



Nebraska & Afghanistan at same scale



President Hamid Karzai Visit to Nebraska May 2005



Atlas of Afghanistan



Nebraska Education Press



Paktika Teacher Training Leadership Project



Sister Cities Project: Bamiyan and Scottsbluff



Center for Afghanistan Studies (CAS) - Established 1973

QUICK FACTS

- Founding unit of International Studies & Programs.
- **Website - world.unomaha.edu/cas**
- Recognized leader in US educational programming for Afghanistan.
- Manage educational exchanges between Afghans and Americans.
- Collaborates with academic, governmental, & private institutions to provide education and development assistance to Afghanistan.
- Informs Americans, particularly Nebraskans, about Afghanistan.
- Primary source for analyses relating to Afghanistan politics, culture, education, geosciences, and society.
- Arthur Paul Collection recognized as one of foremost collections of library materials on Afghanistan.
- CAS gave more than 2000 interviews and presentations, locally, nationally, and internationally in the nine-months after 9/11.
- Members have appeared on all major news networks channels, CNN, and the History Channel.
- More than \$80 million in grants and contracts from USAID, the Department of State's Fulbright Program, UNOCAL, UNDP, World Bank, and other sources overall.
- Hosted Afghanistan's President Hamid Karzai and thirty other Afghan officials – May 2005.
- Numerous articles published in nationally prominent journals and books.
- Edited and developed maps for National Geographic, and US Geological Survey.
- Members regularly provide consulting services to federal agencies, media, private sector, and citizens.
- Members fluent in Dari and/or Pashto, the primary languages of Afghanistan.
- Provide training, coordination, and management for sectors of education in Afghanistan: adult literacy, gender equity, teacher training, manpower development, and curriculum development for elementary, secondary, and higher education.
- Education Sector Support Project (ESSP) during Soviet-Afghan War one of largest cross-border projects ever undertaken by US foreign assistance.
- Supervised and directed efforts in instruction for Afghan refugees in Pakistan and 1300+ sites to more than 130,000 Afghans in areas of Afghanistan not controlled by USSR occupation.
- Fifteen million textbooks published and distributed under challenging and dangerous wartime conditions.

Afghanistan Teacher Education Projects



Global Land Ice Measurements from Space (GLIMS) Project



UNMC/Kabul Medical University



"I saw diseases I had never seen before." Ward Chambers

Afghanistan Immersion Seminars for Human Terrain System



Afghan National Army Literacy Program



Afghanistan Teacher Education Projects

ATEP has been led by UNO through the years when it was politically and physically dangerous to educate women in Afghanistan, with teacher training and vocational education programs that have benefited millions of Afghan school children. In 2002, funding from the US Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, provided teacher training programs for Afghan women educators. ATEP and its follow-on project, the Afghanistan School Administrators Project (ASAP) provided professional development opportunities for Afghan women educators. ATEP and ASAP participants have developed and delivered workshops and seminars for thousands of teachers in all provinces in Afghanistan. This program was one of only a few singled out as a "best practice" by Laura Bush at the US University Presidents Summit on International Education in 2006 in Washington, DC, and in a speech before the Council on Foreign Relations in 2008. In citing ATEP, Mrs. Bush told heads of campuses from across the US that the Afghan teachers with whom she has met were effusive in praise of their experiences and of the warmth of Nebraska host families with whom they were placed. More than 8,500 educators were trained by these programs; 80% of them female.

Afghan Immersion Seminars for Human Terrain System

CAS provides formal training on Afghanistan to the Human Terrain System (HTS), a branch of the US military. In support of Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) missions, HTS military and civilian contractors deploy to Afghanistan to conduct operationally-relevant, open-source, social science research and provide commanders with embedded knowledge capabilities. To enable personnel to fully accomplish missions and objectives, they require understanding of Afghan language, culture, and history, which is provided by the UNO/CAS Immersion Seminar on Language, Culture, Society, History, Geospatial, and Political Affairs of Afghanistan. This seminar improves language and cultural understanding of Afghanistan for deploying Human Terrain Team (HTT) and Human Terrain Analysis Team (HTAT) members.

Paktika Teacher-Training and Leadership Project

PTTLP is creating cadres of highly competent teachers who will transmit their knowledge, experience, and skills to all teachers in each district of Paktika Province and to assist or staff practicum components of the Ministry of Education proposed Teacher-Training Institutes. The first year of the PTTLP began March 1, 2008. The teacher education team is led by Abdul Ghafoor Imaad, UNO Master-Teacher-Training Coordinator in Kabul; and includes Margaret Jo Shepherd, Professor Emeritus from Columbia University; Firozaan Hasheme, UNO Teacher Educator in Kabul; and four Afghan Master-Teacher-Trainers previously educated through the UNO Center for Afghanistan Studies programs. (Please note that with the exception of Professor Shepherd, the teacher education team is composed of teachers born and educated in Afghanistan.)

Afghan National Army Literacy Program (ANALP)

CAS provides literacy training in history and culture to 86,000 soldiers to help career paths, and provide for an educated civilian after public service. ANALP consists of five primary components: 1) Dari and Pashto literacy, 2) production of text books and teacher manuals/aids, 3) assembly of student packages, 4) review and assessment of material, and 5) delivery of solutions. All components are programmatic and training solutions to meet the needs of the Afghanistan National Army under guidance of the US Army in Afghanistan.

National Atlas of Afghanistan

Since 1975 Assistant Dean of International Studies, J. Shroder, has been collecting and publishing mappable information on Afghanistan. Conceived as a tool for education and development, the project was interrupted by the Afghan/Soviet war in the 1980s, but has now been rejuvenated as an aid to reconstruction.

Global Land Ice Measurements from Space

Michael Bishop & Jack Shroder run the GLIMS Regional Center for Southwest Asia (Afghanistan & Pakistan) in which support from NASA, the US Geological Survey and the National Academy of Sciences support acquisition and measurement of satellite imagery for determination of melt-water in glacier storage.

International Health Initiatives (UNMC and Kabul University)

Dr. Ward Chambers, a physician at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, has spearheaded a variety of international health initiatives in collaboration with the CAS and Kabul University.

Other projects managed by the CAS include the development of a Dari Language Textbook Series, a Dari-English Dictionary, various scholarship training and exchange programs for Afghans and Americans, and the Scottsbluff-Gering and Bamiyan Sister-Cities Project.