

Man in Russia's Far East Gets 5-Year Prison Term for Funding Taliban

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A resident of Russia's far eastern city of Yakutsk has been sentenced to five years in prison for facilitating terrorism after he transferred money to Taliban fighters, a news report said.

The man, a Tajik citizen, had repeatedly transferred funds to Pakistani bank accounts at the request of an acquaintance who was also a member of the Taliban movement fighting Pakistani government forces, the Interfax news agency reported Monday, citing the press service of the regional branch of the Federal Security Service, or FSB.

In e-mail correspondence with the man, the Pakistani Taliban fighter had requested financial support for the "Jihad" against the "infidels" in Afghanistan and Pakistan and help in setting up a covert terrorist network in Russia's Sakha republic, where Yakutsk is located, the report said.

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