

**Going Digital with Legacy:  
A Case Study on the BBC Urdu Service's Coverage of the  
Baluchistan Earthquake, September 2013**



*Photo of setting up makeshift studio in courtyard courtesy of Riaz Sohail*

**Interim Report**

**Waheed Mirza and Marie Gillespie**

**26 March 2013**

## Executive Summary of Findings

- BBC Urdu were the first to report the quake and the only international broadcaster to produce an in depth follow-up programme raising awareness of the plight of the people.
- The programme exemplifies lifeline broadcasting at its best. By focusing on an issue that received little attention from other international news providers, it demonstrated humanitarian values that are important to the UK and contributed to international understanding.
- 74% of BBC Urdu’s radio audience live in rural areas: 36% in Sindh, nearly 17% in Baluchistan therefore coverage of the quake had high reach among target audience
- The reporting was so vivid and chilling that audiences both inside and outside the zone were morally, emotionally, and intellectually engaged by compelling evidence of the urgent need for relief and rescue that had not so far been forthcoming
- BBC Urdu Producers showed great professionalism in giving the story high priority, even though it was low on the global news agenda, and in continuing to cover the story after other international media organisations had dropped it.
- Producers demonstrated creativity in producing a high quality programme in difficult circumstances, setting up a makeshift studio in the devastated area and making good use of the voices of ordinary people to create a powerful sense of presence.
- There was a good transfer of knowledge and cultural exchange as news items and despatches from the team in Baluchistan appeared across BBC news networks. However, this interest was not sustained for as long as the Urdu Service would have wished.
- An opportunity was missed to widen reach and engagement by not providing adequate resources to make the most of digital opportunities. BBC Urdu’s Facebook page has one million likes and it is a shame that such compelling content is not made more widely available.
- Twitter traffic, though not very high, was notably propelled by “influencers” and helped to build trust. Such programmes bridge UK and Pakistani publics.
- To their credit, senior managers chose the best people for covering the story, resulting in a very high quality programme

**Key Recommendation:**

- In the current climate of great technological change, the World Service can play a vital role in bridging the yawning gap between those who are far removed from the digital revolution (rural audiences living in poverty) and those political actors who can influence change both in the places where BBC broadcasts, and across the western world.
- *The special programme analysed in this case study on the failure of the relief efforts should be made part of radio training modules at the BBC World Service and/or in courses on broadcasting and journalism from natural disasters.*
- As BBC Urdu strengthens its TV offer, it must always keep an eye on “scalable content” which will work for a radio listener in remote parts of Pakistan, for the urban TV and online viewer in London or Karachi, and for those who prefer to consume their news via smart phones or tablets or wearable devices in the near future.

**Acknowledgements:**

Riaz Sohail, BBC Urdu correspondent, Karachi; Abdul Wahab Rafique, Multimedia Producer, BBC Urdu, London, Lala Najafova, Senior Publicist, BBC Global News Communication; Mohammed Hanif, Special Correspondent Pakistan, BBC Urdu, Presenter of Earthquake Special Radio Programme of October 16th, 2013.

## **Introduction**

On September 24th, 2013, a powerful earthquake shook Baluchistan, the remote and poverty-stricken south-west province of Pakistan. The 7.7-magnitude quake flattened houses and left at least 328 people dead, most of them in the district of Awaran but also in Kech, Gwadar, Panjgur, Chaghi and Khuzdar. Nearly 300,000 people lost their homes.

This case study focuses on a special broadcast about the Baluchistan earthquake, within BBC Urdu's flagship radio and TV daily news and current affairs programme, Sairbeen, three weeks after the event. Sairbeen in Urdu refers to a thaumatrope - an optical instrument or toy for showing the persistence of an impression upon the eyes after a luminous object is withdrawn

The case study evaluates the Sairbeen programme about relief efforts in the wider context of the BBC's news coverage of the quake. Other research material includes: informal interviews with production team members, content analysis of the Sairbeen programme, and audience research data on Sairbeen. The study also draws on the transcripts of a witness seminar conducted by the Open University on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the BBC Urdu Service, and subsequent publications.

## **Background to the BBC Urdu Service and its Flagship Radio Programme Sairbeen**

The Urdu Service began broadcasting to audiences in South Asia in 1940. It was known as the Hindustani Service then. It is now an established news and information service providing audio, video, text and graphic content across a number of platforms including MW, FM, mobile handheld devices, Online, and TV.

BBC Urdu's flagship radio programme, Sairbeen, has been on air for nearly forty years and covers major Pakistan, South Asian and global news stories of the day, bringing background and analysis to its listeners in the target area – Pakistan and Urdu-speaking regions in India -- and in the Urdu diaspora across the world. (See background to the BBC's Urdu Service and its offer in Appendix A). As the next section illustrates BBC Urdu has, among other things, been very much a 'lifeline service' throughout its history

## **Lifeline Journalism**

BBC Urdu has a history of valuable lifeline journalism that has earned it, and the wider BBC, goodwill and trust among audiences in Pakistan and elsewhere. This is particularly true of its radio listeners in Pakistan-administered Kashmir and parts of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province which, in 2005, witnessed the worst earthquake in Pakistan's history, especially in rural areas of Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan. In 2010 the Service once again became a primary source of reliable, independent news when vast rural belts in Sindh and Balochistan

were devastated by floods. BBC Urdu produced dedicated programmes on these natural disasters and continued to cover the story well after other international news media had dropped it.

After the earthquake in 2005, the Service ran an Earthquake Special Radio Programme for a full year. Similarly, its reporters travelled far and wide covering flood-affected areas in 2010. One of the Service's veteran correspondents and best known names, Wusatullah Khan, was exclusively commissioned to report on the floods and his series ran for months after the waters had receded. Khan spent 70 days on the road in a journey that started from Karachi and went to Skardu in the north – a distance of 4,500 kilometres. These despatches were eventually collected and published in book form. It has been the dedication and professionalism of such journalists that has earned respect for the BBC. By consistently focussing on issues/stories that are of importance, utility and relevance to its listeners, BBC Urdu remains true to one of World Service's core ethics, public service journalism. In its attempts to “put audiences at the heart of its activities” it has brought immense cultural value to both the BBC and Brand Britain.

### **The Earthquake in Balochistan and BBC Urdu's Response**

Balochistan is Pakistan's largest province but with the lowest population; it is also the least developed with little infrastructure in districts like Awaran, which saw the most destruction. Official reports stated that nearly 90% of houses were destroyed here and most of the dead were from Awaran. Balochistan is also a province where the Pakistan military has been fighting Baloch nationalist rebels for many years and therefore maintains a heavy presence here.

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013, a powerful earthquake shook the remote and poor south-west province of Balochistan in Pakistan. The 7.7-magnitude quake flattened houses and left at least 328 people dead, most of them in the district of Awaran but also in Kech, Gwadar, Panjgur, Chaghi and Khuzdar. Nearly 300,000 people were affected and thousands spent nights in the open after the devastation. It was feared the death toll could rise once other areas are reached. The number of wounded was reported to be more than 440.

BBC Urdu was among the first news agencies to report on the devastation and the slow rescue and relief efforts. Over the next few days, it ran stories in text, audio and video. It must be noted that access to Balochistan is not easy as the Pakistan military maintains a heavy presence in order to quell the nationalist rebellion movement there.

### **A summary of key moments in BBC Urdu's Coverage of the earthquake:**

1. On September 27<sup>th</sup>, BBC Urdu ran an audio roundup on the paucity of relief and rescue efforts. This was in the form of interviews with reporters Riaz Sohail and Saba Aitzaz present in Balochistan:  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2013/09/130927\\_saba\\_riaz\\_final\\_awaran\\_zs.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2013/09/130927_saba_riaz_final_awaran_zs.shtml)
2. Diary from the earthquake zone, Riaz Sohail, BBC Urdu:  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/pakistan/2013/09/130927\\_earthquake\\_diary\\_riaz\\_zs.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/pakistan/2013/09/130927_earthquake_diary_riaz_zs.shtml)
3. On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October, BBC Urdu video report focussed on the affected women and children:  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2013/09/130930\\_women\\_affectees\\_rh.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2013/09/130930_women_affectees_rh.shtml)
4. The English version of the same was run on BBC News:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jH0wbkGoDvc>
5. BBC News sent its reporter to Balochistan too. This showcases good partnership between BBC departments and language services: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-24222760>
6. A pictorial from BBC News Online  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/in-pictures-24240327>
7. Special programme on failure of relief efforts: 16 October  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2013/10/131016\\_balochistan\\_awaraan\\_aw.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2013/10/131016_balochistan_awaraan_aw.shtml)
8. Images of Destruction, BBC Urdu Photo Gallery from Baluchistan:  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2013/10/130930\\_balochistan\\_pictures\\_rh.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2013/10/130930_balochistan_pictures_rh.shtml)
9. Follow-up report by Riaz Sohail from the streets of Awaran:  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/pakistan/2013/10/131018\\_awaran\\_riaz\\_balochistan2\\_ra.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/pakistan/2013/10/131018_awaran_riaz_balochistan2_ra.shtml)

### **Special Radio Programme Sairbeen Devoted to the Earthquake 16 October 2013**

Three weeks after the earthquake, BBC Urdu decided to devote an entire episode of Sairbeen to the failure of relief efforts. This was triggered by the fact that even after three weeks, many victims were still waiting for relief and medical care. Owing to the scant coverage of the earthquake in the Pakistani media, it seemed that the victims of Awaran had been forgotten, left to their own devices. BBC teams found very little evidence of the government's relief work. The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan blamed both the government and the insurgents for hampering relief work. Some victims alleged that the armed forces continued their counter-insurgency operation in the guise of relief operations. (See Appendix B for testimonies from victims.)

One of the key questions the BBC Urdu radio programme of October 16<sup>th</sup> therefore addressed was why enough aid hadn't been allowed in when the area is 300m kilometres from Pakistan's biggest city Karachi.

The Urdu Service broadcast live from a courtyard in Awaran, from amongst the affected people, relaying their voices to audiences and relief organisations across Pakistan and the world. The service sent one of its best reporters, Riaz Sohail, and its special correspondent for Pakistan and acclaimed writer, Mohammed Hanif, to put together the special broadcast. This was an example of good editorial leadership. The team set up a make-shift studio in the devastated area and managed to produce a programme without any sophisticated broadcasting equipment. For nearly an hour the programme carried eye-witness accounts of the death and destruction the quake had caused among an impoverished people. There were stories of people desperate to save their kin or to survive themselves. There was anger about the near absence of relief efforts, food, basic supplies and equipment. People who participated in the programme talked about how they had to bury their dead with their bare hands, as they had no hope of seeing relief workers. (See detailed extracts from the programme transcript in Appendix B)

Outside Pakistan the programme could be listened to live via the BBC Urdu's popular website, [www.bbcurdu.com](http://www.bbcurdu.com). This highlights how the BBC World Service can bring essential Lifeline News to the world by stitching together traditional and new media. The programme was also archived as a web page (see item 6 above)

*It was public service broadcasting at its best. Even local Pakistani media organisations had moved on to the next big story and it certainly was not on the news agenda of other international broadcasters.*

### **Public Service Journalism as Cultural Value**

To understand the scale of the tragedy unleashed by the quake in this poorest part of Pakistan, one only needed to hear the voices of people who did not feature high on the international news media agenda- voices of people fighting for survival, voices of women who had lost their children, imploring anyone within earshot for relief and help, for water, for food -- for a chance of life.

Covering a disaster of this magnitude reveals the BBC World Service at its best. Lifeline programming has long been a key remit of its journalism – and it is a vital role. These were people, and many among of them listeners of BBC Urdu, who do not understand the politics of aid; they certainly did not care much about the narrative of State vs. Insurgents that had overtaken public and political discourse even as people were desperately waiting for food.

In what was a chilling radio broadcast, the message from the victims bore compelling evidence of the urgent and dire need for relief that had not been forthcoming. It is this that the World Service must continue to do if it wants to remain wed to its historic ethic of public service international broadcasting.

The Service did not merely speak to the victims or relief workers; it went a step further and co-presented the programme with them and the few aid workers who had stationed themselves in the area. It was disturbing but it was exceptional journalism. Maryam Baloch told presenter Mohammed Hanif: “No one from the government has come here, the Baloch people have only themselves, there is disease here but no doctors have come here, the only rations we have received are from collections made by people.” Mohammed Hanif did an expert job of describing the setting, taking the listener to the scenes he had witnessed. In the words of a relief worker who was interviewed in the programme: “the distance between Awaran and us is only 300 kilometres but the journey takes us back by 300 years”.

It therefore seems essential that, in the current climate of great technological change, the World Service bridges the yawning gap between those who are far removed from the digital revolution and those who can influence change both in the ‘home countries’ where BBC broadcasts, and across the western world. Responses on social media to the BBC’s coverage of the earthquake provide a clear glimpse of listeners/users’ view of the corporation (See Appendix C). They continue to attach values of trust, impartiality and objectivity to the brand BBC, and importantly, that the BBC cares even if no other international media group does. While this means the BBC’s name continues to be respected around the world, by association it also signifies immense value for a British institution.

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### **Digital Futures**

Good compelling journalism and content will be the BBC’s best vehicle for what?. BBC Urdu Service put out links to the above programme and related content—pictorials from the earthquake hit area, testimonies of survivors, updates on relief efforts—on its Twitter feed and much of it went viral. Internet users picked disclosures or simply quotes from the survivors of the quake and extensively shared the programme. An overwhelming majority of Twitter users praised the BBC for covering the earthquake in detail. It was instructive to see traditional media output about people in the devastated zone find immediate traction on socially networked media. Artists, editors, journalists, think-tank members listening in online shared content that they may not have listened to otherwise. This is a clear indicator of how things should shape in the future. Strong innovative journalism and storytelling will never go out of fashion, whether it’s reporting from Haiti, conflict regions such as Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan, BBC, with its primary focus on stories that matter to audiences across the world, can always stand out from the crowd as it pursues newer audiences around the world. (See Appendix C for Twitter traffic)

### **Lifeline Audiences: Reach and Composition**

BBC Urdu has seen a steady decline in audiences in Pakistan and elsewhere over the last few years. This is primarily to do with declining radio audiences worldwide but also with the



somewhat slow take up of scalable content in the service. That said it retains a high degree of trust amongst audiences in Pakistan, a segment most in need of continued radio programming. It would be suicidal if in pursuit of digital excellence the World Service neglected those who still rely on a transistor set to receive news of the world or of issues that matter to them. The table below offers an overview of BBC's radio audience in Pakistan: The province-wise breakdown shows that predominantly rural regions like Sindh and Balochistan rely on BBC Urdu's broadcasts:

AUDIENCE REACH	Total audience	Location		Region				
		Urban	Rural	Punjab	Sindh	KPK	Balochistan	Gilgit Baltistan
Sample	4,095	1,507	2,588	2,227	925	648	239	56
Weighted to population (000's)	117,277	44,804	72,473	69,946	25,828	15,966	4,648	890
Listened to BBC radio in any language	3,075	667	2,408	703	1,107	674	516	74
	2.6%	1.5%	3.3%	1.0%	4.3%	4.2%	11.1%	8.4%
Listened to BBC radio in Urdu	2,536	667	1,869	690	1,107	181	484	74
	2.2%	1.5%	2.6%	1.0%	4.3%	1.1%	10.4%	8.4%

Fig 1 Audience Reach

The Table below in Fig 2 shows the composition of BBC Urdu's radio (SW and MW) audience: 74% of BBC Urdu radio audience live in rural areas and 36% are from Sindh and nearly 17% from Balochistan.

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Weighted to population (000's)	117,277	44,804	72,473	69,946	25,828	15,966	4,648	890
Listened to BBC radio in any language	100%	21.7%	78.3%	22.9%	36.0%	21.9%	16.8%	2.4%
Listened to BBC radio in Urdu	100%	26.3%	73.7%	27.2%	43.6%	7.1%	19.1%	2.9%

Fig 2 Radio Audience composition

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## **Appendix A: Background to the Urdu Service and its offer by Lala Najafova, Senior Publicist, BBC Global News Communications**

BBC Urdu is a multimedia service providing audio, video, text and graphic content across radio, online and TV. The BBC has the highest reach among international broadcasters in Pakistan on TV and radio, and leads on perceptions of providing unbiased and objective news. In addition to the core team in London and production bureaux in Islamabad and Delhi, BBC Urdu is supported by the BBC's international newsgathering operation, which commands levels of trust, relevance and reach unmatched among international news-providers. BBC Urdu's strength lies in regional knowledge and expertise of its correspondents working across Pakistan, India and the United States. The extensive newsgathering operation in these places is driven by some of the best known journalists and broadcasters.

To reflect the changing needs of audiences around the world and transform the way news services are delivered in order to better serve the audiences, in February 2013 BBC Urdu launched the new news and current-affairs TV programme Sairbeen. After a short break off air, the programme is now re-launching in a new format, to be available online and broadcast in Pakistan via AAJ TV Monday to Friday.

Sairbeen on TV has built on the longstanding success of the flagship daily radio programme brand, Sairbeen, which provides 60 minutes of news and current affairs. The programme is essential listening for anyone wanting to keep up-to-date and informed of events in Pakistan and the rest of the world. The radio programme Sairbeen broadcasts seven days a week at 20.00 in Pakistan Time.

The morning radio programme, Jahanuma, sets the news agenda for the day. In addition to millions of listeners in Pakistan and India, Jahanuma has dedicated audiences among Urdu-speakers around the world. BBC Urdu radio broadcasts reach millions of people across the globe on shortwave, medium wave, FM and mobile phones. [bbcUrdu.com](http://bbcUrdu.com) is the largest Urdu news website in the world, offering a rich variety of content including news, features, analysis, blogs, interviews, a constantly updated interactive audience forum and original on-demand video.

[bbcUrdu.com](http://bbcUrdu.com) has produced some landmark high impact journalism in Pakistan and India, from webcasts uniting divided people in Indian and Pakistan administered parts of Kashmir, to raising the issue of disappeared people in India and Pakistan, to mapping the intensity of the US-led drone war in Pakistan. With total traffic to [bbcUrdu.com](http://bbcUrdu.com) from all sources at 1.8 million average monthly unique visitors (fourth quarter of 2013), [bbcUrdu.com](http://bbcUrdu.com) is among the BBC's leading non-English-language websites.

BBC Urdu has over 1.1 million fans on Facebook and is among most popular media organisations on Facebook in Pakistan. BBC Urdu has over 100,000 followers on Twitter.

## **Appendix B: Extracts from Transcript of Earthquake Special Broadcast Sairbeen on October 16th 2013.**

In Teer Tej, the BBC team met Taj Bibi who had lost a child in the quake. “I have two daughters, one died, the other, lying over there, is scared”.

Owais Khan said “we lost our houses, my daughter and son were killed, my wife is injured, my father is injured, no one has come here, no one came to make a camp, I have no one, how can I rebuild my home, no one came.”

School teacher Imdad was worried about the future. “After the quake, children are too scared to come to school, and it’s too hot to sit outside. No one has come here.”

Nazia Baloch. “My brother went to buy things for Eid yesterday but he hasn’t come back. He went to the market but Frontier Corps took him... What kind of law is this, what kind of country is Pakistan?”

The programme ran an insert from an independent journalist who had spent a few days in another affected area, Mashkee. She reported there was also a military operation underway in the name of relief work. Pakistan security forces or agencies had exchanged fire with the rebels, and had in some cases used relief to extract information about the rebels.

A local doctor told the BBC presenter that there wasn’t even a single X-ray machine in the local hospital, which meant the injured could not be treated on time and had to be shifted to Karachi.

Abdul Qadeer Baloch of the Voice of Missing Baluch also spoke on the programme and relief worker Ilahi Baksh Baloch told the BBC reporters that there was enough cash and aid material present in the country and that both international and local organisations could provide sufficient relief but the government had yet to give permission to allow them to come in.

Religious organisations were said to be active in the area distributing aid, and it was said these were the only groups the security forces had allowed to provide relief in some of the affected areas. BBC spoke to Faisal Edhi of Edhi Foundation, one of Pakistan’s biggest charity orgs, and also to Engineer Abdul Aziz of Al Khidmat. Aziz said, “many villages were completely destroyed, so we took some tents, there wasn’t even water in the wells, so the first thing we did was give water to the children...”

In what was a shocking eye-witness testimony a relief worker from a religious charity, said, “I reached early morning, and saw people burying their dead in mass graves, without shrouds, without their final baths, some graves had 20 bodies, some 10, people were hungry, and after they had dug up graves for their dead they dug the debris of their flattened houses to look for something to eat. There wasn’t even food for the injured in the hospitals. No painkillers in the hospital.”

Faisal Edhi spoke about the grim task of taking the dead to a river so they could be washed before burials, as there was no water around in the reservoirs. “So we helped to bury the

dead. Next we tried to shift the injured to Karachi, as there isn't a single X-ray unit in the whole district."

The BBC presenter asked one of the relief workers about complaints that army and the separatists weren't allowing relief and aid work in some areas. That in some cases the militants attacked the armed forces of Pakistan who were distributing relief materials.

Engineer Aziz: "Yes, I could sense the rift... Army, FC, militants may have been unable to set aside rifts at this time...When we went in, we asked the FC not to accompany us....It was touching and profound to see these affected people, they are a proud and honourable people, we were asked questions as to why we had come all the way from Karachi, and we said we had come to help human beings. After that we were allowed in, it was poignant to see in spite of being hungry and devoid of all possessions, there was no chaos, no snatching, no one would come to take anything, we had to take things to them."

Addressing allegations or rumours that relief workers had been targeted by Baloch separatists, Faisal Edhi said, "Not a single relief worker has been hurt or killed. Yes, some relief organisations left quickly because this is an area where there has been war, but not a single person was hurt." Faisal further said, "There are no basic facilities in this region, No water, no electricity, this is an area more backward and underdeveloped than the most underdeveloped areas of Pakistan".

How is it different from the rest of Pakistan?

Hafiz from a religious charity organisation: "Although the distance between these people and us is just about 300 kilometres, the journey seems to be 300 years. They don't even have proper shoes to wear, they were slippers made of tree bark or leaves".

The programme interviewed Akhtar Mengal, a former chief minister of the province, who spoke to the programme from Dubai. He blamed the militants for the slow pace of relief work but also the army for being suspicious. Dr Abdul Malik, the current chief minister of Balochistan, expressed satisfaction over the relief and rescue work and wanted credit for his government's work.

Separatist leader Dr Allah Nazar alleged that the FC wasn't there to help but only to crush their freedom movement. He requested international organisations to help the Baloch directly. "Both the army and the government are politicising a natural disaster," he said on the programme. When asked about the common people who were caught between the army and the rebels, he said the army was working behind the curtain and the local government was playing politics over it.

BBC reporter Riaz Sohail who hails from an underdeveloped area in Singh described how he found Awaran even less developed than Thar which is considered among the poorest districts of Pakistan. "There is at least basic healthcare in Thar, transport that runs at least four days a week, but there is no sign of that here..." Sohail also expressed surprise at the lack of interest in the Pakistani media.

Local resident Kifayat Qazi who was present during the programme said that under the pretext of relief work, Pakistan army or the Frontier Corps took way a man from his village...  
“Thankfully, we were a able to get him back the next day, but the FC is using relief work to detain people. Firing happens from both sides.”

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## Appendix C: Select Twitter responses to BBC’s coverage of the earthquake in Baluchistan

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Mohammad Ali Talpur @mmatalpur Nov 7

It's only @BBCUrdu that reports about the Baloch issues be it Awaran or Long March. Local Media seems dead. <http://vimeo.com/78793486>

[Hide media](#)

- RETWEETS20
- FAVORITE1



1. PIRDHANBALOCH @PIRDHAN\_BALOCH Oct 16

Thankful to @BBCUrdu radio for the special program from the quake hit #Awaran! How the victims celebrating Eid? <http://bbc.in/qaAspF> "

Expand

Retweeted by [Aliya Nazki](#) and 1 other



TheBaloch @BalaachMarri Sep 30

Than you @RiazSangi and @BBCUrdu for your exceptional coverage of quake affected areas in Awaran.

[Collapse](#)

- RETWEETS4
- FAVORITE1



7:44 AM - 30 Sep 2013 · [Details](#)



**Aamer Ahmed Khan** @Aak0

@mohammedhanif at his brilliant best presenting @BBCUrdu radio live from Awaran. Must tune in or click on link <http://BBCUrdu.com>

- RETWEETS5



**Arooj Zahra** @ArooojZahra Oct 17

#Balochistan: Some of the people in **Awaran** have never been to a doctor, dont know what medicines are... [http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/pakistan/2013/10/131016\\_hanif\\_discussion\\_a.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/pakistan/2013/10/131016_hanif_discussion_a.shtml) ...

**Talat Aslam** @titojourno Oct 16

Do hear. Excellent & very depressing report from on the ground in #**Awaran** by @mohammedhanif , Riaz Sohail [http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2011/10/000000\\_sairbeen.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2011/10/000000_sairbeen.shtml) ...

Hide summary

- RETWEETS12
- FAVORITES2



7:03 PM - 16 Oct 2013 · Details

**Aamer Ahmed Khan** @Aak0 Oct 19

@BBCUrdu's @RiazSangi continues with his excellent coverage of the situation in quake hit #**Awaran** #Balochistan [http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/pakistan/2013/10/131018\\_awaran\\_riaz\\_balochistan2\\_ra.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/pakistan/2013/10/131018_awaran_riaz_balochistan2_ra.shtml) ... Collapse

- RETWEETS5
- FAVORIT

**Nazrana Yousufzai** @NazranaYusufzai Oct 7

Are you serious ??- Humanitarian organization are stopped to enter Awaran - The earthquake hit area in #Balochistan

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/pakistan/2013/10/131005\\_msf\\_balochistan\\_eq\\_rwa.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/pakistan/2013/10/131005_msf_balochistan_eq_rwa.shtml) ...

Hide summary

• RETWEETS5



6:10 PM - 7 Oct 2013 · Details

**Ashraf Jan** @AshrafMarri Oct 16

@BBCUrdu's Sairbeen Aired from #Awaran <http://bbc.in/qaAspF> . Tribute to #BBCUrdu for raising Baloch voice

**beena sarwar** @beenasarwar Oct 16

We were never threatened by anyone in the remotest areas, Faisal Edhi tells @BBCUrdu radio special from #Awaran #Balochistan

Retweeted by [Riaz sohail](#)



**TheBaloch** @BalaachMarri Oct 3

WATCH: BBCUrdu report on Awaran quake victims <http://bbc.in/16ilrk4>  
Collapse

• RETWEETS6

**Karim** @kjindani Oct 17

300km from #Karachi is a place where people wear Slippers made out of Date Palm and Fed Gov in denial #Awaran <http://bbc.in/qnl3md>

Hide summary



**Nazrana Yousufzai** @NazranaYusufzai Oct 7

Are you serious ??- Humanitarian organization are stopped to enter Awaran - The earthquake hit area in #Balochistan

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/pakistan/2013/10/131005\\_msf\\_balochistan\\_eq\\_rwa.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/pakistan/2013/10/131005_msf_balochistan_eq_rwa.shtml) ...

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6:10 PM - 7 Oct 2013 · Details

**farahnaz ispahani** @fispahani Oct 16

MT @Aak0 **Awaran's** Eid: One of the best radio programmes I have heard on the earthquake zone.

Tune in now @BBCUrdu. #Balochistan

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- Retweeted by [Asif Farooqi](#) and 3 others



- **TheBaloch** @BalaachMarri Sep 30
- Tremendous coverage of **Awaran's** quake affected areas by @BBCUrdu journalist @RiazSangi. Hats off.

**Faiz Baluch** @Faiz\_Baluch Oct 16

Brilliant coverage of @BBCUrdu right from the earthquake affected zone of #Awaran. Well done

@mohammedhanif & @RiazSangi

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2011/10/000000\\_sairbeen.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2011/10/000000_sairbeen.shtml) ...

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**Talaar Baloch** @Talaarbaloch Oct 17

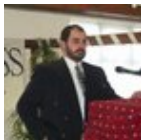
One of the best radio programs on **Awaran** #earthquake

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2013/10/131016\\_balochistan\\_awaraan\\_aw.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2013/10/131016_balochistan_awaraan_aw.shtml) ...

@NasimZehra @VeengasJ @Mustafa\_Qadri @MalickViews @Bariffee

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**TheBaloch** @BalaachMarri Oct 16

Not even a single X-ray Unit in #Awaran, BBC Urdu reports

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**Aslam Chandio** @AslamChandio\_ Sep 30

- Children and women are the worst victims of #Awaran earthquake. Reports @sabaetizaz [http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2013/09/130930\\_women\\_affectees\\_rh.shtml#TWEET906283](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2013/09/130930_women_affectees_rh.shtml#TWEET906283) ...

**QAMBARANI** @QAMBARANI Oct 17

One of the best radio program on **Awaran** #earthquake

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2013/10/131016\\_balochistan\\_awaraan\\_aw.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/urdu/multimedia/2013/10/131016_balochistan_awaraan_aw.shtml) ...

**Bakht Brahmani** @BakhtBrahmani Oct 17

Audio progrom of **BBC** urdu about quake-hit **Awaran** and operation in the name of relief #Balochistan

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**Sarafaraz hussani**@sarfarazhussani

weldone alkhidmat foundation in "Awaran" attached bbc report [pic.twitter.com/d6UNnmPL97](http://pic.twitter.com/d6UNnmPL97)

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**Nighat Dad**@nighatdad

Pakistan earthquake: Hundreds dead in Balochistan [http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-24222760)

[24222760](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-24222760) ... #Awaran #Balochistan #EarthQuake #Pakistan

- RETWEETS8
- FAVORITES3



8:21 AM - 28 Sep 2013

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