



Program for Culture and Conflict Studies

MANGAL TRIBE
AKA: MENGAL

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PRIMARY LOCATION

The Mangal Tribe lives in the Kurram Agency of FATA. Several Pashtun tribes inhabit Kurram Agency: Turi, Bangash, Parachamkani, Massozai, Alisherzai, Zaimukht, Mangal, Kharotai, Ghalgi, and Hazara.¹

The tribe lives scattered throughout an area ranging from the Peiwar Kotal to Zeran, around the Spin Ghar lower hills.²

KEY TERRAIN FEATURES

Valleys: Kurram Valley, Daradar Valley Plains: Parachinar Plateau

Mountains: Kuh-e Sefid Rivers: Kurram River

Dams: Maulana Dam, Zeran Dam, Kot Ragha Dam Malikhel

The Kurram Agency is dividing into three sub-divisions: Upper, Lower, and Central Kurram. The upper and lower divisions have long been administered and are subject to the Frontier Crimes Regulation, Kohat Pact, and tribal law. The central division, however, is still largely inaccessible, and development in this region lags behind the other two. Though each of the three divisions are headed by Assistant Political Agents, administration in Central Kurram is headed by tribal elders.³

WEATHER

The climate in Kurram Agency is generally pleasant.⁴ Average winter low temperatures are the low 30s, while average summer high temperatures reach the high 80s. The agency may receive 30 inches of rain over a year, most falling during the spring.⁵

RELIGION/SECT

The Mangal Tribe belongs to the Sunni branch of Islam.⁶

ALLIANCES

The Mangal Tribe is reportedly close to the Jajis, both in physical proximity and in tribal relations.⁷

FEUDS

The Mangal Tribe has had a problematic relationship with the Parachamkhani

¹ <http://www.fata.gov.pk/subpages/kurram.php>

² http://shafiqueahmed110.multiply.com/journal/item/40/history_of_Turri_tribeTuri_tribe

³ <http://waziristanhills.com/FATA/AgenciesFRs/KurramAgency/tabid/80/language/en-GB/Default.aspx>

⁴ <http://www.fata.gov.pk/subpages/kurram.php>

⁵ <http://www.wunderground.com/NORMS/DisplayIntlNORMS.asp?CityCode=41560&Units=english>

⁶ *A Dictionary of the Pathan Tribes on the North-west Frontier of India*, Office of the Superintendent, Government Printing, India, 1899.

⁷ Ludwig W. Adamec, ed., *Historical and Political Gazetteer of Afghanistan*, Vol 6, 1985.

Tribe in Kurram Agency. In 2002, the two were at odds over the Mangal's unfriendly treatment of al-Qaeda forces that were transiting their area in retreat from Tora Bora.⁸

Throughout most of 2007 and 2008, the Mangal Tribe had a warring relationship with the Turi Tribe, a Shiite sect, in Kurram Agency.⁹

The Mangals have held animosity toward the Zadran since prior to World War II. While relations have been mostly calm over the past several decades, occasionally tensions flare. The dispute is over access to lumber rights, which is an alternative source of income for both groups in the off- season for agriculture.¹⁰

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Mangal Tribe is a Karlanri sub-tribe. The people are known for their independence and have historically resisted efforts by outsiders to bring them under governance.¹¹

RELATIONSHIP WITH TALIBAN/AL-QAEDA

Tribal elders of the Mangal, along with the Turi and Bangash, fully support the Pakistani military in ridding the agency of Taliban and al-Qaeda extremists.¹²

⁸ <http://www.hvk.org/articles/0702/14.html>

⁹ <http://www.dawn.com/2007/12/30/welcome.htm> and <http://www.dawn.com/2008/09/25/rss.htm>

¹⁰ Louis Dupree, "Tribal Warfare in Afghanistan and Pakistan: A Reflection of the Segmentary Lineage System," in *Islam and Tribal Societies: From the Atlas to the Indus*, ed. Akbar S. Ahmed and David M. Hart (London, Boston: Routledge and Kegan Paul, 1984), 271-279.

¹¹ Ludwig W. Adamec, ed., *Historical and Political Gazetteer of Afghanistan*, Vol 6, Austria, 1972, p.527.

¹² <http://strata-sphere.com/blog/index.php/archives/5782>

