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Chapter 1 : Afghanistanâ€™Pakistan relations - Wikipedia

*Sources and material in Kabul libraries on Afghanistan-India relations through the ages (Lib. series / Kabul University Library) [Muhammad Ibrahim Sutudah] on calendrierdelascience.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers.*

The Kabul Public Library has a random collection of donated, often outdated books, no development budget and un-trained staff. Qayoom Suroush, who has tried several times to use the library for his university and AAN related research with little success, has looked into why national and international attempts at increasing literacy in the country have not included the renovation and upgrading of public libraries. This should be a logical consequence of addressing illiteracy and raising education levels, he says. He walks up and down the aisles of shelves that hold thousands of books covered in dust. If Kharoti finds the book that was requested, it is because he somehow remembers having seen it before. There is no catalogue, although there are more than 6, volumes. Due to the lack of space, hundreds of them had to be shifted into the corridor. This department is one of seven in the old two-story building on busy Malik Asghar Square, around meters south of the presidential palace. Altogether, the KPL has, at least according to the figures the librarians give, 69, books on offer. For an Afghan library, many of which do not have more than to books more on that later, that sounds like a lot. The KPL is also the only state-owned public library in Kabul and the oldest of the public libraries in Afghanistan. As such the KPL has another function. However, the challenges are manifold. They have to do with running a library in a country with a high number of illiterate citizens still only 45 per cent of men can read and 17 per cent of women, and they have to do with budget constraints, with a lack of capacity of staff and a general lack of a reading culture promoted in homes and schools. Outdated collections As the quasi-national library, the KPL should have the best collection of books in the country. In comparison with other public libraries, this might be true. However, its collections have gaping holes, and many volumes are in bad condition, with covers torn and pages warped, partly because of the poor quality of paper and printing, but also because of years of staff preparing food and tea amongst the shelves and in the corridors. The air is humid, with small electrical heaters doing their best to drive out the winter and spring chill during the days and the cold creeping back in through badly insulated doors and windows at night. The KPL does not have a proper climate control system. The collections have been built over the years following no coherent system. Many titles available were once self-published books, often politically biased, and delivered by the authors themselves to be included into the collection. Looking at the Afghanistan Studies department again, there are few recent titles and no subscriptions to academic journals. Probably the best collection of the library is the one of newspapers from the s onwards. Of new books, other than self-published ones, for example, international or Afghan academic titles, the KPL seldom receives copies, although today, more books are published and distributed in Afghanistan than at any time in its history for more see here. This is also because it is hard to keep track of what comes on the market. However, because of what publishers say are technical problems, not all books printed get ISBNs. Except for the running costs, 2 the Afghan government does not provide any budget for the library to improve its collections. This means the KPL has to rely on donations of publishers and donor countries see here. In, according to the Ministry of Higher Education, around 30, young Afghans graduated from public and private universities. And the number of high-school graduates applying for higher education by sitting the kankur, the university entry exam, is jumping up by the tens of thousands every year, with, having applied this year. One could question if a public library should fill the supply gaps university libraries are leaving. On the other hand, a solution for these undersupplied university institutions, for different reasons, would need to be rather complex see this previous AAN report, and an official mandate for the public libraries is missing anyway. Why not make the provision of books for young students their main purpose? At least for now, they are filling parts of the gap in a practical and cheap manner. Another such experience is the lack of a catalogue that would help visitors find what they are looking for. As there is no internet, the KPL does not provide any online library service. Instead, visitors are supposed to use the card

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catalogue system. On the ground floor, right across from the main entrance, there are 30 small boxes holding cards detailing the titles of books as well as names of authors and publishers in alphabetical order. Three boxes are empty. Each of the other boxes contains around cards, which means that, based on this catalogue, the KPL offers only around 2, books. An alternative way is to ask the librarians, who then strain their memories. Unlike in Western public libraries, visitors of the KPL are not usually allowed to touch the books or wander around among the shelves to look for themselves. Lack of trained staff The problem also lies in the lack of training of staff. None of the 61 KPL employees has learned how to manage and maintain a library and its services – not even the head of Afghanistan Public Libraries, also the head of the Kabul Public Library, who is usually appointed by the Ministry of Information and Culture. None of the three directors within the past decade had professional training in library management. Some KPL staff was taken to Iran for courses for two weeks. However, as Royce Wiles, a library expert with extensive experience working in Afghanistan since he, for example, built the library of the Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit AREU , says those short-term courses do not make for knowledgeable staff. In a paper for AAN , Wiles wrote The usual training period for a cataloguer in academic libraries is two years of hands-on training after formal information management studies of some kind – either undergraduate or postgraduate. It is not possible to train anyone to enter standardised data for a library system in a week and expect it to work without considerable follow up. Staff of the Iran National Library also came to Kabul for some on-the-job training. Both Wahid Wafa, the executive director of the ACKU-library Afghanistan Center at Kabul University , and Rebecca Miller, a PhD librarian currently heading the library of the American University of Afghanistan both libraries and AREU being seemingly the only functioning ones in the country, also due to international funding 4 , told AAN that they had repeatedly tried to convince Kabul University officials to start a two-year library management course, but to no avail. KPL staff is consequently paid for doing nothing. However, some of the librarians use their free time to write theses for undergraduate students. During his research at the KPL, the author overheard a conversation between a KPL librarian and a student bargaining about the price for writing a monograph. They agreed on 10, Afghani around US dollars. All of this makes the KPL a quiet place. Few Kabulis come here. A good day sees to visitors. During the winter, when universities and schools are off, there is almost no one in the rooms and halls. Altogether, the KPL has 1, registered members. The illiteracy rate in the country – albeit not in Kabul – was even higher than today, at around 95 per cent. Even going to school and to university in Afghanistan today, this author finds, there is almost no encouragement to read anymore, let alone official programs promoting the value of written resources for life, learning, work or leisure. The Kabul Public Library as it exists today was established in by integrating two small libraries: A further 35, volumes have been supplied to prisons, industries and military establishments. There is no account, though, that would shed light on the quality or coherence of the collections. The civil war that followed the collapse of the communist regime in decreased their collections again. An unknown number of books was burned, stolen or smuggled outside of Afghanistan. Some of the staff, who already worked at the library then, still remember those days. When the Taleban took control of Kabul city in , they decreed that all printed material with pictures or paintings of living creatures on it should be burned, too. International support for libraries – or the lack thereof In the post period, there were attempts to revive the Afghan library system, but they were few and patchy, and there was never any grant or project that would have addressed all libraries and a countrywide system. Royce Wiles, who was an advisor to the project, remembers that he asked the then head of the Afghanistan Public Libraries to provide a list of their needs. Also furniture was purchased. After a decade, the only lasting changes consist of a few new and a few renovated rooms, some news chairs and tables and security cameras in all rooms. No books for public libraries – but plans for two national libraries? However, the Afghan government has ambitious plans that go far beyond existing structures. However, it seems an odd decision to focus on such a luxury project while the same amount of money could help make the existing public libraries across the country a better place for many more young Afghans striving for education. Conclusion After a decade of getting children into school 7 and at least starting to eradicate illiteracy, it is time

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to go further. Focusing on public libraries seems no more than a logical consequence of addressing illiteracy and raising education levels. Those who can read should have easy access to written resources, for learning, work or – one day, hopefully – even for leisure. Public libraries are the logical providers, as here books, usually too expensive for most Afghans, would be available for free. These libraries should be very practical. The largest current need seems to be to provide university students with a broader range of materials to learn with, on a number of topics, also partly picking up where university libraries cannot yet deliver and for some time to come. Future approaches should, particularly from the side of the Afghan government, also include promoting a culture of reading, for example by offering programs to children and parents. The state publishing house, Behaqi, has published around titles in past decade and most of them do not have an ISBN. For more see here. The library does not have a finance department. His successor was Abdul Hamid Nabizada who had worked in the library for more than 20 years no background given ; the third and the current one is Hamidullah Shahrani. Prior to this position as head of the public libraries, he was working with the Ministry of Higher Education. ACKU organises meetings and seminars and between its collection and archive it has around , titles fully researchable, and some of them also available, online. The library had been established by Sayed Mansour Naderi, the religious leader of the Afghan Ismaili community. The library was originally located in Kabul, but with the rise of the Taleban, moved to Pul-e Khumri district, Baghlan province. The library was re-opened in in Kabul city. Since then, their number has increased to 8. However, over one million of those enrolled are permanently absent.

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The four libraries in Kabul included the central one, "a nearby branch, a junior library, and the joint archive/manuscript library" (the latter is today's Archive-e Melli, the National Archive).(5) By , the number of libraries, at least according to this book, Damages to Afghanistan's Culture by Kabul University professor Ismail Yun.

Afghanistan region during BC. The area was divided into several provinces called satrapies , which were each ruled by a governor, or satrap. These ancient satrapies included: Several great cities were built in the region named "Alexandria," including: Please help improve this section by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. June Main article: Greco-Bactria continued until c. The Mauryas introduced Hinduism and Buddhism to the region, and were planning to capture more territory of Central Asia until they faced local Greco-Bactrian forces. Seleucus is said to have reached a peace treaty with Chandragupta by giving control of the territory south of the Hindu Kush to the Mauryas upon intermarriage and elephants. Similar stupas have been discovered in neighboring Ghazni Province , including in the northern Samangan Province. Alexander took these away from the Indo-Aryans and established settlements of his own, but Seleucus Nicator gave them to Sandrocottus Chandragupta , upon terms of intermarriage and of receiving in exchange elephants. Sandrocottus, having thus acquired a throne, was in possession of India, when Seleucus was laying the foundations of his future greatness; who, after making a league with him, and settling his affairs in the east, proceeded to join in the war against Antigonus. As soon as the forces, therefore, of all the confederates were united, a battle was fought, in which Antigonus was slain, and his son Demetrius put to flight. In this context a legend recorded by Husang Tsang refers to the first two lay disciples of Buddha, Trapusa and Bhallika responsible for introducing Buddhism in that country. Originally these two were merchants of the kingdom of Balhika, as the name Bhalluka or Bhallika probably suggests the association of one with that country. They had gone to India for trade and had happened to be at Bodhgaya when the Buddha had just attained enlightenment. They displaced the Indo-Greeks and ruled a kingdom that stretched from Gandhara to Mathura. The power of the Saka rulers started to decline in the 2nd century CE after the Scythians were defeated by the south Indian Emperor Gautamiputra Satakarni of the Satavahana dynasty. The Indo-Parthian Kingdom was ruled by the Gondopharid dynasty, named after its eponymous first ruler Gondophares. They ruled parts of present-day Afghanistan , Pakistan , [38] and northwestern India , during or slightly before the 1st century AD. For most of their history, the leading Gondopharid kings held Taxila in the present Punjab province of Pakistan as their residence, but during their last few years of existence the capital shifted between Kabul and Peshawar. Christian writings claim that the Apostle Saint Thomas "an architect and skilled carpenter" had a long sojourn in the court of king Gondophares , had built a palace for the king at Taxila and had also ordained leaders for the Church before leaving for Indus Valley in a chariot, for sailing out to eventually reach Malabar Coast. Kushan Empire Kushan territories full line and maximum extent of Kushan dominions under Kanishka dotted line , according to the Rabatak inscription. Early Mahayana Buddhist triad. The Kushan Empire expanded out of bactria Central Asia into the northwest of the subcontinent under the leadership of their first emperor, Kujula Kadphises , about the middle of the 1st century CE. They came of an Indo-European language speaking Central Asian tribe called the Yuezhi , [39] [40] a branch of which was known as the Kushans. By the time of his grandson, Kanishka the Great , the empire spread to encompass much of Afghanistan , [41] and then the northern parts of the Indian subcontinent at least as far as Saketa and Sarnath near Varanasi Benares. Historian Vincent Smith said about Kanishka: He played the part of a second Ashoka in the history of Buddhism. The Kushans brought new trends to the budding and blossoming Gandhara Art , which reached its peak during Kushan Rule. The Kushan period is a fitting prelude to the Age of the Guptas. Sasanian Empire For a period, much of modern-day Afghanistan was part of the Persian Sasanian Empire , since Shapur I extended his authority eastwards into Afghanistan and the previously autonomous Kushans were obliged to accept his suzerainty.

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Chapter 3 : Durrani Empire - Wikipedia

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This section needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. July Main articles: This entire area is inhabited by the indigenous Pashtuns who belong to different Pashtun tribes. The single-page agreement, which contained seven short articles, was signed by Durand and Khan, agreeing not to exercise political interference beyond the frontier line between Afghanistan and what was then the British Indian Empire. Concurrently, the Afridi tribesmen began to rise up in arms against the British, creating a zone of instability between Peshawar and the Durand Line. As a result, travel across the boundary was almost entirely halted, and the Pashtun tribes living under the British rule began to orient themselves eastward in the direction of the Indian railways. By the time of the Indian independence movement, prominent Pashtun nationalists such as Abdul Ghaffar Khan advocated unity with the nearly formed Dominion of India, and not a united Afghanistan – highlighting the extent to which infrastructure and instability began to erode the Pashtun self-identification with Afghanistan. By the time of Pakistan independence movement, popular opinion among Pashtuns was in support of joining the Dominion of Pakistan. The Afghan government has not formally accepted the Durand Line as the international border between the two states, claiming that the Durand Line Agreement has been void in the past. Pakistan feels that the border issue had been resolved before its birth in It also fears a revolt from the warring tribes which could eventually bring the state down as it happened when Ahmad Shah Durrani unified the Pashtuns and toppled the Mughal Empire of India. This unmanageable border has always served as the main trade route between Afghanistan and the South Asia, especially for supplies into Afghanistan. Secondly, it politically and financially backed secessionist politicians in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in the s. The largest nationalist party of the time, the Awami National Party ANP, dropped its secessionist agenda and embraced the Pakistani state, leaving only a small Pakhtunkhwa Millat Party to champion the cause of independence in relation to both Pakistan and Afghanistan. War in Afghanistan –present, Afghans in Pakistan, and Afghanistan–Pakistan skirmishes George Crile III and Charlie Wilson Texas politician with an unnamed political personality in the background person wearing the aviator glasses looking at the photo camera. They were the main players in Operation Cyclone, the code name for the United States Central Intelligence Agency program to arm and finance the multi-national mujahideen during the Soviet war in Afghanistan, to Relations between Afghanistan and Pakistan began deteriorating in the s after Pakistan supported rebels such as Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, Ahmad Shah Massoud, [33] Haqqanis, and others against the governments of Afghanistan. After the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in December, the United States joined Pakistan to counter Soviet influence and advance its own interests in the region. In turn, Afghan, Indian and Soviet intelligence agencies played their role by supporting al-Zulfikar – a Pakistani leftist terrorist group responsible for the March hijacking of a Pakistan International Airlines PIA plane. Its goal was to overthrow the military regime that ousted Bhutto. Pakistan became a major training ground for roughly, foreign mujahideen fighters who began crossing into Afghanistan on a daily basis to wage war against the communist Afghanistan and the Soviet forces. The mujahideen included not only locals but also Arabs and others from over 40 different Islamic nations. Many of these foreign fighters married local women and decided to stay in Pakistan, among them were radical Muslims such those of Saudi-led Al-Qaeda and Egyptian Muslim Brotherhood as well as prisoners from Arab countries. There were no regular schools provided for the refugees but only madrasas in which students were trained to become members of the Taliban movement. The Taliban claimed that they wanted to clean Afghanistan from the warlords and criminals. According to Pakistan and Afghanistan expert Ahmed Rashid, "between and, an estimated 80, to, Pakistanis trained and fought in

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Afghanistan" keeping the Taliban regime in power. However, the relations began to decline when the Taliban refused to endorse the Durand Line despite pressure from Islamabad, arguing that there shall be no borders among Muslims. In , Afghan President Hamid Karzai warned that " Iran and Pakistan and others are not fooling anyone" when it comes to interfering in his country. In the past we have suffered alone; this time everybody will suffer with us. All the countries in the neighborhood have the same ethnic groups that we have, so they should know that it is a different ball game this time. Relations have become more strained after the Afghan government began openly accusing Pakistan of using its ISI spy network in aiding the Taliban and other militants. Pakistan usually denies these allegations but has said in the past that it does not have full control of the actions of the ISI. There have been a number of reports about the Afghanistanâ€”Pakistan skirmishes , which usually occur when army soldiers are in hot pursuit chasing insurgents who cross the border back and forth. This leads to tensions between the two states, especially after hearing reports of civilian casualties. They may believe that by using these proxies, they are hedging their bets or redressing what they feel is an imbalance in regional power. But in reality, they have already lost that bet. Ambassador to Pakistan , Cameron Munter , told Radio Pakistan that "the attack that took place in Kabul a few days ago, that was the work of the Haqqani network. There is evidence linking the Haqqani Network to the Pakistan government. This is something that must stop. The two states are working together to find solutions to the problems affecting them. This includes possible defence cooperation and intelligence sharing as well as further enhancing the two-way trade and abolishment of visas for "holders of diplomatic passports to facilitate visa free travel for the diplomats from the two nations. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. The two states also signed an MoU for the construction of rail tracks in Afghanistan to connect with Pakistan Railways PR , [64] which has been in the making since at least The ceremony was attended by Richard Holbrooke , U. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, and a number of foreign ambassadors, Afghan parliamentarians and senior officials.

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Chapter 4 : Foreign relations of Afghanistan | Project Gutenberg Self-Publishing - eBooks | Read eBooks o

Afghanistan-Pakistan relations involve bilateral relations between Afghanistan and calendrierdelascience.com two neighbouring Asian states share deep historical and cultural links, each has declared itself an Islamic republic and both have become members of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

The taller Buddha of Bamiyan. Buddhism was widespread before the Islamic conquest of Afghanistan. Archaeological exploration done in the 20th century suggests that the geographical area of Afghanistan has been closely connected by culture and trade with its neighbors to the east, west, and north. Artifacts typical of the Paleolithic , Mesolithic , Neolithic , Bronze , and Iron ages have been found in Afghanistan. Urban civilization is believed to have begun as early as BCE, and the early city of Mundigak near Kandahar in the south of the country may have been a colony of the nearby Indus Valley Civilization. More recent findings established that the Indus Valley Civilisation stretched up towards modern-day Afghanistan, making the ancient civilisation today part of Pakistan, Afghanistan and India. In more detail, it extended from what today is northwest Pakistan to northwest India and northeast Afghanistan. The region at the time was referred to as Ariana. Ancient Eastern Iranian languages may have been spoken in the region around the time of the rise of Zoroastrianism. By the middle of the 6th century BCE, the Achaemenids overthrew the Medes and incorporated Arachosia , Aria , and Bactria within its eastern boundaries. An inscription on the tombstone of Darius I of Persia mentions the Kabul Valley in a list of the 29 countries that he had conquered. Much of it soon broke away from them and became part of the Indo-Greek Kingdom. In the mid-to-late first century CE the vast Kushan Empire , centered in Afghanistan, became great patrons of Buddhist culture, making Buddhism flourish throughout the region. The Kushans were overthrown by the Sassanids in the 3rd century CE, though the Indo-Sassanids continued to rule at least parts of the region. They were followed by the Kidarite who, in turn, were replaced by the Hephthalites. Much of the northeastern and southern areas of the country remained dominated by Buddhist culture. The land was collectively recognized by the Arabs as al-Hind due to its cultural connection with Greater India. Before Islam was introduced, people of the region were mostly Buddhists and Zoroastrians, but there were also Surya and Nana worshipers, Jews , and others. Later, the Samanids extended their Islamic influence south of the Hindu Kush. It is reported that Muslims and non-Muslims still lived side by side in Kabul before the Ghaznavids rose to power in the 10th century. Afghanistan became one of the main centers in the Muslim world during this Islamic Golden Age. The Ghaznavid dynasty was overthrown by the Ghurids , who expanded and advanced the already powerful Islamic empire. His troops are said to have annihilated the Khorasanian cities of Herat and Balkh as well as Bamiyan. In the early 16th century, Babur arrived from Fergana and captured Kabul from the Arghun dynasty. Between the 16th and 18th century, the Khanate of Bukhara , Safavids , and Mughals ruled parts of the territory. Before the 19th century, the northwestern area of Afghanistan was referred to by the regional name Khorasan. Two of the four capitals of Khorasan Herat and Balkh are now located in Afghanistan, while the regions of Kandahar , Zabulistan , Ghazni, Kabulistan, and Afghanistan formed the frontier between Khorasan and Hindustan. He defeated Gurgin Khan and made Afghanistan independent. Mahmud led the Afghan army in to the Persian capital of Isfahan , captured the city after the Battle of Gulnabad and proclaimed himself King of Persia. In , Nader Shah and his forces captured Kandahar, the last Hotak stronghold, from Shah Hussain Hotak , at which point the incarcerated year-old Ahmad Shah Durrani was freed and made the commander of an Afghan regiment. Soon after the Persian and Afghan forces invaded India. By , the Afghans chose Durrani as their head of state. In October , Durrani died of a natural cause and was buried at a site now adjacent to the Shrine of the Cloak in Kandahar. He was succeeded by his son, Timur Shah , who transferred the capital of Afghanistan from Kandahar to Kabul in Fateh Khan, leader of the Barakzai tribe , had installed 21 of his brothers in positions of power throughout the empire. After his death, they rebelled and divided up the provinces of the empire between themselves. During this turbulent period, Afghanistan had many

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temporary rulers until Dost Mohammad Khan declared himself emir in 1863. By this time the British were advancing from the east and the first major conflict during "The Great Game" was initiated. The large defensive wall around the city was removed in the early 1850s by the order of King Nadir Shah. In 1839, the British marched into Afghanistan and arrested Dost Mohammad, sent him into exile in India and replaced him with the previous ruler, Shah Shuja. This was a standard divide and rule policy of the British and would lead to strained relations, especially with the later new state of Pakistan. Shia-dominated Hazarajat and pagan Kafiristan remained politically independent until being conquered by Abdur Rahman Khan in 1867. Zahir Shah, the last king of Afghanistan, who reigned from 1926 to 1973. A key force behind these reforms was Mahmud Tarzi, an ardent supporter of the education of women. The institution of slavery was abolished in 1863. Faced with overwhelming armed opposition, Amanullah Khan was forced to abdicate in January 1929 after Kabul fell to rebel forces led by Habibullah Kalakani. He abandoned the reforms of Amanullah Khan in favor of a more gradual approach to modernisation but was assassinated in 1933 by Abdul Khaliq, a fifteen-year-old Hazara student. Until 1973, Zahir Shah ruled with the assistance of his uncle, who held the post of Prime Minister and continued the policies of Nadir Shah. Daoud Khan sought a closer relationship with the Soviet Union and a more distant one towards Pakistan. The King built close relationships with the Axis powers in the 1930s - but Afghanistan remained neutral and was neither a participant in World War II nor aligned with either power bloc in the Cold War thereafter. On per capita basis, Afghanistan received more Soviet development aid than any other country. Afghanistan had therefore good relations with both Cold War enemies. In 1973, while King Zahir Shah was on an official overseas visit, Daoud Khan launched a bloodless coup and became the first.

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Chapter 5 : calendrierdelascience.com: Customer reviews: Afghanistan: A Companion and Guide

ABLE is a pioneer of "boxed libraries" in Afghanistan, which aim to enhance and encourage reading among people of all ages and abilities - but especially among the newly literate - by bringing appropriate and relevant reading materials directly to them.

Visa requirements for Afghan citizens See also In the aftermath of the Accords and subsequent Soviet withdrawal, the United Nations has assisted in the repatriation of refugees and has provided humanitarian aid such as health care, educational programs, and food and has supported mine-clearing operations. The UNDP and associated agencies have undertaken a limited number of development projects. However, the UN reduced its role in Afghanistan in the wake of fierce factional strife in and around Kabul. Throughout the late s, , and , the UN unsuccessfully strived to promote a peaceful settlement between the Afghan factions as well as provide humanitarian aid, this despite increasing Taliban restrictions upon UN personnel and agencies. During the Soviet occupation, the United Nations was highly critical of the U. Hamid Karzai is hailed as an example of a great leader by most U. Following the overthrow of the Taliban, the U. Their aim is to help the new government of President Hamid Karzai establish authority across Afghanistan and hunt down insurgents that are launching attacks. Following the Soviet invasion, the United States supported diplomatic efforts to achieve a Soviet withdrawal. In addition, generous U. This cross-border humanitarian assistance program aimed at increasing Afghan self-sufficiency and helping Afghans resist Soviet attempts to drive civilians out of the rebel-dominated countryside. During the period of Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, the U. After the April coup, relations deteriorated. In February , U. Ambassador Adolph "Spike" Dubs was murdered in Kabul after security forces burst in on his kidnappers. All remaining assistance agreements were ended after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Embassy of Afghanistan in Washington, D. Since the s the U. Eisenhower visited Kabul in December , becoming the first U. President to travel to Afghanistan. The Peace Corps was active in Afghanistan between and The United States established its first official Kabul Legation in , which was elevated to the Kabul Embassy in Ambassador to Afghanistan from to Official diplomatic relations between Afghanistan and the United States began in the s, although contact between the two nations was made in the late s with the visit of Josiah Harlan. Envoy Minister Plenipotentiary to Afghanistan from to United States Turkish construction firms have subsequently also become active in the country. Turkey is responsible for maintaining security around Kabul , providing training for the Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police and have undertaken a number of reconstruction projects in the fields of education, health and agriculture in the province of Vardak. Turkish troops have not participated as combat forces but rather as logistical support and training Afghan personnel. Over 12, Afghan soldiers and police have been trained. Both countries established education and cultural exchange programs. Inside Afghanistan Turkish schools were established. Furthermore, Turkish army officers assisted or even commanded the training of Afghan military members. The foreign relations of Afghanistan have changed so much politically, socially and economically. Today the relations between the two countries go beyond giving military education. In this respect it is noteworthy that this article handles the developments in the relationship between Afghanistan and Turkey in historical context. Throughout its long history, many Ottoman officials were in close contact with Afghan leaders even up until the early 20th century when the Ottoman administrator Ahmad Jamal Pasha went to Afghanistan where he worked on modernizing the Afghan armed forces.

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Chapter 6 : World Report Afghanistan | Human Rights Watch

Zahid Anwar BABUR'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNDERSTANDING AND DEVELOPMENT OF LINKAGES BETWEEN CENTRAL AND SOUTH ASIA It is an interesting study to explore linkages between.

Afghanistan Events of An Afghan security force member stands at the site of a car bomb attack in Kabul on May 31, A number of particularly deadly suicide attacks in urban areas, some claimed by ISKP, killed and wounded more than 2, people across the country. Civilian casualties caused by government forces during ground fighting declined; however, US forces expanded their use of airstrikes, including drones, in military operations, causing increased civilian casualties. War crimes suspect Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, one of several political figures accused of shelling Kabul during the s, returned to Kabul as part of a peace deal with the government; clashes between his militia forces and rivals killed at least 20 civilians. Both the Taliban and ANSF used schools for military purposes, which, together with countrywide insecurity, deprived many children, especially girls, of access to education. The government made some progress in adopting legislation to curb torture, but failed to prosecute serious offenders. Only a fraction of the reported cases of violence against women resulted in prosecutions. The government announced that district council and parliamentary elections would be held in July , three years behind schedule. However, political infighting and security concerns threatened to delay the vote. Armed Conflict The United Nations Assistance Mission to Afghanistan UNAMA documented 2, war-related civilian deaths and 5, injuries in the first nine months of , a slight decrease over the same period in Civilian deaths and injuries by pro-government forces and their allies during ground engagements declined; however, those from aerial operations by government and international forces increased by 52 percent to deaths and injured. Insurgent attacks in major cities caused hundreds of civilian deaths and injuries. In that attack, insurgents reportedly dressed as doctors shot dead patients in their beds. The May 31 truck bomb that killed at least 92 and wounded more than was the deadliest such attack ever in Kabul. Suicide attackers targeted Shia mosques in Kabul and Herat, killing more than According to UNAMA, the Taliban separated women and children from men, and shot dead at least nine ALP and other pro-government militia members, along with 27 male civilians; among them were four boys ages 13 to 17, and 13 men over They also killed one woman as she was trying to flee. The number of internally displaced persons IDPs who fled from their homes due to the conflict surged as fighting intensified. More than , were displaced in the first 10 months of , bringing the nationwide total to at least 1. Attacks on civilians contributed to depression and other mental disabilities; Afghanistan has few community-based mental health services to provide treatment. Registered cases represent only a fraction of the actual crimes of violence against women. A long-standing effort to reform family law, including divorce provisions, remained stalled. On March 4, the revised penal code was adopted by presidential decree. It incorporated all the provisions of the EVAW law, while strengthening the definition of rape. However, because a number of conservative members of parliament have opposed the EVAW law, some activists campaigned to preserve the law in its stand-alone form decreed in The controversial reversal has left the status of the law in limbo. The Kabul Process peace talks in June included only two women among 47 government and international representatives. Deaths and injuries among women in the conflict increased sharply in , with deaths and injured in the first nine months of the year. Most occurred as a result of suicide bombings and aerial attacks. The report singled out the Kandahar police for torturing 91 percent of detainees by forcibly pumping water into their stomachs, crushing their testicles with clamps, suffocating them to the point of losing consciousness, and applying electric current to their genitals. In a significant sign of progress in curbing torture, the government in March enacted anti-torture legislation, as part of the new penal code. The law left out a compensation system for victims of torture by state security forces, but in August the cabinet approved an annex to provide for victim redress. Although the Afghan Constitution prohibits torture, the new provisions expand the definition in conformity with the UN Convention Against Torture, and create a new monitoring body, the Commission Against Torture; however, as of

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December it was not clear whether this would include staff from the AIHRC. The government did not prosecute any senior officials accused of torture. As of December, none was in custody. In Afghanistan, same-sex relations are punishable by 5 to 15 years in prison under a law that bans all sex between individuals not married to each other. Freedom of Expression The year looked likely to surpass as the bloodiest since for Afghan journalists, with 10 killed in the first six months of the year, most of them victims of insurgent bombing attacks. Since January, the Afghan Journalists Safety Committee AJSC recorded 73 cases of violence and threats against journalists, including deaths, detentions, beatings, and intimidation. Government officials and security personnel were responsible for slightly more than half of the cases; insurgent groups were responsible for the deaths of 10 journalists in suicide attacks in Kabul and Khost. Protests, Excessive Use of Force, and Restrictions on Freedom of Assembly On June 2, civil society groups, political activists, and relatives of victims of the May 31 truck bomb attack converged in central Kabul to protest deteriorating security conditions. Some participants threw stones at police, and the group included some armed men among the crowd. Security forces, principally the presidential palace guard, used water cannons to disperse the crowd, but then used live ammunition despite no real threat to public safety—first firing guns over the heads of demonstrators, injuring some protesters, then shooting into the crowd, killing seven. The government promised to conduct an investigation. As of December, the results of this investigation had not been made public. The government subsequently accelerated its consideration of new legislation to restrict demonstrations. Civil society groups condemned the law, which as of December, was pending before parliament. Both the ANSF and the Taliban continued to occupy or use schools for military purposes in contested areas, affecting the access to education of thousands of children, especially girls. Conflict-related deaths and injuries of children continued at high rates, with deaths and 1, injuries in the first nine months of Almost half of the children detained in relation to the conflict reported being tortured or mistreated. Key International Actors On August 22, US President Donald Trump outlined a new US strategy for the war in Afghanistan, vowing to expand military operations to target criminal and terrorist networks, pressure Pakistan to end support for Afghan insurgents, and set no timetable for withdrawal. In September, the Trump administration reportedly was considering a CIA request to carry out covert drone strikes in Afghanistan; the US military has had exclusive authority to carry out such strikes. Trump authorized the deployment of an additional 3, troops, but the Pentagon acknowledged that actual troop levels were already close to 11,, significantly higher than the 8, previously reported. US airstrikes increased through, and the US provided Black Hawk helicopters and other equipment to support expanded Afghan government air operations. In September, diplomatic sources indicated that the US was supporting an Afghan government initiative to create an additional village defense force, the Afghan National Army Territorial Force. The force would reportedly absorb some existing militias under army command, though it remained unclear how it would avoid replicating the record of the abusive Afghan Local Police. The US military command in Afghanistan also began classifying key data related to the development of Afghan security forces, most of which has been public since In February, the European Union EU signed a new agreement with Afghanistan requiring it to accept rejected asylum seekers from Europe and undertake other measures to reduce migration.

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Chapter 7 : Afghanistan - Wikipedia

Other NGOs, like Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan (CW4WAfghan), support community, village, and neighborhood libraries—primarily in the rural districts around Kabul—to help reinforce literacy skills, nurture a culture of reading, and foster independent, lifelong learning."

A pe India Afghanistan Relations: The relationship is not limited to the governments in New Delhi and Kabul, and has its foundations in the historical contacts and exchanges between the people. In recent past, Indo-Afghan relations have been further strengthened by the Strategic Partnership Agreement signed between the two countries in . As Afghanistan was undergoing three simultaneous political, security and economic transitions in , India had allayed its fears about its future by making a long-term commitment to the security and development of Afghanistan. India successfully hosted the 6th Heart of Asia Ministerial Conference in Amritsar in December and Conference called for immediate elimination of terrorism to help the war-ravaged country in its political and economic transition. After a protracted electoral process for two rounds of elections and UN mediated audit process, a Political Agreement was signed between two leading contenders – Dr Ashraf Ghani and Dr Abdullah Abdullah which led to the formation of national unity government, inaugurated on 29 September . Our consistent signalling on the political inclusivity and peaceful transfer of power was addressed and appreciated by all sections of the Afghans. There also exists a high-level political engagement with Afghanistan, which is reflected in the large number of bilateral high-level visits. During his visit he met with Mohammad Hamid Ansari, the Vice President of India and some other high ranking government officials. Both side discussed about the cooperation and assistance in various sectors including the health, education, agriculture, disaster management, power sector and electoral management. During his two-day visit, the Afghan NSA engaged in bilateral talks with the relevant Indian government authorities. The meetings focused on cooperation in the political, security and economic areas including the current situation in Afghanistan and the region. Deputy Foreign Minister Karzai during his four day visit conducted meetings with Indian authorities to discuss a host of issues and the state of progress in the bilateral ties between Afghanistan and India and interacted at India based think-tanks In 25th December , Prime Minister along with a high level delegation paid a visit to Afghanistan. During his visit he inaugurated the newly built Afghan Parliament; he announced scholarships for the children of the martyrs of Afghan Security Forces in school and colleges both in Afghanistan and in India; and Prime Minister gifted four Mi25 Attack helicopter to Afghan Air forces. During the visit, it has been decided to conduct the first Strategic Partnership Council meeting headed by the Foreign Minister of the both country in the first quarter of along with four joint working group meetings. During this visit, he met Prime Minister on 1st February and held discussions on bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual interest including the security situation and peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan. In the context of continued bilateral development cooperation, the decision of the Government of India to approve the 3rd phase of Small Development Projects comprising of 92 projects in Afghanistan was conveyed. The completion of the dam project represents culmination of years of hard work by about 1, Indian and Afghan engineers and other professionals in very difficult conditions. During his speech Prime Minister said the 1. President Ghani paid a working visit to India from September . The visit provided an opportunity to continue the close and frequent consultations between the two friendly neighbours. During the visit, Extradition Treaty, the Agreement on cooperation in civil and commercial matters and the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Peaceful Uses of Outer Space were signed. It was also stressed that expeditious implementation of the trilateral agreement involving Afghanistan, India and Iran, signed in May , using Chahbahar will augment connectivity within and of the region. India also announced additional USD 1 billion assistance for capability building in spheres such as education, health, agriculture, skill development, empowerment of women, energy, infrastructure and strengthening of democratic institutions of Afghanistan. Indo-Afghan Trade and Investment India recognizes the pre-eminence of Afghanistan as a junction of trade

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routes between central, south and west Asia for years. The bilateral trade at USD However, the trade relations can realize its true potential if the Wagah-Attari route is opened for bilateral trade with Afghanistan. India after Pakistan is the major export destination of Afghanistan. One of the objectives of building Zaranj-Delaram road by India was to boost bilateral economic relations besides offering Afghanistan another outlet to Sea port. The successful operation of the Chabahar port in Iran could capitalize on this road to offer a new transit route of Afghan products to India while opening a new route for India, and the rest of the world, for trade with Central Asia. Afghanistan in turn has allowed reciprocal concessions to Indian products, including tea, sugar, cement and pharmaceuticals. This decade-long process helps avoid any sudden or dramatic reductions in tariffs and eases the changes with minimal disruption to Afghan industry. Afghanistan recently reduced its sensitive list from 1, tariff lines to out of roughly 6, total tariff lines. Some other items that are not produced in Afghanistan are also subject to higher tariffs for revenue collection purposes such as tobacco, ceramic products, perfumery, minerals and fuel. Transit is a major bottleneck in Indo-Afghan trade due to denial of export of Indian goods via Wagah border and delays at Karachi port. Most of the trade occurs via Bandar Abbas port in Iran or through Dubai. Many Indian companies are engaged in the infrastructural development of Afghanistan and are contributing in the development of the country. During the visit of President Ghani to India in September , to further deepen the commercial engagement, Prime Minister proposed to supply world class and easily affordable medicines from India and cooperation in solar energy through mutually agreed instruments. Six Afghan participants have been nominated by the Mission. India-Afghan Culture Relations Afghanistan has been an important trading and craft center for over years connecting the civilizations of Persia, Central Asia with India. Today, the biggest challenge for Afghanistan is to rediscover and sustain its ancient art and architectural illegal opium trade and providing employment to the most vulnerable communities, particularly women and the rural people. India and Afghanistan share centuries old cultural heritage with deep rooted linkages in the field of music, arts, architecture, language and cuisine. In the field of music, in particular, in the old days, most Afghan musicians were trained in the Patiala Gharana. Today, Indian films, songs and TV serials are hugely popular with the masses, contributing significantly to the popularization of Hindi and familiarization of the populace with Indian socio -cultural value system. They have the highest overall viewership and shown on prime time slots, both on the national as well as private TV Channels. The Indian cultural centre has also been working towards building o or shared cultural heritage. Presently, there are estimated to be about Indians in the country, though only about are registered with the Mission. The prominent Indian companies doing businesses in Afghanistan are:

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Chapter 8 : Afghanistan | The Traveling Librarian

Before the Soviet war, Afghanistan pursued a policy of neutrality and nonalignment in its foreign relations, being one of a few independent nations to stay neutral in both World War I and World War II. In international forums, Afghanistan generally followed the voting patterns of Asian and.

From 1722 to 1747, his son Mahmud Hotak briefly ruled large parts of Iran and declared himself as Shah of Persia. However, the Hotak dynasty came to a complete end in 1747 after being toppled and banished by the Afsharids who were led by Nader Shah Afshar of Persia. The year 1747 marks the definitive appearance of an Afghan political entity independent of both the Persian and Mughal empires. Despite being younger than the other contenders, Ahmad Shah had several overriding factors in his favor. He belonged to a respectable family of political background, especially since his father served as Governor of Herat who died in a battle defending the Afghans. In 1751, the Mughal ruler was induced to cede Sindh, the Punjab region and the important trans Indus River to Ahmad Shah in order to save his capital from Afghan attack. Ahmad Shah next sent an army to subdue the areas north of the Hindu Kush mountains. In short order, the powerful army brought under its control the Tajik, Hazara, Uzbek, Turkmen, and other tribes of northern Afghanistan. Ahmad Shah invaded the remnants of the Mughal Empire a third time, and then a fourth, consolidating control over the Kashmir and Punjab regions, with Lahore being governed by Afghans. Marathas were now straining to expand their area of control towards the Northwest of India. Ahmad Shah sacked the Mughal capital and withdrew with the booty he coveted. He defeated the Rohillas and Afghan garrisons in Punjab and succeeded in ousting Timur Shah and his court from India and brought Lahore, Multan, Kashmir and other subahs on the Indian side of Attock under Maratha rule. Ahmad Shah declared a jihad or Islamic holy war against the Marathas, and warriors from various Afghan tribes joined his army, including the Baloch people under the command of Khan of Kalat Mir Nasir I of Kalat. Suba Khan Tanoli Zabardast Khan was selected as army chief of all military forces. Early skirmishes were followed by victory for the Afghans against the much larger Maratha garrisons in Northwest India and by Ahmad Shah and his army had reached Lahore and were poised to confront the Marathas. Ahmad Shah Durrani was famous for winning wars much larger than his army. By 1761, the Maratha groups had coalesced into a big enough army under the command of Sadashivrao Bhau. Once again, Panipat was the scene of a confrontation between two warring contenders for control of northern India. The Third Battle of Panipat 14 January 1761, fought between largely Muslim and largely Hindu armies was waged along a twelve-kilometer front. As far as losses are concerned, Afghans too suffered heavily in the Third Battle of Panipat. This weakened his grasp over Punjab which fell to the rising Sikh misls. There were rebellions in the north in the region of Bukhara. Decline[edit] The Bala Hissar fort in Peshawar was one of the royal residences of the Durrani kings. However, even prior to his death, the empire began to unravel. In 1762, Ahmad Shah crossed the passes from Afghanistan for the sixth time to subdue the Sikhs. From this time and on, the domination and control of the Empire began to loosen under his grand sons rule Zaman Shah Durrani. After Sikhs broke the treaty, he assaulted Lahore and, after taking their holy city of Amritsar, Afghans took the advantage and massacred thousands of Sikh inhabitants, destroying their revered Golden Temple. Ahmad Shah tried several more times to subjugate the Sikhs permanently, but failed. Ahmad Shah also faced other rebellions in the north, and eventually he and the Uzbek Emir of Bukhara agreed that the Amu Darya would mark the division of their lands.. Ahmad Shah retired to his home in the mountains east of Kandahar, where he died on April 14,

Chapter 9 : The World Factbook – Central Intelligence Agency

Following an uprising, the retreat from Kabul of British-Indian forces and the annihilation of Elphinstone's army, and the Battle of Kabul that led to its recapture, the British placed Dost Mohammad Khan back into power and withdrew their military forces from Afghanistan.