



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 re-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](#)).

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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).

The deadline for applications: 30 June 2023.

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



HARROGATE COLLEGE

Afghanistan Day

ALZ - 13th June, 11:00 - 13:00

You are invited to a celebration of Afghan culture

Film, Food, Poems, Songs, Art, Authentic Dress



UPCOMING EVENT

An opportunity to experience and celebrate the cultural richness and diversity that exists in our community, to deepen awareness and understanding of Afghan traditions and heritage, to foster a climate of inclusion and respect, and to ensure our Afghan students feel valued, proud and comfortable.

[LEARN MORE »](#)

PROFILES OF SCHOLARS IN THE DIASPORA



Dr. Mohammad Jawad Ali Aqa

Dr. Mohammad Jawad Ali Aqa currently holds the position of Programme Co-ordinator at the Hiroshima Peacebuilders Centre. He earned his Ph.D. in Global Studies from Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, where he also served as a Teaching Assistant at the graduate school of Global Studies. His research focuses primarily on the nexus between state-building and peace in countries emerging from conflict.

of diaspora, with a focus on Australia, the Afghan diaspora, and the US.

Dr. Aqa has authored several articles on contentious politics in Afghanistan. Notably, one of his scholarly pieces titled “Aid-Conflict Nexus in Afghanistan: An Analysis of the Moderating and Mediating Roles of Economic Grievance and Aid Looting” was published in the Japanese Journal of Human Security Studies. Additionally, he has conducted research on the successful mobilization and rapid demobilization of non-violent movements in Afghanistan, which was featured in the International Journal of Humanities and Social Science.

In addition to his Ph.D., Dr. Aqa holds a master’s degree in Global Studies from Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. He obtained his bachelor’s degree in International Business Management from Mongolia International University.



Dr. Helena Zeweri

Dr. Helena Zeweri is a cultural anthropologist who believes in anthropology’s ability to speak to contemporary global issues. Her scholarship lies at the intersection of global migration studies, the social impacts of policy, and the political life

Broadly speaking, Dr. Zeweri is interested in how diasporic peoples’ senses of self, community, and the future are shaped by displacement and living under colonial and imperial conditions across many places. Through her work with the Afghan American Artists and Writers Association, she also organizes public programming around the US immigration system, global borders, and the media representation of Afghan diaspora through bringing together research, the arts, and advocacy.

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UPCOMING EVENT

A NIGHT FOR AFGHANISTAN

Join Index on Censorship and the International Campaign for Afghanistan’s Musicians to celebrate Afghanistan’s heritage and culture.



15 June 2023
16:45 - 18:45 BST

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PUBLICATIONS

21 April 2023:

Diplomatic Engagement with the Taliban:
A Path Forward or a Black Hole?

[LEARN MORE >>](#)

05 May 2023:

A Ban, a Resolution and a Meeting:
A look at the May 2023 meeting in Doha and
the reactions to it

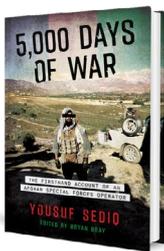
[LEARN MORE >>](#)

08 May 2023:

Lashing, Beating, Stoning: UNAMA tracks corporal
punishment and the death penalty in Afghanistan

[LEARN MORE >>](#)

NEW BOOKS



5,000 Days of War: The Firsthand Account of an Afghan Special Forces Operator

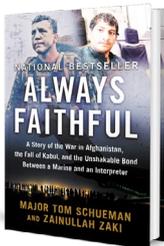
By Yousuf Sediq

Born to poverty and facing starvation in his remote Afghan village, eighteen-year-old Yousuf Sediq travels across Taliban territory to apply for a job as an interpreter with the U.S., though he knows little English. After being placed with U.S. and Canadian

Special Forces, Yousuf finds out what war is really like. Wanting to do more to help his country, he seeks to join the fight as an Afghan Special Forces soldier, eventually learning of a top-secret unit that he is invited to try out for.

Publication date: June 2023.

[LEARN MORE >>](#)



Always Faithful: A Story of the War in Afghanistan, the Fall of Kabul, and the Unshakable Bond Between a Marine and an Interpreter

By Thomas Schueman, Zainullah Zaki

“Always Faithful” entwines the stories of Marine Major Tom Schueman, and his friend and Afghan interpreter, Zainullah “Zak” Zaki, as they describe

their parallel lives, converging paths, and unbreakable bond in the face of overwhelming danger, culminating in Zak and his family’s harrowing escape from Kabul.

Publication date: 8 August 2023.

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War and Coffee: Confessions of an American Blackhawk Pilot in Afghanistan

By Joshua Havill

“War and Coffee” is a first-person account of being deployed to Afghanistan as a helicopter pilot with the “Screaming Eagles” of the 101st Airborne Division in 2009. Observed halfway through a decades-long war, this irreverent perspective is

both comical and brutally honest.

Publication date: 28 August 2023.

[LEARN MORE >>](#)

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

2023 AFGHAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION scholarship program



BY AFGHAN-AMERICANS, FOR AFGHAN-AMERICANS

- MULTIPLE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE
- FOR UNDERGRADUATE, GRADUATE, AND VOCATIONAL STUDENTS

APPLY NOW!

aa-co.org/scholarships

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APPLICATION DEADLINE:
May 29, 2023 at 11:59 pm PT



Australian Government

Fully Funded

Scholarship at
University of Sydney



[LEARN MORE >>](#)

Study Level: Masters & PhD.

Fields: Various.

Availability: For internationals.

Deadline: 15 September 2023.



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
and International Cooperation



Italian Government Scholarship Program For Foreign Citizens

FULLY FUNDED

Masters and PhD

<https://opportunitiespedia.com>

MAECI Scholarships to Study in Italy 2023/2024

Study Level: Masters, PhD,
and Research.

Fields: Various (fully funded).

Deadline: 9 June 2023.

[LEARN MORE >>](#)