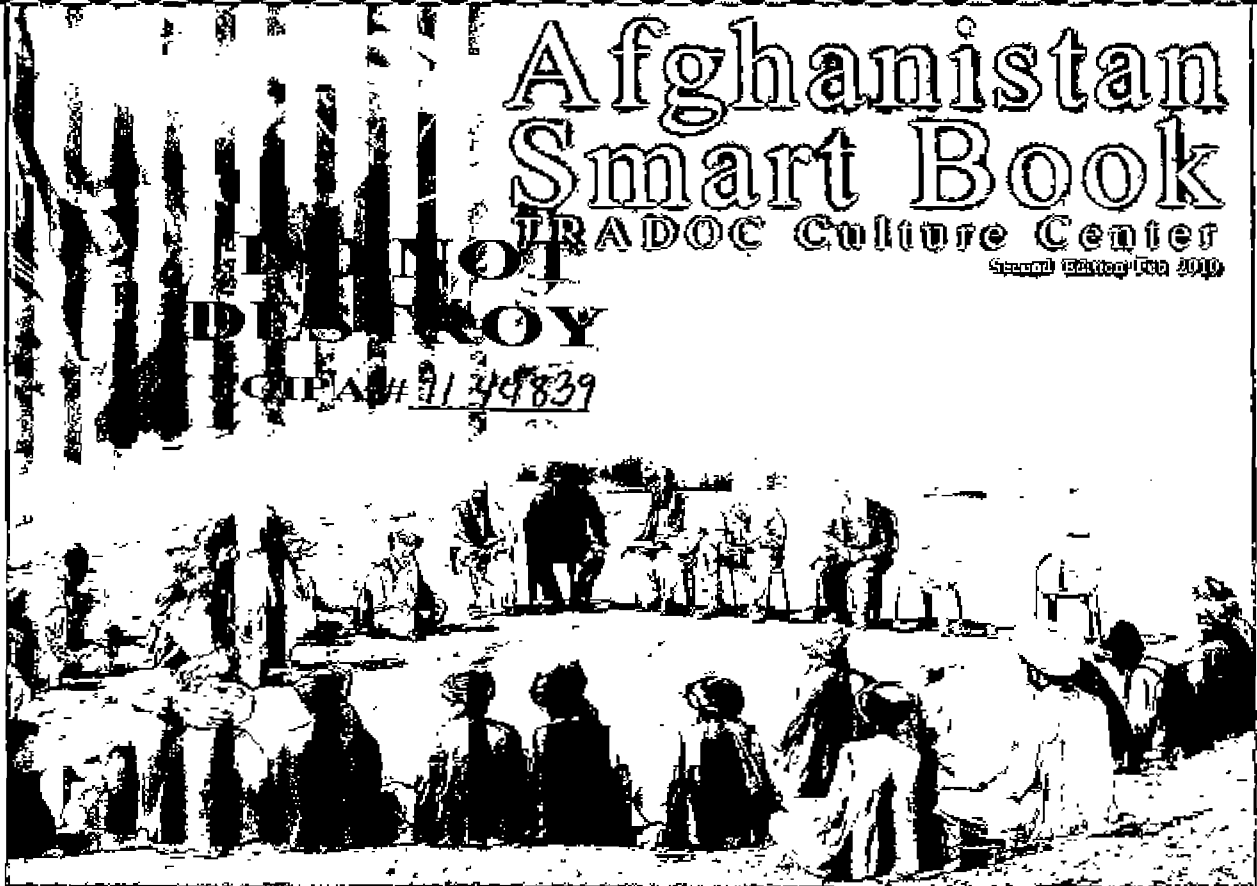




Purpose

To ensure that U.S. Army personnel have a relevant, comprehensive guide to help enhance cultural understanding; to use in capacity building and counterinsurgency operations while deployed in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

“We are experiencing a tectonic change in military operations because of culture.”

- MG John M. Custer, III



About This Book

The Smart Book contains information designed to enhance Soldier's knowledge of Afghanistan, including history, politics, country data and statistics, and the military operational environment. The Smart Book concludes with an overview of the culture of Afghanistan including religion, identity, behavior, communication and negotiation techniques, an overview of ethnic groups, a regional breakdown outlining each province, a language guide, and cultural proverbs, expressions and superstitions.

Focus

**"We all must understand the people of
Afghanistan. Operate in a way that
respects their culture and religion."**

**- General Stanley A. McChrystal
Commander, ISAF**

"COIN Training Guidance," 10 November 2009

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HISTORY

History Timeline

- **334-326 BCE: Alexander the Great's conquests**
Establishes many trade centers in Afghanistan to include Kandahar and Herat
- **30-248 CE: Kushan Empire**
The Kushans were great patrons of Buddhist art and culture; Bamiyan Buddha statues erected
- **642 – 1187 CE: Islamic Conquest of Afghanistan**
Resulting in the conversion of Afghanistan to Islam from the pre-invasion practices of Buddhism, Zoroastrianism, Hinduism and other belief systems
- **962 – 1186: Ghaznavid Dynasty**
A Persian dynasty of Turkic origins centered in Ghazni, brought in language (Dari) and a rich Persian culture to Afghanistan
- **1219: Mongol Invasion**
The Mongols devastated Afghanistan, killing the population of major city centers, causing the population to revert to an agrarian rural society
- **1747-1826: Durrani Empire**
This was the beginning of the modern Afghan State and the Pashtun ruling class

Great Afghan Conquests



Alexander The Great



Anglo-Afghan Wars



The Mongol Invasions

History Timeline

- **1839-1842: First Anglo-Afghan War**
The start of the "Great Game", which was a power struggle between Russia and Great Britain in an effort to win power and dominance in the region; Britain occupies Afghanistan and uses it as a buffer to protect British India from Russian territory
- **1878-1880: Second Anglo-Afghan War**
Afghans attempt to oust British control of the country
- **1893: British establish the Durand Line**
This disputed border separating Afghanistan from British Indian territories would eventually lead to strained relationships between Afghanistan and the new state of Pakistan; Durand Line designed with the defense of India in mind
- **1919: Third Anglo-Afghan War**
After which Afghanistan gains full independence from Britain
- **1919 – 1929: The Kingdom of Afghanistan**
King Amanullah moved to end his country's long-standing isolation and develop diplomatic relationships with most major countries; slavery abolished in 1923
- **1973: Republic of Afghanistan**
Monarchy abolished; establishment of a republic

Afghan-Soviet War

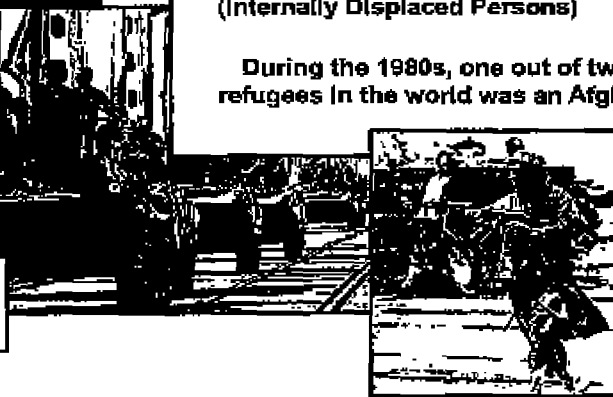


**Soviet Occupation
Dec 1979 – Feb 1989**

Soviet Losses:
14,553 Dead
53,753 Wounded

Afghan Losses:
1 Million Afghans Killed
5 Million fled country
2 Million IDPs
(Internally Displaced Persons)

During the 1980s, one out of two
refugees in the world was an Afghan



History Timeline

- **1978:** Coup by communists backed directly by Soviet Union
- **1979:** Soviets invade, install pro-Moscow government
- **1980s:** Anti-Soviet jihad fought by the Mujahedeen
- **1989:** Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan
- **1992:** Last Communist regime falls; Mujahideen forces vie for power and factional infighting begins
- **1994:** Civil war intensifies; 70% of country destroyed; Taliban rise to power
- **1996:** Taliban capture Kabul and declare Islamic Emirate; Osama bin Laden relocates to Afghanistan
- **1996 – 2001:** Era of Taliban government's "Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan"; based loosely in Shari'a Law
- **1998:** U.S. cruise missiles strike an Al Qaeda terrorist training complex in Afghanistan

Banned by the Taliban

Ministry for the Promotion of Virtue and Suppression of Vice (PVSV)

- Firecrackers
- Nail Polish
- Christmas Cards
- Lobster
- Music
- Hanging pictures in Home
- Beard Trimming
- Statues
- Wine/Alcohol
- Kite Flying
- Stuffed Animals
- Computers
- Sewing Catalogs
- Clapping During Sporting Events

- Education for Women
- Satellite Dishes
- Movies
- Dancing
- Western Haircuts



"Innovative form of Shari'a combining Pashtun tribal codes"

History Timeline

- **Sep 2001:** Northern Alliance leader Ahmad Shah Masood killed by Al Qaeda; attacks on World Trade Center and Pentagon
- **Oct 2001:** Coalition forces begin air and ground operations in Afghanistan, support to Northern Alliance
- **Nov 2001:** Northern Alliance captures Kabul
- **Dec 2001:** Taliban fall from power; Bonn Agreement establishes Afghan Interim Administration with Hamid Karzai elected as chairman
- **Jun 2002:** Hamid Karzai becomes interim President
- **2002-2003:** International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) forces responsible for Kabul
- **Aug 2003:** NATO assumes command of ISAF
- **Jan 2004:** NATO/ISAF assumes responsibility for Northern Afghanistan and begins gradual transition of responsibility from the US led coalition

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United States in Afghanistan



Operation Mountain Fire, 2009



ANA Soldiers in Khost, 2007



Delivering humanitarian aid in Pakda, 2009



A 10th Mountain Soldier in Nuristan

History Timeline

- **Jan 2004:** New constitution introduced
- **Oct 2004:** Presidential elections, Karzal elected
- **Oct 2006:** NATO assumes responsibility for security across Afghanistan
- **Jul 2007:** Former King Zahir Shah dies
- **Aug 2007:** Opium production soars to a record high, according to UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- **Nov 2009:** President Karzai sworn in for second term amid controversy and accusations of ballot stuffing
- **Dec 2009:** President Obama to increase troop strength in Afghanistan from 68,000 to 100,000
- **Jan 2010:** Taliban introduce a "Code of Conduct" in an effort to reduce civilian casualties, soften their image, and win allies



POLITICAL



FLAG OF AFGHANISTAN

- Black stands for the time period of 1839-1919 when the Afghan people fought three wars of independence against the British Empire
- Red represents blood, sacrifice, and the continuous challenge of the people to overcome hardship
- Green is the color of Islam and symbolizes peace

The writing on the flag emphasizes the importance of Islam by stating: "There is no God but God and Mohammad is his prophet"

The mosque with the mihrab, is from seal of Abdur Rahman Khan, added by Habibullah Khan (who ruled 1901-1919).

POLITICAL MAP



AFGHAN PROVINCES

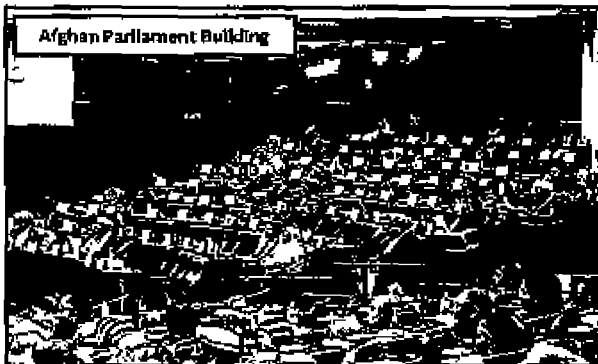
Afghanistan's 34 Provinces are divided into districts. The number of districts has changed with the division or merging into other districts. The 325 districts that existed prior to 1979 changed with a reorganization in 2004 to an even larger number of 397. Currently, the Afghan Ministry of Interior (MoI) recognizes 398 districts. As Afghanistan continues to organize itself, this number may change over time.

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POLITICAL STRUCTURE

- **Executive** — President is head of both state and government
 - Provincial governors for each of Afghanistan's 34 provinces appointed by the president
- **Legislative** — National Assembly consists of two houses:
 - Lower- *Wolesi Jirga* (the House of the People)
 - Responsibility for making and ratifying laws and approving the actions of the president
 - Upper- *Meshrano Jirga* (the House of Elders)
 - Advisory role with veto power

- **Judicial** — Supreme Court
 - All justices (nine, including Chief Justice) appointed by the president and approved by the *Wolesi Jirga*
 - Subordinate by high courts and appeals courts



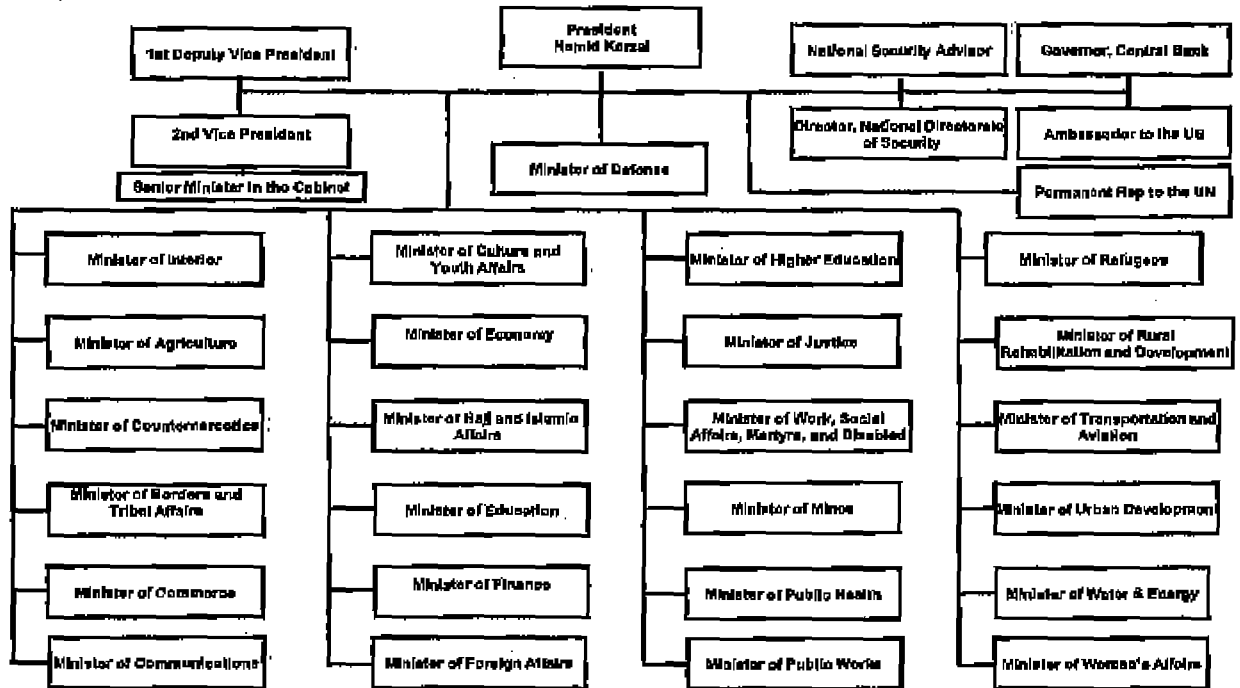
Afghan Parliament Building



Election Billboard, Kandahar

Inauguration, Hamid Karzai, 2004

President of Afghanistan and Cabinet





Hamid Karzai
President



Ahmad Zia Massoud
Deputy Vice President



Karim Khalili
2nd Vice President



Abdul Raheem Wardak
Minister of Defense



Zarak Ahmad Moqbel
Counler Narcotics



Dr. Zalmay Ressaoud
Foreign Affairs Minister

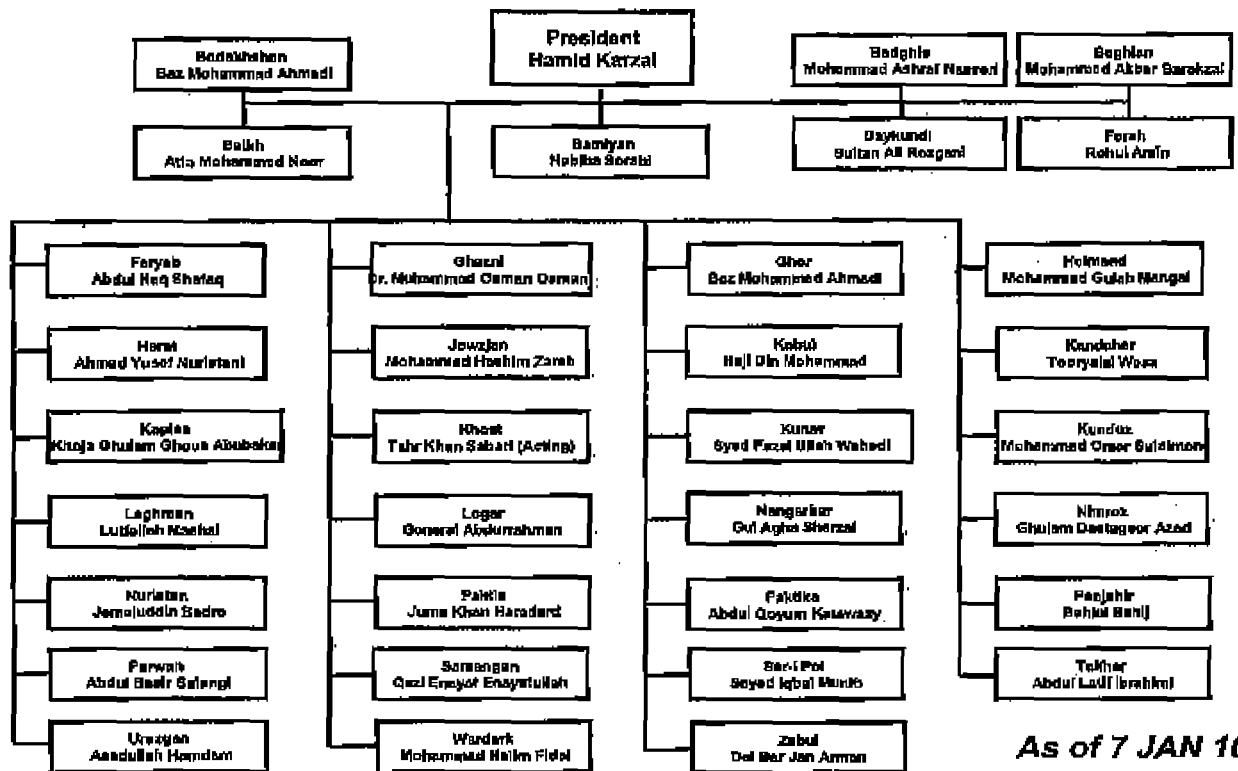


Mohammad Hanif Aamar
Minister of Interior



Amrullah Salah
Directorate of Security

Provincial Governors

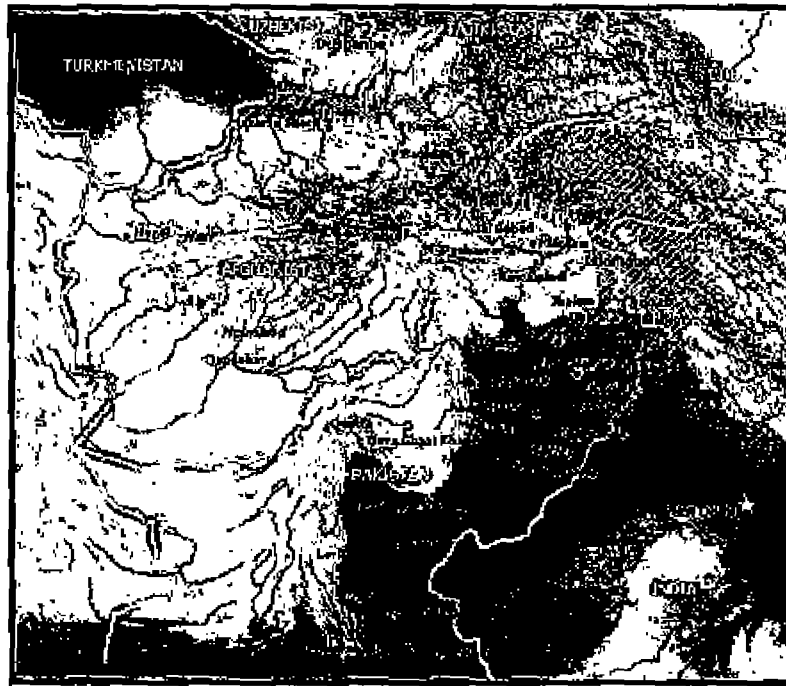


As of 7 JAN 10



COUNTRY DATA

LOCATION AND BORDERING COUNTRIES

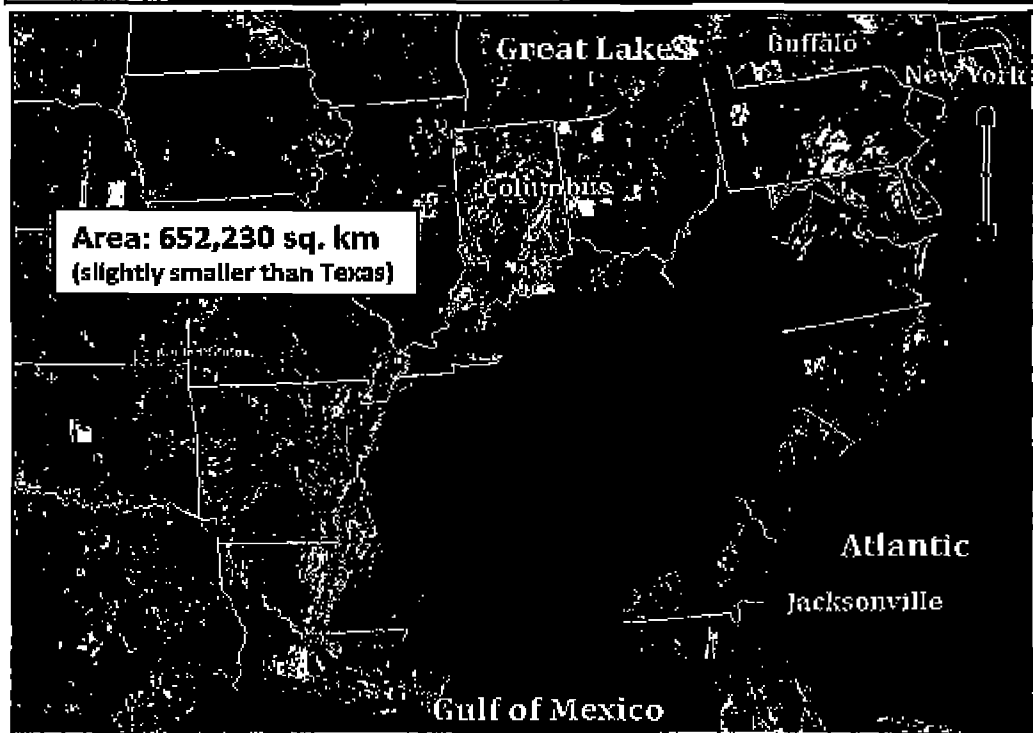


Location:
South Central Asia,
north and west of
Pakistan, east of Iran

Border Countries:

- China
- Iran
- Pakistan
- Tajikistan
- Turkmenistan
- Uzbekistan

COMPARATIVE AREA



SOCIAL STATISTICS

Population:

28.396 Million (2009 est.)

0-14 years: 44.5%

(male 7,664,670/female 7,300,446)

15-64 years: 53%

(male 9,147,848/female 8,679,800)

65 years and over: 2.4%

(male 394,572/female 422,603) (2009 est.)

Total Fertility Rate:

6.53 children born/woman

Under-5 Mortality:

(m/f) 232/237 per 1000

Life Expectancy at Birth:

Total population: 44.64 yrs

Male: 44.47 yrs

Female: 44.81 yrs (2009 est.)

Literacy:

Age 15 and over can read and write

total pop.: 28.1%

male: 43.1%

female: 12.6% (2000 est.)

School life expectancy:

total: 8 years

male: 11 years

female: 4 years (2004)

Percentage of population using improved drinking-water sources, 2006, total: 20%

GDP per capita: \$700 (2008 est.)

Labor force: 15 million (2004 est.)

Unemployment Rate: 40%

Urban Population: 24% of total population

ECONOMY OVERVIEW

- Wheat and cereal production along with fruit and nuts have long been Afghanistan's traditional agricultural mainstays
- Afghanistan is extremely poor, landlocked, and very dependent on foreign aid
- There is a shortage of housing, clean water, electricity, medical care, and jobs
- Other challenges include corruption and a huge illicit opium trade
- Agriculture: 80%, Industry: 10%, Services: 10% (2004 est.)
- Afghanistan has a wealth of natural resources to include: natural gas, petroleum, oil, marble, gold, copper, chromate, talc, barites, sulfur, lead, zinc, iron ore, and salt
- Exploration indicates abundant deposits of precious and semi precious gemstones, including emerald, ruby, sapphire, garnet, lapis, kunzite, spinel, tourmaline, and peridot; most mining and exportation of these precious and semi precious gems is illegal
- Illegal and unregulated deforestation has depleted much of the country's timber industry and has left much of the once forested areas barren
- Afghan hand woven rugs are one of the more popular exports along with leather, furs, and hand crafted replica antiques
- Overall the economy of Afghanistan has improved significantly since 2002 due to the infusion of billions of US dollars and international aid
- Exchange rate: 1 \$US = 50 Afghanis (AFs)

ECONOMY OVERVIEW CONT.

- **Afghanistan's economy remains weak as economic production is insufficient to generate sufficient personal incomes, to sustain an effective public sector or to finance its wide-ranging imports of finished goods and services.**
- **In addition to the continuing problems of security, low employment, poor labor productivity, a lack of capital and poor capital productivity, a lack of a comprehensive set of policies to encourage entrepreneurship make the situation very discouraging.**
- **The Afghan economy has historically remained mostly agricultural in spite of the fact the country is only 12% arable and less than 6% is cultivated; there is almost no use of modern farming techniques to include: the use of farm equipment, chemical fertilizer, or pesticides; irrigation is primitive and totally dependent on the winter snows and seasonal rainfall; fruit and nuts exports average around \$115 million a year but could easily be ten times that amount with a little investment.**
- **Although security has been a major hindrance to Afghanistan's economic progress, the ability of the Afghan government to extend its reach throughout the country poses the biggest threat to future economic growth; illicit opium production and trade generates roughly 3 billion dollars a year and remains one of Kabul's largest policy concerns.**

AFGHANISTAN'S SUBSISTENCE ECONOMY

REMINDER

An ISAF unit in a relatively permissive area had a difficult time maneuvering large vehicles along a road because it was lined with fruit trees. To improve mobility, the unit had the trees cut down. Many people in the village had their livelihoods destroyed. IEDs began appearing along the road shortly thereafter.

"We all must understand the people of Afghanistan. Operate in a way that respects their culture and religion."

**General Stanley A. McChrystal
Commander, ISAF**



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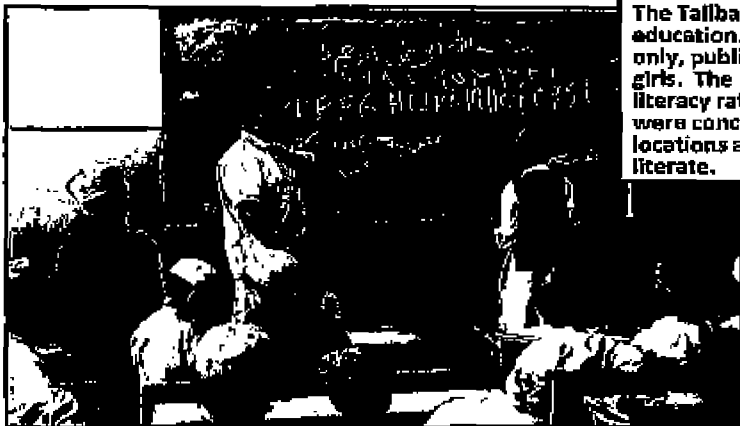
EDUCATION

In 1969 Afghanistan tried its hand at compulsory public education for children between the ages of 7 and 15, but the initiative never had a chance to grow roots. When the Soviets invaded 10 years later, many programs, including compulsory public education, were terminated. Prior to 1969, education was purely at the discretion of the family. Even then, much of the education offered concentrated on rote memory of the Quran, and was reserved for males only.

Families that elected not to send their children to school often did so out of a need for extra hands to maintain the household and field duties. Dari is the language of the educated in Afghanistan.

Regardless of their ethnicity, if a family could pool the resources to send their children through an extensive education, they would become fluent in the Dari language. But after the Soviet withdrawal, any semblance of public education disappeared. Even Kabul University closed its doors.

The Taliban had a very different approach to education. Outside of religious education for boys only, public education was forbidden, especially for girls. The result of the last three decades is a literacy rate less than 40%. Most of the literate were concentrated in urban areas, while rural locations accounted for less than 10% of the literate.

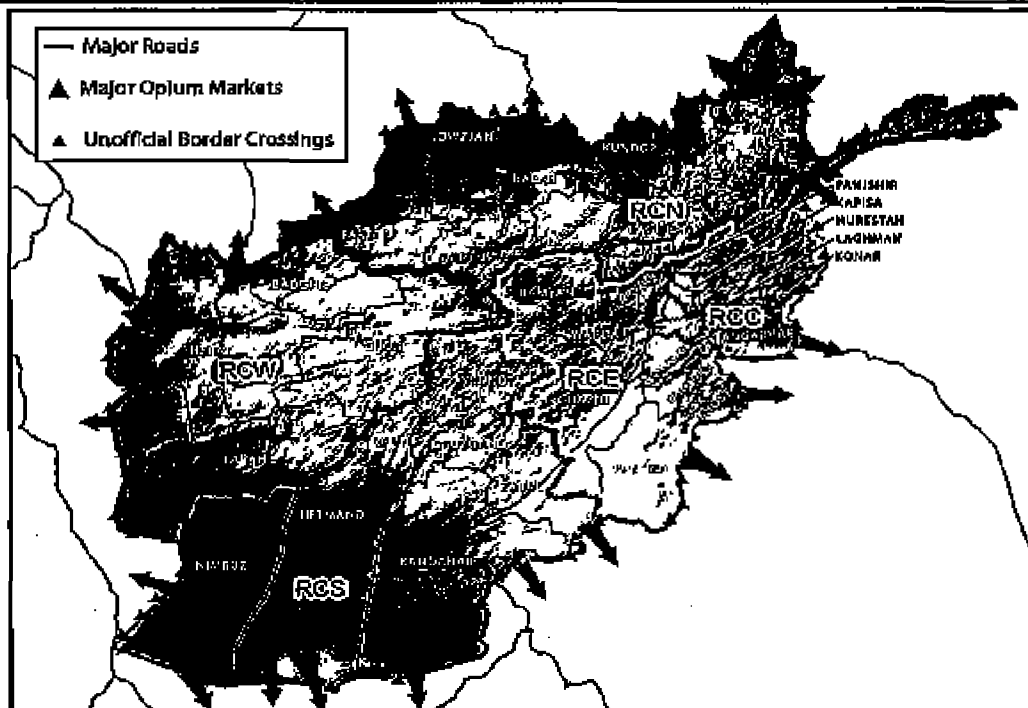




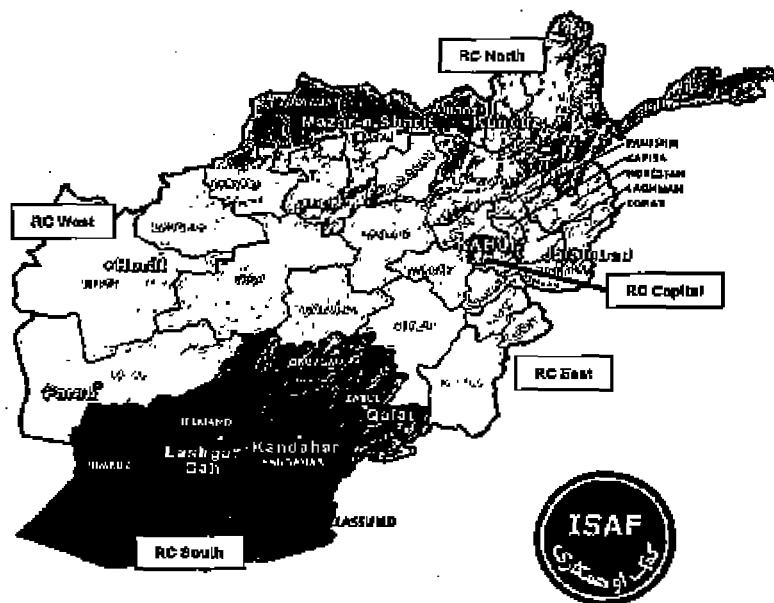
MILITARY OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

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TERRAIN & MAJOR LINES OF COMMUNICATIONS BY ISAF RC



International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) Missions



- Conduct security and stability operations
- Support the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF)
- Disarm illegally armed groups
- Facilitate ammunition depots managements
- Reconstruction and development
- Humanitarian Assistance
- Governance
- Counter-narcotics

AFGHAN NATIONAL ARMY

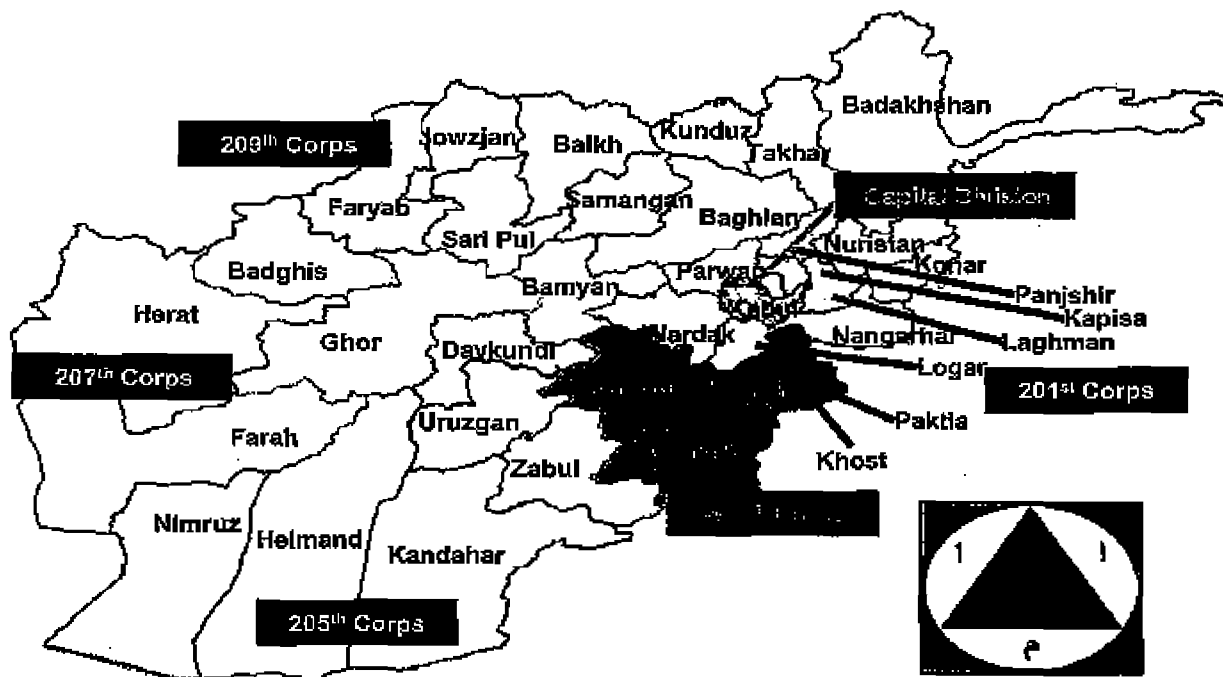
Afghan National Army (ANA)

- **Strength:** 97,000 troops (as of January 2010)
- **Target Strength:** 240,000 (within five years)
- **Capacity:** participates in 90% of ISAF operations and leads 62% of joint operations
- **Well respected by the Afghan population**



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ANA Command Areas of Responsibility



AFGHAN NATIONAL POLICE

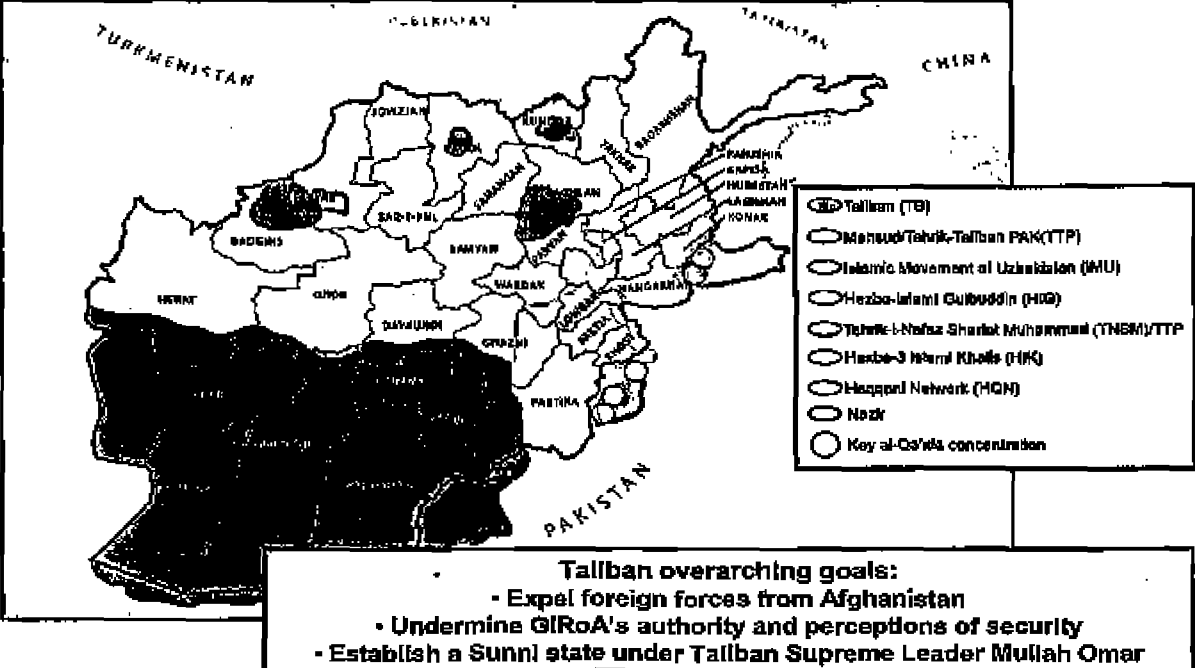


Afghan National Police (ANP)

- **Strength:** 94,000 (as of January 2010)
- **Target Strength:** 134,000 (within five years)
- **Composition of the ANP**
 - Afghan Uniformed Police
 - Afghan Border Police
 - Afghan National Civil Order Police
 - Afghan Counter-Narcotics Police
- **Viewed as corrupt; are known to extort the local population; generally not trusted**



INSURGENCY OVERVIEW



Afghan Taliban Intent

Taliban Code of Conduct published by Taliban leadership, Mid July 2009

(Mullah Omar's COIN guidance – a population-centric strategy)

"This is our mission: to keep people and their property safe. Do not let those people that love money take our local people's property and cause them problems."

"Keep good relationships with your friends and the local people, and do not let the enemy divide / separate you."

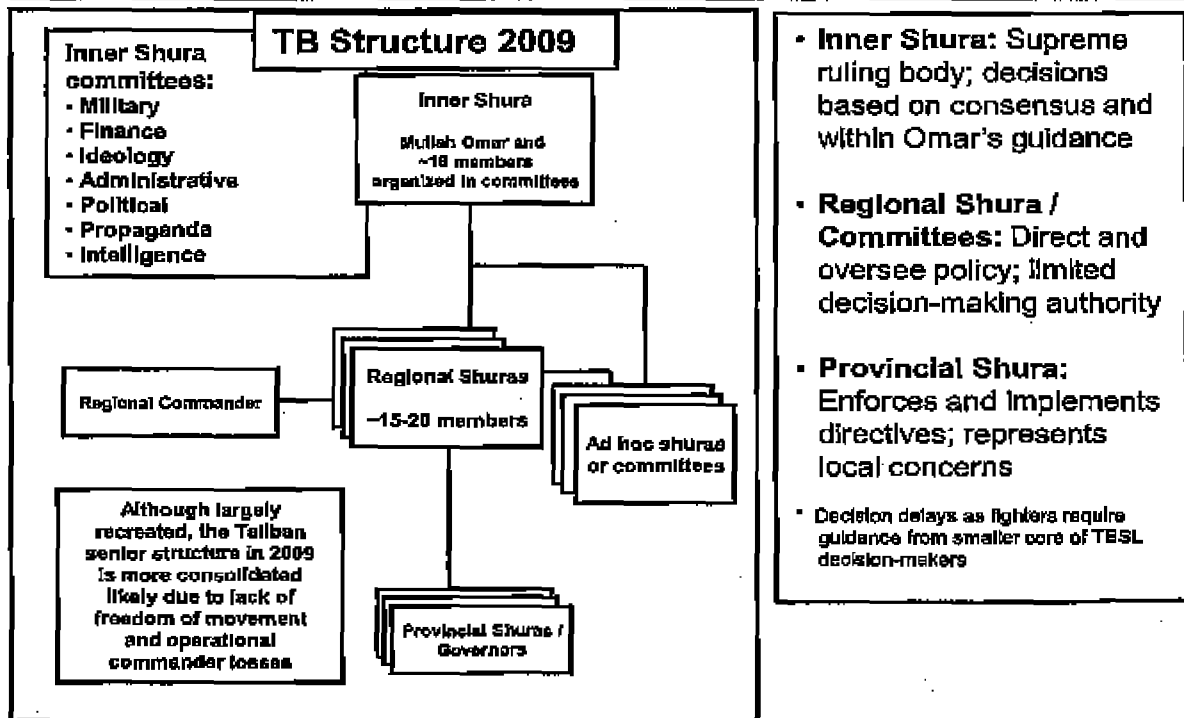
Intentions

- We don't have to beat ISAF militarily, just outlast international will to remain in Afghanistan
- Continue population outreach and protection programs
- Continue successful asymmetric operations
- Expand lethal IED and high-profile attacks to deny ISAF freedom of movement
- Emphasize increasing violence in RC North and RC West
- Demonstrate Taliban reach and perceived control of all Afghanistan
- Make the main enemy the United States

Directives

- Reiterated prohibitions on the following:
 - Mistreating population
 - Forcibly taking personal weapons
 - Taking children to conduct jihad
 - Punishment by maiming
 - Forcing people to pay donations
 - Searching homes
 - Kidnapping people for money

Taliban Governance



FATA – NWFP of Pakistan

Federally Administrated Tribal Areas- FATA
North-West Frontier Province- NWFP



FATA: Taliban Safe Haven

- **Made up of seven tribal agencies (Khyber, Kurram, Orazkai, Mohmand, Bajaur, North and South Waziristan)**
- **3 million tribesmen of FATA are part of the 28 million Pashtuns in Pakistan (15 million Pashtuns in Afghanistan)**
- **Development, literacy, and health facilities are low**
 - **Per capita income US \$500**
 - **Literacy rate: 17% (3% for females)**
 - **Madaris (some built with Al Qaeda money) are a primary means of education and remain popular**
- **Tribes on both sides of border intermarry, trade, feud, celebrate with one another; adhere to Pashtunwali**

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TALIBAN SAFE HAVEN CONT.

- **FATA tribes more rigid and conservative due to a uniquely oppressive administrative system**
 - Ruled directly by the Pakistani President whose agent is the Governor of the Northwest Frontier Province (NWFP)
 - Governor appoints “political agents” to each agency
 - Agents adhere to the “Frontier Crimes Regulation” (FCR), a legacy of British colonialism
 - FCR gave no constitutional, civic, or political rights to FATA tribesmen
 - FATA traditionally off limits to journalists, NGOs, human rights organizations and political parties
 - Mullahs and de facto religious parties have filled the void
- **Since the fall of the Taliban in neighboring Afghanistan, the area has been destabilized as Pakistani Intelligence (ISI) used FATA as a safe haven for Taliban reconstitution and later as a staging area for TB recruitment, training and operations in Afghanistan**

LANDMINES

- Mines have killed and/or maimed about 150,000 Afghans since 1989
- Every month 55-60 people fall victim to landmines
- 32 of 34 provinces affected
- Mined areas marked by signs and/or red painted rocks
- Adversely effects nomadic migratory tribes such as the Kuchi



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Opium Poppies in Afghanistan



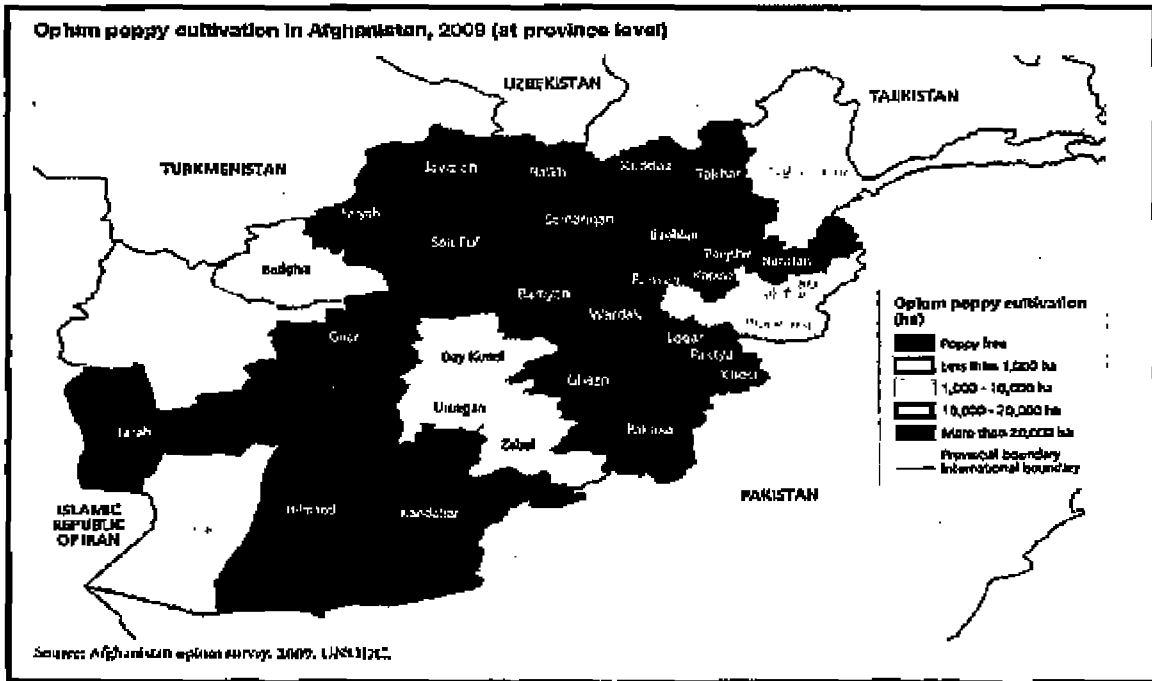
OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION

Opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan, 2009 (at province level)

Legend:

- Poppy free
- less than 1,000 ha
- 1,000 - 10,000 ha
- 10,000 - 20,000 ha
- More than 20,000 ha
- Provincial boundary
- International boundary

Source: Afghanistan opium survey, 2009, UNODC.



Opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan, 2009 (at province level)

Legend:

- Poppy free
- less than 1,000 ha
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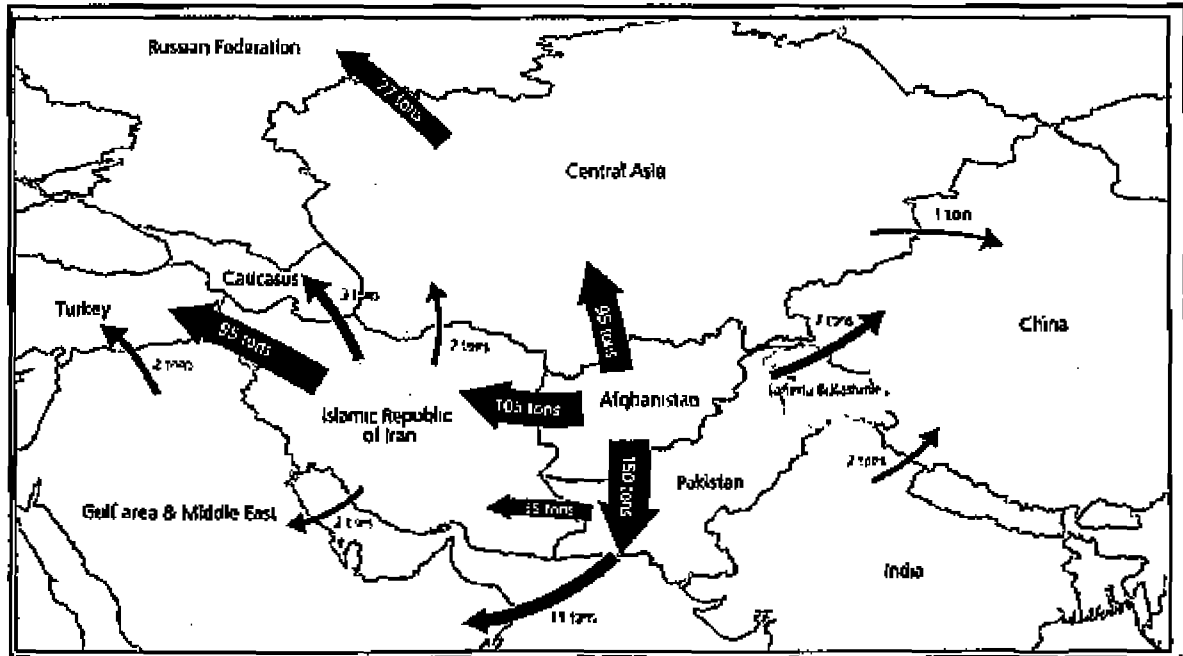
Source: Afghanistan opium survey, 2009, UNODC.

AFGHANISTAN'S OPIUM PROBLEM

- Afghanistan now produces around 93% of the world's opiates, more than twice the world's demand; one province, Helmand, has recently produced 50%
- Many opium farmers work land owned by rich landowners who often don't live in the area or even the country; sometimes they prevent the farmers from growing anything else, under threat of eviction or worse
- Government poppy eradication attempts have often targeted farmers who are unable to pay bribes or are competing with poppy fields under the control of more powerful parties
- Extreme poppy eradication methods, such as spraying poppy fields, could drive farmers into the hands of the insurgents



Regional Heroin Flows From Afghanistan, 2008 (Source: UNODC)

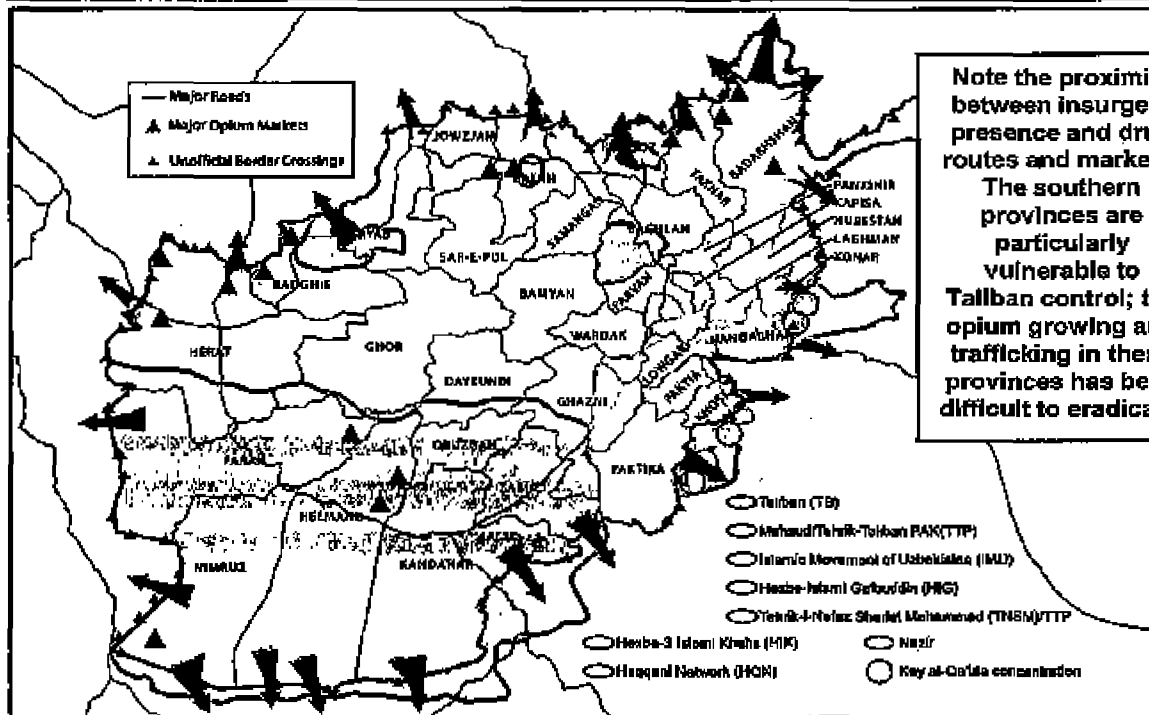


REGIONAL OPIUM FACTS

- Opium crop takes 4 months to mature and requires little water or care
- Ten kilograms of opium paste produces one kilogram of heroin
- In 1987 Pakistan produced 70% of the world's heroin supply
- With US assistance, Pakistan nearly eradicated poppy cultivation
- Due to agricultural destruction (particularly of irrigation works) during the Soviet-Afghan and Afghan Civil Wars, opium production dramatically increased in Afghanistan in the 1990s
- Taliban taxed both the production (*usher*) and trafficking (*zakat*) of opium
- Taliban banned poppy cultivation in 2001 in order to increase prices
- Afghan farmers receive 20% of the revenue from drugs; traffickers receive 80%
- Roughly 170,000 Afghans (to include 30,000 women) are heroin addicts
- 3% of Iran's population over the age of 15 are heroin addicts
- Nearly half of Iran's 170,000 prisoners are held on drug related offenses
- Since 1990, some 3,000 Iranian security officials have been killed in battles against traffickers

[illegible]

OPIUM EXPORT ROUTES AND INSURGENCY

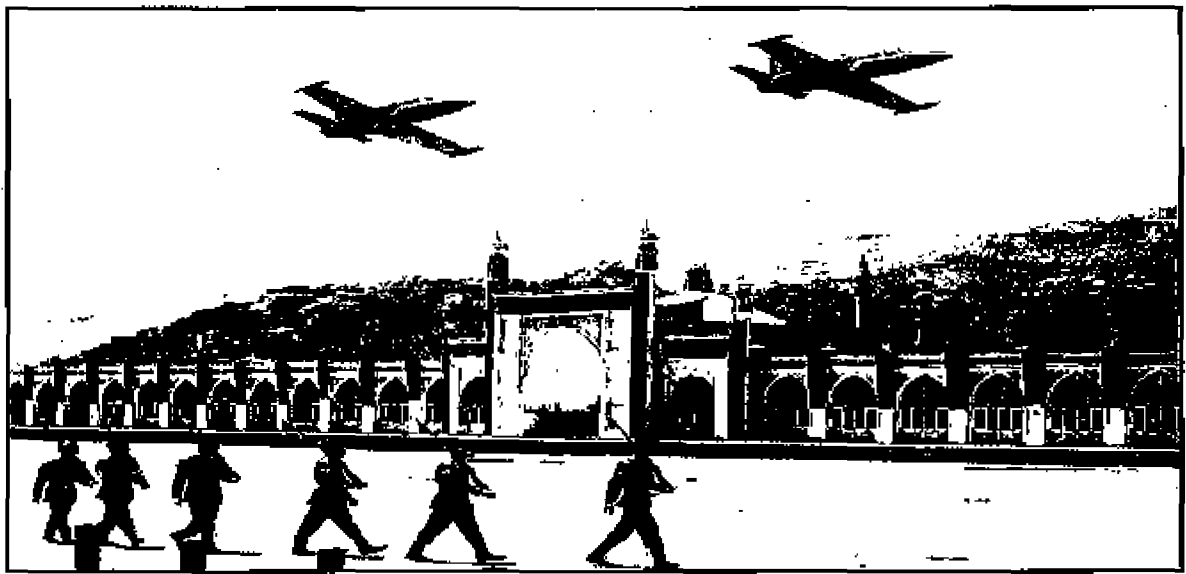


CULTURE AND COMMUNICATION

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**Victory of the Muslim Nation Parade
in front of Eid Gah Mosque, Kabul**



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HOLIDAYS (dates* for 2010)

- **26 Feb: Mawlid al-Nabl (Birth of the Prophet Muhammad)**
- **21 Mar: Nowruz (Persian New Year)**
- **28 Apr: Victory of the Muslim Nation (Withdrawal of Soviet Forces)**
- **01 May: Labor Day**
- **19 Aug: National Day (Independent Sovereignty from Britain)**
- **09 Sep: Masood Day, commemorating the assassination of Northern Alliance leader Ahmad Shah Masood**
- **10 Sep: Eid al-Fitr (After a month of fasting, Afghans visit and/or entertain their friends and give gifts)**
- **15 Nov: Eid-al-Adha (Feast of the Sacrifice — commemorates the Prophet Abraham's devotion to God)**
- **16 Dec: Ashura (Shi'a day of mourning commemorating the martyrdom of the Prophet Muhammad's grandson Husayn at the Battle of Karbala in 680 C.E.)**

Note: The week prior to Eid al-Fitr is an appropriate time to provide performance or other types of bonuses to Afghan national employees such as interpreters/translators; dates for religious holidays are approximated; each year the holidays are adjusted to the lunar calendar.

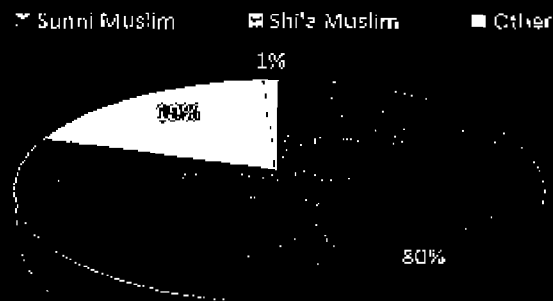
AFGHANS CELEBRATING Nowruz



Nowruz (Persian New Year)

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Religion in Afghanistan

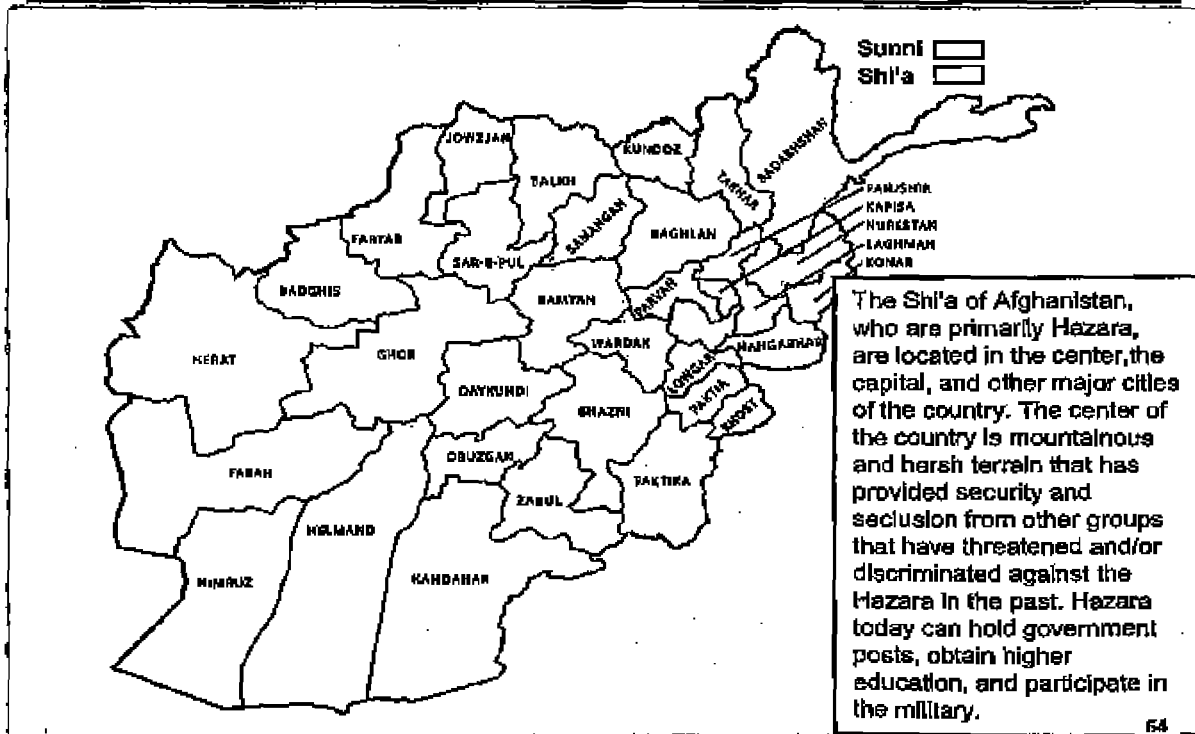


- Majority of Afghan Muslims are Sunni of the Hanafi School of thought (Hanafi is the oldest, largest, and most liberal of the four main schools of Sunni Islam)
- Shi'as in Afghanistan are "Twelvers" along with smaller numbers of Ismailis; most are from the Hazara and Qizilbash groups
- Sufism, a mystical school of Islam, is practiced by many Afghan Sunni and Shi'a Muslims in a form unique to Afghanistan
- Islam in Afghanistan can include many local superstitions such as the use of folk medicines and remedies

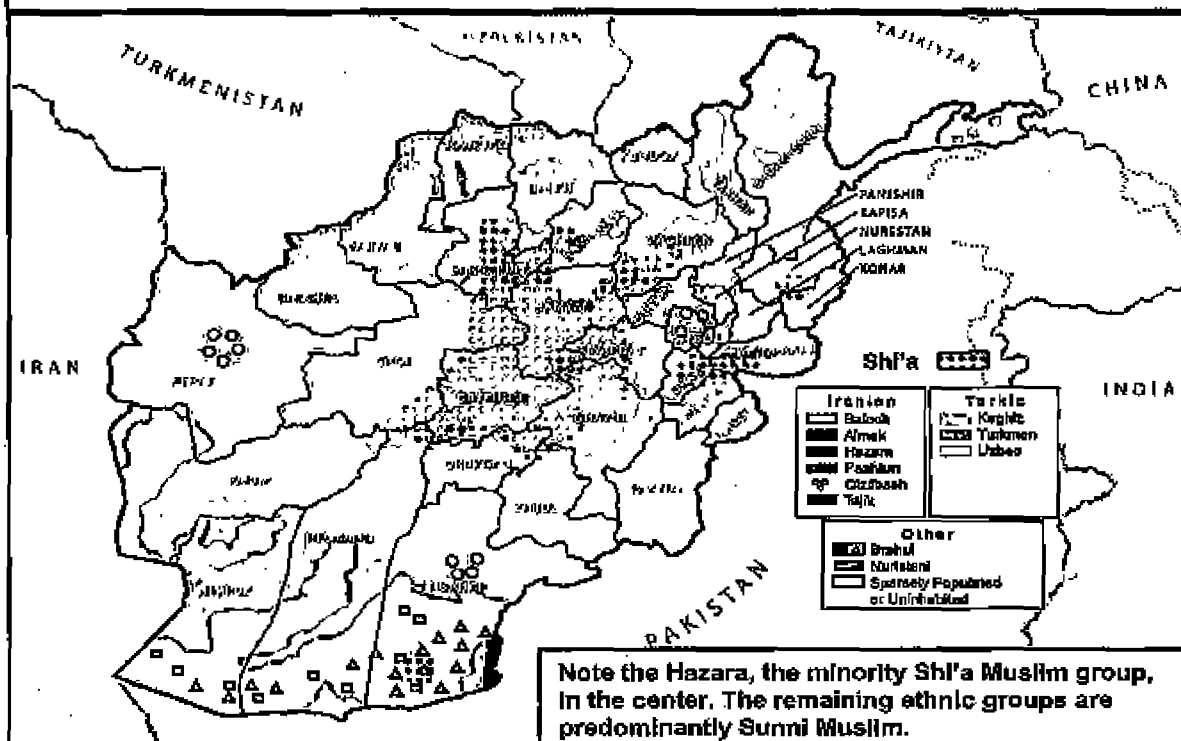
ISLAM

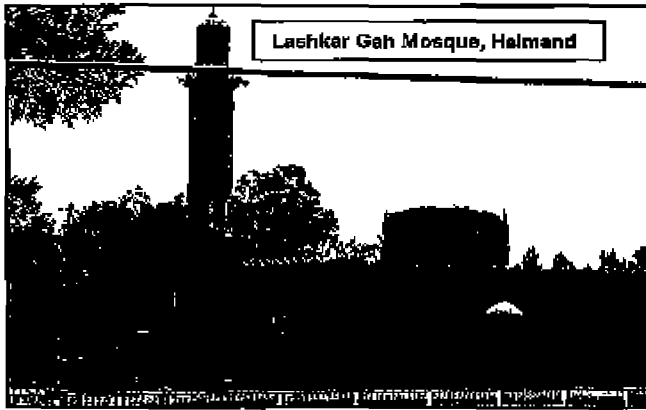
- Abrahamic religion-shares roots with Judaism and Christianity
- Qur'an holy book – Infallible authority
- Five Pillars: Testimony of faith (*Shahada*), Prayer (*Salat*), Charity (*Zakat*), Pilgrimage to Mecca (*Hajj*), Fasting during month of Ramadan (*Sawm*)
- Other Beliefs: Faith (*Iman*), Oneness of God (*Tawhid*), Prophets, Angels, Judgment Day, the Books (Qur'an, Bible, Torah), Fate and Predestination
- Division between Sunni and Shi'a not as important as ethnic/tribal differences
- Pervasive part of daily life – Prayer 5x/day, education, Friday mosque gatherings
- Religious figures (*mullahs*) respected and influential
 - The Mullah is a religious leader or teacher
 - Most are qualified by their ability to quote the Koran from memory
 - Often times the Mullah retains the role of a leader who arbitrates local disputes based on Islamic principles, and teaches Islamic law and doctrine
- Literacy issues: misinterpretation; opportunity for perceived religious authorities to mislead those who cannot read

DISTRIBUTION OF SHI'A AND SUNNI

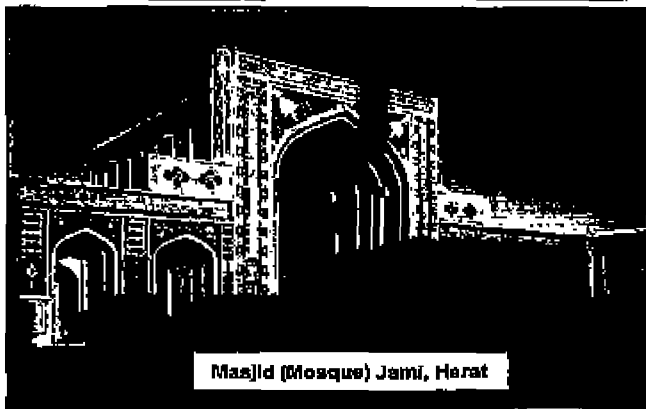


ETHNOLINGUISTIC GROUPS AND ISLAMIC SECTS





Lashkar Gah Mosque, Helmand



Masjid (Mosque) Jami, Herat

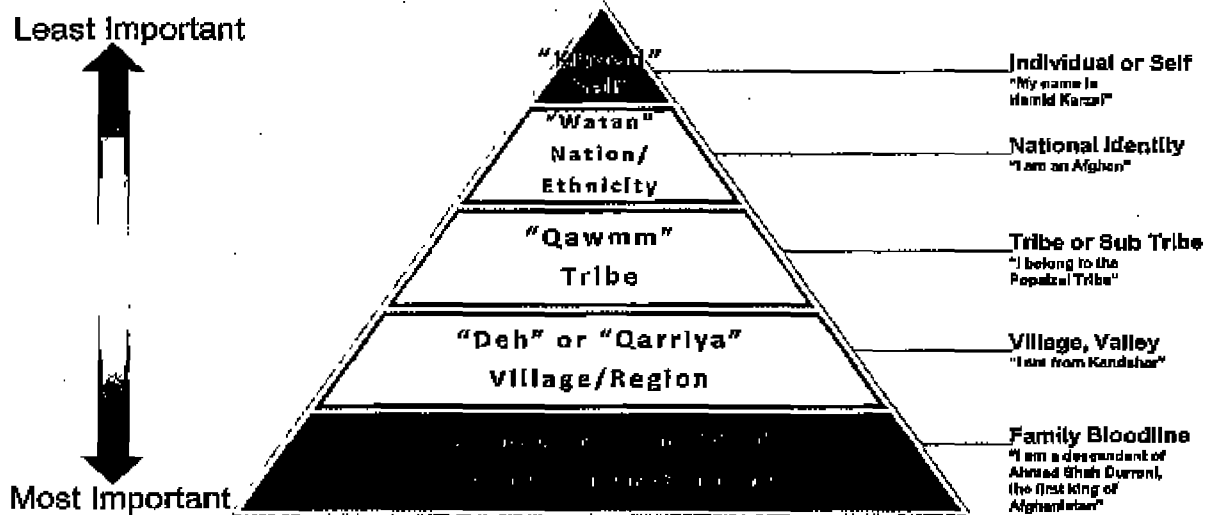
Mosques in Afghanistan



Typical Village Mosque, Afghanistan

AFGHAN IDENTITY

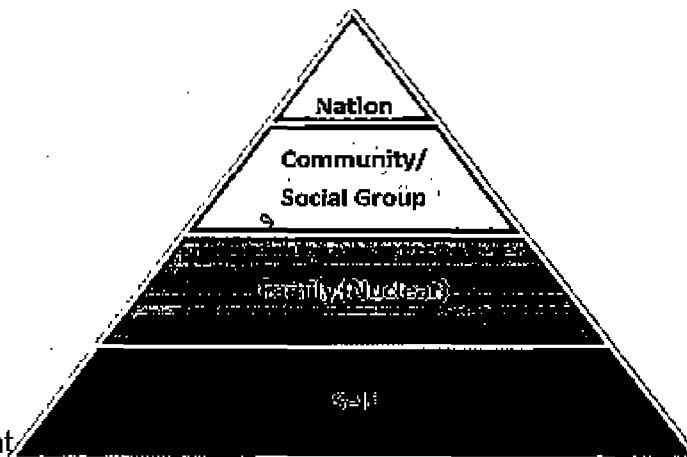
Loyalty and Decision-Making



Allegiance is given to family above all other social groupings; family is also the main source of an Afghan's identity and is the primary factor in decision-making. Ethnic groups, tribes, and community define one's loyalty. Self is the least important consideration in such a collective society.

AMERICAN IDENTITY

Least
Important



Most Important

While Afghan society is in general collective and group-oriented, individualism and independence are characteristic of American culture and permeate most aspects of American society. Independence is of great value in America, and Americans place emphasis on individual liberties and personal freedoms. In general, in America, the individual represents themselves, and family ties usually carry less significance in America than they would in Afghanistan. The nuclear family, more often than the extended family, serves as the primary support for most individuals in America, but individuals are expected at some point in their early adult life to support themselves. Additionally, in America an individual's social network is an important factor which creates their identity. Americans share a strong sense of national unity.

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AFGHAN SHURA OR TRIBAL COUNSEL

"Holding routine *jirgas* with community leaders that build trust and solve problems is an offensive operation."

General Stanley A. McChrystal



It is important for the soldier to realize that Afghans are a tribal society and that individual Afghans (regardless of position) often times cannot make decisions for the tribe. The "Shura" is an older and highly successful form of democracy that has been used for centuries in Afghanistan to solve problems and reach agreement /consensus within the tribe. Attending these Shuras are an incredibly important way to meet with tribal leaders who can make decisions and implement change. But most importantly it is a great opportunity for soldiers to build relationships of trust and foster cooperation with Afghans.

AFGHAN PSYCHE AND BEHAVIOR

Influences and corresponding mindsets/behaviors

- **Recent history of conflict:** Suspicion, warrior mentality, basic survival, uncertainty
 - **Soviet Invasion and Mujahideen:** Many Afghans refer to this time period as an example of their strength; it is a source of pride and glory and also fueled ongoing suspicion of outside forces and their objectives.
 - **Civil War:** After the Soviet withdrawal, fighting amongst Afghan ethnic groups for control of the country increased sectarianism, resulting in a significant decline in an already weak sense of nationalism.
 - **Taliban:** Due to the incredibly anarchic situation during the Afghan Civil War, the Taliban were initially welcomed by the majority of hopeful Afghans. This sense of hope, however, turned into betrayal when the Taliban government turned inward, repressive, and was seen as detrimental to the people. This betrayal has resulted in a mindset of distrust towards government.
 - **Current situation:** With the defeat of the Taliban, Afghans expected improvements to their lives through the assistance of the international community. Almost a decade after the Taliban, the standard of living has not measurably improved. As the national government, which is backed by the US and NATO partner countries, is increasingly seen as corrupt, the sense of disappointment has resulted in a population often ambivalent to all sides.

AFGHAN PSYCHE AND BEHAVIOR

Influences and corresponding mindsets/behaviors continued

- **Religion:** "Insha'allah" attitude
 - **Fatalism:** Religion is often used as a source of comfort in a situation where many Afghans live in poverty; fatalism provides a way to cope with a lack of food, clean water, security, and healthcare.
 - **Islam a source of guidance:** Problems within a family or community are often resolved by consulting religious texts or those who are familiar with the texts; a religious leader is often the source consulted due to the high rate of illiteracy.
 - **Most are not extremist:** The majority of Afghans are not extremist, but are religiously conservative; extremism that does exist is a result of the Soviet-Afghan War and the importation of Al Qaeda ideology.
- **Traditional Afghan values:** Hospitality, Honor, Family
 - Regardless of past and present events, most Afghans are committed to maintaining their traditional values and customs.
 - Hospitality is a trademark of Afghan culture; regardless of their opinion of a person, they will be hospitable.
 - Honor is a common Afghan value behind behaviors such as: saving face, not saying "no," being hospitable and giving, and guarding the virtue of female family members.
 - Family is the priority for most Afghans and is often the driving force behind many of their actions.

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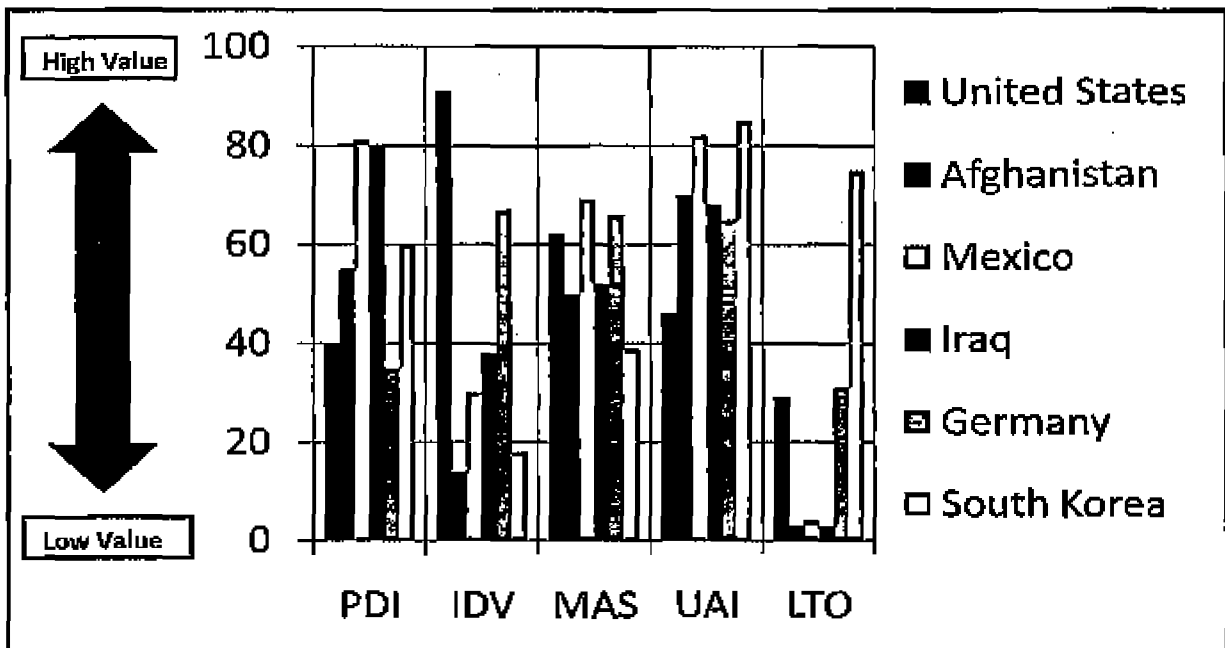
GEERT HOFSTEDE'S FIVE DIMENSIONS OF CULTURE

- Low vs. High Power Distance
 - Afghanistan is a high power society as members do not see themselves as equals but subject to those in power
- Individualism vs. Collectivism
 - Falling under a tribe or ethnic group would define Afghans as a collective society; individuals answer to the tribe as a whole
- Masculine vs. Femininity
 - Afghanistan is very much a masculine society where competition, assertiveness and power play a crucial role in every day life; women play a subordinate role in this society
- Low vs. High Uncertainty Avoidance
 - A high uncertainty avoidance society prefers rules and structured activities like tribal laws and religious values to dictate daily life; superstitions can also play a role
- Long vs. Short Term Orientation
 - Afghanistan is a short term oriented society where saving face, respect for tradition, and immediate stability are important

Application of the Five Dimensions of Culture

- **High Power Distance**
 - It is critical to identify the power broker of a community, whether it be the local mullah, tribal elder, politician, or businessman; directly dealing in a positive manner with those with power will increase the effectiveness of meetings and negotiations
- **Collective Society**
 - For any decisions of significance, expect a consensus approach that may require patience on the part of Soldiers
- **Masculine Society**
 - In Afghanistan, men and women have very distinct gender roles and norms of interaction that may not conform to Western values; consult your Rules of Interaction should any situations of concern arise
- **High Uncertainty Avoidance**
 - Soldiers should attempt to provide full explanations, assurances, and demonstrate beneficial outcomes when introducing new concepts. It is also advisable to arrange meetings that do not disrupt daily religious and cultural rituals, such as prayer
- **Short Term Orientation**
 - At the end of a meeting, do not expect command decisions to be made in a timely manner

Hofstede's Cultural Value Country Comparison



PDI - Power Distance Index

IDV - Individualism

MAS - Masculinity

UAI - Uncertainty Avoidance Index

LTO - Long-Term Orientation

100 - being high value 0 - no value

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COMMUNICATING WITH AFGHANS

Greeting:

- Handshake or right hand over heart with slight nod
- Greeting in Pashtu or Dari is appreciated
- Men should not attempt to greet a woman unless the woman initiates the greeting
- It is preferable to greet the eldest or most senior first



Small Talk:

- Casual conversation is a must at the beginning of every encounter
- Consists of repeated inquiries about health, family, weather, crops
- Do not make specific inquiries about female family members
- Build rapport by sharing personal information (within the limits of your comfort and security)
- Accept offerings of food or tea (if you must decline, do so gracefully)

COMMUNICATING WITH AFGHANS CONT.

- **Possible lines of communication that may contribute to greater efficiency and maximum impact:**
 - **Through government authorities in the cities**
 - **Through religious figures in villages**
- **Providing gifts, such as school supplies, for children can help build rapport**
- **Avoid communicating preference for one ethnic group over another**
- **Respect for the elderly can be the first step towards communication; do not be afraid of a hug or a kiss**

MEETINGS AND NEGOTIATIONS

To foster rapport and willingness to cooperate:

- Do not expect to address your goals during the initial meetings
- The first few meetings should focus on the goals and interests of the Afghans
- Never make a promise that you cannot keep
- Try to compliment the leader and avoid negatively affecting his honor
- Try not to openly disagree with their goals in public; instead, suggest further discussion may be needed
- Do not openly express anger or shout, as such behavior is viewed as disrespectful and shows a lack of self control
- Greet in Dari and/or Pashtu at the start and end of meetings
- In negotiations, allow your counterpart to ask about your agenda, only allow for small pieces to be revealed (enough for your counterpart to feel comfortable and build his trust in you)

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Combined Meeting with US and Afghan Security Forces



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COMMUNICATING WITH AFGHANS - THINGS TO AVOID

- Pointing at some one
- Sticking out the tongue
- Yelling at someone in front of others
- Spitting, whether on the ground or at someone
- Sitting with legs stretched in front of others, especially the elderly
- Talking with hands in pockets or behind one's back
- Making offensive hand gestures
- Talking to females directly or inquiring about an Afghan's wife or older female family members



DINING WITH AFGHANS

- To be invited is an honor, and attending a meal is a powerful way to build rapport
- Do not expect a quick dinner, nor a mixed gender dining arrangement
- Try to take a small gift (no alcohol); the gift will not be opened in front of you
- Allow the host to seat you
- Most likely floor seating – do not sit with legs stretched out in front of others



- Food is often served and consumed from common plates; always use right hand (silverware may or may not be available)
- Try to avoid leaving excess food on your plate and expect offers of 2nd and 3rd helpings



Afghan Family Life

- In rural areas, life centers on the *Qalah* (pronounced "kala"), a walled compound/fort occupied by an extended family
- Extended family obligations, often supersede other responsibilities, including allegiance to spouse, job, and individual need
- Most marriages are arranged (between cousins) to reinforce alliances and/or ensure that property & wealth remain in family control
- Privacy & Protection from strangers or non-family members is a paramount concern --- however, privacy from family is virtually unknown

Buzkashi - The Afghan National Sport

- *Buzkashi* literally means "goat grabbing" in Dari. The origins of this game are believed to go back to the era of the Mongol conquest, when the Mongol riders would hunt, kill and pick up goats without dismounting from their horses. Purportedly, Afghan horseman learned to fight back and retake their animals from the Mongols who wanted to ride away with the livestock.
- Today *buzkashi* is an organized field game of ten to twelve players per team. The teams must transport the headless carcass of a calf or goat, weighing up to 60 kg, (130 lbs) the length of a football field and back, and then over a goal line, without dropping it or allowing someone from the other team to wrestle it from them. In bigger cities, tournaments are played in stadiums. The rules forbid the use of knives or any direct physical attack of the person carrying the carcass.
- It is a rough sport that requires exceptional riding skills and well-trained horses.
- *Buzkashi* is typically played on special occasions, such as the Afghan New Year (Nowruz), Eid, and weddings, though typically women are not allowed to watch.

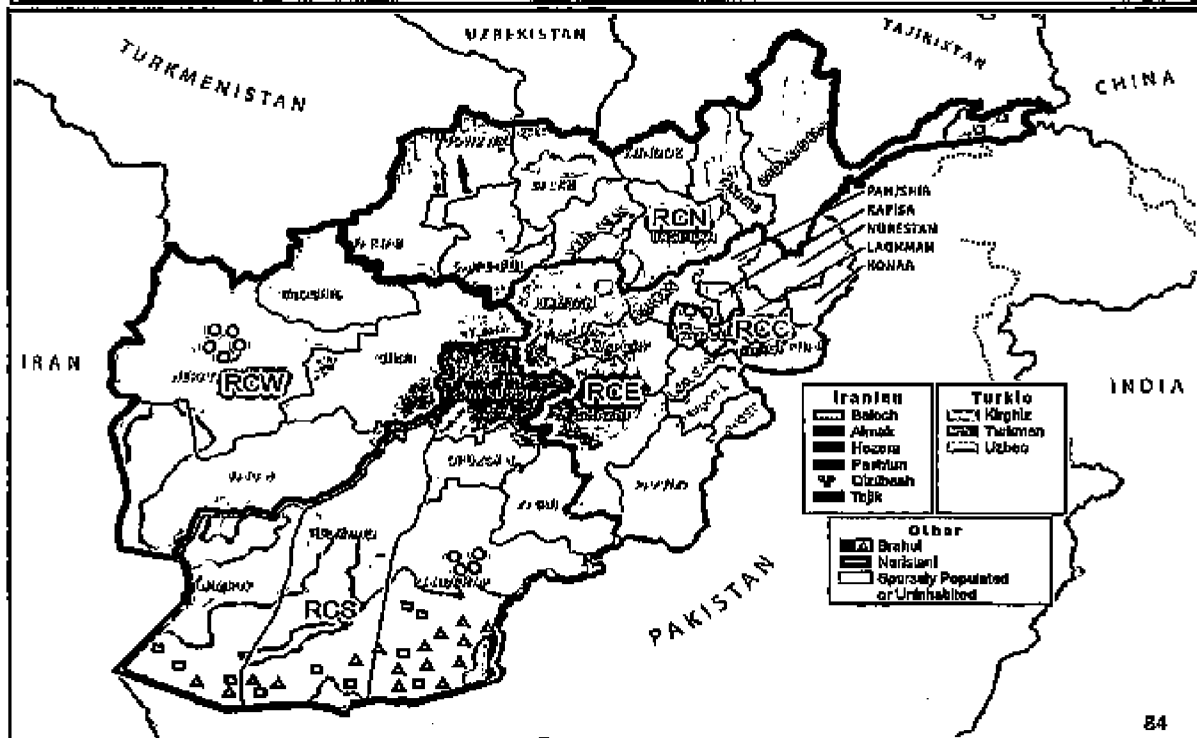




ETHNIC GROUPS

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ETHNOLINGUISTIC COMPOSITION BY ISAF RC





PASHTUN

- Largest single Afghan ethnicity
- Pashtu primary language
- President Hamid Karzai is Pashtun
- Independent, fierce
- View themselves as rightful leaders of Afghanistan
- Ghilzai Pashtun tribe forms backbone of Taliban
- The term "Afghan" is historically synonymous with Pashtun

Pashtun proverb: "I against my brother; my brother and I against my cousin; I, my brother, and my cousin against the stranger"



***Pashtunwali* – The Way of the Pashtun**

Pashtunwali is a term coined by anthropologists; while the term itself is unfamiliar to Pashtuns, it is an accurate description of an unwritten code or set of values important to their way of life

- ❖ ***Melmastia*** - Hospitality
- ❖ ***Badal*** - Justice/Revenge
- ❖ ***Nanawateh*** - Asylum
- ❖ ***Zemaka*** – Defense of land/earth
- ❖ ***Nang*** – Honor
- ❖ ***Namus*** - Honor of women
- ❖ ***Hewad*** – Nation - “Pashtunistan”
- ❖ ***Dod-pasbani*** - Protect Pashtun culture
- ❖ ***Tokhm-pasbani*** - Protect the Pashtun
- ❖ ***De Pashtunwali Perawano*** - Adhere to Pashtunwali



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PASHTUNS AND ISLAM

One thing that is common to most Pashtuns is their commitment to Islam as both a value system and a social structure. Many times their strong belief in Islam is blended with Pashtun tribal tradition. Still, they do rely on the pillars of Islam to live their lives and often the Mullah takes on the role of a community leader and arbitrator. The mosque is the center of the community. Pashtuns also rely heavily on the code of conduct known as Pashtunwali. It is an unwritten law passed down from one generation to the next. It covers many aspects of life to include: self authority, equality, assembly or counsels, elders, respect for all people, remedies for grievances, clan relationships, care for the needy, need for protection, hospitality, and many other day to day ways in which one and the tribe are to behave. At times it may supersede Islam.

TAJIK

- 2nd largest ethnic group (25 – 30% of population)
- Refer to themselves as "Farsiwan" or speakers of Farsi/Dari
- Formed the backbone of Northern Alliance against Taliban
- Social organization by geography, not tribe
- Tied together by perceived threat of Pashtuns
- Ahmad Shah Masood, Leader of the Northern Alliance, was Tajik
- Mostly Sunni Muslim, with few Shi'a



Tajik Militiaman



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HAZARA



Hazara

- Mongolian descent
- Tribal and agrarian
- Distinct ethnic and religious group
- Vast majority Shi'a Muslim
- Historical target of discrimination by Sunni Tribes; mostly by Pashtuns
- Still perform the most menial jobs
- Often anti-government, anti-Pashtun
- Persecuted by Taliban
- Occasional feuds with nomadic Kuchi



UZBEK

- Turkic-Mongol descent
- Located in Northern Afghanistan and Uzbekistan
- Uzbek and Dari speakers
- Most Sunni Muslim
- Introduced Buzkashi, Afghanistan's national sport



NURESTANI

- Located primarily in NE Afghanistan
- Claim lineage to Alexander the Great and/or Quraysh tribe of Arabia (who rejected Islam); both stories believed to have originated in myth
- Previously named "Kafirs" – infidels; they were forcibly converted to Islam by Amir Abdur Raham Khan in 1895
- Converted to Islam late 19th century
- 15 tribes with numerous sub-groups
- 5 languages with several dialects
- Tepid relations with other Afghans
- Animosity towards Arabs
- Protective of distinctive culture
- Many have European features – light eyes, hair



TURKMEN

- Turkic-speaking group
- Turkic-Mongol origin
- Tribal structure based on patrilineal; meaning "father line"
- Farmer-herdsmen
- Jewelry and carpet makers
- Considerable contributions to the Afghan economy
- Live in areas neighboring Turkmenistan



KUCHI (NOMADIC)



- Nomadic herdsmen
- Primarily Pashtun and Baluch
- May seasonally relocate and/or cross-national borders
- High illiteracy rate
- Feud with settled populations over free grazing
- Number around 3 million
- Continue to fall victim to landmines emplaced during and after Soviet-Afghan War



BALUCH

- Baluch: Iranian descent; speak Baluchi (Iranian language)
- Their traditional homeland is the Baluchistan Plateau
- Largely pastoral and desert dwellers; Sunni Muslim
- Baluchi Nationalism, which continues to this day, has resulted in several uprisings that have been violently put down by Pakistan
- Have a distinct cultural identity maintained by their isolated and nomadic life style
- Known for their beautiful natural colored camel hair rugs



OTHER GROUPS

Pashai

- Very little known about them
- characterized by language – Pashai (Dardic language)
- Many consider themselves Pashtun
- often associated with or referred to as Kohistani
- Inhabit Nuristan, parts of Laghman, and N. Nangarhar
- Many in timber and livestock businesses

Qizilbash

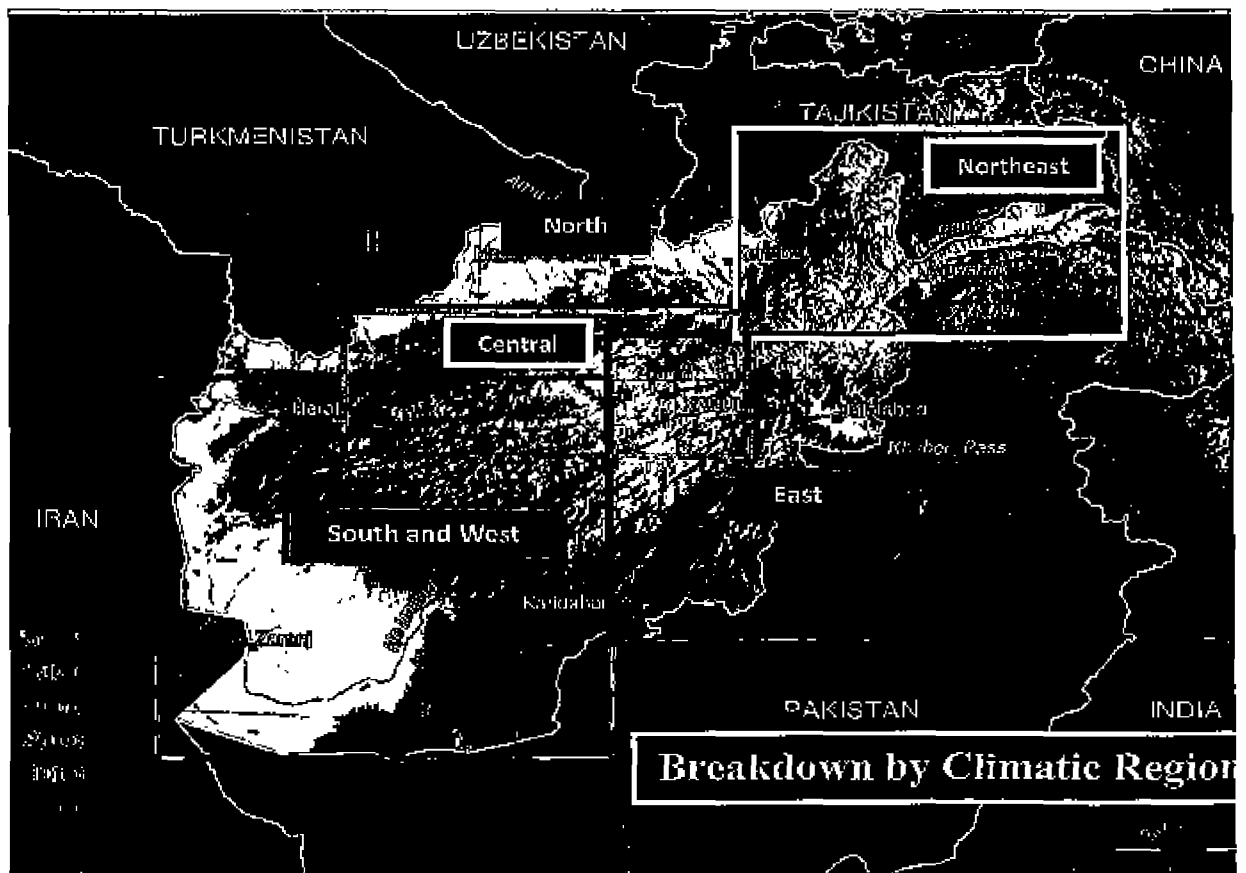
- (Imam) Shi'a group
- Thought to be descendants of Persian mercenaries and administrators of Safavid empire; were influential in Afghan court and government due to higher levels of education and experience
- Appear to inhabit urban centers as professionals (doctors, teachers, engineers, lawyers)

Kabuli (Kabul)

- Elites
- Heterogeneous urban population of Kabul City
- Ethnic-neutral (i.e. mixed)
- Generations of intermarriages
- Speak Dari in addition to mother tongue
- Often secularly educated
- Familiar with/adopt Western-oriented outlook
- Many left capital during past three decades of war

Other Ethnic Groups

- **Gujjar:** Nomadic; language not Indo-European; millennia old traditions; possibly related to Nuristanis
- **Hindus:** known for moneylending; persecuted under Taliban; many returning to Afghanistan
- **Sikhs:** known for craftsmanship; must carry knife; persecuted by Taliban; many returning
- **Aimak:** Persian-speaking, nomadic/semi-nomadic, Mongolian/Iranian mix



Provinces by Region

Southern and Western Regions:

Herat, Farah, Nimruz, Helmand, Kandahar

Eastern Region:

Konar, Nangarhar, Lowgar, Paktia, Khost, Paktika, Ghazni, Zabul, Laghman

Northern Region:

Faryab, Jowzjan, Sar-e-Pul, Balkh, Samangan, Baghlan, Kunduz, Badghis

Northeastern Region:

Takhar, Panjshir, Nurestan, Badakhshan

Central Region:

Ghor, Daykundi, Oruzgan, Wardak, Kabul, Kapisa, Parvan, Bamyan

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**SOUTHERN AND WESTERN REGIONS
HERAT, FARAH, NIMRUZ, HELMAND, KANDAHAR**

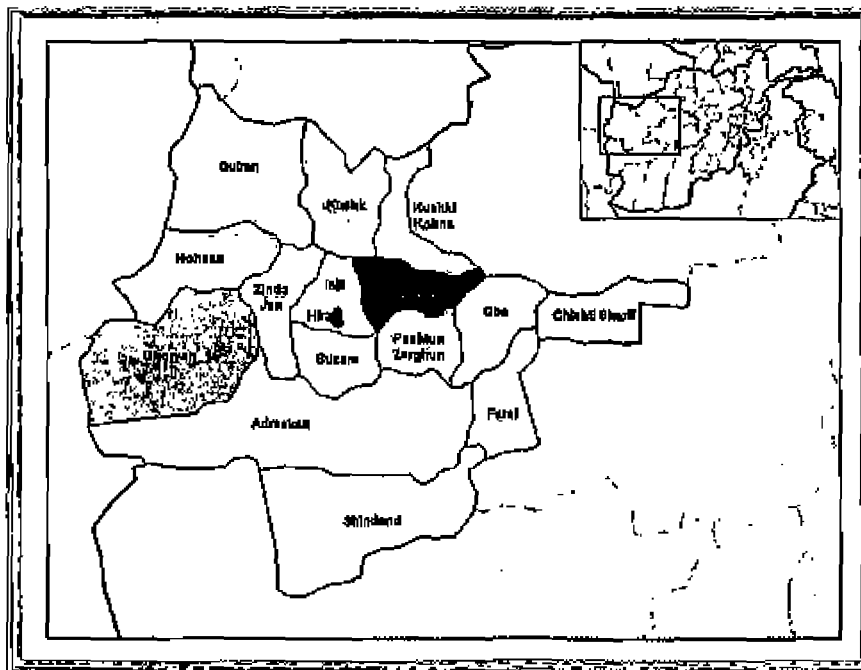


Southern and Western Regions

The southern and western climate generally covers the Herat, Farah, and Nimruz provinces in the West and the Helmand and Kandahar provinces in the South. This region has incredibly hot summers. Snow rarely falls in the southern provinces of Helmand and Kandahar during the winter, whereas the Western provinces will see some snow with little to no accumulation. Nimruz and Farah provinces have large, sandy deserts known locally as Registan or "Sandy Land." The entire southern region experiences high winds and sand storms from May – September. The region has a Pashtun majority, followed by a concentration of Baluch in the southernmost areas. There are pockets of Tajik populations in the region, and a small amount of Hazaras and Aimaks. The security situation has been unstable, and insurgent groups have controlled districts in the region. Helmand province is of great significance as it is responsible for over 50% of the world's opium production.

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Western Afghanistan - Herat



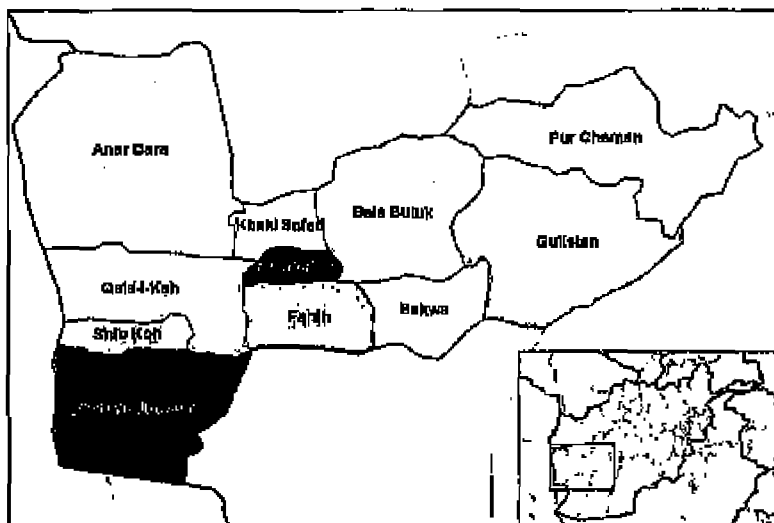
Ethnic Groups:
Pashtun
Tajik
Hazara

Languages:
Pashtu
Dari

Herat Province - Capital: Herat

Geography and Climate:	Bounded by the Khorasan desert in the west, mountains in the east and north fertile tract that contains the districts of Herat, Ghoryan, Obe, and Karukh
Economy:	One of the country's richest agricultural communities; agriculture, livestock, and carpet weaving
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Most of the opium production takes place in Shindand District where insurgent groups are very active
Dangers/Concerns:	High level of criminal activity throughout the province— particularly rural areas
Significance:	Once a center of Persian poetry and philosophy, Herat is still in Iran's sphere of influence

Western Afghanistan – Farah



Ethnic Groups:

Pashtun - 80%

Tajik - 14%

Other - 6%

Languages:

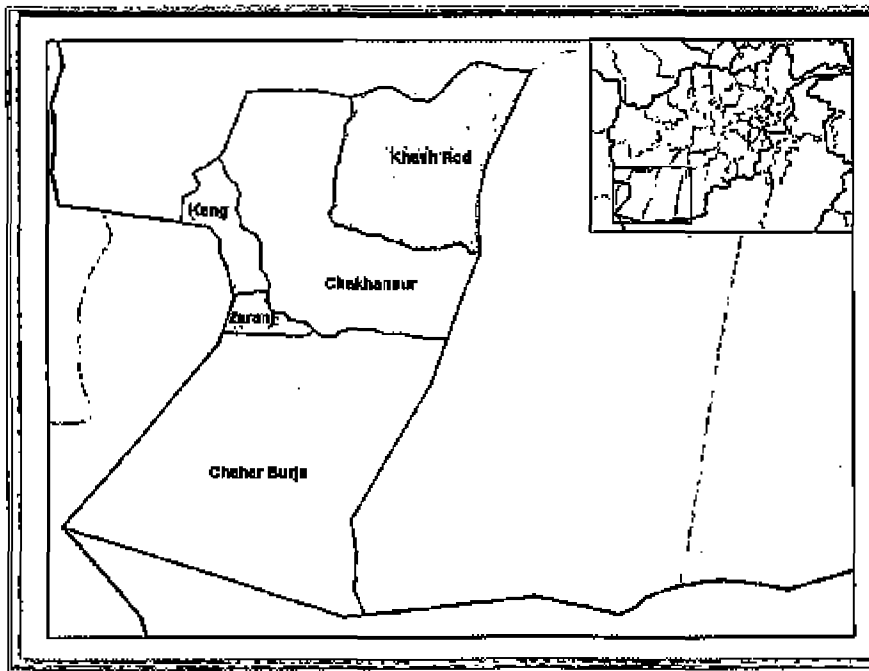
Dari - 50%

Pashtu - 48%

Farah Province - Capital: Farah

Geography and Climate:	Desert plains south of Farah Rud; mountainous north and east of Farah City
Economy:	6 th largest opium producing province; 9% of arable land under opium poppy cultivation
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Opium poppy is mainly cultivated in the Bala Buluk and Bakwa districts
Dangers/Concerns:	Taliban pressure combined with government sponsored poppy eradication programs have pushed residents into arms of insurgency
Significance:	Tomb of Syed Muhammad Jaunpuri (who claimed to be the Mahdi) visited every year by many; home to many ruined castles, including "Castle of Infidel"

Southern Afghanistan – Nimruz



Ethnic Groups:

Baluch - 61%
Pashtun - 27%
Tajik
Uzbek

Languages:

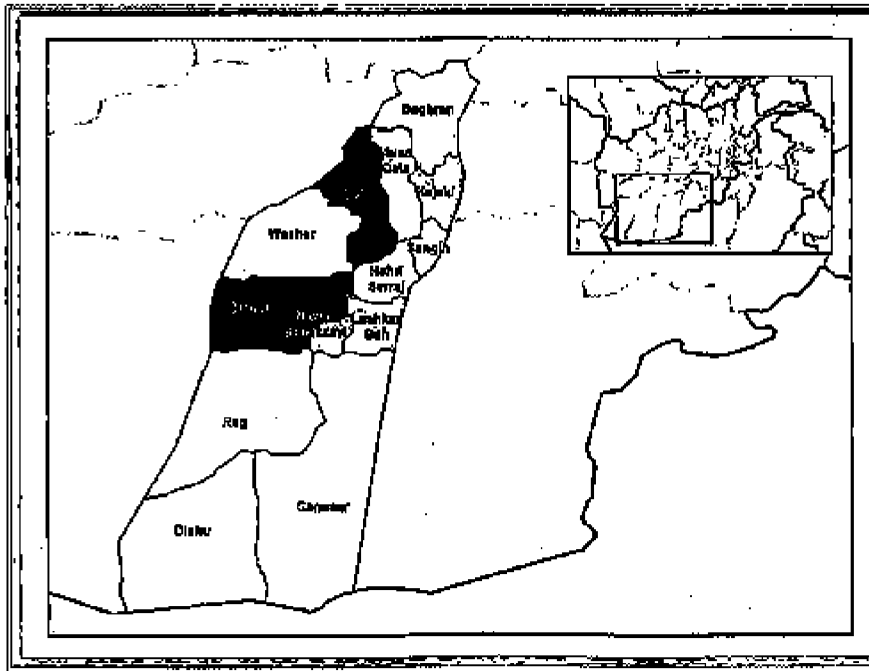
Baluchi - 61%
Pashtu - 27%
Dari - 10%
Uzbek - 10%

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Nimruz Province - Capital: Zaranj

Geography and Climate:	Desert; arid; nearly all of the province (95.3%) is made up of flat land
Economy:	According to USAID, less than a quarter of Nimruz's trade with Iran is legal and more than 70 % of the local population participates in smuggling activities
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Important transit point to Pakistan and Iran; fertile Khash Rod District prime opium growing area
Dangers/Concerns:	Narco-trafficker violence to support economic interests; corruption with Afghan Border Security personnel
Significance:	The ancient city of Zaranj was the capital of the Saffarid Empire

Southern Afghanistan – Helmand



Ethnic Groups:
Pashtun - 92%
Baluch

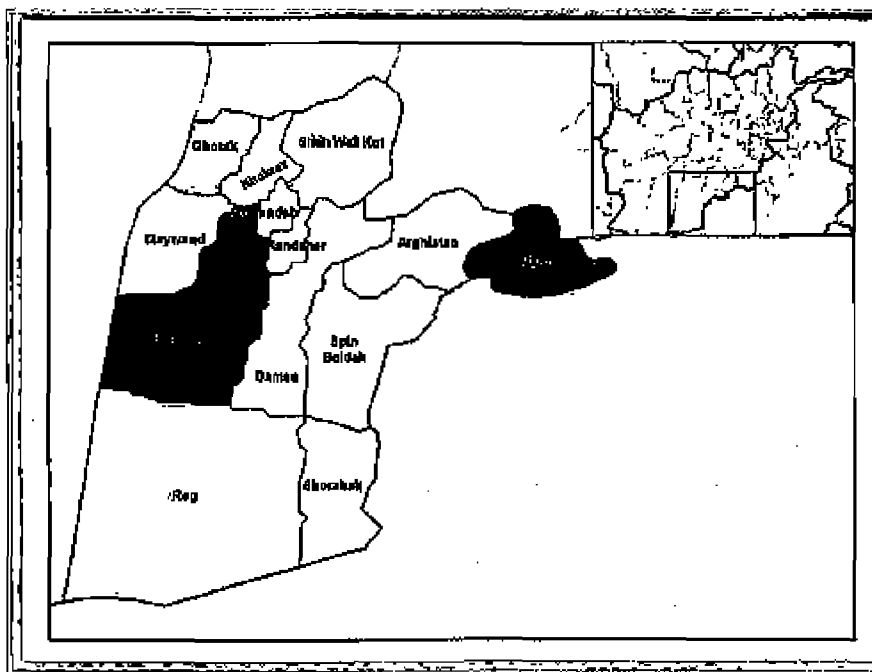
Languages:
Pashtu - 92%
Baluchi
Dari

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Helmand Province - Capital: Lashkar Gah

Geography and Climate:	Deserts in the south, hills in the north, and the fertile Helmand River Valley along the length of the province
Economy:	Opium cultivation and production; almost every family is involved in the drug trade; 94% of population lives in rural districts
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Produces 50% of World's opium
Dangers/Concerns:	Security is extremely poor; serious infiltration of anti-government forces
Significance:	One of the early centers of Zoroastrianism; was also known as "White India" due to its populations of Brahmans and Buddhists

Southern Afghanistan – Kandahar



Ethnic Groups:
Pashtun

Languages:
Pashtu - 98%

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Kandahar Province - Capital: Kandahar City

Geography and Climate:	More than four-fifths flat land; arid
Economy:	Agriculture; recently growing dependence on poppy cultivation
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Statistically the second largest poppy producing province in the country
Dangers/Concerns:	Security situation remains volatile; insurgent presence active or at least present in all Districts
Significance:	Considered the birthplace of modern Afghanistan; home province of President Hamid Karzai

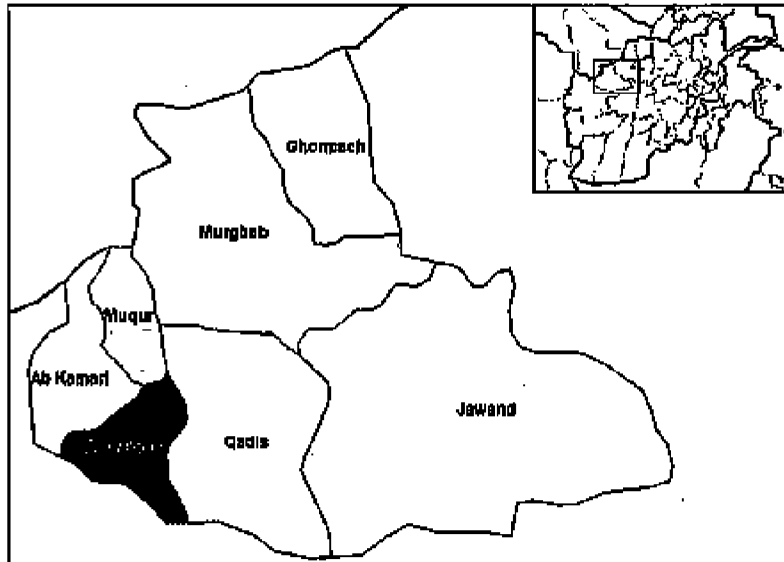
NORTHERN REGION
FARYAB, JOWZJAN, SAR-E-PUL, BALKH, SAMANGAN,
BAGHLAN, KUNDUZ, BADGHIS



Northern Region

The northern climate area pertains to the provinces of Badghis, Faryab, Jowzjan, Sar-e-Pul, Balkh, Samangan, Baghlan, and Kunduz. Winters here can be very cold with accumulating snowfall especially in the areas around the city of Mazar-e-Sharif in Balkh province. Also on this plain, the summers can reach temperatures of 120 degrees Fahrenheit. Uzbeks are the ethnic majority in this region, followed by Tajiks and Hazaras; there are also pockets of Pashtuns and Turkmen. In recent years threat activity has been low, but some poppy cultivation and trafficking is ongoing (esp. in Sar-e-Pul). Mazar-e-Sharif is famous for its Blue Mosque, which receives hundreds of thousands of pilgrims each year at Nowruz (Persian New Year).

Northwest Afghanistan – Badghis



Ethnic Groups:

Tajik - 62%

Pashtun - 28%

Uzbek - 5%

Turkmen - 3%

Languages:

Dari - 56%

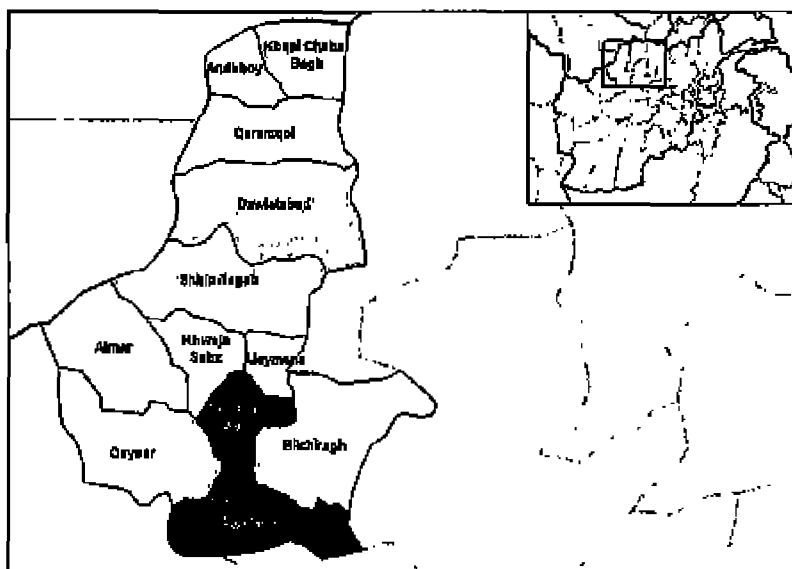
Pashtu - 40%

Badghis Province - Capital: Qala-I-Naw

Geography and Climate:	Murghab River in the north and the Hari-Rud River in the south; bordered on the north by the Desert of the Sarakhs; extremely mountainous and remote
Economy:	Agriculture and animal husbandry
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Opium poppy cultivated mainly in the Ghormach, Murghab and Qadis districts; opium is not a major source of income for the province
Dangers/Concerns:	Security situation has deteriorated in the northern districts of Ghormach and Murghab; Pashtun population generally sympathetic to the local Taliban
Significance:	Badghis = "Lap of Wind"; Emir relocated Pashtun tribes to province in late 19 th century

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Northwestern Afghanistan – Faryab



Ethnic Groups:

Uzbek - 54%

Tajik - 27%

Pashtun - 13%

Turkmen

Language:

Uzbeki

Dari

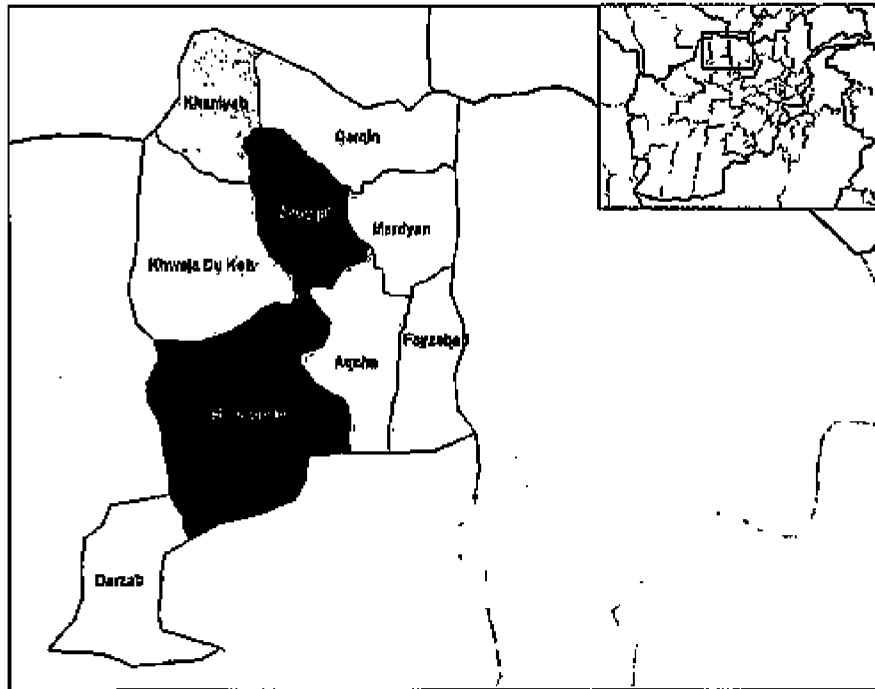
Pashtun

Faryab Province - Capital: Maymana

Geography and Climate:	Two thirds mountainous or semi mountainous
Economy:	Agriculture; industrial commodities; handicrafts - rugs and carpets
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Little poppy cultivation but one of the most important transit areas for drug trafficking, especially Bilchiragh, Gorziwan and Kohistan
Dangers/Concerns:	Improvised explosive device attacks against International Security Assistance Forces (ISAF) in Malmana City; violent demonstrations with some involvement of the locals
Significance:	Named after a town founded by Sassanids and later destroyed by Invading Mongols in 1220

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Northwestern Afghanistan – Jowzjan



Ethnic Groups:

Uzbek - 40%
Turkmen - 29%
Tajik - 12%
Pashtun - 17%

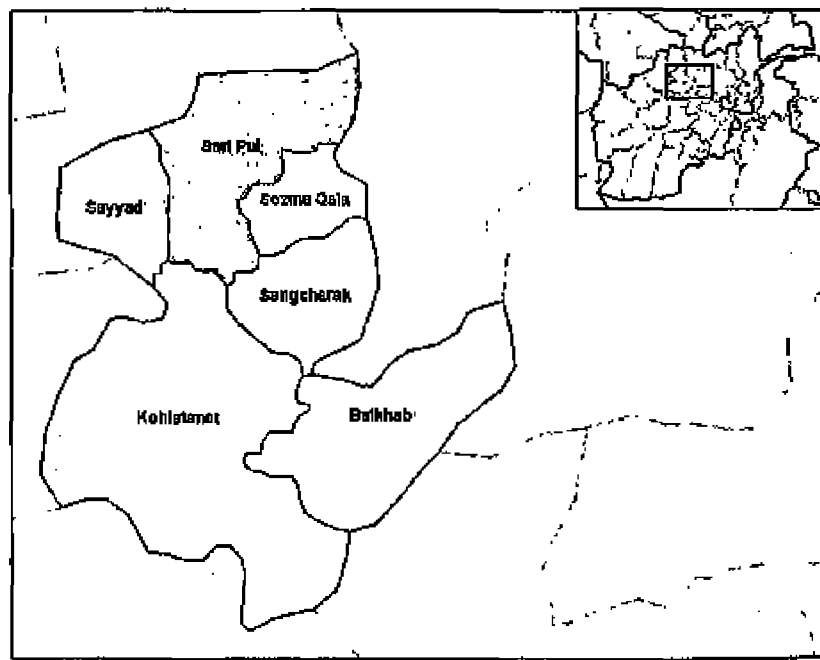
Languages:

Dari
Uzbek
Turkmen

Jowzjan Province - Capital: Sheberghan

Geography and Climate:	More than one quarter mountainous; two thirds of the area flat
Economy:	Agriculture
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Most local commanders involved in the narcotics business
Dangers/Concerns:	Some unrest; factional clashes continue to cause instability; there are indications that Darzab district may serve as a base for Anti Government Elements (AGE)
Significance:	Traditional powerbase of Uzbek warlord Rashid Dostum

Northwestern Afghanistan – Sar-e Pol



Ethnic Groups:

Uzbek
Hazara
Pashtun
Tajik

Languages:

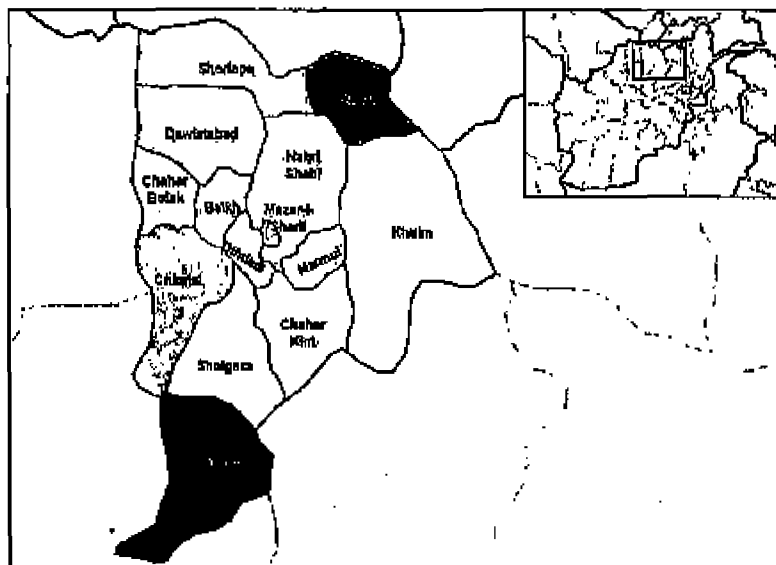
Dari - 56%
Uzbek - 19%

120

Sar-e-Pul Province - Capital: Sar-e Pol

Geography and Climate:	75% mountainous terrain, 14% flat
Economy:	Agriculture; area largely undeveloped
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Poppy cultivation is ongoing; transit area for drug trafficking
Dangers/Concerns:	Relatively calm and stable; some unresolved land disputes
Significance:	Named after Buddhist disciple Sariputta, who originated from the area

Northwestern Afghanistan – Balkh



Ethnic Groups:
Tajik
Pashtun
Turkmen
Uzbek

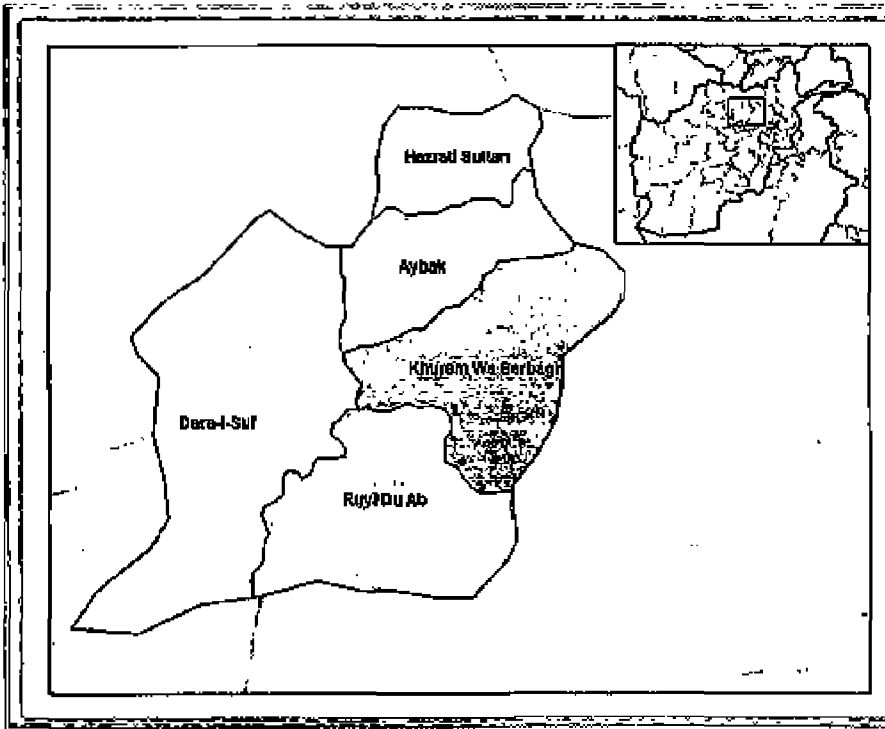
Languages:
Dari - 50%
Pashtu - 27%
Turkmen - 12%
Uzbek - 11%

Balkh Province - Capital: Mazar-e-Sharif

Geography and Climate:	50% mountalnous, 50% flat
Economy:	Mazar-e-Sharif is a commercial and financial center; poppy production still a significant source of income
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Poppy and hashish cultivation in Balkh still significant; reportedly 40% of poppy cultivated land destroyed by government; remaining 60% is under control of local commanders and individuals
Dangers/Concerns:	Criminality mostly tied to opium and hashish trafficking
Significance:	Located along the historic Silk Route, was the ancient center of Zoroastrianism and the Bactrian Empire

123

Northwestern Afghanistan – Samangan



Ethnic Groups:
Majority Uzbek
and Tajik
Pashtun
Hazara

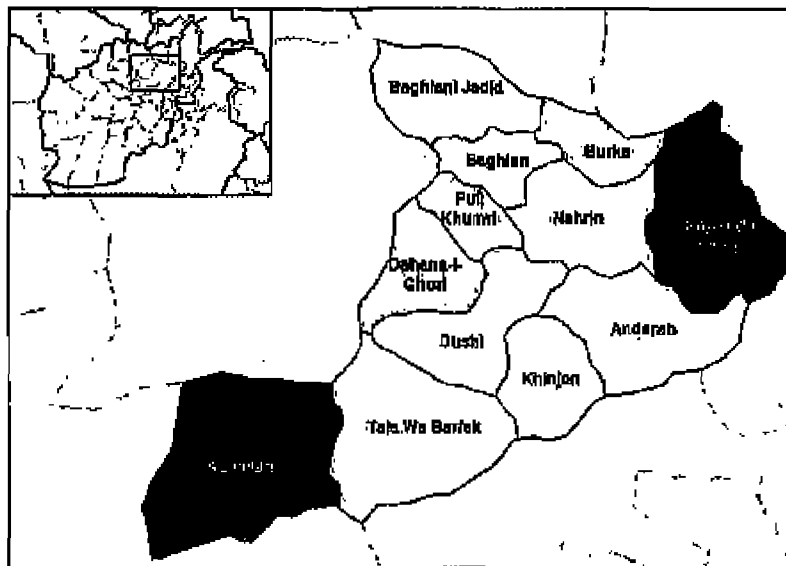
Languages:
Dari - 75%
Uzbek - 22%

124

Samangan Province - Capital: Aybak

Geography and Climate:	Four fifths mountainous; 12% of the area flat
Economy:	Agriculture
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Poppy eradication successful; few remote areas do continue poppy growing Rui Do Ab and Dara-i-Suf districts still the two major drug transit areas
Dangers/Concerns:	Relatively calm and stable
Significance:	Was once the ancient Buddhist center of Takht-e Rostam

Northern Afghanistan – Baghlan



Ethnic Groups:

Tajik - 50%
Pashtun - 20%
Hazara - 15%
Uzbek - 12%
Tatar - 3%

Languages:

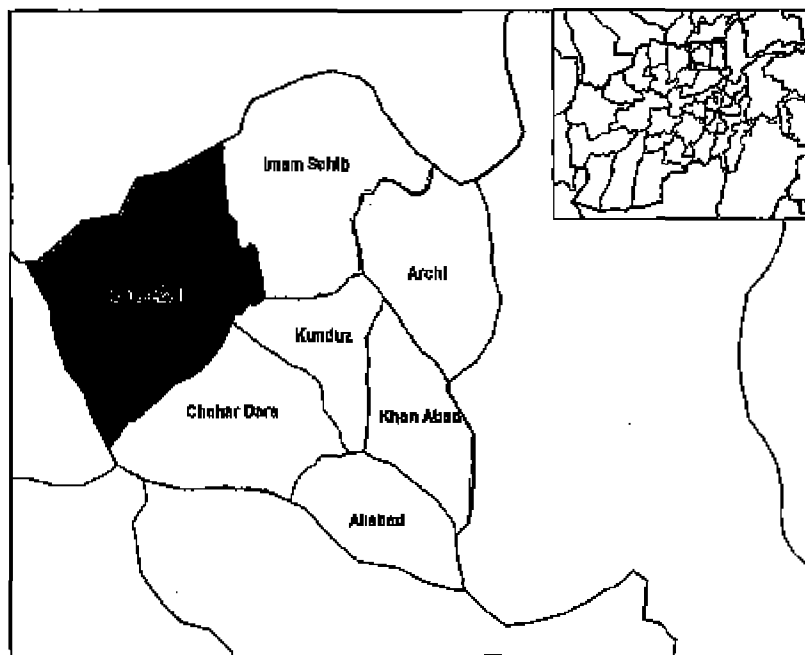
Dari
Uzbek

Baghlan Province - Capital: Puli Khumri

Geography and Climate:	Over half mountainous Lies on main route to Northern provinces
Economy:	Agriculture
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Significant amounts of cultivation and trafficking
Dangers/Concerns:	Opium cultivation remains major concern
Significance:	In 1st century CE was the site of a famous Zoroastrian fire temple; currently has the only functioning cement factory in Afghanistan

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Northern Afghanistan – Kunduz



Ethnic Groups:

Pashtun
Tajik
Uzbek
Hazara
Turkmen

Languages:

Pashtu
Dari

128

Kunduz Province - Capital: Kunduz

Geography and Climate:	¾ flat; 12% mountainous; fertile land; route to access Tajikistan
Economy:	Agriculture
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Very little production; part of Kabul-Pullkhumri-Kunduz-Tajikistan drug route
Dangers/Concerns:	Illegally armed groups and warlords; community support for Anti-government elements; Chahar Dar considered a high threat district
Significance:	On 4 September 2009 German ISAF elements called an air strike against two NATO fuel trucks that had been captured by insurgents; as a result of the US aircraft attack, more than 90 people, among them at least 40 civilians, who had gathered to collect fuel.

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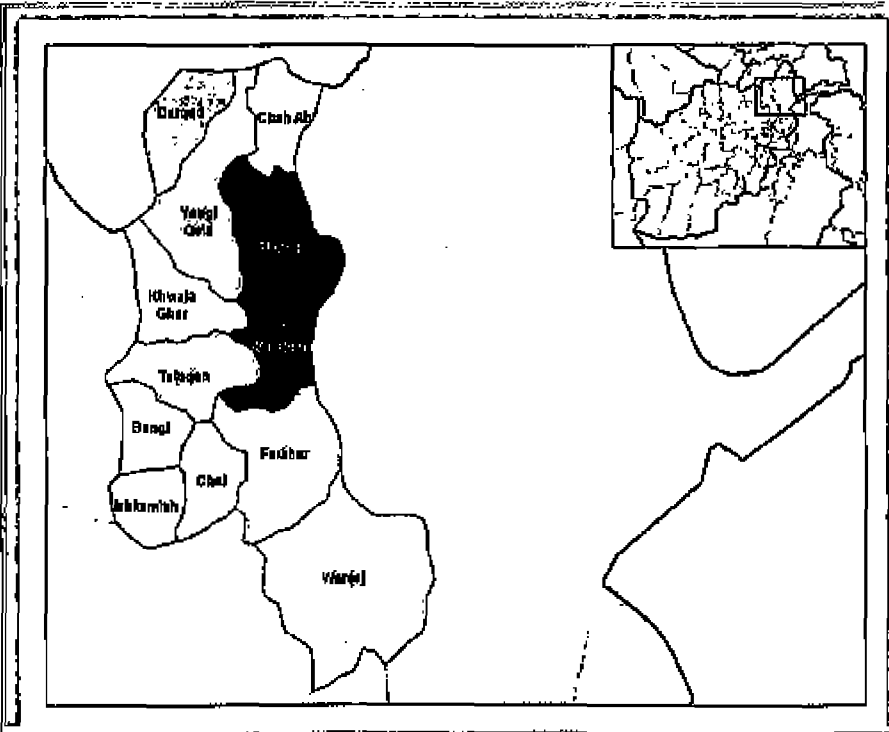
NORTHEASTERN REGION
TAKHAR, PANJSHIR, NURESTAN, BADAKHSHAN



Northeastern Region:

The northeastern border climate is made up of the highest elevations in the Hindu Kush mountain range which leads up to the Himalayan Mountains. During the winter months, these mountains are impassable and during the summer, heavy poppy trafficking is pervasive. The provinces covered in this region are Takhar, Panjshir, Nurestan, and Badakhshan. With the exception of Nurestan, which is almost 100% Nurestani, the region has an ethnic majority of Tajiks; Uzbeks are the next largest group, and there are a few Hazara and Pashtun populations. Although the Panjshir and Badakhshan provinces never came under Taliban control, there is some Taliban activity in the region. Nurestan is an area of concern as Taliban have been able to operate openly in the region.

Northeast Afghanistan – Takhar



Ethnic Groups:

Majority:

Uzbeks and

Tajiks

Minorities:

Pashtuns and

Hazara

Languages:

Dari

Uzbek

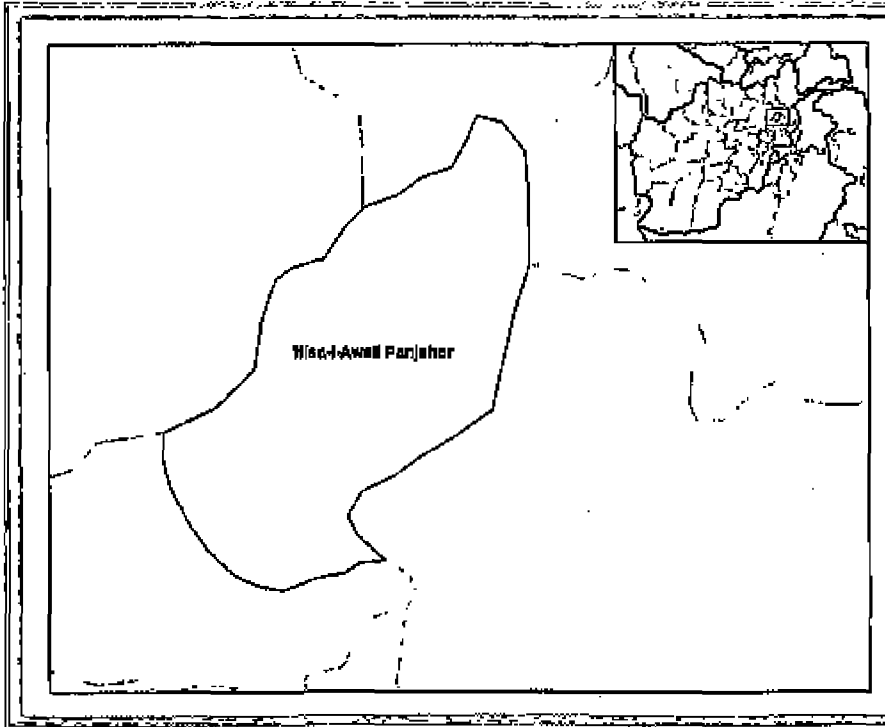
Pashtun

Takhar Province - Capital: Taloqan

Geography and Climate:	Border with Tajikistan; more than half mountainous; one third flat terrain
Economy:	Salt mines one of country's major mineral resources; agriculture, trade and services
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Used by drug traffickers as a secure passage to Tajikistan
Dangers/Concerns:	Internal disputes between local commanders, tribal leaders, and drug traffickers
Significance:	Location where Ahmad Shah Masood, the Tajik Northern Alliance commander, was assassinated

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Northeastern Afghanistan – Panjshir



Ethnic Groups:
Mostly Tajik
Some Hazara
(Small number of
Pashtun,
Nurestani,
Pashai)

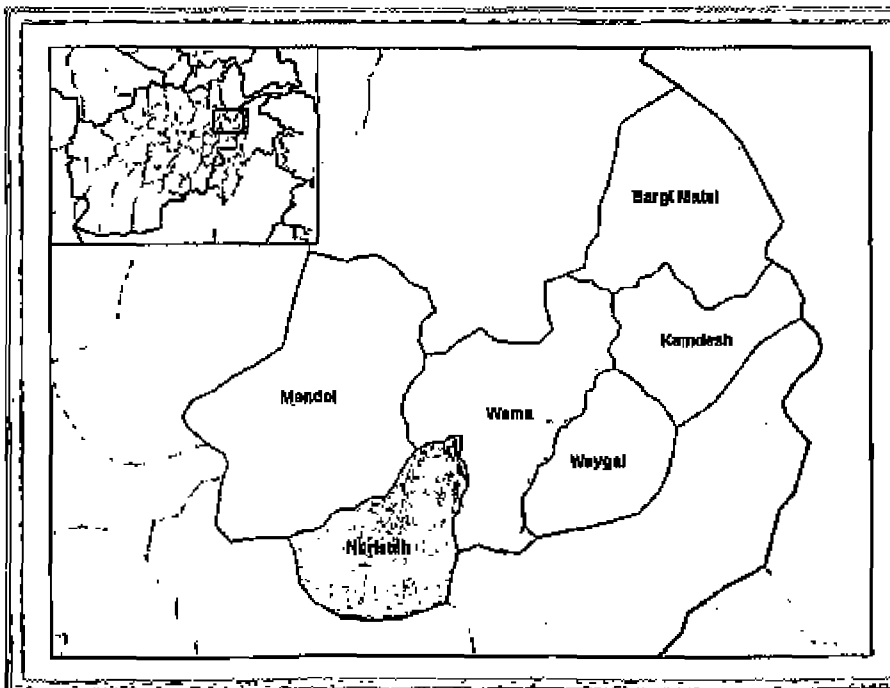
Languages:
Dari
(Small pockets of
Pashtu speakers)

134

Panjshir Province - Capital: Bazarak (formerly part of Kapisa Province)

Geography and Climate:	Panjshir valley; mountainous, high peaks; streams, greenery
Economy:	Non farm-related labor, agriculture, trade and services
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Virtually poppy-free
Dangers/Concerns:	Relatively secure; some unexploded ordinances
Significance:	Panjshir = Five Lions; Tomb of Shaheed (martyr) Ahmad Shah Masood, commander of Northern Alliance; anti-Taliban area

Northwestern Afghanistan – Nurestan



Ethnic Groups:
Nurestani - 99%

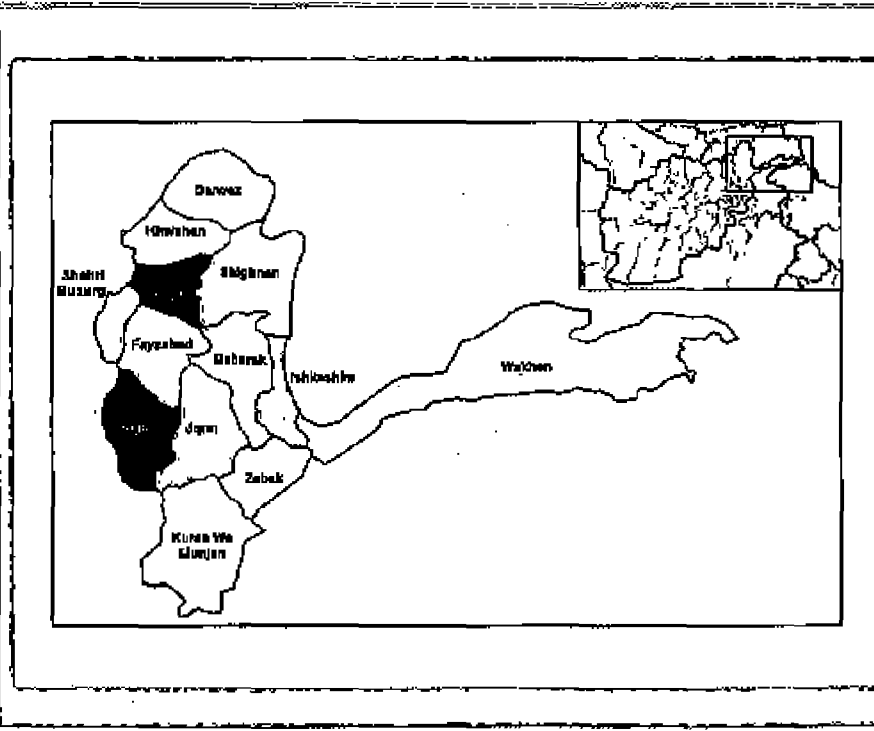
Languages:
Nurestani - 78%
Peshayee - 15%

136

Nurestan Province - Capital: Parun

Geography and Climate:	99% mountainous; most impassable regions
Economy:	Agriculture, livestock, day labor; trade across border with Pakistan; one of poorest regions
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Land unsuitable for poppy cultivation; some drug trafficking across border
Dangers/Concerns:	Poor security/some parts under "enemy" control lack of infrastructure; local militias stronger than government
Significance:	Until the 1890s, the region was known as Kafiristan (Persian for "Land of the non-believers") because its inhabitants were non-Muslims

Northeastern Afghanistan – Badakshan



Ethnic Groups:
Majority Tajik

Languages:
Dari

Badakhshan Province - Capital: Fayzabad

Geography and Climate:	Between Hindu Kush and Amu Darya; only province to border China via Wakhan Corridor; prone to earthquakes and seasonal flooding
Economy:	Agriculture; rich in natural minerals
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Belleved to be a major drug smuggling route
Dangers/Concerns:	Insufficient protection of the Tajik - Afghan border
Significance:	Rich in minerals; has attracted China who has helped with reconstruction of roads and infrastructure

EASTERN REGION
KONAR, NANGARHAR, LOWGAR, PAKTIA, KHOST,
PAKTIKA, GHAZNI, ZABUL, LAGHMAN



Eastern Region

The eastern border region is extremely mountainous. During the summer, the temperatures can reach in excess of 100 degrees Fahrenheit and during the winter, the mountains are impassable due to heavy snowfall. With many narrow canyons, valleys, and mountain passes, this region provides treacherous terrain that is perfect for guerilla warfare operations. The Pashtun are the ethnic majority in this region, with much smaller numbers of Tajiks and Hazaras. The security of the region is threatened by its insecure border with Pakistan, which allows for free migration in both directions and smuggling of the region's natural resources. The region is also known as an insurgent hideout, especially in the province of Konar. The provinces covered in section include Konar, Nangarhar, Lowgar, Paktia, Khost, Paktika, Ghazni, Laghman, and Zabul.

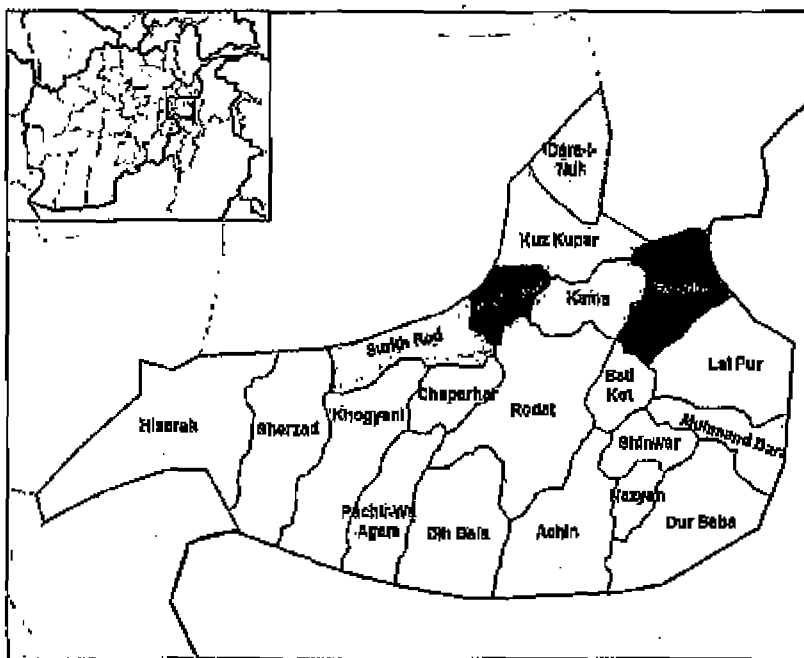
141

Languages:
Pashtu

Konar Province - Capital: Asadabad

Geography and Climate:	Embedded in Hindu Kush; heavily mountainous and forested
Economy:	Agriculture, livestock, day labor; some timber (smuggling to Pakistan)
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Trafficking of heroin and opium into the Federally Administered Tribal Areas of Pakistan
Dangers/Concerns:	Established base of insurgent groups; possible Al Qaeda sanctuary
Significance:	Looting of national assets (timber and gems) is a destabilizing factor for province; with some of the largest forests in Afghanistan, trees are now rapidly being cut down illegally and smuggled to Pakistan

Eastern Afghanistan – Nangarhar



Ethnic Groups:
Pashtun - 90%
Pashayee - 7%
Tajiks
Gujar

Languages:
Pashtu - 92%
Dari - 8%

Nangahar Province - Capital: Jalalabad

Geography and Climate: More than 1/2 mountainous; 2/5 flat land

Economy: 1/2 agriculture; trade and services

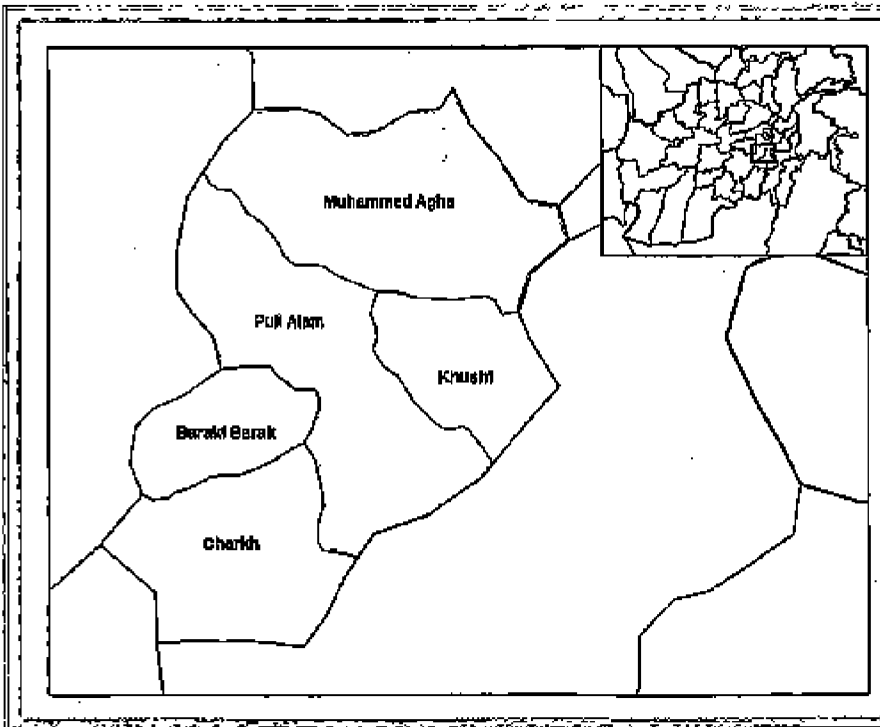
Drug Production/Trafficking: Opium and cannabls production prevalent; once center of poppy production (95% decrease in 2005)

Dangers/Concerns: Illegally armed groups, anti-government elements active and heavily armed; migration from and to Pakistan

Significance: Jalalabad is considered one of the most important cities of the Pashtun culture; the mausoleum of both Amir Habibullah and King Amanullah is located in Jalalabad, and the great Pashtun leader Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan (Bacha Khan) is also buried there

145

Eastern Afghanistan – Lowgar



Ethnic Groups:
Pashtun - 60%
Tajik/Hazara - 40%

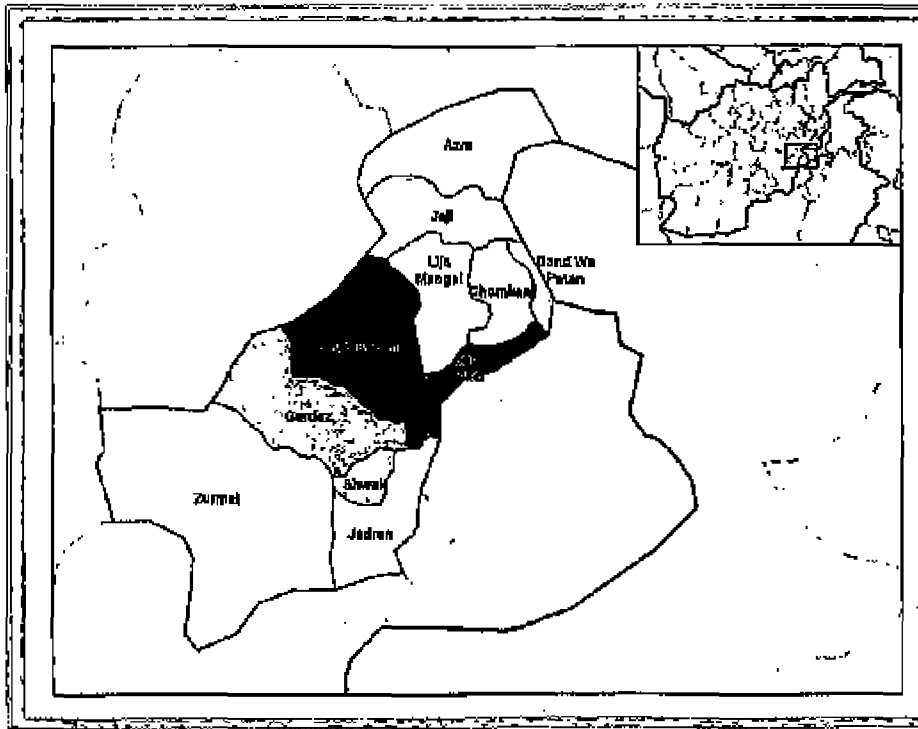
Languages:
Pashtu - 60%
Dari - 40%

146

Lowgar Province - Capital: Pol-e-'Alam

Geography and Climate:	Flat river valley (Lowgar River); rugged mountains in East, South, and Southwest; Tera Pass a critical chokepoint
Economy:	Agriculture, livestock; Ainak copper mine, Mohammad Agha mine; rich with minerals
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Consistently poppy-free between 2002 - 2009
Dangers/Concerns:	Assessed as medium threat; some anti-personnel mines; Taliban assassinated governor in 2008
Significance:	During Soviet-Afghan War, ~ 350 Soviet tanks destroyed in the Tera Pass by the Mujahideen

Eastern Afghanistan – Paktia



Ethnic Groups:

Pashtun - 91%

Tajik - 9%

Languages:

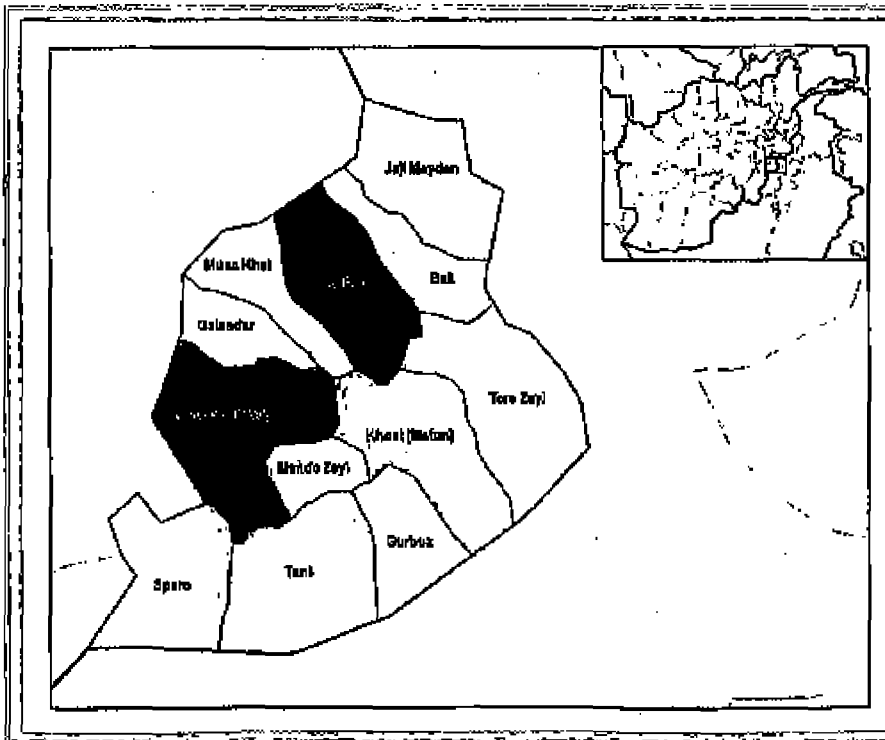
Pashtu

Paktia Province - Capital: Gardez

Geography and Climate:	Sefa – Kadow (KG) Pass in Zadran Arc is the premier mountain range in Paktia
Economy:	Forestry and the mining of chromites and natural gas; grains, crops and apple, walnut, and apricot orchards
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Significant precursor trafficking occurs along the eastern belt of Paktia
Dangers/Concerns:	Security situation remains volatile; insurgent presence active or at least present in all Districts
Significance:	KG Pass is the historical home to anti-government elements and Haqqani Network; Shah-I Kot Valley in Zormat District, a mountainous region historically used as a base for renegades

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Eastern Afghanistan – Khost



Ethnic Groups:
Pashtun - 99%

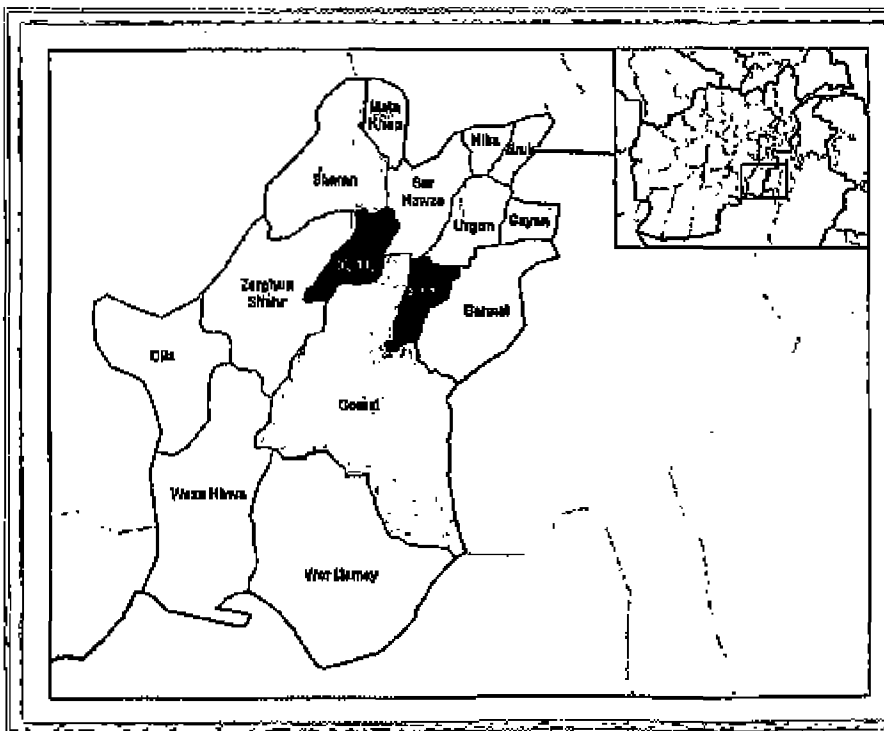
Languages:
Pashtu

150

Khost Province - Capital: Khost

Geography and Climate:	Dominated by the Khost Valley and the mountains that surround it; natural forests run along the border
Economy:	Agriculture and animal husbandry
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Heroin and opium are trafficked into the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) region of Pakistan where insurgent groups linked to the Taliban and Al-Qaeda dominate
Dangers/Concerns:	Security situation remains volatile with an insurgent presence active or at least present in all Districts
Significance:	Once part of Paktia province; Khost City the first to be liberated from communist rule during Soviet occupation

Eastern Afghanistan – Paktika



Ethnic Groups:

Pashtun

Languages:

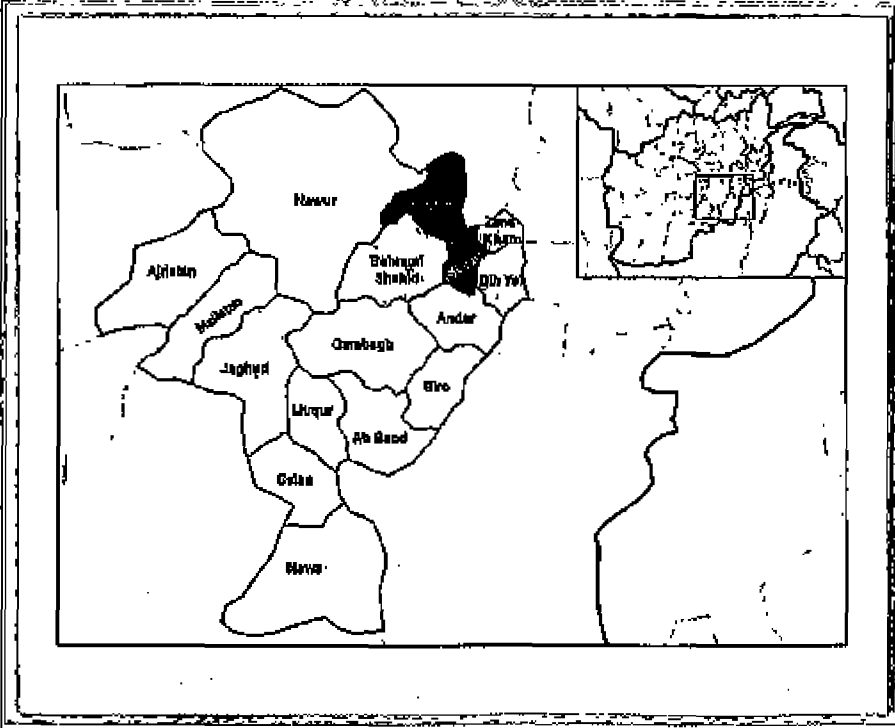
Pashtu

152

Paktika Province - Capital: Sharan

Geography and Climate:	Arid; high desert; 32% mountainous
Economy:	Agriculture and animal husbandry; overall literacy rate in province is extremely low at just 2%
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Heroin and opium are trafficked into the FATA region of Pakistan
Dangers/Concerns:	Security situation remains volatile with an insurgent presence active or at least present in all Districts
Significance:	Once part of Paktia province, was the site of many battles during Soviet occupation

Eastern Afghanistan – Ghazni



Kuchis (summer)

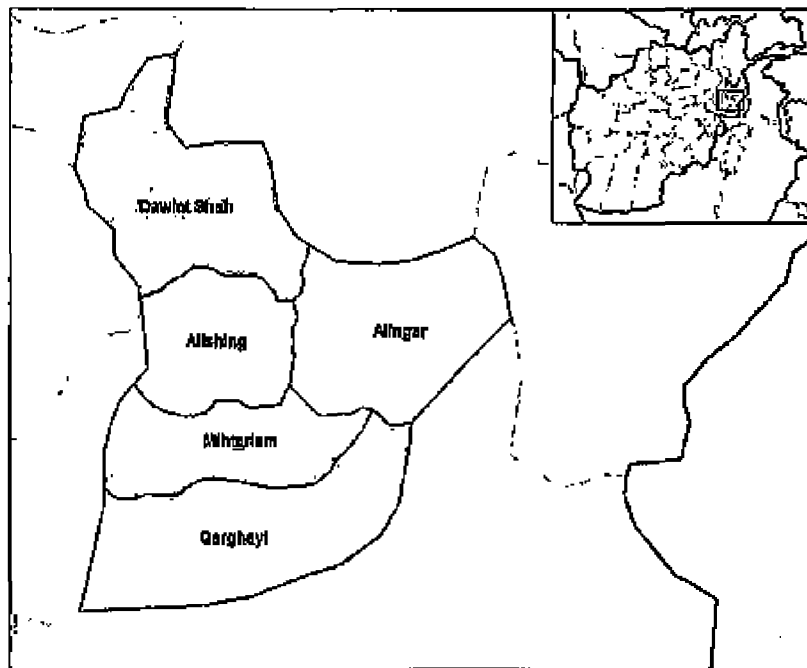
Darl - 47%

Ghazni Province - Capital: Ghazni

Geography and Climate:	Arid; level towards the Southeast, more mountainous and wet toward the Northwest
Economy:	Agriculture, animal husbandry and day labor
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Poppy-free
Dangers/Concerns:	Security situation remains volatile with an insurgent presence active or at least present in all Pashtun districts; Hazara areas low threat
Significance:	Was once the center of the Ghaznavid Empire, which ruled much of India, Central Asia, and Persia

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Eastern Afghanistan – Laghman



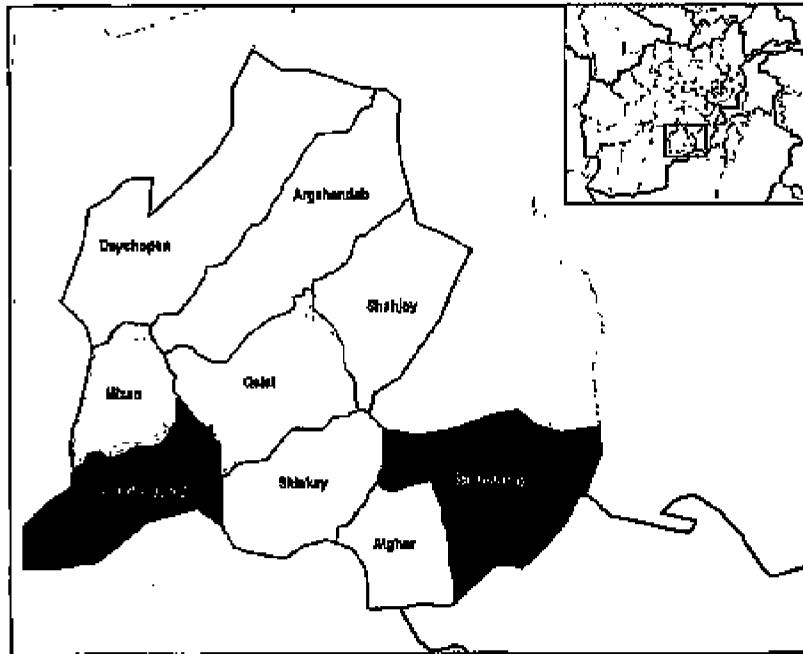
Ethnic Groups:
Pashtuns - 58%
Pashai
Nurestani

Languages:
Pashtu - 58%
Peshayee - 33%
Darl - 9%

Laghman Province - Capital: Mihtarlam

Geography and Climate:	55.4% mountainous; 40.9% flat
Economy:	Trade and services, non-farm labor, agriculture and livestock; rich with stones and minerals
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Some poppy growing; smuggling center for heroin
Dangers/Concerns:	Large number of illegally armed groups; active anti-government elements
Significance:	Once the center of Mahayanist Buddhism with several monasteries

Eastern Afghanistan – Zabul



Ethnic Groups:
Pashtun
Kuchi (seasonal)

Languages:
Pashtu - 80%
Dari - 20%

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Zabul Province - Capital:Qalat

Geography and Climate:	Remote and sparsely populated; 41% mountainous; arid; severe drought has reduced fertility of the land
Economy:	Agricultural communities established along Arghandab and Tarnak rivers; animal husbandry
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Some relatively small scale opium cultivation; widespread trafficking along Ring Road and easy overland access to Pakistan
Dangers/Concerns:	Security situation remains volatile with an Insurgent presence active or at least present in all Districts
Significance:	Pashtun residents deeply conservative; Infrastructure is largely undeveloped; only Qalat City has electricity and only Ring Road paved

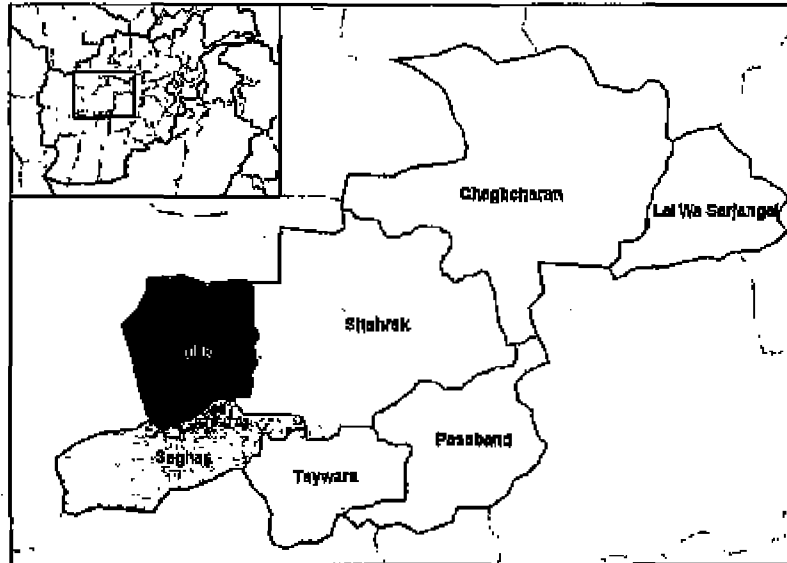
CENTRAL REGION
GHOR, DAYKUNDI, ORUZGAN, WARDAK, KABUL,
KAPISA, PARVAN, BAMYAN



Central Region

The central climate area is generally covered by the Hindu Kush Mountains. Summers can reach temperatures of 100 degrees Fahrenheit and winters will be bitterly cold with very heavy snowfall. The provinces in this area are Ghor, Daykundi, Oruzgan, Wardak, Kabul, Kapisa, Parvan and Bamyan. This area is considered to be a high desert with terrain similar to southern Arizona and the mountains of central Nevada and eastern California. The area hosts a mix of Pashtun, Tajik, and Hazara, with several other groups in smaller numbers. As the physical center of the country, the region has been influenced by several cultural movements and the Silk Road. The Buddhists statues of Bamyan, destroyed by the Taliban in 2001, are a well-known artifact of the region's rich cultural past. The security of the region has deteriorated, especially in Oruzgan and Wardak.

Central Afghanistan – Ghor



Ethnic Groups:

Tajik - 58%

Hazara - 39%

Pashtun - 3%

Languages:

Dari - 97%

Pashtu - 3%

Ghor Province - Capital: Chaghcharan

Geography and Climate: Extremely mountainous and characterized by small, isolated villages, which are generally inaccessible during the winter months

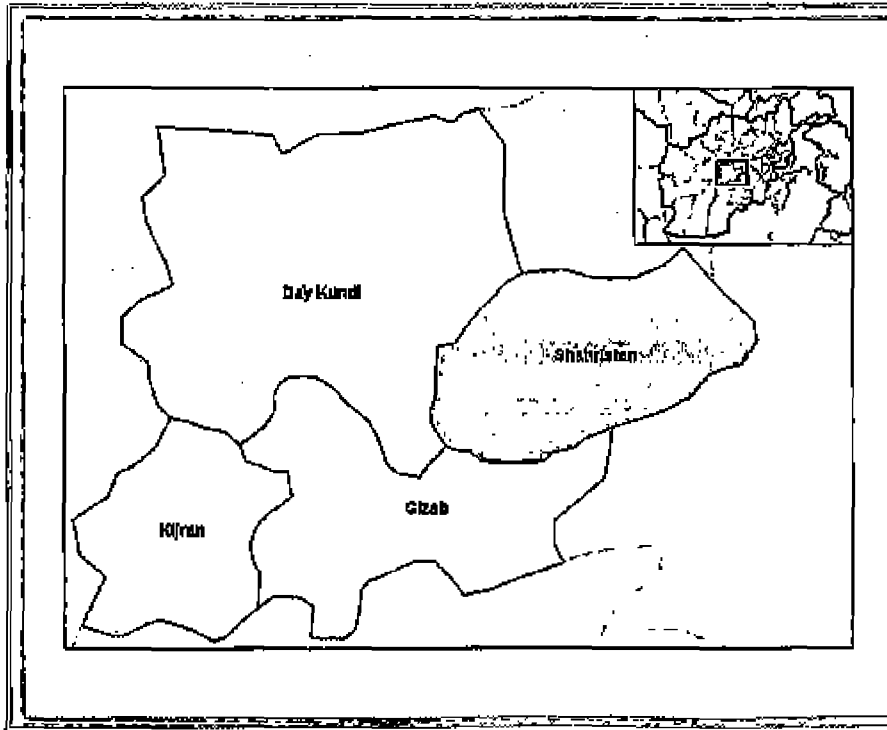
Economy: Agriculture and animal husbandry

Drug Production/Trafficking: Was cultivating opium poppy but between 2007 and 2009 had become poppy-free

Dangers/Concerns: Lowest threat province in region

Significance: The Minaret of Jam, the second tallest minaret in the world and a national treasure, is located in a remote valley on the banks of the Hari Rud River

Central Afghanistan – Daykundi



Ethnic Groups:

Hazara - 86%
Pashtun - 8.5%
Baluch - 3.5%

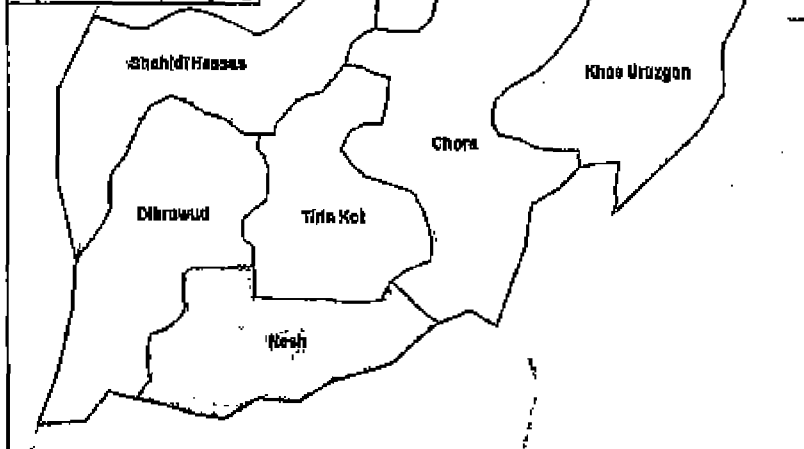
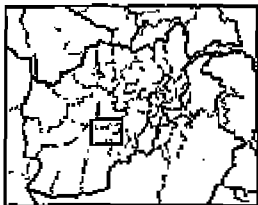
Languages:

Dari - 91%
Pashtu - 13%

Daykundi Province - Capital: Nili

Geography and Climate:	90% of terrain mountainous
Economy:	Agriculture; 99% of the population of Daykundi lives in rural districts while 1% lives in urban areas
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Primary transit route for traffickers who transport drugs from the north of Bamyan to the south of Daykundi to provinces like Helmand and Oruzgan
Dangers/Concerns:	Gizab District recently under AGE control (Pashtun-populated Gizab annexed to Oruzgan province in 2006, but change not shown on maps)
Significance:	Part of ethnic region of Hazarajat; Nili first city to have female mayor (Ms. Azra Jafari)

Central Afghanistan – Oruzgan



Ethnic Groups:
Pashtun
Hazara
Kuchi (seasonal)

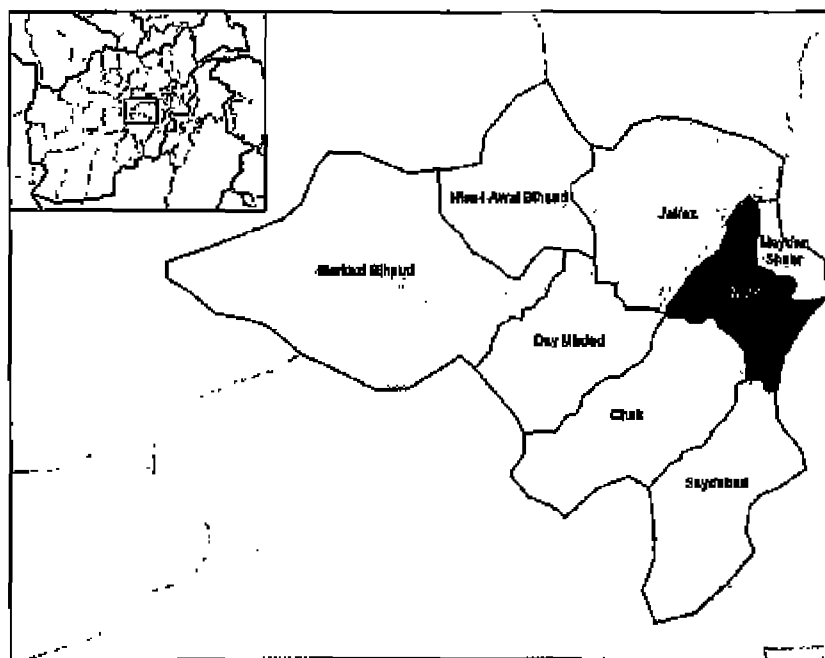
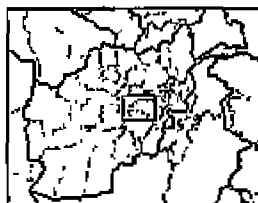
Languages:
Pashtu - 90%
Dari

166

Oruzgan Province - Capital:Tirin Kot

Geography and Climate:	Around three quarters of the province (72%) is mountainous or semi mountainous terrain
Economy:	Agriculture (grains, apricots, and almonds) was the primary source of livelihood, but many farmers have switched to poppy production
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Opium is now the province's main source of revenue
Dangers/Concerns:	Security situation remains volatile with an insurgent presence active or at least present in all Districts
Significance:	Well-known as the birthplace of Taliban leader Mullah Omar

Central Afghanistan – Wardak



Ethnic Groups:
Pashtun - 70%
Hazara/Tajik - 27%

Languages:
Majority Pashtu
Some Dari

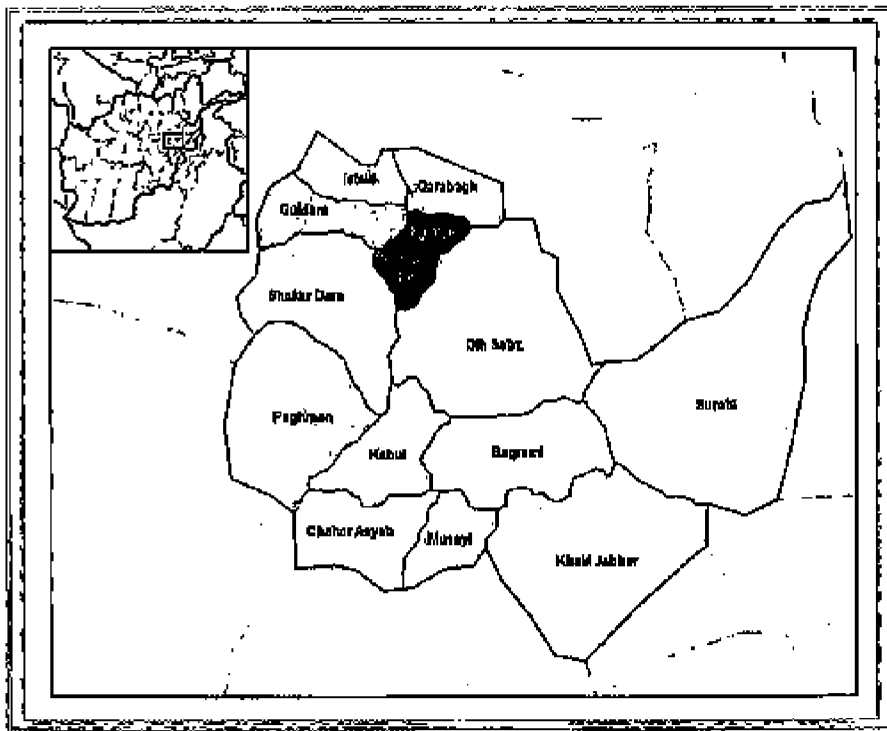
168

Wardak Province - Capital: Maidan Shar

Geography and Climate:	4/5 mountainous; Southern outcrops of Hindu Kush
Economy:	Trade, agriculture and livestock; stone quarrying; marble factory; marble mines inactive
Drug Production/Trafficking:	After five years of continuous cultivation, the province has regained its original poppy-free status as of 2008
Dangers/Concerns:	Increasing physical presence of Taliban; lack of confidence in government; land disputes between Hazara and Kuchi
Significance:	During the Soviet-Aghan war, much of the population emigrated from the province to Iran (Hazara) and Pakistan (Pashtun), and many have returned since the fall of the Taliban, putting a strain on the already damaged infrastructure.

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Central Afghanistan – Kabul



Ethnic Groups:

Pashtun - 60%

Tajik

Hazara

Uzbek

Turkmen

Baluch

Sikh

Hindu

Languages:

Pashtu

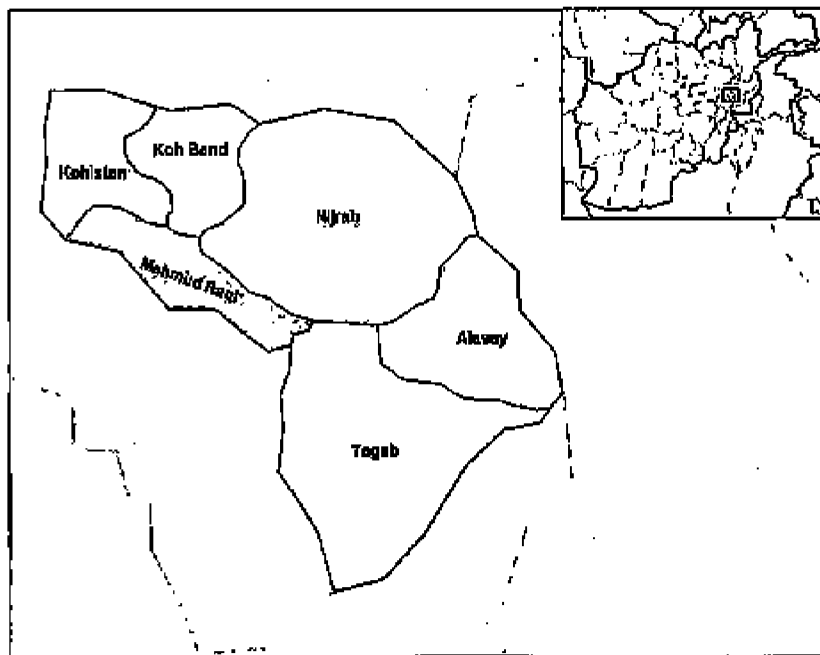
Dari

170

Kabul Province - Capital: Kabul City (Capital of Afghanistan)

Geography and Climate:	Valley at crossroad; Kabul River; Arid, semi-arid steppe; low precipitation, dry and dusty
Economy:	Industrial; international trade partners
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Drug route connecting South to North; Route to Pakistan; Small cultivation in Surobi
Dangers/Concerns:	As capital, security imperative; target of high profile and complex suicide attacks
Significance:	Was center of Zoroastrianism; Occupied by many forces to include: British, Soviets, Taliban; Destroyed by civil war after Soviet departure

Central Afghanistan – Kapisa



Ethnic Groups:

Tajik - 30%

Pashtun - 27%

Pashai - 17%

Nurestani

Languages:

Dari

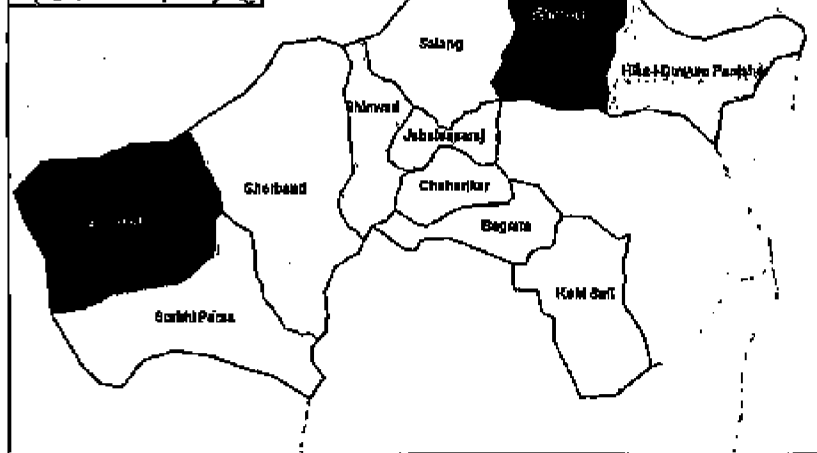
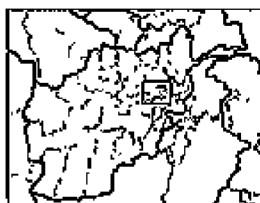
Some Pashtu

Kapisa Province - Capital: Mahmud Raqi

Geography and Climate:	Partially surrounded by mountains; two rivers
Economy:	Agriculture; talc mine; "Mela" – trade day once/week
Drug Production/Trafficking:	At one time a huge location of poppy cultivation, but has become poppy-free
Dangers/Concerns:	Satisfactory security
Significance:	Destroyed by Cyrus the Great; part of Buddhist kingdom; known for wine

173

Central Afghanistan – Parvan



Ethnic Groups:

Tajik/Hazara -

71%

Pashtun - 29%

Languages:

Dari - 70%

Pashtu - 30%

Parvan Province - Capital: Charikar

Geography and Climate: 2/3 mountainous; 1/4 flat land; Parvan River; main route from Kabul to North; Salang Road

Economy: Industrial crops; herbs

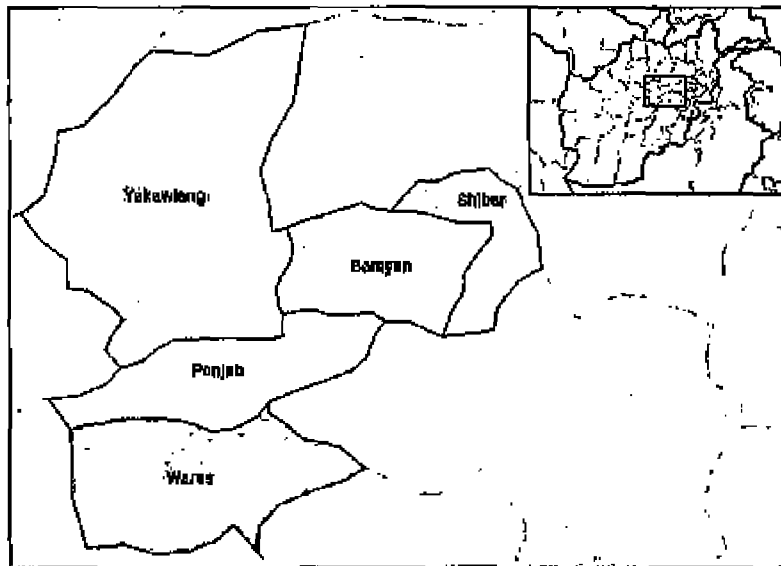
Drug Production/Trafficking: Regained its original opium poppy free status in 2008 (and continued to be poppy free in 2009) after five years of continuous cultivation between 2003 and 2007

Dangers/Concerns: Relatively secure

Significance: Long history of battles; 1840 – defeat British; resisted Soviets and Taliban

175

Central Afghanistan – Bamyan



Ethnic Groups:
Majority Hazara
Tajik - 15%
Tatars

Languages:
Dari - 96%
Some Pashtu

Bamyan Province - Capital: Bamyan

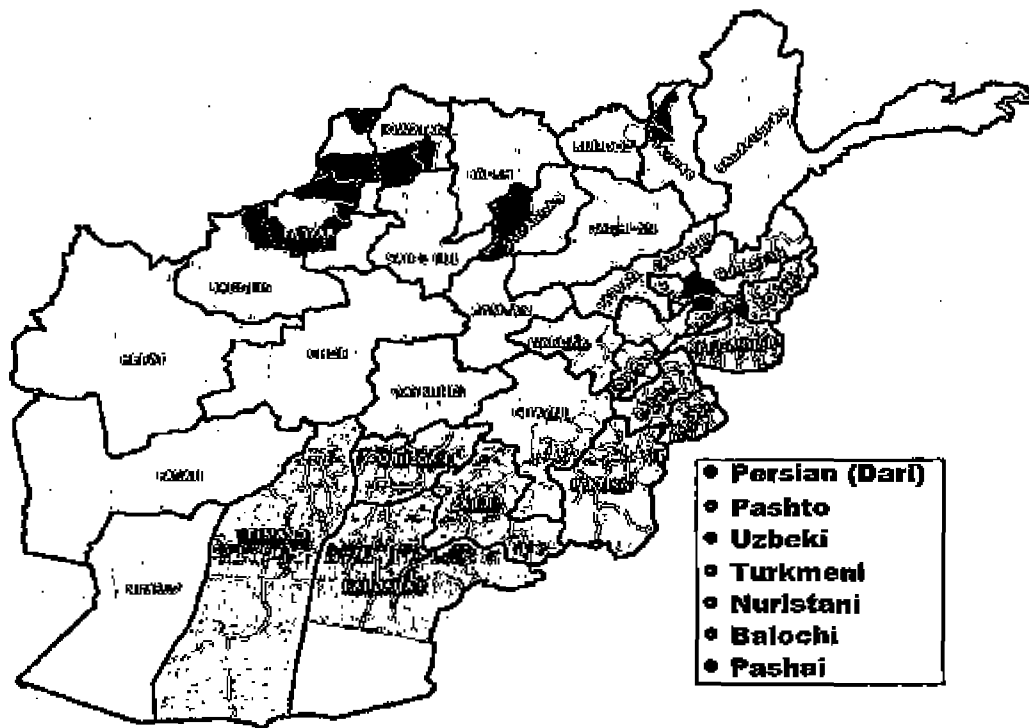
Geography and Climate:	Dry mountainous terrain; several rivers, including Punjab; Band-e-Amir lakes
Economy:	Agriculture, livestock; day labor secondary
Drug Production/Trafficking:	Some reports of trafficking; small scale poppy cultivation
Dangers/Concerns:	Many landmines
Significance:	Cultural capital of Hazaras; generally opposed to Taliban; strategically placed to thrive from Silk Road; Buddhists of Bamyan statues destroyed by Taliban; first female governor

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LANGUAGE GUIDE

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Major Languages



LANGUAGE GUIDE

- **Dari (Afghan Persian/Farsi) and Pashtu are the official languages of Afghanistan**
- **Pashtu was declared the National Language of the country during the beginning of King Zahir in 1933; however, Dari has always been used for business and government transactions**
- **Pashtu is primarily spoken in Southern areas and the Eastern areas bordering Pakistan; Dari is used in much of the rest of the country**
- **Dari only differs slightly from Persian Farsi; both use the same alphabet**
- **Pashtu has an alphabet distinct from Farsi/Dari; there are two main dialects (Southern and Northern) that slightly vary from one another (all dialects are mutually understood by all Pashtu speakers)**
- **A significant percentage of the vocabulary of both languages is borrowed from Arabic**

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Directions

*rooba roowi
makhamakh



straight

*shamaal
shamaal

N

*maabayn
po manz ke



between

*gharb
gharb

W

E

*sharq
sharq

*chap
chop



left



*junoob
junoob

*raas
khe



right

*Dari transliteration on top / Pashtun on bottom

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Dari

General Terminology

Pashtu

Hello salaam	Reply salaam
Hello(formal) salaam alaykum Reply waalaykum as-salaam	Good Evening soub bakhair Reply soub bakhair
Goodbye khudaa aafayz	Reply khudaa aafayz
How are you? chatoor asbryn?	I am fine khooz astum
Please luffaa	Thank you lashakur
Yes balay	Reply khyayash maykonum
No nay	That/that ot/oo
Do you understand? faameedayn?	Here/there conja/conja
I don't understand na faameedum	Sorry boboldshayn
Can you repeat that lakraar kounayn?	Speak slowly aashaa-saa gap bayzanayn
Show me nashaan belayn	
I ma	you shomaa (pl/polite) too (sg/familiar)
youre az shumaa	they oonaa
	he/she ot
	theirs az oonaa

Hello Salaamu alaikum	Reply Walaikums salaam
Good morning Sahoor pa khaif	Good Evening Mashoom pa khaif
Goodbye De khuday pa amaan	Reply Pa makha da sha
How are you? Tsunga ye?	I am fine Za sha yam
Please Luffan	Thank you Marapa
Yes Ho	Reply Haa kawnm
No Na	That/that Dagha/Hagha
Do you understand? Tasse puhazhal?	Here/there Dalla/Halla
I don't understand Za na puhazhan	
Can you repeat that Tasse byee wayafai sal?	Speak slowly Qasr wawayyast
Show me Maa le wshayast	
I Za	you tasee
youre ashai	they haghol
	he hagha
	she hagha
	theirs De haghol

Medical Terminology

Darl

Pashtu

Where is the pain?
Where are you injured?

kujaa-ayl dard maykona?
kujaa-ayl zakhmee shuda?

Labels for Darl diagram:
Eyes: chashmaa
Mouth: deen
Torso: scena
Arm: adest
Stomach: shekam
Groin: qackashak
Feet: paayaa
Head: sar
Neck: gardan
Back: poust
Hand: deet
Leg: paay
Ears: goushaa
Nose: nasnaa

I am going to dress the wound
ma zakhama paarsmaan maykonum
I am going to give you an injection
ma samaa-ra pechkoree maykonum
I am going to give you this medicine
ma be shumea ee dawaa-za maylum

Hospital shafakhana	Doctor dakter	Sick markez
Wounded zakhmee	Shot marree khoorda	Burnt sokhta
Injury zakhm	Infection zakhm maskroubaa	Blood khoon
Dead morda	Medicine dawaa	Injection pechkoree
		Bandage baandaazh

Where is the pain?
Where are you injured?

Dard cheri day?
Zakhm cheri day?

Labels for Pashtu diagram:
Eyes: Stange
Mouth: Khula
Torso: Sha
Arm: Baazu
Stomach: Nas
Feet: Paha
Head: Sar
Neck: Womazh
Back: Shaa
Hand: Laas
Leg: Langay
Ears: Ghwazhuna
Nose: Paza

I am going to dress the wound
Za pa zakhm palai lagawam
I am going to give you an injection
Za laase te pechkoree lagawam
I am going to give you this medicine
Za laase te dagha damai dargawam

Hospital Roghun	Doctor Dakter	Sick Narogh
Wounded Zakhmi	Shot Vishalay	Burnt Swadzalay
Injury Zakhm	Blood Vina	Bandage Palai
Dead Maray	Medicine Damai	Injection Pechkari

Directions/Orders

Dari

Pashtu

Stop (person) draysh	Stop (a vehicle) draysh	Stop or I'll shoot draysh aga may faeer maykourum	Do not move shoor nekhou
Do not shoot faeer nekou	Do not raise your weapon salpaeele baalea nekou	Surrender tasteem shou	
Put your weapon down salpaeele porou	Hands up dastaa haalea	Lie down proot kou	Sit down basheh
Get up estaad shou	Turn around deor bukhou	Walk forward (to me) paysh byo	Walk forward (away from me) deor burou
Come here eeala bjae	Come out beeroon byaa	Stay there oorja baash	Stay here eeorja baash
Move arekel kou	Hurry ajale kou	Be quiet khaampash baash	Hands down dastaa paayson
Please open the door lufan darwaazara waaz konayn	Open the door darwaazara waaz kou		
Can we come in and ask you some questions? mayteenayn daroun byaayaym ou az shuma chand sawaal konayn?	Can I see your papers? mayteenayn asnaadeetouna bebeenum?		
We must search you maa baayad shumaara talashoo konaym	We must search your house maa baayad khaana-ay shumaara talashoo konaym		
You are free to go maytenayn burayn	You are under arrest bendeet maykonum	Disperse deor shawayn	
Go home khaana bureyn	Go away bunou	Form a line lein shawayn	One at a time yak yak nafer

Stop (person) Drazh	Stop (a vehicle) Wadrezha	Stop or I'll shoot Drazh yaa za dez kawam	Do not move Ma shora
Do not shoot Daz ma kawa	Do not raise your weapon Khpala wasla ma akhla	Surrender Taslim	
Put your weapon down Khpala wasla kshezhdei	Hands up Laseuna pora	Lie down Proit	Sit down Kshenai
Get up Porta sai	Turn around Shaa garzd	Walk forward Mekh la dzai	
Come here Dala raseai	Come out Raa wawdzai	Stay there Helta pasta sai	Stay here Oala pasta sai
Move Dzai	Hurry Zher	Be quiet Chup sai	Hands down Laseuna kshab
Please open the door Lufan darwaaza khlaasa kra!	Open the door Darwaaza khlaasa kra!		
Can we come in and ask you some questions? Muzh danana dai su, oo iso puchana kawalai su?	Can I see your papers? Za shase asnaad katakai sam?		
We must search you Muzh tasse talashai komu	We must search your house Muzh tasse kor talashai kawu		
You are free to go Tasse day sai	You are under arrest Tasse bandyaan yaast		
Disperse Khwaara sai	Go home Korta dzei	Go away Heta dzei	Form a line Qataar sai
			One at a time Pa waar yoo

People

Dari

Pashtu

Afghani dress
kalela-ay afghanees




Man
mard

Woman
zan

Western dress
kalela-ay khaarojoo





Child
lefi

Man
mard

Woman
zan

Old
poor



Young
jawaan



Western
khaarojoo



Afghani
afghaan



American
Soldier
askar-ay
amirkees



Afghani
soldier
askar-ay
afghaan



Police
poulees



Bomber
bangozaar



Thief
dus



Where are they?
What do they look like?

oosaa kuleeslayn?
oosaa cheqesem
masloom mayshan?

o .
sefr
s o
parj

o q
nou
4 Y
chaar

o A
asht
3 Y
say

7 Y
aft
2 Y
doo

o f
shash
1 Y
yak

Afghani dress
Afghani kalela




Man
Saray

Woman
Shadza

Western dress
Ghorbi kalela





Child
Halak

Man
Saray

Woman
Shadza

Old
Zor



Young
Dzwaan



Western
Charbi



Afghani
Afghani



American
Soldier
Amirkaay
askar



Afghani
soldier
Afghan askar



Police
Pala



Bomber
Bam
achawunkey



Thief
Ghal



Where are they?
What do they look like?

Haghol chani di?
Haghol too damol di?

o .
Sefr
s o
Pindza

o q
Naha
4 Y
Teefor

o A
Ato
3 Y
Dre

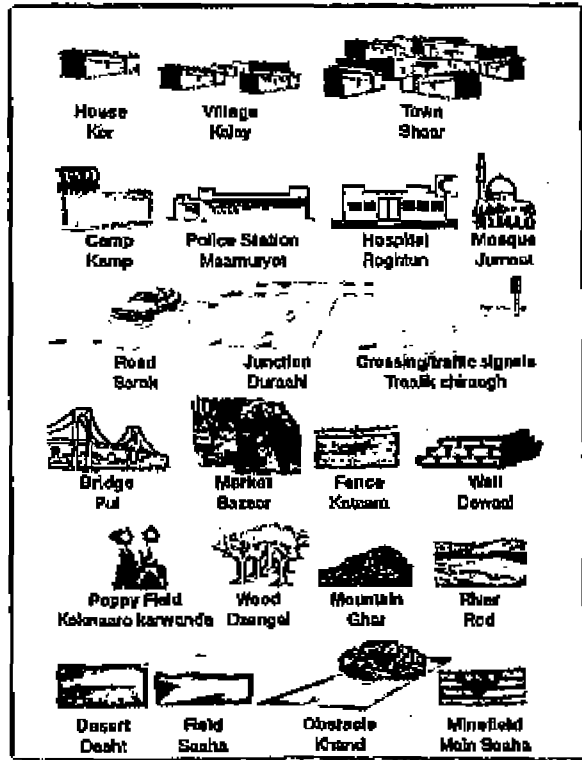
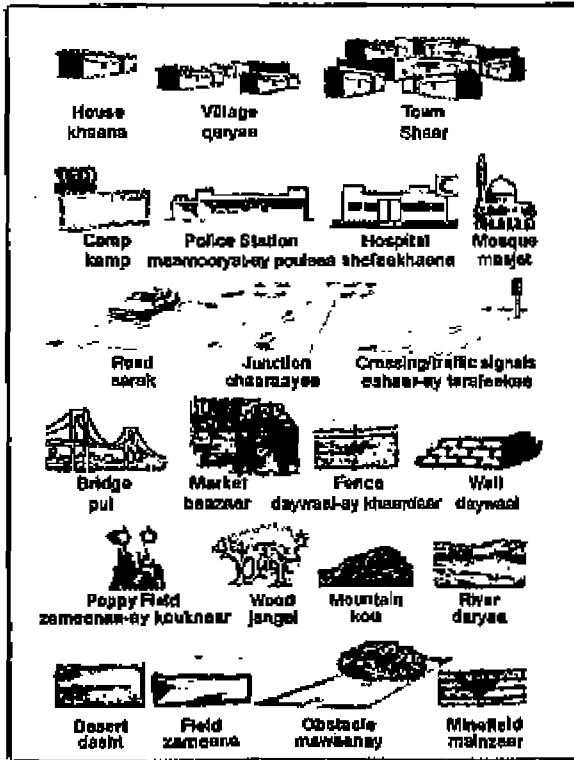
7 Y
Uwa
2 Y
Dre

o f
Shpash
1 Y
Yao

Places

Dari

Pashtu



Dari

General Questions

Pashtu

WHEN	che wakht? When did this happen? ee chee wakht ehud?	
WHERE	kujaa? Where are you from? az kujaa astayn? Where are you going? kujaa mayrayn? Where did this happen? da kujaa wasaas shud? Where is? ... kujaa? Where are? ... kujaaan?	
WHAT	chee? What do you want? chee maykicayn? What is your name? naam-ay shumma chees? What time? chand bejas?	
WHO	kee? Who are you? keestayn Who were they? oonaakee boodan?	
WHICH	direction? koodaam tarai?	
HOW	many? (for object) many? (for person) How far? chad daana? chand nafar? cheqa door? ... daarayn?	
DO YOU	have? Do you have ID (or ID card)? Do you have weapons? tazkira (kaard-ay hooya) daarayn? sala daarayn?	
DO YOU	need? Do you need help? Do you need water? ... kaar daarayn? kumak kaar daarayn? ao kaar daarayn?	

WHEN	Kala? When did this happen? Hagha kala waswai?	
WHERE	Cher? Where are you from? Tasse da kum dzay yaas? Where are you going? Tasse cheri dzai? Where did this happen? Hagha cheri wasu? Where is? Cher day? Where are? Cher di?	
WHAT	Tse? What do you want? Tasse tse ghwaari? What is your name? Tasse num ise day? What time? Tse wakht?	
WHO	Tak? Who are you? Tasse tak yaas? Who were they? Haghol tak wu?	
WHICH	direction? Kuma khwa?	
HOW	many? How far? Tsumra? Tsumra lara?	
DO YOU	have? Do you have ID? Do you have weapons? Tasse lara? Tasse pechari paana lara? Tasse wasla lara?	
DO YOU	need? Do you need help? Do you need water? Tasse ariya lara? Tasse maste te ariya lara? Tasse wabo te ariya lara?	

Time

Dari
Pashtu

How long ago? *chaqa wakht paysh?*
How long until? *ta chee wakht?*
O'clock *Beja*

Before *paysh az*
After *baad az*

5 minutes *parj daqa* **10 minutes** *da daqa*
15 minutes *paanzda daqa* **20 minutes** *beest daqa* **30 minutes** *soo daqa*

1 hour *yek saat* **Hour** *saat*

Today *emrouz* **Yesterday** *deemrouz* **Tomorrow** *fardeaa* **This week** *ee afa* **This month** *ee maa*

Next week *afa-ay sayenda* **Next month** *maa-ay sayenda*
Last week *afa-ay paysh* **Last month** *maa-ay paysh*

Morning *soub* **Saturday** *shambay*
Afternoon *baad az chaart* **Sunday** *yakshambay*
Evening *shaam* **Monday** *dushambay*
Day *rouz* **Tuesday** *sayshambay*
At Night *da shaow* **Wednesday** *chaarshambay*
Now *aalay* **Thursday** *panjshambay*
Later *paasaan* **Friday** *joome*



How long ago? *Taamra pe khwaan?*
How long until? *Tar kala?*
O'clock *Beja*

Before *Makhka*
After *Wusta*

5 minutes *Pinza daqiqa* **10 minutes** *Laas daqiqa*
15 minutes *Pinzalas daqiqa* **20 minutes** *Shel daqiqa* **30 minutes** *Dersh daqiqa*

1 hour *Yaw saat* **Hour** *Saat*

Today *Nan* **Yesterday** *Panun* **Tomorrow** *Sabaa* **This week** *Dagha wunaal* **This month** *Dagha myasaal*

Next week *Raara wana wunaal* **Next month** *Raara wana myasaal*
Last week *Tar wunaal* **Last month** *Tara myasaal*

Morning *Sahaur* **Saturday** *Shamba*
Afternoon *Ghama* **Sunday** *Yakshamba*
Evening *Masheant* **Monday** *Dushamba*
Day *Wredz* **Tuesday** *Sashamba*
At Night *Dashpa* **Wednesday** *Cheerashamba*
Now *Wus* **Thursday** *Panjshamba*
Later *Wusla* **Friday** *Juma*

Darl

Check Point Terminology

Pashtu



Switch off the engine
moular gul kou

motorbike
moularkeel balakeel

karachee



Get out of the car
az moular
pasyaan shou

Turn off the lights
chamaphes-eyla
gul kou

SHOW ME Your vehicle registration
asnod moulareta nashan belayn
Show me your driving licence
layanseta nashan belayn
Show me your weapon authorisation card
kart-ay salanseta nashan belayn

We must search your car
mas baayad moulareta telashoo konaym



Open the hood
baanaleta woz kou



Open the trunk
toobakseta woz kou

Close the hood
baanaleta baala kou

Close the trunk
toobakseta baala kou

You may go
maytanees buree



surkh



asbea



naarenjee



naswaaree



zard



esfeyd



sabz



ayda



Switch off the engine
Motor band krai

motorbike
Motorakeel

karachai



Get out of the car
La moular mawoo dzai

Turn off the lights
Chiraghuna gwai krai

SHOW ME Your vehicle registration
De motor asnod shikara kani
Show me your driving licence
Shoos jawaar shikara krai
Show me your weapon authorisation card
De wasle jawaar shikara krai

We must search your car
Mush stoos motor talashoo konaym



Open the hood
Baarat khloos krai



Open the trunk
Shaa khloos krai

Close the hood
Baarat band krai

Close the trunk
Shaa banda krai

You may go
Tasse talai



Sur



Shin



Naanorj



Nasrawi



Zhar



Spin



Zorghun

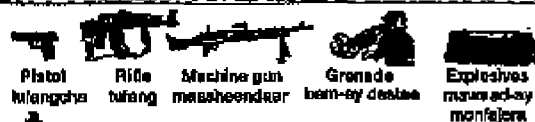


Tar

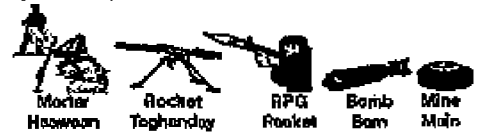
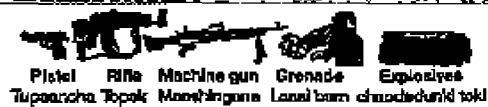
Weapons

Dari

Pashtu



What type of weapons?
 chee qasam sales?
 Where are they hidden/stored?
 torjae put shuden?



What type of weapons?
 Isa donai wala?
 Where are they hidden/stored?
 Cherl prate di?



Vocabulary

Basic Words

English	Dari	Pashtu
hello	salaam	as-salaamu 'alaykum
welcome	khoosh aamadeyn	kha raaghlaast
no	ney	na
yes	baley	ho
please	lutfan	mehrabaanee
excuse me	mey bakhsee	bakhana ghwaarom
right	durust	sahee
wrong	ghalat	ghalat

Vocabulary

Basic Phrases

English	Dari	Pashtu
good morning	bubn ba khayr	as-salaamu 'alaykum
good evening	shab ba khayr	shpa dee pa khayr
goodbye	baamaane khudaa	da khoday pa amaan
How are you?	chutoor haste?	
you are safe	bare shumaa khatar neys	khater nashta
my name is _____	naam maa _____ as	zama num _____ deh
What is your name?	name shumaa cheest ?	staa num tsa deh ?
I am fine, thanks	khoob astum, tashakur	zeh khe yum manana 192

Vocabulary

Survival

English	Dari	Pashtu
Do you speak English?	englisi yawd dawri?	ta pe inglisee khabaree kawaley shee?
What is your name?	name shumaa cheest?	staa num tsa deh?
calm down	awrawm bawsh	aaraam sha
you are safe	bare shumaa khatar neys	taaso ta kom khatar neshta
Where is _____?	_____ da kujass?	_____cheeree deh?
How many?	chand taw?	tso?

Vocabulary

Survival

English	Dari	Pashtu
shelter	panaw gaw	panaw gaw
medicine	dawaw	dawaw
Do you need help?	shumaa ba kumak zaroora daareen?	karnak ta zaroorat laray?
weapons	asleya	wasley
minefield	mayn daar	da maayn saha
danger area	saayey khatar	khatar naaka seema
What direction?	kudaam taraff?	kamee khwaata?

Vocabulary

Survival

English	Dari	Pashtu
Do you have_____?	shumaa_____daarlIn?	tasey_____larey?
Where?	kujaa?	cheeree?
What?	chee?	tso shey?
Who?	kee?	tsok?
Why?	chlraa?	walee?
help me	mara komak ko	zamaa sara marasta
water	aoo	ooba
food	nawn	dwodey

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Vocabulary

Command and Control

English	Dari	Pashtu
form a line	lavln shawim	pa gataar ke wadaregay
surrender	taslim sho	taslim sha
speak slowly	awhesta gap bezan	karaar khabaree kawa
calm down	awrawm bawsh	aaraam sha
Who is in charge?	awmer kis?	tsok salaahiyat larey?

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Numerals

US	Darī	Pashtun	US	Darī	Pashtun
0	sefer	sifar	9	no	naha
1	yak	yo	10	da	las
2	doo	dwa	11	yaazdaa	yolas
3	sey	drey	12	duwaazdaa	dowlas
4	chaar	salor	13	seyzdaa	dīyaarlas
5	panj	pinza	14	chaardaa	swaarlas
6	shash	shpag	15	panzdaa	peenzalas
7	haft	oowa	16	shaanzdaa	shparlas
8	hasht	ata	17	havdaa	wol-las 197

Numerals Cont.

US	Dari	Pashtu	US	Dari	Pashtu
18	hazh-daa	ata-las	90	nawad	navee
19	nuzdaa	non-las	100	sad	sel
20	beest	shal	1,000	yag hazaar	zer
30	see	dersh	10,000	daa-azaar	las zer
40	chel	tsalveKht	100,000	yak sad-azaar	sel zera
50	penjaa	panzohs	Million	yak melyoon	milyon
60	shast	shpeeta	first	awal	lomray
70	haftaad	aweyah	second	du-wam	dohom
80	hashtaad	ateyah	thlrd	sey-wum	dreyam ^{19A}

Cultural Proverbs, Expressions, and Idioms

- Tajik proverb says "A person's navel is on his belly while the world's navel is on the Pamirs."
- "There is a path to the top of the highest mountain."
- "The first day you meet, you are friends. The next day you meet, you are brothers."
- "Don't stop a donkey that is not yours." Meaning to mind your own business.
- "Blood cannot be washed out with blood."
- "No rose is without thorns."
- "Without investigating the water, don't take off your shoes to walk through it."
- "A liar is forgetful."
- "You can't clap with one hand." There is strength in Union.
- "A river is made drop by drop." Step by step, precept by precept.
- "The right answer to a fool is silence." Silence is golden.
- "Don't show me the palm tree show me the dates."
- "What you see in yourself is what you see in the world."
- "Vinegar that is free, is sweeter than honey." People love getting something for nothing.
- "A wise enemy is better than a foolish friend." Seek good advice.
- "Fear the person who doesn't fear God."
- "Glory is fitting to God alone." A person should not be proud.

Afghan Superstitions

- If your foot touches or hits another person's foot, you will get into a fight with that person, unless you shake hands right away.
- If a baby has jaundice, let it lick on cleaned gold and the jaundice will go away.
- During an eclipse if pregnant woman scratches herself, a black mark will appear on her baby.
- It's not good to let someone compliment your child too much, because they may become jinxed and bad luck may fall on them. (This is called "Nazar"-ing a child.)
- If your cross under a rainbow, a sex change will occur. A boy will turn to a girl and a girl will turn into a boy.
- Don't click the scissors, it brings about a fight.
- Cover your bald head or else it may start raining.
- If you draw lines on the ground you will be in debt.
- Jangling your keys will cause a fight to occur.
- If a boy chews gum, his beard will grow uneven.
- After praying, you should fold a side of the prayer matt or the devil will come and pray on it.
- After reading the Quran, you should close it immediately, or the devil will come and read from it.
- You will be falsely accused of something if your feet touch a broom.
- If a male child is circumcised, fasten a piece of feroza (pure turquoise) jewelry to it's bedding above the head and his cut will heal faster and nicely.
- When a new born is brought into the house and placed into his or her bed, hanging something (jewelry etc..) with the name of Allah on it will help keep the baby safe from harm when they sleep.
- Marriage between the two holidays Eid ul Fitr and Eid ul Adha is prohibited.
- Shaving a baby's hair will make their hair grow thicker.

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Notes:

Notes:

Notes:

Notes:



TRADOC CULTURE CENTER

Purpose

- **Provide mission-focused culture education and training**
- **Build and enhance cross-cultural competency and regional expertise**
- **Increase effectiveness of US Soldiers in coalition and joint environment; stability, security, and humanitarian operation**

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In its effort to support US Soldiers, the TRADOC Culture Center offers the following training and products for initial military training through the Captain Career Course:

Region-Specific Training Support Packages Covering Countries In:

CENTCOM

AFRICOM

SOUTHCOM

PACOM

Core Culture Competency Training Support Packages

What is Culture/Who Am I

Influences on Culture

Cross-Culture Communications

Relationship Building

Cross-Culture Negotiations

The TRADOC Culture Center is committed to fulfilling the needs of US Soldiers and is able to provide culture training tailored to specific requests.

TRADOC Culture Center (TCC)

Sierra Vista, AZ

***For more information on available
products and classes please contact:***

Phone: 520 459 6600 / 520 459 5732

Fax: 520 459 8537

<https://icon.army.mil/apps/tcc/index.cfm>

To schedule Culture Training:

<https://icon.army.mil/index.cfm>

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TRADOC Culture Center (TCC)
Sierra Vista, Arizona