

# AFGHAN LINKS

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Afghan Links is a free newsletter for readers who have a keen interest in Afghanistan, its history, people and culture. It invites news and articles from anyone who wishes to create and maintain constructive links between Afghanistan and other countries by sharing their expertise, information and ideas in any field.

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## **COUNTER-NARCOTICS**

### **Developing Counter-Narcotics Policy in Central Asia: Legal and Political Dimensions by Kairat Osmonaliev**

“Developing Counter-Narcotics Policy in Central Asia: Legal and Political Dimensions” is a Policy Paper published by the Joint Project on Narcotics, Organized Crime and Security in Eurasia. This research initiative is conducted by the Silk Road Studies Program, Uppsala University, and the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute, Johns Hopkins University-SAIS. It is authored by Kairat Osmonaliev.

Dr. Kairat Osmonaliev was a visiting Fellow at the Silk Road Studies Program, Department of East European Studies, Uppsala University, in Spring and Summer 2004. Prior to his stay at the Program, Dr. Osmonaliev was Chief of the Legal and International Cooperation Section at Kyrgyzstan's Drug Control Agency. He also served for three years as Chief of the Department of Analysis at Kyrgyzstan's State Commission of Drug Control. Concurrently, Dr. Osmonaliev holds a Chair of Criminal Law at Chui University. He received his Ph.D. degree (Kand. Nauk) in Jurisprudence from the Academy of Management under the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Moscow, his Dissertation theme was Criminal Legal Measures on Illicit Drug Trafficking Prevention. He holds the military rank of Major.

### **Executive Summary**

Since 1993, there has been a thirty-fold increase in heroin seizures in Central Asia. The social pathology of organized crime, which supervises and carries out illicit drug trafficking to Russia and Western countries as well as the laundering of illegal proceeds, has grown to become a significant threat to the regional states. So far, law enforcement agencies have proven unable to formulate, let alone implement, adequate measures against this threat. The scale and multi-faceted nature of the struggle against narcotics in the region has not been matched by a serious analytical forecasting effort to understand its development. Without such analysis, it is impossible to obtain a full understanding of the situation and planning for relevant time frames while determining the purpose and objectives of counter-narcotics policy. Moreover, this analysis is required to determine priorities in counter-narcotics and the range of their institutionalization.

This analysis of the drug situation in Central Asia over the last few years reveals a large expansion that poses an escalating danger to the stable and secure development of the Central Asian region. The situation in the sphere of illegal trafficking in Central Asia is exacerbated by a negative societal situation that has intensified a sense of desperation and hopelessness especially among exposed layers of population, in turn leading to increased addiction problems. Among other issues, drug trafficking is considered to be an essential source of income for international terrorism, and the coalition powers in Afghanistan have so far been unable to effectively deal with the issue. Nevertheless, the struggle against drug trafficking in Afghanistan is closely associated with the settlement of a range of social and economic problems, primary among which is political stability. Huge drug markets in Russia, Europe and China have developed into stable consumption countries, stimulating supply. Furthermore, the lack of political stability in Central Asia and the weakness of the regional states makes countries vulnerable to international drug trafficking. **For the full report go to**

<http://www.silkroadstudies.org/Silkroadpapers/Osmonaliev.pdf> or email Jeanne at [Afghanlinks@aol.com](mailto:Afghanlinks@aol.com) for a copy. [home](#)

## **HEALTH**

### **Global Health Atlas**

The Global Health Atlas is an interactive world map where you decide what indicators for a particular country you would like to display. For example, in the health category, you can find out the child mortality rate under five, the number of teenage

pregnancies, how many doctors are in a country, number of malaria and tuberculosis cases, etc.

<http://en.groundspring.org/EmailNow/pub.php?module=URLTracker&cmd=track&j=19561334&u=175848> and click on the top right icon for entry – **NOTE THAT YOU NEED INTERNET EXPLORER 6 OR HIGHER TO USE THE MAP**

Source: <http://atlas.globalhealth.org/>

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## **HUMAN RIGHTS**

### **Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) Report – ‘A call for Justice’**

On 29<sup>th</sup> January 2005, the report of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) entitled “A Call for Justice” was presented to President Karzai by Dr Sima Samar, the head of the AIHRC.

The public launching ceremony was attended by Jean Arnault, the Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) for Afghanistan and Louise Arbour, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The National consultation report is accessible on the Commission’s website <http://www.aihrc.org.af>

**If you have difficulty accessing the report on the web please contact Jeanne on [Afghanlinks@aol.com](mailto:Afghanlinks@aol.com) for a copy sent by email.**

### **Conclusion of AIHRC’s National Consultation on Transitional Justice in Afghanistan**

*“Justice is of paramount importance, because justice and security are correlative,”  
A woman from Laghman.*

While Afghanistan is taking firm steps to create a stable and democratic society the National Consultation on Transitional Justice reflects the hardships and sufferings of the Afghan people in the past 23 years of armed conflict and indicates their understanding of and desire for justice.

The majority of people throughout the national consultation introduced themselves as victims of human rights violations during the conflict. They believed that the crimes have persistently occurred throughout the last two and half decades of war and continue even today. The people are of the opinion that continued impunity has given the perpetrators the opportunity to commit further abuses with no fear of prosecution.

However the public has a profound perception of justice and a large number of people support the adoption of a series of measures, such as criminal justice and removing war criminals from government positions.

From January to August 2004, the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC) has, individually through questionnaires and collectively through focus groups, consulted with thousands of people on past human rights abuses and on dealing with the perpetrators of these crimes in the future.

Talking about the National Consultation on Transitional Justice, Dr. Sima Samar, Chair of the AIHRC, said, “Unfortunately, proper attention has not been paid to a fundamental element of peace and stability since the beginning of Afghanistan’s transition process. That element is the realisation of justice in Afghanistan. The international community has even sometimes been the first to ignore the issue of justice. We at the Commission believe that it is impossible to achieve peace without justice. At the same time, the issue of deciding how and when the justice is to be done is up to the people and that’s why we have conducted this nationwide consultation to find what they want.”

Out of all participants in the National Consultation, 69% introduced themselves as victims of crimes against humanity and war crimes, 40% demanded the prosecution

of notorious perpetrators and 90% requested the removal of human rights violators from public offices.

Nader Nadery, AIHRC's Commissioner for Transitional Justice, explains, "The people were happy and excited when we were asking their views on past human rights abuses. I think that the National Consultation has brought a sense of possession and an unprecedented chance for the victims to raise their voice. It itself contributes to the rehabilitation of their human dignity and the restoration of their confidence. The reason is that the past developments had mainly been imposed on the will of the people. For Afghanistan's lasting democratic growth to be feasible victim's dignity must be restored and the perpetrators must be held to account for what they have done before."

AIHRC is an independent national institution established up on Bonn Agreement and the article 58 of Afghanistan's constitution, mandated to promote and protect human rights in Afghanistan.

The AIHRC's proposed national strategy on transitional justice is based on the will of the people, Afghanistan's current socio-political realities and the international experience on transitional justice which is attached to the report will pave the way for a sustainable peace and rule of law in Afghanistan.

The national Consultation's report "A call for Justice" recommends a national strategy on transitional justice including measures such as:

- Political commitment to justice
- Vetting
- Institutional Reform
- And Criminal Justice

The commission hopes that the government will implement the strategy with support from the UN, members of the international community and AIHRC. The first step will be to convert the strategy into a concrete action plan that will be implemented.

For further information, please contact:

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E-mail address: [aihrc@aihrc.org.af](mailto:aihrc@aihrc.org.af) or contact Jeanne at [Afghanlinks@aol.com](mailto:Afghanlinks@aol.com) for a copy of the report. [home](#)

### **JOB VACANCIES**

- **Mercy Corps Require a Project Manager-Youth Education & Sports - Kunduz, Afghanistan**

**The Program Manager** will be responsible for the strategic direction, oversight and coordination of all "Learning to Play Again" program activities in Afghanistan. Oversight will include: managing daily program activities to ensure the program will accomplish its deliverables with high impact; budget management; supervision of at least 7 staff; monitoring and reporting activities. The Program Manager will be responsible for initiating linkages with other government and NGO programs relevant to girls' development, liaising with Nike Foundation staff and advisors, and actively moving this program to scale and sustainability.

#### **ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS:**

- 1) Supervise project staff to ensure adequate monitoring, training, and division of responsibilities for maximum team output and impact.
- 2) Manage implementation, structural integrity, scaling and sustainability of project activities within allotted time frame.
- 3) Manage collection, monitoring and analysis against baseline data, in collaboration with Nike Foundation technical advisors.
- 4) Provide routine donor reporting, per internal guidelines and grant agreement.

## **KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE:**

- At least a B.A degree plus a minimum of three years experience in international work, particularly related to gender studies, conflict-affected populations, sports and youth.
- Fluency in English.
- Experience scaling up a program, and integrating with other government and social initiatives.
- Experience managing a diverse staff with limited English language verbal and written skills.

Please apply online at [www.mercycorps.org](http://www.mercycorps.org) and click on Jobs.

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- **Mercy Corps Require a Program Manager - Natural Resources - Kunduz, Afghanistan**

## **GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY:**

Contingent on funding, Mercy Corps will hire a Programme Manager to be based in Kunduz city, Afghanistan. The Programme Manager must fulfill EC-nationality requirements. The Programme Manager will be responsible for the strategic direction, oversight and coordination of all CD-NRM activities in Afghanistan. Two essential components of the job related to the overall vision will be i) working with the government and ii) monitoring and evaluation. The Programme Manager will be responsible for a staff of 12 (directly supervising 2) in two district offices apart from the Kunduz office.

## **ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS:**

1. Manage the overall implementation to ensure programme achieves its impacts in the given time, including i) setting the programme vision and tone and ii) creating a programme action plan/work plan that will be periodically reviewed with staff.
2. Provide technical oversight on programme activities, suggesting changes in approaches to improve effectiveness and impact.
3. Supervise and build the capacity of programme staff by ensuring adequate monitoring, training, and division of responsibilities for maximum team output and impact.

## **KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE:**

- Masters in natural resource management, forestry, watershed management, sustainable agriculture or associated field.
- 3-5 years experience working in international program management from the field
- Demonstrated experience with community-based forestry and natural resources management
- Technical knowledge of on-farm forestry, reforestation, fruit tree production and pasture/livestock management.

Please apply online at [www.mercycorps.org](http://www.mercycorps.org) and click on Jobs.

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## **LECTURE AND FUNDRAISING EVENT**

**Sandy Gall, CBE Will Give an Illustrated Lecture on 'Afghanistan – Past, Present and Future' at the Royal Geographical Society on Wed. 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2005 at 7 p.m.**

### **Sandy Gall's Afghanistan Appeal**

Sandy Gall former foreign correspondent for Reuters and Independent Television News (ITN) and co-presenter of News at Ten is giving an illustrated lecture on 'Afghanistan – Past, Present and Future' at the Royal Geographical Society, 1

Kensington Gore, London, SW7 at 7 p.m. on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2005. (bar open 6-9 p.m.).

Sandy Gall made three documentaries on Afghanistan during the Soviet occupation, wrote three books about the war and in 1983 founded Sandy Gall's Afghanistan Appeal (SGAA), of which he is chairman, to help disabled Afghans.

The event is to raise funds for the SGAA which has provided thousands of free artificial limbs and orthopaedic appliances to mine and polio victims, especially children. It has also trained scores of local technicians and now runs several clinics in Kabul and Jalalabad, employing 98 Afghan technicians and support staff and 52 part-timers. 93p out of every pound donated goes straight to the disabled, many of them women and children.

The lecture will be introduced by Tessa Dunlop, Historian and TV and Radio broadcaster.

To apply for tickets, **which are £15 each**, please send **a cheque together with an s.a.e.** to: Mrs Eleanor Gall, SGAA, PO Box 145, TONBRIDGE, Kent TN11 8SA. The tickets are non-refundable. **Please make cheques payable to: SGAA (Sandy Gall's Afghanistan Appeal).**

For further information please make contact by any of the following means:

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**Email:** [sgaa@btinternet.com](mailto:sgaa@btinternet.com) and visit the website

[www.sandgallsafghanistanappeal.org](http://www.sandgallsafghanistanappeal.org)

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## **MEDIA**

***Quitting Kabul - The U.S. media presence in Afghanistan continues to dwindle***

Once a journalism hot spot, Afghanistan was all but left behind when the media's spotlight turned to the conflict in Iraq. In [June/July 2003](#), AJR reported that only a handful of reporters remained in the struggling country on a full-time basis, while other news organizations floated correspondents in and out when time and resources permitted.

A year and a half later, Afghanistan has become even more of an afterthought. Only two news organizations--Newsweek and the Washington Post--have full-time reporters stationed in Kabul, the capital. Other major newspapers, such as the Chicago Tribune and Los Angeles Times, rely on stringers in Afghanistan and correspondents based in New Delhi, India, to cover the region, a stark contrast to the hundreds of reporters pouring into Iraq since the war began. The New York Times uses a stringer, albeit a full-time one. Television networks have nearly disappeared.

With the establishment of a new government and building of infrastructure, a continuing U.S. military presence and the hunt for terrorists, Afghanistan is rife with stories of long-term consequence. Roy Gutman, a veteran Newsday correspondent who became its foreign editor in July, has long criticized the media for their lack of solid, in-depth coverage of what he calls one of the major conflicts of our time and the true beginning of the battle against al Qaeda. Now that major fighting is over, "it's very important to keep a spotlight on Afghanistan to see whether the U.S. government is able to manage it and able to succeed," he says.

In light of the recent detainee torture and abuse scandals in U.S.-run prisons in Iraq and Afghanistan, Gutman is appalled that the media have not given the situation more time and attention. In 1999, Gutman, between his two stints with Newsday, co-founded the nonprofit Crimes of War Project, where he commissioned a story that investigated the death of an Afghan soldier in U.S. custody. In September, the L.A.

Times ran a story on the incident, but it was never followed up by other media and quickly forgotten.

"This is something that the news organizations should be all over," Gutman says, "but on the whole, nobody's making headlines out of what looks like a systematic pattern of abuse. It seems to me that this is what journalism should be about." (Newsday doesn't have a presence in Kabul, either. The paper opened a one-man bureau in Islamabad, Pakistan, January 1.)

With the exception of the October presidential election, coverage of Afghanistan has dropped off dramatically since mid-2002, says New York Times stringer Carlotta Gall, who has spent the last three years there. Despite the decreasing exposure, Gall is comfortable with the amount of play the country receives in American newspapers.

"I think it's about right... U.S. newspapers have kept the coverage pretty solid," Gall writes in an e-mail to AJR, adding that she has been pleasantly surprised by the "continuing interest of readers and editors." The fact that the country has not dropped entirely below the media radar is encouraging to her.

The dwindling number of journalists once made finding stories and interviewing public figures easier for the few American reporters who remained in the country. Now, though, growing bureaucracy and the swelling number of Afghan journalists tend to get in the way. For example, Gall and other foreign print journalists were unable to attend President Hamid Karzai's December 7 inauguration due to the sheer numbers of Afghan reporters and camera crews. **Source:** By Kim Hart, an AJR editorial assistant - **AJR, December/January 2005 issue. For the whole article and a list of full time journalists in Afghanistan please see ATTACHMENT 3.5.**

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#### **REVIEW**

**No Size Fits All by [Salman Ahmed](#) – Review of *Enforcing the Peace: Learning from the Imperial Past*. Kimberly Zisk Marten. New York: Columbia University Press, 2004, 208 pp. \$27.95**

Summary: Three new studies of the international community's attempts at postwar state reconstruction in the 1990s offer valuable lessons about how best to handle the job, but they also over-generalize and miss critical differences among their cases.

*Salman Ahmed is Senior Political Officer in the Office of the UnderSecretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations at the United Nations. He served the UN in Cambodia, South Africa, and Bosnia and Herzegovina, and as Special Assistant to Lakhdar Brahimi, the UN secretary-general's special adviser, in Afghanistan and Iraq.*

The UN has been in the business of peacekeeping since 1948. During the Cold War, UN missions were mostly restricted to placing lightly armed observers between warring states to monitor compliance with cease-fire agreements. Since the fall of the Soviet Union, however, more UN operations have been set up to implement comprehensive settlements to resolve civil wars and rebuild political systems, sometimes from scratch: from complex peace operations in Cambodia, El Salvador, Mozambique, and Namibia in the early 1990s to the even more complex administration of collapsed territories, such as Kosovo and East Timor in the late 1990s. Today, the UN manages 17 operations on four continents, with more than 70,000 military, police, and civilian personnel drawn from more than 100 countries. A new complex operation in Sudan is in the works, and the UN's role in Iraq may expand.

One of the UN's most difficult challenges has been to translate general lessons from those disparate experiences into a blueprint for rebuilding war-torn societies. Three accomplished political scientists believe they might have found a way to do so. In *At War's End*, a survey of how war-torn countries that have hosted UN peace operations in the 1990s have fared, Roland Paris concludes that, although most are still at peace, few are fully democratic and prosperous. He believes that more intrusive UN operations, including those that temporarily take over a state's administration, are

the best way to ensure that liberal democracies will emerge from war. Kimberly Zisk Marten also endorses the values of liberal democracies, but in *Enforcing the Peace: Learning From the Imperial Past*, she claims it is a "pipe dream" to think that international administrators can bring them to war-torn societies. Calling for a much less ambitious type of international intervention, which she terms "security-keeping," Marten argues that international missions should confine themselves to maintaining security, allowing local actors to devise their own political and economic systems. In *The Remnants of War*, John Mueller presents a third model for the future of international peacekeeping: "police-keeping." What war-torn countries need the most, Mueller claims, is not to redress a democratic deficit or reconcile a "clash of civilizations," but to develop functioning state institutions that can police their territories effectively. **For the full Review please see attachment 1.5 or go to <http://www.foreignaffairs.org/20050101fareviewessay84115b/salman-ahmed/no-size-fits-all.html>** [home](#)

### **WEBSITE**

**Afghanistan et Central Asia - Ecrit en Langue Française, Ce Site Traite de la Situation en Afghanistan et en Asie Centrale**

L'objectif du site est de proposer des informations quotidiennes, des études historiques, géographiques et culturelles indépendantes dans un esprit dénué d'arrière pensées politiques, religieuses et ethniques. On peut y trouver des cartes, des archives, des documents. <http://www.bassirat.net/>

**Source:** Sent for distribution on Barney Rubin's yahoo group – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2005.

**If you want further information on any of the above subjects please email Jeanne Bryer at [Afghanlinks@aol.com](mailto:Afghanlinks@aol.com)**

**NB. All information contained here identifies the source and is shared with readers in good faith. If you find any incorrect details please let me know and they will be rectified immediately. *Afghan Links* is produced by Jeanne Bryer who formerly worked for the British and Irish Agencies Afghanistan Group and who currently works for Khorasan Orphanage in Kabul and the Kathy Evans Afghan Education Trust. If you no longer wish to receive the Afghan Links Newsletter please send an email to Jeanne [Afghanlinks@aol.com](mailto:Afghanlinks@aol.com) and your address will be removed.**

