

Data Appendix

Lashkar-e-Taiba Fighters

This document summarizes the data coding and categories that were created from the biographies of deceased Lashkar-e-Taiba fighters.

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Authors' Note

In this data appendix, we attempt to describe the various ways in which we coded the data used for this analysis. It should be noted that this was a complex process that evolved throughout the project. We first selected the variables which we would like to code ideally. Unfortunately, there was no guarantee that each of the biographies would provide those data elements or even that such elements would be provided consistently across a plurality of the biographies. Second, and in consideration of these data constraints, Nadia Shoeb (who led the data extraction process) evaluated several dozen of the biographies, chosen at random. Based upon her reading of the biographies, we revised the variable list appropriately, removing some variables and adding others. Third, once we finalized our data list, we built an Excel spreadsheet. In the spreadsheet Ms. Shoeb identified the source of each biography by its publication name and date, and extracted, to the best of her ability, all of the data elements described herein. Each biography comprised one record. Third, when all the data was coded, we attempted to determine if there were duplicate records. This could happen if, for example, a fighter's biography was published in the collected volumes in addition to one of Lashkar-e-Taiba's serial publications. When we could be certain about duplicates, we created one record. Overall, this was rare.

As with all databases, the codification of data can be misleading in that it deprives the user of the data a sense of the complicated and ultimately subjective decisions that went into coding a given variable in a particular way. The data extractor is constantly confronted with being literal and coding the data element as missing *or* inferring the data element when other data in the biography offer robust clues. The trade-off therefore is often between excessive missing data or data fields that are more populated but with less certitude. This data appendix codifies the rules that the team constructed to guide these decisions. We have made every attempt possible to be consistent and to describe the process in detail and with transparency. Ultimately, the user alone will determine whether or not we were successful and whether or not our coding decisions were optimal.

We encourage users of the dataset to communicate any errors of judgment or fact in the coding decisions that we have made. This will enable all users to benefit maximally

from the community of users employing these data. Suggestions for revision can be sent to ctc@usma.edu.

Year of Publication

The year of the publication from which biographical, sociological and other information was extracted.

Age upon Entry

The age when the militant was recruited into the organization or carried out basic training. While it can be assumed that these two entry points can be different, the militant's first or earliest exposure to the organization was, when possible, coded. This judgment was also based on the assumption that there would not be significant time lapse even if these two incidents were separate. If the age was in a range, the average is reported in the data. For example, the age range of 16 to 17 is reported as 16.5.

Age at Death

The age at which the militant was killed in battle. If the age is in a range, the average is reported in the data.

Level of Religious Education

This field was used to measure the highest level of religious education attained by the militant, to the extent it could be discerned from the biographies. As explained below, the biographies generally referenced five types of religious education, which were all coded. A sixth coding category—"Unspecified or Other"—was added to capture the few examples that could not be included in the five main religious education categories.

The six coding categories that we used are:

1. rel_ed_Hafez
2. rel_ed_Madrassah
3. rel_ed_Nariza

4. rel_ed_Sanad
5. rel_ed_Unspecified_or_Other
6. rel_ed_Missing

The objective of the *nazira* (reading, recitation of the Qur'an) column was to assess whether or not the militant used to read the Qur'an regularly. If the biography stated that he read the Qur'an in one instance but there is no other indication that he read regularly the field was not positively coded for *nazira*. The word *tilaawat*, which means recitation of the Quran in part or in entirety to seek a blessing, is often used as an equivalent to describe *nazira*, and therefore if this word was used the biography was coded positively for *nazira*. If a biography stated that the militant used to read the Qur'an frequently but did not explicitly use the words *nazira* or *tilawaat*, it was also positively coded as *nazira*.

To be positively coded for *Hafez* (someone who has memorized the Qur'an) the fighter had to have completed a complete memorization of the Qur'an. If the militant memorized half (*hifz*) or a portion the Qur'an, that fighter's level of religious education was coded as *nazira*, and not *hafez*.

To be positively coded for madrassa a fighter's biography had to specially note that he attended a madrassa. When this type of data was provided and the name of the particular madrassa was also included, it was added in parentheses after the term "madrassa" (i.e., madrassa (Jamia Abu Bakr)).

To be positively coded for *sanad*, which is a certificate of attainment in the madrassa system, the biography had to explicitly say that the fighter had a *sanad*.

We used the "Unspecified and Other" category when a fighter's biography included references to mosques and other unspecified religious education.

Length of Religious Education

The number of years of religious education that the fighter received. Due to the general nature of the information in the biographies we made an assumption that references made about one's length of religious education were references to the amount of time

that individual spent at a madrassa vice some other type of religious institution. If months were mentioned they were converted into years.

Level of Nonreligious Education

This field was used to measure the level of nonreligious (Pakistanis prefer to use the term “worldly”) education of the militant, to the extent it could be discerned from the biographies.

Below are the different fields that are in the nonreligious education field:

Nonreligious Education	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
N/A	463	50.49	50.49
[C. com, D. com]	1	0.11	50.6
[diploma in electricity]	1	0.11	50.71
[mechanical training college diploma]; after matric	1	0.11	50.82
[technical college MULTAN]	1	0.11	50.93
diploma from a technical training institute	1	0.11	51.04
Graduate	20	2.18	53.22
graduate (matric and then four-year diploma)	1	0.11	53.33
Illiterate	3	0.33	53.65
Intermediate	59	6.43	60.09
intermediate (D. Comm)	2	0.22	60.31
intermediate	2	0.22	60.52
intermediate (was a BSC student)	1	0.11	60.63
intermediate and then course in dispensary	1	0.11	60.74
intermediate and then course to become a laboratory technician	1	0.11	60.85
intermediate then NCO computer software	1	0.11	60.96
intermediate then teaching course	1	0.11	61.07
Matric	176	19.19	80.26
matric (at madrassa)	1	0.11	80.37
matric (then four-year degree in	1	0.11	80.48

homeopathy)			
matric and then a three-year electrical course	1	0.11	80.59
matric and then commer college but drop	1	0.11	80.7
matric then five-year laboratory course	1	0.11	80.81
matric then d.comm	1	0.11	80.92
matric then mechanical diploma	1	0.11	81.03
matric; then took a 4-year course in homeopathy	1	0.11	81.13
Middle	99	10.8	91.93
not very educated	2	0.22	92.15
not well-educated	1	0.11	92.26
Primary	57	6.22	98.47
primary [see notes]	1	0.11	98.58
Professionals	3	0.33	98.91
yes (unspecified)	9	0.98	99.89
yes (unspecified); farmer	1	0.11	100
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Total	917	100	

These fields were consolidated into the following seven categories:

- 1) Non_rel_ed_Missing
- 2) Non_rel_ed_illiterate
- 3) Non_rel_ed_Primary (grades 1–5)
- 4) Non_rel_ed_Middle (grades 6–8)
- 5) Non_rel_ed_Matric (grade 10)
- 6) Non_rel_ed_Intermediate_andAbove (Includes the following)
 - a) Intermediate (FA/FSc) (12)
 - b) Graduate (BA/BSc) (14)
 - c) College
 - d) Professional (MSC, MA, PhD or other professional degree)
- 7) Non_rel_ed_Other_unspecified

The highest class completed was always the one coded. For example, “He studied up to fifth grade” was coded as “primary,” while “He studied up to seventh grade” was coded as “middle.”

Employment

The employment field is categorized in two ways, first consistent with the Pakistani Federal Bureau of Statistics (FBS) data categories, and a second categorization that has been customized to this data set. Each of these categorizations is self-contained, and in this appendix they are labeled as employment classification 1 and 2.

Employment Classification 1: Customized

	Number of Observations	Percentage	Percentage Excl Missing
Armed Forces or Police	7	0.8	2.6
Farmer	22	2.4	8.1
Unskilled Worker	55	5.9	20.2
Low Skilled Worker	82	8.8	30.1
White Collar/High Skilled	10	1.1	3.7
Teacher	12	1.3	4.4
Business or Self Employed	33	3.6	12.1
Unemployed	14	1.5	5.1
Government	7	0.8	2.6
Other	28	3.0	10.3
Religious Leader or Imam	2	0.2	0.7
Missing	657	70.7	

The categories of Unskilled Laborer or Worker, Low-Skilled Worker and Highly Skilled or White Collar Worker have the following occupations rolled up into them:

Unskilled Laborer or Worker	Low-Skilled Worker	Highly Skilled or White Collar Worker
“bus helper”	“glass fitting” [window installer]	doctor
cow herder	“cloth inspector” at a textile mill; printer	employed in a medical department, specifically concerning “medical rape”

cow herder; shopkeeper (at a PCO); shopkeeper at a recording center ("Cassette and Electronic Store")	"worked in his laboratory in Sadr Bazaar" (see notes)	employed in a pharmaceutical company
Employed at a "hotel"	auto body repair	equivalent to a dental resident
employed at a hotel	baker	head accountant/bookkeeper
factory worker	bicycle repair shop	supervisor at a marble factory
factory worker (cotton factory)	confectioner	supervisor in a construction company
factory worker (ironsmith); businessman	driver	surgical work
factory worker (mill)	driver in Kuwait	surgical work
factory worker (paint factory)	dyed clothes	X-ray technician; employed in Telephone Department
factory worker (power looms)	electrician	
factory worker (textile mills)	electrician (repaired transformers)	
factory worker (textile mills); mason	embroider	
factory worker at Wah Cantt.	embroiderer (tailor)	
factory worker in a cotton mill	embroidery work	
factory worker; unspecified employment	employed at a factory; electrician	
farmer; bricklayer	employed at a motorcycle showroom	
farmer; grocer; factory worker	employed at a textile mill; tailor	
farmer; factory worker; grocer	employed at a workshop	
fruit seller	employed at Honda factory	
grocer, handyman, laborer	employed at snooker club; employed at State Life; employed in the	

	Pakistani army	
grocer/shopkeeper	farmer; electrician	
grocer; factory worker (textile mills and salt factory)	farmer; employed at a textile mill	
grocer; laborer	home appliances shop (fridges)	
Laborer	ironsmith	
laborer and bus driver	jeweler	
laborer and farmhand	jewelry work	
laborer; social welfare work; tailor	laborer; social welfare work; tailor	
made bags	made "iron grill-style doors" (ironsmith/mental laborer)	
made jerseys; factory worker	mason ("worked on marble chips")	
mechanic; laborer	mechanic	
part-time factory worker	mechanic (owned his shop)	
sentry/scenery footing	mechanic for tractors; electrician	
tailor; laborer	mechanic; laborer	
transporting goods	music/video shop owner; poultry farmer	
worked on machines	painted cars	
worked on spare parts in the market	tailor	
	tailor at a leather factory	
	tailor; laborer	
	textile mill; welder	
	weaver	
	welder	
	worked at a "merchant shop"	
	worked at a [printing] press	
	worked at a cloth/fabric	

	shop	
	worked at a general store/convenience store	
	worked at a hotel	
	worked at a hotel with his father	
	worked at a hotel; welder	
	worked at a medical store; private employment (unspecified)	
	worked at a press	
	worked at a press/publication company	
	worked at a workshop	
	worked at a workshop	
	worked at an electricity store (electrician?)	
	worked at bakery	
	worked at bakery	
	worked at bakery	
	worked for Auto Market Center in Lahore, unclear in what capacity.	
	worked in a mill in Karachi	
	worked in various mills	

Employment Classification 2: FBS-Data Consistent

The following are the FBS employment categories. Each observation has been categorized into one of these employment fields. Note that there is a considerable number of missing observations for this variable.

- 1) FBS_Occ_Shopkeeper
- 2) FBS_Occ_Personal_business
- 3) FBS_Occ_Govt_Servant

- 4) FBS_Occ_Pvt_Sector
- 5) FBS_Occ_Manual_Laborer_Worker
- 6) FBS_Occ_Agriculture
- 7) FBS_Occ_Unemployed
- 8) FBS_Occ_Professional (Doctor, Lawyer, Engineer, Teacher)
- 9) FBS_Occ_Retired
- 10) FBS_Occ_HouseholdWoman
- 11) FBS_Occ_Armed_forces
- 12) FBS_Occ_Other
 - a) FBS_Occ_Other_LowSkilled
 - b) FBS_Occ_Other_Religious
- 13) FBS_Occ_Missing

In this field, the “other” category is further subdivided into low skilled and religious. Thus, a person can be categorized as being “Other” and then also as “Other_Low Skilled”.

Married

This field was only coded “yes” or “no” if a biography explicitly provided information about a fighter’s marital status. If the biography mentioned that the fighter had been married, but had since been divorced this was coded as “yes (divorced).” If a biography did not provide this type of information, it was coded as “N/A.”

Children

This field was coded only “yes” or “no” if a biography explicitly provided this type of information. If the number of kids that a fighter had was provided, this data was coded as “Yes (x number of kids).” If a biography did not provide this type of information, it was coded as “N/A.”

Hometown

The name of the village, town or subdistrict as stated in a biography. The spellings for this category and the district and province spellings that follow were standardized according to Pakistan's *Gazetteer*.

Province

A fighter's home province.

District

A fighter's district of origin.

Means of Recruitment

The means through which the militant was recruited into the group. Based upon our data we were able to identify twelve explicitly defined channels of LeT recruitment (see below), as well as other means that were mentioned less frequently or were too poorly specified to code. We coded such cases as "other." In a number of cases, multiple means of recruitment were reported. All of these were coded.

The coding categories that we used were:

- 1) MeansRecruit_Family_Father_Brother
- 2) MeansRecruit_mosque
- 3) MeansRecruit_Self_Initiated
- 4) MeansRecruit_Madrassa_IslamicStudies
- 5) MeansRecruit_Propaganda_Speech_or_Literature
- 6) MeansRecruit_Friends
- 7) MeansRecruit_acquaintance_not_specifically_fam_or_friend
- 8) MeansRecruit_HM_member
- 9) MeansRecruit_LETmember
- 10) MeansRecruit_LeTStudentWing

- 11) MeansRecruit_LeTConference_JihadConference
- 12) MeansRecruit_Other
- 13) MeansRecruit_Missing

Highest Level of Training Completed

The highest level of training a militant received. Training levels were coded into five possible categories:

1. “Basic Training” – when *Daura-e-Aama* was mentioned
2. “Training (Unspecified)” – when only the Urdu word for training (*tarbiyat*) was used
3. “Specialized Training” – when *Daura-e-Khasa* was mentioned or other Urdu terms for armed training (i.e., *askari tarbiyat*, commando, guerilla) were used to describe training that had occurred after basic training and that was similar to what is believed to be taught in the *Daura-e-Khasa* course.
4. “Specialized Named or other Named Training” – when a specific training name was mentioned that was not *Daura-e-Aama* or *Daura-e-Khasa*.
5. “Training None” when no training was mentioned in the biographies

The “Specialized Named or other Named Training” category captures several types of trainings. Due to the lack of specific data available about the full range of LeT training courses and their sequencing, the research team was not able to fully differentiate or distinguish among these different types of training (i.e., a course on intelligence collection versus religious training). Since the majority of these trainings are named after companions of the Prophet Muhammad and other historically important figures in Islamic history it is possible that in addition to having physical elements to them many of these courses were also ideological or religious in orientation.¹ Given the lack of specific information about these other named trainings and where they fall in terms of how LeT sequences their training, the research team made an assumption that they followed or complemented *Daura-e-Khasa*. Additional information about the full range

¹ The training *Daura-e-Suffa*, listed as one of the named specialized trainings below, literally means ideological training.

and sequencing of LeT training could reveal that some of these named trainings did not follow *Daura-e-Khasa*, but instead preceded it.

The full list of “Specialized Named and Other Named Training” and the frequency with which they appear in the biographies is:

Name	Frequency
Daura-e-Abdullah bin Atik	8
Daura-e-Hanzala Ghaseel al-Malaika	5
Daura-e-Abdullah bin Masood	4
Daura-e-Bayat-e-Rizwan	4
Daura-e-Saad bin Abi Waqqas	3
Daura-e-Uqbah bin Amir	3
Daura-e-Musab bin Umair	3
Daura-e-Anas bin Nazar	3
Daura-e-Saabit bin Qais	3
Daura-e-Ribat	3
Daura-e-Jafar bin Tayyar	2
Daura-e-Abudullah bin Abbas	2
Daura-e-Malik bin Sunan	2
Daura-e-Ameer Muawiyah	2
Daura-e-Saqeelah	2
Daura-e-Abdullah bin Umm Maktoom	2
Daura-e-USman bin Affan	1
Daura-e-Abu Huraira	1
Daura-e-Zubair ibn al-Awwam	1
Daura-e-[Khunais bin] Huzaifa	1
Daura-e-Zaid bin Harisa	1
Daura-e-Saad bin Rabi	1
Daura-e-Abdullah bin Anees	1
Daura-e-Saqah	1
Daura-e-Amr bin Jamuh	1
Daura-e-Salma bin Akoo	1
Daura-e-Suffa	1
Daura-e-Abdullah bin Qais bin Salma	1
Daura-e-Sakhr bin Harb and armed training	1
Daura-e-Abu Marsad Ghinwa	1
Daura-e-Miqdad bin Aswad	1

Daura-e-Hussain bin Ali	1
Daura-e-Suraqa bin Malik (this was only listed by one fighter who also took Daura-e-Saabit bin Qais, included above)	1
Daura-e-Umair bin Hammad (this was only listed by one fighter who also took Daura-e-Abdullah bin Atik, included above)	1
Tuluba' Daura (Students' Course)	1

Length of Training (Months)

The length of training the fighter received in months. Days and years were converted into months, and ranges are reported in their means.

Locations of Training

The stated locations for where a militant trained. If multiple training locations were listed, each was coded.

We created the following categories for training camps' locations.

1. LocTraining_Muzaffarabad, Pakistan
2. LocTraining_Afghanistan
3. LocTraining_Other
4. loctraining_pakistan_or_PakistaniKashmir
5. LocTraining_Missing

Below is the list of all the codes that have been consolidated into each of these categories defined above. The number of observations that fall into each of these categories is in the second column.

Muzaffarabad	Frequency
Afghanistan, Muzaffarabad in Pakistan	1
Abdullah bin Masood	2
Muaskar Abdullah bin Masood	3
Muaskar Abdullah bin Masood in Muzaffarabad	1
Muaskar Afghanistan	1
Muaskar Aqsa, Muzaffarabad	1

Muaskar Umm al-Qura	6
Muaskar Umm al-Qura in Muzaffarabad	1
Muaskar Umm al-Qura, Muzaffarabad	4
Muaskar Umm al-Qura, Pakistan-Kashmir	1
Muaskar, Muzaffarabad	1
Muaskar-e-Taiba in Muzaffarabad	1
Muzaffarabad	30
Muzaffarabad, Pakistan-Kashmir	1
Umm al-Qura	13
Umm al-Qura in Muzaffarabad	4
Umm al-Qura, Muzaffarabad	1

Afghanistan	Frequency
Afghanistan	26
Afghanistan, Muzaffarabad in Pakistan	1
Muaskar Taiba, Afghanistan	1
Muaskar, Afghanistan	1
Muaskar-e-Taiba in Afghanistan	6
Muaskar-e-Taiba, Afghanistan	8

Other	Frequency
Base Camp	5
Muaskar	13
Muaskar Aqsa	2
Muaskar Umm al-Qura in Sanglakh	1
Muaskar-e-Taiba	9
Muaskarat	5
[print cut off]	1

Other Locations in Pakistan	Frequency
Pakistan	2
Pakistan-Kashmir	1

Fighting Fronts

The names of countries where the militant had fought. If multiple fronts were mentioned, each was coded. The following are the categories for fighting fronts:

- 1) FightingFront_Indian_Kashmir
- 2) FightingFront_Afghanistan
- 3) FightingFront_Bosnia_or_Chechnya
- 4) FightingFront_Tajikistan
- 5) FightingFront_Missing

Below are all the observations in this category that have been rolled up into the above five categories.

Country	Number of Militants	Percent	Percent excl. Missing
Indian Kashmir	779	81.7	94.8
Afghanistan	39	4.1	4.7
Tajikistan	2	0.2	0.2
Bosnia or Chechnya	2	0.2	0.2
Missing	132	13.8	

Location of Death (District)

The district-level location where a militant died, as stated in or discernable from his biography. Unless specifically stated, the authors made the assumption that references to Poonch district (it being a district that exists in both India-administered Kashmir and Pakistan-administered Kashmir) were to Poonch district on the Indian side of the Line of Control.

Location of Death (Country)

The country-level location where a militant died, as stated in or discernable from his biography.

Year of Death

The date of death as noted in the biography. In some cases exact dates were given, but for our purposes only the year was coded. In a few cases we have a month and date, but no year. In these cases, we report a missing year.

Number of Brothers

The number of brothers a militant had. In some cases, the observation is categorized as “at least x,” then we code the number of brothers as x. If the number of siblings is reported, then we divide the number evenly between brothers and sisters if even, and one more brother than sister if odd number of siblings. This is consistent with male preference in South Asia.

Number of Sisters

The number of sisters a militant had. In some cases, the observation is categorized as “at least x,” then we code the number of sisters as x. If the number of siblings is reported, then we divide the number evenly between brothers and sisters if even, and one more brother than sister if odd number of siblings. This is consistent with male preference in South Asia. “Yes, unspecified” is also left blank, there are four cases of this in the data.