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Press TV

Taliban vow revenge against US troops for murdering Afghans

3/12/2012



The Taliban have vowed revenge against US forces in Afghanistan in reaction to the slaughter of 17 Afghan civilians, including women and children, by a US soldier.

The militant group said in a statement that it would "take revenge from the invaders and the savage murderers for every single martyr."

On Sunday, a US soldier opened fire on Afghan civilians inside their homes, killing at least 17 and injuring several others in the district of Panjwaii in southern Kandahar Province.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai has condemned the bloodshed, calling it an inhuman, intentional, and unforgivable act.

"When Afghan people are killed deliberately by US forces, this action is murder and terror and an unforgivable action," Karzai said in a statement.

"The government and the people of Afghanistan demand an explanation from the United States government of this incident."

US President Barack Obama only expressed condolences over the massacre and claimed he would hold accountable anyone responsible for the "tragic and shocking" incident.

Civilian casualties in Afghanistan have been a major source of tension between Kabul and Washington.

The US-led invasion of Afghanistan was launched in 2001. The offensive removed the Taliban from power, but insecurity continues to rise across the country despite the presence of tens of thousands of US-led troops.