

A New Look at Federally Administered Tribal Areas

Syed Iftikhar Hussain and Fazal-ur-Rahim Marwat

It may look ordinary yet the denomination of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa entails new quid pro quos. FATA is essentially a Pukhtoon belt. Ethnically and ecologically it is akin to the settled area. The area, coincidentally contiguous to the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province of Pakistan, is historically considered as the cradle of many ancient civilisations dating back to over 10,000 years (i.e. the era of the earliest known human settlements) and according to local fables, the progenitor of mankind, Adam, lived around here.

The region is situated on the ancient track route along which moved the Aryans, Greeks, Sakas, Parthians, Huns, Persians, Arabs, Turks and finally the Pukhtoon races from Afghanistan onward into the Indo-Pak subcontinent. Sedentary element held on to mountains, others moved onto the plains. The tribal belt as such carries the imprints of the cultures that the invaders brought along and left their marks on its rocky terrain. The tribesman stood as the first guard against the northern invaders in many cases but succumbing to pressure in some cases he even joined him, in casting his fortune for deeper penetration into India. He preserved whatever available to him during the Anglo-Afghan wars: fought against Soviets' occupation of Afghanistan and stands firm today against American onslaught.

The tribal area since times immemorial formed part of the subcontinent of India and Pakistan. The British on their entry to this part of India, bifurcated the region into settled and unsettled part. The settled area carried charisma of the British system of administration envisaged for the United India where western type magistracy, police and political system was introduced though gradually for the rest of India, the tribal belt was left to its own norm and form.

The tribesman always posed administrative and political problems to the ruling house in Delhi. The British instituted mechanism and policy to regulate their affairs and provided for administrative machinery called political agencies to deal with them. The establishment of the Khyber Agency in 1879 was the first step in this direction. It stemmed out of the Afghan crisis and the Afridi troubles there in. Initially an agency was placed under a political officer versed in politico-strategic knowledge of the area. Such officers were mostly drawn from the army but gradually the British civil servants were brought into the border management and designated as political agents. The formation of other agencies followed in due course of time is detailed below alongwith most essential characteristics and the area alongwith its dwellers.

In 1892, the Kurram Agency was created (Obhrai 1938: 68; Akbar 1977: 23) a year before the birth of the Durand Lineⁱ. Kurram Agency with an area of 3380 Sq Km, is inhabited by a population of 448,310, with its headquarters at Parachinarⁱⁱ.

The Malakand Agency (PATA—Provincially Administered Tribal Area—now Malakand Protected Area), was formed in 1895. At the time of its birth, it was placed under the control of the Government of India, while all the other agencies were with the Punjab Government until Lord-Curzon, the Viceroy of India created the NWFP Province as a Chief Commissionership in 1901 (Obhrai 70; Ahmad 23). Nonetheless, the tribal areas today as always, have been directly governed by the central authorities — before and after the birth of Pakistan (Ahmad 1977: 23).

The same year (1895) two other agencies, North and South Waziristan, were also created along the Pak-Afghan border. The former stretches over an area of 4,707 sq. km, with a population of 361,246 whereas the latter has 6,620 sq.km area and 429,841 populationⁱⁱⁱ.

Since then only three other new agencies have been created. The first is the Mohmand Agency, founded in 1951, four years after the birth of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. Its area is 2,296 Sq.Km. and its population,

according to 1998 census, is 334,453. In 1973, the Bajaur Agency came into being. It is spread over an area of 1290 Sq Km. with a population, according to 1998 census, of 595,227 (ibid). It has its headquarters at Khar. Before the Agency, it was a sub-division of the Malakand Agency. Prior to 1960, this area was considered entirely inaccessible (Ahmad 1977: 30).

The same year, during 1973, another and the last agency so far, the Orakzai Agency, was formed (ibid: 33). It stretches over an area of 1538 Sq Km. with a population of 225,441^v. Before its birth, the Orakzai tribal areas were parts of the F.R. Kohat and Hangu (Ahmad 1977: 33).

Besides these agencies, there are seven Frontier Regions. They are small tribal pockets attached to various districts and administratively come under the direct control of the District Coordination Officer of the respective districts.

1. F.R. Peshawar spreads over an area of 261 sq. km. Its population in 1998 census was 53,841.
2. F.R. Kohat has an area of 446 sq. km and a population of 88,456^v. This is administered by the District Coordination Officer Kohat. Here live the Afridis of Darra Adamkhel. They are famous throughout the world for their arms factories (Ahmad 1977: 37). In the early 1950s, they manufactured weapons without any of the modern machine tools. Now they have established their own workshops, where they employ labour on daily wages as well as on monthly salary^{vi}.
3. F.R. Bannu has an area of 745 sq. km and a population of 19,593^{vii}. Here live the Bhattanis and Wazirs, coming under the jurisdiction of District Coordination Officer Bannu.
4. F.R. D.I. Khan is inhabited by the Bhattanis and Sheranis (Ahmad 1977: 37). Its area is 2,008 sq. km and its population is 38,990^{viii}. They are administratively attached to the District Coordination Officer Dera Ismail Khan.
5. F.R. Lakki Marwat has an area of 132 sq. km and a population of 6,987. It is administered by District Coordination Officer Lakki Marwat (ibid). F.R. Lakki Marwat is inhabited by the Boba, Bobak and Wargara clans of the Bhattanis.^{ix}
6. F.R. Tank has an area of 1,221 sq. km and a population of 27,216. It comes under the jurisdiction of District Coordination Officer Tank^x. The area is mainly inhabited by the Bhattanis. In F.R. Tank there are 153 Maliks and 45 Lungi holders^{xi}.
7. F.R. Mansehra comprises of the area all along Kala Dhaka. Its major tribes are, Akazai, Basi Khel, Nusrat Khel, Mada Khel and Hassanzai. Basi Khel is the biggest tribe of Kala Dhaka^{xii}.

At the provincial level, Federally Administered Tribal Areas, come under the jurisdiction of the Governor rather than the Chief Minister. Since the former is the representative of the President. Thus all political agents are appointed by the Governor. The Governor is its incharge and he appoints the Political Agents to these Agencies, who are selected from the public service cadres.

Each agency has its own political agent, who runs the administration of the agency with the help of Assistant Political Agents, Tehsildars and Naib Tehsildars. For the maintenance of Law and Order he has a considerable number of Khassadars^{xiii} and Militia or Scouts, deployed in the prominent positions of the respective agency. During tense and politically inflammatory situations, troops from the regular army can also be drawn upon e.g. in the Kurram Agency, where Shia-Sunni conflict often occurs. All these armed personnel come under the command of Frontier Corps which has its headquarters at the famous Bala Hisar Fort in Peshawar. An officer of the Pakistan Army with the rank of a Major General is its officer commanding. His title is that of

Inspector General F.C. Almost all the Militias and Scouts have attractive names such as Tochi Scouts, Khyber Rifles, Mohmand Rifles, Kurram Militia etc. Such a battalion of scouts is commanded by a Lieutenant or Colonel of Pak Army.

The Political Agent is provided with sufficient funds. Here one must mention that these funds are not auditable which he gives to the Maliks and other tribal elders as grants, Moajibs, allowances or other special rewards. The political agent has unlimited powers in his agency which is necessary for the assurance of general peace and tranquility in the agency.

In Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), a name recently given to the areas, coming under the control of Federal Government^{iv}, there 'were 4664 Primary, 444 Middle, and 279 High Schools during 2007-08. There were 33 Inter and Degree Colleges, 33 hospitals, 302 dispensaries, 56 Mother & Child Health Centre in FATA as recorded in 2007-08^v.

During the year 2007-08, there were 158 post offices, and no telegraph office with 59094 telephones installed (ibid). During the year 2007-08, there were 293820 electricity connections, in which 253040 were domestic, 28379 commercial, 4057 industrial, 8290 irrigation and 54 bulk (ibid). During the year 2006-07, there were 46 branches of the scheduled banks operating in FATA, out of which 8 branches were of National Bank, 14 of Habib Bank, 11 of United Bank, 3 of Allied Bank, 6 of Muslim Commercial Bank and 4 of Zarai Tarakiati Bank (ibid).

There were 193 industrial units with 3800 employees in FATA during 2007-08. Twenty eight veterinary hospitals and 221 dispensaries were working in FATA and F.R.s. during 2007-08. According to Pakistan Census Livestock report 2006, there were 1429609 cattle, 124881 buffaloes, 1531083 sheep, 3252694 goats, 17756 camels, 18141 horses, 142658 asses and 37173 mules in the tribal agencies and Frontier Regions excluding Malakand Agency (ibid).

The mentionable crops of the Tribal areas are wheat, (144.30 tonnes), maize (71.51 tonnes), rice (16.96 tonnes), sugar-cane (41.12 tonnes), barley (15.13 tonnes), gram (1.02 tonnes) and Rape seeds and Mustard (1.87 tonnes) (ibid). As most of the tribal area is mountainous, that's why it is full of natural resources, including valuable minerals such as marbles, Fluorite, Quartz, coal, Lime stone, soap stone, Serpentine, Chromites and Mica.

FATA mineral production for the year 2007-08 shows that The Bajaur Agency produced 41143 tonnes marble, 6180 tonnes lime stone, 415 tonnes soapstone, 11485 tonnes chromite and 1 tonne mica. Khyber Agency produced 7860 tonnes marble, 2268 tonnes Flourite, 1318916 tonnes lime stone and 2356 tonnes soap stone. Kurram Agency produced 36393 tonnes coal, 970 tonnes soap stone and 1070 tonnes chromite. Mohmand Agency produced 1016447 tonnes marble, 51480 tonnes Quartz, 4046 tonnes lime stone, 13088 tonnes soap stone, 1890 tonnes Serpentine, 31615 tonnes Chromite and 72 tonnes mica. Orakzai Agency produced 139225 tonnes Coal and 2910 Litrates. North Waziristan agency produced 30 tonnes marble and 32180 tonnes chromite while the mineral production data in South Waziristan is zero during the year 2007-08. Among the Frontier Regions, FR Kohat produced 83310 tonnes lime stone while FR Tank produced 43771 tonnes coal during 2007-08^{vi}.

In a broader sense almost all the tribal area borders Afghanistan and most of the area lies in the seven contiguous Agencies mentioned above. These tribal areas are situated amidst the high and dry mountains of Koh-e-Sulaiman and Hindu Kush with their heights varying between 610 to 2,134 metres above sea level and having narrow and shallow valleys. Of the total area, 5180 sq. km. is plain while the rest is mountainous.

The climate of the area is cold in winter and pleasant in summer. The average annual rainfall is from 205 to 690 m.

The tribal area lies in longitudes 69° 20'–71° 50' E and latitudes 31° 05' – 34° 57' N^{xvii}. FATA stretches over an area of 27,220 Sq.Km. with a population, according to 1998 census, of 3,176,331^{xviii}.

There are four seasons i.e. winter, summer, autumn and spring. Some areas, such as Tirah, some parts of Waziristan and Kurram are pleasant during summer.

The following table indicates some information related to the ecology of the area:

Population density (1998 census)	= 117 per sq. km
Literacy ratio (1998 census)	= 17.42 %
Reported area FATA and FRs (2007-08)	= 2722042 Hectares
Total cultivated area of the reported area (2007-08)	= 220503 Hectares
Un-cultivated area (2007-08)	= 2501539 Hectares
Forest area (2007-08)	= 47784 Hectares ^{xix}

Flora and Fauna

Some important and principal rivers and nallahs of the area are Bara, Chora, Kabul, Kurram, Tochi, K-2, Khaisors, Shaktu, Gomal, Tank Zam, Subhan Khwar, Kaimore Khwar, Ghiljo, Dara Khwar, Panjkora, Wana Tway, Shinkai, Kathera Algad, Jalera Algad, Shawal Tangi etc.

Flora (Trees)

Local Names	Botanical Names	Remarks
Baira	Zizphus Numularia	Edible fruit. Wood has calorific value 4400 Kcal.per kg.
Palosa	Acacia modesta Wall	Firewood- and wind break.
Speen Toot	Morus alba-L	Fruit-leaves as fodder.
Tor Toot	Morus Nigra-L	Fruit edible.
Ghaz	Tamarix dioica-Roxb	Firewood-soil stabilization.
Kikar	Acacia nilotica (lin.) Delile ssp.	Firewood.
Ghorarskay	Dodonaea Viscosa (L) Jacq	Hedges.
Shewa	Dalbergia sissoo-Roxb	Hardwood—valued timber.
Goorgoora	Monotheca buxifolia (Falc)	
Serrai	Quercus baloot Griffith	Shade, avenues, Soft wood.
Bakyanra	Melia azadarach I.	
Peepal	Ficus religiosa-L.	Shutter belts and amenity.
Spedar	Populus nigra-L.	
Alu Bukhara	Communis, Huds.	
Prunus		
Chelghoza	Pinus gerardiana-wall.ex Lamb.	Seed is consumed as dry food—commercial value.

Source: S. Iftikhar Hussain, *Some Major Pukhtoon Tribes along the Pak-Afghan Border* (Peshawar: Area Study Centre University of Peshawar, 2005), 196.

Fauna – Mammals and Game Birds

Mammals Common Names	Zoological Names	Location
Leopard, or Panther	Panther Pardus	Khyber and Tirah
Snow Leopard	Panthera tigris	Chitral
Lynx	Felis Lynx Linnaeus	Chitral
Mongoose	Herpestes edwardsi and Herpestes auropunctatus (Hodgson)	Khyber, Tirah and Waziristan.
Hyena	Hyaena liyaena (Linnaeus)	Waziristan
Jackal	Canis auerus linnaeus	Khyber, Tirah and Waziristan.
Indian Fox	Valpes bengalensis (shaw)	Khyber, Tirah and Waziristan.
Brown Bear	Lrsus arctos linnaeus	Waziristan and Chitral
Stone Marten	Martes foina (Erleben)	Chitral
Himalayan Weasel	Mustela sibirica Pallas	Chitral
Marmot	Marmota eandata	Chitral
Porcupine	Hystrix indica kerr	Khyber, Tirah and Waziristan.
Urial	Oris orientalis camlin	Chitral
Ibex	Capra ibex linnaeus	Chitral
Markhor	Capra falconeri (Wagner)	Chitral, Waziristan
Musk Deer	Moschus moscheferus	Chitral
Game Birds		
Sand Grouse	Pterodes alchata, Linne	Waziristan
Chukor	Caccabis chunkor J.E. Gray	Chitral
Sesee	Ammoperdix bouhami	Khyber, Tirah.

Source: S. Iftikhar Hussain, *Some Major Pukhtoon Tribes along the Pak-Afghan Border* (Peshawar: Area Study Centre University of Peshawar, 2005), 197.

Mountains and Hills

Said Karam (highest peak of Sufaid Koh, 15602 feet), Mandar Ghar, Torghar (also known as Khwaja Khurram), Darwazgai summit, Charmagh hills, Laruru hill, Inzar Ghar, Kargo Ghar, Khwaja Khizar, Gharlima Ghar, Nishpa Ghar, Momin, Sarwar Ghar, Kundi Ghar, Darwesta, Larema, Zakha, Alexandra, Shawal, Muzdak, Laka Sar, Morgah, Lauzaka, Narhao, Kalauch, Takhtakai, Mallai Ghar, Turu Sar, Speen Ghar, Dogla Ghar, Basay Ghar, Charat Ghar, Shi'man Ghar, Marji Ghar, Soor Ghar, Shamshe and Salala etc., are some of the important mountains and hills of the area (Census Report 1961: 98, 64, 78, 136; Apridi 1971: 63-65).

Rock Type

The tribal belt comprises mountainous ranges and plains. The mountains comprise all the three major rocks facies such as igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary. The plains consist of sandy loams, clay and silts. The slope regions consist of debris, scree and gravels, generally imbedded in a sandy matrix. To sum up, the Tribal belt, with the exception of certain stratigraphic and structural gaps, represents Palaeozoic to Recent rock formations. The various rock types are briefly explained below:

1. *Sedimentary Rocks*: These rocks occupy the extreme southern part of F.R. D.I. Khan as well as the eastern part of Tribal area all along from Sherani to F.R. Kohat/Peshawar. In certain cases like Bajaur, Mohmand, Khyber and Kurram agencies, the sedimentary rocks occupy deep interior parts of the region. These include limestones, dolomite limestones, sand-stones, shales, clay-stones, evaporites (gypsum) conglomerates, and gravel-beds etc. In majority of cases these rocks are fossiliferous. These range in age from Siluro-Devonian to Recent.

2. *Metamorphic Rocks*: These are dominantly exposed in central parts of Bajaur, Southern Mohmand, North-Western and southern Khyber, northern Kurram and South-Western South Waziristan Agencies. These consist of amphibolites, phyllitic schist, phyllites, slates and marbles etc. These are free of fossils and are grouped in Palaeozoic rocks.

3. *Igneous Rocks*: These rocks are predominantly exposed in Bajaur, Northern Mohmand and north-western parts of North and South Waziristan Agencies. These igneous rocks belong to different tectonic episodes and include (a) acidic to intermediate plutons such as granites, diorites; (b) basic to acid volcanic such as rhyolites, andesites and basalts; (c) ultra-basic plutonics such as peridotites, serpentinites and pyroxenites.

The intermediate to acid plutons are genetically related to Karakoram-Himalayan orogeny. The volcanic and ultrabasic plutonic rocks represent the oceanic crust material emplaced/obducted during collision of Indo-Pak plate with the land mass in the north during Upper-Paleocene to Lower-Eocene age.

The granites and diorites are devoid of any mineralization of economic importance. The volcanic and ultra-basic plutonics carry loads of certain metallic minerals such as chromite, manganese and copper etc (Hussain 1990: 14-1).

Soil Type

The central parts of the valleys and the major plains of the Tribal area consist of recent and sub-recent deposits. These include clays, silt, sand, sandy and clayey loams, gravels, pebbles, debris, talus and scree etc.

In case of valley, due to higher erosion speed, the soil is subject to constant denudation whereas in the plains the soil has attained a considerable thickness which may be measurable upto a couple of hundreds of feet or even more.

Although the soil is fertile yet major part of it remains uncultivated. This is due to younger nature of the valleys where rivers have cut deeper thereby giving little water for irrigation. The land is thus not much productive. Soil in the mountainous area is eroding away rapidly. Deforestation has led to almost complete soil mass wasting. Cultivation depends mainly on seasonal rains. Some of the plains like those of Bajaur and Bara (Khyber); due to water sources development schemes, have the soil quite productive. All types of crops are grown here (ibid: 16-17).

The People

The tribal area is inhabited by a large number of tribes as well as *khels*. The prominent and important among them are Afridis, Mohmands, Wazirs, Shinwaris etc.

The Afridis

The Afridis, who inhabit the world's famous route the Khyber Pass, Tirah Bazar, and Kohat Pass, have a long history. However, their origin has always puzzled various ethnologists. Many of them identify them with Arapura of Herodotus even Bahadar Shah Zafar, a Pashto scholar, accepts this theory (Kakakhel n. d: 1378). Olaf Caroe, the last foreign writer of the history of the Pukhtoons so far, mentions them as admixture of Greek blood. He calls them not true Afghans, but Karlanis (Caroe 1985: 488). Another writer Sher Mohammad Gandapur says that the name of their ancestor was Usman alias Afridi, therefore, they were named as Afridis (Khan 1979: 519). Raza Hamdani, a scholar, writes that the word Afridi in local dialect is called 'Pariday' (Hamdani 1982: 28). The Afridis, in the early days of Islam were living in between the river Kabul and Kurram west of Sufed Koh. When during the 6th century, the Scythian tribes invaded this area (on their way to the Indus Valley) across the Hindu Kush, some of them settled here. Later they were seen in the hills of Tirah in the 14th century.

There are eight large *khels* of the Afridis namely Malik Din Khel, Qamber Khel, Kukikhel, Zakhakhel, Akakhel, Sipay, Qamer Khel and Adam Khel.

The Shinwaris

The Shinwaris belong to the Kanshi branch of the Sarbani Pukhtoos. During the 16th century, they moved eastwards with the Choriakhel tribe and displaced the Gigianis, Tarkanris and Mohammadzais from Ningrahar where a large number of them now live (Ridgway 1983: 156). Their particular area is across the Durand Line, west of Kabul River in between Peshawar and Jalalabad. A large number of them inhabit the northern hills from the Khyber. One of their tribes Sangokhel lives on the western bank of Spin Ghar alongwith the Khogianis. Some of them live in Bajaur, Kunar and Shingal Valley, while some families of the Shinwaris live in Kohat and Kashmir (Kakakhel n. d: 1327).

The Mullagoris

The genealogists have defined them as Sarbani Pukhtoos of the Ghoria-khel branch but Major R.T.I. Ridgway says that the origin of the tribe is doubtful (Ridgway 1983: 130). Their major part inhabits the north of the Khyber Pass, extending from the Dabbar Pass of the west to the Peshawar district on the east. To its north lies the Kabul River. The Shinwaris are their neighbours to the west; to north, the Tarakzai Mohmands and on the south the famous Kukikhel Afridis live.

The Mullagoris have other settlements at Sapri, in the Mohmand hills, in the Sirobi glen and along the Kunar River. They have an excellent reputation for courage and excel as mountaineers (ibid).

The Shalmanis or Shalmanis

The author tried his best to collect some valuable information on this tribe from diverse sources but in vain. In the available books, only one book mentions them and that is "A Glossary of the tribes and Castes of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province" Vol. III. According to it:

"The Shalmanis belong to a Tajik tribe and inhabit the Peshawar valley. It quotes Raverty who says that the Shalmanis came from Shalman (now Shalo-zan) and Karmaci in the Kunar valley and occupied the area of Hashtnagar, becoming subjects of the Jahangiri Sultan, Awes, of Swat. This tract they lost when the Yousufzais and Mandanr Pukhtoos overran it and they are now reduced to a few small villages in the hills round the Tatara. Their rulers were descendants of the Jahangiri Sultan (Behram and Pakhal), who held all the country north of the Kabul river from the Tangao to the Pir Panjal range and likewise some parts on the south bank of the Kabul as far south as the Sufed Koh. Sultan Awes was the Gabari Sultan of Swat. The Shalmanis, in Hazara, have adopted the name of Sulaimani, mostly live in the Khalsa tract of that region and are closely connected with the Utmanzais" (Rose 1978: 401-02).

The Mullagoris as well as the Shalmanis are not as prominent in the Khyber as the Afridis or Shinwaris and are not known to the public as well.

The Mohmands

The Mohmands genealogically come in 4th stage to Kharshbun. Their epical ancestor, Mohmand Baba, after whom the tribe takes its name, is buried at Ekka Ghund (Mohmand Agency) inside the Durand Line. It is a branch of Ghoria Khel Pukhtoos. They are divided into the lower or plain Mohmands and upper of Bar Mohmands. The lower Mohmands occupy the south-west corner of the Peshawar district, north of the Bara River, headmen of whom is called 'Arbab'.

The Bar Mohmands separated from the Ghoria Khel, early in the 16th century, and crossing the Kabul at Dakka, occupied the hills to the north of that as far up as Lalpura (Afghanistan). Then they re-crossed the Kabul river and captured the area between its south bank and the west of the Afridi hills to the north of the Khyber Pass. According to Ahmad the Mohmands arrived in Peshawar valley after the Yusufzais who arrived between 1485-1500 (Ahmad 1977: 61) Today the Mohmands are living in the areas across the Durand Line, Mohmand Agency and in some areas of Peshawar district.

The Wazirs

The Wazirs are the descendants of Wazir, who was the son of Sulaiman and grand-son of Karlannr. There are two branches of the Wazirs i.e., the Ahmad-zai Wazirs, living in the South Waziristan and the Utmanzai Wazirs, inhabiting the North Waziristan. Their famous areas are Shawal, Barrnal, Shaki, Razmak, Khaisor valley, Sharna, Shaktu Wana, Badar etc. The dialect of the Wazirs, is a little more difficult to understand and to speak than that of the other Pukhtoos dialects. In the end of the 14th century they began to move eastwards. They first crossed the Khost range and captured Shawal from the Bannuchis. Later they occupied Tochi, Kaniguram etc.

Darweshkhel is another name given to the Wazir tribe. At first they used to live a nomadic life but later they adopted the modes of modern living and became a civilised, cultured, organised and disciplined society. They fought the mighty British forces and checked their movements on almost all fronts. That is why a British Viceroy and Governor-General of India compared the Waziristan disturbances to the whole of the other Agencies' disturbances (Coen 1971: 186; Kakakhel n. d: 1393-94; Hamdani 1982: 34-35; Caroe 1985: 21).

The Mahsuds

Their ancestor Mahsud was the uncle of the Wazirs. The Mahsuds mostly inhabit the area of Kaniguram and Miskin. Today there are three major branches of the Mahsuds, i.e., Alizi, Bahlulzi and Shaman Khel (Kakakhel n. d: 1392). These are further subdivided into subgroups such as Shabikhel, Mansai Khel, Manakhel and Aimal Khel.

In the recent years, a large number of Mahsuds have left their towns and have started working in semi-military labour battalions, building roads in other parts of the N.W.F.P. The Mahsuds are mostly the shopkeepers in the Tank Bazar. The Mahsuds are smaller in number than the Wazirs but are above the Wazirs in boldness and bravery. Abdullah Mahsud, Baitullah Mahsud and Hakimullah Mahsud are now prominent in attracting the public attention.

The Urmurs

Though the Urmurs themselves claim descent from Mir Barak and thus attach themselves with Barakki or Barak Pukhtoos but most genealogists do not accept this. Most of them call them a Tajik race. The Urmurs mostly inhabit three areas. The first group is in Kaniguram, the central town in the heart of the Waziristan mountains, the second in the Logar Valley, near Kabul and the third in three large villages in the Peshawar district namely, Urmur Bala, Urmur Payan and Urmur Miana. A good many are settled in Bahawalpur. The group that lives in Kaniguram, is bi-lingual. While talking to their neighbours such as Mahsuds, Wazirs and other Pukhtoos, they speak Pukhto but among themselves they speak Urmuri, a quite distinct — East Iranian language classified as a separate tongue and by no means a dialect. However, their cousins living in Logar valley and Peshawar have lost their Urmuri. The Urmurs of Kaniguram have their own separate culture and have not been influenced by the neighbouring strong Pukhtoon culture of the Mahsuds and Wazirs.

The Urmuri or Bargista is even more closely related to the Ghalchan languages of the Pamirs than is Pashto itself. The Urmurs have an impossible tradition that they came from Ye-men and that their language was invented for them by the very old and learned man Urmur Laban some 400 years ago (Caroe 1985: 23; Rose 1978: 163; Hamdani 1982: 20-21).

The Dauris

The Dauris are Ghurghust Pukhtoons of the Karlanri Branch, the descendants of Shitak. Their original home was Shawal, from where they alongwith the Bannuchis, were driven out by the Wazirs during 14th century (Ridgway 1983: 83). The Dauris numbering 83000^{xx} constituted an important minor tribe in the North Waziristan Agency. Some of their families live in Bannu. There are upper Dauris and lower Dauris. The former group occupies some area in Miranshah and Dattakhel tehsils of North Waziristan. The latter inhabits the Mirali tehsil of North Waziristan. The Dauris are emotional, short tempered through and through. Their temper is frayed on the slightest pretext. Broadly speaking, the whole Daur community i.e.; the lower Dauris as well as the upper Dauris are split up in two distinct groups, namely the Tor Ghund and the Spin Ghund (Shah 1981: 36-37).

In 1696, when Aurangzeb's son Bahadur Shah conquered the area of Bannu, he fixed an amount of 12000/- rupees on the Dauris as annual Maliya (tax) and appointed Syed Hassan as their Hakim. During the reign of Ahmad Shah Abdali, the Dauris were the nominal subjects and used to pay a little amount as tax but there was no Hakim, appointed by the King.

The Dauris do not mix up with the Wazirs. They have a long enmity with them and often fight each other but in case of an outsider enemy they say goodbye to their differences and face him unitedly (Kakakhel n. d: 1395-96).

The Orakzai

The Orakzai tribe takes its name, which literally means the lost son, (Orak) "lost", (Zoi) "Son", from a tradition that about 1000 years ago a Persian Prince named Sikandar Shah was exiled or lost. He spent his days in and around Kohat, married and ruled in Tirah.

Another version is that three brothers, Pridi, Wazir and Warak came from Afghanistan to the Orakzai hills. They quarried over some trifle and Pridi then went North, Wazir to South and Warak remained there where he was (Ridgway 1983: 35). The Orakzai got their own agency in 1973.

The Orakzai tribe is divided into seven clans i.e. Sultanzai, Bahramzai, Ismailzai, Massuzai, Alizai, or Sturi Khel, Lashkarzai and Daulatzai. Their country is generally termed as Orakzai Tirah. There are four valleys in their area which are Khanki, Mastura, Khurmana and Bara valleys.

Caroe speaks of their colonies in India. Babur also mentions them. The Orakzais joined hands with Bayazid against the Moghuls (Caroe 1985: 132, 155, 202-3). They also fought against the British alongwith other tribes. Kakakhel mentions their settlements, apart from Tirah, in Kohat and Peshawar. He further writes that before the arrival of the Bangash, the Orakzais were living in that area where the Bangash live today. The Orakzais always used to fight with them. At last when both the tribes became tired of fighting, they held a Jirga at Barasmand. A man named Dayee brought them to an agreement. Dayee told them, "Dayee says that hills go to the Orakzais while plain is given to the Bangash". It was decided upon unanimously (Kakakhel n. d: 1376).

The Bangash

According to tradition, the exact word was ban (root) and Kush (to tear up) which afterwards, due to use, became Bangash. As they were very courageous, exterminators or radicals, therefore, they were called "Bankush" (to tear up from roots) (Hamdani 1982: 33-34). Their first home is said to have been Gardez in Afghanistan, from where they were driven into the Kurram valley by the Ghilzais in the 14th century. The tribe appears to have originally been Quresh of Arab descent, but to have become merged into the Karlanri branch of Ghurghust Pukhtoons, with a traditional genealogy from Suleman, a descendant of Kakai (Ridgway 1983: 75). The Bangash are also called Khalidi Afghans. Their ancestor's name was Ismail. He had two sons named Gar and Samal (Kakakhel n. d: 1398).

There are three major branches of the Bangash i.e. Miranzai, Samalzai, and Baizai. The first historical mention of them occurs in Tuzuk-i-Baburi. They were the disciples of Bayazid Ansari which brought them to the verge of ruin. The Moghuls made constant expeditions against them (Rose 1978: 57-58). Today they live in Kurram Agency and Kohat. Kakakhel's mention of them in the Mazindran province, Iran and in the Farakh Abad, India is surprising. He further says that the Nawabs of Farakh Abad belonged to this tribe (Kakakhel n. d: 1398-99).

The Turis

The Turis are also called Turizi. The genealogists differ with each other on the origin of this tribe. According to the Pukhtoon traditions it is a branch of the Karlaris. Some genealogists call them a race of the Moghuls and some call them as Hindkis. Khushal Khan Khattak says that Turis are the Karlanri Pukhtoos (Kakakhel n. d: 1390).

The area, where the Turis live, is full of natural beauty. It is fertile, very beautiful and scenic. The tribe mostly belongs to Shia sect. They are very punctual in religious duty. When a male child is born in Turi family, the elders fire shots near his ear after Azan, so that he may become habitual to these voices and in future he may not be frightened of it (Hamdani 1982: 36).

There are five Khels of the Turis, i.e.; Hamzakhel, Masto Khel, Waparzi, Alikhel and Ghundi Khel. Without an escort a visitor cannot go to their area. According to Turis, there are two groups of the human being. One group is of rightists and goes the right way and the second group is of those who are wrong and go on the wrong way. They call themselves the rightists including those who mentally and religiously have some attachment with them and the rest as leftists or those who have adopted the wrong way (Kakakhel n. d: 1390-91).

The Tarkanris or Tarkolanris

It is a Pukhtoon tribe akin to the Yusufzais which overran Bajaur about the end of the 16th century (Rose 1978: 457). According to Akhoon Derweza, Shaikha had two wives, one was Marjana whose descendants are the Yusufzais and Mandanr and the other wife's name was Basu. She had only one son whose name was Tark. His descendants are called Tarkanris or Tarkolanris (Kakakhel n. d: 1322). All of them live in the Bajaur Agency. Ridgway gives them a name of Bajauris. There are three branches of this tribe which are, Mamund, Isozai, and Ismailzai (Ridgway 1983: 73-74). The famous hero of the British named Churchill campaigned here (Ahmad 1977: 30).

The Bhattanis

The Bhattanis, as evident from their name, claim descent from Baitan, the third son of Qais, the founder, according to one doctrine of the Pukhtoon race. They inhabit F.R. D.I. Khan and F.R. Bannu, mostly the mountainous area on the borders of Tank and Bannu from the Gabar Mountain on north to the Gomal valley on the south.

This tribe is divided into three sections which are:-

1. Tatta-living at Jandola and Siraghar and in the Dera Ismail Khan F.R.
2. Dhana-on the Gabar mountain and in the Bannu F.R.
3. Wraspun-inhabiting the F.R. D.I. Khan and some valleys here and there.

According to traditions, they were first living in Koh-i-Suleman but the Ghilzais drove them out of their homeland and they settled here where now they are. During the reign, of the Pukhtoos, they had a prestigious position and a large number of them used to serve in the armed forces. (Kakakhel n. d: 1332; Ahmad 1977: 37; Rose 1978: 106; Ridgway 1983: 78-79 and Hamdani 1982: 12)

The Sheranis

The Sheranis, Shirannis, Sheoranis, according to traditions, belong to a Pukhtoon tribe. Their ancestor Sherani was the eldest son of Sharkhabun but the father entrusted the 'turban' to Tarin, the second son and younger to Sherani. On this act of his father Sherani went to the area of his uncle Kakar (Kakakhel n. d: 1277). There he married a Kakar woman. It is contrary to Pukhtoon custom to marry outside the tribe or for any tribe to give a girl to an outsider (Caroe 1985: 20). From that day the Sheranis merged with the Kakar tribe and so now, they are counted as a branch of Ghurghust (Kakakhel n. d: 1277). Today the Sheranis inhabit the F.R. D.I. Khan.

A descriptive survey of the region is given above only to affirm how effective are intrinsic links between a Pukhtoon society and its environment of the men and material placed between the Durand Line and the area placed to the east and south of it. Some of its tribes Sherani, Kakar, Mandokhel, Sulaimankhels etc. may well be grouped with Pukhtoon administrative setup of the Baluchistan area while the other would hopefully go well with Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa province. The measure will necessarily entail considerable benefit on both sides and without creating much expensive administrative, logistic and expertise infrastructure, the existing facilities available in the two settled administrative units would extend to the merged land and people of the current tribal belt of Pakistan.

Notes

ⁱ Here I want to mention that Ahmad writes that the Durand Line was demarcated after 3 years of the birth of the Kurram Agency. In fact, it was demarcated in 1893, a year after the formation of the Kurram Agency in 1892. Almost all the writers of the Tribal Area differ with each other on the date of the Durand Line e.g.; Ahmad speaks of 1895 (Ahmad 1977: 23) Obhrai mentions its date as 1894 (Obhrai 1938: 42, 68). But the most reliable figure comes from Caroe. (Caroe, 1985: 382). He was a member of the delegations that held meetings with the Amir of Afghanistan in this regard. He writes "Something should be said here of a sector agreed on the map but never demarcated on the ground, from a point on the watershed between Kunar and Bajaur through Mohmand country, across the west end of the Khaiber, and thence shirting the Bazar Valley upto the great range of the Sufed Koh running westward to its culminating peak, Sikaram" (Ibid: 382). Its length is about 700 miles (1120 km).

ⁱⁱ FATA Secretariat "Population Demography"
http://fata.gov.pk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=56&Itemid=92
 (accessed 26 November 2010)

ⁱⁱⁱ FATA Secretariat "Population Demography"
http://fata.gov.pk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=56&Itemid=92
 (accessed 26 November 2010)

^{iv} FATA Secretariat "Population Demography"
http://fata.gov.pk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=56&Itemid=92
 (accessed 26 November 2010)

^v FATA Secretariat "Population Demography"
http://fata.gov.pk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=56&Itemid=92
 (accessed 26 November 2010)

^{vi} Personally visited the area in October, 1988.

^{vii} FATA Secretariat "Population Demography"
http://fata.gov.pk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=56&Itemid=92
 (accessed 26 November 2010)

^{xviii} FATA Secretariat "Population Demography"

http://fata.gov.pk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=56&Itemid=92

(accessed 26 November 2010)

^{ix} Maqbul Wazir, "F.R. Lakki Marwat."

<http://waziristanhills.com/FATA/AgenciesFRs/FRLakkiMarwat/tabid/85/language/en-GB/Default.aspx> (Accessed on 29 November 2010)

^x FATA Secretariat "Population Demography"

http://fata.gov.pk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=56&Itemid=92

(Accessed 26 November 2010).

^{xii} Maqbul Wazir, "F.R. Tank." <http://waziristanhills.com/FATA/AgenciesFRs/FRTank/tabid/86/language/en-GB/Default.aspx> (Accessed on 29 November 2010)

^{xiii} Wikipedia Encyclopedia, "Kala Dhaka," http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kala_Dhaka

(Accessed on 1 December, 2010)

^{xiiii} The Khassadars are an important form of patronage. Their total pay with allowance comes to Rs. 710/- (Telephonic talk with Political Agent Khyber dated 2nd May 1990). They also receive one set of clothing and a pair of shoes annually. They provide their own guns and ammunition. They are to protect the roads and other government installations. The Khassadars performs their duties at the check-posts where the tribesmen deposit their guns before leaving for the settled area and get them back on return (Ahmad 1980: 376).

^{xv} The other abbreviation is of P.A.T.A. i.e., Provincially Administered Tribal Areas. The Malakand Agency now called as Malakand Protected Area (MPA) was previously administered by PATA but now comes under the administrative system of DCO while the rest of the Agencies come under FATA.

^{xvi} Bureau of Statistics, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, "FATA Development Statistics"

<http://www.khyberpakhtunkhwa.gov.pk/Departments/BOS/main-menu-fata-dev-stats.php>

(Accessed on 26 November 2010)

^{xvii} Bureau of Statistics, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, "Agency/F.R. Wise Minerals Production of FATA for the Year 2007-08."

<http://www.khyberpakhtunkhwa.gov.pk/Departments/BOS/fataind-mineral-tab-33.php> (Accessed on 26 November 2010)

^{xviii} Microsoft® Encarta® Reference Library 2003. © 1993-2002 Microsoft Corporation.

^{xix} FATA Secretariat "Administrative System."

http://fata.gov.pk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=50&Itemid=84

(Accessed 26 November 2010)

^{xx} Bureau of Statistics, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, "FATA Development Statistics"

<http://www.khyberpakhtunkhwa.gov.pk/Departments/BOS/main-menu-fata-dev-stats.php>

(Accessed on 26 November 2010)

^{xxi} Office of the Political Agent, North Waziristan Agency, Miran Shah.

References

Ahmad, Akbar. S, 1977, *Social and Economic Change in the Tribal Areas*, Karachi: Oxford University Press.

Apridi, Mia Khan, 1971, *Pukhtane*, Vol. II, Kabul.

Caroe, Olaf, 1985 (reprint), *The Pathan*, 4th ed. Karachi: Oxford University Press.

Coen, Terence Creagh, 1971, *The Indian Political Service*, London: Chatto and Windus.

Hamdani, Raza, 1982, *Pathano kay Rasm-o-Riwaj*, Islamabad.

- Hussain, S. Iftikhar, 2005, *Some Major Pukhtoon Tribes along the Pak-Afghan Border*, Peshawar: Area Study Centre University of Peshawar.
- Kakakhel, Bahadur Shah Zaffar, n. d, *Pukhtane da Tareekh pa Renra kay*. Peshawar.
- Khan, Sardar Sher Mohammad, 1979, *Tareekh-i-Pukhtoon*, Translated by Siraj Ahmad Ali, Karachi: n. p.
- Obhrai, Diwan Chand, 1938, *Evolution of NWFP Province*. Peshawar: n. p.
- Ridgway, R.T.I, 1983, *The Pathans* 2nd edition, Peshawar: n. p.
- Rose, H.A. et al, 1978, *A Glossary of the Tribes and Castes of the Punjab and North-West Frontier Province*. Vol. III, Lahore: Aziz Publisher.
- Shah, Syed Mazhar Ali, 1981, *The Summing Up*. Peshawar: n. p.
- Kifayat Ullah, n. d, *Progress of Education in FATA*. Lahore: n. p.
- Government of Pakistan, Census Report 1961.
- Microsoft® Encarta® Reference Library 2003. © 1993-2002 Microsoft Corporation
- Office of the Political Agent, North Waziristan Agency, Miran Shah.
- FATA Secretariat "Administrative System."
http://fata.gov.pk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=50&Itemid=84 (Accessed 26 November 2010)
- FATA Secretariat "Population Demography"
http://fata.gov.pk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=56&Itemid=92 (Accessed 26 November 2010)
- Bureau of Statistics, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, "FATA Development Statistics"
<http://www.khyberpakhtunkhwa.gov.pk/Departments/BOS/main-menu-fata-dev-stats.php> (Accessed on 26 November 2010)
- Bureau of Statistics, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, "Agency/F.R. Wise Minerals Production of FATA for the Year 2007-08."
<http://www.khyberpakhtunkhwa.gov.pk/Departments/BOS/fataind-mineral-tab-33.php> (Accessed on 26 November 2010)
- Maqbul Wazir, "F.R. Lakki Marwat."
<http://waziristanhills.com/FATA/AgenciesFRs/FRLakkiMarwat/tabid/85/language/en-GB/Default.aspx> (Accessed on 29 November 2010)
- Wikipedia Encyclopedia, "Kala Dhaka," http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kala_Dhaka (Accessed on 1 December, 2010)

