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Taliban Attack Shindand

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Dozens of Taliban insurgents have attacked Shindand district's bazaar of western Herat province and began clashing with security forces, local officials said on Thursday.

The insurgents entered Shindand bazaar on Wednesday night and started clashing with security forces early Thursday according to Deputy Police Chief of Herat Aminullah Azad.

"More troops have been deployed to the area to clear the insurgents," Azad said. "There are no reports of casualties yet."

According to the Ministry of Interior (MoI) spokesman, Sediq Sediqqi, the group of Taliban insurgents have not only attacked Shindand bazaar, but have taken control of Koch-e-Zughali and Tel Foroshan area of southern Shindand district's bazaar.

Sediqqi added that the clearing operation is currently underway in the affected areas. Eyewitnesses said that dozens of Taliban insurgents have arrived and taken control of the bazaar. The Taliban have not yet commented about the attack.

In a recent incident, the education director of Shindand was killed along with his son and a coworker as a result of firing by unidentified gunmen.