

AFGHANISTAN UK BRIDGE



ISSN 2515-7938

CULTURAL APPROPRIATION

**MONEY TALK : HOW MUCH ARE
AFGHAN EXPORTERS MISSING ON
AFGHAN CULTURAL APPROPRIATION**

**HOW CAN AFGHAN PRODUCERS
COMPETE : WHERE ARE THEY
SELLING BIG AND HOW TO GET INTO
THE MARKET FAST!**

**AFGHAN STOLEN GOODS :
INTERPOOL DATABASE.**

**AFGHAN GEMSTONES :
MONEY LIKE NO OTHER!**

**LOW ONLINE PRESENCE
DOES NOT MEAN BAD BUSINESS IN
AFGHANISTAN! FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS MAKING IT BIG!**





IBM AFGHANISTAN

<https://www.ibm.com/af-en/>

you^{IBM}

CULTURAL APPROPRIATION

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

AFGHAN BUSINESS BALANCE	4
BUSINESS NEWS IN BRIEF	7
BOOK REVIEWS : FEMINISM AND NATIONALISM	11
MONEY TALK : HOW MUCH ARE AFGHAN PRODUCERS MISSING ON AFGHAN CULTURAL APPROPRIATION?	17
HOW CAN AFGHAN PRODUCERS COMPETE? WHERE ARE THEY SELLING BIG AND HOW TO GET INTO THE MARKET?	21
AFGHANISTAN GEMSTONES : MONEY LIKE NO OTHER!	37
ADVERTISEMENTS	38

EDITOR'S LETTER : AUB NOVEMBER 2018

Cultural Appropriation is damaging the Afghanistan economy and depriving the local communities of producing their products like rugs and exporting them to meet Global demand. The decline of the Carpet industry, the online invasion of B2B businesses trading in the name of Afghan fruit sellers, tech innovators and Gemstones illegal trade are problems that require a new front of attack and this will include the Afghan Expat Community in the UK .

This Issue features Funding Opportunities for Individuals, ORGs and groups wishing to set up businesses or projects in Afghanistan or work abroad.

Also important are the listing of training providers that will greatly benefit the Expat Community in equipping Afghans to participate in the economic boost that is underway.

AUB is published bi-monthly and it remains separated from politics , elections and Religion, however the Book Reviews section this month brought forward Classic Books on Islam and Nationalism.

We hope to receive positive feedback from all our Readers as this Magazine is made for all of you and is available free of charge in Magzter and Issuu.

Best wishes,

Ariane Brito

Editor and Founder

AUB Magazine

**A
F
G
H
A
N**

**B
U
S
I
N
E
S
S**

**B
A
L
A
N
C
E**

***Afghanistan Businesses not
showing promptness to conquer
online trading, but yet ,that is
not a sign of Bad Business !***



Afghanistan Businesses not showing promptness to conquer online trading, but yet ,that is not a sign of Bad Business !

Afghanistan Businesses online dominance by Pakistani and Chinese is a worrying concluding fact that Afghans are still relying on mostly foreigners to do business on their behalf. Perhaps, more worrying is the implied concluding fact that Afghans are not showing interest in their business potential and in managing their resources production and exportation.

B2B websites in Pakistan show an overall absence of Afghan businesses with B2Bpakistan.com featuring only 11 businesses and majority Pakistani visa services.

On ThomasNet.com , a website connecting suppliers and producers with wholesalers and distributors there is only one Afghan supplier, ' Pure Country Inc. , based in Lynn, NC—Weaver of Custom Afghan and Tapestry.

In other b2b websites of higher international scope like [Zoodel](http://Zoodel.com) (www.zoodel.com) , [Trade India](http://TradeIndia.com) (tradeindia.com) , [Global Sources](http://GlobalSources.com) ([www. Globalsources.com](http://www.Globalsources.com)) , [Alibaba](http://Alibaba.com) (www.alibaba.com) and [DH Gate](http://DHGate.com) (www.dhgate.com) all suppliers of Afghan marble and minerals are either Chinese , Pakistani or Indian. What is truly worrying.

Other Afghan B2B websites pose a risk to potential international investors or Expats. [AsraB2B](http://AsraB2B.com) (<http://asrab2b.com/>) is not a secured website, requires registration and access to producers database is charged expensively.

[BizVibe](https://www.bizvibe.com/) International B2B website (<https://www.bizvibe.com/> AF) , is a secure website and features several businesses that portray to be located in Afghanistan but don't exhibit Company registration number and mostly are rated 2 stars out of five , which is clearly below average and to avoid.

Is this online presence a worrying factor? It is in terms of showing lack of Afghans promptness to trade their own goods and natural resources.

Should we assume this means lack of Afghans commitment and reliability? No, Afghanistan Authorities and Commercial Institutions are working relentlessly towards making Afghan businesses credibility and operability shift effectively to European international trade.

The [Afghanistan Central Business Registry and Intellectual Property \(ACBR—IP \)](#) , part of Afghanistan Ministry of Commerce and Industries , work in close partnership with the Rev-

enue Department of MOF to ensure all Businesses operating or trading in Afghanistan do it legally . Their database holds all National and International Businesses who are answerable to Afghan authorities.

Aside the International And National Businesses Chambers bringing Afghan businesses together , Financial Institutions in Afghanistan can provide instant checks on Companies records, issue credit letters and assist with the process of registration as Business or Financial Investor. [Afghanistan Investment Support Agency](http://investinafghanistan.af/en/) (<http://investinafghanistan.af/en/>) is a Governmental Agency working to facilitate foreign investors navigation in Afghanistan. Other Financial institutions that will facilitate international trade and money transfer with Afghanistan and neighbouring countries are

- 1. The Pakistani Bank Alfalah(www.bankalfalah.com)**
 - **Personal Banking Services** : Deposit Accounts, Cards . Alif (branchless banking wallet), Alif GoLootlo Wallet (Debit Card usable in more than 150 countries), Alif Cinepay Wallet (purchase cinema tickets in more than 150 countries) and Alif Remittance Wallet (money transfer anywhere in the world using your mobile number as bank account).
 - **Business Banking** (SME Corporate and Islamic Banking) : Trade Finance (Letter of Credit, Import Finance, Export Finance and Bank Guarantees) and Financing Solutions. Pakistan Phone Number : From within Pakistan dial: + 21 111-225-111 or + 42 111-225-111 From outside Pakistan dial: + 92 21 111-225-111 or + 92 42 111-225-11 . Afghanistan Branch Address :Ground Floor, Chambers of Commerce and Industries Building, Herat, Afghanistan . Phone : 00-93-20-22-2121 . Branch Code: 903
- 2. Bank Melli Iran (www.bmi.ir)**
 - Services: Rial Services (Savings, Current & Deposit) , Foreign Currency Services (Melli card, Foreign Currency Accounts, Money Transfer and Remittances, Foreign Exchange Facilities, Foreign Exchange rates, Bank guarantees, Imports and Exports Services) and E-Services : (Bank Officer and Tourist Card) . Afghanistan Branch Address : Hanzala mosque road, Shahre now, Kabul, PO Box 5810. Email : info@arian-bank.com.af. Tel: +93 2022039994-7 . Fax: 93202204010 SWIFT : AFABAK-FA .

I would strongly suggest opening a business account with Bank Melli Iran because IRNA , Iran Republic News Agency reported in May that Afghan Banks will soon operate in [Chabahar, Iran's Free trade and Industrial area](#) with a maritime port that Iran plans to use to connect Afghanistan trade with Central Asia markets.

If you are an Afghan Expat and you reside in Europe I would advise you to open an **HSBC Expat Bank Account** (<https://www.expat.hsbc.com>) . The Bank offers an outstanding service and just in 2017 was recipient of 3 International Awards for Expat Banking Services. Afghan Telecom Salaam is the destination carrier used for HSBC SMS alerts.

The financial institutions and Government led initiatives and international partnerships with India and Iran far surpass the down factor of lack of online promptness by the part of Afghan businesses. This down factor can also be seen as a good sign as is clearly evidence that foreigners are freely and easily doing business in Afghanistan.

Ariane Brito



NEWS IN BRIEF

Afghanistan Expats in the United Kingdom express confidence in using the EU Commission online helpdesk to deal with their Export and Import Documentation.

Never has been easier doing business with Europe, and Afghan Expats in the United Kingdom are rejoicing with the online platform available to help them calculate import and export duties to Afghanistan and to secure placement of their goods in other markets like Germany. The helpdesk is free to use and accessible from any device and location. Access the EU trade help desk [here](#).

Solar Grinding Mills are proving a success to support communities fighting drought and grinding powder talcum .

Zambia and Sudan communities are successfully using their innovative Solar Grinding Mills to combat drought and extend their food supply chain. The solar grinding mills are affordable, can be used to grind talcum powder and are available to purchase or develop with assistance of grants for sustainable development.

World Bank Report on Afghanistan Renewable Energy published July 2018 links security concerns with long term energy supply in the country

Conflict, unrest and displacement are still risk factors in the consideration of funding of Renewable Energy initiatives in Afghanistan but the World Bank report suggests that one issue that could facilitate development in the sector is to make funding easier to reach and more accessible to local communities . Hopefully this will mean more funding available for solar panels.





'AFGHAN HOUND' WATERCOLOUR ARTIST : KAJENNA



*'Ala- Kul Lake , Kyrgyzstan' Lake Watercolour paint by
Idea Studio Artists .*

'INSTANBUL' , Water painting by Frankz



**B
O
O
K**

**R
E
V
I
E
W
S**

**FEMINISM , NATIONALISM
AND WHERE DID IT ALL
GO WRONG?**



Wahiduddin Khan , Maulana Women Between Islam and Western Society , Al—Risala Books, The Islamic Centre (Publications division) , (New Delhi): 1995

The author argues that Islam does not advocate inferiority of women in relation to men, but simply acknowledges a biological constitution that should determine division of labour. The author criticises the Western Culture laxity towards marriage based on sex and personality compatibility, Feminism, surrogacy and Artificial Insemination.

Viciously, he advocates that Western Feminism has failed completely concluding “ The goal of the feminist movement was to make women equal to men in every respect . But this did not happen in practice. The feminist movement has completely failed in achieving its real objective . (...) Due to this experience, feminist extremists in western countries demand a complete withdrawal from dependence of men, including sexual ties. (...) It is as if in the system of lesbianism there is scope for producing girls but not boys. Even then, to produce a girl, lesbians will depend upon the same man whom they rejected in order to have their own independent ways. It is easy to deviate from the system of nature but the price that has to be paid for such deviation is too high for an individual and society.”

He concludes by stating that Western Culture Freedom leads to degradation and not Freedom : “ ...As they near the close of the 20th century , the American intellectual class are acknowledging that what they thought of as the ladder of progress , at the beginning of the 20th century , had turned out to be the ladder of destruction. Taking women out of their homes has only resulted in the total disruption of the American family system. The rosy plan of liberating woman has, in practice, resulted in so many social evils. Now new thinking is emerging from a revision of past errors, but modern woman is not ready to go back to her former role as housewife, even if, the life adopted by her of necessity involves her bearing the burdens of both the home and the workplace. What kind of progress is it which culminates in destruction? How strange is this freedom, which, in practice, has turned into a new kind of bondage”

***Beyond the Veil: Male-Female Dynamics in Modern Muslim Society.* Al Saqi Books, 1987.**

Contents

Part I—The Traditional Muslim View of Women and Their Place in the Social Order : 1. The Muslim Concept of Active Female Sexuality 2. Regulation of Female Sexuality in the Muslim Social Order 3. Sex and Marriage Before Islam .

Part II—Anomic Effects of Modernization on Male –Female Dynamics ; 4. The Modern Situation : Moroccan Data ; 5. Sexual Anomie as revealed by the Data; 6. Husband and Wife ; 7. The Mother-in-Law ; 8. The meaning of Spatial Boundaries ; 9. The Economic Basis of Sexual Anomie in Morocco

The author explores the concept of Feminism throughout Modern History in Morocco using the category analysis of West vs. Muslim so as to highlight that there is nothing wrong with Morocco Religion and society dynamics—nothing wrong except if one applies western feminist category standards. However, she acknowledges the following “ I am not concerned with contesting the way women are treated in the Muslim East with the way they are treated in the Muslim West. I believe that sexual inequality is the basis of both systems. My aim is to understand the sexual dynamics of the Muslim world. (...) The change in relations between the sexes has been one of the most explosive threats that Muslim society has had to face in the 20th century, and its dilemma has been expounded in a prolific literature concerning the relation between Islam and Women. Muslim societies, defeated, occupied and dominated by foreign infidel forces, have concluded that the only way to alleviate foreign domination is to free the whole Muslim ‘ person power’ by involving both men and women in the production process. But to achieve that aim, Muslim society would have to grant women, now needed as workers and soldiers, all the other rights which have until now been male privileges. It would have to bring about a drastic disaggregation of all spheres of social life and dismantle traditional institutions which embody the inequality between the sexes.”

The author analyses the Modern Muslim social life based on the need of sexual equality, the need to be Arab and the need to be Muslim.

She noted a very dangerous trend on Historiography which is historians painting modernisation as a foreign tool to destroy Islam: “ Modern legislation was initiated and carried out by the Colonial Powers (...) The Colonial Powers were motivated to intervene in Muslim legislation not by idealistic concern for their natives but by their own economic interests (...) Modern changes were identified as the enemy’s subtle tools for carrying out the destruction of Islam”.

This book remains a Classic in Muslim Feminism and is adopted by several American Universities .

**WOMEN : MOTHERS, DAUGHTERS,
SISTERS, FRIENDS, COMPANIONS.**



WOMEN ARE SOURCES OF LOVE TO THEIR CHILDREN .



Zareie, Farid. "The Role of Language in Defining Afghan Nationalism". Middle Eastern Communities and Migration Student Research

Paper Series 1, Building Knowledge in and of Afghanistan. Fall 2010.

This article analyses the contribution of language in asserting Afghan Nationalism during the first two decades of the 20th century , resorting to a multidisciplinary role of sources in the fields of History, Literature and Anthropology.

The author calls out for a change in the Historiography approach to the use of language to define Afghanistan national identity and geo-political struggles : “ This essay does not only contest the extraordinary over—emphasis in Western scholarship suggesting that print-capitalism creates the marginalised community of the nation, but more importantly , it argues for a revision of Afghan historiography” in Pag. 18

Udy, Vanessa, “ The Appropriation of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage : Examining the Uses and Pitfalls of the Canadian Intellectual Property Regime

<http://www.robic.com/admin/pdf/1248/173-031E-VUD-2014.pdf>

This article explores the forms the Aboriginal culture in Canada is appropriated by the mainstream culture and provides legal information and advice to the public on how Aborigines can defend their cultural rights under Canada’s Intellectual property laws.

This author , Vanessa Udy, LLB, is an experience lawyer at Robic Firm—Lawyers, Patents and Trademark Agents-.

The sociological definition and cultural parameters of Cultural appropriation is done based on UNESCO definition and Charter and on parameters set by the Canadian Government and historically by Aborigines.

The author concludes by suggesting new legal tools to tackle Cultural Appropriation as the current ones are set on Colonial legal ethos of economic exploitation of Aborigines

This article is available online free of charge on link men-



Lemu, B. Aisha, Heeren, Fatima, Islamic Foundation (Great Britain), Islamic Council of Europe and International Islamic Conference (1976 : London) *Woman in Islam*. Islamic Council of Europe ; Leicester : [Distributed by] the Islamic Foundation, [London], 1976.

Chapter I : Fantasy and Escape; Spiritual Status of Woman; Intellectual Status ; Relations Between the Sexes; Rights and Obligations; Marriage In Islam ; Divorce ; Right To Inheritance ; Role as a Mother ; Sex and Society; Dress; Role Differentiation; Polygamy

The author explains how Women in Islam are seen as equals to men in the domestic home and under the eyes of God. She argues that the West misunderstands the role of Muslim Women in Islam and in Society. She concludes by inviting the West to revisit the Religion system and role in laying successful societies : “ The present time of widespread rethinking of the role and rights of women is perhaps the appropriate time to look with fresh eyes at the Islamic point of view, which has contributed to the formation of stable societies in both sophisticated and underdeveloped peoples in vast areas of the world over the past 14 centuries, which has retained the continuity of its principle, and from which the Western world might have something to learn”.

Chapter II : Family Life in Islam : 1. The Islamic Approach; Structure of Muslim Family ; The Family as a Cradle for Human Society; The Education Process; Islamic Duties; Training For Life; 2. The Family as Guardian of Desires; Arranged Marriages; Polygamy; Divorce; Woman’s status; 3. The Family and Character Building; 4. The Family as a Refuge;

Chapter III : Discussion; Polyandry; Inheritance; Covering the Face; Dress.

Kumari, Jayawardena , *Feminism and Nationalism in the Third World*, Zed Books, 4th ed. , 1992, London

The author is a renowned writer from Sri Lanka . This book is considered a Classic in Asian Feminism . The author proposes to demonstrate how Feminism was always present in Asian countries but was deliberately hidden from History by authors deliberately omitting the role of Asian women in the fight for their Gender rights and against Economic Imperialism. The study focuses on Egypt, Iran, Turkey, India, Sri Lanka, China, Japan, Korea, The Philippines, Vietnam and Indonesia. According to her “ all these countries have one factor in common: they have either been subjected to aggression and domination by Imperialist powers interested in

establishing themselves in the region or indirectly manipulated into serving the interests of Imperialism”.

I found this book quite relevant historically because the author illustrates how Feminist movements have failed overall to challenge the majority of patriarchal mechanisms in society exercising power over women progression in Leadership and equal access to the labour market.



**M
O
N
E
Y**

**T
A
L
K**

**HOW MUCH ARE AFGHAN
PRODUCERS MISSING ON
CULTURAL APPROPRIATION?**



MONEY TALK

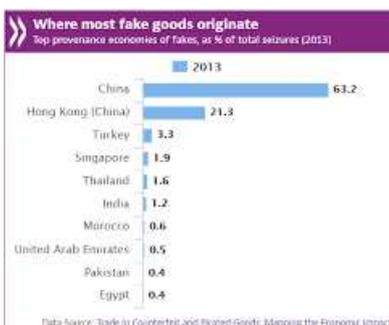
CULTURAL APPROPRIATION



“Afghan Rugs are historically National relics with unique weaving technique, Afghan wool and design, yet Chinese sellers sell counterfeit Afghan Carpets and Rugs by the tons and in bulk to all points of the Globe. The Fight on Counterfeit Goods seems to remain a War that the International Community is not making any progress.

”Counterfeit and pirated products come from many economies, with China as the largest producing market. These illegal products are found in a range of industries, from luxury items to intermediary products to consumer goods “ *OECD , Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development*

The OECD and European Union Intellectual Property Office Report on Trade in Counterfeit and Pirated Goods published in 2016 pointed out that in 2013 63% of the Counterfeit and Pirated Goods originated from China.



My research on Afghanistan International Counterfeited and Pirated Goods also identified China as the main producer and exporter of Afghan goods.

The OECD report mentioned Afghanistan and Syria conflict situation as a factor contributing to the transit of goods in Afghanistan and Syria.

Unfortunately the reality is that Afghanistan conflict also contributes to Chinese production of Afghan counterfeit goods and the mainstream Commercial and Judicial Authorities in Afghanistan don't have enough resources to tackle this problem that is negatively impacting in local producers economy.

Alibaba.com , a Chinese B2B and wholesaler is the biggest online outlet for Afghan counterfeit and pirated goods. I would hint just by browsing the site that 90 per cent of the Afghan rugs are fake, are of uneven geometrical design and are not produced with Afghan cotton or Afghan silk. Other matter of concern is the defect in the portray of Afghan rugs design pattern. The national quality of Afghan rugs is valued also for the Asian adaptation of Persian designs so well illustrated in the Afghan Kilim rugs.

Counterfeit products also cause an impact in Afghan Communities in UAE and Europe because these Expat Communities have the skills or knowledge to produce or source Afghan rugs and yet are faced with the unfair competition of cheaper, lower quality Afghan rugs that damage the country and culture reputation for quality rugs.

Sourcing Solutions Services & Membership Help & Community One Request, Multiple... Get the App Eng

Categories ▾ Products ▾ What are you looking for ^{NEW} Search Sign In Join Free My Alibaba Order Protection 0 Fav



High-grade Well Received Popular Colorful Afghan Handmade Rugs

FOB Reference Price: [Get Latest Price](#)

US \$30-100 / Square Meters | 300 Square Meter/Square Meters (Min. Order)

[Contact Supplier](#) [Start Order](#)

Leave Messages

Seller Support: Trade Assurance
– To protect your orders from payment to delivery

Payment: [More](#)

Shipping: **50% OFF** Alibaba.com Ocean Shipping Service from China to U.S.

Zhengzhou Carpet Group Ltd.

10 YRS

Manufacturer, Trading Company

Gold Supplier

Trade Assurance

Onsite Check

4.2/5 Satisfied 4 Reviews

Transaction Level: 9 Transactions

Response Time

Response Rate

Contact Supplier

Leave Messages

Browsing History

Message Center

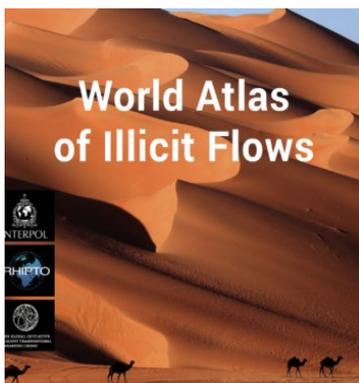
Trade Manager

Tragically Afghan producers and exporters ordeal does not end here. Afghanistan does not have enough resources to prevent the **theft of Cultural Artefacts** that are valuable in transmitting the country Art History and Cultural Diversity to future generations. The **Interpol Database of Stolen Goods currently lists the following Afghan Stolen Goods:**

1. [Vessels– Dishes : 43 Items](#)
2. [Sculptures—Heads : 233 Items](#)
3. [Relieves—Curved Stones : 267 Items](#)
4. [Afghan paintings : 5 Items](#)
5. [Other Sculptures \(Statues \) : 91 Items](#)
6. [Other Objects : 32 Items](#)
7. [Other Objects \(Coins \) : 14 Items](#)

According to the **World Atlas of Illicit Flows, published by Interpol and RHINO**, a UN Partner Research Agency, the Dealing of Antiques only constitutes 1 per cent of the income earned by International Organisations like the Taliban operating in Afghanistan. Drug Production and Drug trafficking remains the biggest sources of income to the Taliban.

Chapter 10—page 109-116 -, analyses the correlation between the increase of Drug Production by the Taliban in



Afghanistan with an increase of Terrorism financing and advance in Afghanistan. The increase of drug production and the contest of key provinces by the Taliban is a clear sign that more Cultural artefacts and UNESCO protected sites in the country are at future risk of theft and destruction like the Buddhas of Bamiyan .

Business investors and Afghan Expats will also view this data collected in the year of 2017 as a negative factor to ponder when considering sourcing goods from Afghanistan.

Members of the Afghan Government have linked the decrease of the Afghan Expat community in Europe with a decadent Afghan Rug industry. This multi million industry is in decay and several revival attempts have failed in the last decade and blame has been put constantly in the conflict affecting the region.

Afghan Expats and International Investors need to get involved in the War Against Counterfeit and Pirated Goods and the private auctions taking place in China and Europe so as to fight the competition that is destroying and mining the future of Afghanistan Rug heritage.

This is an industry that if protected, if fought with almighty power, will bring a huge amount of income to the country and to Expats and Investors abroad.

Ariane Brito



EXPO LIVE

INNOVATION IMPACT GRANT PROGRAMME

INNOVATION CAN COME FROM
ANYWHERE, TO EVERYONE



**H
O
W

C
A
N

A
F
G
H
A
N
S

C
O
M
P
E
T
E
?**

**WHERE ARE THEY SELLING
BIG AND HOW TO GET INTO
THE MARKET?**



HOW CAN AFGHANS COMPETE?



Aid Development

Antiques and Artefacts

Beauty Industry

**Solar Products : Solar
Talcum Grinding Mill**



WHERE ARE THEY SELLING BIG AND HOW TO GET INTO THE MARKET?

Aid Development

Afghanistan is a country rich in resources and yet in 2017 the US Department of State listed as main business opportunity in Afghanistan the engagement with Aid Agencies and Infrastructure Development working in partnership with the US and the Afghanistan Government.

This would be a light suggestion if it was not for the picture of a woman covered in a blanket in the advertisement of the Australian Government DFAT's Supplier Engagement Event taking place in Brisbane on **Friday the 9th of November 2018**. The Event is open to the public and bookings are available via the website Eventbrite.



Friday, 9 November 2018 10:30am – 12:30pm AEST

**Austrade State Office
Level 16, 307 Queen Street
Brisbane QLD 4000**

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) holding a series of free information sessions during 2018 to provide information on doing business with DFAT and how they can bring value to the Australian Aid Program. DFAT will also provide information on up and coming designs and tender opportunities.

Who should attend:

- Commercial and other organisations and individuals involved in the delivery of DFAT-funded aid program activities.
- Other organisations and individuals wishing to participate in the aid sector.

Other events promoted by the Australian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade highlight this policy of inviting the **private sector to participate in the channelling , distribution of International Aid and fomentation of development projects.**



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

2019 Aid Supplier Conference

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) is pleased to announce its third annual Aid Supplier Conference will be held on Thursday 21 February 2019.

The Conference will highlight partnerships in aid development procurement and policy. The event will create a forum for a diverse group from the international aid and development community to share ideas and insights.

This is a free event for delegates from the aid development community.

We are now accepting [registrations](#).

Your contact information will be shared amongst the registered attendee's. Please advise if you do not wish to share your details via email to: supplier.engagement@dfat.gov.au.

Key dates

Conference date: Thursday 21st of February

Join the DFAT Supplier Network to stay in touch of future supplier engagement events and opportunities

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups/13563309>

If you register for the conference and do not receive a confirmation by email, please contact the conference organisers via email at supplier.engagement@dfat.gov.au.

We have timed our Aid Supplier Conference to follow (but be separate from) ANU's Australasian Aid Conference, to be held on 19 and 20 February, as many of you will be interested in attending both events. Details of the ANU's conference can be found [here](#)

The UK Government has a long tradition of inviting the private sector to participate in the distribution of International Aid and Development projects delivery in countries like Afghanistan.

Currently there are [13 opportunities for private sector organizations and Charities](#) to participate in Afghanistan's development :

1. [Connecting Classrooms through Global Learning](#)
2. [Private Infrastructure Development Group](#)
3. [UK Aid Match](#)
4. [UK Aid Connect](#)
5. [UK Aid Direct](#)
6. [Amplify: collaborative challenge fund](#)
7. [Small Charities Challenge Fund \(SCCF\)](#)
8. [Girls' Education Challenge](#)
9. [Strategic Partnerships for Higher Education Innovation and Reform](#)
10. [Technology Provider Window for Frontier Technology Livestreaming](#)
11. [Global Innovation Fund](#)
12. [Business Call to Action](#)
13. [Trade Advocacy Fund](#)





Ancient Gandharan Buddha Head Sculpture, 350 AD £61,664.14 <https://www.1stdibs.com>

Antiques and Artefacts

For the time being , Dealing with Art and Archaeological items does not require a licence unless you are importing goods into the European Union.

If you are planning to import from Afghanistan into the UK , you can apply for all your licences and use the custom calculator online via https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/trade-non-eu-countries/import-eu_en .

If you are simply planning to get into the multi million pound business of selling Afghan art and archaeological items then your only concern is to have enough knowledge to distinguish real from counterfeit and estimate the value of an item .

There is no mandatory place of study but I recommend booking an appointment with a trade union or business association like the [Society of London Art Dealers](#) ,or [LAPADA](#) , [The Association of Art and Antiques Dealers](#) .Insight into the trade might give you a clear indication of where to obtain the best training to become a certified expert in paintings and sculptures.

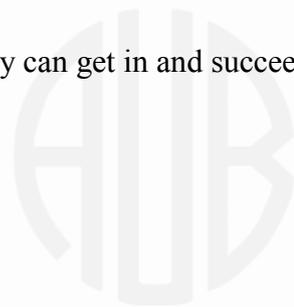
I recommend you contacting and meeting the minimum requirements to join [IADA](#) , [the International Association of Dealers in Ancient Art](#) . The reason is very simple, often buyers and traders presuppose that countries in conflict are automatically barred from exporting Ancient Art and that is not the case. Afghanistan and Syria are in conflict and as a result there is a great deal of Ancient artefacts thefts .This does not imply necessarily that all traded Afghanistan Ancient Artefacts are stolen.

The UK Authorities are preparing further [future regulations](#) to monitor this sector and protect Afghanistan cultural heritage.

This is a very good sector to work with because the Art Dealer can [sell the items online](#) , send them for auction elsewhere via registered and insured Art couriers .

The best way to start selling goods prior to obtain the required licences is online via [Catawiki](#) auctions. It is the most inclusive online art auction site for Afghan artefacts and other items like carpets, minerals are also accepted.

This is a multimillion sector which anyone looking for money can get in and succeed. Good luck!



Beauty Industry

It is quite sad that a country so rich in Talcum powder and green tea leaves does not benefit from the income of this industry and instead Taliban war machine does.

To win the War against Counterfeit and Pirated Goods ,Afghan genuine producers will need a community to partner with abroad.

The strongest bets are to network with the **British, the Dubai and German Expat Communities** linked with their respective Consulates and Embassies.

These Communities qualify legally to register their groups as Associations and Agencies and this legal status opens a wide framework to negotiate with the European Union , International Aid Donors and Development Agencies working in Afghanistan.

Issues to consider bringing forward are :

1. Access to Custom Duties reduction to export **solar powered talcum powder gridding mills**.
2. **Presence** at EU commissions hearings on Taliban Arrest Issue Warrants, Freezing of Financial Assets and proposals to increase financing of Refugees and Asylum seekers dispersed in Europe.
3. Special **statutory measures** to award Aid to Expats Business Groups looking to train and employ Afghans abroad.
4. Formation of **Short Training Providers** to deliver short funded courses in the areas where Afghan expats can easily contribute to their country development from abroad while securing a professional qualification e.g. Gemstone dealer, Art Dealer, Industrial Equipment exporter Germany– Afghanistan.
5. Enforcement of general use of a **Gubelin Gem Lab Seal** for all gems going out of Asia and into the US and the UK.

The Funding available for NGO's and Individuals wishing to work in or with Afghans is available in the shape of grants, loans and scholarships to professionals. Funds for NGO's are featuring a series of funding opportunities closing this month. For more information visit <https://www2.fundsforngos.org/tag/afghanistan/>



The most important source of funding for Afghan Expats and International Investors is the Asian Development Bank . For current opportunities of Procurement, Jobs and Grants in Afghanistan visit <https://www.adb.org/projects/tenders/country/afg> .



[Gamila Secret Precious Pomegranate](#) £ 27

HOUSE OF FRASER



Gamila Secret Precious Pomegranate cleansing bar contains rich pomegranate oils, treats your skin to a high concentration of vitamin C and potassium to prevent premature aging while revitalising and even-out your skin tone. Suitable for all skin types, even very sensitive skin, or dry to combination.





[JO MALONE LONDON Pomegranate
Noir Soap](#) £24



HOUSE OF FRASER



Generous in size and designed with an easy-to-hold rounded shape, Bath Soap is perfect for a luxurious bath time, or daily indulgence.



[MURAD Pomegranate Extractor Mask](#)

£30

HOUSE OF FRASER



Deeply cleanse your pores and reduce blackheads with this intensive clay pore mask. Lactic Acid polishing beads lift and exfoliate dead skin cells whilst Volcanic Clay extracts impurities from deep within. Reveal glowing skin and visibly refined pores.



[Dr Organic Pomegranate Toothpaste](#) 100ml £4.99



HOLLAND & BARRETT



- Pure organic Pomegranate toothpaste for healthy gums
 - Contains Arnica, Silica & Aloe Vera
 - Rejuvenates & restores gums and teeth
- Using only the purest organic bioactive Pomegranate, we have carefully blended this antioxidant-rich 'superfruit' with natural bioactive organic ingredients to create a formulation that rejuvenates and restores the gums and teeth, whilst leaving the mouth feeling clean and fruity mint fresh.



Philip Kingsley Elasticizer
Pomegranate and Cassis

£30.60

JOHN LEWIS

Product code: 45407316

Elasticizer is an intensive super conditioning pre-shampoo treatment which adds elasticity, bounce and shine to all hair types. Now infused with the luxurious and soothing scent of Pomegranate and Cassis.





[Base Pomegranate Foundation](#) by [Korres](#)



BP: £66.50* / 100 ml

Item no, 730488

Item available for delivery immediately,
in stock



The **Pomegranate Foundation** in the Korres Foundation Series gives the skin not only freshness and a regular complexion, but also abundant nurture and protection against premature skin ageing. The skin appears fresh and beautiful. An extra moisturising kick makes it smooth and soft. The plant extracts contained are like elixirs of youth for the skin. They give it elasticity, suppleness and smoothness. The foundation is thus an indispensable product for a regular complexion and youthful radiance.



[Source Naturals Pomegranate Extract](#)

Size / Quantity 500mg, 240 Tablets

£96.00

HEALTH MONTHLY



- Antioxidant and DNA Protection
- Dietary Supplement
- 500 mg

Pomegranates are native to the area between Iran and northern India. They are a rich red fruit loaded with antioxidants, vitamins, potassium, folic acid and iron. Source Naturals Pomegranate Extract contains a minimum of 40% ellagitannins, which are converted into ellagic acid by the body. Preliminary laboratory studies have shown that ellagic acid is a powerful antioxidant that supports DNA integrity and promotes overall cell health.



AFGHAN GEMSTONES : EMERALD, TOPAZ, RUBY , SHAPHIRE,TOURMALINE AND MORGANITE! MONEY LIKE NO OTHER!

No blood Gemstones , no gangs , no ghettos and no cheap auctions! We are talking about the real deal, Gemstones that are exquisite, are legal enough to be in the European and American market and can make you money easily.

Either you are getting into the trade as an individual or with other people in the capacity of Co operative or Expat Agency or Association, your documentation will be an added value to Buyers from Harrods and other luxury shops .

Afghan Expats in Dubai and Iran get it easy as the distance is shorter and the Buyers for the main shops and jewellery designers don't have so many ethical requirements. However, the advantage of doing business back and forth from the UK to Afghanistan , is that **the supply chain is shortened by identification, price, and supply chain legal requirements that come with security and no life risk.**

The institutions and societies listed below provide information **of how to secure exit of gemstones from Afghanistan, what price to offer and how to guarantee that your origin certificate secures you a short and cheap supply chain.** Is not advisable to approach the Afghan Customs One Stop Shop or the EU Commission Online Platform to register for Duties without contacting these societies to evaluate your options.

1. [Gubelin Gem Lab](#) : provides information on how and where to perform gemstones origin tests, obtain certificates and also provides short two days training.
2. [Responsible Jewellery Council](#) : This Council works towards ensuring that its members supply ethically sourced jewellery to the UK markets. It provides a range of benefits to its members and includes mine operators, supply chain operators, suppliers and household names like Net a Porter.
3. [ISEAL Alliance](#) : this UK based Alliance joins producers and suppliers together to ensure sustainable development in communities across the Globe. Is also a source of funding to projects abroad and provides training kits and resources. Is a must for Afghan Expats and International business people looking for business financing and for an organization that can represent decent businesses sourcing products from communities abroad in an ethical and sustainable way.
4. [The Gemmological Association of Great Britain](#) : **The finest of the finest or the crème de la crème of Education providers in the United Kingdom. Provides online, onsite education , membership benefits include discount at events and professional membership. Is the place to go if serious about getting trained in gemmology, supply or jewellery design.**

AUB MAGAZINE RECOMMENDS THE AFGHAN BUSINESS COUNCIL IN DUBAI FOR ALL SERVICES REQUIRED IN AFGHANISTAN LIKE SETTING UP A BUSINESS.

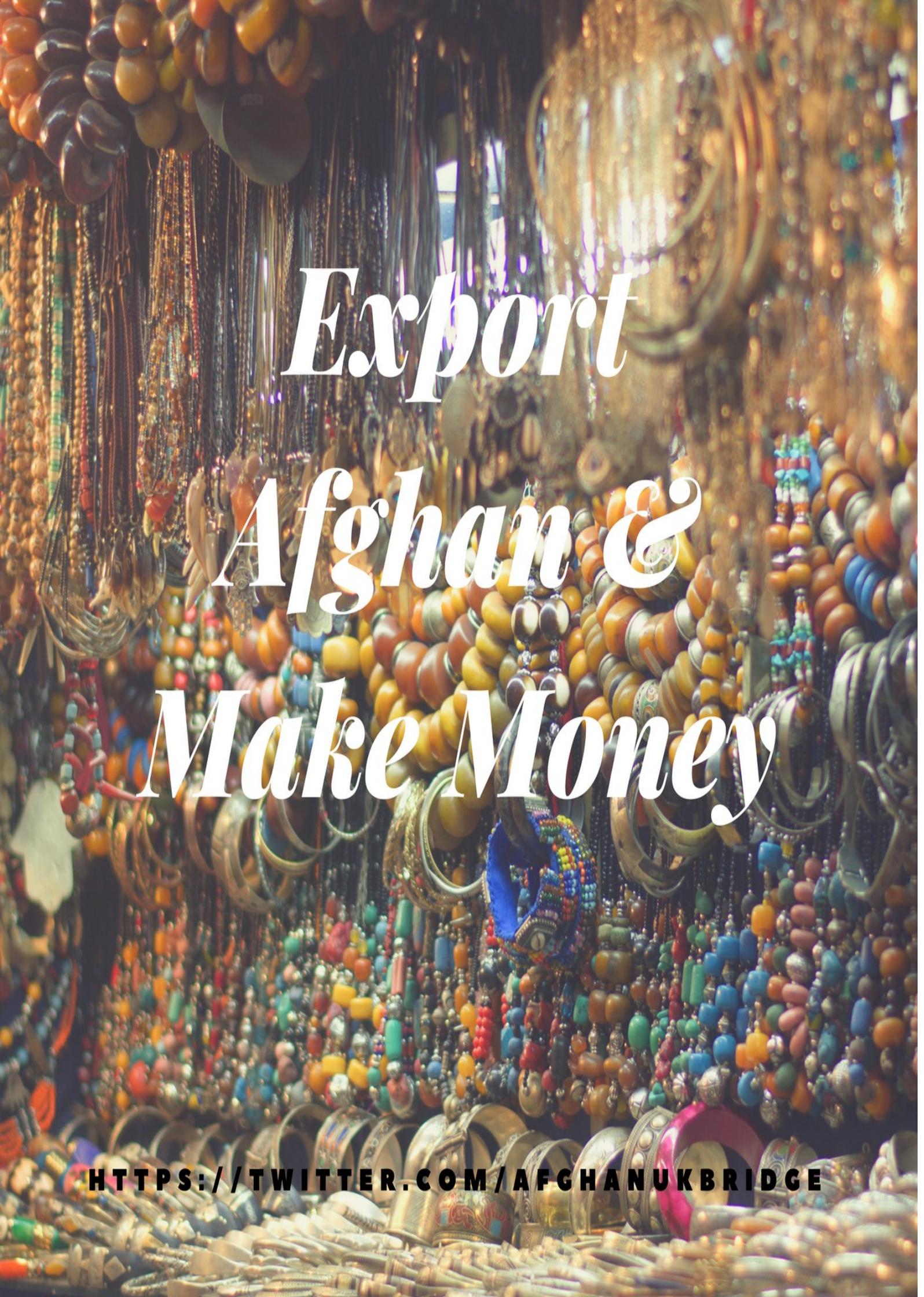


AFGHAN BUSINESS COUNCIL
DUBAI-UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



HAZARAS ARE AFGHANS. IF YOU ARE ALSO AFGHAN LOVE ALL AFGHANS EQUALLY AND FEAR GOD





*Export
Afghan &
Make Money*

[HTTPS://TWITTER.COM/AFGHANUKBRIDGE](https://twitter.com/afghanukbridge)



[Kabul Serena Hotel](#) is a luxury hotel in downtown Kabul, Afghanistan. It is set in landscaped gardens, overlooking the city's famous Zarnegar Park. Originally built in 1945, the hotel has been completely refurbished and extended in recent years, reopening in 2005.

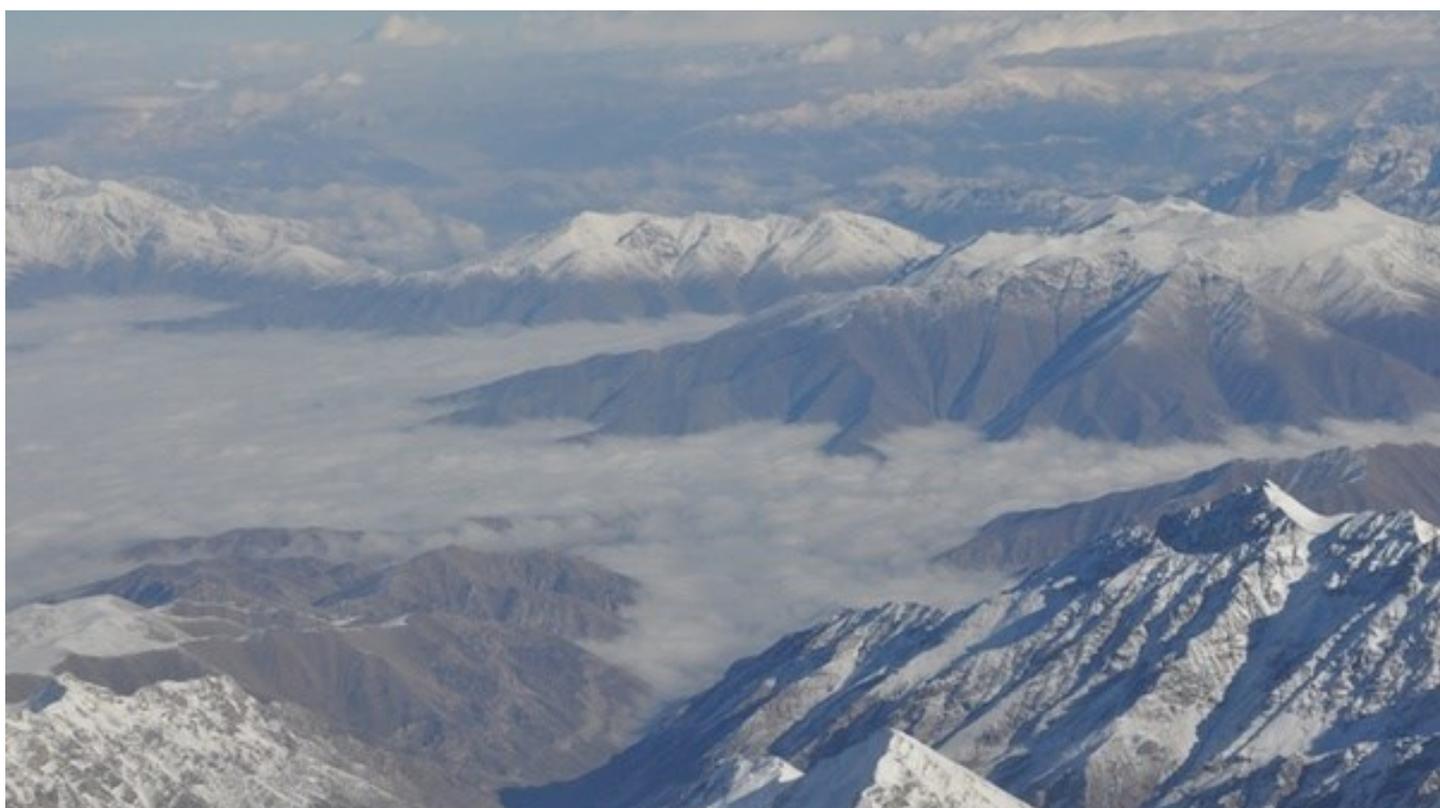




KABUL SERENA HOTEL

Address : Froshgah Street, Kabul,
Afghanistan

Phone : +93 79 955 4000





KABUL SERENA HOTEL

Address : Froshgah Street, Kabul,
Afghanistan

Phone : +93 79 955 4000





HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019!

AFGHANISTAN UK BRIDGE MAGAZINE

