

ONE NATION, ONE HEARTBEAT

In the vast mosaic of India—where rivers sing in many tongues, where temples and mosques rise side by side, where every dialect is a poem and every festival a celebration of life—there lies a force more powerful than any border, army, or policy. That force is national unity.

National unity is not just the thread that binds diverse cultures and communities; it is the heartbeat of a strong, vibrant nation. It is the silent promise that despite our differences, we are one people, one land, one destiny.

India's history is a testament to unity amidst diversity. We are a land of over 1.4 billion voices, each with its own song, and yet we sing the anthem together. From Kashmir to Kanyakumari, from Gujarat to Arunachal, we speak over 1,600 languages, follow multiple faiths, dress in countless styles—and still, when the tricolor flutters in the wind, every heart beats in rhythm.

National unity is what brought freedom to our soil when leaders of different ideologies stood shoulder to shoulder in the struggle for independence. It is what holds us strong today when we face threats, both internal and external.

When the soil of our country is scarred by terrorism, disasters, or conflict, national unity becomes our shield and sword. It is in these moments of grief and trial that the people of India come together, not as Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians or Parsis, but as Indians.

When soldiers lay down their lives at the borders, they do not ask for the religion or language of the people they protect. Their courage flows from the belief that every citizen of India is worth defending. That is the sacred spirit of unity.

National unity is not about sameness—it is about shared values. Liberty, justice, fraternity, equality, and secularism are the pillars enshrined in our Constitution. These values form our common ground, regardless of how different we may seem on the surface.

It is also about shared responsibilities. Voting wisely, respecting laws, paying taxes, protecting the environment, and standing up against hate—all are acts that strengthen national unity. Every citizen, young or old, rural or urban, plays a role in the grand orchestra of national life.

However, unity is not a gift—it must be protected, nurtured, and renewed. Communalism, regionalism, casteism, and hate politics are termites that silently eat away at the wood of unity. Misinformation spread on social media, divisive narratives, and fringe ideologies can fracture communities if we are not vigilant.

We must remember division weakens, unity empowers. A united India commands respect; a divided India invites trouble.

To protect and deepen national unity, we must invest in education that teaches empathy, media that promotes truth, and leaders who unite, not divide. Celebrating each other's cultures, learning each other's languages, standing up for each other's rights—these are not just gestures; they are revolutionary acts of unity.

Pahalgam Carnage: A Wake-Up Call for India

■ BAIRAJ CHAWALGAMI

Once again the Sufi land has been soaked by the innocent human blood and much blood has been spilled and there is need that spilling of innocent human blood should stop. The savage and inhuman terrorists have enacted Nadimarg and 2000 Pahalgam like carnage on Indian tourists at Baisaran valley in Pahalgam which is six/seven Kms away from the world famous tourist resort and the exact place is called mini-Switzerland. It is the biggest terrorist attack after the Pulwama attack of 2019. It is also the first such attack on tourists. In past there were very scant attacks on tourists in which only one or two tourists lost their lives. The massacre at Pahalgam has shook not only J&K, but whole India. There is a pall of gloom and grief in Jammu and Kashmir. The Pak sponsored marauders have stooped too low and this time targeted our tourist guests in most savage way which has very few parallels in the history of the terrorism in J&K. This time the terrorists have attacked tourists in the groups and the savages have swooped tourists in their groups and had formed the pair of two, three terrorists and killed tourists. The savage attack on innocent tourists has taken time before the amarnath Ji Yatra as it will commence in July 2025 and this terrorist attack will have adverse ramifications on Amarnath Yatra. This act of terrorists is abominable and most despicable and such terrorist designs should be curbed with iron fist. The terrorist act at Pahalgam is violence against peaceful and innocent tourists who are our esteemed guests.

The terrorists have killed tourists and injured at least 10 tourists after first identifying their victims and the attack has horrified, terrified, and it was a grisly attack. It was a dreadful attack and a most coward attack. The terrorists have chosen Baisaran valley near Pahalgam to target the tourists and gave a message that terrorism is alive and kicking and not on the death bed as claimed by the NDA government. The gruesome and barbaric as well as dastardly attack on tourists who were enjoying horse ride is most despicable. The spine chilling massacre has resulted in killing of 28 tourists and injures to many oth-

ers. The terrorists of TRF which is affiliated to Lashkar-i-Toba and Hizbul Mujahideen-Din dreaded terrorist organizations and TRF has taken responsibility for the dastardly attack. The attack is hair-raising and spine chilling.

The gruesome attack has rightly been condemned by the LG Manoj Sinha, Chief minister Omar Abdullah, Dr Jitendra Singh MoS PMO, PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti, all most all political parties, NC president Farooq Abdullah and other leaders.

Prime Minister who was away in a Saudi Arabia has cut short his visit and returned to New Delhi has condemned this barbaric terrorist act and talked to HM Amit Shah and deputed him to Kashmir. Condemnation of this dastardly attack has been condemned by world leaders.

Condemnations, anger and grief over the gruesome attack poured in from all directions and traders, transporters, Bar associations of both Jammu as well as Kashmir had called for a day's strike on Wednesday. A peaceful band was observed in Kashmir and Jammu against the terrorist attack. American president Donald Trump, Russian President Putin and Italy, Japan, Saudi Arabia, European Union, England and other countries of the world have condemned this attack. Whole India is one in condemnation of the terrorist attack. People are demanding that India should attack Pakistan and break the back of terrorist sponsored country. HM Amit Shah has since reached Srinagar and rushed to Raj Bhawan where a high level security meeting was held and strong message and instructions were given to the security forces. HM will visit the site of terrorist attack tomorrow and will take stock of the situation. The terrorists have attacked unarmed civilians who were tourists and the massacre is a blot and stain on so called Kashmiriyat if anything of this syncretism has still remained in Kashmir. This terrorist attack is the attack on the Kashmiriyat and communal harmony. The moot question is where has the so called Kashmiriyat gone or is it disappearing from the soil of Kashmir? The targeted attack on innocent tourists is an attack on the culture of Kashmir. The

barbaric attack is anti religious, irreligious act which has rightly been condemned by one and all. It is not only an attack on tourists but also an attack on the economy of Kashmir. The terrorists who are enemies of humanity and the terrorist act is an attack on the livelihood of taxi operators, Pouni Wallas, Horse owners, Hoteliers, Houseboat owners, traders, businessmen and last but not least on the composite and Sufi culture of Kashmir. This dastardly attack on tourists is the message to tourists not to come to Kashmir. The terrorists have in fact attacked the livelihood of the local traders and all those people who are directly and indirectly connected with tourism. Pakistan and its terrorists are nervous over the greater tourist footfall and peace and tranquility of Kashmir and thus they have raised their ugly and shameful face and shown their presence and perhaps put a full stop on the claims of NDA government that terrorism has drastically come down as there is decline in terrorist attacks across Kashmir valley. The terrorists earlier has surfaced in peaceful Jammu region as they had shifted the focus of their anti human acts to Jammu region. It is learnt that the terrorists who were in police uniform had attacked tourists with sadistic pleasure. Only condemnation is not enough and what is required is that the back of terrorists should be broken and all those who have took part in this massacre and mayhem should be caught and after speedy trail given death sentence. No less than capital punishment should be given to these enemies of humanity so that trust and confidence of the common man is ensured otherwise people have the impression that the government is only names sake in Kashmir. All those injured tourists should be given treatment and those who lost their life should be duly compensated along with the injured ones. It is true that no amount of compensation has still not been given to the dead ones as the lives lost cannot be revived. We have been condemning the terrorist attacks and what is required is to put terrorism under foot and initiate anti terror operations with redoubled spirit so that terrorism is given death knell. There is need of coordination among

the different security agencies including CRPF, BSE, Army, JK Police. The people of Kashmir should also raise against terrorists and give information about the terrorists to the security agencies and then and only then we can say that Kashmiris are against terrorism. Common Kashmiri and political parties and religious organizations should protest on the roads of Kashmir and give impression that Kashmiris are against terrorists. Then and then only it will be construed that Kashmiris have no sympathy with terrorists. This most barbaric attack is a multifarious attack and as such is an attack on Kashmiriyat, image of Kashmir, progress, prosperity, livelihood, economy and what not? Whole Jammu and Kashmir and India should forget differences and rise against terrorism with one voice. The Auqa of terrorism—the master and sponsor of terror to Kashmir that is Pakistan has been exposed and it should be punished for this massacre.

A clear and unambiguous message and instruction should go to the security forces to deal with terrorists with iron hand and there should be no lapse in fighting terrorism.

At vulnerable tourist spots and scenic places security forces need to be deployed to create a sense of security among the tourists.

The high level security meeting has given a strong message to the various security agencies that no security lapse will be tolerated and the perpetrators of this dastardly attack should be sternly punished and justice should be ensured to the victims of this attack.

This is only possible when those involved in this attack are identified and caught and given strong punishment so that the tourists and commoners feel secure and safe.

Pakistan which is the mother of terrorism should be punished and for this if required the Army should cross the boundaries and inflict punishment on Pakistan and give a befitting reply to the enemy country.

Enough is enough, the GOI should show its mettle and enter Pakistan and crack on the hideouts of terrorists in POK. The million dollar question is when will such terrorist attacks cease and everyone is asking only one question and that is, "Aur Kitna Khoon Bahayga"?

Pahalgam attack: Terror attack shakes Jammu and Kashmir

■ NANCY SHARMA

Pahalgam, a place on earth which is not only a famous tourist spot but is also the starting point of the Amarnath pilgrimage which takes place every year. Situated on the Little River, this place is no less than a paradise for filmmakers. The place which is known for its infinite beauty and calm cool mountain air has drowned in the echo of bullets and screams. The place where people once used to roam around freely considering it a tourist spot and where they used to pray to spend their lives peacefully every day, today that place is living in fear of terrorists.

A kind of silence has settled on everyone's lips, no one has a solution to this problem. Even if a solution is found, will the people who have lost their loved ones come back? No. No problem, no solution, no reason, no sympathy can bring back the lives of those

people. But still the public is demanding answers in the hope of justice and will keep demanding it until they get that justice.

Pain of Valley These wounds may be new but this pain is not new for Kashmir; but repeated wounds deepen the wound. People's appeal for Jammu Bandh may or may not make a difference to humanity, but the echo of the prayers of the parents, children and all their loved ones must have reached the ears of God. The government must have also felt their pain, which will give them the courage and motivation to take the right decision. This is not only a time of sorrow but also a time of growing frustration in our minds. How many more times will we have to remain silent? How many more families are yet to be torn apart before we get true justice? In every temple, every mosque, every road, and every street

corner, we are hearing that Kashmir bleeds again, India bleeds with it.

Where the death of 26 people has shocked the heart, just think how the people who live there must be facing that fear. How they must be living with that fear that who knows what will happen, when will someone get shot, when will they have to face another death. Kashmir will be seen as a death spot instead of a tourist spot, the place called heaven on earth has been turned into a death ground. So much bloodshed to get Kashmir shows that this humanity is coming to an end.

It is said that humanity is the biggest religion, but by keeping the religions made by humans as supreme, one religion has become thirsty for the blood of another religion. The seed of hatred has started growing against each other, who knows what color it will show now. Living on a planet which is called Mother Earth, the children of

that mother are playing with each other's lives, this scene itself is terrifying. Just think about that girl whose new life had started just a few days ago after her marriage. What must she be going through? Will she ever be able to overcome this sorrow? Or will this incident follow her like a bad shadow throughout her life?

A nation's patience tested This is a challenge to those who are sitting silently behind the borders and whose intentions are soaked in hatred. The government has already taken the first step to stop this bloodshed.

a) The Indus Water Treaty, which was the foundation of diplomacy for so long, is now surrounded by questions.

b) It was signed in 1960 by Field Marshal Mayub Khan, who was the Prime Minister of Pakistan at that time, and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister of India at that time. Under this, the water of Chenab

river would be distributed equally between India and Pakistan. Now it will be suspended.

c) Attari Wagah border will be closed. d) Pakistani people will not be given SAARC visa and those who are currently present in India have been asked to leave India within 48 hours.

The steps being taken are correct but it is necessary that some concrete steps be taken so that the enemy's heart gets scared 100 times before doing this again even in his dreams. Now we will not live in this fear, now it should be the turn of those to face this fear whose courage repeatedly inspires them to do something like this. Now we have to raise our spirits and shatter the spirits of the enemy.

So wake up people of the country, we all have to raise our voices. Awareness is not just personal, this time it is about the country. Rising above every caste, every class, rising above every

dispute, we have to show that Indians know how to maintain friendship and enmity well. A person who is deceived in friendship is a great enemy.

As Pahalgam mourns, so does the nation. But within this pain lies a quiet promise- India will not forget. We will carry out grief not as a burden but as a badge of honor. For every life lost there will be a stronger push for justice, for Kashmir that no longer cries. India has long chosen the path of restraint. We have absorbed the pain, we have buried our dead with honor and we have shown the world our patience. But patience too, has a heart breaking point. It was an assault on our national conscience on our fundamental rights to live without fear. It was a direct challenge to our sovereignty and to our values. We will remember the fallen not just with flowers but with a future that they would be proud of.

Regional Power Play: The 2025 Pahalgam attack and India's changing global position

■ BRIGADIER DR VIJAY SAGAR DHEMAN

The peaceful tourist destination of Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir became the site of brutal violence on April 22, 2025, when terrorists launched a calculated attack targeting tourists and local civilians. The attackers employed a methodical approach, identifying male victims by religion through questioning, name verification, and demands to recite the "Kalma," and physical examinations for "Summat" before executing them at point-blank range. This cold-blooded violence, which claimed multiple innocent lives, provoked immediate outrage across India and around the world.

Intelligence reports indicate the attack was strategically timed to coincide with U.S. Vice President JD Vance's visit to India and the finalization of major trade agreements with both the United Arab Emirates and the United States. Evidence suggests Pakistan carried out this operation under Chinese direction, with operatives connected to the terrorist network of Saifullah, who had been eliminated in Chatroo, Kishtwar just one week earlier. The apparent objective was to undermine India's growing image as a stable global business hub and tourist destination. Vice President Vance's presence in India marked a significant advancement in U.S.-India relations, highlighted by the announcement of a substantial \$500 billion trade and strategic investment package. This agreement positions India as an essential supply chain partner for the United States. Rather than disrupting these diplomatic efforts, the attack ultimately strengthened counter-terrorism cooperation and intelligence sharing between the nations, with condolences and statements of solidarity coming from countries worldwide, including Islamic nations. Simultaneously, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was negotiating a historic trade partnership with the UAE, encompassing investments in technology, infrastructure, and tourism with special focus on Jammu and Kashmir. This agreement underscores the UAE's confidence in India's stability and highlights Kashmir's ongoing transformation into a center of economic opportunity and development. A defining economic shift of the 21st century involves the redirection of global supply chains from China to India, with both American and Emirati support accelerating this transition. India is increasingly viewed as a more stable, democratic, and economically viable alternative to China,



directly threatening Beijing's dominance in global manufacturing. Intelligence sources indicate that China covertly encouraged Pakistan to target tourists in Kashmir to portray the region as unsafe for business and investment, aiming to undermine India's economic rise and cast doubt on the viability of investing in Kashmir. This strategy, however, backfired dramatically. Instead of creating perceptions of instability, the attack generated universal condemnation of terrorists widely acknowledged as being supported by Pakistan. The international community recognized the assault as part of Pakistan's long-standing campaign against Indian interests, further isolating Islamabad diplomatically. The past five years have witnessed unprecedented tourism, economic revitalization, and social development in Kashmir. This prosperity serves as a powerful counter narrative to separatist ideologies, as increased employment, improved infrastructure, and expanded educational opportunities have integrated the local population more deeply with mainstream India. Pakistan views this integration as a direct threat to its carefully maintained narrative regarding Kashmir's status and aspirations. The Pahalgam attack appears distinct from ongoing operations in the Jammu division, representing an isolated incident likely executed by remnants of defunct networks. This suggests a desperate attempt by terror handlers in Pakistan to maintain relevance in a changing landscape where their influence is steadily diminishing through economic and social development. India's history of responses to provocations, from the

Kargil War to the Balakot strikes, demonstrates its resolve when challenged. The nation now employs a doctrine of proactive deterrence against threats that extend beyond conventional warfare to include cyberattacks, disinformation campaigns, and economic sabotage. The Pahalgam incident represents one component of a broader hybrid warfare strategy targeting India's digital and economic infrastructure. To counter these multifaceted threats, India must leverage global media, diaspora networks, and diplomatic forums to control the narrative surrounding Kashmir and terrorism. Promoting stories of resilience and progress from Kashmir can transform global perception toward optimism rather than fear. This moment presents an opportunity for India to lead a global coalition against terrorism by framing it as both an economic and social threat, generating support for collective action against state-sponsored extremism.

India's approach must simultaneously enhance security, promote prosperity, and shape global narratives. The defence of Kashmir requires not just military strength but economic growth, national unity, and strategic vision. The Pahalgam attack targeted not only innocent lives but India's future trajectory and emerging position in the global order; demanding a comprehensive and determined response that addresses both immediate security concerns and long-term strategic objectives in South Asia.

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Kashmir's Wounds, India's Resolve: Confronting Terror and Division

■ AMIT MEHRA

The recent terrorist attack has once again shaken the soul of our nation. It is chilling to imagine how many families spent their nights engulfed in anxiety, tears, and despair. How can anyone sleep peacefully when innocent people are selectively murdered based on their religion? This was not just an assault on tourists—it was a targeted attack on Kashmir's economy, its tourism sector, and the very fabric of its social harmony. Even a Muslim horseman, who was trying to save lives, was not spared. This chilling detail underscores that the attack was meant to ignite religious identity and deepen communal divides in our country. The handlers of such terrorist organizations in Pakistan are well aware: the more they stoke communal hatred in India, the more they benefit.

As the entire nation burns with anger, we cannot ignore some fundamental questions. The most pressing among them: how did our security and intelligence agencies fail? If all leads can be activated after the attack, why weren't there alerts before it happened? This is not the first time that such an act of violence has struck Kashmir. Yet, as always, we seem to have failed again. Accountability must be established. Beyond military retaliation, it is essential that those responsible for security lapses are held answerable—especially as such attacks are becoming increasingly frequent, and the sense of insecurity in the Valley continues to grow.

Kashmir is once again sliding into shutdowns. Jammu observed a complete bandh today, and one has been called in Kashmir tomorrow. This is not just a reaction—it is a red flag. People are asking questions, not only from the opposition benches but from within the ruling BJP as well. When BJP's own elected representatives are urging the Home Minister to restore peace and normalcy, it signals that the situation is far more serious than what the government might admit. It is time for the government to reflect deeply.

The terrorists didn't just fire bullets; they attacked India's social unity. That's why, today, we need to take three critical steps.

First, the terrorists must be given a decisive and forceful response to show them and their handlers that India will not tolerate such conspiracies. Second, there must be a serious review of our security systems and intelligence networks, and accountability must be fixed. Third, and perhaps most importantly, the nation must come together as one to resist the spread of hatred, communalism, and violence—because the primary goal of terrorism is to break down the bonds of social cohesion.

The ordinary citizens of Kashmir have paid a heavy price in this violence. In a single stroke, thousands lost their livelihoods. Hotels, taxi drivers, tour guides, shopkeepers—all are now living in fear and uncertainty. This attack was not just on lives; it was on livelihoods and dignity. The silver lining, however, is that this time, the people of Kashmir have not bowed to fear. They have raised their voices strongly against this act of terror. That unity is the most powerful answer to terrorism.

On the other hand, a disturbing question also arises—how did private airlines dare to triple their fares at a time when the country is in mourning? This is not only inhumane but also a shameful display of profiteering during a crisis. Such acts demand strict action and immediate relief for those affected.

For those in power, this is not the time for emotional speeches—it is the time for decisive action. Tweets and slogans won't change the ground reality. This terrorist attack was not a mistake; it was a well-planned conspiracy. Therefore, the response cannot rely solely on bullets. It must be matched with policy, justice, and moral leadership. Today, India needs a voice that says—We are all one, and terror has no religion.

India must eliminate such terrorist organizations, but this cannot be the task of the military alone. The public must also be a partner in this mission. And first and foremost, the ruling party must stop its IT cell from spreading divisive hate narratives—because, knowingly or unknowingly, they are doing exactly what the terrorists want: dividing us from within.

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