

TRIBE: TARKANI AKA: TARKALANI

PRIMARY LOCATIONS:

The Tarkani live primarily in the Chahamung and Babukara valleys of Bajaur Agency.ⁱ

RELIGION/SECT:

The Tarkani are Sunni Muslims.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Tarkani tribe is divided into six sections: Salar zai, Mamund, Chamar Kand and Charmang, Nawagai, and ex-state of Khar.ⁱⁱ

KEY TERRAIN FEATURES:

Valleys: Khar-Nawagai Valley

Plains:

Mountains:

Rivers: Rud stream, Panjkora and Swat Rivers

The Bajaur Agency is a very mountainous areas with peaks ranging from 2,500 to 3,500 meters in elevation. This makes the area largely inaccessible to outside influence.ⁱⁱⁱ

WEATHER:

Bajaur has an extreme climate due in large part to its mountainous terrain. Temperatures in December through February average between 41 to 61 degrees Fahrenheit. Temperatures in July and August, the hottest months in Bajaur, average between 73 to 97 degrees Fahrenheit.^{iv}

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE TALIBAN/AL-QAEDA:

There is no specific evidence of Tarkani support to the TTP could be found. However, the Jaish-e-Islami and the Tehrik-e-Nifaz-e-Shariat Mohammadi led by Maulan Faqir Mohammad are active in Bajaur and both are aligned TTP.^v

ⁱ H.A. Rose, *A Glossary of the Tribes and Castes*, 1919, (Reprinted: New Delhi: Amar Prakashan, 1979), 457.

ⁱⁱ Government of Pakistan, "Historical and Administrative Profile of the Bajaur Agency,"

<http://www.fata.gov.pk/subpages/bajaur.php>

ⁱⁱⁱ "Profiles of Pakistan's Seven Tribal Agencies," Intellibriefs, October 27, 2006,

<http://intellibriefs.blogspot.com/search?q=tarkani>

^{iv} Government of Pakistan, "Historical and Administrative Profile of the Bajaur Agency,"

<http://www.fata.gov.pk/subpages/bajaur.php>

^v "Maulana Faqir Mohammad," Global Jihad, http://globaljihad.net/view_page.asp?id=1090; "Taliban Group Chooses New Name," Daily times,

http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2008%5C04%5C27%5Cstory_27-4-2008_pg7_14