

# 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.

This issue highlights scholarship opportunities.



### IN THIS ISSUE:

Afghanistan Research Initiative

Scholarship Opportunities

Profiles of Scholars  
in the Diaspora

Upcoming Events

New Books/Publications

## Scholarships for the 2023-2024 Academic Year

- **Fulbright Scholarship 2023** (Masters / PhD). [Learn more](#)
- **AAUW Fellowship Programme** (Masters / PhD). [Learn more](#)
- **Harvard University Scholarship** (Masters / PhD). [Learn more](#)
- **Stanford University Scholarships** (Masters / PhD). [Learn more](#)
- **Boston University Scholarship** (Masters / PhD). [Learn more](#)
- **ACI Foundation Scholarship** (Undergraduate / Masters / PhD / Postdoctoral). [Learn more](#)
- **Helen Hay Whitney Fellowships** (Postdoctoral). [Learn more](#)
- **Yale University Scholarship** (Masters / PhD). [Learn more](#)
- **Bill Gates Scholarships** (Bachelor's degree). [Learn more](#)
- **Google Scholarships** (Masters / PhD). [Learn more](#)
- **Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Programme** (Masters / PhD). [Learn more](#)
- **Knight Henessy Scholars Programme at Stanford University** (Masters / PhD). [Learn more](#)
- **Yale University Scholarships** (Undergraduate / Masters / PhD). [Learn more](#)
- **The HAAA Scholarship** (Undergraduate). [Learn more](#)

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](http://www.ucentralasia.org)).

- **University of New Haven Scholarship** (Masters / PhD). [Learn more](#)
- **Georgia University Scholarship** (Masters / PhD). [Learn more](#)
- **University of Memphis Scholarships** (Undergraduate / Masters). [Learn more](#)
- **Onsi Sawiris Scholarship** (Undergraduate / Masters). [Learn more](#)
- **University of Minnesota Fellowship** (Masters). [Learn more](#)

Continued on page 2

- **Rotary Peace Fellowship Programme** (Masters/ Certificate Studies). [Learn more](#)
- **Clark Global Scholarship Programme** (Undergraduate). [Learn more](#)
- **Treasure Scholarship at Boise State University** (Undergraduate). [Learn more](#)
- **Boston University Presidential Scholarship** (Undergraduate). [Learn more](#)

- **Cornell University Financial Aid** (Undergraduate). [Learn more](#)
- **Illinois Wesleyan University Scholarships** (Undergraduate). [Learn more](#)
- **Jefferson Scholars Foundation National Fellowship** (PhD). [Learn more](#)
- **Fairleigh Dickinson University Scholarships** (Undergraduate). [Learn more](#)

## PROFILES OF SCHOLARS IN THE DIASPORA



### Dr. Reza Khavari

Dr. Reza Khavari is currently working as a post-doctoral researcher at the Department of Clinical Psychology at the University of Konstanz in Germany since June 2022 which the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation supports. He received a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology in 2018 and a Master of Clinical Psychology in 2008 from the University of Kerala, India. He worked as a faculty member in the Department of Psychology at Kabul University and was a lecturer at various other universities. His research focuses on post-traumatic stress disorder, and he has published several articles in this field. He also delivered applied training courses in various therapeutic techniques for treating patients at Kabul University's Psychiatric Clinic.



### Dr. Farkhondeh Akbari

Dr Farkhondeh Akbari is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Gender, Peace, and Security Centre, at Monash University. She focuses on diplomatic negotiations with extreme non-state armed actors, peace processes and women, and the peace and security agenda in Afghanistan. She obtained her Ph.D. in diplomatic studies from the Australian National University. Her thesis examined the characteristics required for non-state armed actors to engage meaningfully in diplomacy for peace settlements and looked at the cases of the Taliban in Afghanistan and the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. Farkhondeh has work experience at the Department of Political Affairs at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission and Afghanistan's Independent Directorate of Local Governance in Kabul. Farkhondeh is also an activist, using her research to advocate for human rights – especially the rights of women and girls and the plight of the Hazara people in Afghanistan.



### Dr. Tabasum Wolayat Niroo

Dr. Tabasum Wolayat Niroo is a post-doctoral fellow and a research associate at Old Dominion University Virginia Modeling, Analysis, & Simulation Centre, where she does social network analysis using Gephi software. Specializing in higher education, Mrs. Niroo focused on the refugee crisis, higher education, and comparative equity studies across gender,

race and ethnicity with a keen interest in different cultures, particularly the role of women. He has five years of experience in government administration and consultancies that advance opportunities for women. She authored the first nationally implemented gender policy in Afghanistan that expanded social services to women. A feminist scholar-activist who established a secret school for girls under Taliban rule in Afghanistan, she speaks about issues facing women and girls through media engagements and public speaking events. Spent four years reporting current affairs and producing and presenting the award-winning Afghan Women's Hour for the BBC.

## PUBLICATIONS

11 November 2022:

The Daily Hustle: Going to the Bank

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25 September 2022:

I Watched the Afghan Government Collapse Under the Weight of Its Own Greed

[LEARN MORE >>](#)

## UPCOMING EVENT



Afghan Independent Journalists Association

### Best Journalists, Photographs, and Presenters of Afghanistan CONTEST

**Who can apply:**  
Journalists and media workers

**How to apply:**  
Forward their work samples to [info@aija.af](mailto:info@aija.af)

**Prize:**  
Cash awards of **AFN 83,500**, for first place, and **AFN 41,000**, for second and third places respectively.

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## NEW BOOKS



### The Decline and Fall of Republican Afghanistan

By *Ahmad Shuja Jamal and William Maley*

A searing indictment of how Afghan elites and the Western powers pulled the rug on the Afghan people, abandoning them to their fate. The authors argue that the attempt to build a Republican Afghanistan was not doomed; rather, it was botched.

Publication date: April 2023.

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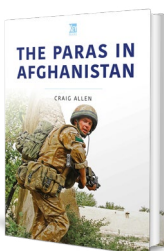
### Afghanistan – Long War, Forgotten Peace

Edited by *Michael Cox*

This volume is essential reading for all those concerned with what happens in Afghanistan over the coming months and years, the consequences for the Afghan people – and for the rest of the world.

Published: November 2022.

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### Afghanistan – The Paras in Afghanistan (Modern Wars Series)

By *Craig Allen*

Written by a former Para and battlefield photographer, this book takes the reader on a visual journey from training for this deployment in Scotland to the desert heat of Afghanistan, showing the soldiers, their equipment, weapons and vehicles. With over

200 color photographs, it provides a behind-the-scenes look at the Paras both in battle and going about their day-to-day lives at the bases.

Published: November 2022.

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## SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Maastricht University



### 24 Full Holland-High Potential INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS IN NETHERLANDS

**Study Level:**

Full-time master's degree programme.

**Awards:** €30,000.

**Access Mode:** Online.

**University or Organization:**

Maastricht University.

**Deadline:**

1 February 2023.

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MOHAMED BIN ZAYED  
UNIVERSITY OF  
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

### MBZUAI SCHOLARSHIP IN UNITED ARAB EMIRATES 2023

**Scholarship Type:** Fully funded.

**Study Level:** Master's and PhD.

**Deadline:** 15 April 2023.

**Field of Study:** Arts, foreign languages, IT, law, physics, and many others.

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UNIVERSITY OF  
OXFORD



Weidenfeld-  
Hoffmann  
Trust

### WEIDENFELD HOFFMANN SCHOLARSHIPS 2023 | OXFORD UNIVERSITY

**Scholarship Type:** Fully funded.

**Study Level:** Master's degree.

**Deadline:** End of May 2023.

**Field of Study:** Civil law, IT, MBA, education, energy, water science, Islamic studies, and many more.

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