

**UPDATE 2**

# **Indo-Pak Standoff and Pakistan's Response**



## **INDO-PAK STANDOFF AND PAKISTAN'S RESPONSE**

[Updated 1815 Hours Pakistan Time – Tuesday, 13 May 2025]

<b>Ser.</b>	<b>India</b>	<b>Pakistan</b>
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• India attacked three PAF airbases during the night of 9-10 May.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nur Khan Airbase (Rawalpindi)</li><li>• Mureed Airbase (Chakwal)</li><li>• Shorkot Airbase</li></ul></li><li>• Air-to-surface missiles (Brahmos) were used in the attack</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• DG ISPR in the press briefing confirmed that all the flying assets are safe as the missiles were intercepted and neutralized by Pakistan's Air Defense systems.</li><li>• DG ISPR also announced "Wait for our response now"</li></ul>
2.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pakistan launched its counter attack named "Operation Bunyan um Marsoos" on 10 May around 4:45 am.</li><li>• Targeting 26 military installations and facilities within India notably two storage sites of Brahmos missiles and S-400 air defense system</li></ul>
<b>International Mediation</b>		
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Several countries with close ties to both India and Pakistan, including Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Turkiye and the UAE, had been working for days to try to cool the conflict. The US, the EU and China had all urged maximum restraint from Pakistan and India as fears grew of a full-blown war.</li><li>• Soon after Pakistan launched its counter attack, US Secretary of State Marc Rubio and Vice President JD Vance engaged with senior leadership on both sides urging them to de-escalate.</li><li>• POTUS through his X account announced that India and Pakistan have agreed to a ceasefire, which was later confirmed by Indian and Pakistani officials.</li></ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soon after the announcement of a ceasefire, both sides blamed each other for violating the ceasefire.</li> <li>• It was also agreed that DGMOs of India and Pakistan will hold talks at 1200 Hours on 12 May 25; however, the talks have been deferred and will now be held in the evening today.</li> </ul>
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## **Post Maraka e Haq and Bunyannun Marsoos Developments-Way Ahead**

### **Overview**

- The developments since 22 April 2025 have had phenomenal fallout in almost all existing geopolitical, geo-economic, diplomatic and regional security spheres of Indo – Pakistan sub-continent.
- Pakistan's mature, timely and befitting response to Indian intransigence since 22 April's Pahalgam incident has significantly changed the dynamics of regional power politics. India besides suffering heavy military losses, has endured irreversible losses to her notions of hegemon and a regional power and would attempt to do everything and anything to restore her lost and self-claimed prestige and image

### **Assessment**

- Following is perceived to be happening in the coming weeks and month
  - Pakistan in this Marka e Haq has come up as a winner as it has thwarted Indian war aim of "accusing Pakistan of terrorism and imposing a conventional war on it to cause economic and military damage with the aim of forcing Pakistan to seek international mediation from a position of weakness". The military aim derived from this political aim was to attack alleged military camps in Pakistan. The objective was to coerce Pakistan and to project India's power as a dominant regional entity, failing which involve Pakistan in a conventional war to attain the political war aim. The illegal holding of IWT in abeyance and initiating a new wave of repression against population of IIOJK were also the intended sub objectives within the larger war aim.
  - Pakistan's patient and responsible self defence response remaining within the international law earned it the international good will and support and ultimate military response to restore the balance of nuclear deterrence forced India to rethink its war

aim and acquiesce to the USA's mediation for a ceasefire. The change in Indian attitude was a consequence of potent conventional response and effective media and diplomatic campaign of Pakistan.

- India might attempt to up the ante in military domain, receiving immediate covert tech assistance from Israel / West, and might choose to strike our military installations (specially air basis) in next 15 to 30 days' time with enhanced network enabled platforms and deep air operations. Our operational preparedness should remain optimum and no guards to be lowered.
- Given the size, capacity and acceptability of Indian state sponsored and (so called) independent / private intelligentsia / media, it is expected that all possible efforts shall be made to turn the tide against Pakistan. Our vulnerabilities and internal fissures like political disarray, economic fragility, nationalist slits etc. would be exploited and targeted. Immediate corrective measures be initiated to put the house in order through political reconciliation and whole of the nation's approach and boosting up of economic activities should now be our top priority.
- Diplomatically, India might initiate all out efforts not only to isolate Pakistan, but to seek economic sanctions against us (very low probability unless another false flag operation takes place elsewhere with planted Pakistani footprints). However, our diplomatic arm should extensively engage international community (specially the trusted friends) to keep the effects of Indian propaganda mitigated.
- Indian sponsored analysts have already started promoting India's announcement of holding the IWT in abeyance as a plausible and justifiable act downplaying the obligations to respect the internationally guaranteed treaty. This aspect demands urgent attention. A technically resourced and legally very well readied team of experts is to be selected to deal with this very serious issue. Team should be able not only to formulate a sustained and extended course of action on it but should also be able to widely contest India's stance and efforts to mitigate the cruelty and inhumanness behind this act of starving a nation of 250 million. India would also reduce its internationalization and keep it more confined to arm twisting Pakistan for the time being and later freezing it in a state of status quo and simultaneously initiating construction of infrastructure to divert the waters of Pakistani Rivers. Buying 10 to 15 years of time for such purposes is not a longer duration in bilateral conflicts.

Therefore, Pakistan must undertake credible, sustained and wide-ranging measures to internationalize the issue and seek maximum possible attention of international community for a considerably long time. A comprehensive national policy should be chalked out in this regard.

### **Recommendations**

- Pakistan should keep up the momentum of its media and diplomatic efforts to highlight Indian hegemony, unreasonableness and violation of international law while imposing a war upon Pakistan and holding Indus Water Treaty in abeyance.
- Maintain a high state of military readiness at tri-service level to thwart any possible Indian aggression on LOC, working boundary and international border.
- Pakistan should insist on following in any future talks with India:-
  - Abide by the ceasefire agreement and toning down of the accusatory rhetoric on terrorism.
  - Acceptance of Kashmir as an international dispute and its resolution according to UN Security Council Resolutions.
  - Rejoining of IWT by India and resolution of disputes on river sharing according to mechanism defined in the dispute resolution clauses of IWT.
  - Assure Pakistan of discontinuance of its support to terrorist entities like BLA and TTP.