

Drycleaners

Archival Inkjet Print on Hahnemuhle Photorag

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The term "batman" in the Pakistan Army dates from the period of the British Indian Army. In the Pakistan Army today, civilian personnel are employed in this role and are designated as Non Combatant Bearer, meaning the batman is no longer a soldier or part of the fighting cadre of the army, and works only as a personal servant to each officer. In the Cantonment in Lahore, these Batmen continue to carry out tasks, including moving their masters' dry cleaned and ironed uniforms, throughout the day. Without the presence of the officers, the oppressive uniforms have a deflated, comical presence.