

Bilkent Historical Model United Nations

Joint Crisis Committee: Intelligence Agencies' Summit on Afghanistan (IASA)

Agenda Item: The Post-War Situation in Afghanistan and the Insurance of Peace and Stability in the Region

Committee Date: 1990

I. WELCOMING LETTER

a) Secretaries-General

Dear Delegate of BHMUN'21,

Since our first session in 2014, we have been establishing a platform where young innovators can have the opportunity to share their thoughts and ideas, whilst also educating themselves on world affairs, so as to learn to approach worldwide issues from different perspectives. This year, the Academic Team of BHMUN has decided to form both General Assembly and Special Committees held according to the most significant historical events from 1990 - 1999.

The variety of committees will allow delegates to discuss many world problems from the viewpoints required by their assigned country and role. We ensure you that every committee will offer issues of interest according to this historical decade together with extremely creative ideas. We promise to provide all delegates with interesting and debatable crises in each committee and offer rewarding opportunities that will allow you to 'Innovate the Future' in every aspect of the conference.

Due to the global pandemic, this year's BHMUN will be held online. However, with the help of our devoted Organisation Team, we affirm that your expectations of our BHMUN conference this year will be surpassed by providing an exceptional experience that will meet your every need from the opening to the closing ceremony.

BHMUN is the first and only entirely historical Model UN conference in Turkey organised under Harvard procedure. Helping delegates verge upon historical issues from modern perspectives is exclusive to our conference. Hence, we believe that BHMUN is a truly unique experience for delegates all around the world, and it is for this reason that we give great value to the discussions delegates will hold on the contemporary issues that are considered timeless.

With all being said, we invite you to join us in BHMUN'21 for an unforgettable and unique experience.

Welcome!

BHMUN'21 Secretariat

Introduction to the Committee by the Secretariat

Committee Description:

The year is 1990. Afghanistan has been at war for a very long time. It was at first invaded by the Soviets and then the unstable situation turned into a war in which the Americans supported one side and the Soviets the other. Until the Soviets decided to withdraw from the country, the war did not seem to be even close to ending. However, following the withdrawal of the Soviets from Afghanistan, foreign interference especially with intelligence agencies seems to have increased. The number of foreign soldiers is decreasing in Afghanistan day by day; however, because of the instability of the region, foreign intelligence has become very important. The intelligence agencies of different nations aim to gain as much information as possible upon what is actually going on on the ground in Afghanistan. They are also always ready to report any suspicious activity to their homeland. In case there will be an important update in Afghanistan, the armies that are withdrawing might need to come back. However, the primary goal must be to stabilize the region and ensure peace and security. But the problem is that the interpretation of "peace and stability" varies from country to country. Therefore, the representatives of intelligence agencies need to negotiate with other representatives and decide upon the future of Afghanistan.

Now, it is up to the Representatives of Intelligence Agencies to decide upon what they are going to do: Follow the path of history or draw a path of their own. The performance of the representatives will shape the flow of the committee, and the BHMUN'21 Team will shape their crises in accordance with the flow.

BHMUN'21 Secretariat

I. WELCOMING LETTER

b) Under Secretary General and President Chair

Assalamualaikum and greetings! My name is Ruzain Ismail from Brunei Darussalam. I am 21 years old, and a 3rd year Petroleum Engineering student at Politeknik Brunei. It is such a great honor to be part of Bilkent Historical Model United Nations, which thematically focuses upon series of wars and crisis occurring in the 1990s.

With the IASA committee immersing to solve the complex nature of the subject regarding the then conflict in Afghanistan, and subsequently the lack of assurance of peace status in the region, I do believe such political strains allow the delegates to research substantively upon their characters. Thus, further understanding the past scenarios which determines the mutually, and non-mutually exclusive effects that resulted in the deteriorating will of Afghanistan's capacity to defend their territories will truly be in-depth.

I highly advise the delegates to focus more towards the historical, and political context upon the agenda item, and think critically to forward practical directives to solve the crisis provided during the committee sessions. That is all from me, and I truly look forward to observe highly comprehensive approach, collectively, from the delegates. See you then!

Yours Sincerely,

Mohammad Ruzain Bin Ismail

II. INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE

Overview

Intelligence Agencies' Summit on Afghanistan (IASA) is a fictitious committee that is not under the United Nations, but concerning to the agenda item, the issue at hand focuses upon real life situations which occurs in the 1990s. The IASA outlines the purpose to acquire information that is beneficial in several disciplines, as listed down below;

- a) Human Source Intelligence (HIS)
- b) Signal Intelligence (SI)
- c) Forensic Intelligence (FI)
- d) Measurement and Signature Intelligence (MASINT)

Each disciplines has a distinct function which could help solve the crisis at a gradual pace, thus requires the full understanding and cooperation of each character involved.

Role

Directly relate and analyze national defense intelligence, and relay the information to other authorities. The IASA would require external aid and expertise, but enclosed to certain authorities outside of Afghanistan, to ensure full disclosure of data.

Organizational Structure

Each department has their own obligations which is relevant to the disciplined mentioned above. They are financially aided by their main department; their personnel report to the department's head, either directly or indirectly; and they have departmental tasks and obligations apart from their positions as members of the Intelligence Community.

III. INTRODUCTION TO THE AGENDA ITEM

Afghanistan has a continuous history of wars and other significant fatalities including the more than three decades of soviet invasion, political crisis, and resistance that began in 1978. These give an in-depth context of encounters and potential exercises for the country's present change and what follows, however the contrasts between the past and the present should be remembered and figured into any ends and suggestions.

This study guide examines Afghanistan's chronology from the 16th century through the 1970s, focusing on the Soviet occupation and its impact. It centers on finding commonalities and differences between Afghanistan's past experience and its current position, as well as important policy lessons and critical issues that will need to be addressed in the next years.

Furthermore, unlike most of its neighboring, Afghanistan has a far longer history as a separate legal state with continuance to the present. It is two hundred years older than Pakistan, which was just established in 1947. The contrast with the Central Asian states to the north, which date from the end of 1991 when the Soviet Union disintegrated, and their institutionally established, largely artificial borders, is even starker. Despite Afghanistan's ethnic variety and high levels of interethnic tensions and violence, no significant separatist movement has ever emerged in the nation.

We have to consider several parameters that is a tertiary factor outlining the post war situation, hence resulting in countless negatives:

- a) Resistance to the government
- b) Political instability
- c) Deterring safety and security of the citizens

It is imperative to also oversee stabilizing peace during the Afghanistan post war crisis, thus, the delegates needs to identify the key areas of post war situation, thus outlining with the relevant aid from agencies and/or authorities to provide certainty to progress.

The challenges of trying to negotiate a peace agreement during a military disengagement, as well as the negative effects that can result if such efforts fail, are demonstrated by the Soviet withdrawal and its consequences. Thus, While aiming for peace is necessary, risk assessment for the failures of reconciliation efforts is also essential, notably if one or more nations in the region play a provocateur stance, making a peace deal unattainable.

Conclusively, with the breakdown of significant historical events, and also defining the issues to help solve the committee crisis, this will structure multilateral cooperation amongst agencies, authorities, and neighboring countries to resolve in a diplomatic and peaceful manner.

IV. DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

	KEY TERMS	DEFINITION
a	Human Source Intelligence	<p>Data generated by analyzing the physical characteristics of objects and events descriptive and inferential statistical in order to describe, and identify them.</p> <p>To enable profile generation and assessment, undertake scientific indicators, and detect, describe, locate, and identify targets and events, MASINT uses a range of phenomenology from a number of sensors and operating systems.</p>
b	Forensic Intelligence	<p>It entails acquiring and analyzing data proactively in the criminal investigation phase and across cases to aid in the detection, prevention, investigation, and prosecution of crime, with a focus on recurrent and severe offence.</p> <p>Integrating forensic data into crime prevention can also facilitate in the identification of linkage, regularities, and trends, as well as the correlation of other information relevant to criminal activity; the consequent intelligence gathered could then be used to destabilize and prevent crime primarily serial and violent crime.</p>
c	Measurement and Signature Intelligence	Technically derived intelligence that detects, locates, tracks, identifies, and/or describes the specific characteristics of fixed and dynamic target objects and sources.
d	Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan	Invasion of Afghanistan in late December 1979 by troops from the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union intervened in support of the Afghan communist government in its conflict with anti-communist Muslim guerrillas during the Afghan War (1978–92) and remained in Afghanistan until mid-February 1989.
e	Separatist Movement	Advocacy of cultural, ethnic, tribal, religious, racial, governmental or gender separation from the larger group. As with secession, separatism conventionally refers to full political separation.

V. THE HISTORY OF THE PROBLEMS

The Afghan War was an internal war in Afghanistan that began in 1978 between rightist Islamic insurgents and the Afghan communist regime (supported by Soviet forces from 1979 to 1989), culminating in the collapse of the administration in 1992. Apart from the Afghanistan War (2001–2014), a U.S.-led intervention conducted in aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks on The United in 2001, the term also incorporates military activities in Afghanistan after 1992. Various commentators believe that the internal Afghan War will go well into the twenty-first century, coinciding with the US-led Afghanistan War.

A. Insurgency against communist rule

The conflict started with the collapse of President Mohammad Daud Khan's centrist government in April 1978 by left-wing military personnel led by Nur Mohammad Taraki. Following that, the People's (Khalq) Party and the Banner (Parcham) Party, both Marxist-Leninist political parties, combined power, in which both had previously existed as a singular movement of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, and had just rejoined in an unstable alliance just before the revolt.

The new administration, which received limited public support, formed close links with the Soviet Union, carried out merciless repressions of any internal opposition, and embarked on significant land and political changes, which the devoutly Muslim and overwhelmingly anticommunist population detested. Insurgent groups opposing the government occurred among tribal and urban factions, and all of these groups, commonly regarded as the mujahideen, were Muslim.

These movements, as well as internal crisis and insurgencies inside the nation between the People's and Banner factions, caused the Soviets to occupy the nation in December 1979, deploying in 30,000 troops and deposing People's leader Hafizullah Amin's short-lived administration. The Soviet operation's goal was to sustain up their current but disintegrating buffer state, now led by Banner commander Babrak Karmal, but the mujahideen uprising grew in reaction, sweeping throughout the country. The Soviets initially trusted the Afghan army to put down the insurgency, but the latter was plagued by enormous casualties and remained mostly ineffectual across the conflict.

The Afghan War ultimately devolved into a standstill, with around 100,000 Soviet troops dominating the cities, larger towns, and key garrisons, while the mujahideen roamed the countryside with considerable freedom. Soviet troops used a variety of techniques to try to put down the uprising, but the insurgents largely evaded their advances. The Soviets then bombed and depopulated rural areas in an attempt to deprive the mujahideen of civilian support. These methods prompted a large exodus from the countryside; by 1982, 2.8 million Afghans had sought refuge in Pakistan, with another 1.5 million fleeing to Iran.

A. Insurgency against communist rule

The mujahideen were divided politically into a few small organizations and their military operations were disjointed throughout the conflict. Eventually, due to experience and the vast quantity of weaponry and other war equipment delivered to the rebels, the quality of their arms and fighting structure rapidly increased, by means of Pakistan, the United States, and other countries, as well as supporting Muslims from all around the world, are all involved. Relative to this, an unspecified number of Muslim volunteers, sometimes referred to as "Afghan-Arabs," arrived from all over the world to join the opposition, regardless of nationality.



Afghan resistance fighters returning to a village destroyed by Soviet forces, 1986

The Afghan War became a minefield for the Soviet Union, which was crumbling by the late 1980s. The Soviets lost 15,000 soldiers and several others were wounded. The US, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and the Soviet Union negotiated an agreement in 1988 under which the latter would remove its forces, which was concluded in 1989, and Afghanistan was reclassified as a nonaligned country.

During April 1992, a union of rebel organizations and suddenly rebellious government forces assaulted Kabul's besieged city and deposed communist ruler Najibullah, who had preceded Karmal in 1986.

B. Conflict after 1992

An Islamic state was declared by a transitional government backed by several rebel factions, but the celebrations were temporary. President Burhanuddin Rabbani, the leader of the Islamic Society (Jam'iyat-e Eslm), a significant mujahideen group, refused to step down as part of the new government's power-sharing agreement. Other mujahideen organizations, including Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Islamic Party (ezb-e Eslm), encircled Kabul and began attacking the city with firearms and missiles. As the area outside Kabul descended into turmoil, these attacks occurred on a regular basis for the following several years.

As a result, in the fall of 1994, the Taliban, a puritanical Islamic organization led by former mujahideen commander Mohammad Omar, arose and progressively overtook authority of the country eventually taking Kabul in 1996. The Taliban, aided by volunteers from various Muslim radical groups hiding in Afghanistan, most of whom were Afghan-Arab loyalists from the previous conflict quickly took control of all but a small fraction of northern Afghanistan, which was secured by the Northern Alliance, a loose alliance of mujahideen militaries.

Warfare remained at a standstill until 2001, when the Taliban declined to repatriate Saudi Arabian exile Osama bin Laden, the leader of an Islamic extremist group called al-Qaeda, which had close relations to the Taliban and was suspected of carrying out violent extremist counterattacks, including the September 11 incident.

Following that, US military personnel, along with Northern Alliance fighters, conducted a number of tactical operations in Afghanistan, driving the Taliban out by early December. A democracy was founded in 2004 after a period of transitional interim governance, but the new government battled well into the twenty-first century to consolidate centralized government over the country.

VI. UNDERLYING ROOT CAUSES

Accounting the existing negatives after the Afghanistan War towards both the ruling government party, and also its people, there are several indicators that needs to be looked upon, as listed below:

a) Corruption

Following the United States' removal of the Taliban in 2001, corruption, which had been prevalent in pre-Taliban Afghanistan, resurfaced as a prominent part of Afghan life, affecting practically every legislative body and even provincial towns. A vast network of political leaders linked to President Hamid Karzai established themselves as an official medium between Western officials and benefactors on the one hand, and Afghan people on the other, diverting billions of dollars in international economic aid to their own and their friends' accounts. This led to numerous of high-profile controversies, including the Kabul Bank failure, in which it was revealed that the country's largest banking firm had been running as a Ponzi scheme for the interest of Karzai's inner circle.

In a February 2014 Pentagon assessment, the US government was accused of perpetuating a corrupt government in Afghanistan just after 2001 invasion by supporting insurgents, relying on private transportation agreements, and providing billions in foreign aid. Initially, the US maintained preexisting account - related and provided government positions to several rebels. Warlords were able to use their formal authority to corrupt public funds as a result of this official recognition. Furthermore, because substantial quantities of official resources were redirected to the post-war reconstruction effort, many government workers were grossly underpaid and felt pressured to pay the government to survive.

b) The uprising Afghan insurgency

While Islam is the most common form of spiritual livelihood in Afghanistan, poppy cultivation is the most common determinant of income. A considerable fraction of the population is involved in planting, cultivating, or distributing the poppy crop, particularly in the southern region of the country where the insurrection is strongest and the atrocities is most well-known. Hundreds of prominent local groups promote its migration to retain status and money, while tens of thousands of farmers grow it to make a living.

The aforementioned issue is significant because formal eradication began in the spring of 2006, when coalition forces and the Afghan government initiated the procedure. Many of Afghans have converted from civilians indifferent in coalition troop operations to men eager to pick up arms and attack anyone they connect with the destruction of regime forces, members of the ANSF, or the Afghan government as a result of the decision to eradicate poppies.

VI. UNDERLYING ROOT CAUSES

c) US-Taliban Peace Deals

Although the US-led war ousted the Taliban rule in 2001, the jihadist group has been looking for a way to communicate with the US. Military commanders from the United States and the Taliban had communicated. However, the 2010 summit, which was mediated by Germany, marked a pivotal point in the war.

However, substantial US-Taliban talks have faltered in the ensuing years, impeded by mutual incomprehension, wasted deadlines, Afghan government demonstrations, and the deaths of two Taliban commanders in quick succession.

Today, over a decade after those first secret talks, the US and the Taliban appear to be on the approach of negotiating on a historic peace accord that would put an end to the US' longest-ever conflict.

An accord between the US and the Taliban would let at least some foreign soldiers leave Afghanistan in exchange for Taliban assurances that the nation would not become a gathering point for terrorists. The Taliban would promise to separate discussion with the Western-backed Kabul administration regarding a peace agreement and a permanent renounce of weaponries under that arrangement.

According to reports, a writing of the agreement includes a US guarantee to discharge 13,000 Taliban detainees within 3 months of the official statement of the US-Taliban arrangement, as well as a reference to a "post-peace Islamic government," which has expressed concern in Kabul that the agreement will end Afghanistan's republican political system.

There is apprehension in Afghanistan that the US is providing overly concessions to the Taliban, and that in its haste to leave, Washington may sign a disengagement treaty rather than a peace treaty.

VII. PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE THE ISSUE

A. Adoption of Resolution 1267 by the United Nations Security Council

Resolution 1267 of the United Nations Security Council establishes the al-Qaeda and Taliban Sanctions Committee, which designates the two groups as terrorist organizations and put sanctions on their financing, travels, and weaponry transfers. The UN move comes after al-Qaeda and its commander, Osama bin Laden, ascended to power in the late 1980s, directing the terror organization from Afghanistan and Peshawar, Pakistan, to Sudan in 1991, and back to Afghanistan in the mid-1990s. The Taliban, which sprang from the wreckage of Afghanistan's post-Soviet civil war, provides al-Qaeda with a safe haven in which to launch attacks.

B. Establishment of an Interim Government

Following the collapse of Kabul in November 2001, the United Nations calls significant Afghan factions to a summit in Bonn, Germany, including the Northern Alliance and a party led by the former monarch (but not the Taliban). The groups sign the Bonn Agreement on December 5, 2001, which is approved by UN Security Council Resolution 1383.

The accord, which was purportedly struck with significant Iranian diplomatic assistance due to Iran's support for the Northern Alliance side, appoints Hamid Karzai as provisional administrative head and establishes an international peace force to keep Kabul safe. On December 20, the UN Security Council passed Resolution 1386, which implements the Bonn Agreement.

C. Establishing a Reconstruction Model

The US military establishes a military intelligence infrastructure to oversee rehabilitation efforts with the UN and non-governmental organizations while also reinforcing the Kabul government's power. In November, the first of these so-called provincial reconstruction teams, or PRTs, is established in Gardez, followed by Bamiyan, Kunduz, Mazar-e-Sharif, Kandahar, and Herat. Individual PRT command is finally delegated to NATO member nations. While the strategy is recognized with increasing security for aid organizations, it is not widely supported. Concerns are growing that the PRT system lacks a central regulating body, is inefficient, and provides a "ad hoc approach" to national security, according to a US Institute of Peace research.

VIII. CONCLUSION

The significance of unified government governance, both locally and to restrict and regulate the impact of other players, is underscored by Afghanistan's history. This is in line with the more general worldwide experience of the crucial role of national leadership at important points, as stressed in the World Bank's 2011 World Development Report Conflict, Security, and Development. But even though internal governance cannot resolve significant barriers originating from variables well beyond nation's influence, such as the complete removal of Soviet support when the USSR was disintegrated, it can improve things or worse and, in some instances, can perform a defining part in the effectiveness or complete collapse of transition. Leadership encompasses not just individuals but also communities, and Afghanistan's absence of strong, nationally driven politicians has been a massive downfall after 2001.

The post-Soviet phase also demonstrates Afghan security forces' capacity as well as their inevitable limits. The Afghan National Army (ANA) can certainly only decide to maintain Kabul and other large cities; it is uncertain to be a successful counterinsurgency unit in remote rural areas. The precedent of arming and funding militias in the Soviet and post-Soviet eras shows that this approach is problematic. Although it may appear to be a tempting way to achieve a semblance of regional stability in places outside the authority of government and industry security services, the dependency on payments to militia commanders creates destabilization.

Furthermore, given militias' proclivity for exploitative conduct, this strategy might increase tensions and conflict triggers. As recent decades have shown, such militias may readily become mercenary armies for neighboring governments. The complexities of seeking to accomplish a peace resolution during a military retreat, as well as the negative repercussions that might result if such attempts fail, are demonstrated by the Soviet disengagement and its subsequent fallout. As a result, although working for peace is crucial, preparedness for the failure of reconciliation attempts is also advised, specifically if one or more nations in the region play a provocateur position, making a peace accord difficult.

IX. QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED

1. Is alienating the Afghan relevant authorities an intentional move by the United States of America, with reference to the Taliban-USA Peace Deal? If yes, what are the probable motives, which could solely benefit the government of the USA?
2. Post Afghan War has resulted in a disintegrated governance towards the civilians, thus what role does the United Nations Security Council has to ensure the safety and security of the people, bearing in mind the lack of proper management from the then ruling party?
3. Acknowledging the uprising of insurgents, what are the necessary approaches that should be taken to minimize the growing influence and violent acts of these militant groups, especially in the rural areas of Afghanistan?
4. As Pakistan supports the Taliban group, what systematic method should be taken to prevent any further foreign intervention? And which parties and/or authorities be involved in mediating the crisis at hand? If any, what is the most effective approach?
5. Considering the People's Republic of China has financially aided billions of US Dollars to Afghanistan against the Soviet Union, and also Pakistan's support of insurgents, in what way does this concurrently benefit China in terms of geopolitical motives, and jeopardizes Afghanistan's stance in economic growth?
6. What variables are needed to be fixated upon gathering the necessary intelligence agencies?
7. With the possibility of having a leak amongst the involved special units, forces, and other groups, how can we ensure that all the data obtained will not be exposed to potential enemies, thus hindering to fix all the issues post war?
8. As the legal and judicial system under the unstable governance of Afghanistan, what should be done in order to have a fully functioning legal system that encompasses upon punishments, preventive measures, and justice served accordingly? Do you think the United Nations should continue to guide Afghanistan in its political transition to a more stable and secure nation? If yes, outline the necessary solutions upon your points.
9. Questioning the legality of the invasion of NATO in Afghanistan, under international law, should the invasion be considered as a de facto of national interests, specifically for the USA government in 2001, with response to the 9/11 attack.

IX. QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED

10. Which intel or authorities should be involved on the pursuit upon understanding the Al-Qaeda database, as it is suspect to be associated with the 9/11 terrorist attacks. If provided, what measures have to be done to infiltrate their database system, with legal and ethical approach, to uncover any form of motives.

11. As the Taliban is in prominent control during the year 2001, threats have been made to destroy Buddhist statues in Bamiyan, Afghanistan, saying they are an affront to Islam. Should this be tackled with peace discussions or a secret supervision from the intelligence agencies?

X. REFERENCES

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