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Afghanistan in the Contemporary Era: Issues and Challenges

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Abstract

At different periods of its historical past, Afghanistan was the center of central Asia and has been subject to ceaseless invasion and conquest. The history of Afghanistan is a history of fighting and conflict even up to the present time, with political life marked by instability, and ongoing struggles over the peace and state-building. It continues to be affected by ethnic fault lines, military interventions and efforts towards reform. This paper tries to throw lights on the historical and contemporary political problems of Afghanistan. It is based on an introduction to the political history of Afghanistan including changes in governance and state organization. The discussion then moves on to the social, political and economic context of the Afghan population, focusing on the challenges that they face in their daily lives. The growth of the Taliban and their impact on society, governance and Afghanistan's international relations are taken particular note of.

Keywords

Taliban, Conflict, Insecurity, Economic collapse, Gender equality.

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1. Introduction

Afghanistan has been experiencing non-democratic and tribal political institutions since it was established. There is an open and hidden conflict in this country on ethnic grounds because of ethnic politics, ethnic dominance, discrimination, oppression and occupation of land of ethnic groups. Throughout history various empires and dynasties have risen and fallen in Afghanistan which is a crossroads of civilizations. Afghanistan has been affected by various cultural influences since ancient times until contemporary eras, such as Persian, Greek, Arab, Mongol and British cultures.¹ Afghanistan has a long history which goes back to the 1500 B.C. time of other religion that had never been so close to Afghanistan. Different dynasties set up their empires eventually to be overthrown. Geographically, historically, politically, culturally and strategically, Afghanistan is a part of Central Asia. Various factors such as foreign occupation, monopoly, ethnic, religious and cultural heterogeneity have made Afghanistan less peaceful in nature.² In its political development the history of Afghanistan reveals that these nations have had issues dealing with forming an efficient and legitimate government throughout history as a result of tribalism and civil war. Like many other states, Afghanistan had a turbulent past in which many invaders had tried to make it a part of their own country but failed. Persian, Turks, Mongols and Greeks have tried to colonies it in order to exercise their control over the Silk Road, which proved an important string to the bow for control of India prior to the 18th century.³ On August 19, 1919, Afghanistan became independent from the British. This rule of monarchy was followed by the constitutions of 1923 and 1931, but then by that of 1964 which called the new government a constitutional monarchy with an elected parliament.⁴ Today, Afghanistan is confronted with a considerable number and diversity of complex and interwoven challenges. They can be generally categorized under sectors of humanitarian action, economic development, security and peace. But Afghanistan is not a 'post conflict' country, it is a country currently in the grip of violence that has over gripped country for more than 40 years. The reasons behind the violence can be traced back to the disintegration of the state, following the communist coup in 1978 and Soviet invasion in 1979, and the subsequent war of resistance (*Jihad*) (1979-1992) and civil war (1992-2001) performed by the victorious mujahedeen groups. These conflicts together resulted in the destruction of national infrastructures, such as health and

education, killing more than 1.7 million people, permanent disability of another 2 million people and have displaced more than 5 million from their homes.⁵

After the Soviet Union's withdrawal in 1989, Afghanistan has entered into a civil war. Until the Taliban rise, there are many groups which are trying for government seats. Taliban became the strongest force in Afghanistan until a decisive setback at Operation Anaconda in 2002, the United States and its allies.⁶ By returning Taliban to power in 2021, This country faces with continuing political challenges. Lack of comprehensive and representative government has severely diminished political engagement and illegitimacy both nationally and internationally. Political opposition or dissent is at a minimum in Taliban controlled areas, under the command of power focused Taliban leader. In addition, inadequate institutional frameworks, limitation of civil rights and the absence of rule of law have exacerbated governance uncertainty. This has contributed to political instability in Afghanistan, along with other anthropological issues such as lack of international recognition and Afghanistan's humanitarian needs which endure.

2. Objectives of the study

Objectives of this study are as follows:

1. To analyze the historical evolution of Afghanistan's political system from independence to 2021, with its governance structures.
2. To examine the main political challenges that Afghanistan has faced in the post-2001 era.
3. To evaluate how the 2021 political collapse has affected stability, economy, women, people and international relations.

3. Methodology

In the present study, qualitative and analytical approach based on secondary sources has been used. The data is gathered from academic books, conference papers, peer-reviewed journals, institutional reports and trustworthy online sources. Thematic content analysis techniques have been employed to find main patterns and major issues concerning governance, conflict and international engagements raised from the gathered data.

4. Afghanistan: Political Background (1919-1973)

Prince Amanullah Khan emerged as the new champion and defender of Islamic freedom and independence. It marked the first aerial invasion in Afghanistan's history; there was even a truce known as the Treaty of Rawalpindi, the details of which were not even completed because of negotiations for nearly two years. The treaty granted the Afghans independence, and defined the boundary of the British kingdom as not

extending beyond Khyber Pass. The Third Anglo-Afghan War 1919 was a short but intense war starting with Amanullah Khan's proclamation of independence. Despite the better numbers of British troops, Afghan armies attacked the border of the territory of British India, which prompted British to hold talks with them. The war was brought an end to by the Treaty of Rawalpindi 1919 which formally recognized Afghanistan as fully independent. From 1919 to 1929, King Amanullah Khan was one of the most prominent reformers in Afghan history and he tried to translate Afghan society from a traditional to a modern one. King Amanullah Khan began to introduce the changes in Afghanistan a profound way, which influenced the country's political, educational and social systems. Politically, in that Treaty of Rawalpindi that asserted Afghanistan's sovereignty on the international stage, he proclaimed total independence for Britain well back in 1919. Instead he laid the stone of legal government when he first introduced the constitution into the country. In addition, he established a constitutional monarchy in the country. He formed an advisory panel in order to curb power concentration. Amanullah Khan started modern educational institutions in which education system was made compulsory for children. This policy of sending both the boys and all the girls out of the country, to obtain higher education, is really the best indication of his progressive views. Amanullah Khan supported the public's participation and also women's rights within social situations. Progress towards gender equality was made through legislative change.⁷

After the Amanullah Khan, Short time rule of Habibullah Kalakani started and his ruling lasted only for 10 months, from January to October 1929, under a rebellious leader and Tajik bandit. He was the sole King of Tajik that brought Tajik to the Country's political power after 7 hundreds years. Habibullah Kalakani had no experience and knowledge to control and manage all Afghanistan's political situations and make strong government. He could not leave any special and large work in Afghanistan in that time. Yet after some months of recruiting tribesmen, Nadir Shah and Amanullah's former war minister, the Musahiban brothers were able to breach the Durand Line and enter Afghanistan. As such, on October 10th, 1929, the large force defeated the ruler of the Tajik and captured Kabul. Habiballah Kalakani managed to flee, but was later caught and executed, early in November. Soon after, Nadir Shah was declared as the King of Afghanistan.⁸ Mohammad Nader Shah rose to power in 1929 and was supported with military and political forces of his own family, after crumbling of reform program of Amanullah Khan, and Mohammad Nader Shah became the overseer of the political turmoil that followed during Habibullah Kalakani's reign. King Nadir Shah made a further effort at the modernization of Afghanistan using roads and communications. Additionally, he instituted measures to promote

regeneration under his relations with foreign powers, his creation of economic reform facilities in the form of commercial banks, and his establishment of a disciplined army of almost 40,000 soldiers. However, in spite of the positive reforms, Nadir Shah limited the rights to free speech, and as such thousands of Afghan intellectuals were imprisoned or killed. Lastly, in November 1933, King Nadir Shah was shot dead by an Afghan teenager, Abdul Khaliq Hazara.⁹ Together Mohammad Zahir Shah ascended to the throne, and was the youngest and the longest-reigning and the last King of Afghanistan in a triple way. Zahir Shah was crowned king at the age of 19 and spent most of his kingship with a number of more seasoned advisors in the royal family. In Zahir's final 10 years, his rule will be governed by his personal decision, without having to adhere to any rules of king's advice and review. The time of peace and internal stability in Afghanistan was the longest from 1929-1978.¹⁰

Finally, Daoud Khan, a prominent political figure in mid- 20th century Afghanistan, rose to power through a carefully orchestrated bloodless coup on July 17, 1973. However, at the time king Zahir Shah was abroad and sought medical treatment at Italy, a vacuum was left, which Daoud Khan filled quickly. With the help of some in power in the army and then under the predatory influence of the officers he ended the Monarchy and proclaimed the existence of the republic of Afghanistan. Daoud Khan cast himself as the first president of this country. On the 28th of April, 1978 Sardar Mohammad Daoud Khan, the first President of Afghanistan was finally killed.¹¹

5. Communist Regimes PDPA (1978 -1992)

The role of Afghanistan in international relations until late 1970s was negligible. This was viewed as the 'safari side of the country', far distant from the 'oilfields of the Persian Gulf' or other strategic areas of the Middle East or South Asia which was emphasized in the declassified official records of the time.¹² A significant turning point in Afghan history was the Saur Revolution (April 1978) which marked the communist takeover of the country. The coup was organized by Marxist-Leninist leftists, led by officers of the armed forces under the direction of the PDPA, which had split into two wings leftist section, called Khalq (Masses) and right-wing section known as Parcham (Banner). The assassination of a prominent Parchami ideologue Mir Akbar Khyber was the immediate spark of the Revolution. His funeral became a huge demonstration with alarming implications to the government of President Mohammed Daoud Khan, a response which led to the arrest of prominent leaders of PDPA, including Nur Mohammad Taraki and Babrak Karmal. However, Hafizullah Amin another important PDPA official was only imprisoned under house arrest which permitted him to continue coordinating the coup in secret. In December 1979, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan came as a reaction to a mounting of domestic trouble in the country. Besides, it was part of a political drama, and a military affair at the

same time, which ultimately led to the downfall of the Afghan state. The decision to intervene was heavily influenced on Cold War politics and intention to maintain Soviet influence over the region. But support for Najibullah waned and his government began to unravel after collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. In April 1992, when Mujahideen forces came in to Kabul, Najibullah took sanctuary at a UN building. The days of communist government were ended with it and a new era of the restlessness dawned.¹³

6. First Taliban Emirate Era (1996-2001)

During the late 1990s, the Taliban government entered into an agreement with the Al-Qa'idah, which have undertaken significant attacks, such as the 9/11 attacks. In response, the U.S. and its allies overthrew the Taliban regime in 2001 and established a new government in Afghanistan. In the first time, from 1996 to 2001, the Taliban ruled over the Kabul province of Afghanistan. They took control of Kabul in September 1996 and proclaimed the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan. They never did control the entire country, however, since the anti-Taliban forces were in control of the north-east areas in due course of the U.S. invasion and the international military operation, the Taliban turned to conducting anti-Taliban operations. The government of Taliban, which lasted from 1996 to 2001 and during this time the women were prohibited from going to school. They couldn't work, get an education, or get involved in politics. All types of music were forbidden and severe censorship was instituted.¹⁴

7. Islamic Republic Afghanistan (2001 - 2021)

Following the collapse of the Taliban regime in 2001, a wide-range of Afghans and international partners struck a consensus on policies in December 2001 which provided the basis for future government of the Afghan states. The steps are collectively called the "Bonn Agreement" which resulted in a transitional authority that was led Chairman Hamid Karzai to provide interim management of Afghanistan until the establishment of emergency (Loya Jirga) that would set up a transitional authority for Afghanistan. The transitional Government would convene another (Loya Jirga) after two years in office to draft a new Constitution to be followed by free and fair elections.¹⁵ October 9, 2004 was the date of the first Presidential Election. There were about 80% of people present. In December 2004 Hamid Karzai who won the first round of elections (55.4 percent of the vote) was sworn in as President of Afghanistan. He governed by decree in 2005, because National Assembly hadn't been formed yet. During presidential elections, the Independent Election Commission, whose commissioners was personally loyal to Karzai and handpicked by him, was charged with lacking legitimacy. The election date had been set by the IEC to be August 20th, 2009, which is slightly later than April 21st, 2009, as per the Constitution, Article 61.¹⁶ The other election took place on 28 September 2019; its result's delayed due to protests and

inequalities for roughly 5 months. Following its election declaration in February 2020, the election outcome was determined with Ashraf Ghani taking 50.64% of the votes compared to Dr Abdullah who won 39.5%. Abdullah and other candidates rejected the results, and refused to acknowledge Ghani's victory. Zalmay Khalilzad attempted to conduct mediation but was met with failure and both Medias' Abdullah and Ghani have declared themselves both President and simultaneously renewed their inaugurations. This political deadlock affected the unity of the Afghan government and raised some difficulties in the negotiation with the Taliban since there was no one in Afghanistan whose authority was accepted by everybody.¹⁷

8. Return of the Taliban (2021)

These conversations, which have been conducted in many secret meetings with the Taliban representative, and under pressure from the days both on the inside and outside the Afghan government, led to the signing of an outline agreement by the US and representatives of Taliban in Doha on February 29, 2020. The Trump administration, UK, as well as the NATO officials had themselves the day happened as an important one and a crucial step to complete their long going war in Afghanistan.¹⁸ When the Taliban went into the negotiations in Doha with the US with high sense of their political need for withdrawal and political distaste of the US presence in Afghanistan and dwindling legitimacy of President Ashraf Ghani, it was with a clear understanding of the US goals and political time pressure. Senior Western diplomatic officials got on planes for Doha where they met with the Taliban and some even invited them to come to Europe to provide their interpretation of the changes that had occurred in the new Taliban from the old ones of the 90s and that it was their desire to not witness a repeat of the brutal Islamic Emirate they had known. But, just a side note, Taliban got what it wanted. Negotiations to settle the conflicts between the warring sides were started as a part of the Doha process with peace goals. The Doha Agreement also known as a pullout agreement that signed on February 29, 2020, between the United States and the Taliban marked the completion of the entire process, which began in October 2018 and finished in August 2021. By the middle of August 2021, the Taliban assumed control of the Afghan capital of Kabul and President Ghani went into exile, and on 16 August 2021, the Taliban declared the establishment of an Islamic Emirate in Afghanistan.¹⁹

9. Political Challenges in Afghanistan

Afghanistan also struggles today, as the Taliban have returned to take control of the country since 2021, with deep-seated challenges such as low productivity, underdeveloped infrastructure, climate change, forced migration, governance weaknesses and internal displacement. Many are the result of problems created not only by the Taliban but actually predating the

Taliban and are beyond any one regime's ability to fix on their own, further adding to Afghanistan's policy, security and international relations issues. Concurrently, a regional sentiment is emerging and even a beginning normalization process led by international acceptance indicates that dialogue with the Taliban is the only option to overcome the ongoing humanitarian crisis and to avoid state collapse and renewed large scale conflict.²⁰

9.1 Human Rights

Administrative corruption at the time of the republic government prior to 2021 and a few types of corruption exist under the Taliban too. These encompass bribery when recruiting staffs, maladministration of money, irregularities in national projects. These worries have been exacerbated by the weakening or dismantling of previous governance, accountability and oversight mechanisms including aid management institutions and independent monitoring systems. Attempts to curb human rights abuses in the health field have fallen and the judicial system of the Emirate is not independent but is committed to the main ideology of the Taliban. Independent oversight has been removed and there are serious restrictions on the media, which does not report independently. Due to the women's rights limitations as workers for local and international, humanitarian groups and United Nations, the situation is worsened. In December 2022, the Taliban have prohibited females from working for any NGOs with few exceptions for Health and Education sectors.²¹ Human rights abuses continued to affect the Afghan people during the reign of the de facto Taliban government. Gender persecution constituted the crime against humanity faced by women and girls and their right to freedom of expression was under threat. Women's rights to freedom of movement were also curtailed. Healthcare continued to be poor and women and girls continued to be denied access to education.²² Women's rights are Freedoms for half a Humanity. These play an essential role in achieving a life free from violence, discrimination and oppression. Since the Taliban rule, women in Afghanistan have experienced problems in enjoying their rights in various areas such as the right to work, to get proper education, to participate in politics and to get healthcare. The girls and women are not permitted to attend secondary school or university in Afghanistan, the only Islamic country to prohibit it. However, during this time the women and girls are allowed to attend Madrasa to learn books of religion.²³ Unfortunately Women get significantly less access to the job market in the government of Afghanistan; where the Taliban are in control. They are denied employment opportunities in much of the government work, NGOs and most private industries. Only certain areas like primary education, media as reporter and small business are partially or completely available for women.²⁴

9.2 Civil Society, Economic, Social Work

Pre-Taliban, Afghans civil society had a significant role in advocating human rights, transparency and legal and policy reform initiatives. But, in

recent times as the Taliban regime, these organizations encounter immense difficulties in the political, legal and financial fronts and in operations. Taliban have severely curtailed freedom of association, assembly and expression which has virtually banned the majority of civil society activity. In addition, NGOs have been deprived of funding sources and the support of international donors have forced their employees to halt human rights activities and to exclude women from their functioning. The Taliban have been intervening in the work of NGO by setting up too many regulations, requirements for over-reporting and restrictions on their work and also dissolving many NGOs.²⁵

Poverty worsened due to unfavorable weather conditions and the continued internal displacement and economic crisis, after the Taliban regained control in 2021 in one of the issues that was discussed in the relevant section. According to UNDP about 85% of Afghans lived on less than one dollar a day. According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 23.7 million people, more half the country's population needed humanitarian assistance therefore 12 million people were food insecure while 2.9 million experienced emergency levels of hunger. In 2024, UNICEF estimated 2.9 million children to be acutely malnourished, of which 850,000 were suffering life-threatening malnutrition. In the meantime, hundreds of thousands of Afghan refugees were forcibly repatriated to various countries in the region, including Iran, Pakistan and Turkey. In other European countries as well, the Afghan refugees were sent back.²⁶

9.3 Foreign Relations

Regional states have tried to have good relations with the Taliban. Many of the states that have not officially recognized Islamic Emirate have still been engaged with Afghanistan as a result of their traditional economic ties, such as trade agreements and exports, among which are Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Iran, China, and India. Meanwhile, they have been trying to establish more solid and better political ties with future Taliban. Taliban seem to be making concerted efforts to engage in relations with Afghanistan neighbors.

Pakistan is still one of the most influential and complicated elements of Afghanistan's post-2021 scenario. Pakistan's foreign affairs have been a longstanding issue in Afghanistan including its backing of the Taliban during the 1990s. Everyone had believed that Taliban's return in the government of Afghanistan was welcome for Pakistan's policy in the region but it has created challenges in Pakistan too with the regular contacts with the Taliban government. It has boosted the morale of individual militias and even their capacity within the country, especially the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and hence boosted the attacks against the security forces within Pakistan, which the Taliban always refuted. By the way, the relations

between Pakistan and Afghanistan are worst; Pakistan started attacking Afghanistan for getting rid of terrorists, including the leaders of TTP, but the Taliban reject that there is not any living terrorist in Afghanistan.²⁷ Border relations have become fractious and in 2026, it has become one of the most significant conflicts. These fighting have been described as “open war” resulting in many casualties, the closure of borders, and major disruptions to trade. Further, the mass deportation of Afghan migrants by the Pakistani government has worsened relations and the growing diplomatic ties between the Taliban and the Indian government.²⁸

The Torkham border crossing between these two countries was re-opened on 19 March after its closure due to clashes between Pakistani and Taliban security forces for almost a month. The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) reported that the Afghan people came back from Pakistan in April by about 144 thousand of which 30 thousand were deported.²⁹

Iran is another vital neighboring country where engagement has a political, economic and social component. Though, Iran was against the Taliban government in 1996, it has maintained its relations with the Taliban. Iran stresses its need to be involved in the government in Afghanistan, saying it has close ties both with ethnic and religious minorities in the country, especially Tajiks who speak Persian and Hazara who are mostly Shia Muslims. With the return of the Taliban in 2021 and the worsening economic situation, around 3 million Afghans migrated to Iran. but, about 1.9 million of them were later returned to Afghanistan due to the increase in undocumented migration. Today, there is conflict between Iran and U.S., but there have been continuous relations between Iran and Taliban. Trade continues to exist between them, albeit limited to trade in imports and exports.³⁰

China is increasingly becoming a dominant regional power in Afghanistan with strategic and economic interests. The Chinese ambitions will have played out the two goals with and on a global scale and the regional scale as well, since the emergence of the Taliban to power. Since 2021, China has hosted more visits by Taliban and other regional or global powers than any other. Also, China has initiated diplomatic relation with them. The President of China had welcomed the Ambassador of the Taliban to discuss various matters on 1 December 2023 and accepted his credentials. In the decision, this is the first time China has officially accepted the Taliban-appointed Ambassador as the representative of Afghanistan in Beijing.³¹ China is being a lot supportive of the Taliban government giving financial aid, investments, and equipment. Over the years the Taliban have participated several times in regional conferences. China is also meeting the other needs paramount for the Taliban economic, security and diplomatic efforts. China’s foreign policy is to have Afghanistan on its side against the

eastern front, which involves the US presence in South and in East China Sea, and a game in the region with India and others that are allied with the US.³²

Russia also has been active in Central Asia by engaging the Taliban to consolidate its influence in the region, much like it has done. In July 2025, Russia was the first to officially recognize the Taliban regime in Afghanistan since their return to power in 2021. It has always tried to interact with the Taliban and have dealt with them very well. President Vladimir Putin received Afghanistan's credentials of its official ambassador, thus adding to the international legitimacy for the Taliban. This also was a decisive position for Russia as an important and key player in Central Asia.³³

India's approach had been more measured and humanity-centered in its approach towards Afghanistan. India was significantly present in Afghanistan after 2001 and was doing that in the name of soft power and development assistance. Total investment in infrastructure, humanitarian support and capacity building for India was more than \$3 billion. Indian s consciously refrained from sending military personnel and presented itself as a 'benevolent partner' such as the Salma Dam, the Zaranj-Delaram Highway, the construction of the Afghan Parliament building and medical missions, etc. The interactions between Afghanistan and India over the years have been guarded and, largely, restricted to issues of humanitarian and development cooperation since 2021. Not to mention, India had not recognized the Taliban government which reopened its Embassy in Kabul in 2022 to supervise aid and India's interests. India has been medically assisting, supplying food and the infrastructure without acknowledging the state India has given medical aid, food and built facilities without formal recognition of the state. Meanwhile, India is working with the Afghan people through scholarships, schooling and development initiatives on a balanced basis and not legitimizing the rule of the Taliban.³⁴ From October 9-16, 2025, the Acting Foreign Minister of the Taliban, Mullah Amir Khan Muttaqi, attended India. This was the first-ever dignitary-to dignitary meeting between India and the Taliban since their seizure of power in 2021. India has sent Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief materials to Afghanistan which is situation is struggling due to recent earthquakes and floods, on April 06, 2026. The aid components are kitchen sets, hygienic care kits, plastic sheets, tarpaulins, sleeping bags and others", the External Affairs Ministry said in a social media post.³⁵

Lastly, the policies of the Central Asian States further illustrate the diverse but cautious regional approach toward Afghanistan. The relations among Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan have been defined by a fleeting sense of security and some wariness about economic engagement since 2021. Tajikistan's consistent rejection of the Taliban and skepticism at the rise of extremism in its neighboring regions. Tajikistan's consistent rejection of the Taliban and doubts about their spread of extremism along the borders.

Uzbekistan, however, has taken a pragmatic approach of that nature by allowing dialogue, encouraging trade and transit initiatives, but without formal recognition. Turkmenistan has also been neutral; this country desires to have a good relationship with the Taliban and it is mainly based on energy & economic cooperation, without any participation of the political domain.³⁶

10. Suggestions

The Taliban came to Afghanistan in 2021, bringing a host of issues along with them, amongst them political, economic and social. Furthermore, Afghanistan was once again politically isolated, without recognition by the international community, with institutional check on human rights in general and civil society, women rights in particular. For this reason, Afghanistan is facing humanitarian crisis, economic issues and growing concerns and worries about the stability of government having undergone these political changes. In order to overcome the challenge, the present administration must consider these suggestions not just a recognition but a realization as well, as they will help in the development and progress and will ensure peace and stability in the country.

1. Promote Inclusive Governance through Traditional Mechanisms:

The government should call a Loya Jirga (Grand National Assembly) to enable political participation. The traditional Loya Jirga (National Assembly) can be used for conducting dialogue between various ethnic, social and tribal groups and enhance legitimacy of the governance system.

2. Create an Inclusive Government: Afghanistan is a country of various ethnic groups and for the country to function, all ethnic groups must have their representatives in the government. It should include ethnic minorities, youth and women and representatives of civil society in this government formation. A political monopoly must be avoided, so ultimately, such a government is needed to build a more unified nation and mitigate the resurgence risk.

3. Protect Women's Rights and Opportunities: Men and women are equally unto duty in learning. Thus, the limitations on the education of women and their access to the workforce have to be lifted, and avenues for their development ought to be available. It is not just a basic human right, it's the precondition for sustainable development and a country's progress.

4. Strengthen Civil Society and Accountability: It is important to journalists, civil society organizations, and activists should be protected and supported. Their function to hold people to account, to illuminate fatuous acts and reveal the hidden make-up of governments is vital for the resilience of democracies and having things right.

5. **Enhance the Delivery of Humanitarian Assistance:** The delivery of humanitarian aid should have been done through a neutral channel of communication, through the United Nations, so that the helpless groups receive the aid without political influences and wasted.
6. **Consolidate Regional Cooperation:** Afghanistan should cooperate with regional countries in establishing regional stability and ensuring security on the borders. Afghanistan should do more to enhance cooperation with regional countries, particularly Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and central Asian nations, in a bid to improve security on borders and regional stability. Investment in the area of cooperation for trade, transportation and water resources governance may also be a confidence building exercise in the region.
7. **Encourage Diplomatic Engagement:** Now it's time for Afghanistan to act positively toward the international community and create a policy for which there is no international isolation. Continued dialogue and conditional recognition is to be encouraged to foster in the Government a moderate attitude and respect international standards.
8. **Support Regional Economic Projects:** The involvement in regional economic creativities like trade corridors, energy projects, and water sharing arrangements can be a source of economic growth and job creation and connect Afghanistan with wider economic systems.
9. **Empower the Afghan Migration:** Afghan refugees' means of living overseas should be linked to support Afghanistan, transfer knowledge and skills, invest and draw the international community's attention to Afghanistan's problems. They can play an important role in being instrumental in filling the gap between Afghanistan's demand and support from the international community.

11. Conclusion

Today, Afghanistan is in a difficult political, economic, and social situation with feelings of isolation, little economic opportunity and limitations on basic rights. These have caused much instability and difficulty in development. Afghanistan, an extremely poor country, continues to be in the middle of a brutal and seemingly never-ending war. Invaders, empires, and power struggles have all had an impact on Afghanistan's history. Several cultures have affected Afghanistan, such as Persian, Greek, Arab, Mongol, and British. The history of political development of Afghanistan was very complicated; this changed dramatically, since the proclamation of independence in 1919 till the tumultuous changes of the 21st century. For constitutional change (modernization) or increasing centralization of state power see monarchs linked to 'change-traditional' reforms, notably Amanullah, Nader Shah and Zahir Shah and their various demands of the

Afghan state. Monarchy became turmoil's of republics, communism then Islam rule (influenced by the development from within and the exercise of world forces on it). In spite of the repeated attempts of creating stable institutions, the political path of Afghanistan was characterized by the conflict, foreign intervention and change of ideologies. Twenty years after the establishment of international military regime in Afghanistan, it came to the end in 2021 when Taliban took over to Kabul. It was a major event in political and modern history of Afghanistan when Taliban took control of Kabul after the Doha Agreement in 2021. This nation since then has been plagued by serious economic, political and humanitarian difficulties, along with widespread human-rights abuses, particularly for civil society and women. Losing formal recognition, and experiencing internal disasters, continues to shape Afghanistan's fragile and uncertain future even with the cautious participation of regional and global players especially in areas of economic, export and import affairs to stop further instability. In the end, although Afghanistan is facing many difficulties, there is still hope for a better future. The country can achieve peace and progress if the government takes action to place all groups in decision making; if it ensures civil society space is protected; if women's rights are restored; and if a government strengthens relations with neighbouring countries. Afghanistan has an opportunity to transform today's challenges into opportunities for stable and sustainable development thanks to the support of the international community and the support of the Afghan people.

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