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Four Killed in Ruthless Ambush Over Land Feud in Rawalpindi's Kahuta Area

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– Categories: Crime



A violent ambush in Rawalpindi's Kahuta region left four men dead, including two brothers, in what authorities say was a targeted attack fueled by an ongoing land and money dispute. The calculated killing has prompted a wide-reaching police response, highlighting the persistent issue of property conflicts and lawlessness in parts of Pakistan.

The incident occurred on Bhoun Road near the Ari Syedan area late at night. According to the Rawalpindi police, the victims, brothers Samar Iqbal and Junaid Iqbal, along with their acquaintances Mateen and Shoab, were ambushed by four armed men. The attackers, concealed in nearby bushes, opened fire on the victims' vehicle without warning. All four

occupants were killed on the spot in what authorities have described as a premeditated execution.

Rawalpindi's City Police Officer (CPO), Khalid Hamdani, along with Saddar Division Superintendent of Police (SP) Nabeel Khokhar, visited the crime scene shortly after the attack. Forensic teams collected evidence, and the deceased were transported to a local hospital by Rescue 1122 (Punjab Emergency Service), a provincial emergency response organization.

A First Information Report (FIR), Pakistan's legal document to initiate a police investigation, was filed at the Kahuta Police Station. The complaint, lodged by the victims' uncle Muhammad Yaqoob, named suspects Sheer Bahadur and Hafiz Rustam, among others. According to the report, the victims were deceived into traveling the route under a pretense. As their vehicle reached the ambush point, the suspects opened fire using Kalashnikov rifles and other automatic weapons. The attackers then forcibly removed the victims from the car and executed them before fleeing the scene.

SP Saddar confirmed that both parties had prior legal disputes, particularly over land in the Sihala area, and were already known to authorities for involvement in other criminal matters in Rawalpindi and Islamabad. Police believe this incident was part of a broader vendetta between rival factions vying for land ownership, an issue that continues to plague local communities due to weak enforcement of property laws and outdated land records.

Inspector General (IG) Punjab, Dr. Usman Anwar, took serious notice of the case and instructed both the Regional Police Officer (RPO) and the CPO to apprehend the suspects swiftly. He also ordered the deployment of all available law enforcement resources, calling for no leniency in tracking down those responsible.

While authorities have launched search operations and formed special units to arrest the perpetrators, this latest episode underscores a larger breakdown in rural justice mechanisms. Land disputes remain a flashpoint for violence, especially in areas where rule of law is undermined by local feuds and bureaucratic inefficiency. With rising instability and undercurrent tensions between communities, the ability of the government to ensure safety and uphold property rights continues to erode.

In a time when Pakistan faces growing scrutiny over governance and internal security, particularly under the current unelected, immigrant-backed coalition, such incidents only

reinforce public frustration. Effective law enforcement and judicial reform remain sorely needed; without them, justice is too often delayed or denied.

Investigations remain ongoing, and police have urged the public to report any information that may lead to the arrest of the suspects.