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COI QUERY RESPONSE

AFGHANISTAN- FORMER ARMY

In May 2024 the *United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan* points out that: “Threats to former government officials and former ANDSF members, including arbitrary arrest and detention, torture and ill-treatment and extrajudicial killings, continue to be reported to UNAMA Human Rights, despite the general amnesty announced by the de facto authorities’ at the time of their takeover of Afghanistan,”¹

A report published by the *United Nations Security Council* in February 2024 comments on the: “...five extrajudicial killings and seven arbitrary arrests of former government officials and members of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces.”²

In February 2024 the *United Nations Human Rights Council* states that: “Despite the Taliban’s proclaimed amnesty, they have targeted not only former security personnel but also former members of the judiciary.”³

In January 2024 the *United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan* states that: “UNAMA Human Rights continues to record extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrests and detentions, and torture and ill-treatment of former government officials and ANDSF members.”⁴

¹ United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (2 May 2024) Human Rights Situation in Afghanistan: January - March 2024 Update, p.4

² United Nations Security Council (28 February 2024) The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security, p.7

³ United Nations Human Rights Council (22 February 2024) Situation of human rights in Afghanistan: Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan, p.16

⁴ United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (January 2024) Human rights situation in Afghanistan, October - December 2023 Update, p.5

In December 2023 the *European Union Agency for Asylum* states that: “...killings and various forms of illtreatment have taken place against both former military and civilian personnel...and such individuals have reportedly been living in hiding...”⁵

In November 2023 *Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty* states that: “Many former Afghan soldiers who remain in Afghanistan live in hiding, regularly moving from place to place, to avoid Taliban detection.”⁶

A report issued in October 2023 by *Human Rights Watch* notes: “UNAMA and Human Rights Watch have documented summary executions and enforced disappearances of members of the former government’s security forces.”⁷

In October 2023 the *European Parliament* notes that: “...the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan has documented at least 800 human rights violations, including arbitrary detentions, extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances and torture, against former government officials and ANDSF members carried out by the de facto authorities...”⁸

A report published in September 2023 by the *United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan* comments on: “...numerous instances of extra-judicial killings committed by de facto authorities, including by de facto security forces, occurring outside contexts of custodial detention. Of the 18 victims, six were former Afghan defence and security forces (ANDSF)...”⁹

Reuters in August 2023 states that: “More than 200 members of Afghanistan's former military, law enforcement and government have been killed since the Taliban took over, the U.N. mission in Afghanistan said on Tuesday, despite a "general amnesty" for old enemies.”¹⁰

In August 2023 the *United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan* notes that: “UNAMA has documented at least 14 instances of enforced disappearance of former government officials and ANDSF members.”¹¹

This document also states that: “Following their takeover of Afghanistan on 15 August 2021, the de facto authorities announced what they termed a “general amnesty” for former officials of the government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and former members of the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF). In the almost two years since, senior de facto officials have repeatedly, publicly, expressed their commitment to the general amnesty, calling for it to be upheld and for breaches to be investigated and for those found responsible to be punished. During this period, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) has recorded credible reports

⁵ European Union Agency for Asylum (December 2023) Afghanistan – Country Focus, p.57

⁶ Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (13 November 2023) 'I'm Very Worried': Former Afghan Soldiers Fear Forced Return To Taliban-Ruled Homeland

⁷ Human Rights Watch (11 October 2023) Submission to the Universal Periodic Review of Afghanistan, pp.4-5

⁸ European Parliament (5 October 2023) Human rights situation in Afghanistan, in particular the persecution of former government officials

⁹ United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (September 2023) The treatment of detainees in Afghanistan; Respecting human rights: a factor for trust, p.4

¹⁰ Reuters (22 August 2023) UN says over 200 former Afghan military, officials killed since Taliban takeover

¹¹ United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (22 August 2023) A barrier to securing peace: HR violations against former government officials & former armed force members, p.7

of hundreds of human rights violations – including extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrests and detentions and torture and ill-treatment – carried out by the de facto authorities against former government officials and ANDSF members.”¹²

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¹² *ibid*, p.1

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Minority Rights Group International
New Humanitarian
Online Newspapers
Refugee Documentation Centre Query Database
Reliefweb
United Kingdom Home Office
United States Department of State
UNHCR Refworld

Contact Information

Refugee Documentation Centre
Legal Aid Board
48/49 North Brunswick Street
Dublin 7
Ireland

Email: research@legalaidboard.ie