



Faizabad: a second Badakhshan official killed in three weeks

The mayor of Faizabad was killed by a bomb targeting his vehicle, reportedly planted near the municipal offices. The first killing three weeks ago was claimed by Daesh-Khorasan. This one has been claimed by the National Resistance Front.

INCIDENT DETAILS • 5WH

Who Habib-ur-Rahman Mansour, mayor of Faizabad, a Taliban-appointed official. Claimed by the National Resistance Front; the claim is unverified and no official attribution was made.

What A targeted killing by an explosive device against a named official's vehicle, reportedly planted near his workplace.

Where Faizabad, capital of Badakhshan province, north-east Afghanistan, on the Tajikistan border.

When Late Thursday 13 Aug 2026, two days before the fifth anniversary of the Taliban's return to power.

Why No motive stated beyond the target being a Taliban official. It follows the 28 July shooting of the province's information director.

How A device against a vehicle at or near the workplace. Sourcing is a hospital nurse and a municipal employee, both anonymous.

IMPACT

- Human: one killed. The claimant asserts security detail members also died; that is not corroborated.
- Governance: two senior provincial officials killed in one province in under three weeks - the effect falls on everyone still holding a post there.
- Political: two assassinations in one provincial capital days before the takeover anniversary, against a claim to have restored security.
- Contested space: Badakhshan is a growing mining hub and saw clashes in May over poppy eradication.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS



Jun 2023 Badakhshan's deputy governor killed by car bomb

28 Jul 2026 The province's information director shot dead

- 1** 13 Aug: a bomb targets the mayor's vehicle
- 2** The interior ministry confirms the death, gives no detail
- 3** The National Resistance Front claims the attack

ASSESSMENT, LESSONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- The claim came from the organisation the pattern did not point to.
- A claim is evidence about the claimant, not necessarily about the act.
- The workplace approach was the vulnerable point, as it usually is.
- Two officials in three weeks by two different methods is a protective failure whoever is responsible.