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[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-07/25/c\\_133511341.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-07/25/c_133511341.htm)

## 16 civilians shot dead in W. Afghanistan

7/25/2014

About 16 civilians were killed in western Afghan province of Ghor overnight, the provincial government spokesman said Friday.

"Unknown armed men stopped three minibuses and after getting off all passengers shot them dead in outskirts of the provincial capital Firoz Khoh at around midnight," spokesman Abdul Hai Khatibi told Xinhua.

Three women were among the killed, the official noted.

The authorities launched an investigation to find the motive behind the killing, he said.

No group claimed responsibility. The officials blame Taliban militants for such attacks.

On Thursday, two Finnish female aid workers were killed in a drive-by shooting in neighboring Herat province.

More than 1,560 civilians were killed and nearly 3,290 others wounded in conflicts and Taliban-led attacks in the first six months of 2014, according to official figures released by UN mission in the country.

