

# OpenVoiceNews Pakistan

Transparent. Unbiased. Yours.

## Trump Claims Five Jets Downed in Pakistan-India Clash

July 19, 2025

– Categories: *Breaking News*



U.S. President Donald Trump recently stirred discussion by claiming that up to five fighter jets were shot down during the Pakistan-India hostilities in May 2025, following a militant attack in India-administered Kashmir. Speaking at a White House dinner with Republican lawmakers, Trump's remarks have reignited debates about the brief but intense conflict between the two nuclear-armed nations. This article explores the context of the clash, the claims surrounding the downed jets, and

the geopolitical implications, emphasizing the need for clarity amid conflicting narratives.

The conflict began on April 22, 2025, when an Islamist militant attack in Pahalgam, India-administered Kashmir, killed 26 civilians, prompting India to launch Operation Sindoor. On May 7, Indian Air Force (IAF) jets struck what New Delhi called “terrorist infrastructure” in Pakistan and Pakistan-administered Kashmir, escalating tensions. Pakistan’s Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif claimed the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) downed five Indian jets, including three French-made Rafale fighters, a MiG-29, and a Su-30. India denied these losses, though a French intelligence official, speaking anonymously to CNN, confirmed at least one Rafale was downed. Indian officials, including Air Marshal Bharti, insisted all IAF bases remained operational, with no confirmed losses beyond initial reports of three jets crashing in Indian territory.

Trump’s statement, as reported by Reuters, did not specify which side’s jets were lost, leaving room for speculation. “Planes were being shot out of the air. Five, four or five, but I think five jets were shot down actually,” he said, offering no further details. Pakistan’s claims, bolstered by visuals of wreckage in Kashmir, contrast with India’s assertion that it gained air superiority after tactical shifts. The fog of war obscures the truth, with both sides leveraging propaganda to claim victory. This lack of transparency fuels distrust, especially as India rejects Trump’s claim that U.S. intervention secured the May 10 ceasefire, insisting bilateral talks with Pakistan resolved the crisis.

The India-Pakistan rivalry, rooted in decades of territorial disputes, remains a global flashpoint. Trump’s comments, while vague, highlight the stakes of such conflicts, where nuclear capabilities loom large. As both nations rebuild, the U.S. must tread carefully, balancing alliances with India and Pakistan while avoiding entanglement in their feud. Clear

intelligence and diplomatic restraint are vital to prevent future escalations.