

Scenario 133

WHO [ELSE] RULED KARACHI

DEFACTO CM SINDH MR TAPPI:

In daily '**the News**' dated **31st December 2010**; Ansar Abbasi wrote:

"Sindh Chief Minister Syed Qaim Ali Shah has been virtually suspended by the de facto ruler of the province. Mr Tappi, who just recently got his own man appointed as Principal Secretary of the CM, taking over even the little clout that was left with the aging PPP leader.

Mr Tappi, whose real name is Owais Muzzaffar, once a mid career civil servant long time confidante of President Asif Ali Zardari, who treats Tappi as his step-brother."

The report by Ansar Abbasi highlights how Sindh CM was over-ruled by the group of Zardarians, Faryal Talpur, Dr Zulfiqar Mirza, Agha Siraj Durrani and Owais Tappi. Subsequently; Tappi got rid of Mirza and Durrani and he was only second to Faryal Talpur then. Abbasi added further:

*"Tappi is not alone in running his fiefdom called the Sindh Province, that he is very ably assisted by a highly controversial aging bureaucrat of all seasons from Islamabad [probably referring to **Salman Farooqi**].*

Over 70 bureaucrats have been visiting Sindh and holding meetings with the chief secretary as well as ministers and secretaries taking briefings, issuing instructions and reinforcing the writ of the president's adopted step-brother Mr Tappi.

The officials are very clearly told to get major decisions from Mr Tappi and not to take instructions from the chief minister."

Sharmila Farooqi, the media adviser to the Sindh chief minister, when approached by the media, denied that the Sindh province was being ruled

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by Mr Tappi. She insisted that the Sindh government was continuing to be run under the rules of business and all the postings and transfers were done as per the law and by the competent authorities whether the chief minister, provincial ministers or heads of different departments.

The sources, however, had a different tale to tell: There was truth in the view that the Presidency got provoked by the press coverage of its mal-administration.

On 27th December 2012; in his speech at Naudero, President Zardari admitted that Punjab's governance was better while giving the credit to the PPP for it; however, the president failed to clarify why his party PPP was discovering a deeper ditch of bad governance in Sindh every day.

Tappi was not ready to concede even 10-15% margin to the CM, and decided the key appointments in the provincial administration. It was unbelievable and shocking that most decisions, though taken by someone else like Mr tappi, were a matter of formality pronounced by the Sindh chief minister. Later, Tappi didn't tolerate even that formality; the chief minister was barred from passing any major decisions without approval from Tappi.

In those days, Mr Tappi used to force his way into the Chief Minister's House with a nine vehicles motorcade and go straight into the office without any concern for the CM's engagements. The CM used to put everything aside to pay attention to the "viceroy", but Shah of late asked his secretary to request Mr Tappi to very kindly take the trouble of prearranging the time schedule of such meetings before coming to the CM's House.

The Secretary to the CM, not knowing that he was being led into a deep ditch by his weak boss, very humbly conveyed such sentiments to Mr Tappi, but the very next day, the chief minister received orders from the President's House to transfer his Secretary Kabeer Kazi and take a nominee of Mr Tappi as his Secretary.

The new secretary was so conscious of his duty that he only took those files to CM which were approved by Mr Tappi. For all practical purposes, the new appointee was secretary to the de facto CM, Mr Tappi.

This single incident had drastically changed the entire scenario of provincial governance. The chief secretary did not even consult his CM before issuing the orders desired by Mr Tappi. However, he was very cautious in carrying out orders issued by the CM because he was supposed to seek prior approval from Tappi, if any.

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Another posting ordered by Mr Tappi was of one Sualeh Faruqui, DG Provincial Disaster Management Authority, who was asked to sign vendor agreement with a selected party. On his refusal, he was transferred and made an OSD; got replaced by a compliant officer Aijaz Mangi, who had been working as Fisheries DG since past three years, under an officer six years junior to him.

Syed Qaim Ali Shah, the besieged Chief Minister, got only pity from the provincial bureaucracy for his helplessness, but at the same time, people wondered what was left there in the package deal for the CM to continue in such embarrassing circumstances.

"It may be the lure of an occasional land allotment case, taken to the Board of Revenue by his son or such other favours for the rest of his family members," an officer sarcastically commented.

Whatever were the reasons for the elderly Shah to continue like that or for President Zardari to make such arrangements for the unfortunate province, which blindly voted in the name of Bhutto, the fact remained that the government machinery in Sindh had come to a grinding halt. The officials avoided making proposals, which required the CM's approval as they knew that the CM's powers were lying with the de facto CM Tappi; they rather stayed away. One Sindhi high official whimpered:

"Mr Zardari, is this the way to pay the province which gave you historical support — destroying it completely and crippling its development and economy comprehensively? Please have some mercy on poor people of Sindh."

So, Owais Muzaffar Tappi was the de-facto Chief Minister of Sindh, running the state affairs from Bilawal House Karachi.

BACKGROUND: Owais Muzaffar, aka Tappi was the adopted son of Hakim Ali Zardari and the step brother of Pakistan's President Mr Zardari.

Tappi, was well known to those occupying key positions in the Sindh regime or were 'deep in' the business circles of Karachi, Islamabad and Dubai. In the days when president's father [Mr Hakim Ali Zardari] was running Bambino Cinema in Karachi and the family lived in the upper storey of the cinema building, Owais Muzaffar used to help the Zardari Family as an additional member.

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In 1995, Tappi was appointed as DDO [Revenue] in PCS cadre by the then chief minister but without any exam by the Sindh Public Service Commission.

Tappi went into exile in Gen Musharraf regime and stayed at Benazir Bhutto's residence in Dubai as a caretaker. While in Karachi, he went against Uzair Baloch of *Amn* Committee - who were armed and raised against MQM by PPP itself. Zafar Baloch once told the reason – that Tappi got irked when he got discouraged to be nominated for general elections [May 2013] from Lyari.

Tappi was also labelled as the land grabber and extortionist in those days of 2011-13. During the Pakistan's general elections in May 2013, Muzaffar contested for and won the Sindh assembly elections from constituency PS-88 Thatta. He secured 28,593 votes, while his opponent Haji Muhammad Usman Malkani got 20,997.

Another peoples *Amn* Committee [PAC] like organization as PPP's armed militia, to be headed by Akram Baloch and operated under direct supervision of Tappi – was in making then; but could not be given proper shape.

See another opinion by Kashif Aziz available at **Chowrangi.com** dated **1st May 2012**:

"As siege of Lyari by Law Enforcing Agencies [LEAs] entered 5th day [the Lyari Operation was started during last week of April 2012 – but went unsuccessful], the question persisted that who was really responsible for that? Who sent the ill equipped Police force in, rather than ordering the resourceful Rangers to do the task?"

Those, who knew the Pakistan's politics, were aware of the Director of that failed show – he was Owais Tappi. Zafar Baloch once told in a video clip – that Tappi got irked when he was discouraged to contest elections from Lyari."

Internet magazine '**Propak policy**' dated **12th October 2012**; however, noted that Owais M Tappi, had done at least one noble job for homeless workers of the PPP.

A rural village in New Karachi, where majority of the residents were labourers, and they had been supporting MQM for more than 25 years, their houses were never regularized [Leased by the state]. An attempt was

made to demolish the entire society when Arbab Ghulam Rahim was in power but thanks to Mr Tappi who managed to get regularised almost 800 societies of Karachi, even though he had no stake in this village.

On 28th February 2013; the Supreme Court of Pakistan issued show-cause notices to Senior Member Board of Revenue Shazer Shagoon and Owais Muzaffar alias Tappi during the hearing over the Karachi unrest case. The bench of the SC was headed by Justice Anwer Zaheer Jamali at the Karachi registry.

The petition submitted by civil rights campaigner Mehmood Akhtar Naqvi claimed that Owais Tappi was the foster brother of President Asif Ali Zardari and that behind the scenes; the province was ruled by Tappi.

The petition further alleged that Tappi and Shagoon were involved in the illegal sale and purchase of lands; land worth Rs:30 million per acre was regularised at the rate of Rs:10,000 per acre and that ***Tappi, Shagoon and others were booked in around 150 cases*** which had caused losses worth billions of rupees to the national exchequer.

Justice Sarmad Jalal Osmany inquired from Shagoon about the identity of Tappi and why a First Information Report [FIR] was not lodged against him. Shagoon informed the bench that he didn't know Tappi and had only heard Tappi's name in the media.

On 14th May 2013; a high-level meeting of the PPP parliamentarians held and presided over by President Asif Zardari at Bilawal House. PPP leaders Faryal Talpur, Agha Siraj Durrani, Qaim Ali Shah, Owais Muzaffar, Syed Murad Ali Shah, Ayaz Soomro, Sharjeel Memon and others attended.

With an aim to set up new elected government after the PPP gained majority in Sindh, the half-brother of President Asif Zardari – Owais Muzaffar Tappi – emerged as the leading candidate for the chief minister's slot.

Tappi's name was finalised, as the party leadership wanted to introduce new and young blood for the chief executive's seat, besides including young parliamentarians in the cabinet to overcome the past failure of deliverance in the province by the former government.

But suddenly the decision was changed – the intrigues behind closed doors played very high tunes.

Instead, Awais Muzaffar Tappi was given slot in the Sindh cabinet as Local Bodies Minister in the new PPP's government. However, very soon, differences within the family especially with the two sisters of former President Zardari paved way for ouster of influential provincial minister Owais Muzaffar Tappi, from the Sindh cabinet.

On 5th November 2013; Sindh local bodies' minister Tappi resigned from his office, citing '*health and personal reasons,*' days before holding of the local bodies elections in the province in line with the Supreme Court orders. Sindh chief minister took no time to accept the resignation and asked Information Minister Sharjeel Memon to hold the charge of the local bodies' ministry temporarily.

It was known that PPP's co-chair person Zardari was not happy with interference in all government affairs by the local government's minister Tappi. The former minister was even ignoring and going against the directives of Zardari's two sisters - MNAs Faryal Talpur and Azra Pechoho.

Tappi was also known as de-facto chief minister of the province but, inside, Asif Zardari, during a meeting at Bilawal House a day earlier, expressed annoyance and anger over the handling of issues, *directing him to quit as minister and sit in Dubai.* Zardari's sister MNA Faryal Talpur had directly complained to his brother for ignoring her directives by Tappi.

It is on record that MNA Faryal Talpur, during the tenure of Asif Ali Zardari in Presidency, had been looking after the political affairs of the party. She even finalised the names and award of tickets to the candidates for 11th May general elections in Sindh, Punjab and Balochistan; Zardari had more trust in his two sisters.

Later it surfaced that even Tappi's colleagues in the Sindh cabinet as well as the party lawmakers were happy over his ouster from the cabinet due to his way of handling the issues and solo flight in government affairs as he did not entertain their requests. Meanwhile, Sindh's Senior Minister for Education Nisar Khuhro, while talking to the media, contradicted the rumours of emergence of differences and grouping in the PPP.

It was also known that the MQM was also not happy with the former LG minister for his handling the KMC affairs and removing the officers posted on the recommendations of MQM in previous tenure of PPP. The close circle of the Owais Muzaffar claimed that hydrant mafia had managed his ouster because he had launched continuous operation against the illegal hydrant mafia. The mafia was involved in selling water and minting billions of rupees through this illegal business in the City.

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Nothing heard significant about Tappi [as he had left for Dubai after his resignation] till June 2016 when Dr Asim, who was under the legal custody of law enforcement agencies [LEAs], divulged openly that **'Tappi was involved in massive corruption of all sorts.'**

On 20th June 2015; PPP's Owais Muzaffar alias Tappi was travelling to Dubai via Emirates flight EK-603, when he was stopped at the Jinnah International Airport Karachi; but was allowed to board his flight after being questioned. Tappi was heading to London where his brother, Waseem Muzaffar passed away a few days ago.

The incident came days after Rangers raided the offices of the Sindh Building Control Authority [SBCA] and Lines Area Re-development Project [LARP] and arrested its officials.

Meanwhile, the Secretary Education and Literacy Department of Sindh Fazalullah Pechuho, who was also stopped at the airport, was not allowed to leave the country. Pechuho is the brother-in-law of former President Zardari. It was on record that:

"Fazalullah Pechuho was CFO of CAA for over two years [2010-12]; thousands of flights operated by non-scheduled airlines which landed at Karachi during his tenure were not documented and there was no record of either their cargo or passenger manifest, while the landing and parking fee was pocketed by him and other top executives of CAA including the DG. It was under his supervision and that of Ijaz Haroon and Yusafzai that millions of dollars were smuggled out of Pakistan.

Waseem Ahmed of Karachi sent a blog to **'Dawn' dated 20th June 2015:**

It was the deceptive courage and bravery that Zardari and PPP's cronies were spewing a few days ago.

These PPP devils were the biggest hypocrites and cowards out there, look at them running left and right trying to save their reptilian skins.

Times are changing, PPP can now only make fools out of rural utterly poor illiterates and confused commie leaning leftists masquerading as liberals.

May Allah make this Ramazan more blessed by getting rid of PPP and MQM from our mind-set.

- *NAB supported by Rangers should have raided Office of the Town Registrars where billion of bribe was collected on daily basis during property transactions. Assistant Commissioners, Tapedars and Tehsildars all were busy in collecting bribes.*
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- *Sindh Govt was fully supporting these officials in collecting bribe e.g A bill for Form II of property, passed by Sindh Assembly, has become source of collection of black money in AC office. They used to demand Rs:70K to Rs:100K or even more for obtaining Form II."*

On 15th June 2016: former petroleum minister Asim Hussain, in a video statement aired on Pakistan's local media, hurled startling allegations on Owais Muzaffar Tappi, former president Zardari's foster brother. Dr Asim alleged that Tappi was the 'working' chief minister of Sindh during the second reign of PPP and was involved in doing all sorts of corruption. Dr Asim narrated that:

"Once a doctor told me that a Rs:600 vaccine was bought for Rs:1,000 and it was later sold in a market in Multan. Upon investigation into the case I found the allegations to be true. I complained about this to President Zardari and asked him to stop Owais Muzaffar from playing with people's lives, after which Owais hurled threats at me.

"Tappi told me, Mai tumhe aisa teeka lagaunga ke yaad rakhoge (I will hit you in a way, you will never forget)."

Zardari's close aide, Dr Asim Hussain was arrested by Sindh Rangers on 26th August 2015; the details are available elsewhere in this book. A Joint Investigation Team [JIT] was investigating Dr Asim's alleged corruption and his role in terror financing.

NABIL GABOL MNA:

Nabil Gabol, a politician from Karachi, has been a federal Minister of Ports and Shipping Pakistan; has been elected thrice as Member Provincial Assembly of Sindh and thrice as Member National Assembly of Pakistan – all times elected from Lyari of Karachi; the stronghold constituency of the

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Pakistan Peoples Party [PPP] since 1970s. At the age of 25, Gabol entered politics and became MPA Sindh Assembly in 1988.

In January 2011; Gabol resigned from his post as Federal Minister in the PPP's Cabinet after differences arose between him and the President Zardari over target killings in Karachi and lack of government action towards stopping the atrocities – a stand on principles.

On 22nd January 2011; however, he took back his resignation after a meeting with Prime Minister Syed Y Raza Gilani.; the later had promised to address his concerns. Gabol had discussed the situation of Karachi with the PM and expressed his reservations over the operation in his constituency without taking him into confidence.

The opponents held that ANP's chief Asfandiyar Wali had called PM Gilani and forgave Gabol over his blunt statements; otherwise, he was to be de-notified from the cabinet slot. Gabol, however, clarified that there was nothing to forgive or apologise as his statements were misunderstood and were not taken in their true context. Gabol had put the ANP under a contemptuous attack while implicating it in the Karachi situation.

Gabol used to speak on the issues related to the Karachi situation. The law and order in Karachi was not only PPP's responsibility but also an issue of national interest. Gabol had mentioned reasons for tendering his resignation, including one that he was unable to deliver for the people of his constituency despite holding the ministerial portfolio. The ANP held that:

"Actually, he was summoned by the prime minister to come up with an explanation and his resignation if the de-notification was to be avoided. He [Gabol] was called to Islamabad with his resignation as President Zardari had wished it.

Gabol would have been no more a minister had Asfandiyar not accepted his regrets conveyed through the prime minister."

PM Gilani had played the main role in protecting the party MNA and the PPP's Karachi chapter, cancelled the protest rally it had organised in Lyari, the constituency of Gabol. Then the PM summoned Gabol for a breakfast meeting and thereafter the MNA and PM both phoned Asfandiyar Wali and Dr Ebad and apologised for his remarks. President Zardari was also informed that the ANP chief and Sindh governor both had accepted Gabol's apology.

However, there is enough material available on record to show that the people of Lyari, from where he had won that MNA's seat, in those days came out in streets against him under the command of Uzair Baloch, chanting slogans against him as corrupt and non-serious about Lyari affairs. They had banned his entry in the area.

On 17 March 2013; Gabol left PPP and joined MQM, declaring that PPP is no longer the party of Benazir Bhutto or Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. The fact remains that Uzair Baloch had told the PPP leadership clearly that for May 2013 elections, he [Uzair] will nominate a candidate from Lyari – and not the outsider like Nabil Gabol be nominated by the PPP's Bilawal House.

After resigning PPP, Gabol joined the MQM, which party offered him the best of its seats [NA 246, where Nine Zero itself falls] for sure win and he was elected to Parliament for the sixth time.

On 20th September 2013; Peoples *Amn* Committee [PAC]'s Zafar Baloch demanded that the murder case of his slain son be registered against Nabil Gabol; MQM's leader had allegedly been sending threats to them.

Baloch claimed it was on orders from Gabol that four armed men gunned his son down a week earlier. A case was also registered against Nabil Gabol and four unknown armed men on motorcycles. The incident took place at Bizenjo Chowk Lyari, which was PAC's stronghold.

Zafar Baloch had helped in forming the PPP party in 2008 with its founder, notorious gangster Rehman Dakait. The latter was killed in an alleged encounter in August 2009.

On 19th October 2013; MQM's former Sindh Assembly **lawmaker Nadia Gabol** [*daughter of Sardar Abdul Latif Gabol and niece of Nabil Gabol*] announced her quit from the party and vowed to join the rival PPP. Nadia Gabol announced her resignation from the MQM in a press conference held in Karachi; she was accompanied by Sindh Minister for Local Government Owais Muzzafar @Tappi. She was forced to leave on account of some differences.

Nadia Gabol's differences with MQM had been circulating since months, with Nadia openly expressing disillusionment and disappointment at the unrest in Lyari; she had considered ***"resigning from the MQM when the Lyari operation on 26th April 2012 started and innocent Lyarians were killed and arrested."***

Responding to one of the media questions, Nadia admitted that her uncle **Nabil Gabol's** inclusion in MQM was one of the reasons she resigned. Earlier, she had openly commented:

*"The people of Lyari were until then inclined towards the MQM and had no issue with the party but they were disappointed when Nabil was invited to join the party. **Nabil Gabol** has failed the people of Lyari and is responsible for their plight."*

Nadia Gabol, who hails from Lyari herself, had said that:

*"**Nabil Gabol** is hated locally and cannot go there because he used Lyarians as a vehicle to enter into government but didn't bring jobs or social care for his constituents."*

Nadia had joined the MQM after meeting with the MQM chief Altaf Hus-sain in London in 2006.

On 23rd February 2015; Nabil Gabol tendered his resignation from the National Assembly, hinting at the differences surfacing between him and the MQM as reasons. He had already submitted his resignation to party fifteen days ago. He told the media that:

"My political background doesn't suit MQM and we both were a misfit for each other. I am more of an unguided missile while MQM is a pretty organised party so this kinship wasn't going to last long anyway."

"I will soon be involved in much bigger politics than this, since the political arena inside MQM is not favourable for national level politics, whereas I want to play big."

Gabol, while forwarding his resignation, had also remarked that the current National Assembly was illegitimate as a result of massive election rigging but assigning any further explanation.

However, MQM leader Abdul Rashid Godail while talking to **Dawn News** clarified that there were no differences between Nabil Gabol and the party and that MQM had not pressurised him to tender the resignation.

On 2nd August 2015; the police arrested a militant commander, Amir *alias* Dhobi from Kalri, involved in Lyari gang war, saying he revealed Nabil Gabol's hand in creating unrest in the troubled neighbourhood. Amir

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worked as the operational commander of Ghaffar Zikri group, in nexus with Baba Ladla group, to counter the rival Uzair Baloch group.

Ghaffar Zikri had established links with Nabil Gabol in the recent past via mobile internet; as became evident from the suspect's statement during initial interrogation. Elaborating the stance, DIG Police Dr Jameel said:

"Gabol asked Zikri to create disturbance and unrest in Lyari, assuring he will be provided with money, explosives and arms for the purpose; he assured the militant that a former UC Nazim of Lyari will give him cash.

The suspect also confessed to have killed Rasheed alias tension, a militant of belonging to the Rehman Dakait group, and kidnapping and releasing a man for Rs:5 million as ransom money.

The case is in a preliminary stage and further investigation is underway."

However, Nabil Gabol refuted the allegations levelled against him and termed them baseless. Gabol was PPP's leader until March 2013 when he left the party to join the MQM. He also served as a member of the National Assembly from Lyari on PPP's ticket twice.

On 11th August 2015; former MQM lawmaker Nabil Gabol approached the Sindh High Court [SHC] seeking Rangers' security from the government against alleged death threats issued to him by MQM Chief Altaf Hussain. Gabol, who was once associated with PPP, said the Sindh government had withdrawn police protection provided to him earlier. Gabol warned that if anything happened to him, the MQM and Sindh Chief Minister Qaim Ali Shah were to be held responsible.

MQM's DR FAROOQ SATTAR:

Farooq Sattar is a Pakistani politician and member of the parliament; elected a member of National Assembly on *Muttahida Qaumi Movement* [MQM]'s ticket from Constituency NA-257 [Karachi] in general elections of 2013. He had previously been elected as MNA from here twice.

Farooq Sattar got his degree in medicine from Sindh Medical College in 1986. He has been parliamentary member of the MQM and its founder;

once also served as provincial minister in the Sindh Cabinet for Local Bodies and has been one of the senior Members of the MQM Co-Ordination Committee.

On 14th May 2007; after the carnage of 12th May in Karachi, on the day of CJP Iftikhar M Chaudhry's visit to Karachi Bar [full details of the event is available in '**Judges & Generals in Pakistan Vol-II**' [2012] Scenario 45, pp 515-527, GHP Surrey UK], MQM's deputy convenor Dr Farooq Sattar apologised for the attack on '**Aaj TV**' channel offices in Karachi and the treatment meted out to media people on the 12th May day. Speaking at a press conference he said:

"...maintenance of law and order was the responsibility of the provincial government and being part of the provincial as well as the federal government I fully accept the responsibility for what happened.

Also that the loss to property and vehicles will be compensated."

The MQM leader promised an inquiry into the firing on the **Aaj TV** offices and violence against the media and said the basic membership of MQM workers, if found involved in any action against the press would be cancelled. During the press conference, media people sat on the floor and refused to accept refreshments as a mark of protest against the attacks on the media on 12th May day.

Dr Sattar said, with the passage of time, answers to many questions had started emerging; the fears expressed in the context of CJP's arrival in Karachi and the opposition's rally had proved to be true. He accused the opposition of hatching a conspiracy to disrupt peace in Karachi and create political instability and chaos in the country in the lust for power.

Dr Sattar claimed that after unprecedented development in Karachi, the MQM was becoming popular in rural areas and a lot of people were joining the party. That was why the MQM was becoming a threat for traditional political parties.

Dr tried to explain 12th May episode saying that the attacks had been carried out in areas which were not the strongholds of the MQM; thus the MQM was a victim of terrorism because its offices in the entire country in general and in Sindh in particular were attacked and local leaders were being beaten up, harassed and threatened.

The fact remains that a temporary camp had been established by the MQM at the Jinnah Stadium adjacent to Nine Zero where those, forced to shift to safer places, were being housed and taken care of.

When the MQM was formed, Dr Sattar joined along with other APMSO leaders in 1978. He was the youngest mayor of Karachi city in its history when he was elected at age 28, and served from 1987 to 1992.

On 10th January 2010; MQM leader Farooq Sattar said that incidents of Karachi were neither ethnic nor political; he demanded that people involved in acts of target killings should be captured.

The PPP and the MQM had agreed that no political or ethnic issues were responsible for the then high incidents of violence in Karachi. It was actually some other elements such as land and drug mafias which were involved in those activities. Federal Minister of MQM Farooq Sattar held that not any worker of MQM or PPP was part of those incidents; **'The News' dated 10th January 2010 is referred.**

On 27th December 2010; Dr Farooq Sattar said in a statement that the resignations of his two ministers [one of them was himself] from the PPP's federal cabinet was first step, and a decision on whether to remain in the federal and the Sindh governments would be taken next and soon.

The MQM, which was the dominant political force in Karachi, cited corruption, law and order and rising prices among the reasons for its decision. Federal minister for ports and shipping Babar Ghauri and federal minister for overseas Pakistanis Farooq Sattar resigned next day and sent their resignations to Prime Minister Gilani. The MQM had repeatedly threatened since September to pull out of the coalition government headed by President Asif Ali Zardari's PPP – finally MQM did so.

On 27th June 2011; for the second time in year 2011, a key political party in Pakistan's ruling coalition, MQM, had quit the government; the move raised more concerns about a country that was already facing a myriad of domestic crises and increasing pressure from the West on various counts.

MQM announced plans to remove its ministers from the federal Cabinet and sit in opposition to the ruling PPP in Parliament and provincial assemblies. The MQM announced the Governor of Sindh, who was MQM party member, would also submit his resignation to the president – but Ishratul Ebad never complied with those party orders.

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In a speech broadcast live on Pakistani TV Channels, MQM leader Dr Farooq Sattar said:

"....his party decided to split with the ruling party because of the government's failure to crack down on violence against its supporters in Karachi and differences over regional elections held last week in Pakistan-administered Kashmir."

Earlier, in January that year [2011], the MQM had quit the government over rising fuel prices and allegations of corruption but rejoined the ruling coalition after the PPP made a series of concessions.

Despite MQM's departure, the PPP maintained the majority in Parliament. Jahangir Badar of the PPP in liaison with Dr Farooq Sattar constantly, downplayed the developments, insisting the two parties would resolve their differences and MQM would soon rejoin the ruling coalition.

On 11th January 2013; MQM deputy convenor Dr Farooq Sattar decided that MQM would not participate in long march of Dr Tahirul Qadri from Lahore to Islamabad but continued its moral support while saying that:

"....we think that the worst security situation in the country and threat from the Taliban for attack is there, so doing long march is like to put the lives of innocent people in danger."

Altaf Hussain's vision and thought of Dr Tahirul Qadri are same, that's why MQM had earlier announced to join Tahirul Qadri's long march but now only due to security threat [and nearly zero cold weather, of course] we are not going to join long march."

Dr Farooq Sattar quoted the serial blasts in Quetta and terrorist activities in Swat too.

On 12th March 2015; MQM leader Dr Farooq Sattar commended the PML[N] government supporting Raza Rabbani for Chairman Senate and said that *'the PM's decision will promote democracy'*.

Talking to media after meeting with PM Nawaz, Farooq Sattar said that political parties must continue contacts and dialogues; he supported counselling and reconciliation to promote democracy. The security situation of various parts of the country was adverse and democratic process

was incomplete without local governments; thus PML[N] regime should move towards the right direction.

Farooq Sattar congratulated Raza Rabbani for being Chairman Senate with the consensus of all political parties; urging that the extremism must be eliminated according to National Action Plan [NAP] against terrorism.

On 17th July 2015; Pakistan Rangers sealed off all roads leading to the MQM's fortified HQ - Nine Zero; two arrests were made after a raid that lasted 40 minutes. The party officials were charged with **"arranging and facilitating hate speeches against the people of Karachi."** One was later released on bail.

MQM leaders accused the Rangers of acting above the law and selectively targeting them in an ongoing operation against lawlessness, extortion and drive-by shootings, while other political parties with armed groups had not been dealt with as harshly. Farooq Sattar, the senior party leader, said:

"The MQM is being singled out and victimized; it has become obvious that the MQM is being isolated. If any political movement is isolated, the results are never positive."

Rangers officials, on the other hand, accused the party of being the main patron of illegal land grabs, killings and extortion in the city; Dr Farooq held that other political parties in Karachi should also be questioned – why only MQM.

On 1st August 2015; MQM's chief Altaf Hussain told his party's representatives and activists during a telephonic speech at Khurshid Begum Memorial Complex that they could elect Dr Farooq Sattar, Nadeem Nusrat and Mohammad Anwar as their new leader; he suggested these three names when he announced his resignation from MQM.

Dr Farooq Sattar was known as senior Parliamentary leader of MQM in national assembly and was serving as member of the party's coordination committee. Mohammad Anwar and Nadeem Nusrat were working as senior deputy conveners of committee based in London.

MQM's chief Altaf Hussain had decided to leave the party due to allegations against him imposed by other politicians but had taken back his decision on the request of his party's workers and office-bearers. Altaf Hussain got highly disturbed by charges levelled by *Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf* [PTI] Chairman Imran Khan against him that's why he decided to quit from his

party MQM. Although Altaf Hussain had shown his choice as next chairman of MQM by suggesting these senior leaders of the party but the process remained incomplete.

On 12th August 2015; MQM leader Farooq Sattar said that his party was being pushed against the wall and being politically victimized in the ongoing Karachi operation.

Putting forward his party's stance on the Karachi operation in the National Assembly, Dr Sattar said that a conspiracy had been hatched against the MQM and the party's arrested workers were not being presented before the court; over 40 workers of the party had been killed extra-judicially.

According to Dr Sattar's version, houses of party workers were being raided in Karachi; a ban has been enforced on social and charitable activities of the party while TV channels were instructed against live broadcast of MQM chief Altaf Hussain's speeches.

The MQM parliamentarians were going to submit their resignations from the National Assembly after the end of that session and the same were duly submitted. The party decided to step out of the legislative fold in the light of its reservations over the Karachi operation.

[On 22nd August 2016; *Farooq Sattar announced disassociation from MQM leader Altaf Hussain, run the party affairs separately, named his faction as MQM-Pakistan and changed the constitution of MQM to incorporate himself as the new chief and convenor instead. MQM London Altaf Hussain rejected re-branding of MQM and advised him to resign – which he didn't consider worth.*

On 2nd October 2016; *Dr Sattar was ousted from the original MQM [London] party on grounds of repeated violations of party constitution, but he retained his parliamentary seat and kept convenor-ship as chief of MQM [Pakistan] with the support and wish of many parliamentarians in Pakistan.*

*[Full details of this drop-scene is given in **'The Living History of Pakistan Vol-IV'** [2017] GHP Surrey UK]*

ABDUL SATTAR EDHI:

On 8th July 2016; Abdul Sattar Edhi died in Karachi at the age of 88 – the whole Pakistan expressed their utter sorrow, distress and mourning. He was a philanthropist, and humanitarian who founded the **Edhi Foundation** which runs hospitals, homeless shelters, rehabilitation centres, and orphanages across Pakistan.

Born in Gujarat, British India, Edhi moved to Karachi, first established a free dispensary for Karachi's low-income residents. Edhi's charitable activities expanded in 1957 when an Asian flu epidemic swept through Karachi, donation from one of his fellow Gujarati businessman enabled him to buy his first ambulance the same year. He later expanded his charity network with the help of his wife Bilquis Edhi; they got married in 1965.

On Edhi's sad demise, Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said:

"We have lost a great servant of humanity. He was the real manifestation of love for those who were socially vulnerable, impoverished, helpless and poor."

Pakistan government declared national mourning on the day following Edhi's death and announced a State funeral for him. He became the third Pakistani to receive historical State Gun Carriage funeral after country's founder Muhammad Ali Jinnah and Gen Ziaul Haq.

He was the only Pakistani without a state authority or a state role to receive state funeral.

The Inter-Services Public Relations [ISPR] told that state honours were given to Edhi by a guard of honour and a 19-gun salute. The attendees at his *Janazah* [funeral prayer] included dignitaries such as Mamnoon Hussain [President of Pakistan], Raza Rabbani [the Chairman Senate], Ishratul Ebad [Governor of *Sindh*], Qaim Ali Shah and Shahbaz Sharif [the Chief Ministers of Sindh and Punjab], Gen Raheel Shareef [Chief of Army Staff] along with Muhammad Zakauallah and Sohail Aman [the Chiefs of Staff of the Pakistani Navy and Air Force], at the National Stadium, Karachi.

EDHI'S 10 FAMOUS QUOTES:

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Even a single word uttered by Abdul Sattar Edhi used to make a huge impact on people; that was the stature of Pakistan's greatest philanthropist; Abdul Sattar Edhi.

Throughout his life, Mr Edhi set examples for the world to follow through his actions. In fact, more work and less talk remained his principle till the very end. Although there's no dearth of great quotes by perhaps the greatest Pakistani who ever lived, we share with you ten which were believed to leave anyone inspired.

1. *"My religion is humanitarianism, which is the basis of every religion in the world."*
2. *"I do not have any formal education. What use is education when we do not become human beings? My school is the welfare of humanity."*
3. *"Never take anyone's death to heart Bilquis. Remember God by the equality with which He implements it. Nobody is different; the richest to the poorest, from here to the end of the globe face it equally. What an example of equality."*
4. *"So, many years later there were many who still complained and questioned, 'Why must you pick up Christians and Hindus in your ambulance?' And I was saying, 'Because the ambulance is more Muslim than you'."*
5. *"Empty words and long praises do not impress God. Show Him your faith by your deeds."*
6. *"Chasing after desires creates inner turmoil. When the devil becomes guide, dacoits and gangsters are manufactured. He makes men fight against their souls to survive expensive items and most lose everything in the face of his strength. The internal enemy can only be overcome by a personal revolution."*
7. *"The dead has only one place to go... up. Wherever you bury them, they will go the same way, up."*
8. *"The Holy Book should open in your souls, not on your laps. Open your heart and see God's people. In their plight you will find Him."*

9. *"Those who believed in changing the world - were either hungry by circumstance or practiced deprivation by choice."*

10. *"Appearance is a distraction, surrendering it develops truth and humility in abundance."*

Rest in peace, Mr Edhi. You indeed were the richest poor man: the '**Express Tribune**' remarked on **9th July 2016**.

Over his life-time, Edhi Foundation expanded backed entirely with private donations including establishing a network of **1,800 minivan ambulances**.

By the time of his death **Edhi** was registered as a parent or guardian of nearly 20,000 children. He was known as **Angel of Mercy** and was considered as Pakistan's "most respected" and legendary figure.

In 2013, **The Huffington Post** claimed that he might be **"the world's greatest living humanitarian."**

Edhi maintained a hands-off management style and was often critical of the clergy and politicians. Edhi was a strong supporter of religious tolerance in Pakistan and extended support to the victims of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and 1985's famine in Ethiopia.

Edhi was nominated several times for the Nobel Peace Prize but could not get – perhaps because he was from Pakistan, a flag even below the 3rd world countries in **pseudo western lists**.

In early 2016, a petition signed by 30,000 for a Nobel Peace prize to Edhi was moved by Ziauddin Yousafzai, the father of Malala Yousafzai.

In her condolence message on Edhi's death, broadcast by **BBC Urdu Service**, Malala quoted:

"...as a Nobel Peace Prize winner, I hold the right to nominate people for the prize and I have nominated Abdul Sattar Edhi".

When Edhi was eleven, his mother became paralysed from a stroke and she died when he was 19. His personal experiences and care for his mother during her illness caused him to develop a system of services for old,

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mentally ill and challenged people. In childhood, his mother used to give him 1 paisa for his meals and another to give to a beggar.

The partition of India led **Edhi** and his family to migrate from Gujarat [India] to Karachi in 1947 where he got employed in a wholesale shop. He initially started as a peddler, and later became a commission agent selling cloth in the wholesale market in Karachi. After a few years, he established a free dispensary with help from his Memon community, known as "**Human care**". Edhi once told that:

"I saw people laying on the pavement ... The flu had spread in Karachi, and there was no one to treat them. So I set up benches and got medical students to volunteer. I was penniless and begged for donations on the street. And people gave. I bought this 8-by-8 room to start my work."

Abdul Sattar Edhi used to say: "**People have become educated, but have yet to become human.**"

Edhi resolved to dedicate his life to aiding the poor, and over the next sixty years, he **single handedly** changed the face of welfare in Pakistan through his **Edhi Foundation**. Additionally, he established a welfare trust, named the *Edhi Trust*, later renamed as **Bilqis Edhi Trust**.

Regarded as a guardian for the poor, Edhi began receiving numerous donations, which allowed him to expand his services. Till his death, the Edhi Foundation continued to grow in both size and service, and remained the largest welfare organisation in Pakistan. Since its inception, the Edhi Foundation rescued over 20,000 abandoned infants, rehabilitated over 50,000 orphans and trained over 40,000 nurses.

Edhi Foudation still runs more than 330 welfare centres in rural and urban Pakistan which operate as food kitchens, rehabilitation homes, shelters for abandoned women and children, and clinics for the mentally handicapped.

The Edhi Foundation runs the world's largest ambulance service and offers 24-hour emergency services. It has run relief operations in Africa, Middle East, the Caucasus region, Eastern Europe and United States where it provided aid following Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Edhi's son Faisal Edhi, wife Bilquis Edhi and daughters managed the daily operations of the organization during his ill health.

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In the early 1980s, Edhi was arrested by Israeli troops while entering Lebanon. In 2006, he was detained in Toronto, Canada, for 16 hours.

In January 2008, US Immigration officials interrogated Edhi at the John F Kennedy Airport in New York City for over eight hours, and seized his passport and other documents. When asked about the frequent detention Edhi said: *"The only explanation I can think of is my beard and my dress."*

- The western literature held that: ***"Abdul Sattar Edhi is known more than Mother Teresa, a similar legendary figure in India."***
- BBC wrote that he was considered ***"Pakistan's most respected figure and was seen by some as almost a saint."***

Edhi's wife Bilquis runs the free maternity home at the Edhi HQ in Karachi and organizes the adoption of abandoned babies including those born out of wedlock. Edhi was known for his ascetic lifestyle, owning only two pairs of clothes, never taking a salary from his organisation and living in an apartment next to his organization's office.

Edhi stated that he had ***"never been a very religious person."***

On 25 June 2013; the doctors declared that Edhi's kidneys had failed; it was announced that he would be on dialysis for the rest of his life and he died due to same kidney failure and infection. As per his last wishes, his organs were to be donated but due to his ill health, only his corneas were suitable. He was laid to rest at the **Edhi Village** Karachi.

Following were the **international recognitions & National Awards** bestowed upon his person and his foundation – an approval of dedication for all generations to come:

- Ramon Magsaysay Award for Public Service (1986)
- Lenin Peace Prize (1988)
- Paul Harris Fellow from Rotary International (1993)
- Peace Prize for services during Armenian earthquake, USSR (1998)
- Hamdan Award for volunteers in Medical Services UAE (2000)
- International Balzan Prize for Humanity & Peace, Italy (2000)
- Peace and Harmony Award, Delhi (2001)
- Peace Award, Mumbai (2004)

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- Peace Award, Hyderabad Deccan (2005)
- Gandhi Peace Award, Delhi (2007)
- Peace Award, Seoul (2008)
- Honorary Doctorate from Institute of BA, Karachi (2006)
- UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize (2009)
- Ahmadiyya Muslim Peace Prize (2010)
- Honorary Doctorate by University of Bedfordshire (2010)
- **National Awards:**
- Silver Jubilee Shield by College of Physicians and Surgeons (1962–1987)
- The Social Worker of Sub-Continent by Government of Sindh (1989)
- ***Nishan-e-Imtiaz***, civil decoration from the Government of Pakistan (1989)
- Recognition of meritorious services to oppressed humanity during the 1980s by Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Government of Pakistan (1989)
- Bacha Khan Aman Award (1991)
- Pakistan Civic Award from the Pakistan Civic Society (1992)
- Shield of Honour by Pakistan Army E & C (1993)
- Khidmat Award by the Pakistan Academy of Medical Sciences
- Human Rights Award by Pakistan Human Rights Society
- Jinnah Award for Outstanding Services to Pakistan (1998)
- ***[This was the first Jinnah Award conferred on any person in Pakistan.]***
- Person of the Year by *The Express Tribune* (2013)
- Moiz ur rehman Award (2015)

As per directive of the Prime Minister, State Bank of Pakistan released a commemorative coin in the honour of Abdul Sattar Edhi - through a special condolence reference in late 2016.

Najam Sethi, a governing board member of Pakistan Cricket Board, proposed to rename Gaddafi Stadium after Edhi.

FORIGN MEDIA OBITUARIES:

On 13th July 2016; the daily 'guardian' wrote its obituary like this:

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In a country increasingly raven by extremism, **Abdul Sattar Edhi**, the founder of a vast public welfare organisation that spans Pakistan, was a symbol of the country's shrivelled secular tradition. Edhi never turned anyone away from his hospitals, homeless shelters, rehab centres and orphanages. His determination to ignore considerations of creed, cast or sect earned him the hatred of some on the country's religious right, who accused him of being an atheist. But the public revered him for his lifelong commitment to humanity.

The area, now a teeming slum, is still the HQ of the Edhi Foundation, which is run out of a ramshackle building where he lived to the end of his days in a tiny backroom. Doctors were persuaded to offer their services free and he raised the money to pay for medicines. Even in old age, he could still be seen on the streets stopping passers-by and cars for cash donations, with no one asking for receipts.

Edhi's charitable activities started in 1951 but expanded in 1957 when an Asian flu epidemic swept through Karachi. A single generous donation from a fellow Memon businessman allowed Edhi to buy his first ambulance, which he drove himself around the city.

Through his work, Edhi met Bilquis Bano, who became his wife and a key figure in the burgeoning charity empire. They worked together during one of the toughest periods of Edhi's life, the 1965 war between India and Pakistan which saw Karachi bombed. The couple cared for the civilian victims and organised 45 funerals, with Bilquis cleaning the bodies of women and Edhi preparing the men for burial.

The Edhi Foundation ultimately became a multimillion-dollar enterprise run directly by Edhi, his wife and their four children. It is most famous for its fleet of 1,500 [*some literature suggested the figure as 1800*] minivan ambulances that are always first on the scene of an accident or, more frequently, in the last decade terrorist attack.

The foundation estimates it transports a million people to hospital each year. In Karachi, rival gangs have been known to call temporary ceasefires to their gun battles to allow Edhi's minimally trained ambulance staff to collect the dead and wounded.

In a country with a negligible public welfare system Edhi offered complete services. Some 20,000 people have Edhi registered as a parent or guardian after he and his wife began taking in abandoned babies. They started to place cribs outside their offices where unwanted infants could be left.

It was a court case filed by Edhi that ultimately won the right for abandoned children with unknown parents to get the vital national identity card.

"I have never been a very religious person," he told the Daily Times newspaper in 2009. ***"I am neither against religion nor for it."***

On 21st July 2016; the daily '**Telegraph**' wrote its obituary:

Abdul Sattar Edhi was a social activist who became known as the **"Father Teresa"** of Pakistan.

Regarded by many Pakistanis as a national hero, he devoted his life to aiding the poor. In the late 1950s he set up the Edhi Foundation, after arriving in Karachi from India aged 20 only to be appalled at the squalor experienced by the inhabitants of the slums of that sprawling city. *"Injustice, bribery and robbery were common, and even basic medical care was not available."*

Initially he set up a simple pharmacy in a tent in the Jodia bazaar. But after the Asian flu epidemic in 1957, he found himself faced with the need to expand. *"The flu had spread in Karachi and there was no one to treat them. So I set up benches and got medical students to volunteer. I was penniless and begged for donations on the street."*

Edhi, his wife Bilquis and, later, his four children lived modestly in a two-room apartment near the Foundation's HQ. He once said in 1991:

"I want to request the people not to invite me to social gatherings and inaugural ceremonies. This only wastes my time which is wholly devoted to the well being of our people."

Through his work Edhi met his wife, who was a nurse. One of the most harrowing periods in their working life together was the 1965 war between India and Pakistan, when Karachi was bombed. As well as looking after the injured and dying; Edhi and Bilquis cleaned corpses, prepared bodies for burial and organised funerals.

In 2005 the Foundation donated \$100,000 to the victims of Hurricane Katrina in the United States.

On 9th July 2016; the **BBC** wrote:

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Renowned Pakistani philanthropist **Abdul Sattar Edhi**, who dedicated his life to the poor, has died at the age of 88; he died at a medical centre in Karachi where he had been having treatment for weeks.

Thousands flocked to the National Stadium in Karachi for his funeral, with an army guard of honour. PM Sharif said:

"We have lost a great servant of humanity; he was the real manifestation of love for those who were socially vulnerable, impoverished, helpless and poor."

Nobel peace laureate Malala Yousafzai described Mr Edhi as a **"legendary figure"** adding:

"He lived his life for the lives and happiness of others and that is why he is a role model. I haven't seen anyone else like him."

She also repeated her call for him to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

After funeral prayers and [19] guns salute by the army, Mr Edhi's body was taken to Edhi village, which he founded 25 years ago, to be laid to rest.

In 2014, he told the BBC that simplicity, honesty, hard work and punctuality were the cornerstones of his work adding:

"It is everyone's responsibility to take care of others, that's what being human means. If more people thought that way, so many problems could be solved."

Mr Edhi was diagnosed with kidney failure in 2013; in June 2016, he turned down an offer from former president Asif Ali Zardari to get treatment abroad, insisting on being seen in a government hospital in Pakistan.