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## Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Calls Jirga, Pledges Rs10 Million for Tirah Valley Victims

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Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur announced Rs 10 million in compensation for each victim killed and Rs 2.5 million for each person injured in the Tirah Valley incident. The tragic event occurred in Bagh Maidan, where civilians came under fire during a protest. In response, Gandapur also summoned a jirga of tribal elders and public representatives in Peshawar to address community concerns and reinforce dialogue with local leadership.

The attack, which resulted in multiple fatalities and over a dozen injuries, has been attributed to militants described by the state as “Fitna al Khawarij,” a term used to

categorize extremist elements. The incident has highlighted the continuing volatility in the Tirah Valley, where banned militant groups remain active despite repeated security operations. According to officials, a protest against counter-terrorism operations was underway when the violence erupted, raising concerns about the complex relationship between local grievances and militant activity.

Following the incident, a joint jirga involving civil and military representatives condemned the firing on civilians and reaffirmed that peaceful protest is a constitutional right.

Security officials present at the gathering pledged an inquiry into the violence, affirmed that those responsible would face legal consequences, and announced that medical care for the injured would be provided at government expense.

The situation underscores the persistent challenges facing security and governance in parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. While compensation and dialogue initiatives represent important gestures, many observers argue that more decisive and sustained action is required. Strengthening intelligence operations, empowering local governance structures, and engaging communities in long-term peacebuilding are critical to preventing future incidents and stabilizing the region.

The Tirah Valley tragedy serves as a reminder of the need for a comprehensive approach to counter extremism. Chief Minister Gandapur's response signals a willingness to support victims and involve local stakeholders, but restoring lasting peace in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa will depend on bold, coordinated efforts to eliminate militant networks and address the root causes of unrest.