

**Spot Report of  
International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research  
Suicide Attack at Wagah Border in Lahore, Pakistan**

*On 2 November, a suicide bomber struck the Wagah border, the crossing between Pakistan and India, after the daily flag lowering ceremony. The bomber detonated 12-15 kilograms of explosives at a distance of 500 to 600 meters from the location. The attack killed more 55 people and injured at least 120. The organizations that claimed responsibility for the attack include Jamaat-ul-Ahrar (JuA), Jundullah and the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) Mehsud faction.*

### Tactic

The attacker was wearing a suicide vest, which was laden with explosives that weighed between 12 to 15 kilograms. It was also loaded with ball bearings and nails in order to inflict maximum damage.<sup>1</sup>

The attacker was stopped at the entrance gate of the parade ground, which was also guarded by a security force check-post. He was at an estimated distance of 500 to 600 meters from the location, when the explosion occurred. At the moment, people were exiting the location of the ceremony as it had just ended.<sup>2</sup>

### Casualties

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<sup>1</sup> "Wagah border suicide attack leaves 59 dead, over 100 hurt," *Geo*, Pakistan, 2 November 2014

<http://www.geo.tv/article-164531-Explosion-at-Wagah-border-dozens-killed-many-more-injured>

<sup>2</sup> Rameez Khan, "Bloody Sunday: Carnage on the border," *Express Tribune*, Pakistan, 3 November 2014

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/785360/bloody-sunday-carnage-on-the-border/>

The incident resulted in the death of over 55 people and more than 120 people were severely injured. These numbers include women and children as well. However, no civilians and security force members from the Indian side were injured or killed.<sup>3</sup>

Moreover, 3 members of the Pakistan Rangers were also killed, while 5 were critically injured.<sup>4</sup>

### Perpetrators

Multiple militant organizations have claimed responsibility for this attack. The 3 organizations who have claimed that they were behind the incident are: Jundullah, Jamaat-ul-Ahrar (JuA) and Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) Mehsud faction.<sup>5</sup>

It has been reported that the intention of the attack was to retaliate against the military offensive in North Waziristan Agency (NWA), which began on 15 June 2014. The TTP Mehsud faction in particular warned the government that there would be similar attacks in the future. The TTP Mehsud faction also claimed that the attack was carried out to avenge the death of Chief Hakimullah Mehsud (died in a drone attack in November 2013).<sup>6</sup>

### Response

The attack was initially reported as a cylinder blast. A search operation was conducted on the location after which the arms and legs of the suicide bomber were found. They were sent to a forensic lab immediately for DNA testing. After the attack, those injured were shifted to nearby hospitals in Lahore almost immediately.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Ali Usman; Rameez Ahmad, "Suicide blast at Wagah border kills 55, injures 120 others," *Express Tribune*, Pakistan, 2 November 2014

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/784976/cylinder-blasts-kill-3-in-islamabad-injure-2-in-karachi/>

<sup>4</sup> Rameez Khan, "Bloody Sunday: Carnage on the border," *Express Tribune*, Pakistan, 3 November 2014

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/785360/bloody-sunday-carnage-on-the-border/>

<sup>5</sup> Umar Farooq, "TTP splinter groups claim Wagah attack; 60 dead," *Dawn*, Pakistan, 3 November 2014

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1142006>

<sup>6</sup> "Three militant groups claim responsibility for Wagah attack," *The News*, Pakistan, 3 November 2014

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-13-33880-Three-militant-groups-claim-responsibility-for-Wagah-attack>

<sup>7</sup> Rameez Khan, "Bloody Sunday: Carnage on the border," *Express Tribune*, Pakistan, 3 November 2014

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/785360/bloody-sunday-carnage-on-the-border/>

## Images



Image Source: <http://tribune.com.pk/story/784976/cylinder-blasts-kill-3-in-islamabad-injure-2-in-karachi/>



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