flight back to India. Her swift return underscored the government's focus on national security and solidarity with the victims' families during this crisis.<sup>10</sup>

### **International Response**

The attack occurred during a largely personal four-day visit by U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance. Vice President Vance issued a statement expressing "deep condolences to the families of victims and unwavering solidarity with India in the fight against terrorism," reinforcing strategic bond between the two nations.<sup>11</sup>



 $<sup>\</sup>frac{8}{\text{https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/jammu-and-kashmir-terror-attack-pahalgam-security-forces-terrorists-killed-tourist-injured-search-operation-police-pm-modi-hm-amit-shah-omar-abdullah/liveblog/120519770.cms?}$ 

<sup>9</sup> https://www.reuters.com/world/india/one-killed-seven-injured-militant-attack-indias-kashmir-india-today-tv-says-2025-04-22/

<sup>10</sup> https://www.reuters.com/world/india/attack-tourists-indian-kashmir-kills-26-people-injures-17-police-say-2025-04-23/?

<sup>11</sup> https://people.com/mass-shooting-kashmir-resort-kills-at-least-two-dozen-people-11719888?

The vicious terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir has precipitated a worldwide wave of international condemnation France also issued a strongly phrased statement, labelling the attack as "barbaric" and reiterating its "firm solidarity with India" against terrorism. This is in line with the strengthening Indo-French security partnership, specifically in the Indo-Pacific region.

Italy and Germany soon echoed the same note, highlighting the necessity of an international united front against radical ideologies. Italy branded the attack "heinous" and highlighted the need to protect democratic societies from threats of transnational terror.

The United States denounced the attack outright, seeking immediate accountability and reaffirming its strategic support to India within the Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership. The UK repeated similar views, emphasizing mutual values of democracy and rule of law.

Interestingly, China—usually prudent in such geopolitical affairs—issued a rare condemnation. While measured, its response against the "violence" is indicative of Beijing's growing concern about regional instability, particularly in the context of its own internal security issues and its BRI investment in South Asia.

# **Security Measures and After-Action**

Within hours, joint operations involving Jammu & Kashmir Police and Indian Army units established a cordon in the surrounding hills. Helicopter sorties and foot-patrols intensified to track the assailants escape vectors, while local checkpoints were fortified to prevent exfiltration. A temporary lockdown was enforced in Pahalgam, with rapid-response teams dispatched to key chokepoints along the Lidder River corridor.<sup>12</sup>

# **Regional Impact and Strategic Imperative**

This marks the deadliest attack on civilians in the Kashmir Valley in over five years, disrupting a prolonged period of relative calm that had underpinned a tourism resurgence. Terrorists appear to be recalibrating tactics to target soft civilian assets in order to undermine normalisation post-amendment of Article 370. The timing, coinciding with a high-profile U.S. visit, suggests an operational intent to maximise global media attention and sow uncertainty in India's security narrative<sup>13</sup>.

<sup>12</sup> https://apnews.com/article/dc7067a18899d9e7ff7726d4e05982c3

 $<sup>^{13}</sup>$  https://www.livemint.com/news/india/pahalgam-terror-attack-foreign-terrorists-sniper-like-training-what-we-know-about-gunmen-11745372074916.html?

# Annex I - List of all major terrorist attacks on tourists in Jammu & Kashmir from July 1990 through April 2025.

Location (District)	Date	Killed	Source
Convoy en route to Amarnath shrine (Anantnag)	15 Aug 1993	8	<u>Hindustan Times</u>
Liddarwat area, Pahalgam (Western trekkers abducted and later killed)	4 Jul 1995	6	The Indian Express
Sheshnag campsite, en route Amarnath Yatra (Anantnag)	28 Jul 1998	20	Hindustan Times
Nunwan base camp (Amarnath pilgrimage), Pahalgam (Anantnag)	2 Aug 2000	32	Hindustan Times
Sheshnag night-camp (en route Amarnath Yatra), Anantnag	20 Jul 2001	13	Hindustan Times
Nunwan base camp (Amarnath pilgrimage), Pahalgam (Anantnag)	6 Aug 2002	9	Hindustan Times
Bus near Beehama, Ganderbal (returning from Baltal base camp)	21 Jul 2006	5	Hindustan Times
Bus of Amarnath pilgrims, Botengo village on Srinagar– Jammu highway	10 Jul 2017	7	Reuters
Bus carrying Vaishno Devi pilgrims, Reasi district	9 Jun 2024	9	Reuters
Baisaran meadow, Pahalgam (tourist group/s)	22 Apr 2025	26 (Official)	The Indian Express

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- 10 https://www.reuters.com/world/india/attack-tourists-indian-kashmir-kills-26-people-injures-17-police-say-2025-04-23/?
- 11 https://people.com/mass-shooting-kashmir-resort-kills-at-least-two-dozen-people-11719888?
- <sup>1</sup>2 https://apnews.com/article/dc7067a18899d9e7ff7726d4e05982c3
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