INDEPENDENT EVIDENCE BRIEF

SOURCES OUTSIDE INDIA · 8 FINDINGS · EVERY CLAIM SOURCED

ON THE RECORD

Pakistan and the financing of terrorism

What the United Nations, the United States, FATF, the courts and Pakistan's own leaders have said — from sources outside India

DESIGNATIONS | SANCTIONS | COURT TESTIMONY | ADMISSIONS

KEY FACTS

Dec 2008
UN lists LeT founder Hafiz Saeed

US$10m
US reward for Saeed since 2012

78 years
Saeed's cumulative Pakistani sentences (US State Dept)

Evidence to 24 November 2026

Every claim is tied to a named source. Indian allegations are kept separate and labelled.

THE CASE IN ONE PAGE

Why this brochure is different

Most arguments about Pakistan and terror financing rest on Indian claims, which Pakistan rejects. This brochure applies a harder test: what has been listed, sanctioned, charged, convicted or admitted by institutions outside India — including Pakistan's own courts and leaders.

Dec 2001
US designates LeT and JeM as terrorist organizations

Dec 2008
UN lists LeT founder Hafiz Saeed

US$10m
US reward for Saeed since 2012

Jun 2018–Oct 2022
Pakistan on FATF grey list

78 years
Saeed's cumulative Pakistani sentences (US State Dept)

Eight findings from outside India

UN *Sanctions*

1 The UN names LeT's leader

The UN sanctions list has covered Hafiz Saeed since 10 December 2008. Its entry says he played a key role in LeT's operational and fundraising activities.

UNITED STATES *Treasury • State*

2 Washington sanctioned LeT's charity front

The US designated LeT in 2001, and in 2010 sanctioned Falah-e-Insaniat Foundation, which Treasury described as a front used by LeT for fundraising. It has offered up to $10 million for Saeed since 2012.

UNITED STATES *Annual reports*

3 Year after year, the US said the groups raised money in Pakistan

State Department reports for 2015–2017 said LeT and JeM continued to operate, train, organise and fundraise in Pakistan. The 2018 report said Pakistan failed to significantly limit their fundraising.

FATF *Global watchdog*

4 FATF grey-listed Pakistan for four years

Pakistan was on the list from June 2018 to October 2022. FATF said in 2019 that Pakistan did not properly understand the terror-financing risks from LeT, JeM and affiliates, and its last open item was prosecuting their senior leaders.

US COURT *Chicago, 2011*

5 A US court heard how an ISI officer funded a plot

Sworn testimony said a Pakistani intelligence officer, "Major Iqbal", gave David Headley $25,000 and directed his scouting for the 2008 Mumbai attacks. US prosecutors indicted him. Pakistan denies an ISI role.

PAKISTAN *Its own courts*

6 Pakistan's courts convicted Saeed of terror financing

The State Department reports he was serving a cumulative 78-year sentence after convictions in seven terror-financing cases.

PAKISTAN *Its own leaders*

7 Senior Pakistani leaders acknowledge a history

Imran Khan (2019), Khawaja Asif and Bilawal Bhutto (2025) each described a past of militant ties. All framed it as a past mistake, tied to Afghan wars.

UN *2025–26 reports*

8 UN monitors tied the groups to recent attacks

A 2025 UN report named The Resistance Front, a LeT front, in connection with Pahalgam. A 2026 report said Jaish was reported linked to the Red Fort blast. Both record that one member state disagrees.

EVIDENCE FILE 1

The United Nations record

The UN Security Council's 1267 sanctions regime is the closest thing to a global verdict on who is a terrorist financier. Its record on Pakistan-based Kashmir groups is long.

UN LISTING
10 Dec 2008

Hafiz Muhammad Saeed and Jamaat-ud-Dawa

The UN listed Saeed as associated with LeT and Al-Qaida, and treats Jamaat-ud-Dawa as an alias of LeT. The listing triggers an asset freeze, travel ban and arms embargo.

The Australian Parliament's review of the LeT listing notes that Pakistan banned LeT in 2002, yet the group continues to operate under the JuD name.

UN LISTING
14 Mar 2012

Falah-e-Insaniat Foundation

Added to the UN list in 2012, after the US Treasury had already described it as an LeT fundraising front.

UN MONITORS
Jul 2025

36th Monitoring Team report

Named The Resistance Front (TRF) for the first time, in connection with the Pahalgam attack that killed 26 civilians. One member state said the attack could not have happened without LeT support. Another rejected that view and said LeT was defunct.

UN MONITORS
4 Feb 2026

37th Monitoring Team report

Said Jaish-e-Mohammed was reported to be linked to the Red Fort attack in Delhi that killed 15, while also noting a claim that Jaish is defunct.

READ THIS CAREFULLY

UN monitoring reports pass along assessments from member states. They are strong third-party signals, not court findings. Using them accurately makes the brochure harder to attack.

EVIDENCE FILE 2

The United States record

FTO
26 Dec 2001

LeT and JeM designated

Both groups were designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations in December 2001. The State Department says Jaish aims to annex Jammu and Kashmir, and that elements of LeT and Jaish have combined with groups such as Hizbul Mujahideen for anti-India attacks.

TREASURY
24 Nov 2010

Charity front sanctioned

Treasury designated Falah-e-Insaniat Foundation and its head under counter-terror authorities. It said the foundation was a front used by LeT for fundraising.

REWARD
Apr 2012

US$10 million for Saeed

The State Department announced up to $10 million for information leading to the arrest and conviction of LeT's founder, and up to $2 million for his deputy, Hafiz Abdul Rahman Makki.

STATE DEPT
2016–2020

Annual terrorism reports

2016 and 2017: LeT and JeM continued to operate, train, organise and fundraise in Pakistan; authorities failed to uniformly implement UN sanctions.

2018: Pakistan failed to significantly limit the two groups from raising money, recruiting and training.

2020: Pakistan convicted Saeed and four other LeT leaders in terror-financing cases, but took no action against Masood Azhar or Mumbai "project manager" Sajid Mir, believed to be free in Pakistan.

STATE DEPT
1 May 2026

Country Reports on Terrorism 2024

Says Jaish has since 2007 moved money out of bank accounts into legal businesses such as commodities trading, real estate and consumer goods, to avoid asset seizures by the Pakistani government. In 2024 it also collected donations, sometimes under charitable causes.

TRF
18 Jul 2025

The Resistance Front designated

The US designated TRF, described by Indian officials as an LeT front, as a Foreign Terrorist Organization and Specially Designated Global Terrorist.

Washington's own reports name the groups, name the fundraising and name the gaps.

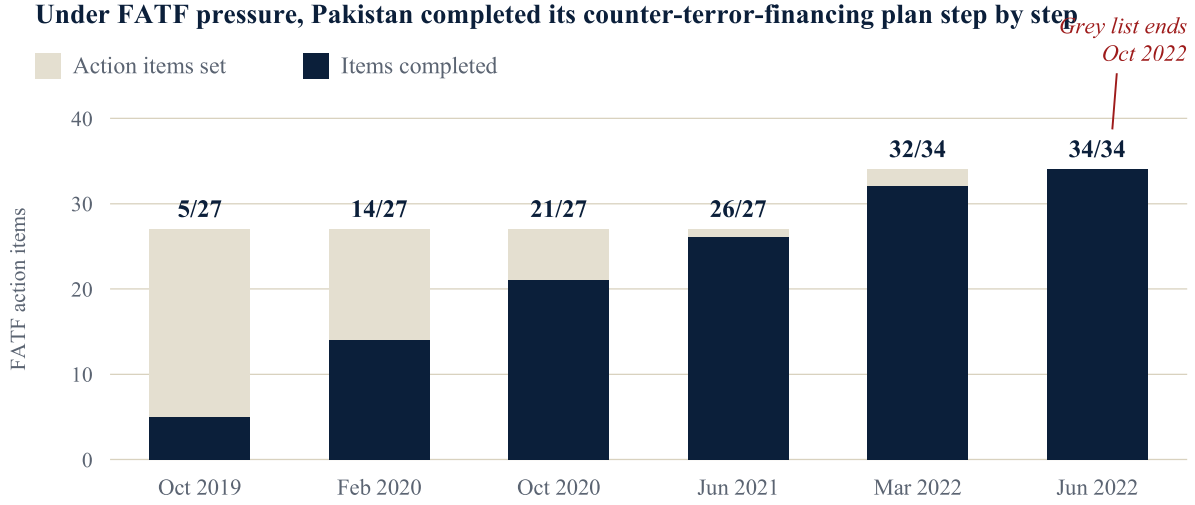
SYNTHESIS OF US STATE DEPARTMENT COUNTRY REPORTS ON TERRORISM, 2016–2024

EVIDENCE FILE 3

FATF: the global financial watchdog

The Financial Action Task Force sets the world's standard against money laundering and terror financing. It put Pakistan under increased monitoring in June 2018 with a 27-point action plan, later joined by a seven-point plan. Pakistan completed all 34 items and was removed in October 2022.

Under FATF pressure, Pakistan completed its counter-terror-financing plan step by step



Completion counts for the first four dates come from media reports of FATF plenary statements (Oct 2019–Oct 2020: Dawn and Gulf News; March and June 2022: Dawn). Treat early figures as approximate.

Oct 2019	Pakistan avoided the blacklist but had fully met only five of 27 items.
Jun 2021	26 of 27 items largely addressed; the last item was prosecuting leaders of UN-designated groups.
Mar 2022	32 of 34 items done; two to go.
Oct 2022	FATF said Pakistan largely addressed all 34 items and removed it from increased monitoring.

WHAT FATF DOES AND DOES NOT SAY

IT DOES SAY

Pakistan's system had strategic deficiencies, including weak action against UN-listed groups and their leaders.

IT DOES NOT SAY

It does not audit what any army or intelligence agency spends. FATF's President said on 30 October 2026 that Pakistan remains subject to ongoing engagement with the Asia/Pacific Group and a future mutual evaluation.

EVIDENCE FILE 4

Courts: Chicago and Lahore

US FEDERAL COURT
Chicago, 2011

The Headley testimony

David Headley, who pleaded guilty to scouting the 2008 Mumbai targets, testified that ISI and LeT worked closely, and that an ISI officer, "Major Iqbal", paid him $25,000 and directed his surveillance.

US prosecutors then charged Major Iqbal, the first time the US government charged a serving Pakistani intelligence officer with terrorism, according to ProPublica and PBS Frontline. Headley was sentenced to 35 years.

Headley also said he did not believe the whole of ISI knew of the plot.

PAKISTANI COURTS
2020–2022

Saeed convicted

Pakistani anti-terrorism courts convicted Saeed in terror-financing cases. Dawn's timeline records a 33-year sentence in April 2022; the State Department puts his cumulative total at 78 years.

EVIDENCE FILE 5

In their own words

Pakistan's official position is that it supports Kashmiris only morally, politically and diplomatically. But senior Pakistani figures have described a longer history, always as a past policy and often blaming Cold War and post-9/11 pressure from the West.

"

IMRAN KHAN
Washington, Jul 2019
THEN PRIME MINISTER

Told an audience in Washington that Pakistan still had about 30,000–40,000 armed people trained and fighting in parts of Afghanistan or Kashmir, and that earlier governments lacked the political will to deal with them.

"

KHAWAJA ASIF
Sky News, Apr 2025
DEFENCE MINISTER

Asked whether Pakistan had a long history of backing, training and funding terrorist groups, he said Pakistan had done "dirty work" for the US and the West for about three decades, called it a mistake, and said Pakistan had suffered for it. In the same interview he denied that TRF exists.

"

BILAWAL BHUTTO
Sky News, May 2025
FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER

Said it is not a secret that Pakistan has a past with extremist groups, that it suffered as a result, and that this is history and not current practice.

EVIDENCE FILE 5 · CONTINUED

HOW TO USE THESE STATEMENTS

They are admissions about the past, made by Pakistani officials. They do not prove current funding. Present them as what they are: Pakistan's own acknowledgement that militant groups were once state-tolerated or state-backed, which is why outside bodies keep asking whether that has fully ended.

TIMELINE

A quarter-century on the record

2001	US	LeT and JeM designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations (Dec).
2002	PAKISTAN	Pakistan bans LeT and JeM under US pressure; LeT reappears as Jamaat-ud-Dawa.
2008	UN	UN Security Council lists Hafiz Saeed and Jamaat-ud-Dawa (Dec).
2010	US	US Treasury sanctions Falah-e-Insaniat Foundation as an LeT fundraising front (Nov).
2011	COURT	Chicago trial hears ISI-officer testimony; US indicts Major Iqbal.
2012	US	US$10 million reward announced for Hafiz Saeed (Apr).
2018	FATF	Pakistan placed on the grey list (Jun).
2019	PAKISTAN	Imran Khan: 30,000–40,000 armed people trained for Afghanistan or Kashmir (Jul).
2020	PAKISTAN	Saeed convicted in terror-financing cases.
2022	FATF	Pakistan removed from the grey list after 34 items (Oct).
2025	PAKISTAN	Asif and Bilawal Bhutto acknowledge a past with militant groups (Apr–May).
2025	UN	36th Monitoring Team report names TRF; US designates TRF (Jul).
2026	UN	37th Monitoring Team report links Jaish to the Red Fort attack (Feb).
2026	US	State Department publishes Country Reports on Terrorism 2024 (May).
2026	FATF	October plenary: Pakistan not listed; India raises "backsliding"; FATF cites ongoing monitoring (Oct).

THE MONEY QUESTION

What the record shows — and what it does not

THE HONEST GAP

No independent body has published a total for what the Pakistani state or military spends on Kashmir militancy. The evidence above documents fundraising by groups, state-level failures to stop it, intelligence-officer involvement in specific plots, and official acknowledgements of a past. It does not add up to an audited annual figure.

A brochure that claims one will be dismissed. A brochure that proves the pattern cannot easily be.

What outside sources establish

- LeT and JeM, and their charity fronts, raised money inside Pakistan for years (State Department, 2015–2018, 2026).
- Jaish adapted to avoid asset seizures by shifting into legal businesses (State Department, 2026).
- A US court heard that an ISI officer funded and directed a plot (Chicago, 2011).
- FATF required Pakistan to prosecute senior leaders of UN-listed groups, the last item to be closed (FATF, 2018–22).
- Senior Pakistani leaders have described past militant backing (2019, 2025).

REPORTED BY INDIAN OFFICIALS, NOT INDEPENDENTLY VERIFIED

In 2025–26, Indian officials and outlets alleged a PKR 3.91 billion (about US$14 million) Jaish mobile-wallet fundraising drive, and about PKR 250 million (roughly US$0.9 million) of Pakistani official money for rebuilding Jaish's Bahawalpur site after India's May 2025 strikes. Pakistan has not accepted this characterisation. These claims are listed here for completeness and should be attributed to Indian officials every time.

FAIRNESS

Pakistan’s response

THE OTHER SIDE, IN BRIEF

Pakistan says it gives Kashmiris only moral, political and diplomatic support, rejects the charge of financing militancy, and says India has offered no proof for the Pahalgam attack.

It points to its legal record: bans on the groups, convictions of Saeed, and completion of all 34 FATF items. The US State Department’s 2024 report acknowledges steps to restrict anti-India groups.

It says it is a major victim of terrorism and alleges that India backs the Baloch Liberation Army and the Pakistani Taliban. The State Department records the allegation; India rejects it.

Some UN member states told the Monitoring Team that LeT and Jaish are defunct.

WHAT THE WORLD CAN ASK

Five questions that keep Pakistan in view

The five questions

1. Where are Masood Azhar and Sajid Mir? The State Department said in 2020 that both were believed to be free in Pakistan.
2. Will prosecutions reach senior leaders of UN-listed groups, not only fundraisers? This was FATF’s last open item.
3. Who audits the charities and fronts that sanctioned groups reappear under?
4. How will mobile wallets and informal channels be regulated, given reports of fundraising through them?
5. When will the next mutual evaluation by the Asia/Pacific Group and FATF take place, and will its findings be published in full?

SOURCES

Sources and verification

Primary and non-Indian sources are listed first. Indian outlets appear only where they are the sole available report of a UN or US document, or for allegations flagged as Indian claims.

United States government	State Department, Country Reports on Terrorism 2024 (1 May 2026): state.gov/reports/country-reports-on-terrorism-2024. Country Reports 2016 (refworld.org/node/117952). Treasury press releases tg980 and tg1694 (home.treasury.gov). Congressional Research Service, IF11934, "Terrorist and Other Militant Groups in Pakistan" (updated 25 March 2026).
United Nations and other governments	UN Security Council 1267 Committee, summary for Hafiz Muhammad Saeed (un.org/securitycouncil/sanctions/1267). Monitoring Team 36th report (July 2025) and 37th report (4 February 2026), as reported by Dawn (dawn.com/news/1927960) and PTI. Australian Parliament, Joint Committee review, LeT Statement of Reasons, Appendix F (aph.gov.au).
FATF	FATF plenary outcomes, 28–30 October 2026 (financialcrime.lu; complyadvantage.com). Dawn coverage of FATF decisions, 2018–2022 (dawn.com/news/1417204, 1631409, 1653195, 1695417, 1716662). Gulf News, FATF June 2021.
Courts and investigative journalism	ProPublica and PBS Frontline reporting on the Headley and Rana trials (propublica.org; pbs.org/wgbh/frontline). RFE/RL (rferl.org) and Dawn (dawn.com/news/631736), 2011 trial coverage. Dawn on the US $10 million reward (dawn.com/news/707704); RFE/RL, April 2012.
Pakistani officials' statements	Khawaja Asif, Sky News interview, April 2025 (reported by Press TV via GlobalSecurity.org and others). Bilawal Bhutto, Sky News, May 2025 (Business Standard). Imran Khan, Washington, July 2019 (ANI via Business Standard).
Indian-sourced material, flagged as such	Jaish wallet campaign and Bahawalpur rebuild: WION, Tribune India, NDTV and CNN-News18, via bdnews24 and Telangana Today, 2025–26. The Resistance Front designation date: Business Today. FATF Oct 2026 India remarks: WION, 11 November 2026.

NOTE BEFORE YOU PUBLISH

Open the State Department and UN originals and check each quotation and date against the source. The Asif, Bilawal Bhutto and Imran Khan statements were checked in press reports of the interviews; link to the original Sky News and Washington video where you can. This brochure paraphrases rather than quotes at length, and is an evidence summary, not legal advice.