

Scenario 150

OPERATION [2013] CONTINUED....

On 2nd August 2011; the National Assembly of Pakistan discussed the Karachi situation, where another spike in killings had taken place — the death toll of the last five days was 58. All this while, the politicians talked meaninglessly of taking action against the killers. The parliament performed a tested old drama of arrested posturing, with the MQM putting on record its rage at what the other two stakeholders — the PPP and ANP — were doing, and the PML[N] selectively chastising the PPP and MQM, accusing the '*corrupt*' government of dividing the country and creating more breakaway '*Bangladeshes*'.

Nothing came out but more disagreement and one could see the difficulties arising when a parliamentary committee was formed to go down to Karachi and compile an inquiry report about what actually was happening there. The scene on the ground meanwhile was the same: eight people were gunned down on that day 2nd August as police and Rangers failed to stem the wave of mayhem in several localities.

No one ethnic community could claim immunity because all suffered violence and displacement. One accused the MQM of driving the *Pashtuns* out of Orangi, the *Muhajirs* pointed to their share of those killed, which remained the highest. The MQM chief had spoken in terms of "*a final siege*" by asking the people of Karachi to take in one month's supplies and be prepared for more suffering.

The ANP was equally pious, appealing for a de-weaponisation drive after admitting that weapons were "*the ornament of the Pashtun race*". The PPP kept boasting about how it was getting ready to swoop down on the killers after supplementing its rather ineffective Karachi police with Rangers and Frontier Constabulary [FC] from neighbouring Balochistan after giving it the right to search and arrest.

All three stakeholders of Karachi were seen deadlocked as usual despite the federal interior minister's empty bragging that the killers would all be hauled up and punished. What shocked, or at the very least confused,

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people were statements like the one made by the IGP Sindh claiming that 91 target killers were arrested by his police.

However, no one knew that who were the killers and who had instigated them to go out and kill innocent people, who paid for their weapons and perhaps, most importantly, how many of them were prosecuted and convicted for their crimes – not a single one. The reason being that the killers were connected with the political parties ruling Karachi but no public disclosures were made and no one named from among them.

The new gimmick was seen that the Sindh government announced paying Rs:5 million to anyone identifying the killers and Rs:10 million for any video evidence against them. But evidence was there on all TV channels and the Sindh government did not need to make such offers.

All three parties were caught up in spiral they could no longer control. If their communities were attacked, they were expected to stand by the suffering citizens. Instead of getting together — at least the Pashtun and Muhajir leaders could be civil to one another — they preferred to let the hooligans take over the scene. Both sides proved that they had the capacity to hurt; the obvious conclusion was there.

The PPP, with its history of unfriendliness and hostility against the MQM, looked at the ANP as its partner in a city otherwise dominated by the MQM. That was the phenomenon the stakeholders had to look at carefully and remove through mutual agreement.

Editorial in 'Express Tribune' dated 4th August 2011 had rightly said:

"Beirut's three warring communities indulged in slaughter for 15 years but that situation was complicated by interventions from Israel and Syria.

Karachi has been on the boil and off it for the last 15 years; and all the three communities are suffering while politicians lack the guts to save their already impoverished followers from being brutalised."

WAJA KARIM DAAD KILLED:

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On 18th August 2011; local media of Karachi roared as about 44 people were killed during two days in gang-wars and political disputes, some after being tortured. Fighting erupted a day earlier Wednesday in and around the old district of Lyari, long a focus of battles between rival gangs and a stronghold of President Zardari's PPP. Former PPP lawmaker Waja Karim Daad was among the dead.

[Waja Karim Daad: Former Member National Assembly [MNA] was Baloch and a senior member of the PPP. He started his political career by contesting the union council elections and was elected councillor in Lyari. Daad, who belonged to the Ismaili community, hailed from Gawadar and later shifted to Kalri, Lyari from where he moved to Kharadar.

During Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's government, Daad was elected as the PPP president of the old city area comprising Lyari, Keamari, Kharadar, Shams Pir and Baba Bhit. During Benazir Bhutto's government, he was elected as the president of District South.

He had contested the general elections in 1993 and 1997 and won the MNA seat with a thumping majority both times. His father, Kareem Dad Baloch, was affiliated with the fishing business in Gawadar while his younger brother was continuing the family business.]

Karim Daad, a former PPP MNA and a popular social worker of Lyari, was targeted by armed men on motorcycles outside a local restaurant in front of the Kharadar Jamaat Khana in the limits of the Jackson police station just before iftar. Karim Daad and one of his friends were killed on the spot.

The police officer investigating the murder, Sub-Inspector Iftikhar told the media that both Karim Daad and his friend Sadaruddin regularly used to sit together in front of the main gate of the Kharadar Jamaat Khana, adding that Karim Daad was shot once in the forehead, Sadaruddin was shot in his upper torso.

DIG Police Shaukat Ali Shah confirmed that the killing of the former legislator was the result of a "gang war between two rival groups in Lyari". There was old rivalry between Arshad Pappu [then being run by Ghaffar Zikri] and Rehman Dakait [at present, run by Baba Ladla] gangs. This was the outcome of a chain reaction; such incidents were happening in reaction to each other.

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Most of the killings had resulted from clashes between criminal gangs operating in Lyari and surrounding areas. It was not the kind of fighting that had happened in previous month of July; this was more of a gang war – one of the turf wars between gangs dealing in drugs and extortion rackets taken as routine phenomenon in Lyari.

It was fair for those gangs which regularly clashed and killed members and supporters of rival groups. Many times, innocent people were also targeted in this rivalry; however, many of those killed ended up linked to one gang or the other. Most gangs had political support but still it was not a political war as such.

A few of those killed could have been targeted over their ethnic or political affiliation as Karachi keeps a long history of violence, and ethnic, religious and sectarian disputes and political rows can often explode into battles engulfing entire neighbourhoods – and any time.

About 300 people were killed last month, July 2011 – one of the deadliest months in almost two decades – in fighting linked to ethnic and religious tensions that plague Karachi since years. According to the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan [HRCP], 800 people had been killed in the first seven months of that year in ethnic and politically linked violence alone.

Meanwhile, the funeral prayers of former PPP MNA Waja Karim Daad, who also fell prey to escalating violence in the city a day earlier, had been offered amidst cries and tears. President Zardari strongly condemned the killing of former MNA but practically did nothing; no law amended in the National Assembly and no procedure made better in the secretariat echelons.

Waja Karim Daad was elected from the Lyari area. The President prayed the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss with equanimity. Earlier the MQM had also issued a statement in which MQM leader Altaf Hussain condemned the killing of Baloch MNA along with seven others shot dead in the city on that day.

That fresh spate of violence had broken out in the wake of the recovery of five bodies of Lyari residents found in gunny bags from various localities in the city. More than a dozen people were injured in the wake of the latest outbreak of bloodshed.

Attacks were also mounted against the Salar Compound after the bodies of five Baloch men were found; *“God knows what else is to follow”* was

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the common whispering. DIG Shah confirmed the killing of at least six more people, and said nearly a dozen others were injured.

Fierce fighting between the two groups ensued in parts of Lyari, Old City, Saddar, Pak Colony and Old Golimar were affected after intense firing gripped the areas. Hand grenades were freely used by both the groups in the fierce fighting.

Meanwhile, the authorities were unable to take any action and failed to enter the affected areas. The bodies stuffed in gunny bags of the five Baloch-speaking residents of Lyari, which triggered the violence, were found from different areas of the city and all five victims were killed after being kidnapped. They were shot multiple times, mostly on their heads.

Three of the dead – who were later identified as Kamran Behram, 26, Shahnawaz Buksh, 25, and Saqib Ghani, 24 – were found within the limits of Ferozabad Police Station. All three victims were residents of Sangu Lane, Lyari.

Two more bodies, identified as Irfan Baloch and Nadir Baloch, were also found from Garden and Preedy, respectively. Following their funeral, residents of Lyari took to the streets and staged a demonstration against the killings. The protesters, headed by former president of defunct Peoples *Amn* Committee [PAC] Shahid Rehman, then marched towards the chief minister house and demanded stern action against the perpetrators; however, the protestors dispersed peacefully soon.

While returning from the Chief Minister House, a score of unidentified persons attacked their rival gang in Old City areas including Salar Compound, Bhimpura and the Aqal Bonga area where they hurled nearly a dozen hand-grenades and also fired at least two rockets following intense firing. Result: a twelve-year-old girl Esha, daughter of Ramji, and two other unidentified persons were killed and nearly half a dozen were injured. At least three vehicles were also damaged after catching fire in the rocket attacks.

Meanwhile, three people – including a hosiery shopkeeper Yousuf Sattar – were killed and at least four others were wounded during the firing in the Kharadar area.

Salar Compound and its surrounding areas were a stronghold of PPP senior activist Akram Baloch and Lyari's gangsters or the defunct PAC former members believed that Akram was supporting their rival Ghaffar Zikri group and attacking them.

BABA LADLA FLED & KILLED:

Frustration over finding a job had brought 32 years young Baba Ladla into the fold of Rehman Dakait's gang. Drug peddling helped keep his kitchen fires burning but soon his three younger brothers were caught and sent to jail when his illicit business saw little progress. Baba himself divulged:

"Since I had joined the drug mafia, confrontation with the police became a regular affair and I was picked up several times. My father, Ghulam Hussain, who works as a labourer with a major corporation, hasn't spoken to me for the past 10 years."

Not a lot is known about the Lyari gangster, known for playing football with heads of his opponents; Baba Ladla's real name was Noor Mohammad but the people knew him more by his nick-name – and Rehman Dakait's chief operational commander. Once he talked to the media in disgusting mood:

"They [Karachi Police] opened indiscriminate fire and killed people who were not involved. They misbehaved with the women and broke into our homes and destroyed them. Perhaps they [police] thought that by aggravating the residents, they would turn against Lyari's gangsters."

Karachi Police showed the resentment; the government announced Rs:3 million for Baba Ladla's arrest. Baba Ladla also reacted in the same tone while referring to CID's SSP Chaudhry Aslam:

"What would the SSP do if I announced Rs:5 million for the person who brought him to me dead or alive? Chaudhry Aslam has no idea what can happen to him in five seconds here. If God wills it, then the SSP will no longer be a problem for us."

The Lyari people had a fair idea that Baba Ladla would stay with them if any untoward situation come up from the state side. It was because Baba Ladla announced to do the [above paragraphed] job himself instead of letting his boys take the heat; he was not one to run or hide.

The police registered over 50 murder, attempted murder, extortion and kidnapping cases against Baba Ladla; on the other side, the then prevailing unrest in Lyari had exposed the growing differences between PAC

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Chief Uzair Baloch and Baba Ladla. The relationship was going rocky day by day.

The starting clash between Baba Ladla and the PAC had surfaced soon after *Rehman Dakait was killed in encounter on 9th August 2009*. Senior political activists and the gangsters held long discussions and eventually agreed to make Baba the commander of the militant wing while Uzair Baloch was made the political face of the *Amn* Committee, for communication with the PPP leadership, the local administration and various other communes in the area. However, the fact was:

"Baba approved Uzair's name as the chief of the PAC but not as the sardar. Baba has never been fond of popularity or political fame; Baba agreed to this arrangement on the condition that his 'matters' and his men will not be bothered."

Baba Ladla always overshadowed Uzair Baloch in his meetings and, sometimes, he misbehaved with him, warning Uzair to keep his bloody politics away from his affairs. Baba always restricted himself to his *own business*; his business included drug deals, gambling and kidnappings. He always exhibited his anger forcefully on Uzair and Zafar Baloch whenever his men were detained or killed by the law-enforcement agencies.

There were several issues that caused major differences between Uzair Baloch and Baba, such as the killings of Baba's men and clashes with the *Kutchhis*; sometimes these differences were seen at their peak when the clashes with the *Kutchhis* erupted in ending June 2013.

Before the killings of Baba's two closed aides — Alok Gawadri and Zubair Wehshi — Baba was never in favour of clashes with the Kutchhi Rabita Committee [KRC] but the truth was:

"It was Gawadri's killing that compelled Baba to reconsider his inclination towards the KRC. Gawadri was killed on 12th December 2011 and Wehshi on 13th February 2012."

"Baba always wanted peaceful ties with the KRC as he knew that Kutchhis lived in areas he dominates but after these two killings Baba was pushed to start fighting the KRC."

The grave differences between Uzair and Baba began over the issue of Uzair's escape from Lyari. Baba asked rather had advised Uzair not to

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leave his men as the entire neighbourhood considered him to be the *Sardar* [leader] but Uzair left without taking Baba into confidence.

The bomb blast outside a football stadium in Lyari on 8th August 2013 also worsened the already strained relationship between Baba and Uzair. The local leaders held:

"Baba Ladla was the original target of that blast, not MPA Javed Nagori; it was the first time the two had reached the point where they wanted to kill each other. It was unfortunate for Uzair Baloch that his 'rival' [Baba Ladla] survived."

On 29th October 2013; a three-day battle in Lyari between the groups of Bada Ladla and Uzair Baloch exposed the weaknesses of the former, especially after he conceded to a ceasefire which came as a surprise for many; after his own men turned on him, he believed that he was no longer in a position to continue the fight.

Baba also suffered setbacks when a large number of his operational commanders were killed. Uzair Baloch in comparison did not lose as many men. Some of Baba's commanders even joined his rival's group, which came as a shock for him.

Four commanders – Moosa Baloch, Yousuf Gojji, Mairaj Baloch and Younus Baloch – of Baba's group were killed, either during the gang war or in encounters with law enforcers. Many others, including Ustad Taju, Mullah Nisar, Umer Kutchhi, Wasiullah Lakho, Shafi Pathan and Ismail Lashari, chose to leave Baba and joined Uzair's gang.

When internal cracks between the PAC started to appear, these men played a neutral role as they were against the internal gang war. But one by one, they saw Baba weak thus joined Uzair Baloch. Baba, however, continued fighting with only few of his remaining commanders, including Sikander Sikku.

Baba's brother Zahid Ladla, Karachi City Alliance's chief Shahid Rehman and his brother Shakeel Commando were among some of the gangster's most trusted men but could not help him fight. Zahid Ladla was wounded few months ago, he was unable to participate [in the gang war] and help his brother. Shakeel Commando was injured during the internal gang war while Rehman was considered a politician and had no skills in fighting.

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Law enforcers also believed that their actions along with the internal gang war have weakened the gangsters, especially Baba. Lyari DSP Shakeel Ahmed told the media:

"We did not face resistance from Baba's side. Over the last few days, we faced massive resistance from Faisal Pathan of Uzair's group.

Baba didn't even attend the jirga for the ceasefire as he believed that he could be killed on the way or while it was taking place. During this temporary ceasefire, Ladla has once again started re-organising his group to make sure it is strong again."

On 12th March 2014; the JhatPat Market of Lyari became a battleground as the two groups – Baba Ladla and Uzair Baloch gangs – attacked each other with hand grenades, rockets and guns – leaving 12 women and four children dead while dozens of others suffered injuries.

The two gangs started with exchanging gunfire, later they fired RPGs and lobbed hand grenades at each other. There were 15 schoolchildren among the injured. The violence had erupted after one of the gangs had kidnapped a member of the other gang the night before. The firing began around 4:00 am while major blasts were heard at noon.

Major Sibtain Rizvi, a spokesman for Rangers told that two gangsters had been killed and one had been arrested; three rangers and two police were wounded. Back in Lyari, Uzair Baloch's former home turf – spread over Rexter Lane, Singo Lane, Bizenjo Chowk, Chakiwara and Shah Baig Lane – was under the control of the Rangers since mid 2013.

The impact of the Rangers' presence was noticeable.

Moreover; eight gangsters were killed in three joint operations conducted by the police and Rangers in the Rangiwara area of Lyari. All gangsters were belonged the Baba Ladla and Uzair Baloch gangs.

- *For about a year, Baba Ladla remained lost due to Rangers' intensive operation in Lyari and around.*

In mid 2014, the Interpol had issued red warrants for Ladla along with Uzair Baloch – the chief of Ladla's rival Lyari gang-war group. The warrants stated Ladla's date of birth as 10th October 1974 with no mentions about

his profession. He had fled to UAE and then to Iran following the launch of a major crackdown against criminals and terrorists in Lyari neighbourhood.

Baba Ladla was killed with his two Iranian friends when the Iranian border guards tried to stop them and fired at them after they refused to surrender, leaving all the three dead - but the news was denied by the people of Lyari – especially at Saifi Lane, where a six-month-long gun battle had then ended after a ceasefire between the warring gangs. One respectable held that *“...most people will be relieved if the news of his death is correct.”*

The reason everybody thought one of the three men was Baba was because he was residing in Gwadar 15 days earlier. Most gang lords of Lyari were on the run considering the gang rivalry in the area as well as the ongoing operation led by the Rangers. Shopkeepers and traders used to pay extortion to a number of splinter groups got recorded that:

“Since most of these gang lords are not in town, any goon and small time criminal may seek extortion. Extortion amount, which was to be given to two people earlier, is now distributed among six groups.

Also, it was easier to speak to an elder or head of a gang and ask for some relief, or consideration. But now even that is out of the question as these ‘new gangsters’ are not controlled by anyone.

In such a situation, the ongoing Rangers’ operation is the only saving grace for us. Because of it, such groups are also in hiding.”

It was clear in May 2013’s general elections that the PPP had no choice but to tag along with these gangs they had created and patronised. But over Baba Ladla’s death, there was no reaction in any part of Lyari. The local police Chief held that the law and order situation had improved in Lyari because rival gangs were no more there to resume their activities *after 107 gangsters had been killed in ‘encounters’ over the first six months of Rangers’ operation.*

The official record shows that in June 2014, 64 people were killed by gangsters but in the same month of year 2015 only five people lost their lives. The City SSP claimed that incidents of firing and even the throwing hand-grenades had ended.

On 6th August 2015; all media channels made it breaking news that Lyari’s gang leader, Noor Muhammad alias Baba Ladla, had been killed in

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Balochistan; later news confirmed that he was actually killed on Iranian border.

Next day, on 7th August 2015; referring to a video of the bullet riddled corpse of Baba Ladla, *The Express Tribune* repeated its story of 13th May 2014 quoting reliable sources from across the border that Baba Ladla was intercepted and killed by the Iranian security forces. He had fled to Iranian province of Sistan when Sindh Rangers launched its operation in Karachi.

Iranian forces had spotted the presence of Ladla at a house near the Konarak Coastal Township and raided it. The desperado tried to flee towards the Pakistani borders where the Iranian border guards intercepted him.

In an ensuing exchange of fire, Baba Ladla was killed and his body was taken to a local hospital where the Iranian security officials prepared a video for record purposes.

The government had fixed head money of Rs:2.5 million for Baba Ladla.

Most Pakistani TV channels and media outlets had reported Baba Ladla's killing along with two of his Iranian friends near Pak-Iran border area of Jeevani in May 2014 but the news were not believed. Perhaps because the security officials in Quetta had not received any official information from Iranian authorities confirming Baba's death.

Referring to the daily 'Pakistan Today' dated 21st December 2015:

"Lyari's gangster Baba Ladla's younger brother Zakir Ladla informed the authorities that he tried regrouping the gang after Baba Ladla and Zahid Ladla left Lyari but the gang activities had been disrupted after crackdown by the police and Rangers."

Zakir Ladla also confirmed that several suspects of the gang war were in hiding in Balochistan, Punjab and Interior Sindh; various prominent commanders of the gang war were hiding in areas surrounding the Chaman border.

Zakir Ladla said his brother Zahid Ladla had fled the country out of the fear of the targeted operation. Occasionally, boys of ages 12 to 14 used to extort money in Lyari and around and that they used WhatsApp for communications purposes.

UZAIR BALOCH ON THE RUN:

On 30th January 2016; Sindh Rangers formally announced the arrest of Uzair Baloch and produced him in Anti-Terrorism Court [ATC] to get 90-day physical remand. It was claimed that Baloch was arrested from a locality on outskirts of Karachi while entering the city. The force also released his four photographs in which he was seen being handcuffed by Rangers soldiers in *balaclava* and then seated in a vehicle with them.

The court was told that Uzair Baloch was blamed for over 275 murders including policemen. The suspect was also blamed for running a network involved in criminal activities including killings, extortion, kidnapping for ransom and drugs business.

Meanwhile his eldest daughter, 14-years old, Yursala claimed that:

"My father was arrested by the law enforcement agencies on 27th December 2014. He [Uzair Baloch] was taken away by the officials of Interpol thirteen months ago when we were sitting in the lounge of Dubai airport."

However, Yusala further clarified answering a media question that he [Uzair Baloch] was *presumably* in the custody of law enforcement agencies since December 2014. Dubai authorities had initially told her that Uzair Baloch would remain in their custody for a while. She also shared a picture of Uzair Baloch with media which showed him at a location of Dubai, saying that it was taken in December 2014.

Meanwhile she also expressed her happiness towards his father's production in the court, adding that *"now we at least know that he is alive."*

Producing Uzair Baloch in the ATC was a move aimed at putting pressure on the beleaguered PPP in an ongoing tussle with the establishment over Rangers special powers since the first week of December 2015.

After an initial knee-jerk reaction by several PPP leaders, Sindh CM Qaim Ali Shah told the Sukkur media that the Rangers Chief had taken him into confidence before the arrest of Uzair Baloch and that he [the CM] was not against powers of the paramilitary force. He was perhaps indicating that Rangers' power issue rested with 'the boss' – Mr Zardari.

While the high-profile arrest caused quite a stir in the national political scene because of Uzair's previous association with the PPP, the official version of the actual events remained shrouded in mystery.

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The electronic media time and again reported that a key intelligence agency held a trump card against PPP in the form of Uzair Baloch. And the initial reaction from PPP leaders showed a sign of panic. Senior Sindh Minister Nisar Khuhro told reporters in Karachi that:

".....the arrest [of Uzair] was not fresh news. He was already in their custody. They should be asked where he was and from where he was arrested. There is nothing new in his arrest."

However, in what appeared to be a damage-control attempt, Sindh CM Qaim Ali Shah told reporters in Sukkur that:

".....the DG Rangers had informed him before the arrest was made. I never said that he [Uzair Baloch] was not associated with the PPP, but the fact is he disassociated himself from the party and the party also disassociated itself from him over his criminal activities."

It would not be fair to target the PPP for his criminal activities. We believe that he is a criminal and should be investigated."

We are not against the powers of Rangers and none of their powers were clipped."

Daily 'Dawn' dated 31st January 2016 is referred.

In reaction to Uzair Baloch's arrest, disgruntled PPP leader Dr Mirza said:

"I still recognise him [Uzair] as my younger brother. I am glad he's alive and his arrest has finally been declared. His arrest would pave the way for bringing back those looters who have fled the country."

I appreciate for doing a wonderful job in the national interest of the country."

The 60-day period regarding the special policing powers of the Sindh Rangers was due to expire on 5th February and the paramilitary force needed an extension to continue its operations in Karachi.

On 1st February 2016; the news channel 'SAMAA' sent breaking news on air that *'Uzair Baloch would stand trial in a military court.'*

Uzair Baloch was then facing over 50 cases on different counts in local courts which would be referred to a military court once a Joint Investigation Team [JIT] completed its task of interrogating the suspect. Out of 55 cases 42 were pending in Anti Terrorism Court Karachi while he was wanted in 13 more cases in session courts. He was also declared a proclaimed offender before he fled the country to Oman.

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On 2nd February 2016; Nabeel Gabol, while talking to the media, disclosed the details regarding the murders which Uzair Baloch did for the PPP. Sharjeel Memon said that the leaders of the PPP were denying any connection with the Uzair Baloch but they all used him. Nabeel Gabol urged the PPP Sindh to stand by Uzair Baloch being the provincial government in power because:

'...there is likelihood that he would be killed in the way while going to attend the court. He knows how many murders Sharjeel Memon had managed through Uzair.'

Nabeel Gabol said that once he accompanied Uzair Baloch to Dr Zulfiqar Mirza, the then Home Minister Sindh, for surrender but Dr Mirza refused to arrest him, gave him free hand and said: *'Uzair is my brother, let him do whatever he likes.'* Why Dr Mirza didn't go to Uzair's family to stand by them in that hour of need.

Gabol also told that Uzair Baloch had already got his statement recorded before the JIT. He had divulged that he [Uzair Baloch] used to receive direct orders from Bilawal House; and that he used to send Rs:100 million every month to Zardari House.

PPP's Senator Saeed Ghani told that once he had also joined dinner with Uzair Baloch; Faryal Gohar used to visit her and so many other PPP leaders, too. Some political parties had extended Uzair invitation to join them with surety of winning ticket in next elections.

Referring to the 'GEO News TV' dated 27th April 2016; Sindh Rangers handed over Lyari's Uzair Baloch to the police at the end of 90-day physical remand in the paramilitary's custody; police presented him in the Sindh High Court.

Uzair Baloch confessed to 197 murders in the Joint Interrogation Report compiled by Rangers; 65 cases were registered in different police stations of the city including the killing of 12 traders at the Shershah scrap market - he had ordered the collective murder of Haji Aslam and his five sons.

Uzair confessed to have ordered the kidnapping of rival gangster Arshad Pappu and three of his accomplices and then carrying out their gruesome murder. He claimed to have used two of his own cars and a police van owned by the *Kalri Police Station* for the murder.

In other alarming confessions, Uzair Baloch said he had appointed Saeed Jan Baloch as Chairman Fisherman Cooperative Society - Saeed used to pay him Rs:10 million every month, he admitted. The former Lyari Town Admin-

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istrator Mohammad Raees used to give Uzair Baloch 20pc money in every deal he cracked.

Baloch confessed to transferring huge amounts of cash to foreign countries.

Referring to 'Defence pk' dated 29th April 2016; Uzair Baloch also divulged that he had been working for the intelligence of neighbouring country Iran that utilized him to bring about deterioration in Balochistan. Uzair had travelled to Dubai with Iranian passport, adding, "*PPP leadership contacted me while I was in Dubai.*"

Revealing about his capture in Dubai, Uzair Baloch said:

"Iran struggled a lot to take his custody after Dubai police arrested him. The Iranian intelligence had asked him to provide location and building plans of Pak-Army's COD and Corp HQ Karachi – which he arranged for them. [Most probably to forward them to Indian Intelligence / RAW]"

Making outrageous revelations about the liaisons with separatists of Balochistan, Uzair said he offered refuge to the separatist leaders in Lyari; Dr Allah Nazar Baloch was also kept in Lyari for some days. "*Five Baloch chieftains of Balochistan helped out about weapons and hiding,*" Uzair added.

Detailing the PPP connection, Uzair told that the PPP leadership leveraged him to assassinate *Bilal Sheikh and Khalid Shehanshah* – the two key witnesses in Benazir Bhutto's assassination case. JIT report contained with reference to Uzair's admission that:

"Khalid knew that he would be murdered. Accordingly, he ceased leaving Bilawal House. But, he was coaxed into going out when my gang killed him."

It was the PPP that had arranged for Rehman Dakait's homecoming from Iran and handed him over to police, Uzair Baloch asserted before the investigators, according to the report.

According to Baloch, the SHOs and SSPs were posted in Lyari at his behest. He also informed the interrogators that: "*Arshad Pappu was given to me by police officers.*"