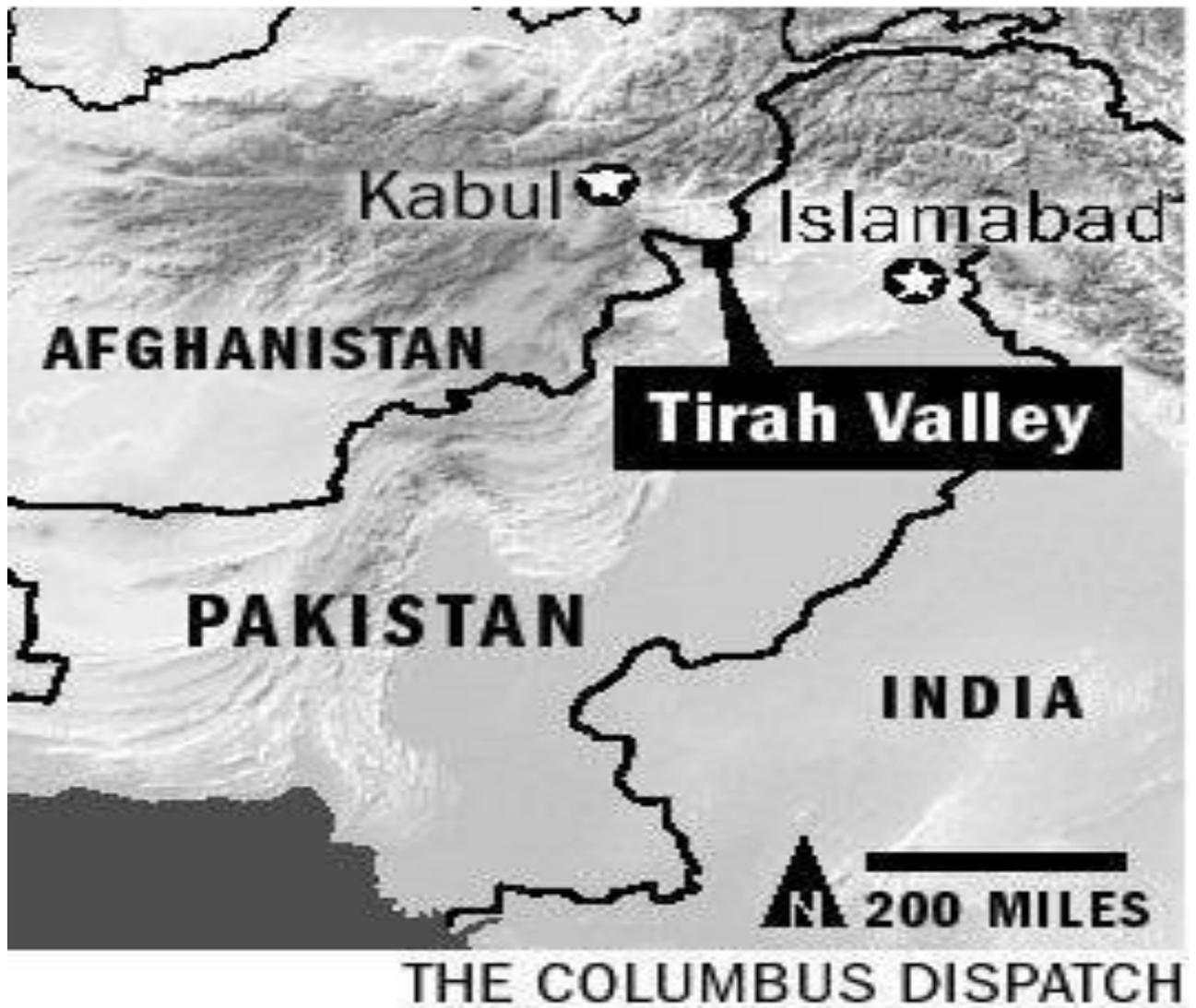




Place in News - Tirah Valley

Context: A minimum of 23 individuals lost their lives in an explosion in Pakistan's Tirah Valley (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa).



About Tirah Valley:

- A mountainous area and tribal stronghold, historically recognized for its resistance to external authority.



- Renowned for its fertile valleys, terraced farming, and as a center of militant activity in recent decades.

Located in:

- Situated in Khyber District and Orakzai District of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, Pakistan.
- Nestled between the Khyber Pass and Khanki Valley.

Neighboring Nations:

- Adjacent to the Afghanistan–Pakistan border, rendering it strategically significant.
- Acts as a corridor between South Asia and Central Asia, historically contested by the Mughals, British, and contemporary Pakistan.

Features:

- **Geography:** Encompasses approximately 600–700 square miles, with five primary valleys – Maidan, Rajgul, Waran, Bara, and Mastura.
- **Terrain:** Characterized by high passes (Sampagha, Tseri Kandao, Saran Sar), fertile alluvial soil, walnut and mulberry trees, and summer grazing lands.
- **Population:** Mainly composed of Pashtun tribes – Afridis and Orakzais; alongside a minority of Sikh traders and Hamsaya communities.
- **History:** The site of the 1897 Tirah Campaign by the British, marked by frequent uprisings against Mughal and subsequently Pakistani governance.