

DAILY TRACKER

Taliban's extremist implementation of sharia law

1. The Taliban delivered an eight-article letter to the media, requesting that they not broadcast TV shows starring women, as well as local and foreign films that are in violation of Afghan law and Sharia.

Source: <https://twitter.com/syed2000/status/1462578793508483074>

2. American-Afghan actor Fereshta Kazemi, has called the Taliban guidelines of banning women in drama “the final erasure of women from society”. The actor has managed to escape Afghanistan just as Kabul fell in August.

Source: <https://www.sbs.com.au/news/final-erasure-of-women-from-society-afghan-actor-slams-new-taliban-rules/67b42679-cd09-41a2-a9ce-e4dcc7f090b4>

Human Rights under Taliban

1. More than 257 media outlets have closed in Afghanistan due to financial crisis and media restrictions since the Taliban took over Kabul. According to Tolo News the shutdown include print, radio and TV stations.

Source: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-03515-1>

2. Economic sanctions against Afghanistan, according to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), have resulted in widespread suffering, and payments must be made to stop the tide of famine. Dominic Steelhart, the chief of the ICRC's operations, urged donor countries to find methods to deliver money to Afghanistan to avoid starvation.

Source: <https://pajhwok.com/2021/11/24/icrc-says-cash-needed-to-prevent-hunger-in-afghanistan/>

3. "We are fighting, we are dying," said women demonstrators in Kabul. "We get our rights." A group of women and civic activists gathered in a Kabul neighbourhood once more, screaming, "We fight, we die, we obtain our rights." They claimed their rights and justice.

Source: <https://twitter.com/aamajnews24/status/1463485141741883394>

4. According to Iranian officials, roughly 4,600 children collect recyclable garbage on Tehran's streets to sell, and the number is growing. It is estimated that 95 percent of the population is made up of foreigners, the majority of whom being young Afghans. In the Iranian capital, many other children work in markets or clean vehicles. Officials claim they are being exploited for profit, citing an Iranian law prohibiting under-15s from working.

Source: https://www.rferl.org/a/afghan-kids-put-to-work-sorting-garbage-in-tehran-despite-child-labor-ban/31577228.html?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter

5. Two Afghan children are sharing a 20 Afghani (less than a cent) burger at the side of a road in Kabul as millions other prepare to brace massive starvation across the nation.
Source: <https://twitter.com/syed2000/status/1463538670288482313>
6. Some Afghani girls have returned to secondary schools but the future for education for girls is still unknown. The human rights abrogation in Afghanistan is not only haunting Afghans but the entire world.
Source: <https://twitter.com/julietanddiego/status/1463253595042848769>
7. Afghanistan: a paralyzed Afghan girl is trying to confront the difficulties of life on a road in Kabul as millions get into the verge of starvation. This picture is in itself enough to depict the realities under Taliban.
Source: <https://twitter.com/syed2000/status/1463536021602291718>
8. These Afghan sisters are waiting in line to receive cash aid from an international organisation in Kabul. Developed countries must topple the terrorist Taliban administration in Afghanistan to ensure long-term peace.
Source: <https://twitter.com/MumtazReal/status/1463504104270045187>
9. The principal valleys of Panjshir and Andarab have been proclaimed restricted zones by Taliban militants, and no one is allowed to enter. They are purposely stopping humanitarian aid from reaching these locations and allowing victims to starve to death.
Source: <https://twitter.com/alnazary/status/1463140374172475398>

Current Situation

1. For the past two decades, the Afghan economy has been almost entirely reliant on financial assistance from the international community, which has been delivered to the Afghan government to cover public sector operating costs such as salaries for doctors, nurses, teachers, judges, police officers, and other civil servants. At the time of Kabul's fall, international development assistance accounted for 43% of Afghanistan's GDP and 75% of public spending, so it's no surprise that the Afghan economy is now on the verge of collapse due to the international community's understandable refusal to channel funding through the Taliban.
Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2021/nov/24/afghanistan-disaster-labour-west-starvation>
2. The destruction of the Bamiyan Buddha sculptures by the Taliban in early 2001 outraged the world and emphasised their hard-line administration, which was overthrown shortly after by a US-led invasion. The terrorist organisation is running

the landmark as a tourist attraction now that it has retaken control of Afghanistan and wants to project a softer image.

Source: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/taliban-destroyed-afghanistans-ancient-buddhas-now-welcoming-tourists-rcna6307>

3. The majority of academic employees, especially women and those with international ties, are either hiding or planning to flee the country. One regional passport office, which reopened earlier this month, received roughly 2,000 applications per day, more than ten times its normal daily processing capacity of 250. In an e-mail to Nature last week, one researcher wrote, "The reality is that we are all attempting to emigrate." Scholars at Risk, ARA's US counterpart, connects conflict-affected scholars with universities in secure nations that require certain talents. Both are working nonstop to review applications, and a tiny number of people have been able to get academic positions as well as safe passage for their families. However, these are only two organisations that work on a one-on-one basis to assist scholars in relocating.

Source: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-03515-1>

4. Thomas West, the US special envoy for Afghanistan, will visit Qatar next week to hold negotiations with the Taliban. In a press briefing on Tuesday, State Department Spokesperson Ned Price said, "I can confirm that Special Representative for Afghanistan Tom West will return to Doha next week for two weeks of meetings with Taliban commanders there" (local time). "They'll talk about our essential national interests in Afghanistan, which include counterterrorism, ensuring safe passage for US citizens and Afghans to whom we have a special commitment, humanitarian assistance, and the country's economic position," he added. Earlier this month, West stated that the United States is concerned about the rise in Islamic State assaults in Afghanistan, as well as the presence of al Qaeda in the nation.

Source: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/us-special-envoy-for-afghanistan-to-travel-to-doha-next-week-for-talks-with-taliban-101637713366863.html>

5. India will have to figure out how to best safeguard its interests in Afghanistan and make the "most" of a difficult situation, according to Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla, who described New Delhi's talks with the group as "reassuring."

Source: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/india-will-have-to-see-how-best-to-protect-its-interests-in-afghanistan-fs/articleshow/87892595.cms>

6. In Afghanistan the issuing of passports will resume in ten more provinces. These provinces are Parwan, Kapisa, Logar, Wardak, Ghazni, Daykundi, Faryab, Ghor, Nuristan and Badakhshan.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/south-asia/afghanistan-to-resume-issuing-passports-in-10-more-provinces-report/articleshow/87895522.cms>

7. UNICEF warned on November 23 that rising hunger and postponed relief delivery are causing a "quickly unravelling crisis" in Afghanistan. In an interview with DW, Samantha Mort, the chief of communications for UNICEF Afghanistan, said: "Around half of the country — 23 million people — are in need of relief, so the size is astounding, and it's a quickly unravelling crisis for all."
Source: <https://frontline.thehindu.com/dispatches/un-warns-of-fast-unraveling-crisis-in-afghanistan/article37662453.ece>
8. On Tuesday, the United Nations announced that their quick appeal for more than \$600 million to sustain the humanitarian response in Afghanistan through the end of the year had been fully financed. Afghanistan, according to the United Nations, is on the verge of a humanitarian disaster, with more than half of the country's population at risk of going hungry this winter. Following the Taliban's takeover of the country in August, the United Nations convened a ministerial meeting in Geneva in September, requesting immediate assistance from international donors.
Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/un-raises-600-mn-for-afghanistan-aid/article37653009.ece>
9. A senior State Department source said the US is "very concerned" about Afghanistan's "worsening humanitarian situation," adding that the country was in such a state before the Taliban's military takeover in August.
Source: <https://www.voanews.com/a/envoy-us-concerned-about-worsening-humanitarian-crisis-in-afghanistan-/6325852.html>
10. A top British official said here on Wednesday that the UK and Pakistan will work together on issues of mutual interest, such as giving humanitarian relief to the people of Afghanistan and preventing the war-torn country from becoming a haven for terrorism.
Source: <https://www.siasat.com/uk-to-cooperate-with-pak-to-prevent-rise-in-terrorism-in-afghanistan-official-2230130/>
11. As the Islamists try to silence the media, Afghan journalists and rights advocates have criticised "religious guidelines" released by the Taliban that limit the role of women on television. On Sunday, the Ministry for the Promotion of Virtue and the Prevention of Vice urged broadcasters to stop airing dramas and soap operas starring women.
Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/nov/23/afghan-journalists-taliban-rules-restricting-role-women-on-tv>
12. According to the Pazhvok news agency, at least 80 Islamic State terrorists (IS, which is banned in Russia) surrendered to the Taliban in Afghanistan's Nangarhar Province, which is located in the country's east. The terrorists' surrender was made feasible, according to the CIA, through the mediation of tribal elders. There have been no other details supplied.

Source: <https://tass.com/world/1365465>

13. The Uzbek defence ministry said on Wednesday that Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan conducted military manoeuvres along the former's border with Afghanistan, simulating a response to an incursion. Since the Taliban assumed control of Kabul, Central Asian countries bordering Afghanistan, along with Russia, have undertaken a series of military exercises close to the country's borders, with the majority of them also attempting to build working connections with the new Afghan administration.

Source: https://news.yahoo.com/uzbekistan-kazakhstan-hold-drills-near-102927541.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly9uZXdzLmdvb2dsZS5jb20v&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAE5x5E9IfiM4E0zH6_U-hQNrOYHkqjswPAeNfQ5fO1zD-1DFJDgS64P4MX_CvGSXg7gm-UVetkSFSFkesvygJU5niVbxEUhP6DDXsKm1y_Kzc7sWuGmL1hiRM9jVZ55LUyjimXyqR8eM7XWxvyfwsrdeIRbzL1918o8c_13INF

14. After being evacuated on a special aeroplane from Kabul to Thessaloniki in northern Greece, 119 Afghans were given temporary sanctuary in Greece. The Taliban are thought to have been a threat to the organisation. According to the Associated Press (AP), Greek officials confirmed that among the passengers was Afghanistan's former minister of frontiers and tribal affairs, Mohibullah Samim. A lawyer who has prosecuted suspected Taliban fighters, women's rights advocates, and a female judge were among the passengers.

Source: https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/36735/greece-again-takes-in-dozens-of-afghan-refugees?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter

15. As the two sides prepare for a new round of negotiations in Doha next week, Afghanistan's governing Taliban asked the US to take "real efforts" toward resolving remaining issues. The United States said on Tuesday that Thomas West, its special envoy for Afghanistan, will head an American delegation to Qatar for two weeks of negotiations with Taliban commanders. Suhail Shaheen, a senior Taliban spokesman, praised the United States' decision to resume bilateral talks as a "positive move."

Source: <https://www.voanews.com/a/taliban-hail-new-talks-with-us-say-time-for-practical-steps-to-resolve-issues/6326111.html>

16. Sanaullah Ghafari, AKA Shahab al-Muhajir, is ISIS-K's current overall emir. He was appointed by the ISIS core to lead ISIS-K in June 2020. Ghafari is responsible for approving all ISIS-K operations throughout Afghanistan and arranging funding to conduct operations.

Source: <https://twitter.com/StateDeptCT/status/1462900194094116867>

17. Malaysia wants to keep the communication channel open with Taliban government in Afghanistan through Qatar Embassy.

25nd November 2021

Source: <https://www.theborneopost.com/2021/11/22/malaysia-hoping-taliban-will-rule-afghanistan-fairly-keen-to-keep-communication-channels-open-through-qatar-embassy/>