

Suicide bomber kills 12 at Pakistan rally

by UPI

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan -- A lawyers' rally in Islamabad, Pakistan, was disrupted Tuesday when a blast from a suicide bomber killed 12 people and injured 35 others. Sources told CNN that the deadly explosion occurred at the rally site before the official start of the event, at which suspended Pakistan Chief Justice Iftikhar M. Chaudhry was scheduled to speak. Chaudhry, who lost his post March 9, was not at the site when the explosion occurred. Police said that the suicide bomber may have been targeting a reception facility being used by the Pakistan Peoples Party. Tuesday's bombing marked the most recent escalation to nationwide violence in Pakistan since the recent bloody end to the Red Mosque siege in the capital city. Adding to regional tension is the current military crisis in neighboring Afghanistan and Pakistan's ongoing nuclear feud with India, CNN reported. Authorities said that a series of attacks on military and police targets during the past few days have resulted in 79 deaths.

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