Glossary

**Baad**
A practice whereby the family of a murderer offers as compensation to the victim’s family a female family member for marriage or domestic servitude.

**Bonn process**

**Durand Line**
A line imposed by the British in 1893 dividing Afghan and British-Indian territory. It ran through the middle of Pashtun-speaking areas and has been the cause of disputes between Afghanistan and Pakistan since the latter’s creation in 1947.

**Loya Jirga**
Meaning ‘grand assembly’ in Pashto, Loya Jirgas are gatherings of notables to discuss issues of national importance have been used in Afghanistan since the 18th century. An Emergency Loya Jirga was called in June–July 2002 to select the transitional government, and a Constitutional Loya Jirga gathered in December 2003 to consider the proposed new constitution. Later Loya Jirgas were called by Hamid Karzai to discuss the Taliban insurgency and the continued presence of US forces.

**Jirga**
A traditional assembly to make decisions by consensus, and primarily to settle disputes.

**Mujahidin**
Arabic term meaning those engaged in jihad (‘struggle’). As a modern phenomenon, it is associated with armed struggle in various parts of the world, where local and/or international non-state armed groups wage war under the banner of Islam. Afghanistan is one of the most notable examples: in this case, various loosely aligned groups fought the Soviet-backed government in the 1980s with US, Pakistani and Saudi support.

**Naqileen**
Pashtun migrants, transported to resettle in other parts of the country deemed underpopulated and to extend the reach of Pashtun rulers.

**Pashtunwali**
Unwritten Pashtun traditional ethical code, especially strong in rural areas. It encompasses ideas around hospitality, forgiveness, justice, revenge, honour, faith, among other things.

**Shura**
Arabic for ‘consultation’, a shura is a council convened to discuss particular issues.

**Ulema**
Religious scholars.