

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

Process of post-war reconstruction started at the Bonn conference of 2001.

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.