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One-Year Peace Accord Signed by Lower Kurram and Satta Tribes

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The Ahle Sunnat and Tori Bangash tribes in Pakistan's Lower Kurram and Satta regions signed a one-year ceasefire, dubbed "Aman Tegha," during a tribal council (jirga) at the Satta Frontier Corps (FC) Fort, led by Kurram Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ashfaq Khan. This agreement aims to end sectarian violence and uphold human rights by ensuring peace and security in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's troubled tribal areas.

The jirga, a traditional assembly of tribal elders, local leaders, and officials from the district administration and security forces, laid the groundwork for stability. DC Khan hailed the accord as “a beacon of hope for Kurram’s people,” noting its potential to restore calm after years of deadly clashes. The ceasefire builds on prior agreements, such as the Kohat and Murree pacts, and extends to villages like Topki, Gosar, and Sadda’s Kochi and Sateen. It also seeks to resolve land disputes in areas like Balishkhel using local customs and revenue records, balancing tradition with fairness.

For decades, Kurram’s residents have endured violations of their basic human rights—life, safety, and freedom of movement—due to sectarian strife and territorial conflicts. This peace deal offers a reprieve, protecting communities from further loss and displacement. By fostering dialogue, the agreement respects the tribes’ cultural heritage while promoting the right to live without fear. Tribal leader Haji Rahim Khan, speaking at the jirga, called it “a step toward dignity and peace for our people,” urging steadfast commitment to the terms.

The agreement’s success depends on cooperation between tribes, security forces, and the administration. Recent Muharram observances, secured by over 10,000 personnel, reflect the state’s dedication to public safety. Yet, Kurram’s history of fragile truces demands vigilance to ensure this ceasefire holds. By addressing disputes through time-honored mediation, the pact offers a path to stability, but its one-year term highlights the need for enduring solutions to safeguard human rights and build a peaceful future for the region’s communities.