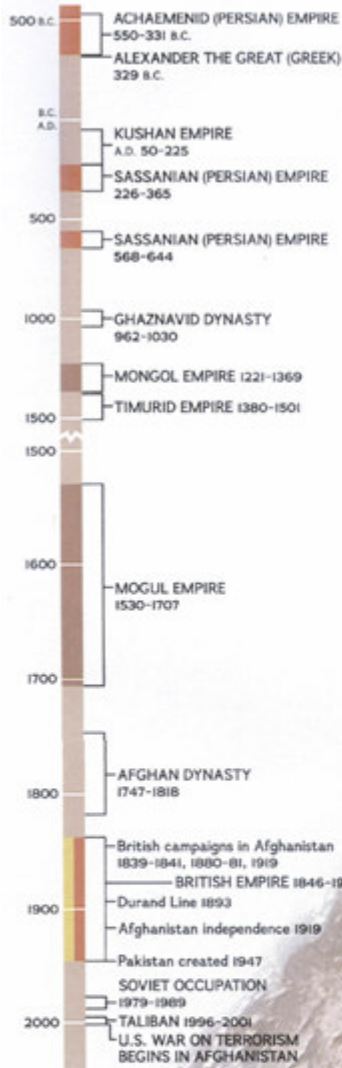


NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Land of the Pashtun

A natural fortress and barrier to conquest, along a wild and lawless frontier



Durand Line
 A jagged line through the mountains drawn by British diplomat Sir Henry Mortimer Durand in 1893, separating British India from Afghanistan, became the basis for the present-day 1,640-mile border between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Afghanistan hasn't formally recognized the border since Pakistan was created in 1947—and the Pashtun never have.

Invasions:
 Mongol 13th century
 Mogul 16th century
 Soviet 20th century

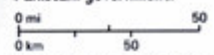
Invasions:
 Persian 6th century B.C.
 3rd and 6th centuries A.D.
 Greek 4th century B.C.
 British 19th century



Durand Line
 (present-day border)

Invasion:
 British 19th century

Pashtun area
PAKTIA Province
Kurram Tribal Area
 Pakistan's Federally Administered Tribal Areas are only nominally controlled by the Pakistani government.



TIME LINE SOURCE: THOMAS GOUTTIERRE, CENTER FOR AFGHANISTAN STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA
 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAPS

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Where East Meets West

For thousands of years nomads, conquerors, traders, and pilgrims have traversed Afghanistan, contributing to its multicultural heritage and its wealth of artifacts. From Alexander the Great to Babur of the Moguls, invaders introduced new customs. Caravans imported Roman and Islamic glassware, Indian ivories, and Chinese textiles, while travelers inspired by faith brought Buddhism and Islam.

