AFGHANISTAN IN 2014

A Survey of the Afghan People

The Asia Foundation
METHODS
RESPONDENTS

9,271 AFGHANS
Gender balanced
34 provinces
83% rural, 17% urban
Avg. Household Income: $190/mo
Avg. Education: No school (60.5%)

COMPONENTS

MAIN SAMPLE
8,706 in secure and semi secure areas

INTERCEPT INTERVIEWS
565 from insecure areas

+ IN-DEPTH INTERVIEWS
125 interviews in 5 provinces
DATA INTEGRITY

• 24-step quality control
• Third-party monitoring
• Concept validity checks
• Extensive logic tests
KEY FINDINGS
REASONS: RIGHT DIRECTION

- Reconstruction/Rebuilding: 36%
- Good Security: 33%
- Improvement in Education System: 15%
- Having Active ANA and ANP: 10%
- Economic Revival: 9%
- Democracy/Elections: 9%
REASONS: WRONG DIRECTION

- Insecurity: 38%
- Corruption: 24%
- Unemployment: 23%
- Bad Economy: 10%
- Election Fraud: 9%
- Suicide Attacks: 7%
BIGGEST PROBLEMS FACING THE COUNTRY

34% INSECURITY
28% CORRUPTION
37% UNEMPLOYMENT + POOR ECONOMY
BIGGEST LOCAL PROBLEMS

- Unemployment: 33%
- Electricity: 23%
- Roads: 18%
- Drinking Water: 16%

UNEMPLOYMENT  ELECTRICITY  ROADS  DRINKING WATER
SECURITY
FEAR FOR PERSONAL SAFETY ON THE RISE

2006: 40
2007: 49
2008: 48
2009: 51
2010: 54
2011: 56
2012: 48
2013: 59
2014: 65
LEVELS OF FEAR, BY ACTIVITY

- Encountering foreign forces: 77
- Traveling between parts of Afghanistan: 76
- Voting in a national/provincial election: 46
- Encountering ANP: 45
- Encountering ANA: 41

SOME OR A LOT OF FEAR
WHO PROVIDES SECURITY IN YOUR AREA?

- **FOREIGN ARMIES**
  - 2 (Main Sample)
  - 3 (Intercept Intercept Interviews)

- **ANA**
  - 24 (Main Sample)
  - 30 (Intercept Intercept Interviews)

- **ALP**
  - 22 (Main Sample)
  - 22 (Intercept Intercept Interviews)

- **ANP**
  - 50 (Main Sample)
  - 27 (Intercept Intercept Interviews)

- **AOGs**
  - 1 (Main Sample)
  - 17 (Intercept Intercept Interviews)

*Legend*
- MAIN SAMPLE
- INTERCEPT INTERVIEWS
FeaR While Voting Decreased

More Afghans voted in 2014 than in 2009 elections.
WHERE DID YOU REPORT THE CRIME?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANP</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHURA / ELDERS</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRIBAL LEADER</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISTRICT GOVERNOR</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANA</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MULLAH SAHEB</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SYMPATHY FOR ARMED OPPOSITION GROUPS ("A LOT")
IN YOUR OPINION, WHY ARE ARMED OPPOSITION GROUPS FIGHTING?

- Presence of foreign troops: 16%
- To gain power: 16%
- They are supported by Pakistan: 9%
- Corruption in the government: 6%
- To support Islam: 5%
RECONCILIATION EFFORTS WITH ARMED OPPOSITION GROUPS (AOGs)

73% are optimistic that reconciliation efforts can help stabilize their country.
WHICH YEAR WAS BETTER FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ECONOMICALLY?

- NO DIFFERENCE: 37%
- THIS YEAR: 21%
- LAST YEAR: 40%
- DON'T KNOW: 2%
MORE WOMEN CONTRIBUTE TO HOUSEHOLD INCOME

FIG. 8.12: D-15. Do female members of the family contribute to this household income, or not? (percentage of respondents who say “yes”)

(Year: 2009 - 2014, Percentage of respondents: 14, 16, 17, 15, 17, 17, 22)
MORE WOMEN DESCRIBE THEMSELVES AS UNEMPLOYED THAN "HOUSEWIVES"

FIG. 3.4: D-3. Are you now working, a housewife (ask only women), retired, a student, or without a job and looking for work? (percentage who say they are without a job and looking for work)
GOVERNANCE
MOST ARE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE 2014 ELECTIONS

2/3 said election was free and fair
2/3 say the presidential election will make their lives better
REASONS FOR NOT VOTING IN THE ELECTION

MALE

- **DID NOT HAVE VOTING CARD**: 32
- **RESISTANCE FROM FAMILY MEMBERS**: 3
- **INSECURITY**: 13

FEMALE

- **DID NOT HAVE VOTING CARD**: 32
- **RESISTANCE FROM FAMILY MEMBERS**: 25
- **INSECURITY**: 11
CORRUPTION IN DAILY LIFE: MAJOR PROBLEM
CORRUPTION RATE

THE PERCENTAGE WHO PAID A BRIBE IF THEY HAD CONTACT WITH AN INSTITUTION, ORGANIZATION, OR SITUATION
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service/Department</th>
<th>Corruption Rate 2014</th>
<th>Rate Change Since 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Officials in the Municipality/District Office</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>+12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customs Office</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>+6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Electricity Supply</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>+5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judiciary/Courts</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>+3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When Applying for a Job</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Healthcare Service</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghan National Army</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghan National Police</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admissions to Schools/University</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>-6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OVERALL SATISFACTION WITH PUBLIC GOODS AND SERVICES

SATISFACTION WITH DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

CHILREN’S EDUCATION: 74%
DRINKING WATER: 73%
ROADS: 53%
CLINICS/HOSPITALS: 52%

MEDICINE: 51%
IRRIGATION WATER: 48%
ELECTRICITY: 38%
## RECOGNITION OF DEVELOPMENT FUNDERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2013 (%)</th>
<th>2014 (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNITED STATES</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFGHAN GOVERNMENT / MINISTRIES</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAPAN</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDIA</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GERMANY</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEOPLE THEMSELVES</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHINA</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TURKEY</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWEDEN</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNITED KINGDOM</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CONFIDENCE IN INSTITUTIONS
(“A LOT” + “SOME”)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MEDIA SUCH AS</strong></td>
<td>(%)</td>
<td>(%)</td>
<td>(%)</td>
<td>(%)</td>
<td>(%)</td>
<td>(%)</td>
<td>(%)</td>
<td>(%)</td>
<td>(%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NEWSPAPERS, RADIO, TV</strong></td>
<td>77</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RELIGIOUS LEADERS</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INDEPENDENT ELECTION COMMISSION</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PARLIAMENT AS A WHOLE</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GOVERNMENT MINISTERS</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TV OWNERSHIP HAS INCREASED

- 2007: 37%
- 2008: 38%
- 2009: 41%
- 2010: 41%
- 2011: 42%
- 2012: 52%
- 2014: 58%
TV IS USED IN CITIES
RADIO IS USED IN RURAL AREAS

SOURCE FOR NEWS/INFORMATION

- **Radio**: 61% (Urban), 83% (Rural)
- **TV**: 91% (Urban), 48% (Rural)
- **Mobile Phone**: 55% (Urban), 46% (Rural)
- **Internet**: 18% (Urban), 2% (Rural)
- **Mosque**: 43% (Urban), 48% (Rural)
- **Community Shuras**: 26% (Urban), 40% (Rural)
BIGGEST PROBLEMS FACING WOMEN

- Education & Illiteracy: 40%
- Unemployment: 27%
- Domestic Violence: 20%
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

**Multiple response question:
Figures reflect first response only for trendline comparison**
Should women be allowed to work outside the home?

- Yes: 68%
- No: 30%

Where do you think it is acceptable for women to work?

- Government offices: 70%
- NGOs: 41%
- Schools: 83%
- Hospitals/Clinics: 80%
- Army/Police: 42%
MEN AND WOMEN SHOULD HAVE EQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATION: % AGREE

- 2006: 91%
- 2007: 89%
- 2008: 89%
- 2009: 87%
- 2010: 87%
- 2011: 85%
- 2012: 87%
- 2013: 83%
BY LEVEL: SUPPORT FOR WOMEN’S ACCESS TO EDUCATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Strongly and Somewhat Agree</th>
<th>Strongly and Somewhat Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Islamic Madrasa</td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary School</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University in Your Province</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studying in Another Province</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studying Abroad On Scholarship</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Colors indicating strongly and somewhat agree: brown, colors indicating strongly and somewhat disagree: yellow)
Where do these findings leave us?

What is the significance of these findings in terms of policy?

These findings are consistent with what we find in the field.
TEN YEARS OF THE SURVEY

LOOKING BACK
MOVING FORWARD

- INSECURITY
- ECONOMY
- CORRUPTION
- CHALLENGES FOR WOMEN
AFGHANISTAN IN 2014

A Survey of the Afghan People

The Asia Foundation

Q & A