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'Ten dead' in Karachi explosion
Authorities in Pakistan say at least 10 people have been killed in a suspected bomb attack on a mosque in the business district of Karachi.

The chief medical officer at the city's main hospital said more than 100 others were injured, 25 critically.

The mosque was full of Shia worshippers attending Friday prayers.

Witnesses say ambulances have been ferrying casualties to hospital for treatment, and the scene is one of devastation and carnage.

An interior ministry official said the death toll might rise further.

Some reports said the explosion was a suicide bombing, but other witnesses said a man left a package among the rows of worshippers shortly before the blast.



Worshippers survey the devastation of Friday's attack

Angry locals

A local government official told Reuters news agency more than 100 people had been inside the mosque at the time of the blast.

A worker at a nearby brokerage house told the agency: "Our office on the 14th floor was shaken. We saw plumes of smoke, blood and bodies."

“ **Something hit my arm and I saw blood all over my body** ”

Kalb e-Abbas, witness

Another witness, Kalb e-Abbas, told the Associated Press: "I was inside the mosque for Friday prayers when a bomb exploded. Something hit my arm and I saw blood all over my body."

Angry locals besieged the area shouting abuse at officials and police officers.

The explosion occurred at around 1300 local time (0800 GMT). No one has yet said they carried out the attack.

Provincial government adviser Aftab Sheikh said many of the injured were in critical condition and several had lost limbs.

"I condemn this attack; it was a barbaric act," he said.

The mosque is inside one of Pakistan's oldest and most famous educational establishments, the Sindh Madrassah-tul-Islam.

The establishment has separate mosques for Shias and Sunni Muslims.

Pakistan is 80% Sunni Muslim with the remainder Shia. The communities have a history of violence.

On 2 March, Sunni radicals killed more than 40 people and wounded 150 in an attack



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on a Shia procession in the south-western city of Quetta.

Last July an attack on a Shia mosque in Quetta left around 50 dead.

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