



AFGHAN RESEARCH INITIATIVE

Afghanistan Research Initiative

The University of Central Asia’s Afghanistan Research Initiative (ARI) aims to help sustain the research and capacity gains made over the last decade and continue producing knowledge critical to the country’s present and future. ARI, a programme of the University’s Graduate School of Development, is supported by a three-year grant from Canada’s International Development Research Centre and the Aga Khan Foundation of Canada. ARI is based at the University’s main office in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic.

Programme to Support Doctoral Students

ARI announces the second round of calls for applications to this programme that supports Afghan students in doctoral studies. Recently, ARI made five awards in the first round of the call. The programme will continue to help students facing funding challenges in completing their dissertation research in the social sciences, humanities, gender studies, and biological, earth and environmental sciences. Grants of up to \$10,000 will be awarded to eligible candidates ([click here](#)).

The deadline for applications: 30 June 2023.

For further information, contact: ari@ucentralasia.org (subject header: Doctoral programme).



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The University of Central Asia is a private, not-for-profit, secular, regional university founded in 2000 through an International Treaty signed by the Presidents of Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, and His Highness the Aga Khan, ratified by their respective parliaments and registered with the United Nations. The Graduate School of Development is the home for multi-disciplinary research on Central Asia’s social, economic, and cultural development conducted by five entities (www.ucentralasia.org).

UPCOMING EVENT



The online event is a discussion about the experiences of women trying to practice journalism in Taliban-held Afghanistan.

5 April 2023
4:30 – 6:00 PM (Kabul time)

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Discrimination, prohibition, and perseverance: the reality for female journalists in Afghanistan



Dr. Hosai Qasmi

Dr. Hosai Qasmi is the co-founder and research director of HOSA Research and Counselling. She has a Ph.D. in Feminist and Gender Studies and a Master of Arts in Communication

from the University of Ottawa. Her research interests are postcolonial feminism, media studies, and gender representation in the global south media. She has been actively engaged in women's empowerment, media, immigration, resettlement, reintegration and equality, diversity and inclusion. Her areas of research expertise include Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA+), international development, and immigrant and refugee communities. She has over 14 years of experience as a researcher and developmental professional in Canada and Internationally.

Dr. Qasmi is involved in the Afghan diaspora community in Canada and internationally, including academics and researchers.



Dr. Abbas Farasoo

Dr. Abbas Farasoo is a casual academic at La Trobe University and worked as a Subject Coordinator and Lecturer in Political Science at the University of Melbourne and Deakin Univer-

sity in Australia. He has worked as a researcher, lecturer, policy analyst, and diplomat for more than 15 years, with extensive experience in management, leadership, and diplomacy. His work on international relations, foreign policy, ethnic conflict, and proxy wars have been published in high-profile journals, including International Studies Review, Millennium: Journal of International Studies, and Annals of Japan Association for Middle East Studies journals.

Dr. Farasoo holds a Ph.D. from Deakin University and a Master of Arts from the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies on ethnic conflict in Afghanistan. He is also interested in the philosophy of social sciences with a focus on critical realism and post-structuralist philosophy.



Dr. Qasim Wafayezada

Dr. Qasim Wafayezada is currently, a professor of Peace and Conflict Studies at the School of International Studies of Kanazawa University, Japan. He served as Minister of Information and Culture, head of the Afghanistan Civil Aviation Authority. He received his doctorate in international relations from Kanazawa University. His research focus has been on state building, nation building, ethnic politics, democratization and

peacebuilding in post-conflict multiethnic societies. He has authored several books including Ethnic Politics and Peacebuilding in Afghanistan: The Root Causes of Political Conflicts and the Problems of Democratic Transition (2013).

Mr. Wafayezada has authored and co-authored several academic articles and policy papers including: "Ethnic Politics, Ethnic Political Parties and the Future of Democratic Peacebuilding in Afghanistan" Journal of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies, 24, 65-91 September; "International Assistance to Post-Conflict Peacebuilding: the Cases of Cambodia and Afghanistan" Journal of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies 23, 43-70 March; "Youth and the Transformation Process in Afghanistan" Kabul: HREVO and HBS Afghanistan; "Ethnic Politics and Youth Political Participation in Afghanistan", Kabul: Afghanistan Peace Initiatives Organization and HBS Afghanistan; "Four Decades of Efforts for Peace and Reconciliation in Afghanistan: Analysis of the Impediments and Barriers to Sustainable Peace, Kabul: Afghanistan Institute for Strategic Studies.

UPCOMING EVENT

NCITE Presents:

The Islamic State in Afghanistan and Pakistan

Experts will discuss the recent surge in ISIS activities and capacity in Afghanistan and Pakistan.



Sher Jan Ahmadzai
Center for Afghanistan Studies



Austin Doctor
NCITE



Amira Jadoon
Clemson University



Andrew Mines
George Washington University

11 April 2023
5:30 – 7:00 PM

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PUBLICATIONS

March 2023: Employment in Afghanistan in 2022:
A rapid impact assessment

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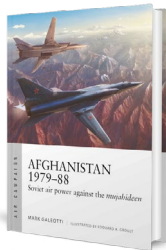
9 March 2023: Against All Odds - Supporting Civil Society
and Human Rights in Taliban-Controlled Afghanistan

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25 March 2023: Back to the Village: Afghan city
dwellers go home for a long-over-due visit

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NEW BOOKS



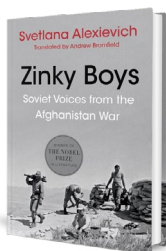
Afghanistan 1979–88: Soviet Air Power Against the Mujahideen

By Mark Galeotti

The Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan was fought as much in the air as on the ground. From the high-level bombing raids that blasted rebel-held mountain valleys, to the Mi-24 helicopter gunships and Su-25 jets that accompanied every substantial army operation, Soviet control of the air was a crucial battlefield asset.

Published: February 2023.

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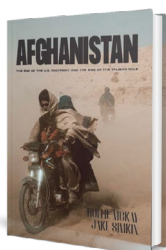
Zinky Boys: Soviet Voices from the Afghanistan War

By Svetlana Alexievich

From the winner of the Nobel Prize for work that stands as “a monument to suffering and courage in our time” (Swedish Academy). Before the United States' invasion, a million Soviet troops fought a devastating war in Afghanistan that claimed 50,000 casualties and the youth and humanity of many tens of thousands more.

Published: February 2023.

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Afghanistan: The End of the US Footprint and the Rise of the Taliban Rule

By Hollie S. McKay

Overnight, Afghanistan dramatically transformed. One chapter – a twenty-year epoch heralded by the attacks of September 11, the U.S. invasion and propping up an ailing government – shuttered on August 15, 2021. Another entirely new – albeit old

– chapter flipped open under the stringent ruling of the Taliban.

Publication date: Spring 2023.

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SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Tomlinson Doctoral Fellowships 2023-24 McGill University, Canada

Application deadline: 25 May 2023

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NORWICH UNITED KINGDOM

SCHOLARSHIPS

Study Level: Postgraduate.

Fields: Various.

Availability: for Afghans, Syrians,
and Palestinians.

Deadline:

11 September 2023.

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KAZAKH-GERMAN UNIVERSITY



**STRATEGIC
MANAGEMENT
of Renewable Energy
and Energy Efficiency**

Master's Programme (2 years)

Availability: for students from
Central Asia and Afghanistan.

Deadline: Open.

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DEVELOPMENT NATIONAL CENTER**

**Ministry of Science and Higher
Education of the
Republic of Kazakhstan**

Study Level: Bachelor, Masters & PhD.

Availability: for foreign applicants.

Deadline:

30 June 2023.

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