

## Reporting is becoming a Life Threatening Profession in Pakistan

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### ABSTRACT

*The study is focusing 'Reporting is becoming a life threatening profession in Pakistan' as a topic for research. International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) declared Pakistan as one of the most dangerous countries for Journalists. Amnesty International called Khuzdar 'a graveyard for Journalists'. Rank of Pakistan in the World Press Freedom Index is going down year by year. However, the number of journalists who lost their lives in Pakistan is on the rise. It would be safe to say that at least 67 journalists lost their lives in Pakistan from 2002 to 2014. It is claimed by Committee to Protect Journalists that from 1992 to 2014 majority of journalists who lost their lives in the line of duty are reporters. The situation in Pakistan has been going worse with each passing day for journalists especially for reporters since 9/11. Government as well as media organizations have failed to provide proper security to reporters resulting an increase in the number of crimes against journalists as well as the impunity in their cases. Although the conviction in the cases of two murdered reporters is a ray of hope and has improved Pakistan's rank in Global Impunity Index but still there is a lot needed to be done in order to control the increasing rate of crimes against journalists.*

**Keywords:** reporting, profession, freedom of expression, journalism, Pakistan

Freedom of Press was insured by Constitution of Pakistan 1973 in its article 19 as it states

*“Every citizen shall have the right to freedom of speech and expression, and there shall be freedom of the press, subject to any reasonable restriction imposed by law in the interest of the glory of Islam or the integrity, security or defense of Pakistan or any part thereof, friendly relations with foreign states, public order, decency or morality, or in relation to contempt of court or commission of or incitement to an offence.”<sup>1</sup>*

Unfortunately freedom of expression in Pakistan is on decrease these days. Pakistan possesses a low rank as far as the freedom of speech is concerned. Pakistan occupies 159<sup>th</sup> position in the World Press Freedom Index 2015 out of 180 countries as claimed by Reporters without Borders. However among 180 countries it had 148<sup>th</sup> rank in 2014.<sup>2</sup> Pakistan occupies a prominent place among the deadliest countries for Journalists to work. IFJ has also declared Pakistan as most dangerous country for journalists<sup>3</sup>.

Each year Pakistan loses a number of journalists because of the prevailing law and order situation which is growing from bad to worse. If one studies the history of journalism before and after the creation of Pakistan, he will find that journalists were harassed, humiliating and killed for using their freedom of expression.

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Maulvi Muhammad Baqir was shot dead brutally. He was an editor of Delhi Urdu Akhbar as well as the first journalist who became victim of 1857 insurgency. The end of Ayub Khan's tenure was marked as an era in the history of Pakistan when culture of using guns and bullets against journalists started in the country. It was 8<sup>th</sup> of December, 1986 when unknown people in a student rally tried to shot journalists, who were there to cover rally. Fortunately, Nadeem Shahid who belonged to daily Tameer Rawalpindi survived the attack in spite of getting some serious injuries. Zameer Qureshi is known to be the first journalist who was shot dead after the creation of Pakistan in January 1965. A Few reports claim that he was not the prime target of assassins as he was accompanied by Abdul Baqi Baloch who was a politician but again no one is sure<sup>4</sup>.

It is necessary here to define 'reporters' as the focus of this study are them. "A reporter is a type of journalist who researches, processes, writes and reports information to present via media outlets. He or she conducts interviews, engages in research, and files reports. This information-gathering and distributing part of a journalist's job is sometimes called reporting."<sup>5</sup>

Job of a reporter is always a tough one. They work in the field, burn midnight's oil to come up with something worthy, find sources, dig information, face a lot of danger, bear enormous pressures and sometimes give their life for the sake of their duty. Reporters whether foreigners or natives, usually have to face a lot of danger no matter where they work.

This research is quantitative in nature and based on content analysis. Data made available by different people, institutes and organizations was analyzed in order to draw conclusion. Content analysis was defined by Walizer and Wieneir (1978) as 'A systematic procedure devised to examine the content of recorded information.' Krippendorf (1980) defined it as 'a research technique for making replicable and valid references from data to their context.'<sup>6</sup>

Committee to protect journalists claims that since 1992 Pakistan is on 5th position among the countries declared dangerous for journalists. From 2009 to 2013 at least 69 journalists lost their lives in the line of their duty claimed by Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP)<sup>7</sup>.

#### **Journalists who lost their lives in Pakistan from 2009 to 2013**

2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	Total
11	14	16	20	8	69

❖ Table was compiled by taking statistics from 'Media Safety in Pakistan: A study of threats to Journalists in Pakistan published by Pakistan Institute for Peace Studies.

Pakistan was also called the most dangerous country in Asia as 14 journalists lost their life in the line of duty in 2012.<sup>8</sup>

Balochistan is one of the dangerous places for journalists in Pakistan<sup>9</sup>. Presence of Security forces, militants, Baloch separatist insurgents and tribal chieftains in Balochistan has affected lives of media practitioners working in the province. From 2000 to 2013 at least 17 journalists were killed in the line of duty in the province. Many regions in Balochistan like DeraBugti, Kohlu, Kalat, Kech, Gawadar, Khuzdar and Panjgur have become dangerous for journalists. Among these regions Khuzdar district is considered to be deadly for media practitioners as out of 17, at least 13 journalists were murdered in that region from 2002 to 2013. It seems that journalists are migrating to other areas or district to protect themselves and their families<sup>10</sup>.

Khuzdar was also named among the 10 most dangerous places for journalists because of the brutalities media and its practitioners have been facing as a price for their work<sup>11</sup>. Amnesty International mentioned Khuzdar as a 'graveyard for journalists.'<sup>12</sup> A reporter has to be more careful while reporting on the conflict zone. They cannot displease Sardars, insurgents, their tribal system as well as government and hope for the best as far as their own security is concerned at the same time<sup>13</sup>.

Situation in Balochistan is getting bad day by day since 2008. By 2013 at least 32 journalists had lost their lives in Balochistan out of which the FIRs of only 3 murders were lodged. It seems that journalists who report about operations against different tribes in Balochistan as well as about attacks by any militants or extremists groups are more likely to be harassed or receive threats. Not only this, they are also likely to face negative consequences if they discuss important and sensitive information in their reports about arm forces, underground separatist groups or militants as well as government. Reporting about violation of human rights also creates troubles for them.

They are often forced by state agencies as well as partisan or militant groups to mold news reports in their favor. It has been observed that whether journalists follow their instruction or not they have to pay a price in any case. Not only reporters are the target of different sources as far as threats are concerned but sub editors also face consequences for editing militants releases<sup>14</sup>.

In another report Human Rights Commission of Pakistan says that from 2010 to 2014, at least 30 journalists were shot dead in Balochistan only. Different reports claim that Khuzdar Press Club has lost at least 7 members and Qalat at least 10 as a result of growing violence in the region<sup>15</sup>.

Committee to Protect Journalists claims that at least 21 journalists as well as a media worker were put to death from 1992 to 2014 in Balochistan. At least 2 journalists lost their lives in 2008, while only 1 in 2009. Not only is this, 3 journalists and 1 media worker were put to death in 2010. At least 4 journalists

each year from 2011 to 2013 gave their lives in the line of duty, while in 2014, only 3 were killed in the province<sup>16</sup>.

It seems that the growing insurgency has also made the whole Balochistan province a no-go area for journalists. The increasing number of journalists who lost their lives in the line of duty portrays Pakistan as country where the constitution grants its citizens the right to free speech but in reality they are still struggling for this right.

Brutality against media in FATA started in 2005 after two journalists were killed in Wana<sup>17</sup>. Security condition has been getting worse since 9/11 for journalists working in KPK and FATA as journalists face intimidation and threats from state and non-state actors on daily basis<sup>18</sup>. Presence of, Intelligence agencies, extremist militants and tribal groups have made these areas almost 'NO-GO' for journalists in rest of the world. There are many areas of North and South Waziristan media can't access. Native journalists in FATA and KPK pay heavy price for being journalists in the form of murders, kidnappings, intimidation and all of this led them to flee from these regions<sup>19</sup>.

From 2008 to 2014, at least 34 journalists lost their lives while carrying out their duties in FATA. In 2005, a van carrying 11 journalists was targeted leaving 2 journalists dead in Wana, South Waziristan. Year 2006 is claimed to be the year full of brutalities against media practitioners as the number of journalists killed is 3 and figure of those assaulted and tormented rose up to 206. Hayatullah Khan was also abducted and then murdered in 2006 in North Waziristan. The year 2008 took the life of Dr. Noor Hakeen from Bajaur. Another journalist named Muhammad Ibrahim Jan in Bajaur Agency lost his life in 2009. Abdul Muhammad and Pervez Khan Muhammad from Mohmand Agency as well as Nasarullah Khan Afridi from Khyber Agency were among journalists murdered in 2010. North Waziristan's ShafiUllah was murdered in June 2011. Mohmad Agency's Mukaram Khan Atif was assassinated in January 2012. In February 2013, Malik Mumtaz of North Waziristan lost his life in the line of duty. Among the journalists killed only one case of a murdered journalist received treatment it deserved<sup>20</sup>.

Reporters have to pay heavy prices for reporting on violation of human rights by various sources and reporting on prevailing political situation. Presence of Talibans as well as intelligence agencies possesses danger to Journalists in both the regions. It has also been observed that employers or the organizations journalists work for have failed to provide any security or related training to journalists<sup>21</sup>.

In FATA (Federally Administered Tribal Area) and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa around 28 journalists lost their lives from 1922 to 2014, Committee to Protect Journalists claimed. At least 3 journalists were put to death in 2013, a journalists as well as a

media worker in 2012, 2 lost their lives in 2011 and 4 in 2010. Lives of 5 journalists and a media worker were put to end in 2009. 3 journalists lost their lives in 2008 and 2 in 2007, and only 1 in 2006. 2005 witnessed killing of 2 journalists. A journalist each year was killed in 2004 and 2003. 1998 also witnessed killing of a journalist<sup>22</sup>.

The upper mentioned information provided by different organizations shows that the province of Balochistan, KPK and FATA have become trouble-some areas for journalists because of the presence of different state and non-state actors who create hurdles in order to keep journalists silent. Murders of a number journalist as well as other security problems they frequently face at work do not only show the vulnerability of journalists to violence but also show the failure of state in protecting them.

Journalists in interior Sindh work in a critical situation. Journalists feel threaten and pressure while carrying out their duties which lead them to sometimes change the dateline of news report. Journalists face safety issues and are troubles while they cover clashes between different tribes in different districts of Sindh like Shikarpur, Larkana, Jacobabad and Kashmor. Non-Muslim journalists are more likely to face violence or intimidation especially when they highlight religious minorities in rural Sindh. When they come to Karachi, security forces, political parties, Taliban militants, sectarian group and criminal gang are the sources of trouble for journalists<sup>23</sup>. Tribal and Feudal lords, political parties, terrorists, law enforcement and intelligence agencies are sources behind killing of journalists as well as assaults and the threats received by journalists in Sindh<sup>24</sup>.

Data from various organizations also shows that there was a time when political parties used to be the biggest sources behind the professional and personal troubles of journalists but infiltration of different extremists as well as sectarian groups and terrorist organizations in Karachi and increase in the influence of state intelligence agencies has worsened the situation for them.

In Sindh and Karachi collectively 18 journalists and 3 media workers lost their lives. In 2014, at least 3 media workers and journalists lost their lives. A journalist in 2013 and 3 journalists in 2012 sacrificed their lives. At least 2 journalists each in 2011, 2010, 2007, 2002 and in 1994 lost their lives, while a journalist per year was put to death in 2001, 2006 and 2000.<sup>25</sup>

Journalists working in Islamabad face consequences for performing their duties but unlike journalists working in rest of Pakistan. Situation in Islamabad and Punjab is slightly better than rest of provinces in Pakistan. Militants or extremists groups, feudal lords, politicians as well as government of Punjab are known be the source of journalists' troubles in the province and capital city. Intelligence agencies also interfered in journalists' duties in the past<sup>26</sup>.

In Punjab and Islamabad, collectively 3 journalists were put to death in 2011. However, a journalist each year was killed in 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 1999 and in the year 1997. Other than journalists no other media worker was killed in both the regions during this period<sup>27</sup>.

The situation in Islamabad is comparatively better than rest of the country as far as killings of journalists are concerned. But the increasing number of murdered journalists in the capital city of Pakistan questions the role of law enforcement agencies in maintaining law and order in the city.

Majority of the journalists killed in Pakistan from 1992 to 2014 are from print media. Among the media practitioners killed, around 34 percent were reporters working for broadcast media, 39 percent were print media reporters, 5 percent were internet reporters, 9 percent Editors, 7 percent columnist or commentators, 16 percent camera operators, 2 percent technicians and 14 percent were photographers. Among these killed journalists and media workers, none was female<sup>28</sup>.

PPF MEDIA VIOLENCE INDEX 2001-2015							
	Killed while working	Murdered	Injured	Assaulted	Abducted	Detained	Total
2015	0	1	1	19	0	2	23
2014	0	7	41	6	0	2	56
2013	4	5	12	0	1	0	22
2012	2	5	25	3	1	0	36
2011	2	4	10	0	2	0	18
2010	8	5	15	7	2	5	42
2009	2	3	14	4	5	5	33
2008	1	5	11	2	4	2	25
2007	3	3	6	43	0	0	55
2006	1	2	14	3	2	5	27
2005	1	2	5	0	1	4	13
2004	0	1	3	1	1	2	8
2003	0	2	0	0	1	10	13
2002	0	2	3	0	1	1	7
2001	0	0	4	0	0	2	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>384</b>

\* Chart taken from report on Safety of Media Workers (2015) published by Pakistan Press Foundation

From 2001 till October 2015 in 384 incidents of violence against journalists at least 24 media practitioners lost their lives while performing their duties, 164

injured, 21 abducted while 88 and 40 were assaulted and detained respectively. At least 47 were murdered in the line of duty. As the statistics show 2010 proved to be lethal as 13 media practitioners' lives were taken. Year 2014 also came with brutalities as only in this year 56 times journalists were subjected to violence followed by 2007 in which 55 incidents of violence against them occurred. Sindh topped the list of the provinces where the number of incidents of violence against journalists was higher as 128 incidents of violence against journalists occurred followed by Islamabad where the number of incidents rose to 76. Sindh also topped the list of the provinces where higher number of journalists were detained and injured in different incidents of violence as at least 15 journalists were taken into custody from 2001 to October 2015 and 51 got injured during different incidents. KPK topped the lists of the provinces where the number of journalists killed while performing their duties was higher as 10 journalists lost their lives in the province followed by Balochistan where 7 journalists were killed while working from 2001 to 2015. On the other hand in Balochistan the number of murdered journalists rose to 14 which is highest number of murdered journalists among all provinces followed by Sindh where at least 12 journalists were murdered<sup>29</sup>.

PPF MEDIA VIOLENCE INDEX 2001-2015 (by province/area)							
	Sindh	Baluchistan	Punjab	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	FATA	Islamabad	Total
<b>Killed while working</b>	3	7	1	10	2	1	24
<b>Murdered</b>	12	14	3	9	7	2	47
<b>Injured</b>	51	11	34	18	8	42	164
<b>Assaulted</b>	40	1	14	5	0	28	88
<b>Abducted</b>	7	3	1	3	4	3	21
<b>Detained</b>	15	5	10	4	6	0	40
<b>Total</b>	128	41	63	49	27	76	384

\*Chart taken from report on Safety of Media Workers (2015) published by Pakistan Press Foundation

Data collected by Reporters Without Borders from 2002 to 2015 says that at least 69 journalists were killed in Pakistan from 2002 to 2015. The reasons behind their murders were in direct connection with their work. Statistics show that at least 2 journalists were murdered in 2002. Same number of journalists were also killed in 2005, 2006 and in 2015.

At least 6 journalists were put to death in 2007 and 8 in 2008. In the year 2009 at least 5, 11 in 2010 and 10 in 2011 lost their life in the line of duty. Pakistan lost 9 journalists in 2012, 7 in 2013 and 4 in 2015. A journalist's life was also put to end in 2004 while no journalist was killed in 2003.

<b>S.No</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Journalists killed in Pakistan</b>
<b>1</b>	2002	2
<b>2</b>	2003	0
<b>3</b>	2004	1
<b>4</b>	2005	2
<b>5</b>	2006	2
<b>6</b>	2007	6
<b>7</b>	2008	8
<b>8</b>	2009	5
<b>9</b>	2010	11
<b>10</b>	2011	10
<b>11</b>	2012	9
<b>12</b>	2013	7
<b>13</b>	2014	4
<b>14</b>	2015	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>

\*Table compiled by taking statistics from Press Freedom Barometer (2002 - 2015).<sup>45</sup>

In Pakistan , presence of militants, religious outfits or Taliban and alike, Baloch separatist groups, intelligence agencies, ethnic political parties, criminal gangs, mainstream political parties, tribal elders and feudal lords possess danger to journalists and also considered as threats to their lives<sup>30</sup>.

Amnesty International has been looking into many complaints indicating that Lashkar e Jhangvi and it's another wing AhleSunnatWalJamaat (ASWJ), MuthhaidaQuami Movement (MQM), Tehreek e Talibaan Pakistan (TTP), Al-Qaida and its affiliates, Baloch armed groups and are among the sources allegedly involved in the assassination and molestation of journalists. The organization in its reports also highlighted the employers' lack of interest in training and security of journalists. Reports indicated that the presence of MQM in Karachi possesses a threat to journalists as there is an alleged involvement of the political party in the murder of a reporter Wali Khan Baber in 2011. Wali Khan Baber before being murdered was associated with Geo News and had been working on a report about wrongdoings of this political party in Karachi. A senior female anchor also intimidated allegedly by this party as she highlighted alleged rigging by MQM in 2013 general elections and eventually fled from Pakistan fearing her life<sup>31</sup>.

Tehreek e Taliban Pakistan also possesses threats to reporters and is responsible for many journalists' killings. When in 2012 MalalaYusufzai was attacked, TTP, who is behind the attack on Malala, forbade reporters to highlight anything



related to this attack including Malala's condition and also issued a Fatwa on 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 which states:

*“Yes, Geo TV, Sama TV, ARY and Express News, Deewa radio, Mashal radio, Azaadi radio, Radio Aap Ki Dunya and BBC's reporters should be targeted in general and other journalists who are harmful should be dealt with in specific order.”<sup>32</sup>*

Data shows from 1994 to October 2015, at least 53 journalists' lives were killed after being attacked by terrorists groups or organizations and 51 journalists were injured in total 62 attacks by terrorists<sup>33</sup>.

Kamran Khan in September 1991, when he used to work for The News as an investigative reporter was attacked in which he got severely injured but survived<sup>34</sup>. The year 2014 proved to be a dangerous one for journalists in Pakistan. Many renowned journalists were attacked during this year but all the journalists survived the attacks. In March, a famous anchor Raza Rumi's car was attacked. Same year in April, Hamid Mir who is another well-known personality in Media circle attacked in Karachi by unknown gunmen, he was severely injured in attack. Zafar Aheer who served as a Resident Editor of Daily Jang, Multan was assaulted by unknown attackers in June 2014. July proved to be the worst for Jamshed Bhagwan who works for Express News (T.V. Channel) in Peshawar as for the third time on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014, attackers tried to bomb his house. Dawn News' and Dunya News' satellite vans carrying their journalists and media workers were targeted in Islamabad by unknown outlaws with cracker on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2014. All the staff members in the vehicles received injuries in this attack<sup>35</sup>.

From 1994 to 2015, at least 28 times media practitioners were attacked in KPK and FATA in which 25 were killed and 20 were injured followed by Sindh and Karachi where journalists' community suffered from the loss of at least 12 journalists' lives while 9 journalists got injuries in 15 attacks. At least 12 journalists were killed and 13 got injured while being attacked 13 times in Balochistan in the same time period. Journalists in Punjab and Islamabad were attacked 6 times in these years leaving 4 dead and 9 injured<sup>36</sup>.

According to reports published by different organizations journalists are more likely to face violence by state intelligence agencies if they highlight any negligence by military system or its alleged relation with any terrorist organization, power abuses by security forces in Northern areas and Balochistan, and working for any media outlet that authorities do not like.

Pakistan has adopted UN Plan of Action on Impunity against Journalists in November 2013. Not only this but Pakistan was also chosen as the pilot country for the execution of the plan but still there is little hope for the betterment of situation as far as journalists' safety and security is concerned. Lack of security

policies and other security mechanism for journalists at federal and provincial level as well as in media organizations where they work reflects the absence of government's as well as organization's required interest in safety of journalists. Negligence by government is also visible in the absence of any law concerning the security of journalists as well as in their inability to stop the crimes against journalists.

The Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) is the only law which protects all the citizens of Pakistan is also being used to provide safety to journalists. This law makes no difference between the security of journalists and other citizens of Pakistan. Other than this law, there is no specific legislature which shields journalists. Cases of crimes against journalists are not properly investigated which is also a reason why government remained unsuccessful in combating impunity for the crime against journalists<sup>37</sup>.

Only two cases of murdered journalists like the case of Denial Pearl who was a foreigner and came to Pakistan for his work and the case of Wali Khan Baber received proper attention of authorities as culprits were convicted in only these cases<sup>38</sup>.

**Impunity Rate of Pakistan (from 2008 to 2015) in Global Impunity Index**

2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
0.051	0.62	0.72	0.82	0.109	0.13	0.123	0.119

\* Reproducing CPJ Global Impunity Index (for Pakistan) from 2008 to 2015.

Since 2005 Pakistan occupies a prominent place in the Global Impunity Index as impunity for the crime against journalists was on the increase. Index shows the improvement in Impunity rate of Pakistan since last year as it becomes 0.119 which means 0.119 unsolved cases of murdered journalists per million inhabitants. Improvement in raking from 0.123 in 2014 to 0.119 in 2015 can be linked to the convictions in the cases of Geo News reporter Wali Khan Babers' and Denial Pearls' murder which can be considered as exceptions because 22 murder cases of journalists in which the motives were confirmed still remained unaddressed from 2005 till August 2015.<sup>39</sup>

In 2014, a ray of hope appeared with the establishment of a committee to look into the security and related matters of journalists. At provincial level Balochistan's government appointed a judicial commission for the proper investigation of the cases of journalists killed in last five years and a commission to compensate journalists and their families for loss.

KPK's government came up with Journalists Welfare Endowment Fund Act 2014 to provide relief to the journalists as much as possible followed by Sindh where the provincial government brought partial Health insurance scheme, endowment fund for the working journalists while a plot was also promised to the families of

journalists who lost their lives in line of duty. Despite making arrangements of these kinds media practitioners as well organization are subjected to violence frequently<sup>40</sup>.

Analysis of the data shows that the total number of journalists murdered or killed in Pakistan provided by one organization varies from the numbers provided by another organization. Data provided by Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) shows that 75 journalists were killed in Pakistan from 1992 to 2014 as well as 6 media workers also lost their lives. Out of 75 who lost their lives at least 56 were murdered in direct connection with their work and in rest of the 19 cases the motives remained unconfirmed.

On the other hand Pakistan Press Foundation (PPF) in their latest report claims that 71 journalists lost their lives in Pakistan from 2001 to October 2015, out of which 47 were murdered and 24 were killed while conducting their professional duties. Reporters without Borders found that 69 journalists were killed while conducting their duties as journalists in Pakistan from 2002 to 2015.

The number of journalists killed in Pakistan given by these three organizations can vary because of the number of years for which these organizations have been collecting data. Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) can tell you how many journalists as well as media workers were murdered or killed from 2012 to 2014. Pakistan Press Foundation has this kind of data available from the year 2001 to October 2015 while Reporters without borders can also tell the number of journalists who lost their lives in Pakistan from 2002 to November 2015.

If we take the total number of journalists who lost their lives from the database of all these three organization from the year 2002 to 2014 we still find variation as Committee to protect Journalists claims 68 journalists lost their lives in Pakistan from 2002 to 2014, Pakistan Press Foundation claims this number to be 70 while Reporters without borders says that Pakistan lost at least 67 journalists in this period.

**Journalists who lost their lives in Pakistan from the year 2002 to 2014**

<b>Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ)</b>	<b>Pakistan Press Foundation (PPF)</b>	<b>Reporters Without Borders (RSF)</b>
68	70	67

\* Table compiled by taking statistics from the database of CPJ, PPF and RSF from the year 2002 to 2014<sup>41</sup>

Numbers of Journalists who lost their life in Pakistan provided by these three organizations can also vary because of the different methodologies used by these organizations for collecting data. It would be safe to conclude that at least 67 journalists lost their lives in Pakistan from 2002 to 2014.

According to the data provided by Committee to Protect Journalists, motives were confirmed in 56 out of 75 cases of journalists who were killed from 1992 to 2014. Motives confirmed means there is a link between the reason why they were killed and their work. Out of those 56 journalists at least 34 percent of them were Broadcast Media's reporters, 39 percent were Print Media's, while 5 percent were internet reporters.

Statistics from CPJ's database also show that Politics, war, crime and corruption seem to be the dangerous beats for journalists as out of 56 journalists around 63 percent victims were associated with the beat of Politics, 39 percent with war, 29 percent with crime, around 16 percent with corruption and same percentage of journalists were associated with human rights. Only around 5 percent of reporters were associated with the beat of business and same percentage was associated with culture as their beats.

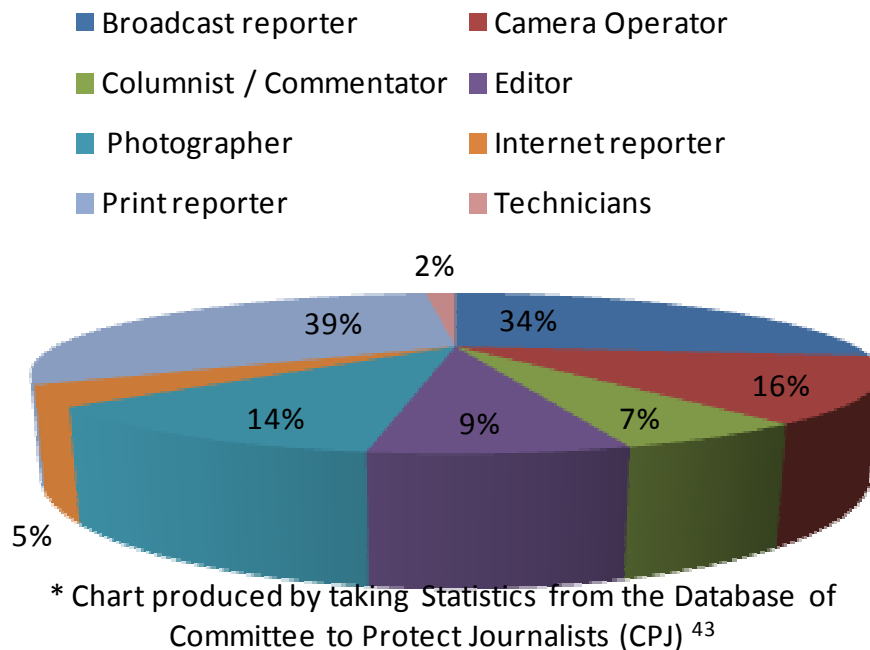
Reporters in Pakistan work in an environment full of suppression as the data shows that they are being assaulted abducted, detained, and killed by state and non-state actors. If their reporting displeases government, Intelligence agencies, Political Parties, Politicians, criminal gangs or Militants or any religious, extremists, terrorists or separatist group then there is no one who can protect them.

Not only the local reporter but foreign reporters who are working in Pakistan are also not safe as there is an example of murder of Denial Pearl who also was a reporter and working for a renowned newspaper Wall Street Journal when he was murdered in Pakistan in 2002.

In the absence of any law to protect them and inability of government to secure them and compensate for their losses make them feel insecure. Media organizations do not take much interest in the security or safety of reporters. Journalists are not satisfied with their organizations' lack of interest in their safety. Although, after being pressurized by civil society and '2012 UN Plan of Action on the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity', few media organizations now train their them to protect themselves but majority of journalists are still untrained<sup>42</sup>. Lack of this kind of training makes journalists more vulnerable to violence.

Besides the issue of safety and security the issue of impunity in the cases of murdered journalists is also on the rise. Impunity in these kinds of cases accelerates number of crime against journalists. International and local community, media watchdogs and human rights organizations express their concerns over this issue. However convictions in the cases of Wali Khan Baber and Denial Pearl have given them hope.

## Jobs of Journalists



Among the organizations like CPJ, PPF and RSF only CPJ mentioned the proper job of 56 journalists who were killed for their work. Rest of the two organizations did not differentiate different kinds of journalists from each other in their reports or data and also didn't mention whether the reasons behind their killings were work related or not like CPJ does. Statistics from the database of Committee to Protect Journalists shows that a large number of reporters lost their lives in comparison with 7 percent columnists or commentators, 9 percent editors, 16 percent camera operators, 14 percent Photographers and 2 percent Technicians making reporting a life threatening profession.

This is high time for our government to come up with a law to protect journalists especially reporters from both the state and non-state actors and by forcing our media organizations to take interest in the security and safety of journalists especially reporters. Government must make self-defense training mandatory for all the journalists and must ask media organizations to arrange for the training of their reporters. Not only is this but government should come up with a mechanism to ensure an in depth investigation and prosecution in all the cases of crimes against journalists.

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