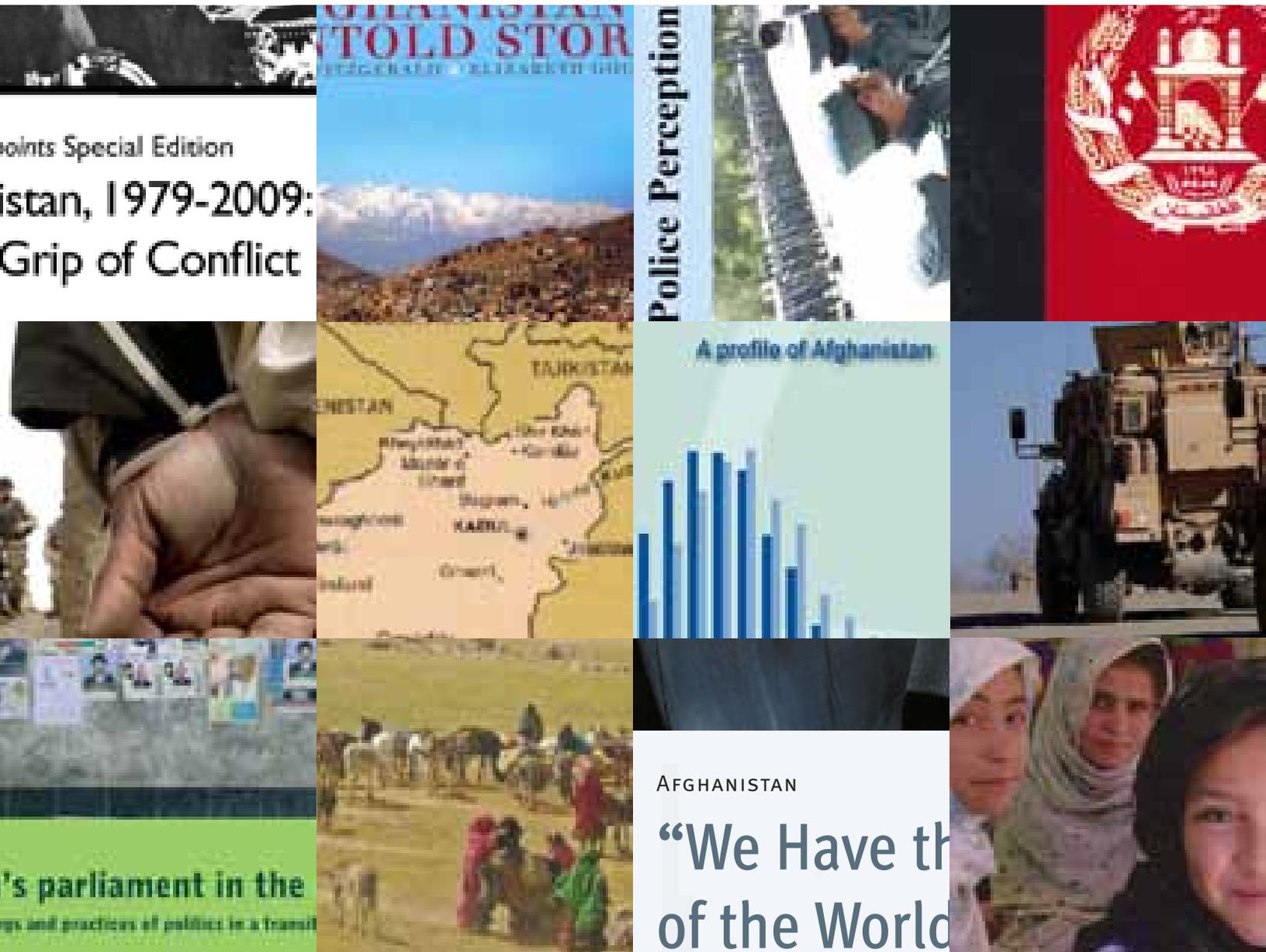


# Afghanistan Research Newsletter

Number 24, January/February 2010



AFGHANISTAN RESEARCH AND EVALUATION UNIT

# National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (NRVA) 2007/2008 Profile of Afghanistan

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The official release of the analysis of the data gathered during the National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (NRVA) 2007/8 was planned for 28 October 2009 but was cancelled because of the fatal attack on a UN-guesthouse in Kabul on the same morning. Both the summary (English and Dari versions) and main report (only English so far) are now available for download from these URLs:<sup>1</sup>

*The National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2007/8: a Profile of Afghanistan: Main Report.* [Kabul]: European Union, [2009]. xxi, 157 p. <http://nrva.cso.gov.af/NRVA%202007-08%20Report.pdf> (4.48 MB). The summary version is 22 pages: <http://www.nrva.cso.gov.af/Brochure%20English-Final.pdf> (1.76 MB).

Based on research with 21,000 households, this was one of the largest national surveys undertaken in Afghanistan (details of the methodology are included in the report). Because of the importance and relative reliability of this data, the executive summary is reproduced here in full, reprinted with the kind permission of the Central Statistics Organization.

## Executive Summary

The National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2007/8 was a nationally representative multi-purpose survey. The main objectives of the survey were to provide up-to-date information for assessing the situation of the people of Afghanistan and to furnish data needed for monitoring progress toward development goals. Results pertain to the period August 2007 to August 2008.

### Population structure

- Afghanistan has an exceptionally high share of children under 15 - 49 percent - and a very small proportion of elderly aged 65 and over - 3 percent. The overall dependency ratio is 133.
- The country's sex ratio is 105 males per 100 females.

### Demographic indicators

- The Total Fertility Rate is estimated at 6.3 over the three years preceding the survey. Fertility is lowest in the urban population (5.3) and very high among Kuchis (7.3), with the rural population in between (6.5). The finding that the present TFR

is nearly one live birth below the fertility level experienced by women aged 40-49 suggests a modest fertility decline.

- NRVA data indicate that the infant mortality rate was 111 per 1,000 live births and the under-five mortality rate was 161 per 1,000 live births around 2004. Comparison with earlier estimates of mortality suggests that infant mortality is declining.

### Household structure

- The average household size is 7.3 persons per household, with on average 3.5 children residing in the household. Close to one-third of all Afghans live in households with 10 or more people and less than three percent do so in households with three or fewer people.
- Only 2 percent of households - around 70 thousand - are female-headed. Around 11 percent of households (380 thousand) are headed by either heads aged 65 and over or under-20.

### Marriage patterns

- Marriage is almost universal in Afghanistan: less than one percent of the population of 35 and over remained unmarried.
- The mean age at first marriage of women is 17.9 years. Nine percent of women aged 20-49 were married before reaching age 15. This proportion has declined to three percent for those currently aged 15-19.
- Afghanistan has 526 thousand widows and 135 thousand widowers. The large age difference between spouses, especially in the older cohorts, is an important contributing factor to the overrepresentation of women among the widowed.

### Migration

- Thirteen percent of households has members who were living elsewhere sometime during the five years preceding the survey. Fifty-four percent of these migrants migrated within Afghanistan. Of the remaining international migrants, the largest share had returned from Iran.
- The percentage of households who saw a household member leave during the past year is 7 percent.

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<sup>1</sup> Data from the earlier round was published in 2005: "The National Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2005: Afghanistan" (Rheinbach, Germany: ASA Institut für Sektoranalyse und Politikberatung, 2007), <http://www.mrrd.gov.af/nss-vau/Final%20NRVA%202005%20Report%20-%2028%2007%202007.pdf>.

Here, the large majority consists of international migrants, with Iran as the main country of destination. Out-migration is underestimated to the extent that complete households have moved away, which probably more affects internal out-migration than emigration.

#### Labour force

- The labour force participation rate of the population aged 16 and over is 67 percent, but reveals a large difference between men (86 percent) and women (47 percent). The share of the currently active population is highest among Kuchis - 78 percent for both sexes combined - and lowest for the urban population - 49 percent. Labour force participation among the rural population takes an intermediate position: 71 percent.
- The employment-to-population ratio also shows a large gender difference: 80 percent for males and 43 percent for females, with an overall ratio of 62 percent.
- The overwhelming majority of 93 percent of the labour force is employed for at least one hour a week. The corresponding unemployment rate is a modest 7 percent. These figures should be interpreted in the sense that in the dire economic conditions of Afghanistan, very few can afford not to work, even if it is in unproductive work and for few hours per week. In addition to the 7 percent who cannot even find one hour work, many who are employed find only few hours work and/or can insufficiently provide income.
- Pockets of high unemployment are found among youth under 25 (12 percent) and educated women (18 percent).
- Most employed people (77 percent) have insecure jobs as own-account workers or unpaid family workers. Almost all women and Kuchi (95 and 90 percent, respectively) are in vulnerable employment.
- In the situation of Afghanistan the concept of unemployment is inadequate to assess the degree to which the labour market is able to provide sufficient and adequate employment. Measures of underemployment will provide information that is much more relevant to assess the situation and to develop employment policies.
- Agriculture and livestock represent the dominant economic sector of employment in Afghanistan. Overall, 59 percent of the employed population is engaged here; for the rural and Kuchi populations, the respective shares are 67 and 87 percent.
- Of all children aged 6-17, 21 percent (1.9 million) are working. Of these, at least 1.2 million children (13 percent) can be classified as child labourers. The proportion of working children not attending school is twice as high as the corresponding proportion of children not working.
- Labour migration is a frequent livelihood strategy in Afghanistan. Seven percent of all households have a labour in-migrant, 6 have a labour out-migrant and 14 percent have seasonal labour

The *Afghanistan Research Newsletter* is a quarterly publication of the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit (AREU). The purpose of the Newsletter is to alert readers to new research being undertaken on Afghanistan and to help disseminate research findings and analysis. Some of the resources cited are available on the internet; most books and other publications are available at the AREU library, located in the AREU office (corner of Flower Street and Street 2) and open to researchers Sunday to Thursday, 9am-12:00pm and 1pm-4pm. The Newsletter is compiled by Royce Wiles. If you have ideas for books or other publications or resources that should be included in the Newsletter, please send an email to [newsletter@areu.org.af](mailto:newsletter@areu.org.af).

AREU is an independent research organisation based in Kabul. AREU's mission is to conduct high-quality research that informs and influences policy and practice. AREU also actively promotes a culture of research and learning by strengthening analytical capacity in Afghanistan and facilitating reflection and debate. Fundamental to AREU's vision is that its work should improve Afghan lives. AREU was established in 2002 by the assistance community working in Afghanistan and has a board of directors with representation from donors, the United Nations and other multilateral agencies, and non-governmental organisations. AREU currently receives core funds from the governments of Finland, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Specific projects have been funded by the Foundation of the Open Society Institute Afghanistan (FOSIA), the Asia Foundation (TAF), the European Commission (EC), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the World Bank. All AREU publications are available at [www.areu.org.af](http://www.areu.org.af).

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migrants. Iran is by far the most important country for international labour migration.

### Agriculture

- Agricultural activities are the main livelihood strategies for the Afghan population: 55 percent of households are engaged in farming and 68 percent have any type of livestock.
- Around 40 percent of households have access to irrigated land (on average 7 Jerib), 17 percent have access to rain-fed land (on average 14 Jerib) and 11 percent grow vegetables and fruits on garden plots.
- Wheat is by far the most important crop: 77 percent of households farming on irrigated land in summer and 94 percent farming on rain-fed land grow wheat.
- The main reason for leaving fallow land is shortage of water. Rehabilitation of irrigation systems is the first priority of rural communities.
- Some 10 percent of households engaged in agriculture grow opium. The production is concentrated in six provinces. In Urozgan and Helmand, respectively 82 and 67 percent of households produce opium.
- Nationally, the average number of major livestock - cattle, oxen, horses, donkeys, camels, goats or sheep - per household with any livestock is 13. With 63 major livestock, Kuchi households have considerably larger herds.

### Poverty and inequality

- Poverty is widespread in Afghanistan. The percentage of Afghans that is not able to meet their basic needs is 36 percent. Even higher poverty incidences are found among the Kuchi population (54 percent) and in South, West-Central and East regions of the country (more than 44 percent).
- The national average poverty line is 1,255 Afs. per person per month, representing the typical cost of attaining 2,100 calories per person per day and of meeting some basic non-food needs.
- The poverty gap ratio is a considerable 8 percent. Poverty among the Kuchi's is not only more widespread, poor Kuchis are also significantly poorer than the rural and urban poor. The total consumption shortfall is about 28.4 billion Afs., approximately 570 million USD.
- Factors that significantly correlate with poverty are household size and number of children in the household, sex of the household head, the head's

educational attainment, employment status and industry of work, child labour, seasonal migration, net primary and secondary enrolment, access to land, and access to basic services like safe drinking water, improved sanitation and electricity.

- Although the national Gini index of 29 is low in international perspective, substantial inequality exists in shares of consumption: the richest quintile of the population has a share of 39 percent of total consumption, the poorest quintile has only 9 percent.

### Education

- Only 17 percent of the population aged 25 years and over has attended any type of formal education; the corresponding figure for women is 6 percent. This manifests the lack of human capital in the country, required for strong public administration and private economic sectors.
- The large majority - 74 percent - of the population aged 15 years and over is illiterate. Male illiteracy is at a level of 61 percent and female illiteracy at 88 percent. For the urban, rural and Kuchi populations, the corresponding illiteracy figures are 52, 79 and 94 percent, respectively.
- The sharp rise in literacy from 26 percent among the 20-29 years old to 46 percent for the 15-19 years old, suggest a considerable improvement of the education system in recent years.
- Around 52 percent of primary-school age children (42 percent for girls and 60 percent for boys) are attending primary school, leaving some 2.3 million children not in primary school. The figure implies a significant improvement compared to the net primary enrolment rate of 37 in 2005.

### General health

- On most internationally comparable health indicators, Afghanistan is among the worst performing countries. Despite the still weak state of the health system, its reconstruction becomes visible in improving several health-related indicators.
- Further improvement of health facilities ranks among the top priorities for community development.
- Access to any public health facility within one hour walking is possible for 57 percent of the population. The corresponding figure for the rural population is 54 percent, for urban dwellers 79 percent and for Kuchis only 37 percent.

- There are 406 thousand disabled persons in Afghanistan, implying a disability prevalence of 1.6 percent. School attendance of disabled children and labour force participation of people of working age are only half of that of their non-disabled counterparts.

#### Child health

- Full immunization with the eight recommended vaccinations is received by 37 percent of children aged 12-23 months; 15 percent have never been vaccinated. Vaccination rates for BCG, OPV3, DTP3 and measles were, respectively, 74, 71, 43 and 56 percent.
- Sixty-nine percent of children aged 6-59 months received vitamin-A supplements against infections and 61 percent of households used iodized salt.
- Exclusive breastfeeding occurs for 35 percent of children aged 0-6 months.

#### Reproductive health

- Current use of modern contraception was reported by 23 percent of women married or in union, an increase from 10 percent reported in 2003. One in four currently married women are currently pregnant. For women under age 25 this figure is one in three.
- Twenty-four percent of women receive skilled birth attendance and 36 percent receive some type of antenatal care. In 2003 only 16 percent of women were assisted by skilled health personnel.
- Nearly one third of women had a birth interval of less than 18 months and more than half of the women had an interval of less than 24 months, the minimum recommended by the WHO.

#### Housing

- One-third (34 percent) of Afghan households can be considered overcrowded, in the sense that on average more than three people share one room.
- Some 23 percent of households cannot prove the ownership of their dwelling (44 percent in urban areas). Especially in view of returning refugees and IDPs this becomes a relevant issue.
- Around 4.4 million urban dwellers (93 percent) live in conditions of insecurity and physical and environmental deprivation.

#### Basic facilities

- Overall, 27 percent of the population use an improved source of drinking water, but the variation between the urban, rural and Kuchi populations is wide (58, 20 and 16 percent, respectively).

- Nearly the entire population lives in households lacking improved sanitation facilities. In urban areas 21 percent is lacking improved sanitation; among rural and Kuchi households it is virtually non-existent.
- Twenty percent of households is connected to the electric grid.
- For cooking and heating, the large majority of households use solid fuels (83 and 98 percent, respectively).
- Internet and telephone landlines are practically absent in Afghanistan. The use of mobile phones has penetrated into 6 percent of the population.

#### Gender aspects in decision making

- Women's decision-making power in the household is small. In most fields, the husband or father is the primary decision maker. Only in typical family affairs - marriage of children, care of the elderly and somewhat less, education of children - is the representation of women more felt, although even here decision making is usually together with the spouse.
- Marrying at very young age and marrying a spouse who is much older tends to imply high levels of dependency. Women's influence in household decision making increases with age.
- Representation of women at community level in Shuras and Community Development Councils is low - 20 and 36 percent, respectively, against 70 and 68 percent for men.

#### Gender inequality

- In every development field women are disadvantaged compared to men. This situation is generally less pronounced in urban areas.
- Women participate less in economic activities, for fewer hours and predominantly in vulnerable employment.
- Literacy of women is less than one-third of that of men, and large gaps exist in school enrolment rates.
- In recent years the literacy and school enrolment gaps are narrowing.

#### Household shocks

- More than two-thirds (71 percent) of Afghan households experienced in the year before the survey at least one household shock - a negative effect of events that is beyond their control.

- The most frequently mentioned household shock was the influx of refugees and IDPs (60 percent), followed by any natural disaster (39 percent), agriculture and livestock problems (22 percent) and drinking water problems (18 percent).

#### Aid programmes

- 450 thousand or one in seven households participated in cash-for-work, food-for-work or food aid

programmes. For a large share of these households this participation improved their food situation.

#### Community preferences

- The male and female Shuras consistently rate the improved provision of drinking water as a top development priority, followed by better health facilities, and in rural areas rehabilitation of irrigation systems, and in urban areas road improvements.

## Research News

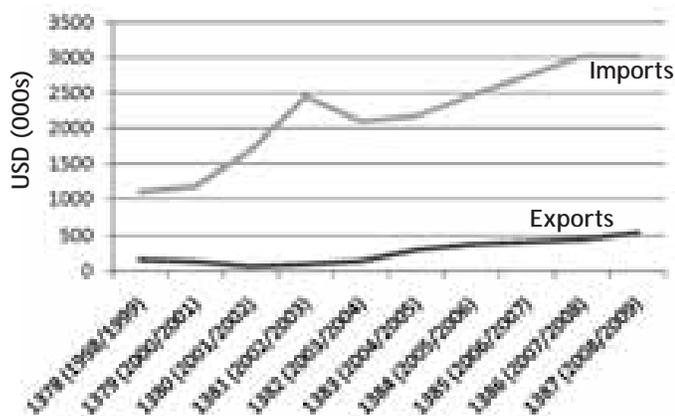
### Central Statistics Organization Publications

“Estimated Population of Afghanistan 2009/2010.” Kabul: Central Statistics Organization, 2009. 39 p. This annual update of population figures from the Central Statistics Organization (CSO) contains figures for all 34 provinces broken down by district and by urban and rural population, with separate columns for males and females. The estimated national population here is 23.9935 million; Kabul’s population is given as 2.9397 million.

The *Afghanistan Trade Statistical Yearbook for 2008-2009* was released in July 2009 by the Central Statistics Organization (CSO). The yearbook contains figures for exports and imports by country subdivided by commodity. Afghanistan’s balance of trade summary for the past ten years is given as below (from p. 1 of the yearbook):

#### *Afghanistan’s external trade (USD million) 1998-2009*

Year	Exports	Imports	Trade balance
1378 (1998/1999)	166	1,102	-846
1379 (2000/2001)	137	1,176	-1,039
1380 (2001/2002)	68	1,696	-1,628
1381 (2002/2003)	100	2,452	-2,352
1382 (2003/2004)	144	2,101	-1,957
1383 (2004/2005)	305	2,177	-1,872
1384 (2005/2006)	384	2,471	-2,087
1385 (2006/2007)	416	2,744	-2,328
1386 (2007/2008)	454	3,022	-2,568
1387 (2008/2009)	545	3,020	-2,475



### National Archives Handbook

“The Afghanistan National Archives: a Treasure Trove of the Nation’s Heritage” prepared by Khodadad Aghar ... [et al]. Kabul: ACKU Box Library Extension, September 2009. 56 p.

روشنک کونومر باخذ ۹ نیچنگ: ناتسناغوا یلم فشرأ  
 ۹ نازخ و مریز کونومر د داویه د: فیشرا کام ناتسماغوا د  
 For the first time since the years of the Communist government, a guidebook to the National Archives of Afghanistan has been produced. The new guide provides a very brief history of the building housing the National Archives (unsigned but contributed by Nancy Dupree) and then describes the sections, activities and facilities. Of major interest are the first published photographs of the inside of the archives’ technical and storage areas. Another first is a website for the archives: [www.nationalarchives.gov.af](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.af)

### Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF) Newsletter

The World Bank has restarted its newsletter about the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF). [http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTAFGHANISTAN/Resources/ARTF\\_Final\\_newsletter\\_Sep09.pdf](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTAFGHANISTAN/Resources/ARTF_Final_newsletter_Sep09.pdf)



### *Central Statistics Organization Website*

A new website for the Central Statistics Organization (CSO) has been launched—<http://www.nrva.cos.gov.af>—with a range of statistical spreadsheets available for download, giving the most up-to-date official information from the Afghan government. Available are:

- Population
- Population, by residence, sex, and by age (in thousands)
- Population, by sex, and by province (in thousands)
- Population, by residence, and by province (in thousands)
- Population, by residence, and by age (in thousands)
- Sex ratio, by residence, and by age
- Sex ratio, by province
- Dependency ratio, by residence
- Total Fertility Rate, by a) residence, and b) educational level of mother
- Infant and child mortality estimates, by sex
- Population, by sex, marital status, and by age (in thousands)
- Age-at-first-marriage statistics for every married women up to age 49, by (a) residence, and (b) province

#### Education

- Population 15 years and over, by sex, literacy, and by residence (in thousands)
- Literacy rate of population 15 years and over, by sex, and by residence
- Population 15 years and over, by sex, literacy, and by province (in thousands)
- Literacy rate of population 15 years and over, by sex, and by province
- Illiterate population 15 years and over, by sex, and by residence, age (in thousands)
- Illiterate population 15 years and over, by sex, and by province (in thousands)
- Net school enrolment ratio, by sex, and by residence, education level
- Net primary school enrolment ratio, by sex, and by province
- Net school enrolment ratio, by sex, and by poverty status, education level
- School-age children not attending school, by sex, school age, and by residence, reason for non-attendance (in percentages)
- Population 25 years of age and over, by sex, highest educational attendance, and by residence (in thousands)
- Population 25 years of age and over, by sex, highest educational attendance, and by age (in thousands)

#### Health

- Population, by residence, type of health facility, and by type of transportation, travel time (in thousands) and mean cost statistics (in Afs.)
- Population, by time to reach any public health facility by foot, and by province (in percentages)
- Percentage of vaccinated children 12-23 months old, by (a) residence, (b) highest educational attainment of mother
- Percentage of women who received TT vaccination, by (a) residence, (b) educational attainment, (c) age at delivery
- Use of modern family planning methods by married women under age 50, by (a) residence, (b) highest

educational attainment, (c) age

- Live births in the 24 months preceding the survey, by skill status of attendance, and by province
- Population, by sex, disability status, and by (a) residence, (b) province (in thousands)
- Population, by sex, disability status, and by age (in thousands)
- Disability, by sex, and by cause of disability

#### Poverty

- Poverty headcount rate, by selected variables
- Poverty gap index and squared poverty gap index
- Gini index, by (a) residence, (b) region

#### Housing

- Households, by residence, and by (a) type of dwelling, (b) construction material of wall, (c) construction material of roof, (d) construction material of floor (in thousands)
- Households, by residence, and by location of cooking facility (in thousands)

## New Publications from AREU

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All publications are available for free by download from [www.areu.org.af](http://www.areu.org.af) and in hardcopy from the AREU Kabul office.

November 2009, *Voting Together—Why Afghanistan's 2009 Elections were (and were not) a Disaster*, by Noah Coburn and Anna Larson. This briefing paper analyses voter patterns and attitudes from three areas of Kabul Province, finding some positive signs amidst the general disarray of Afghanistan's 2009 electoral process. At a local level, the elections did result in the changing of balances of power, both through representation on the Kabul Provincial Council and the dynamics of political campaigning. The elections generated considerable bargaining and debate within communities, and this often resulted in "bloc voting"—a practice not generally consistent with Western ideas of democratic participation, but a natural extension of the Afghan social and political context. However, AREU researchers also identified instances of serious fraud, particularly in relation to the provincial council election, and the paper warns that if the significant flaws in the electoral system are not addressed for the 2010 parliamentary election, democratisation gains in Afghanistan are in danger of being lost.

November 2009, *Losing Legitimacy? Some Afghan Views on the Government, the International Community, and the 2009 Elections*, by Noah Coburn. Following the confusing conclusion to Afghanistan's 2009 election season, an immediate international concern was the extent to which the process had damaged the legitimacy of the Afghan government. But to what

extent did the presidential elections of 2009 actually damage the legitimacy of the government in the eyes of the Afghan people? Have Afghan attitudes toward the state and the electoral process actually shifted? This report from AREU explores these questions. It is based on research in three areas of Kabul Province, including extensive interviews conducted before and after the initial vote, as well as after the cancellation of the second round of voting.

December 2009, "Community-Based Dispute Resolution in Bamiyan Province" and "Community-Based Dispute Resolution in Nangarhar Province," by Deborah J. Smith and Shelly Manalan, and Deborah J. Smith, respectively. The Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit conducted in-depth research on community-based dispute resolution in Nangarhar, Bamiyan, Kabul and Balkh Provinces. Of these, case studies on Nangarhar and Bamiyan are available, with Balkh and Kabul to follow. The case studies contain descriptions of the study villages and explore: who has power in CBDR and how they exercise it; the processes and relationships that link CBDR with state justice; the practices, principles and outcomes of CBDR and how these change depending on political, social and security contexts; and gender dynamics regarding CBDR. Each case study also contains an annex of individual dispute cases that illustrate the many dimensions of CBDR in Afghanistan. These include cases that became violent, including cases of multiple revenge killings and intra-family murder; cases of disputes over engagement and divorce; large inter-tribal land disputes; resource-

based conflict; and disputes which were influenced by powerful ex-mujahiddin commanders.

December 2009, *A Holistic Justice System for Afghanistan*, by Deborah J. Smith and Jay Lamey. This Policy Note presents AREU's findings and recommendations on community-based dispute resolution, including:

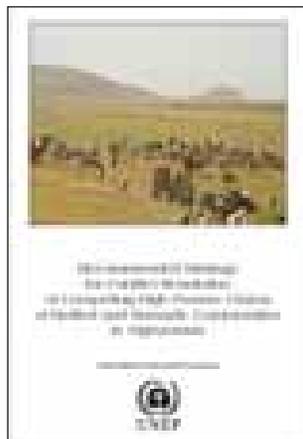
- CBDR processes are not static and do not rest on an unchanging, imagined version of tradition and custom. They are instead continually revised over time to adapt to changing social relationships, political structures and new problems.

- Strong links exist between state and CBDR actors, with cases often referred between them.
- CBDR has capacities to maintain peace and social cohesion within communities, which is beyond the remit of the state justice sector; CBDR should therefore not be simply considered a stop-gap where there is a weak state justice system.
- While women's access to and participation in CBDR is constrained, spaces in which women do access and influence it can be found, and decisions can provide recourse for women to assert their rights.

## New Publications and Resources

### Agriculture

Wily, Liz Alden. "Recommended Strategy for Conflict Resolution of Competing High Pasture Claims of Settled and Nomadic Communities in Afghanistan." Kabul: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 2009. 99 p. [http://postconflict.unep.ch/publications/afg\\_tech/theme\\_01/afg\\_rangeland\\_EN.pdf](http://postconflict.unep.ch/publications/afg_tech/theme_01/afg_rangeland_EN.pdf) (2.0 MB). This document lays out a possible road map for resolving the conflict between Pashtun nomads (Kuchi) and Hazara as to access to pastureland in the central highlands. The central highlands include the foothills in western Maidan Wardak and western Ghazni Provinces, as well as the higher pastures of Bamiyan Province, eastern Ghor Province and Day Kundi Province. This strategy has been largely developed for the benefit of two sets of actors who have major decision-making roles when it comes to determining how the conflict between Kuchi and Hazara will be settled. These are 1) the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) and (2) the Presidential Commission for Resolving the Hazara Kuchi Pasture Conflict.



### Art, Calligraphy, Epigraphy, Etc.

Wannell, Bruce. *Calligraphy and Epigraphy in Iran and Afghanistan*. [Kabul]: Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC), 2009. 111 p. This booklet aims to develop an understanding of calligraphy on paper or epigraphy in architectural form, by exploring their nature and meaning and placing them in a wider historical context. It is intended as a source of information

and reference for Afghan students of calligraphy and others. It is one of a series of publications that aims to develop an understanding of issues of cultural heritage in Afghanistan.

### Children

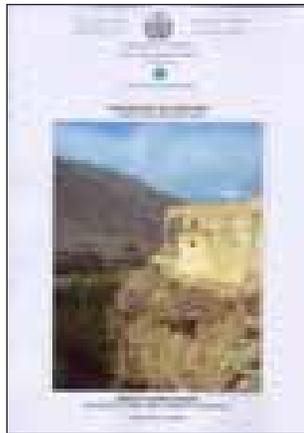
"Protection Assessment of Working Children at the Border Areas of Torkham and Islam Qala 2009." Kabul: Action Aid Afghanistan, 2009. 72 p. The purpose of this ActionAid survey was to obtain an understanding of the risk to which working children are exposed in the border areas of Torkham and Islam Qala. Information on the following areas was gathered for the children interviewed: (1) home situation, (2) work situation, (3) sexual abuse and exploitation, (4) drug use, and (5) working children and law enforcement.

### Cultural Heritage

Khan, Jawad and Andy Miller. "Kansir Fort, Sarhad-e Broghil, Upper Wakhan: a Preliminary Assessment and Survey." Kabul: Ministry of Information and Culture in conjunction with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, August 2009. 12 p. "This document represents part of the contribution made by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC) to the preparation of a national register of historic monuments, in collaboration with the Department of Historic Monuments of the Ministry of Information and Culture of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. As part of this initiative, joint surveys have been undertaken over several years by AKTC and departmental staff, including a month-long mission to sites in Balkh, Samangan and Faryab provinces in 2008. This particular survey of the Kansir fort supplements information on some 90 sites in central and eastern parts of Badakhshan province, that makes up the 2007 Wakhan Heritage Inventory." (p. 5).

Khan, Jawad and Andy Miller. "Ziyarat of Nasir Khusraw: Hazrat Sa'id, Yumgan Valley: Preliminary

Survey and Condition Assessment.” Kabul: Ministry of Information and Culture in conjunction with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC), August 2009. 13, 4 p. “The primary objective of the survey was to identify and explore the condition of cultural heritage sites in central and eastern parts of Badakhshan province and the Wakhan, in order to build on the Wakhan Heritage Inventory prepared by AKTC in 2007, which listed over 90 sites. Part of an ongoing initiative to identify and register historic monuments in Kabul and other provinces, AKTC has undertaken this work in collaboration with the department of Historic Monuments of the Ministry of Information and Culture of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.” (p. 5).



## Development

“Assessment of Development Results: Islamic Republic of Afghanistan: Evaluation of UNDP Contribution.” [New York?]: Evaluation Office, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), 2009. xxiv, 150 p. <http://www.undp.org/eo/adr/afghanistan.html> (PDF 1.5 MB). This important evaluation reviews UNDP’s role and activities in the reconstruction and development of Afghanistan from 2002-2008. As well as useful overviews of projects in different areas, the authors present useful summary findings on the strengths and weaknesses of UNDP work which can point the way to improved programming.

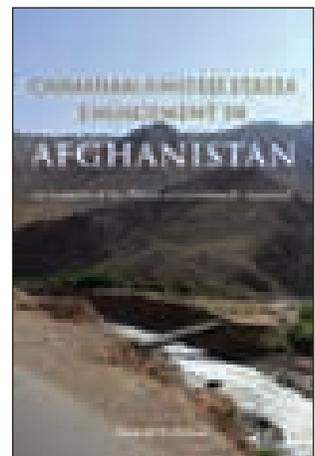
“Canada’s Engagement in Afghanistan: Quarterly Report to Parliament for the Period of July 1 to September 20, 2009.” [Ottawa]: Government of Canada. 20 p. [http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/assets/pdfs/docs/r09\\_09\\_e.pdf](http://www.afghanistan.gc.ca/canada-afghanistan/assets/pdfs/docs/r09_09_e.pdf). Regular update on Canadian involvement (especially in Kandahar).

Emadi, Hafizullah. *Afghanistan: the Tajik Ismailis of Takhar: an End to Isolation*. Contemporary Review v. 291 (no. 1694), Autumn 2009 (p. 288-298). This study focuses on the situation of the Tajik Ismaili minority during the civil war in Afghanistan and explores the role of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) in rebuilding economic structures in Takhar afterwards.

“Final Report on the Army’s Human Terrain System Proof of Concept Program.” AAA Commission on the Engagement of Anthropology with the US Security and Intelligence Communities (CEAUSSIC), submitted to the Executive Board of the American

Anthropological Association. October 14, 2009. 73 p. [http://www.aaanet.org/cmtes/commissions/CEAUSSIC/upload/CEAUSSIC\\_HTS\\_Final\\_Report.pdf](http://www.aaanet.org/cmtes/commissions/CEAUSSIC/upload/CEAUSSIC_HTS_Final_Report.pdf) (324 KB). Amongst other conclusions this report notes that Human Terrain Teams (in Iraq and Afghanistan) collect sensitive socio-cultural data in a high-risk environment and while working for one combatant in an ongoing conflict. It finds that because of the lack of a well-defined ethical framework of conduct for the programme and the inability of the researchers to maintain reliable control over data once collected, the programme places researchers and their counterparts in the field in harm’s way.

Holland, Kenneth M. *Canadian-United States Engagement in Afghanistan: an Analysis of the “Whole of Government” Approach*. Ottawa, Ontario, Canada: Pearson Peacekeeping Center, 2009. xii, 88 p. ISBN 9781896551760. [http://www.peaceoperations.org/\\_CMS/Files/Complete\\_Can-US\\_Afghanistan\\_WEB.pdf](http://www.peaceoperations.org/_CMS/Files/Complete_Can-US_Afghanistan_WEB.pdf) (2.84 MB). This book “attempts to analyse ways in which Canada and the United States can most effectively partner with Afghanistan to build a stable, prosperous and democratic nation” (p. 1). It looks at work with the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development (MRRD), the National Solidarity Programme (NSP), Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs), etc.



Shahrani, M. Nazif. “Afghanistan’s Alternatives for Peace, Governance and Development: Transforming Subjects to Citizens & Rulers to Civil Servants.” Waterloo, Ontario, Canada: The Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), August 2009. 17 p. (The Afghanistan papers / no. 2). <http://www.cigionline.org/sites/default/files/Afghanistan%20Paper%202.pdf> (660 KB). “The policies of the United States and its international partners in Afghanistan during the past eight years have proven wrong-headed and ineffective in delivering the promised peace, stability and democratic governance. This paper critically examines the underlying assumptions behind these failing policies and explores alternative approaches to rescue Afghanistan’s war-to-peace transition. Faulty assumptions on the part of key US government advisors, decision makers and many of their Afghan and Pakistani clients have contributed to the resurgence of the Taliban and a crisis of trust for the

## Economy

Parker, Philip M. *The 2009 Afghanistan Economic and Product Market Databook*. San Diego: Icon Group, 2009. 597 p. ISBN 0546448399. The utility of this material for Afghanistan seems somewhat questionable: citing figures for projected markets in Afghanistan for “Treats for dogs” (p. 479), “Yoga mats” (p. 510), “Ostrich meat” (p. 344) or indeed “Pork pies” (p. 372) may raise a few eyebrows.



Karzai government and the internationally supported state-building process.” (Abstract).

*Three Years Later: a Socio-political Assessment of Uruzgan Province from 2006 to 2009*. Kabul: TLO [The Liaison Office], September 18, 2009. 43 p. [http://www.nrc.nl/multimedia/archive/00250/TLO\\_Uruzgan\\_Assessm\\_250835a.pdf](http://www.nrc.nl/multimedia/archive/00250/TLO_Uruzgan_Assessm_250835a.pdf) (PDF 4 MB). “Using an assessment of Uruzgan Province conducted by The Liaison Office at the beginning of the Dutch civil-military mission to Uruzgan as a baseline, this assessment evaluates the impact that the Dutch comprehensive “3-D” approach (development, diplomacy/government, defence/security) has had on the Province over the past three years” (p. 2).



## Elections 2009

“Afghanistan: Elections and the Crisis of Governance.” Kabul/Brussels [Belgium]: International Crisis Group, 2009. 19 p. <http://www.crisisgroup.org/home/getfile.cfm?id=4181&tid=6397&l=1> (PDF 685 KB). “President Hamid Karzai’s re-election on 2 November 2009, following widespread fraud in the 20 August presidential and provincial polls, has delivered a critical blow to his government’s legitimacy. The deeply flawed polls have eroded public confidence in the electoral process and in the international community’s commitment to the country’s nascent democratic institutions. Concentration of power in

the executive to the exclusion of the legislature and judiciary has also resulted in a fundamental breakdown in governance while strengthening the hand of the insurgency. To restore stability, vigorous constitutional reform under the aegis of a loya jirga must be undertaken; an impartial commission of inquiry into the flawed elections should be formed; the UN Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) should be restructured to restore credibility; and prompt steps must be taken to strengthen institutions.” (p.1).

Bijlert, Martine van. “How to Win an Afghan Election: Perceptions and Practices.” [Kabul?]: Afghanistan Analysts Network, August 2009. 30 p. <http://aan-afghanistan.com/uploads/2009%20AAN-MvB%20Afghan%20Election.pdf> (408 KB). “Analysts following the Afghan elections have been largely engaged in speculations over who will win and what the most likely scenarios are in terms of turnout, voting patterns and the potential for violence. Less attention has been paid to the dynamics surrounding the actual political contest and their implications for Afghanistan’s future political process. Afghans on the other hand view the upcoming elections with a mix of indifference and anticipation. There is a widespread conviction that the elections will be ‘fixed’ by a combination of international interference, deals between political leaders and fraud. Such perceptions are not necessarily incorrect and they are definitely not irrelevant. If left unaddressed they will further erode public confidence, leading to greater disengagement and possible violent disaffection (although not necessarily in the context of the elections). In order to strengthen the process of democratisation in Afghanistan it is essential to understand what the political dynamics are and how they are perceived by Afghans. This paper seeks to contribute to that understanding.” (Executive summary).

Felbab-Brown, Vanda. “The 2009 Afghanistan Elections and the Future of Governance.” [Washington, D.C.: Brookings] August 13, 2009. 5 p. [http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/0813\\_afghanistan\\_elections\\_felbabbrown.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/0813_afghanistan_elections_felbabbrown.aspx) (HTML files 468 KB). An evaluation of the state of governance in Afghanistan and an attempt to predict the consequences of the 20 August 2009 election. The “juxtaposition of unofficial

### *Election results*

The official website for election results is that of the Independent Election Commission (IEC): <http://www.iec.org.af/>. However, if problems are encountered with accessing the site, an alternative is provided by the National Democratic Institute (NDI) with a useful map interface: <http://afghanistanelectiondata.org/data>.

power and frequently corrupt and ineffective national and local government lies at the heart of governance problems in Afghanistan.” (p. 4).

“Joint Monitoring of Political Rights: Presidential and Provincial Council Elections / AIHRC-UNAMA.” [Kabul]: United Nations Assistance Mission to Afghanistan (UNAMA), 2009. 3 v. First report 25 April-12 June 2009 (13 p.)—Second report (iii, 20 p.)—Third report 1 August-21 October 2009 (i, 21 p.), <http://www.aihrc.org.af/english> (PDFs 816 KB). Official evaluations and statements about the joint monitoring of the political process of the August elections.

Matthews, Robert. “Afghan Elections 2009: Milestone for Progress or Mirror of Malaise.” Oslo: Norwegian Peacebuilding Centre, September 2009. 3 p. [http://www.peacebuilding.no/eng/content/download/33374/136763/version/5/file/Noref\\_articl\\_AfghMattSept09.pdf](http://www.peacebuilding.no/eng/content/download/33374/136763/version/5/file/Noref_articl_AfghMattSept09.pdf) (274 KB). “A series of factors indicate that the August 20 Afghan elections might better have been postponed. The egregious flaws in the electoral process could aggravate the political situation and dash whatever hope there was for stabilizing the society and improving the lives of the people. It may mark the point of no return for recuperating the tarnished credibility of the central government. For many Afghans the election will end up displaying democracy as a sham and reducing the people’s trust in the Western-backed political process even more. The election indeed highlighted that Afghan misgovernment is still the Taliban’s most devoted ally and effective recruitment tool.”

“A Question of Legitimacy: Afghans’ Perceptions about Legitimacy in the Current Karzai Government: a Survey.” Kabul: Afghanistan Rights Monitor (ARM), November 2009. [3] p. [http://arm.org.af/index.php?page=en\\_Legitimacy](http://arm.org.af/index.php?page=en_Legitimacy) (PDF 336 KB). The results of a rapid survey to gauge perceptions about democracy and legitimacy of the new Karzai government: three questions were asked of 500 people (male and female) in all 34 provinces.

## Health

“Rapid Assessment of Male Vulnerabilities to HIV and Sexual Exploitation in Afghanistan: Final Report.” Kabul: Naz Foundation International, 30 March 2009. 92 p. [http://www.nfi.net/downloads/knowledge\\_centre/NFI%20publications/Reports/2009-Final%20Afghan%20MSM%20report.pdf](http://www.nfi.net/downloads/knowledge_centre/NFI%20publications/Reports/2009-Final%20Afghan%20MSM%20report.pdf) (1.49 MB). Between October and November 2008, a small rapid assessment of male adolescent sexual exploitation and abuse, along with HIV risk and vulnerability among males, was conducted in Kabul, Kandahar and Mazar-i Sharif. Around 120 interviews were conducted and combined with a desk review of information and workshop reports.

## History

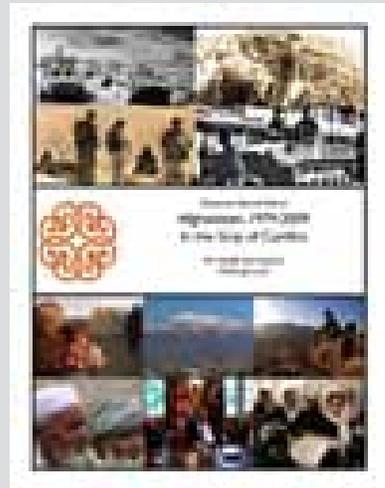
Block, Jeremy S. *Embracing the Occupiers: Conversations with the Future Leaders of Afghanistan and Iraq*. Westport, Conn.: Praeger Security International, 2009. x, 196 p. ISBN 9780313365348 (alk. paper) | 0313365342. “This is a book to examine how Fulbright scholars from Iraq and Afghanistan—individuals almost certain to be movers and shakers in their own countries—view the US interventions in their countries, the war on terror, the status of Islam, and other pressing issues of our day.” (Backcover).

Christia, Fontini. “The Closest of Enemies: Alliance Formation in the Afghan and Bosnian Civil Wars.” May 2008. xiv, 324 leaves Thesis (Ph. D., Committee on Higher Degrees in Public Policy), Harvard University, 2008. “Some of the most brutal and long-lasting civil wars of our times—Afghanistan, Bosnia, the DR Congo, and Lebanon among others—are associated with the rapid formation and disintegration of alliances among warring groups as well as with fragmentation within them. The resulting multiplicity of actors has paralyzed outsiders, who have often been unable to even follow the unraveling of the conflict’s trajectory. This dissertation attempts to enhance our understanding of civil war processes through a closer look at alliance formation. The analysis relies on primary data collected over eighteen months of fieldwork including 120 interviews conducted in the respective local languages—in Afghanistan with leading experts, warlords, and mujahedin and in Bosnia with wartime politicians, generals, and convicted war criminals. It also draws on wartime declarations; ceasefire agreements; fatwas; memoirs; and the local and international press. In an effort to capture the changes in power and territorial control over the war years and their resultant effect on alliance formation, this work uses Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to geo-reference and digitize prewar Yugoslav municipal maps for Bosnia, and Soviet declassified maps on the district level for Afghanistan.” (Abstract).

Feifer, Gregory. *The Great Gamble: the Soviet War in Afghanistan*. New York: Harper, c2009. 326 p. ISBN 9780061143182. The Soviet war in Afghanistan was a grueling debacle that has striking lessons for the 21st century. Parallels between the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the U.S. invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq are impossible to ignore. The Soviet Union sent some of its most elite troops to unfamiliar lands to fight a vaguely defined enemy, which eventually defeated their superior numbers with unconventional tactics. Although the Soviet leadership initially saw the invasion as a victory, many Russian soldiers came to view the war as a demoralizing and devastating defeat, the consequences of which had a substantial

***Afghanistan 1979-2009: in the Grip of Conflict.*** Washington, D.C.: The Middle East Institute, 2009. 352 p. <http://www.mei.edu/Portals/0/Publications/Afghan%201979-2009.pdf> (15 MB).

Contents: I. Nation and State: Identities Past and Present—Rethinking Afghanistan, by Paul Fitzgerald and Elizabeth Gould—Post-Buffer Afghanistan: A Nation-State Here to Stay, by Whitney Azoy—Forgotten Futures: History, Memoir, Afghanistan, by Shafiq Shamel—The Intellectual Impact of Colonialism and the Urgency of Decolonizing Knowledge of Afghanistan, by Shah Mahmoud Hanifi—Causes and Consequences of the Destabilization of Afghanistan, by M. Jamil Hanifi—The Death of the Buddhas of Bamiyan, by Pierre Centlivres—What Wrong after Bonn, by Francesc Vendrell—Afghanistan’s “Treaty Bands,” by Bruce G. Richardson—The Invention of the Afghan Nationalities, 1980-2004, by Pierre Centlivres and Micheline Centlivres-Demont—Respecting Afghanistan’s Sovereignty, by Assem Akram—Charting a Course for a Better Future: Responding to the Crimes of the Past, by Niamatullah Ibrahim—Impunity and Instability: An Unbroken Cycle, by Abdul Jalil Benish.



II. Security: The Interplay of Domestic and External Forces—How the Guests Became an Enemy: Afghan Attitudes towards Westerners Since 2001, by Kate Clark—Post-Soviet Pakistani Interference in Afghanistan: How and Why, by Najib Lafraie—Repeating History: Parallels between Mujahidin Tactics and Afghanistan’s Current Insurgency, by Shahmahmood Miakhel—Via Afghanistan: Regional Influences, by G. Rauf Roashan—Mullah Omar Wants You! Taliban Mobilization Strategies or Motivations for Joining the Insurgency, by Ghulamreza Fazlinaiem and Nick Miszak—Intimidating, Assassinating, and Leading: Two Early Mujahidin Commanders Reflect on Building Resistance Fronts, by Michael Semple—Land Grab in Sherpur: Monuments to Powerlessness, Impunity, and Inaction, by Joanna Nathan—Liberating Afghanistan, by Robert D. Crews—Ending the 30-Year War in Afghanistan, by Nake M. Kamrany—The Army in Afghanistan, from Abdur Rahman to Karzai, by Mark Sedra—Crisis in South Asia, by Robert L. Canfield—Replacing the Strategy of War through Peace, by Aziz Hakimi.

III. Politics: At the Center and on the Periphery—Perspectives on Democracy and Democratization in Afghanistan, by Anna Larson—Political Leadership in Post-Taliban Afghanistan: The Critical Factor, by Saghar Chopan and Malaiz Daud—Afghanistan’s Democrats: From Underground to Marginalization, by Thomas Ruttig—Political Legitimacy in Afghanistan, by Thomas Barfield—Afghanistan’s Second Presidential Vote: How to Respond to a Flawed Election, by Martine van Bijlert—The International Community and Afghan Elections: Helping or Hobbling Democratic Development? by Nipa Banerjee—An Island of Stability in Southern Afghanistan, by Casey Johnson—The Peripheralization of the Center: “Warlordism” in Afghanistan, by Conrad Schetter and Rainer Glassner—Legitimacy or Credibility? The Case of the Afghan State, by Shakti Sinha—Electing to Fight in Afghanistan, by Astri Suhrke.

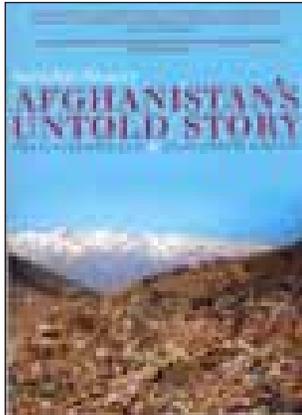
IV. Economy and Development: Challenges and Prescriptions—Understanding Informal Institutions in Afghanistan, by Paula Kantor—Afghanistan’s Opium Poppy Economy, by Adam Pain—A Strategic Dispersion: The Remittance System of Afghan Refugees and Migrants, by Alessandro Monsutti—From Sustainable Jobs to Sustainable Peace and Prosperity, by Taymor Kamrany—Losing Hearts and Minds in Afghanistan, by Andrew Wilder—Rebuilding Afghanistan: Practical Measures for Improving the Economy, by F. Faruq Achikzad.

V. Society: Perceptions and Potential—Who Guards the Guardians? The Protection of Civilians in Afghanistan, by Susanne Schmeidl—Afghanistan’s Children: The Tragic Victims of 30 Years of War, by M. Siddieq Noorzoy—How Hearts and Minds Were Lost in Afghanistan? A Personal Experience Working with the International Military, by Zabih Farhad—Local Perceptions of Rural Development Programs, by Katja Mielke—Social Change in Eastern Nuristan, by Richard F. Strand—Women’s Agency in Afghanistan: From Survivors to Agents of Change, by Palwasha Hassan—Hamida’s Story: Female Agents of Change, by Orzala Ashraf Nemat—Women’s Prospects in Afghanistan: Oppression or Opportunity? by Carol Riphensburg—The Oppressed Women of Afghanistan: Fact, Fiction, or Distortion, by Tonita Murray—Manly Honor and the Gendered Male in Afghanistan, by Sippi Azarbaijani-Moghaddam—The Emerging Afghan Media: Beyond the Stereotyping of Women? by Wazhma Frogh—Education beyond the School Room, by Nancy Hatch Dupree—Civil Society and Community Mobilization in Afghanistan, by Wazirgul Anis.

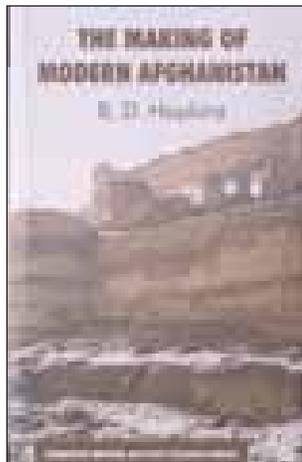
Maps—Statistics—Selected Bibliography and Resources (p. 242-351).

impact on the Soviet Union and its collapse. US National Public Radio Moscow correspondent Gregory Feifer examines the conflict from the perspective of the soldiers on the ground. His extensive research includes eye-opening interviews with participants from both sides of the conflict, vividly depicting the invasion of a volatile country that no power has ever successfully conquered.

Fitzgerald, Paul. *Invisible History: Afghanistan's Untold story* / by Paul Fitzgerald and Elizabeth Gould. San Francisco: City Lights Books, c2009. x, 389 p. ISBN 9780872864948 (pbk.). This account by two experienced journalists with a long interest in Afghanistan offers a survey of Afghan history and a critical evaluation of US involvement in the past decades. Noam Chomsky's comment about the book is that it "is a critically important contribution to our understanding of some of the most dramatic and significant developments of current history."



Hopkins, B. D., 1978-. *The Making of Modern Afghanistan*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, c2008. xix, 258 p. ISBN 9780230554214. This book examines the evolution of the modern Afghan state in the shadow of Britain's imperial presence in South Asia during the first half of the nineteenth century. It challenges the assumptions that the Afghans were little more than pawns in a larger Anglo-Russian imperial rivalry. Instead, it argues that the way the East India Company related to the Afghan kingdom defined both, and explains many of the unresolved issues central to the region today.



"Tora Bora Revisited: How we Failed to get Bin Laden and Why it Matters today: a Report to Members of the Committee on Foreign Relations, United States Senate." Washington, D.C.: US Government Printing Office, 30 November 2009. 43 p. [http://foreign.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Tora\\_Bora\\_Report.pdf](http://foreign.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Tora_Bora_Report.pdf) (3.09 MB). "The reasons behind the failure to capture or kill Osama bin Laden and its lasting consequences are examined over three sections in this report. The first section traces bin Laden's path from southern

Afghanistan to the mountains of Tora Bora and lays out new and previous evidence that he was there. The second explores new information behind the decision not to launch an assault. The final section examines the military options that might have led to his capture or death at Tora Bora and the ongoing impact of the failure to bring him back 'dead or alive.'" (p. 3).

## Labour Market

Hozyainova, Anastasiya and Saeed Parto. "A Pilot Study of the Casual Labor [Market] in Kabul." Kabul, Afghanistan: Afghanistan Public Policy Research, [2008?]. 5 p. [http://appro.org.af/downloads/Casual\\_Labor\\_Kabul.pdf](http://appro.org.af/downloads/Casual_Labor_Kabul.pdf) (111 KB). Currently, there are no systems in place to recognize and protect the civil rights and welfare of informal workers in Afghanistan. The primary focus of this paper is the plight of casual labourers who congregate around various informal casual labour pick-up points in Kabul to work for daily wages.

## Law, Laws and Justice



*Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) Annual Report 2008*. Kabul: AIHRC, 2009. 70 p. [http://www.aihrc.org.af/English/eng\\_pages/reports\\_eng/Annual\\_Report/annual\\_reports.html](http://www.aihrc.org.af/English/eng_pages/reports_eng/Annual_Report/annual_reports.html). This and all earlier annual reports are available for download.

"Fixing Bagram: Strengthening Detention Reforms to Align with US Strategic Priorities." Sahr Muhammed Ally. New York: Human Rights First, November 2009. 17 p. <http://www.humanrightsfirst.info/pdf/Fixing-Bagram-110409.pdf> (140 KB). Human Rights First has found that individuals transferred from US to Afghan custody for prosecution in the Afghan National Defense Facility are tried in proceedings that fail to meet Afghan and international fair trial standards. Prosecutions were based on allegations and evidence provided by the United States, supplemented by investigations many years after initial capture. Recommendations are made to reduce the risk of arbitrary detention, improve transparency of US detention operators, increase the capacity of Afghan authorities to handle detentions on their own and strengthen the fairness of Afghan criminal prosecutions.

*The Law on Copyright: the Law to Support the Rights of Author, Composer, Artist and Researcher*. [2008]. 20 p. PDF (120 KB). This is an unofficial translation of the new Afghan copyright and intellectual property

law published in the *Official Gazette* no. 956 (1387 Asad 5 = 2008 July 26).

"*An Introduction to the Law of Afghanistan.*" 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Stanford, Ca.: Stanford Law School, 2009. vii, 162 p. <http://www.afghanistanlegaleducation.com/publications.php> (2.6 and 1.4 MB). The Afghanistan Legal Education Project (ALEP) started in late 2007 to improve legal education in Afghanistan. The first edition of this law textbook was used in courses held in 2008-2009 in Kabul (at the American University of Afghanistan). The revised second edition of the textbook and the statutory supplement are now available for download. In addition textbooks on Commercial Law and Criminal Law will become available at the same URL (p362.23209581/A443/2009 + PDF [140 KB]).

Moen, Husain and Ahmad Zia Mohammadi. "International Criminal Court (ICC) in Afghanistan: a Report on the Consultative Meeting on Obligations of Afghanistan under ICC, October 24, 2009." Kabul: Afghanistan Watch, 2009. 23 p. + 1 DVD (3.8 GB). [http://www.watchafghanistan.org/files/Report\\_English.pdf](http://www.watchafghanistan.org/files/Report_English.pdf) PDF (884 KB). Also available in Dari: *محکمه جزایی بین المللی در افغانستان*, [http://www.watchafghanistan.org/files/Report\\_Dari.pdf](http://www.watchafghanistan.org/files/Report_Dari.pdf). A summary of the first consultative meeting held in Kabul about Afghanistan's obligations under the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court (ratified by Afghanistan in 2003). The DVD supplied with the report presents filmed coverage of the meeting.

"Undue Process: an Examination of Detention and Trials of Bagram Detainees in April 2009." New York: Human Rights First, November 2009. 44 p. <http://www.humanrightsfirst.info/pdf/HRF-Undue-Process-Afghanistan-web.pdf> (1.57 MB). As of September 2009, around 600 individuals are being held at Bagram Air Base in Parwan province, Afghanistan. Most are Afghans, but the number of non-Afghans is not known, the names of detainees are not known publicly, and some individuals have been captured outside Afghanistan and brought to Bagram for long-term detention. Human Rights First has interviewed former prisoners held by the US in Afghanistan; they describe how they were captured, whether they were able to challenge their detention, etc.



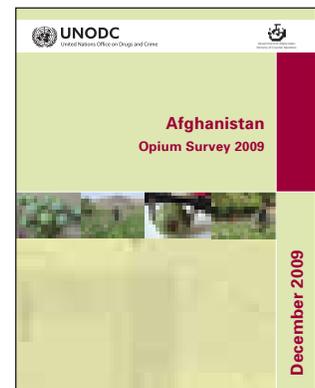
## Migration

Tamang, Ritendra. "Afghan Forced Migration: Reaffirmation, Redefinition, and the Politics of Aid." *Asian Social Science* v. 5:1 (January 2009) p. 3-12. <http://www.ccsenet.org/journal/index.php/ass/article/view/496/449> (PDF (240 KB)). "This paper examines important issues concerning forced migration of Afghan refugees and how these issues are related to the politics of aid, gender, place, identity, power and inequality." (Abstract).

## Opium

"Addiction, Crime and Insurgency: the Transnational Threat of Afghan Opium." Vienna [Austria]: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), 2009. 142 p. [http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/Afghanistan/Afghan\\_Opium\\_Trade\\_2009\\_web.pdf](http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/Afghanistan/Afghan_Opium_Trade_2009_web.pdf) (7.84 MB). A report to supplement the "Afghan Opium Survey 2009," it looks at the multiple consequences of Afghan drugs as they move through neighbouring states, along the Balkan and Eurasian routes ending up in Europe, the Russian Federation, China and India.

*Afghanistan Opium Survey 2009.* Vienna: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2009. 145 p. <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crop-monitoring/index.html> (PDF 18.0 MB). The latest regular survey shows Afghanistan's percentage of world opium production dropping from 84% to 79%.



Aikins, Matthieu. "The Master of Spin Boldak: Undercover with Afghanistan's Drug-trafficking Border Police." *Harpers*, December 2009 (p. 52-62). Personal account of the activities of drug smugglers working out of Quetta, Pakistan.

Blanchard, Christopher M. *Afghanistan: Narcotics and US Policy.* New York: Nova Science Publishers, 2009. viii, 66 p. "In addition to describing the structure and development of the Afghan narcotics trade, this report provides current statistical information, profiles the trade's various participants, explores alleged narco-terrorist linkages, and reviews US and international policy responses since late 2001. The report also considers current policy debates regarding the role of the US military in counternarcotics operations, opium poppy eradication, alternative livelihood development, and funding issues for the US Congress." (Preface).

Peters, Gretchen. *Seeds of Terror: how Heroin is Bankrolling the Taliban and al Qaeda.* St. Martin's

Press: Thomas Dunne Books, 2009. xvii, 300 p. ISBN 9780312379278 (alk. paper), 0312379277 (alk. paper). Based on hundreds of interviews with Taliban fighters, smugglers and law enforcement and intelligence agents, the author traces the success of the illegal heroin trade in the region. Afghanistan can grow poppies and has done so for centuries. Setting up a western-supported government in Kabul and a fledgling anti-narcotics policy without taking into account the traditional cash-crop of hundreds of tribal chieftains has fed into the current complex conflicts occurring in Afghanistan.

## Police

Chilton, Scott, Eckart Schiwiek, and Tim Bremmers. "Evaluation of the Appropriate Size of the Afghan National Police Force Manning List (Tashkil): Final Report." Kabul: IBF International Consulting in cooperation with Agmin Italy Sri, 2009. 146 p. (PDF 4MB). "This report provides an objective rationale for further discussions and decisions on the strength and [structure] of the Afghan National Police (ANP)." "This study was realized independently by two senior police experts and one senior political and security analysis expert with 12 years in-country experience." Afghanistan has never known a real civilian police service, subordinate to an authorized democratically elected power, nor does it have this now. (Executive summary, p. 8)

Legon, Andrew. "Ineffective, Unprofessional, and Corrupt: the Afghan National Police Challenge." Philadelphia, Pa. [United States]: Foreign Policy Research Institute (FPRI), 2009. 7 p. <http://www.fpri.org/enotes/200906.legon.afghannationalpolice.html> (108 KB). This paper surveys moves to improve the Afghan National Police and identifies some successes but also highlights continuing problems, including the larger problems with establishing institutions for the rule of law in Afghanistan.

Murray, Tonita. "The Darkest Hour before the Dawn?: a Case Study of the Status of Women in the Afghanistan National Police 2009." Kabul : Ministry of Interior, 2009. 29, 2, 5 p. (Also available in Dari: بعد از هرتاریکی یک روشنی است؟ مطالعه وضعیت زنان در پولیس ملی افغانستان ۲۰۰۹ and Pashtu: له سباوون څخه: مخکې تر ټولو تیاره ساعت؟ د افغانستان ملي پولیسو کې ښځو وضعیت مطالعه ۲۰۰۹)

In 2005 there were 160-180 policewomen in the Afghanistan national police; most worked in Kabul and



there was only a scant female police presence in 11 of the 34 provinces. There are currently 550 female police in 23 provinces. Most have undergone some extra training and development. This report highlights serious issues remaining despite this progress: political will, commitment and adequate funding, recruitment, systemic biases, positive discrimination, lack of literacy, etc.

"Police Perception Survey 2009: the Afghan Perspective." Kabul: UNDP, 2009. 67 p. [http://www.undp.org.af/News/2009/081209\\_PR\\_PolicePerceptionSurvey.pdf](http://www.undp.org.af/News/2009/081209_PR_PolicePerceptionSurvey.pdf) (1.0 MB). The main purpose of this study was to provide insight into the opinions of the people of Afghanistan with regard to various policing issues. ACSOR interviewed 5,156 Afghan respondents (2,827 males and 2,329 females), aged 18 and older, across all 34 provinces of the country. "This was against the backdrop of the deepened police reform and development agenda of the Ministry of Interior, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, over the last twelve months. The objective was to gather first-hand information of a large sample of the Afghan people, representative of all the regions, on a variety of police related issues so that the survey results can serve as a useful resource base for policy makers, opinion shapers within and outside the government, as well as the broader Afghan public." (p. 1).

"Reforming the Afghan National Police." Philadelphia, Pa.: Foreign Policy Research Institute (FPRI) and Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), [2009]. iv, 182 p. <http://www.fpri.org/research/nationalsecurity/afghanpolice/ReformingAfghanNationalPolice.pdf> (159 KB). This (undated) report takes stock of the current situation, identifies areas of police reform where further progress is required, and suggests recommendations which can further speed the reform effort. Recommendations include 1) reforming the international effort to include a ten- to fifteen-year police-focused memorandum to reconfigure over-optimistic programme timetables, 2) re-laying the foundations of policing, 3) reforming institutional architecture, and 4) comprehensive reform of the criminal justice sector.

## Politics and Government

"Afghanistan's High Office of Oversight Needs Significantly Strengthened Authority, Independence, and Donor Support to become an Effective Anti-corruption Institution." Arlington, Va. [United States]: SIGAR, 2009. iii, 20 p. (PDF 1.77 MB). "The strengthening of institutions that implement anti-corruption measures in Afghanistan is a key operational principle of the U.S. Government's draft Anti-Corruption Strategy. Afghanistan's High Office of Oversight (HOO) was established by President Karzai in July 2008 to oversee and coordinate national efforts

to combat corruption in accordance with Afghanistan's own anti-corruption strategy under its Afghanistan National Development Strategy. During this audit, SIGAR (1) reviewed the assistance provided by the United States and other donors to strengthen the institutional development of the HOO, (2) assessed the capabilities and performance of the HOO in fulfilling its mandate, and (3) assessed U.S. assistance to the HOO. This report is part of a series of audits addressing U.S. efforts to combat corruption and strengthen the rule of law in Afghanistan. SIGAR conducted this performance audit in Kabul, Afghanistan and Washington, D.C. from September to November 2009 in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards." (p. 1).

Barbi, Barbara. *"Innovazione e tradizione nel regime dei Talebani."* 434 p. (Unpublished thesis from the Università di Bologna, 2001/2002). An account of the Taliban (origins, "new-Islam," political organization, relationship with civil society). Two appendices outline key figures and political parties in this period of Afghanistan's history.

Dorronsoro, Gilles. "Fixing a Failed Strategy in Afghanistan." Washington, D.C.: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2009. 41 p. [http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/fixing\\_failed\\_strategy.pdf](http://www.carnegieendowment.org/files/fixing_failed_strategy.pdf) (PDF 3.55 MB). "The failure of the U.S. and British strategy as demonstrated by the summer 2009 offensive in Helmand Province is accelerating the development of two potentially disastrous scenarios in Afghanistan. First, the war is spreading to the North, which had been relatively quiet beforehand. Second, the Afghan government continues to lose legitimacy in the eyes of the population, especially among Pashtuns. As a result, even if the right number of Afghan forces existed, a quick 'Afghanization' of the war is not a realistic goal. Given that the Taliban are woven into the fabric of the Pashtun countryside in the South and East and therefore cannot be removed, the current U.S. strategy inevitably involves high casualties for few results. Instead, the International Coalition, with its limited resources and diminishing popular support, should focus on its core interests: preventing the Taliban from retaking Afghan cities, avoiding the risk that al-Qaeda would try to reestablish sanctuaries there, pursue a more aggressive counterinsurgency strategy in the North, and reallocate its civilian aid resources to places where the insurgency is still weak. That way, they can make a difference."

Fleschenberg, Andrea. *Afghanistan's Parliament in the Making: Gendered Understandings and Practices of Politics in a Transitional Country.* Berlin: Heinrich Boll Stiftung, 2009. 192 p. ; 21 cm. ISBN 9783869280066. [http://www.boell.de/audio/publications/Afghanistan\\_s\\_Parliament\\_in\\_the\\_Making-Endf.pdf](http://www.boell.de/audio/publications/Afghanistan_s_Parliament_in_the_Making-Endf.pdf) (2.42 MB). This book, based



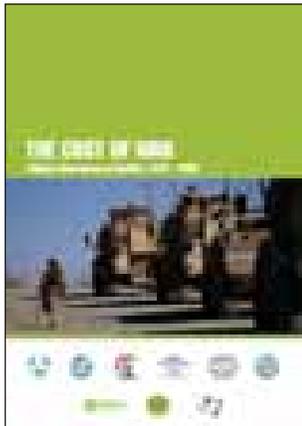
on interviews of male and female members of parliament in 2007 and 2008, examines the realities of parliamentary work in Afghanistan. It shows how varied and coercive the patterns of identification prevalent in Afghanistan can be, and it provides insights into the self-images and roles of women in Parliament.

Guistozi, Antonio. "The Eye of the Storm: Cities in the Vortex of Afghanistan's Civil Wars." London: Crisis States Programme, Crisis States Research Centre, 2009. 25 p. <http://www.crisisstates.com/download/wp/wpSeries2/WP62.2.pdf> (665 KB). "The relationship between the urban and rural world is examined here from the standpoint of the role of local leaders and their retinues of armed men, their impact on the cities and the impact of the cities on them. In periods of state weakness or disintegration, Afghan cities were unable to resist the 'solidarity groups' which had coagulated in the countryside under the pressure of constant conflict. The domination of the cities over the countryside, therefore, was reversed and the cities were conquered. However, the relationship was not just one way. The cities were necessary to the 'warlords' who had emerged in the countryside to run the polities that they tried to establish and had some influence in shaping them. However, after 2001 the developing relationship between cities and 'warlords' was cut short by foreign intervention, which re-empowered the cities and encouraged urban strata to distance themselves from the power groups which came from the villages." (Abstract).

"Independent Directorate of Local Governance (IDLG) Annual Report 2008-2009." Kabul: IDLG, 2009. 42 p. This second annual report from the IDLG is dated August 2009. As well as an outline of IDLG's mission it presents progress and achievements in local governance during the past year, programme development within IDLG (Performance-based Governors' Fund, Municipal Governance Support Programme, Municipal Roads Programme, Governor-led Reconciliation Programme) and the financial report for the 1387 financial year.

Jackson, Ashley. "The Cost of War: Afghan Experiences of Conflict, 1978-2009." [Kabul?]: [Oxfam], November 2009. 52 p. <http://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/afghanistan-the-cost-of-war.pdf> (832 KB). "To better understand how Afghans have experienced and understand the devastating conflict of the last thirty years, eight nongovernmental organizations operating in Afghanistan conducted research in 14 provinces across the country.

This research focused on individual experiences of the past thirty years of conflict, perceptions of the current conflict and recommendations for alleviating the violence and addressing its root causes. [The] research does not aim to provide a full accounting of the fighting or to represent the views and experiences of all Afghans. Rather, it seeks to more fully articulate Afghan experiences of the conflict and its recommendations seek to convey the aspirations that Afghans have for peace and the future of their country.” (Website).



Karthikeya, Raja. “*The Danger to Afghan Democracy.*” 8 September 2009. 3 p. Published in ‘Open Democracy News Analysis,’ www.opendeomcracy.net/article/email/the-dangers-to-afghan-democracy (PDF 84 KB). Comments from an election observer of the recent elections.

“Local governance: IDLG newsletter.” Kabul: Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Independent Directorate of Local Governance. Also published in Dari: **حکومنداری محلی**. A four page newsletter about local government in Afghanistan, one copy providing background on a provincial governor. AREU holds v. 1 no. 2 (May 2009) to v. 1 no. 7 (November 2009) only.

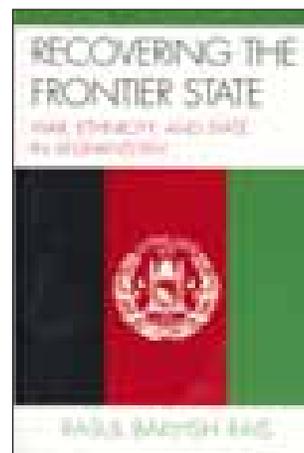
Majeed, Sana. “Pakistani Interests vis-à-vis the AfPak Strategy and Broader Implications for a Regional Solution.” Oslo [Norway]: Norwegian Peacebuilding Centre, August 2009. 9 p. [http://www.peacebuilding.no/eng/content/download/21211/87680/version/4/file/Noref\\_Report\\_Pakistani\\_Interests\\_Aug09.pdf](http://www.peacebuilding.no/eng/content/download/21211/87680/version/4/file/Noref_Report_Pakistani_Interests_Aug09.pdf) (324 KB). “Since the unveiling of the new AfPak strategy by the Obama administration, the international media has focused on Pakistan; its viability as a nation-state, the safety of its nuclear weapons and its role for peacemaking in the region. US proposals for Pakistan’s engagement in the region require a number of commitments from Pakistan. However, tensions between the US and Pakistani establishments have apparently grown over issues such as the Pakistan government’s negotiations with Pakistani militants, US drone attacks inside Pakistani territory and a failure to recognize Pakistan’s reservations towards what it sees as India’s increasingly dominant role in the region. If Pakistan is to have a meaningful role in the proposed regional solution for Afghanistan, it is imperative to understand Pakistan’s concerns and reservations.” (Abstract).

“Profiles of Afghan Power Brokers.” [Washington, D.C.?]: Center for American Progress, October

2009. 7 p. [http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/10/afghan\\_power\\_brokers.html](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/10/afghan_power_brokers.html). One paragraph summaries with photographs about: Qasim Mohammed Fahim, Gul Agha Sherzai, Ahmad Wali Karzai and Mahmoud Karzai, Abdul Rashid Dostum, Ismail Khan, Karim Khalili, Atta Mohammad Noor, Abdul Rasul Sayyaf, Sher Mohammad Akhundzada, Hazrat Ali. “[These] profiles represent a partial list of some of the major players in Afghan political society. U.S. attitudes toward these power brokers and ex-warlords have been ambivalent at best, and some actors have been alternatively embraced and pushed aside. The Obama administration will have to contend with Afghanistan’s entrenched power brokers and former warlords regardless of which strategy it pursues for the country. However, any strategy must recognize how counterterrorism cooperation with these figures works at cross purposes to the simultaneous efforts to build a state capable of resisting the Taliban insurgency.” (Website)

Qassem, Shayeq. “Afghanistan: Imperatives of Stability Misperceived.” *Iranian Studies* v. 42:2 (April 2009) p. [247]-274. “More than seven years have passed since the intervention of the international community in Afghanistan, yet the country has not only failed to achieve stability, it has actually experienced a downward trend on that account. The worsening situation in Afghanistan has occurred despite the fact that the Afghan government and its international partners have allocated unprecedented amounts of resources, increased their security forces and implemented socio-political and economic programs that they deemed were conducive to stability. Why and how this failure did come about? This article challenges some of the underlying assumptions for stability and the notion of political reconstruction that the international community and the Afghan government have implemented so far as being largely responsible for the gloomy state of affairs in that country.” (Abstract).

Rais, Rasul Bux. *Recovering the Frontier State: War, Ethnicity, and State in Afghanistan.* Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, c2008.xi, 237 p. ISBN 9780739109564. This study endeavours to make a contribution to the global policy debate and academic discourse on what went wrong in Afghanistan and on how it can be reconstructed in the interests of its people,



regional states, and the world community at large. It raises questions about how the war has affected the ethnic balance among various contending social groups and their capacity to recover their social energies and so build a new Afghanistan (Preface, p. x).

Simon, Steven, and Jonathan Stevenson. "Afghanistan: how much is Enough?" *Survival* (v. 51:5 (Oct-Nov. 2009), p. 47-67. <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/ftinterface~content=a915362559~fulltext=713240930> (PDF 124 KB). "US President Barack Obama's current policy, in line with the prevailing Washington consensus, favours escalation in Afghanistan. The idea is that as the United States' military presence in Iraq is drawn down, the use of force can be refocused on Afghanistan to forge a more viable state. The principal instruments of this policy are more American troops with better force protection (a customised version of the counter-insurgency 'surge' employed with ostensible success in Iraq) and firmer bilateral diplomacy with Pakistan. The administration's policy appears to be overdetermined. The premise of the policy is that the United States must 'own' Afghanistan in order to defend its strategic interests. But that premise begs the question of whether US strategic interests actually require the United States to assume the grand and onerous responsibility of rebuilding the Afghan state. They do not." (p. 47)

Warnock, John W. *Creating a Failed State: the US and Canada in Afghanistan*. Halifax, N.S.: Fernwood Pub. Co., c2008. 209 p. ISBN 9781552662624. "Under the guise of intending to capture Osama bin Laden and the al-Qaeda perpetrators of 9/11 attacks, Afghanistan became a target for US imperialism and its desire to dominate the world and its oil and gas resources ... not surprisingly, successive Canadian governments have participated in this imperialist adventure in Central Asia."—back cover.

Wilde, Andreas. "Continuity and Hiatus: Structural Patterns of Iran's Policy in Afghanistan." 2009. Published in *Internationales Asienforum* v. 30 (2009): 1-2, p. 11-38. <http://www.arnold-bergstraesser.de/cms2/images/stories/Downloads/Wilde.pdf> (304 KB). "This essay aims at analyzing structural patterns inherent in the Iranian policy towards Afghanistan and the development of this policy during the last century." The main focus is on how the Iranian government is conceptualizing its new Afghanistan policy—is it a new policy or a re-formulation of an older one? What priorities are affecting the decisions made?

## Security

"Afghanistan's Security Environment: Congressional Committees". Washington, D.C.: United States Government Accountability Office (GAO), November 5, 2009. 18 p. <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/>

d10178r.pdf (532 KB). In March 2009, out of concern that the overall security situation in Afghanistan had not improved after more than seven years of US and international efforts, the US administration completed a two month strategic review of US policy and the security environment in Afghanistan and Pakistan and the new "Afpak" policy was announced on 27 March 2009. This short paper reassesses the situation using the GAO's earlier work and updated data on attacks, troop numbers and US funding.

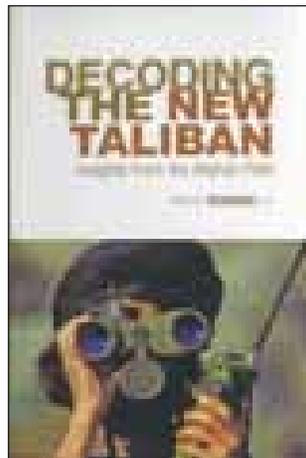
Cathell, John H. "Human Geography in the Afghanistan-Pakistan Region: Undermining the Taliban using Traditional Pashtun Social Structures." Newport, RI [United States]: Joint Military Operations Department, May 2009. iii, 23 p. <http://handle.dtic.mil/100.2/ADA502894> (PDF 284 KB). "The Taliban is a largely Pashtun insurgent movement operating throughout Afghanistan and Pakistan. Much of its ideology is based on Saudi Arabian-influenced Wahabbist thought, and as such is alien to Pashtun culture. It is in direct conflict with the traditional Pashtun social code of Pashtunwali and has subverted the traditional tribal structure of the Pashtun. Coalition Forces should support and strengthen traditional Pashtun tribal leaders and their traditional social structure in Afghanistan and Pakistan in order to isolate the Taliban insurgency, enabling the achievement of Coalition end state objectives" (Abstract).

Chandra, Vishal. "Making of the New Afghan National Army: Challenges and Prospects." *Strategic Analysis* v. 33:1 (January 2009), p. 55-70. "The paper attempts to examine diverse challenges to the making of the new Afghan National Army (ANA), and its future prospects. The issue assumes significance as the Taliban shift battle lines outside the Pashtun areas and there is growing difference among Western countries regarding the means and approaches to be used to stabilize Afghanistan. The paper is broadly divided into four sections. The first section seeks to identify and critically examine the role played by key institutional structures responsible for the training and mentoring of the new national army. The second section deals with the challenges confronting Afghanistan which have a bearing on the development of the ANA as an effective force. The third section explores the dilemmas confronting the West, and the final section offers key assessments on the ANA's future prospects." (Abstract).

Cordesman, Anthony H. "Afghan National Security Forces: Shaping Host Country Forces as Part of Armed Nation Building." Washington, D.C.: Center for Strategic International Studies (CSIS), November 2009. xiii, 78 p. <http://csis.org/publication/afghan-national-security-forces-shaping-host-country-forces-part-armed-nation-building> (PDF 1.76 MB). "The Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) have

made significant advances during the last few years, but their development had low to moderate priority for nearly half a decade. It was not until 2006-2007 that the ANSF began to have meaningful force goals, and to have adequate NATO/ISAF and US aid in developing its “force quantity.” Its present goals are probably still only about half the level needed to work with NATO/ISAF forces; implement the ISAF/Afghan strategy of shape, clear, hold, and build, and defeat the insurgency.”—Introduction.

*Decoding the New Taliban: Insights from the Afghan Field* / editor, Antonio Giustozzi. London: Hurst, 2009. xii, 318 p. ISBN 9781850659617. This important new book presents new angles on and new aspects of Taliban activity, in particular in different provinces and regions. Contents: Chapter 1. “The Taliban and the Opium Trade,” Gretchen S. Peters—2. “Reading the Taliban,” Joanna Nathan—3. “The Resurgence of the Taliban in Kabul, Logar and Wardak,” Mohammad Osman Tariq Elias—4. “Loya Paktia’s Insurgency: (i) The Haqqani Network as an Autonomous Entity, (ii) Roots of the Insurgency in the Southeast,” Thomas Ruttig—5. “The Return of the Taliban in Andar District, Ghazni,” Christoph Reuter and Borhan Younus—6. “The Taliban in Helmand: an Oral History,” Tom Coghlan—7. “Unruly Commanders and Violent Power Struggles: Taliban Networks in Uruzgan,” Martine van Bijlert - 8. “Taliban in Zabol: a Witness’ Account,” Abdul Awwal Zabolwal—9. “What Kandahar’s Taliban say,” Graeme Smith—10. “The Taliban’s Marches: Herat, Farah, Badghis and Ghor,” Antonio Giustozzi—11. “Taliban and Counter-insurgency in Kunar,” David Kilcullen—12. “Northern Exposure for the Taliban,” Sippi Azerbaijani Moghaddam—13. “The Tehrik-e Taliban Pakistan,” Claudio Franco.



“Department of Defense Contractors in Iraq and Afghanistan: Background and Analysis,” by Moshe Schwartz. Washington, D.C.: Congressional Research Service (CRS), 2009. <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/natsec/R40764.pdf> (most recent version). Updates have been released on September 29 (15 p.) and December 14, 2009 (25 p.).

Kagan, Frederick W, and Kimberly Kagan. “*Afghanistan Force Requirements.*” Washington, D.C.: American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research, 19 September 2009. 46 p. <http://www.aei.org/docLib/20090921-Kagan-Afghanistan.pdf> (3.11 MB). An attempt to project the number of US troops

needed to achieve US military goals in Afghanistan, with discussion of legitimacy issues also.

Khosa, Raspal. “A Long and Winding Road: Australia’s Role in Building an Afghan National Army.” Barton, ACT, Australia: Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI), August 2009. 20 p. (Strategic insights / Australian Strategic Policy Institute). [http://www.aspi.org.au/publications/publication\\_details.aspx?ContentID=223](http://www.aspi.org.au/publications/publication_details.aspx?ContentID=223) (PDF 1.99 MB). This paper examines the challenges for the Australian Defence Forces in supporting the new strategy of raising the effectiveness of the Afghan National Army infantry brigades.

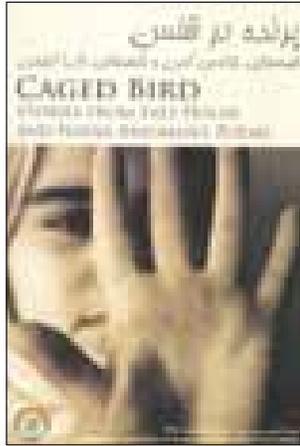
McChrystal, Stanley A. “Commander’s Initial Assessment, 30 August 2009.” [Kabul?]: NATO International Security Assistance Force [ISAF], 2009. ca. 70 p. [http://media.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/politics/documents/Assessment\\_Redacted\\_092109.pdf?sid=ST2009092003140](http://media.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/politics/documents/Assessment_Redacted_092109.pdf?sid=ST2009092003140). An initial assessment of the military situation in Afghanistan by the incoming commander of NATO ISAF and US forces.

Younossi, Obaid. *The Long March: Building an Afghan National Army.* Santa Monica, CA: RAND, 2009. xviii, 65 p. ISBN 9780833046680 (pbk.: alk. paper), 0833046683 (pbk.: alk. paper). The Afghan National Army (ANA) is critical to the success of the allied efforts in Afghanistan and the ultimate stability of the national government. This monograph assesses the ANA’s progress in the areas of recruitment, training, facilities, and operational capability. It draws on a variety of sources: in-country interviews with U.S., NATO, and Afghan officials; data provided by the U.S. Army; open-source literature; and a series of public opinion surveys conducted in Afghanistan over the past several years. Although the ANA has come a long way since the outset of the recent conflict in the country, the authors conclude that coalition forces, especially those of the United States, will play a crucial role in Afghanistan for the foreseeable future, particularly in light of the increased threat from Taliban forces and other illegally armed criminal groups.

Zaidi, Syed Manzar Abbas. *The New Taliban: Emergence and Ideological Sanctions.* Hauppauge, N.Y.: Nova Science Publishers, c2009. 64 p. ISBN 9781606928820 (pbk.), 1606928821 (pbk.). “This book traces the resurgence and reorganization of the Taliban into a new organizational entity, the Taliban in Pakistan. The Taliban, forced to flee Afghanistan, have found a haven in Pakistan’s tribal areas, reorganizing and recruiting anew in the process. Pakistani Taliban are ideologically similar to the Taliban in Afghanistan, but are organized in distinct organizational entities. They are, in effect, the new face of the Taliban.” (Preface).

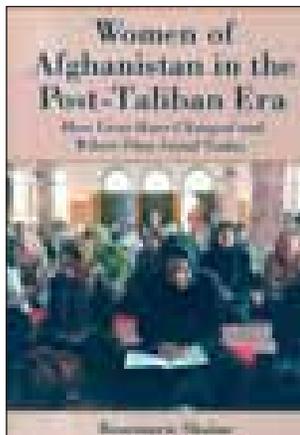
## Women

*Caged Bird: Stories from [the] Safe House and Nadia Anjuman's Poems* = **پرنده در قفس: قصه های خانه ی امن و شعرهای نادیا انجمن**. Kabul: Humanitarian Assistance for the Women and Children of Afghanistan (HAWCA), 2009. 64 p. [hawca@hawca.org](mailto:hawca@hawca.org). The book shares stories written by women and girls who have experienced violence and abuse, and have been empowered and supported through HAWCA programmes. Their stories are published in Dari with translations into English on facing pages. The second part of the book contains 12 poems (again in Dari and English) written by the late Nadia Anjuman (1980?-2005).



“The Role of Women in Afghan Contemporary Painting: a new Start and a Major Change.” Kabul: Center for Contemporary Arts-Afghanistan, [2009]. 63 p. This book profiles the work of a number of new women artists working in Afghanistan, with many illustrations. More information about the centre is available on their website: <http://www.ccaa.org.af/>

Skaine, Rosemarie. *Women of Afghanistan in the Post-Taliban Era: How Lives have Changed and Where they Stand Today*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland & Co., c2008. x, 193 p. ISBN 9780786437924. “This book examines roles of women in Afghanistan as they deal with both change and tradition. It describes and analyzes the success of women in these new occupational and educational opportunities, evaluating how such successes have come about in a nation still struggling to overcome years of poverty, corruption, regional power struggles, and the overwhelming destruction of war”—back cover.



“We Have the Promises of the World”: Women’s Rights in Afghanistan. New York: Human Rights Watch, 2009. 92 p. ISBN 1564325741. [http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/afghanistan1209webwcover\\_0.pdf](http://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/reports/afghanistan1209webwcover_0.pdf) (PDF 704 KB). This paper takes stock of the situation of women in contemporary Afghanistan: “The plight of women

is directly connected to far deeper problems in the Afghan political system. This includes the growing weakness of the government, which has led to an over reliance on fundamentalist and conservative factions to maintain political support and fight the Taliban, and a correspondingly weakening commitment to providing leadership on women’s rights. The widespread corruption in ministries, where positions are often used for self-enrichment rather than public service, also means that reform efforts across-the-board, including rights-protective policies for women, are not likely to be on the agenda of those in power. Civil servants often see little to gain in pushing for women’s empowerment and development, particularly if doing so risks resistance or worse from powerful factions. The dominance of the executive and absence of political parties tends to further engender a patronage system rather than one where values such as women’s rights are promoted.”



## Periodicals

*Sahar: the Voices of Pashtuns*. [Peshawar?]: [s.n.]. A periodical in English to present Pashtun views on current events in the region, Pashtun culture, interviews etc: [www.khyberwatch.com/Sahar/Sahar\\_Oct.2009.pdf](http://www.khyberwatch.com/Sahar/Sahar_Oct.2009.pdf)

### *A to Z Guide to Afghanistan Assistance*

AREU’s flagship publication, the *A to Z Guide to Afghanistan Assistance*, is returning in its eighth edition. The 2010 edition includes an expanded glossary section of assistance terms, a detailed explanation of Afghanistan’s system of governmental system, as well as a review and analysis of the 2009-10 election cycle, a variety of new city and country maps, provided for the first time by the Afghan Geodesy and Cartography Head Office, and an extensive contacts directory that includes government agencies, NGOs, donors, and international actors. The guide will be available from the AREU office in March at a cost of \$15 (all other AREU publications are free of charge). Contact [areu@areu.org.af](mailto:areu@areu.org.af) for launch details.



## New Laws Received

Official Gazette no.	Date of Publication	Name of law
965	2008 December 3	Law on Passage [ie. Transit] Taxes
		Law on National Reconciliation, Public Amnesty and National Stability (plus amendments and additions)
973	2009 February 18	Registration of Commercial Documents and Trade Marks
978	2009 April 9	Amendments to laws: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governmental tax tariff in courts of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (IRA)</li> <li>• Law on getting the price of confirmed documents in diplomatic and consular representatives of the IRA abroad</li> </ul> Law on travel and residence of foreign subjects in the IRA
986	2009 July 6	Mass Media Law
		Law of the Independent Commission for Overseeing the Implementation of the Constitution
987	2009 February 18	Registration of Commercial Documents and Trade Marks
989	2009 August 1	Law on the Elimination of Violence against Women
990	2009 August 6	Law on Secured Transactions of Movable Property in the Banking law
		Law on Secured Transactions of Immovable Property in the Banking Law
991	2009 August 11	Regulation on Decrease and Prevention of Air Pollution
996	2009 September 6	Law on Political Parties
998	2009 October 17	Regulation on Precautionary Reserves of Cereals and Rooted Plants

## Outline of Afghanistan's Published Constitutions

1923 (1302)	Fundamental Principles of the Government of Afghanistan (King Amanullah Khan, 1919-1929))	<i>Nizam-namah</i>
1927 (1306)	Fundamental Principles of the Government of Afghanistan (King Mohammad Nadir Shah, 1929-1933)	<i>Nizam-namah</i>
1931 (1310)	Fundamental Principles of the Government of Afghanistan Addendum 1933 (1312) (King Mohammad Zahir Shah, 1933-1973)	
1952 (1330)	Fundamental Principles of the Government of Afghanistan	(1330 Dalwa = 1952 January)
1964 (1343)	Constitution of the Kingdom of Afghanistan (President Mohammad Daud, 1973-1978)	<i>Official gazette</i> no. 12 (1343/07/11 = 1964/09/02)
1977 (1355)	Constitution of the Republican State of Afghanistan	<i>Official gazette</i> no. 360 (1356/01/15 - 1977/04/04)
1979 (1358)	Law for Regulating the Duties of the Revolutionary Council and the Government and Legislative Procedure (Presidents Noor Mohammad Taraki and Hafizullah Amin, 1978-1979) (President Babrak Karmal, 1979-1986)	<i>Official gazette</i> no. 440 (1358/09/15 = 1979/12/06)
1980 (1359)	Fundamental Principles of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan 1987 (1366) Amendments (President Najibullah, 1986-1992)	<i>Official gazette</i> no. 450 (1359/02/01 = 1980/04/21) <i>Official gazette</i> no. 656 (1366/10/15 = 1988/01/05)
1987 (1366)	Constitution of the Republic of Afghanistan 1990 (1369) Amendments to the Constitution of the Republic of Afghanistan	<i>Official gazette</i> no. 660 (1366/12/12 = 1988/03/01) <i>Official gazette</i> no. 728 (1369/08/15 = 1990/11/06)