

Operation Sindoor Explained: India's Deep Strikes on Terror Camps in Pakistan

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What's in Today's Article?

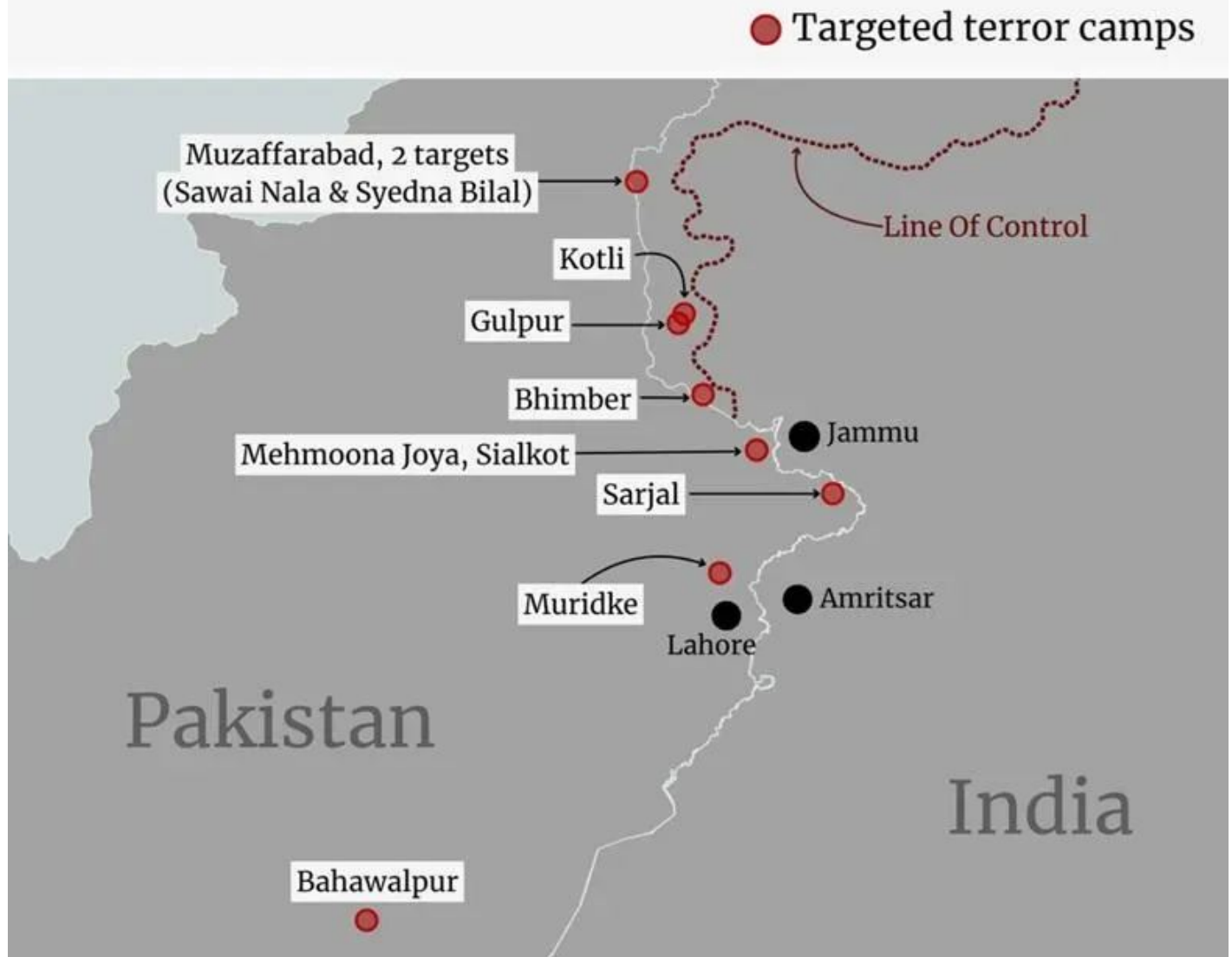
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Operation Sindoor India Latest News

- India successfully conducted Operation Sindoor, a joint military operation involving the Army, Navy, and Air Force, targeting terrorist camps at nine locations in Pakistan and **Pakistan-occupied Kashmir** (PoK).
- The strikes were a response to the April 22 terrorist attack in Pahalgam, attributed to ISI-backed militant groups. Precision munitions were used to hit four targets in Pakistan (Bahawalpur, Muridke, Sialkot, Sarjal) and five in PoK, with the objective of dismantling terrorist infrastructure operating with impunity.

Operation Sindoor

Indian armed forces on May 7, 2025, carried out missile strikes on nine terror targets in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.



Purpose Behind Target Selection

- The targets were chosen to **dismantle anti-India terrorist infrastructure** linked to groups actively engaged in cross-border terrorism.

Involvement of Proscribed Terror Groups

- The sites were connected to banned outfits such as Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), and Hizbul Mujahideen (HM), which are known to receive direct support from Pakistan's military and intelligence agencies.

Nature of Terrorist Facilities

- These groups operate from training camps (Markaz) and launch pads, often concealed within government-run buildings.
 - Launch pads: Used for infiltration staging and arms training.
 - Larger camps: Serve purposes like religious indoctrination, propaganda, logistics, and recruitment.

Key Signals from Operation Sindoor

• Redefining the Causal Link Between Pakistan and Terrorism

- India framed Operation Sindoor as a response not just to the recent Pahalgam attack, but to a two-decade-long pattern of Pakistan-sponsored terrorism since the 2001 Parliament attack.
- It highlighted the role of groups like Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) and Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), both UN-designated terrorist groups.
- Cited examples like Sajid Mir and the FATF's role in forcing Pakistan to take symbolic actions without dismantling terror networks.
- Targeting key sites like Markaz Subhan Allah, Markaz Taiba, and Mehmoona Joya undermines Pakistan's narrative that newer proxy groups (like TRF) are disconnected from Islamabad.

• Targeting Terror, Not the Pakistani Military

- India continues its doctrine of hitting terrorist infrastructure without targeting Pakistan's conventional military.
- The strikes were labeled as "non-military" and "preemptive", similar to the approach in the 2016 surgical strikes and 2019 Balakot airstrike.
- However, Sindoor marks an escalation in depth and scale, striking targets deep within Pakistan, not just in PoK.

• Calibrated Action with Strategic Restraint

- India emphasized Sindoor was "focused, measured, and non-escalatory", showing **it does not seek full-scale war**.
- However, it sent a clear message that Pakistan's nuclear deterrence posture no longer shields its terror infrastructure.
- Future escalations by Pakistan could trigger Indian retaliation on military assets, pushing the threshold higher.

What Makes Operation Sindoor Different

• Unprecedented Scale and Reach

- Nine locations targeted across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), including Muzaffarabad, Bahawalpur, Rawalakot, Jhelum, and more.
- 24 missile strikes launched in a single day — India's largest single-day strike so far.
- Over 70 militants killed and 60 injured, sending a powerful deterrent message.
- Unlike Balakot (2019) and Uri (2016), which targeted one or few sites, Sindoor reflects a massive, coordinated offensive.

- **Wider Target Spectrum and Deep Strikes**

- India signaled that no part of Pakistan is off-limits, targeting deep inside the Pakistani heartland.
- Shows a clear shift in policy — from reactive to pre-emptive and assertive.
- Military analysts noted this operation crossed previous thresholds in terms of both geography and intensity.

- **Tri-Services Coordination and Advanced Weaponry**

- Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force all took part, demonstrating joint operational strength.
- Strikes were highly coordinated, time-bound, and used real-time UAV confirmation to verify destruction — marking a new benchmark in precision warfare.

- **Strategic Red Line Shift**

- India refrained from hitting Pakistani military installations to avoid conventional escalation, but the depth and scale of the strikes clearly altered the red line.
- The operation has redefined the costs Pakistan may have to bear for continuing cross-border terrorism.

- **Symbolic Naming, Human-Centric Messaging**

- Named “Sindoor” to honour the victims of the Pahalgam attack, particularly widows of the 26 slain.
- Reflects a shift from military glorification to moral justification.

Operation Sindoor India FAQs

Q1. What triggered Operation Sindoor?

Ans. The April 22 Pahalgam terrorist attack prompted India to launch coordinated strikes on ISI-backed terror camps in Pakistan and PoK.

Q2. Which terrorist groups were targeted?

Ans. India targeted camps linked to Lashkar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammad, and Hizbul Mujahideen operating under ISI protection.

Q3. How many locations were hit in the operation?

Ans. Nine locations, including Bahawalpur, Muzaffarabad, and Kotli, were hit with 24 precision-guided missile strikes.

Q4. What was India’s strategic message?

Ans. India redefined its red line by targeting deep inside Pakistan without provoking conventional escalation, signalling pre-emptive capability.

Q5. Why is the name ‘Sindoor’ significant?

Ans. ‘Sindoor’ honors the victims of the Pahalgam attack, particularly widows, reflecting a moral and symbolic naming choice.

Source: [IE](#) | [FP](#) | [IE](#) | [TH](#)

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