

JIT REPORT

ON

BALDIA FACTORY FIRE CASE

(FIR NO: 343/2012 U/S 302/322/337/435/436/34 PPC)

PS SITE-B DISTRICT WEST

KARACHI

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REPORT OF JOINT INVESTIGATION TEAM
IN CASE FIR NO. 343/2012 U/S 302/322/337/435/436/34PPC OF PS
SITE B, DISTRICT WEST KARACHI

In compliance of the orders of Home Department, Government of Sindh vide Notification No. SO (LE-I)/3-16/2015, dated 16.3.2015 and Notification No. SO(LE-I)/3-16/2015, dated 26.3.2015; a Joint Investigation Team (JIT) of following composition and terms of reference was constituted to reinvestigate Baldia Factory Fire Case registered vide FIR No.343/2012 u/s 435/436/337/322/302/34 PPC PS Site B, District West, Karachi.

1. COMPOSITION

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|-------|--|-----------------------|
| i. | Mr. Sultaan Ali Khowaja, PSP
DIGP / CIA Sindh, Karachi | Chairman |
| ii. | Mr. Munir Ahmed Shaikh PPM, PSP
DIGP / East Zone, Karachi | Member |
| iii. | Col. Sajjad Bashir
Pakistan Rangers, Sindh | Member |
| iv. | Mr. Altaf Hussain
Additional Director, FIA | Member |
| v. | Mr. Muhammad Arif
Deputy Director, I.S.I | Member |
| vi. | Lt. Col. Humayon Mujtaba
Military Intelligence | Member |
| vii. | Mr. Muhammad Munir
Director I.B, Karachi | Member |
| viii. | Syed Pir Muhammad Shah, QPM, PPM, PSP
SSP East, Karachi. | Co-opted Member |
| ix. | Mr. Sajid Amir Sadozai, PSP
SP Site, District West, Karachi | Investigation Officer |

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2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

- i. The Committee shall re-investigate the case in light of JIT Report in FIR No. 61/2013 w/s 23-A(1) Sindh Arms Act of PS Artillery Maidan, South Zone, Karachi.
- ii. The Committee may co-opt any officer not below BS-18 as IO of the case.
- iii. The Committee may approach any agency in the process of reinvestigation for any purpose in collection of evidence etc.
- iv. The Committee shall submit report within thirty (30) days.

3. BRIEF FACTS OF THE INCIDENT

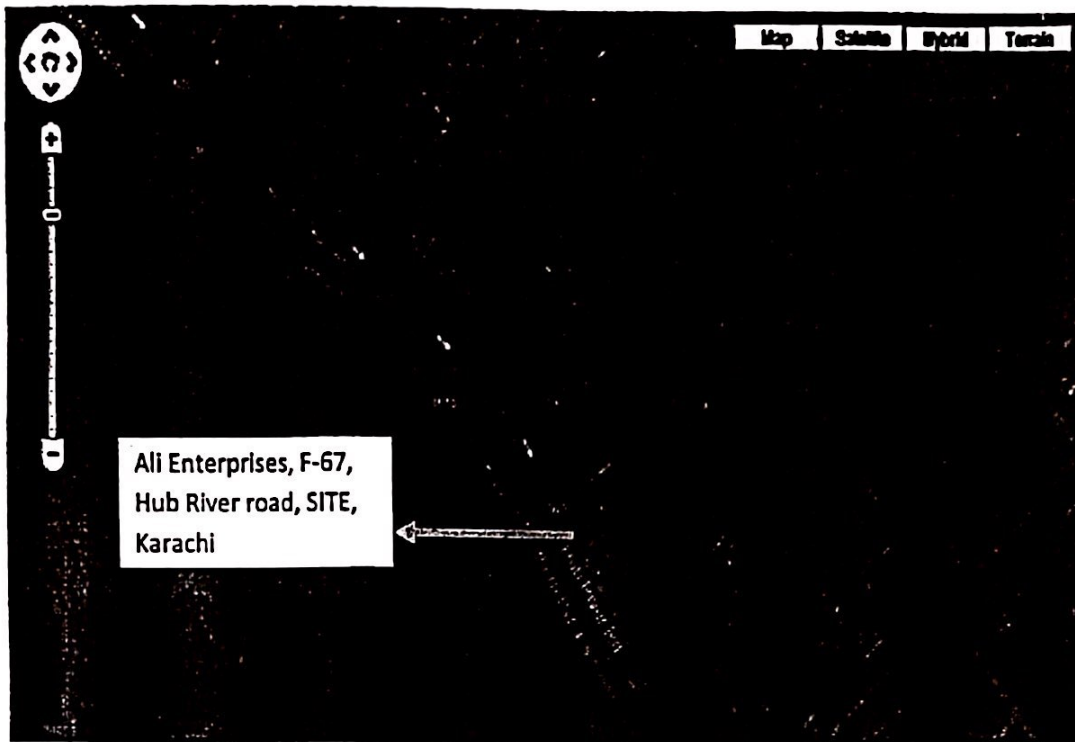
Probably amongst the goriest incident in the history of Karachi, Baldia Factory fire took lives of 259 innocent workers besides causing injuries to 50 labours on 11-09-2012. Brief facts of the case are as under.

FIR No	343/2012 w/s 302/322/337/435/436/34 PPC of PS Site-B Karachi.
Date of Offence	11-09-2012 @ 1830 hours.
Date of Report	12-09-2012 @ 1600 hours.
Place of offence	Inside Ali Enterprises, Garments Factory situated at plot No. 67-F SITE Karachi
No of Casualties	259 dead & about 50 injured (Male / Female)
Cause of Death	Asphyxia leading to cardiac arrest
Date of Challan	05-01-2013

4. LOCATION OF PLACE OF INCIDENT

Ali Enterprises, the factory where fire incident took place is located on Hub River Road. It could also be approached from Northern Bypass, after crossing Sher Shah Bridge. The location is about 3 kilometers towards north of the SITE Police Station. The nearest fire station is located nearly the same distance from the factory.

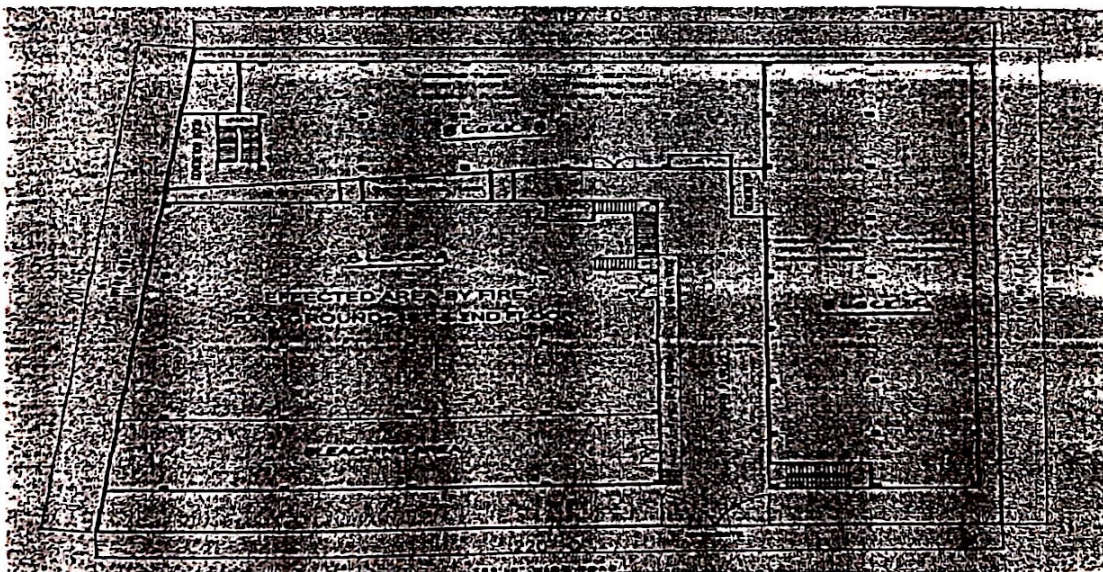
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Google Image of the Factory

5. LAYOUT OF THE FACTORY

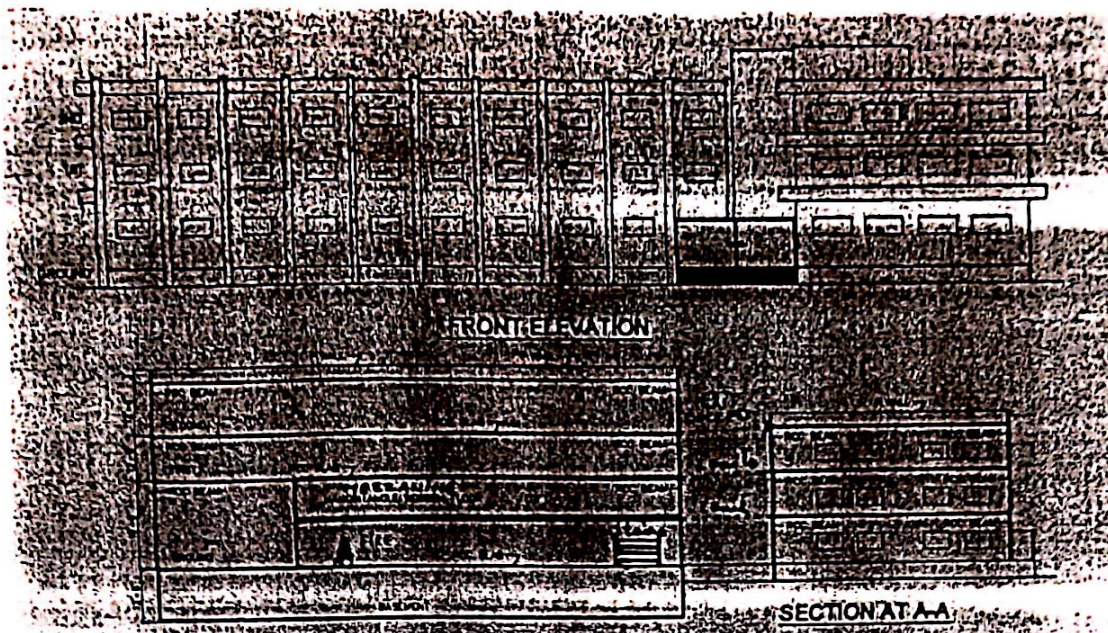
The factory is located on a plot covering an area of 0.96 acres, equivalent to 4646.34 Sq yards. The main block labeled as Block A consists of basement, mezzanine, ground plus two floors. The basement housed the cutting area.



The layout of the building showing three blocks

The ground floor consisted of warehouse and washing area, separated by a wall. A mezzanine with wooden floor, housing cropping area, was built over the ware house between ground floor and the first floor, supported by iron girders and large iron bars. The first floor housed stitching unit-2 where as stitching unit-1 was located on second floor of Block A.

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Cross Section of Block A and Block B of the Factory

The sketch shows the cross section of the affected building (Block A). An 8 ft wide staircase and a cargo lift connected ground floor to basement and the two upper floors. A smaller door in the large iron gate on the ground floor was used as the main entry/exit from ground floor. There was a connecting door between ware house and the washing area on the ground floor.

There were two exits from the basement - the main staircase and an exit from the basement to the ground floor. Previously there was an outlet from this exit to outside the building near generator room, which could have been used as an emergency exit. However this was permanently closed few years back because the rain water entered basement.

There were three wooden ladders used as entry/exits from mezzanine floor to ground floor. There was also a small bridge used as an exit from mezzanine floor to first floor of Block B.

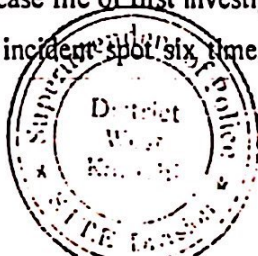
The first floor was connected to the ground and second floor through the main staircase. Apart from this there were two exits from first floor of Block A to the second floor of Block B.

The second floor of Block A had an exit near the washroom to top floor of Block B. However, the iron door of this exit was locked from inside only to be used in case of emergency. Thus the only exit available from second floor to first floor was through the staircase. In order to avoid theft all the windows had strong and narrowly spaced iron grills.

6. PROCEEDINGS OF THE JIT

The JIT was mandated with the re-investigation of the Baldia Factory fire case. Realizing the sensitivity and importance of the case, the team started off by nominating Sajid Sadozai, SP Site, District West, Karachi, as the new investigation officer (IO) of the case. The JIT held forty three sessions in which it perused case file of first investigation of the case from FIR to the final report u/s 173 Cr.PC, visited the incident spot six times, examined 39 witnesses (attached as

Sajid Sadozai



Annex A), appreciated thoroughly all the available evidences (ocular, circumstantial, documentary and technical); vetted threadbare Chemical Examiner Report, Crime Scene Inspection Report prepared by Ordnance College Malir and OC Ammunition Wing, Electric Inspector Report, Incident Report by USAR, KMC, Chief Fire Officer Report, Enquiry Report by FIA, Crime Circle, Video Forensic Report, Report of Judicial Commission (attached as Annex B) and had a series of discussions and deliberations regarding the facts of the case. The JIT also called reports from H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry, International Centre for Chemical and Biological Sciences, University of Karachi (attached as Annex C), and Punjab Forensic Science Agency (attached as Annex D).

The terms of reference required the JIT to re-investigate the subject case in view of report of JIT in FIR No. 61/2013 u/s 23 A(1) Sindh Arms Act of PS Artillery Maidan, South Zone Karachi. The JIT report referred to in the ToRs was called for and perused. In fact it was JIT of accused Muhammad Rizwan s/o Sheikh Iqbal Din Qureshi who during the course of investigation had inter alia disclosed involvement/influence of persons affiliated with MQM in the Baldia Factory Fire case. The relevant portion of JIT pertaining to this disclosure is mentioned hereunder:

DISCLOSURES OF RIZWAN QURESHI

During the interrogation, accused Rizwan Qureshi revealed that a well known Party High Official Hammad Siddique demanded extortion money of Rs. 20 (Twenty) Crores through his front man Rehman Bhola from the owner of Ali Enterprises in Aug 2012. The factory owners brought this in to the knowledge of sector in charge Baldia Town, Asghar Baig, who took factory owners along with his brother Majid Baig to 90 Azizabad and met with in charge KTC Hammad Siddiqui and Farooq Saleem and informed them that factory owners were their supporters and also about the demand of extortion money. He further added that they had exchange of harsh words because both Hammad Siddiqui and Farooq Saleem flatly refused to take back the demand quoting party policy. After few days Hammad Siddiqui suspended sector in charge of Baldia Town Asghar Baig and elevated joint sector in charge Rehman Bhola to sector in charge of Baldia Town. Later on, he continued that, Hammad Siddiqui and Farooq Saleem ordered Rehman Bhola to collect the extortion money from factory owners. Rehman Bhola demanded extortion money of Rs. 20 (Twenty) Crores from factory owners and after refusal by factory owners, Rehman Bhola and his unknown accomplices threw chemical substance which created fire in the factory on 11 Sep 2012. On next day, CID police raided Asghar and Majid house in Gujarat Mohalla, Baldia Town and arrested Majid, brother of Asghar Baig and after the pressure of MQM (A) on factory owners they gave statement that Majid Baig was not involved in incident. On this statement CID released Majid Baig. He further stated that on the orders of party

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high Official, Ex-Minister of MQM (A) went to police station and registered a case against factory owners. Factory owners got bail before arrest from Sindh High Court but after their bail MQM (A) Ex-Minister, by using his connections, got cancelled the bail of factory owners. After that Ex-Prime Minister helped Factory owners for taking bail from Punjab High Court but after the interruption of MQM-A, Ex-Prime Minister stepped back from the matter and one unknown front man of the same party high official who was in Government took Rs.15 (Fifteen) Crores from factory owners for disposal of the case. Accused concluded that he got all this information from Ex-Sector in charge Baldia Town.

7. CONSTRAINTS, LIMITATIONS AND CHALLENGES FACED BY JIT

Amongst the challenges, first and the foremost was a time lapse of two and a half years from date of incident. Resultantly, crime scene was compromised and it was very difficult to collect evidences for the JIT. The case was already under trial and its investigation had been carried out on flawed connotation and presumptions. Evidences collected from scene of crime were not sent to relevant departments for expert opinion. More over viscera were not preserved for chemical traces and hence cause of death through chemicals and other such substances could not be ascertained. Furthermore, chain of custody of DVRs was not properly maintained and important data might have been lost. Since Geo Fencing (GF) and Call Data Records (CDRs) are normally not available for a period beyond six months, the JIT was handicapped from the outset in obtaining the data from concerned cellular companies.

8. BRIEF OF THE FIR

On 11-09-2012, SIP/SHO Muhammad Nawaz Gondal along with his subordinate staff was on patrolling when he received information that Ali Enterprises Garments Factory situated at plot no. F-67 SITE, Karachi was on fire. On receipt of such information, SHO along with staff at about 1845-hours arrived at Factory and witnessed that huge flames were engulfing the factory godown. Such information was immediately conveyed to higher officers and fire-brigade. After some time as per orders of higher officers, police mobiles of district West along with heavy contingents of police reached the scene. In the meantime, fire-brigade also reached at the spot. On enquiry, it came to be known that at about 1830-hours, fire caught clothes lying in factory godown due to some unknown reason, which initially spread all over the ground floor and later on it caught all the floors of factory. Most of the workers / labour working in factory died and many were seriously injured due to heavy fire and thick smoke. The dead bodies and injured persons were taken out from the factory with the help of rescue teams and were sent to Civil Hospital, Abbasi Shaheed Hospital and Jinnah Hospital. Meanwhile, it also came to be known that there were four entry and exit gates for workers, out of which some time ago three gates

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were got closed permanently by factory owners. Due to heavy fire and congestion of smoke, the only exit route also got blocked which resulted in the deaths & injuries to workers.

On 12-09-2012 @ 1400-hours, the fire brigades of Karachi after continuous efforts controlled the heavy fire and it was witnessed that about 254 male and female workers lost their lives and a good number of workers got injured. Hence, on 12-09-2015 @ 1600-hours an FIR bearing No. 343/2012 u/s 302/322/435/436/337/34 PPC was lodged by SHO on behalf of State against factory owners, share holders, factory administration, different departments namely Labour Department, Building Control Department, Karachi Electric Department, Environment department, Social Security, SITE limited, Civil Defence and other relevant departments. The investigation of the case was entrusted to Inspector Chowdhary Zafar Iqbal, SIO PS SITE.

9. INITIAL INVESTIGATION

Insp. Chowdhary Zafar Iqbal, visited scene of crime and prepared memo of inspection, issued letters to different departments for determining the cause of fire and received copies of Post Mortem report u/s 174-Cr.PC. During course of investigation, I.O arrested nominated accused Fazal Ahmed s/o Khanzada 2. Arshad Mehmood s/o Bashir Ahmed 3. Ali Muhammad S/o Masheen Khan and obtained their police custody remand. I.O got recorded 164-Cr.PC statements of PWs (eye witnesses) namely Khuram Iqbal Siddiqui s/o Irfan Ahmed Siddiqui and Muhammad Umar s/o Johar Ali and issued notice to factory owners and seized their accounts.

10. CHANGE OF INVESTIGATION

On 20-09-2012, investigation of the case was entrusted to SIP Jahanzeb due to suspension of Insp. SIO Chowdhary Zafar Iqbal. I.O visited scene of crime afresh and secured articles related to offence. I.O handed over the identified dead bodies of deceased to legal heirs and for unidentified dead bodies; the samples were secured for DNA and sent to concerned department. I.O received the reply of letters from different departments regarding cause of fire. In the meantime, some petitions were filed before the Honorable High Court by various NGOs. During hearing, the Honorable Court ordered for the constitution of Judicial Commission. By that time, the figure of deceased had reached a toll of 259 (male/female). In the meanwhile, the factory owners obtained their bails granted to them by the Honorable High Court of Sindh. They appeared before the IO and joined investigation.

On 5-1-2013, SIP/SIO Jahanzeb after completion of investigation submitted charge sheet against arrested accused namely Fazal Ahmed s/o Khanzada 2. Arshad Mehmood s/o Bashir Ahmed 3. Ali Muhammad S/o Masheen Khan 4. Shahid Bhaila s/o Abdul Aziz 5. Arshad Bhaila s/o Abdul Aziz 6. M Mansoor s/o M Idrees and Abdul Aziz s/o Ali Muhammad (on Court bail) and absconding accused Shahrukh s/o Abdul-Latif for offences punishable u/s 322, 337, 34 PPC

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and deleted sections u/s 435,436,302 PPC vide charge sheet No. 238-B/2012 dated 05-01-2013. In his investigation, he released accused Majid Baig s/o Ameer Baig and Muhammad Hanif s/o Muhammad Siddiq u/s 169 CrPC. At present the case is under trial before learned ADJ V West Karachi.

The whole edifice of investigation was built on the premise that the 'incident' was an 'accident', caused due to short circuit in the factory godown on ground floor and factory owners and their employees were responsible for not taking precautionary measures which are necessary for preventing loss of lives and property in any such accidental incidents. On the contrary, the factory owners had closed down three of the four factory entrances/exits some time before the incident and despite witnessing the fire did not order the gates to be opened. Further, they did not even call fire tenders and escaped the scene soon after the incident. The case was thus sent up against the factory owners and staff for trial u/s 322, 337, 34 PPC (Qatal bis Sabab, and Common Intention).

In the opinion of the investigating officer, there was no sabotage activity suspected for the occurrence of fire.

Names of accused in the FIR

- i. Factory Owners
- ii. Share Holders
- iii. Factory Administration
- iv. Labour Department
- v. Building Control Department
- vi. Electric Department
- vii. Environment Department
- viii. Social Security Department
- ix. SITE Limited
- x. Civil Defence & Others

Names of accused challaned

- i. Abdul Aziz s/o Ali M. (On Court Bail) (Proprietor Owner)
- ii. Shahid Bhaila s/o Abdul Aziz (Owner)
- iii. Arshad Bhaila s/o Abdul Aziz (Owner)
- iv. Muhammad Mansoor s/o Idrees (GM / Contractor)
- v. Fazal Ahmed s/o Khan Zadah (Gate Keeper)
- vi. Arshad Mehmood s/o Muhammad Bashir (Gate Keeper)
- vii. Ali Muhammad s/o Masheen Khan (Gate Keeper)

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Names of accused released u/s 169 Cr.PC

- i. Majid Baig s/o Ameer Baig (Not Factory Employ)
- ii. Muhammad Haneef s/o Muhammad Siddique (Export Manager)

11. QUESTIONS BEFORE THE JIT

Having gone through the record, visits of the crime scene and interviewing both the investigating officers of the case; the questions posed before the JIT in the backdrop of disclosures of Muhammad Rizwan Qureshi were:

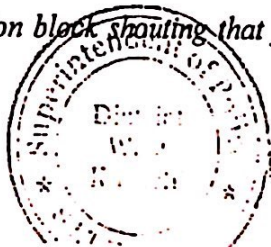
- i. Whether the incident was accidental as concluded by the investigating officer of the case?
- ii. What was the cause and nature of fire?
- iii. If the incident was an arson or sabotage activity then what was the motive?
- iv. Was there any element of extortion involved in the incident, as disclosed by Muhammad Rizwan Qureshi during his interrogation?
- v. If answer to the previous question was in affirmative, then to find for any leads and evidence that connected the extortionists with offenders.
- vi. What were the post fire suspicious activities that could be perceived as part of same transaction?

12. WAS THE INCIDENT AN "ACCIDENT OR SABOTAGE ACTIVITY"?

To find an answer to first question the JIT held six sessions inside the factory and had an extensive round of the ruins that still remain there. It also examined witnesses who were erstwhile employees of the factory. The statement of the then accountant of factory Mr. Abdul Majeed s/o Abdul Hameed (Pg. Annex A) is significant in as far as the nature of fire is concerned.

According to Abdul Majeed, on 11.9.2012 at about 1830 hours he was sent by Shahid Bhaila, Director of Ali Enterprises to bring a file from his office located in the warehouse / go down. While he was taking out the file, he felt some strange smell which he had never smelt ever before. While he came out of his office, he saw small flickers of fire coming out from one end of the warehouse and in no time these flickers turned into a raging fire touching the bottom of wooden mezzanine floor. He got frightened and ran towards the administration block shouting that fire has broken out. Within no time, he

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returned with the directors and other employees of the Enterprise to find out that the fire had engulfed the whole warehouse and flames were bulging out of the warehouse as if dancing in the air. Factory directors directed him to switch off the mains which were switched off at once in order to prevent any short circuit. The heat was so intense that none could hardly stand ground at the entrance of warehouse let alone extinguish the fire. Majeed statement in position was also ascertained by other eye witnesses and factory owners too.

From the statement of Abdul Majeed, one can well imagine the nature as well as the speed at which the fire spread. In less than a few minutes, it was dancing out of the warehouse. A number of evidences prove that electric appliances were in working condition at all floors including the CCTV system even after the fire had broken out and supply of electricity was suspended only after the fire had broken out in the go down. Warehouse was full of denim rolls and RFD (Ready for Dying) cotton material and there was no inflammable material present on the floor that could catch fire at such a speed. It is pertinent to refer here the report of Electric Inspector, Karachi region II (Pg. Annex B), wherein the possibility of any act of arson as the cause of fire has not been ruled out. It only 'suspects' short circuit at distribution board installed in corridor of first floor, where the incoming and outgoing cable was badly burnt out. All the available evidences point to the fact that the fire erupted at the ground floor in the warehouse and not on the first floor where the Electric Inspector's report suspects short circuit.

The observations and findings of Crime Scene Investigation Unit of Punjab Forensic Science Agency and H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry merit reproduction here as they make things clearer.

13. PUNJAB FORENSIC SCIENCE AGENCY REPORT

In the opinion of Punjab Forensic Science Agency:

- i. It was an arson incident that took place on 11-09-2012. Scene was compromised due to fire rescue activities and time lapse.*
- ii. No signs of electrical short circuit have been identified. Probability of fire due to electrical short circuit could be ruled out.*
- iii. The fire spread over a large area because the combustible material was present there all around that is cloth etc.*
- iv. Discontinuous patches of fire lead to opine that the fire eruption points were multiple.*
- v. Any combustible material do not burn until it gains its flammable temperature and as there were only one or two kind of combustible material (jeans & Cotton which*

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was told by the concerned person as Ready For Dying cloth) was/were present. If same kind of material is present, it should burn in the same manner.

- vi. Fire on ground floor appeared to be initiated from south west area of the hall.
- vii. In the basement there were no signs of fire travelled from ground floor to basement through stairs, as there was only the smoke deposition and no burn pattern was identified.
- viii. In basement flame/burning material might fall from the open place (material handing opening, in front of elevator) could be the cause of fire initiation.
- ix. First floor was found to be relatively less damaged with fire as compared to the rest of the floors of the building.
- x. Heavy smoke deposition observed on walls, ceiling and rest of the material at first floor.
- xi. Discontinuous burn patterns which caused small and localized level of damaged were also identified. In presence of same type of cloth (combustible material) such patterns could lead to opine the involvement of humanly activity regarding fire initiation.
- xii. Supervisory hall (small area to view the main stitching hall) on first floor of the adjacent building was also damaged due to fire, but no signs of fire travelling from the main affected building to the this hall. Western side of the hall was having severe burn impact. Fire initiation point could be such area in this hall.
- xiii. Second floor was found as severely damaged due to the fire, most of the material including building material was severely damaged. Stair area has been collapsed (the only access for second floor from first floor) and no passage could he made to identify the fire travelling from floor first to second. But as there were little burn impact and no fire travelling signs were found in front of stair area on first floor, it is of the opine that fire on second floor initiated from the same floor (second floor).

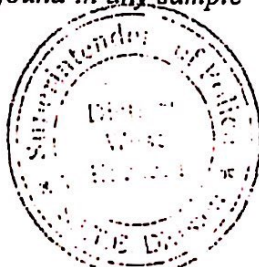
Low fire impact but with heavy smoke deposition was observed in the North West corner of the hall. Rest of the hall experienced intense burning.

**14. INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR CHEMICAL AND
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE (HEJ INSTITUTE OF CHEMISTRY)
REPORT UNIVERSITY OF KARACHI**

The observations and findings of the Institute are reproduced as under:

- i. Fire may have been caused by volatile accelerator
- ii. No traces of accelerator(s) found in any sample
- iii. Three years of time lapse

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iv. It is unlikely that any volatile compound would exist after such a long time

These reports say it all.

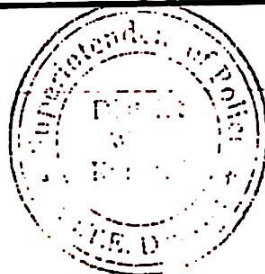
Another evidence which is of prime importance and merits mention here is the eye witness account of Muhammad Arshad, who worked as a fitter in Ali Enterprise, which was recorded before Magistrate and is reproduced hereunder:

STATEMENT OF MUHAMMAD ARSHAD (Recorded u/s 164 Cr.PC before Magistrate)

In his statement Arshad revealed that on the fateful day i.e., 11.9.2012 at about 1800 hours he met Zubair, in charge of finishing department, at the main entrance of warehouse. Zubair was with five others out of whom one was Waseem Dehelvi while he could not recognize the other four. Zubair asked him to escort his guests to the washrooms situated in one corner of the warehouse. Later Zubair also joined and gave them hashish to fill in the cigarettes. Since smoking was prohibited inside the factory he distanced himself away from the rest for fear of being caught red handed by factory administration. It was here that he saw Zubair giving away small black colored shoppers to all of his accomplices. Zubair first tossed one such shopper on one side of the warehouse. The rest followed the course; each one threw his shopper in different directions. Within five to ten seconds fire erupted and all of them rushed out of the warehouse. He along with 15/20 employees of the factory tried to put out the fire but it soon got out of control. He again saw Zubair after 2/3 minutes in the warehouse. When the fire engulfed the entire building reaching second storey, he heard the owners and Mansoor shouting at him and others to stop protecting articles from fire and save the labour on upper stories. When he along with others rushed their way up from other block of factory they found the staircase door at second floor leading to the canteen locked from inside and the canteen door itself locked from outside. According to Arshad, he was handed over keys of canteen door by someone and when he unlocked it, he was surprised to see Zubair and some strangers inside canteen. While entire factory labour was rushing to save innocent lives, Zubair and his friends had locked themselves up in canteen and strangely enough, Zubair shouted to prevent the rescuers from moving to the roof.

In view of the foregoing discussion, technical reports and eye witnesses accounts the JIT is of the unanimous opinion that the incident was not an accidental one. Rather it was a terrorist and sabotage human activity that might have been caused by use of some chemical accelerant.

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15. NATURE OF FIRE

- i. In our quest for reply to the first query the JIT got answer to the question of the nature of fire as well. The fire was fiery and took no time to engulf the ware house first and the rest of floors soon thereafter. Normally, fire requires material medium to travel which in our case was available in the form of denim rolls and RFD (Ready for Dying) cotton material. Had it been a short circuit or any other accidental fire, it would have been localized and would have travelled from one denim roll to another and from one stack to another. But as given in both the reports of H.E.J Research Institute of Chemistry and Punjab Forensic Science Agency, the fire was unnatural; while Punjab Forensic Science Agency goes on to call it an act of arson.

"It was an arson incident that took place on 11.9.12"

- ii. Another thing that was evident from our spot visits was the fact that while the warehouse, the basement and second floor were completely burnt out, the first floor was relatively intact to the extent that even un burnt threads were seen hanging from some of the stitching machines. This prompted the JIT to conjure yet another query as to whether there was just one source of origination of fire or more? The query was answered in Punjab Forensic Science Agency Report which says that there were multiple sources of fire origination simultaneously. The relevant portion is reproduced as under:

"Discontinuous patches of fire lead to opine that the fire eruption points were multiple."

16. THE MOTIVE

After the JIT was convinced that the fire was not accidental, it was but natural to find out as to what actually happened and what was the motive of perpetrators of crime? In this regard, eye witnesses were of great help to the JIT. Statement of one Muhammad Mansoor s/o Muhammad Idrees was of great significance. He was the Production Manager at the Factory and an old and trusted employee of the directors. In his statement, he corroborated the disclosure of Muhammad Rizwan to the extent of extortion. He disclosed that Baldia Sector of MQM wielded enormous influence over the factory affairs. The office bearers of sector office used to extort the factory in different heads like zakat, fitrana, contract of cut pieces and party donations. They also influenced the hiring and firing of factory employees. He disclosed that on 20.7.2012 Rehman @ Bhola sector in charge of Baldia came to meet him in the factory. At that time owners of factory namely Arshad and Shahid Bhaila were leaving the factory. Both were intercepted by him and

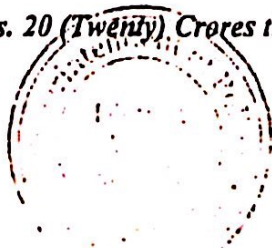
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they had a word with each other. Next day he was informed by the factory owners that Rehman @ Bhola had demanded extortion amounting to Rs 25 (Twenty five) Crores on behalf of MQM KTC (Karachi Tanzeemi Committee) incharge Hammad Siddiki and had threatened that in case the bhatta was not paid they will have to give partnership in the factory. He further disclosed that factory owners were very disturbed. They placed Rs. 1(One) Crore at his disposal for settling the matter with the Party amicably. He tried his best to resolve the matter but Rehman @ Bhola was adamant and his demand never got less than Rs. 20 (Twenty) Crores with the threat that if bhatta was not paid to the Sector the owners and the factory would face dire consequences.

STATEMENT OF MANSOOR (Recorded u/s 164 Cr.PC before Magistrate)

I used to work as contractor (production manager) in Ali Enterprises. On account of my reliable working, the owners of the said factory trusted me and even consulted in their personal matter. Workers, affiliated with MQM, had influence in the factory. Cotton wastages of the factory used to be lifted (purchased) by Abdullah Memon and Irfan Baig through Majid Baig. Later on I handed over the contract of purchasing of wastages from the factory to my nephew Faryal Baig. The giving of contract to my nephew led to exchanging of hot words between me and Abdullah Memon. Waseem Dehlvi, who was having close link with MQM, often used to visit the factory. The said Waseem Dehlvi had to take away pants (garments) and money as Eidi from the factory. Waseem Dehlvi remained active in the affairs of the factory and took Zakat/Fitra for the MQM in the month of Ramzan which I used to give him after collecting the same from the owners of the factory. Zubair, who was activist of MQM, was also employed in the finishing department of the factory. Being worker of MQM, the said Zubair boasted as the power to be reckoned with. He also used to solve the workers related problems of the factory. On 20.07.2012 at about 08:30 PM when Rehman Bhola came to meet me in the factory, owners Arshad and Shahid Bhaila were leaving for their home. He (Bhola) briefly talked to the owners. On the next day in the morning when the owners again attended the factory, they called me in their office and told that Rehman Bhola had demanded Bhatta of Rs. 25(Twenty five) Crores threatening that if they did not pay the demanded Bhatta, they will have to provide him partnership in the factory. The owners asked the name of the MQM office bearer who had sent him. Rehman Bhola told them that MQM KTC Incharge Hammad Siddiqui had sent him. The owners told me to resolve the matter in 01 Cror Rupees. When a call from Rehman Bhola was received to me, I talked to him and told that it was not possible to pay the demanded amount of Bhatta. Bhola told me to get Rs. 20 (Twenty) Crores paid to him by the owners. When I told him that the owners cannot pay such huge amount, he (Bhola) remained adamant on his demand saying that he would not take less than Rs. 20 (Twenty) Crores threatening for dire consequences for

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the owners and their factory. On 11.09.2012 while I was sitting in the office of Shahid and Arshad Bhaila, accountant of the factory Mr. Abdul Majeed raised voice that fire had broken out in the godown of the factory. As soon as we came out of the office, fire had gathered severity and momentum. Fire brigade was contacted but when the fire tenders did not reach the factory, Mr. Abdul Majeed was sent to fire brigade station to bring the fire tenders but even after passing of 01 hour and 26 minutes fire tenders did not reach the factory. However, we engaged in putting out fire.

Factory workers Kashif and Shani saw Zubair and Waseem Dehlvi with some unknown persons near the godown where fire was raging. They were also seen by the workers on the roof of the factory. I was not part of this criminal planning nor was I among those who set the factory on fire.

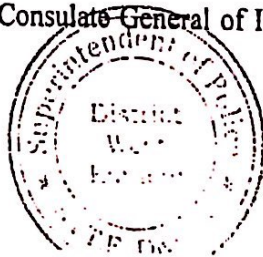
This statement was corroborated by another witness namely Majid Baig who was a contractor of cut piece wastage in Ali Enterprises.

STATEMENT OF MAJID BAIG (Recorded u/s 164 Cr.PC before Magistrate)

I used to work as Storekeeper in Latest Garments Factory in 1996, where Mansoor and Zubair also used to work with me. After quitting my job, I started working as contractor and also established my own company with the name of Baig Enterprises. In 2003/2004 Zubair took up employment in Ali Enterprises. Since Zubair was my friend of childhood, I used to visit him in Ali Enterprises often. In 2009/2010, I saw that Mansoor Bhai was also working in Ali Enterprises. Through Mansoor Bhai, I got the contract of collecting wastages of Ali Enterprises to my brother Irfan Baig. My brother Asghar Baig was Sector Incharge of MQM-A Baldia Sector. He was removed in 2012 as Sector in charge Baldia and made as Member of Zakat Committee of MQM-A. In 2012, I collected rupees 25000/- from the Ali Enterprises as Zakat through Mansoor Bhai. In July 2012 when I was sitting with Mansoor Bhai in the factory with Abdul Rehman Bhola, Shahid Bhai peeped inside our room and then went away. It was about 08:30 PM in the night. Abdul Rehman Bhola went behind Shahid Bhai. I don't know what conversation took place between them as I had gone to my home. On 11.09.2012 while I was present in my home, at about 06:45 PM in the evening my brother Imran Baig told me about the braking out of fire in Ali Enterprises. I forthwith reached Ali Enterprises where there was screaming everywhere. Fire brigade was present without water and there was no any arrangement of rescuing the people caught in the fire. At about 09:30 PM in the night I went back to my home.

The JIT proceeded to Dubai in order to record statements of owners of Ali Enterprises. The statements were recorded inside Consulate General of Islamic Republic of Pakistan Dubai,

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UAE in the presence of Mr. Riaz ul Wahab, Counsellor (Passport). In their statements, the owners of Ali Enterprises Shahid Bhaila and Arshad Bhaila, corroborated to what Muhammad Mansoor had deposed before the JIT about being threatened to pay bhatta of Rs. 25 (Twenty five) Crores to sector in charge or give them partnership or face consequences.

STATEMENT OF ARSHAD BHAILA & SHAHID BHAILA (EXTORTION DEMAND OF RS.25 (TWENTY FIVE) CRORES)

"Three months prior to the incident, probably in May-June 2012, I along with my brother Shahid met Majid Baig in Mansoor's office and during a pleasantry exchange he informed us that Sector is now talking about demanding crores of rupees from us. I took it as a bluff and an insane demand. Perhaps, they wanted to increase their extortion rates. By this time Asghar Baig had been replaced by Rehman Bhola as Sector in charge Baldia. Soon thereafter in July 2012, when I along with my brother Shahid were leaving the factory at around 2030 hours, I peeped inside the office of Mansoor to find Majid Baig and Sector In charge Rehman Bhola sitting with Mansoor. I left without having a dialogue with any of them, as a usual practice avoiding interaction with them. When we were leaving the factory in our car, we were stopped by Rehman Bhola, who threatened us to resolve the issue of extortion and contact Hammad Siddiqui, KTC In charge in this regard. On enquiring, he pitched the demand at Rs.25 (Twenty five) Crores and partnership in the factory. We were simply shocked and could not reconcile to this exorbitant demand."

"Next day we called Mansoor in our office and asked him as to what was going on and why is he not handling the issue? Upon this Mansoor consoled us that he will deal with the matter. But Mansoor appeared quite disturbed before us. We offered him one time Rs. 1 (One) Crore to settle the matter once and for all. From that day to the date of incident Mansoor kept everything to himself, remained upset and could not handle the matter, despite repeatedly inquiring him about the matter. But due to his track record of resolving every issue amicably we had confidence in his capability. But the fact remains that Mansoor never threatened us to pay any amount as extortion till the day of incident."

In view of the foregoing, the JIT has solid evidence to believe that the element of extortion was very much there and the circumstances that led to the incident were not normal. Extortion demand and threats to the owners and factory were a reality. And if the incident was not an accident then the only motive behind the sabotage committed by the perpetrators was to threaten the owners to pay the extortion money demanded by Rehman @ Bhola, the then Sector in-charge.

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17. CONNECTION OF PERPETRATORS WITH EXTORTIONISTS

The missing link between the extortionists and perpetrators was the statement of Muhammad Arshad s/o Rasool Bux, who worked as a fitter in All Enterprises.

STATEMENT OF MUHAMMAD ARSHAD (Recorded u/s 164 Cr.PC before Magistrate)

In his statement Arshad revealed that on the fateful day i.e., 11.9.2012 at about 1800 hours he met Zubair, in charge of finishing department, at the main entrance of warehouse. Zubair was with five others out of whom one was Waseem Dehelvi while he could not recognize the other four. Zubair asked him to escort his guests to the washrooms situated in one corner of the warehouse. Later Zubair also joined and gave them hashish to fill in the cigarettes. Since smoking was prohibited inside the factory he distanced himself away from the rest for fear of being caught red handed by factory administration. It was here that he saw Zubair giving away small black colored shoppers to all of his accomplices. Zubair first tossed one such shopper on one side of the warehouse. The rest followed the course; each one threw his shopper in different directions. Within five to ten seconds fire erupted and all of them rushed out of the warehouse. He along with 15/20 employees of the factory tried to put out the fire but it soon got out of control. He again saw Zubair after 2/3 minutes in the warehouse. When the fire engulfed the entire building reaching second storey, he heard the owners and Mansoor shouting at him and others to stop protecting articles from fire and save the labour on upper stories. When he along with others rushed their way up from other block of factory they found the staircase door at second floor leading to the canteen locked from inside and the canteen door itself locked from outside. According to Arshad, he was handed over keys of canteen door by someone and when he unlocked it, he was surprised to see Zubair and some strangers inside canteen. While entire factory labour was rushing to save innocent lives, Zubair and his friends had locked themselves up in canteen and strangely enough, Zubair shouted to prevent the rescuers from moving to the roof.

STATEMENT OF ABDUL GHANI @ BABAR

The JIT also examined an eye witness namely Abdul Ghani @ Babar s/o Abdul Sattar who disclosed that when he along with others entered the canteen he saw Zubair puffing off cigarette lying on one of the benches in canteen with no anxiety.

These eye witness accounts are of prime importance as they clear the entire picture as to what actually had happened. Both Zubair and Waseem Dehelvi along with four strangers appear to be the actual perpetrators of this arson / terrorist attack on the basis of the available evidence. In his statement, Muhammad Mansoor has deposed that Zubair and Waseem Dehlvi were

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activists of MQM. While Zubair was employed by him as finishing in charge at the factory, Waseem Dehvi was a frequent visitor at the factory and collected zakat/fitra/eidi. Zubair was instrumental in trouble shooting labour issues because of the influence he wielded being affiliated with the Baldia Sector office of MQM.

18. FIRST INVESTIGATION – A CRITIQUE

The FIR was registered on behalf of the State the next day i.e., on 12.9.2012 by SIP Muhammad Nawaz Gondal, the then SHO Site B. From the perusal of case file, it appears the investigation of case has revolved mainly around the presumption that short circuit was the cause of fire. The owners of factory were made accused and were never given the confidence to divulge the circumstances that led to the incident. The so obvious element of extortion was missed out. Statements of eye witnesses were engineered to make out a case of accidental fire and criminal negligence of owners from the outset.

It is noteworthy that according to the owners, they were harassed from day one. First they were asked by Ahmad Chinoy, the then CPLC Chief, to immediately leave the factory premises and hide themselves in some secure place. Within 24 hours news regarding placing names of owners on ECL was aired. There are evidences that the control of factory was taken over by workers of MQM. FIR was lodged without consulting the owners.

In as far as the alleged shutting three of the four doors of factory down permanently is concerned, no evidence to the effect has come before the JIT. Except for the door that connected top floor with the terrace of adjoining L-shaped portion of the factory which was closed at the orders of factory management to check denim theft and that was only locked from inside and not permanently closed, no evidence was found that gave credence to the fact that other doors were closed down by the administration. This fact is further clarified by the Tribunal Report under the chairmanship of Justice @ Zahid Qurban Alvi (Pg Annexure C). The relevant portion of report is reproduced as under:

“On the issue of doors most labors who have survived the fire have confirmed that whatever doors or exits were available were open....They have also unanimously stated that there were no doors locked.”

The JIT is of unanimous opinion that the investigation of the case was unidirectional. It was perhaps an effort to prove the contents of FIR. Electric Inspector's report was not interpreted professionally. The investigation officer surprisingly relied upon the reports of Chief Fire Officer, Fire Brigade Department, KMC and FIA, Crime Circle, in deciding the pivotal question of cause of fire, when in fact; both the departments are not professionally competent to give

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opinion on this major point. While pains were taken for detecting explosive traces by calling reports from Research Wing and Ammunition Wing of Ordnance College Malir, no worthwhile efforts for conducting chemical forensics of crime scene are available on record. A routine Chemical Report from Chemical Examiner, which could only detect kerosene, petrol and alcohol, was called. Surprisingly, no reputable institute was contacted in this regard. In the eyes of the JIT, it is a criminal negligence.

Chain of custody of another evidence of prime importance i.e., DVR of CCTV system is also unprofessional and suspicious. Arshad Bhaila, in his statement informed the JIT that the factory had two DVRs having capacity of 16 cameras each. That, at the time of incident 16 cameras were in working condition on one DVR while there were four cameras on the second. Video Forensic Report mentions only six cameras in one DVR in working condition on the date of incident from 15:58:32 to 18:56:42.

According to the record provided to the JIT, police had recovered 2 DVRs from the Admin block of the factory. Video Forensic Report (Pg. Annex B) mentions retrieval of CCTV footage of six cameras from DVR-1 which covers Mezzanine and Basement. The clock of the DVR-1 shows 1856 hrs (6:56 pm) as the time of eruption of fire on mezzanine floor. There is a discrepancy whether the time of DVR was correct or otherwise. This could not be ascertained as the clock of DVR was reset during initial recovery attempts by police.

In the CCTV footage the factory workers could be seen running for safety. No one could be seen trying to extinguish the initial fire. It could be seen that the fire did not originate in the basement of the factory housing the cutting unit. It could also be observed in the footage that as soon as the fire was noticed on the mezzanine floor the wooden floor had started catching fire rapidly. This physical location of the start of fire on mezzanine floor correlates with the point down on the ground floor where the fire has been originated as per the eye witnesses' account.

The data from the DVR-2 could not be recovered. As a result of detailed analysis it was observed that there were fourteen (14) still cameras installed on DVR-1 in 2010 with a lot of coverage and excellent position. However after a massive gap, in Sep-2012 six (06) cameras were installed with rotation feature. During this gap no video recording was found.

Further analysis established that only one camera installed on the 1st floor of the building housing stitching unit 2 was operational on DVR-2. However, it was not configured properly as the date was set at March 2010. However, actually it was showing the events that occurred on 11th September 2012. In the last recording of the camera people could be seen running and evacuating the unit when the fire started.


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Apart from this the cameras installed in the important and critical areas were not operational. The available DVRs could cater for 32 cameras, whereas only 7 were operational, leaving critical areas without CCTV coverage.

As discussed earlier, the observations and findings of Crime Scene Investigation Unit of Punjab Forensic Science Agency and HEJ Institute of Chemistry, Karachi University are very clear and specific in describing the nature and cause of fire. Together, they deal a fatal blow to the entire edifice of first investigation.

19. POST INCIDENT EXTORTION AND BULLYING

During the course of investigation the JIT visited Dubai, UAE and met with Arshad Bhaila and Shahid Bhaila, owners of M/s Ali Enterprises. Both were examined in detail and their statements were recorded. Inter-alia other facts they also disclosed as under:

After their release on bail from the Central Prison on Feb 11, 2013, they were under tremendous pressure from MQM office bearers and therefore they decided to reconcile with MQM. They approached Shoukat Khayam, a friend of theirs, who took them to one Muhammad Ali Hassan (based in Hyderabad), who claimed to be a close associate of Anis Qaim Khani, the then Deputy Convenor of Rabita Committee of MQM. After a few meetings, Muhammad Ali Hassan, conveyed that things could be settled and MQM could intervene in normalizing the matters at all relevant forums, if they were ready to pay compensation at the rate of Rs.250, 000/- per casualty and Rs.100, 000/- per injured. The amount would be deposited in a bank account till the time MQM compensates the victims from party platform. They agreed to this settlement and arranged partial amount of Rs.59,800,000/- (Rs Five Crores Ninety Eight Lac) and credited the amount in following bank account whose detail was given by Muhammad Ali Hassan with the understanding that balance amount would be paid at the time of distribution ceremony. The bank account details are as follows:

Account Title	:	Siddique Hassan Kadri
Account No.	:	1010-0081-010815-01-6
Bank & Branch	:	Bank Al Habib Ltd, Hyderabad

Having credited the amount, they contacted Muhammad Ali Hassan for announcement of compensation distribution ceremony but to-date the same has not been arranged. In their final conversation with him, Muhammad Ali Hassan informed them that the amount had been sent to Anees Qaim Khani and asking for the amount is asking for trouble as it is in 'lion's mouth'.

Subsequently, above disclosures of Bhaila Brothers were probed which revealed that:

- i. Muhammad Ali Hassan of Hyderabad is a businessman running different business along with his other partners in following names & style:

- M/s Aqsa Ginning Enterprises, Hyderabad

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- M/s Hi Tex Enterprises, Hyderabad
 - M/s Hi Tex Weaving, Hyderabad
- ii. One Shoukat Khayyam is business partner of Muhammad Ali Hassan and his brother-in-law as well.
- iii. Shoukat Khayyam introduced Bhalla Brothers to Muhammad Ali Hassan on their request in order to settle the matters with MQM as the later is close to Anees Qaim Khani and they had business relations as well.
- iv. Siddique Hassan Qadri, father of Muhammad Ali Hassan and Ali Hassan Qadri has been maintaining a bank account No. 0081-010815-01-6 A/c Title Siddique Hassan Qadri at M/s Bank Al Habib, Main Branch, Hyderabad. Muhammad Ali Hassan holds mandate in the said account.
- v. On the advice of Ali Hassan Qadri, Bhalla brothers arranged Rs. 59,800,000/- and deposited the same in above account on April 30, 2013.
- vi. On 30.04.2013, another mandate was arranged for Omar Hassan Qadri, who on the very next working day i.e. May 2, 2013, transferred an amount of Rs. 50,000,000/- in the account of Muhammad Yamin, a known builder of Hyderabad for purchase of a property i.e., Plot No. 175, Block C, Unit No. VI, Latifabad Hyderabad measuring 1000 Sq. Yds in the name of Mst. Iqbal Adeeb Khanum (Benami transaction).
- vii. Interestingly an amount of Rs.13,500,000/- was transferred in the account No. 0020135860001289 A/c Title Mst. Iqbal Adeeb Khanum being maintained at M/s Burj Bank Ltd, Latifabad Branch, Hyderabad by Dr. Abdul Sattar Khan (adopted son of Anees Qaim Khani) for payment of advance for said plot. He transferred said amount through following cheques of A/c No. 0020010586000002 A/c Title Abdul Sattar Khan being maintained at M/s Burj Bank Ltd, Latifabad Branch, Hyderabad.
- Cheque No. 1702166 dated 25.03.2013 of A/c No. 0020010586000002 A/c Title Abdul Sattar Khan being maintained at M/s Burj Bank Ltd, Latifabad Branch, Hyderabad of Rs. 5,000,000/-
 - Cheque No. 1702167 dated 25.03.2013 of A/c No. 0020010586000002 A/c Title Abdul Sattar Khan being maintained at M/s Burj Bank Ltd, Latifabad Branch, Hyderabad of Rs. 5,000,000/-.
 - Cheque No. 1702165 dated 26.03.2013 of A/c No. 0020010586000002 A/c Title Abdul Sattar Khan being maintained at M/s Burj Bank Ltd, Latifabad Branch, Hyderabad of Rs. 800,0000/-.
 - Cheque No. 1702174 dated 08.04.2013 of A/c No. 0020010586000002 A/c Title Abdul Sattar Khan being maintained at M/s Burj Bank Ltd, Latifabad Branch, Hyderabad of Rs. 500,000/-.

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- viii. He got transferred the said property in the name of Mst. Iqbal AdeeB Khanum, who is family friend of Qadri family and subsequently constructed a house on it, which is still vacant.
- ix. All amount is extorted from Bhaila brothers and is still with Qadri brothers and Dr. Abdul Sattar in the shape of above property.
- x. Muhammad Ali Hassan is suffering from cancer (last stage) and is unable to join investigation.
- xi. Omer Hassan is unable to explain that why;
- His name is included as mandatory in the account?
 - Dr. Abdul Sattar arranged advance payment amount?
 - Said property is transferred in the name of Mst. Iqbal AdeeB Khanum?
- xii. Omer Hassan Qadri and Dr. Abdul Sattar has also other business partnerships; detailed out as follows;

20. NAMES AND DETAILS OF SHAREHOLDERS OF BUSINESSES

M/s AQSA GINNING ENTERPRISES

S #	Name of Director	% of Share
1	Abdul Sattar Khan	20
2	Basit (Brother of Abdul Sattar Khan)	15
3	Omar Hassan Khan	20
4	Muhammad Ali Hassan	20
5	Safi (Son of Muhammad Ali Hassan)	10
6	Zulfiqar (Relative of Abdul Sattar Khan)	15

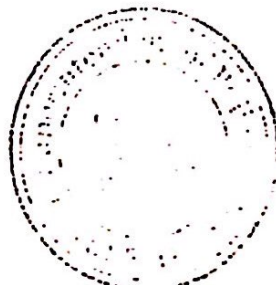
M/s HI TEX ENTERPRISES

S #	Name of Director	% of Share
1	Abdul Sattar Khan	40
2	Adeel (Son of Khayyam)	5
3	Omer Hassan Khan	5
4	Muhammad Ali Hassan	5
5	Mst Minhaj (Wife of Muhammad Ali Hassan)	5
6	Zulfiqar (Relative of Abdul Sattar Khan and son in law of Mst. Iqbal AdeeB Khanum)	30

M/s HI TEX WEAVING

S #	Name of Director	% of Share
1	Shoukat Khayyam	15
2	Mst Minhaj (Wife of Muhammad Ali Hassan)	15
3	Abu Bakar (Frontman of Anees Qaim Khani)	70

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21. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based upon available evidence and expert opinions, The JIT has come to the following conclusions:

- i. (That factory fire was a 'planned sabotage/terrorist activity' and 'not an accidental fire') carried out due to refusal to pay extortion (Bhatta) of Rs. 20 (Twenty) Crores and partnership in factory profits by factory owners to office bearers namely Rehman Bhola and Hammad Siddiqi of MQM-A.
- ii. That the incident was dealt with in an 'unprofessional manner' and is a classic manifestation of 'compromised and mutilated' form of policing. The incident was handled from inception till end in a 'way and fashion' to benefit the 'offenders' rather than the 'victims of crime' for some 'motives and gains'. The lodging of FIR and subsequent investigations were not only carried out with clear malafide intentions but also suffered heavily from 'tremendous influence' both 'internal' and 'extraneous'. An event of 'terrorist activity' was portrayed/translated in FIR as simple murder (later converted into an accident) not against actual perpetrators of crime but against factory owners and its management. The way the incident was probed into speaks volumes about partisan and partial approach of police under 'influence'. Not surprisingly therefore, FIR and the first investigation nowhere mention extortion (Bhatta) that JIT believes was a basic motive and crucial element to plan, prepare and carryout this dastardly act. The JIT considers this omission as an 'element of prime and critical importance' as well as a 'defining factor' to shape up later investigations.

Hence the JIT recommends that FIR No. 343/2012 u/s 322/337/34 PPC of PS Site-B Karachi be withdrawn by the State.

- iii. That a fresh FIR should be lodged under relevant sections of Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) 1861 read with Anti Terrorism Act (ATA) 1997 against following set of accused (Serial No. 'a' through 'd' for act of arson and terrorism and serial no. 'e' through 'h' for post incident extortion).

- a. Rehman Bhola *front man of Hammad Siddiqi, Sector Incharge Borden*
- b. Hammad Siddiqi *MQM extortionist.*
- c. Zubair @ Chariya *Incharge of firing dept.*
- d. Four unknown (Associates of Zubair @ Chariya)
- e. Omer Hassan Qadri
- f. Dr. Abdul Sattar
- g. Ali Hassan Qadri
- h. Mst. Iqbal Adeeb Khanum

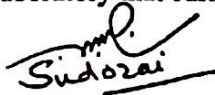
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- iv. That the JIT tried to examine Muhammad Zubair in order to ascertain his role in the incident, as all the available evidences point fingers towards his involvement in the commission of crime. In this regard, the JIT repeatedly offered Muhammad Nazeer, father of Muhammad Zubair return ticket from and to Saudi Arabia so that he may join the investigation. But Muhammad Nazeer turned down the offer every time. Further development in investigation will depend very much on interrogation of accused Muhammad Zubair. Moreover JIT has written three different letters to DG Immigration and Passport for cancellation of passport vide letter No: SP/SITE/RDR/1942 / dated:-22-6-2015, letter No: 1994 / dated:- 28-6-2015 and letter No:2375 / dated:- 04-08-2015, as the accused person had already left the country (Annexure E).
- v. That the accused absconding to foreign countries should be brought back and arrested.
- vi. That the passports of all the absconding accused be cancelled and names of all the accused be placed on ECL immediately.
- vii. That all the witnesses should be provided protection under the Witness Protection Act.
- viii. That the property in the shape of Bungalow situated at plot No. 175, Block C, Unit No. VI, Latifabad, Hyderabad measuring 1000 square yards has been purchased from the amount extorted from the factory owners through post-incident bank transactions. Thus, it is recommended to transfer back the attached property to factory owners through legal process.
- ix. That in order to minimize the losses to life and property by any such terrorist activity in future, new laws and safety procedures should be devised and factory owners and employees be trained to cope with such terrorist activities. Relevant departments like Labour Department, Building Control Department, Electric Department, Environment Department, Social Security Department, SITE Limited, Civil Defence & Others can play a pivotal role in enforcement of anti terrorism safety procedures and laws.
- x. That the Rescue services available in Metropolitan city of Karachi having a population of twenty two million are not capable enough to deal with such catastrophes of terrorism and mega accidents. Hence a high powered committee of experts in rescue services with relevant qualifications from public and private sectors may be constituted to submit study report along with recommendations within three months for overhauling the present rescue services.

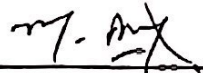
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xi. That the gory act of Baldia Factory Fire is a glaring example of police inefficiency in dealing and investigating this high profile incident in 'right directions' without any 'fear and favour'. It reminds us about classic police failure in ascertaining not only the 'truth' but also in 'booking and apprehending the real culprits' involved in the commission of crime from 'planning to execution stage'. The incident history clearly manifests how police lodged a motivated FIR and subsequently raises eyebrows the way investigations into the incident were conducted. The JIT carried out a critique of first investigation mentioned above, concludes that 'fear and favour' were dominating factors throughout and affected police performance 'length and breadth'. The JIT therefore strongly recommends introduction of police reforms in order to avoid recurrence of such catastrophic investigative failures in future. The in vogue archaic policing system should be replaced with professionally independent but accountable policing system including up gradation of its technical facilities, especially forensic laboratory that currently is devoid of modern facilities and fire experts.



Sajid Amir Sadozai, PSP
SP Site, District West, Karachi



Muhammad Arif
Deputy Director I.S.I



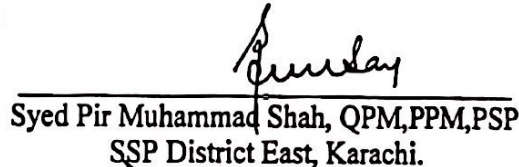
Muhammad Munir
Director I.B, Karachi



Altaf Hussain
Additional Director FIA



Lt. Col. Humayun Mujtaba
Military Intelligence



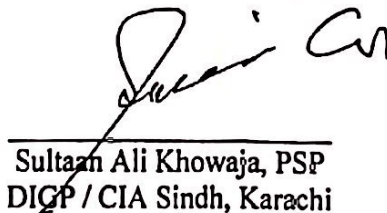
Syed Pir Muhammad Shah, QPM, PPM, PSP
SSP District East, Karachi.



Col. Sajjad Bashir
Pakistan Rangers Sindh



Munir Ahmed Shaikh PPM, PSP
Deputy Inspector General of Police



Sultan Ali Khawaja, PSP
DIGP / CIA Sindh, Karachi

Enclosed 5 annexures
212 pages
