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## 15 US-led forces, 10 Afghan troops killed in Helmand: Taliban

4/19/2013



The Taliban claim they have killed at least 15 foreign troops and 10 Afghan soldiers in the province of Helmand, in the country's restive south.

It said the deaths occurred in the town of Sangin on Friday when a Taliban assailant blew up his explosive-laden car, targeting a joint convoy of US-led and Afghan troops.

The militants also claimed that four tanks belonging to foreign forces were destroyed in the blast.

Most of the foreign forces stationed in Helmand province are American and British.

Local Afghan officials have confirmed the death of five Afghan policemen and two civilians in the attack.

The US-led military coalition has yet to comment on the attack.

In late 2001, the United States, along with its allies, invaded Afghanistan under the pretext of battling terrorism. The offensive removed the Taliban from power, but the country remains gripped by insecurity despite the presence of thousands of foreign troops.

Meanwhile, the increasing number of military casualties in Afghanistan has caused widespread anger in the US and other NATO member states, undermining public support for the prolonged war.