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Memoir of Shair Mohammad Khan Kamrany

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THE MEMOIR OF:
SHAIR MOHAMMAD
KAMRANY

MEMOIR OF: SHAIR MOHAMMAD KHAN KAMRANY



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TRANSLATION FROM PASHTU TO FARSI

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Preamble

It is not in the tradition of Afghans to write memoirs. The culture relies predominantly on oral history – generations to tell their stories and pass them along as real history. Unfortunately, transitional stories are often lost throughout time unless they are recorded. My mission is to preserve and offer my father's story by offering it in this memoir.

In 1973, I invited my parents to visit my sisters and me in Los Angeles. To our good fortune they accepted our invitation and I got to see them after 18 years and 12000 miles of separation. As I was waiting at the L.A. airport for their arrival, I became very anxious and emotional. I walked over to the arrival ramp and shortly thereafter, an FBI agent interrogated me. I produced my identification and told him that I was expecting to see my parents after 18 years. He became cordial and wished me a good visit. As the passengers got off the plane and got on to the arrival ramp, my sister Karima Zarifi pointed out my parents to me, "There are our parents." When I saw them, they looked like old citizens and frail, not the parents that I had left in Kabul 18 years earlier. I became very emotional, was shocked and fell on the ground. When I opened my eyes, my parents were standing above me and my father said, "Everything is all right." Finally, I got up, kissed their hands and faces and hugged them. After a few days of rest and recovery, they looked more or less the parents that I had left in Kabul.

My parents spent a few months with my sisters and me. We showed them around - Disneyland, Marineland, Hollywood Studios, the beaches, restaurants and the cities of Los Angeles, Oakland and San Francisco. After, they flew to Oakland to stay with my sister for a few days. I subsequently drove to Oakland to give them a ride back to Los Angeles. My father was very impressed with my driving skills. We drove through agricultural counties of the San Joaquin valleys and they saw the sprinkle irrigation system. My father, who had gotten involved in agricultural development, was very impressed with the agricultural development of California. Moreover, when he saw the buildings, streets, landscaping, gardening, organization and the development of Los Angeles he told me that "Americans have worked very hard; they deserve the highly developed country that they have built."

My sisters and I wanted my parents to settle in Los Angeles. Although my mother was amenable to the idea, my father wanted to return to "the old country" and wanted me to return to Afghanistan as well. I promised him that I would return but that I was not able to do so then. I explained that I had family and I had been

acculturated to Los Angeles. By then I had chosen Los Angeles as my permanent home.

Prior to returning to Afghanistan, my father asked me what I wanted from him. I told him that I wanted his Karakul cap and for him to write his memoir for me. He gave me his Karakul cap and that same night he began to write his memoir. He gave me a copy of his hand-written memoir of about 30 pages and promised me that he would complete it when he returned home. As promised, he had my cousin's wife type his memoir in the Pashto language, completed it and sent it to me. I had every intention to translate it into English but could not find the time to do it. My sister Shaesta insisted that I translate the memoir but to no avail. Then she contacted several Afghans with good command of English to translate the memoir. They all said Nake Kamrany should do it. To my pleasant surprise, my brother Mr. Saleh Mohammad Kamrany translated the memoir from Pashto to Farsi. Then my beautiful and competent niece, Prof. Maryam Quadrat, translated the Farsi version into English via interactive collaboration over several months. The result is a very valuable memoir with a mastery translation by Maryam. At last, this memoir project came to fruition after 42 years (1973 – 2015) of semi-concerted prolonged family endeavor.

I had several valid important incentives to request a memoir from my father. His progression of life experiences was phenomenal. He was born in the village of Bala Karz in the province of Kandahar. His great grandfather had established and constructed the village of Bala Karz. His family was the “khans” (leaders) of the village, which included vast farmland. They also built a mosque and an irrigation system for the village.

My father's education was limited to the study of Koranic scriptures; otherwise he was illiterate. He worked on the farm with his brothers and father until he was drafted into the army. The military draft took him from Kandahar to the capital city of Kabul. His language was only Pashto. Soon thereafter, he learned to read and write in Farsi. His officers were very impressed with his rapid progress and his language aptitude.

At that time in the 1920s, King Amanullah Khan wanted to modernize Afghanistan and emulate Europe. Amanullah Khan had gained popularity in Europe for having launched and won the third Anglo-Afghan war and gained Afghanistan's sovereignty. Several European countries offered scholarships for Afghan students. My father was selected to study in Russia to become an air force

pilot. He greatly impressed his Russian teachers and was promoted to sit with them during the final examination of his Afghan classmates. Although his study period in Russia was for merely three years, he mastered the Russian language during this time, speaking with little accent, and had mastered the elaborate grammar of the Russian language.

In his memoir he described details of his trip from Kabul to Moscow recounting in great details every village, city, river, building, community, culture and civilization on the way. He and his fellow Afghan students were greeted royally with warmth and significant hospitality in Russia. In addition to his studies, he learned to play chess with Russian students in Moscow and became a master chess player in Moscow and subsequently in Kabul. He had two close compatriots who were also from Kandahar and were graduates of the Russian school with whom he socialized frequently on weekends in Kabul and played chess and talked politics. They would come to our home on Fridays after two and walked the distance since there were no taxis and the horse carriages were expensive. I would sit by the chessboard with them and watch them play for hours, and learn the game as well as listen to their conversation on political issues. One of his friends was Fatah Mohammad Khan, referred to as Akka Sahib – uncle - and the other was Abdul Haq Khan. The friendship of these three was rooted in childhood, place of birth, language, and culture. They were inseparable brothers in binding and friendship. I respected them as my uncles, would serve them black tea with sugar every once in a while and serve them lunch and bring them prayer rugs. However, some years later I beat all three of them in chess. After I beat my uncle Akka in chess the first time and refused to play anymore, he wrestled me down to make me play a second game. I did. Their visits constituted their main entertainment and passed the time. Upon his return to Kabul, my father personally witnessed a significant modernization movement from the top (King Amanullah) down to build up the country's infrastructure, education, and all facets of life in Afghanistan. Perhaps some of the measures were symbols of modernization rather than real progress but there it was. In the 1920s women were ordered not to wear the traditional Afghan veil – burqa. Men were ordered to wear suits not traditional baggy attire, more schools were built, beautiful parks were designed in Paghman in a suburb near Kabul, music, musicians and artists were promoted and appreciated, encouraged and admired and most importantly King Amanulla Khan freed all slaves in Afghanistan (Ghulam Bacha – male slaves and kaneeze female slaves). Nearly all slaves were of the Hazara ethnicity who were discriminated against in Afghanistan. In this regard, King Amanullah Khan achieved what President Abraham Lincoln had accomplished in the United States by freeing the slaves.

Unfortunately, my father in this period also witnessed the demise of King Amanullah Khan. An insurgency movement flared up throughout the country against King Amanullah Khan in 1929. The clerics labelling his modernization reforms un-Islamic caused the down fall of the King. Afghanistan was on fire and various tribes began to annihilate everything in sight.

The opposition movement was spearheaded by an aggressive, powerful and potent Tajik leader commonly referred to as the son of water carrier – “bachi saquaw.” He took the title of Amir Habibullah Khan, his forces conquered all of Afghanistan’s provinces except the province of Hazarajat – the tribe that Amanullah Khan had freed from slavery. The general public was referred to by Bachi Saquaw as infidels (LATI) and were accused of being NON BELIEVERS. King Amanullah Khan fled to Kandahar and tried several times to come back to defeat Bachi Saquaw but his forces were defeated.

My father traveled from Kabul through Peshawar to reach Kandahar. He was incarcerated by the British but then released and went to Kandahar and joined Amanullah Khan’s Forces. He flew his plane numerous times and reported on the location of opposition forces. He had numerous one-on-one visits with King Amanullah Khan in Kandahar on the fighting but because of the heavy casualties Amanullah decided to quit. He invited my father to go with him to Rome, but my father declined and told Amanullah, “I want to be burned up inside the country.” Amanullah offered him several pieces of gold, which my father declined; he kissed the King’s hands and feet and told him, “You need that gold for yourself. I wish I had some gold to give you as you will need it while away from your home country.” Amanullah Khan said he did not want any more bloodshed and casualties. He left Kandahar for Bombay and on to Rome until he died there. His body was taken to Afghanistan and was buried in Jilalabad.

Bachi Saquaw’s forces conquered Kandahar. They captured my father and their leader asked my father, “Who was that pilot who flew survey flights over the war zone?” My father answered, “That was me.” Then he told my father, “I pity you – because of your manhood, good features and strong stature, I am not going to kill you.” He instead ordered his men to beat him up. My father told me that as numerous fellows were beating him he thought that they would kill him, so he decided to fall on the ground with his face down so his relatives would recognize him for burial. But he survived the beating.

Upon the departure of King Amanullah Khan, the Musahibin Brothers began a campaign to overthrow Bachi Saquaw. They included five brothers, noted heroes

and generals of Amanullah Khan's third Anglo-Afghan War including Nadir Khan, Hashmi Khan, Shah Wali Khan, Shah Mahmoud Khan and a fifth brother named Mohammad Aziz – the father of President Daud - (who was Amanullah Khan's ambassador to Germany and an experienced diplomat. During the travail of insurgency, Nadir Khan and Hashmi Khan were residing in France. Hashmi Khan visited the British ambassador in Paris, France on several occasions, which led to a secret compact to secure British support to recapture the reign of power in Kabul by providing financial support and drawing tribal support of Pashtun tribes in the South and Northwestern area of the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan. The memoir identifies the specific names and leaders of the tribal groups that participated in the recapture intrigue. Although the forces of Nadir Khan were defeated on several occasions causing them to back track, they finally succeeded in capturing Kabul and chasing Bachi Saquaw -Habibullah Khan and his cronies -to his village in Kalakan, Kohdamun, dragging them to Kabul and hanging them in the middle of the cross section of the main street in Kabul.

The memoir offers a rare and fascinating detailed description of the alignment and re-alignment of the various Pashtun tribes and the activities of the insurgency between Kabul, Jilalabad, Loghar, Kandahar and Kohdaman. In my opinion, these historical facts are not available elsewhere in such graphic details. It is worth noting that the religious leader, Rohani Naqib Sahib who resided in Jilalabad was associated with the British intelligence services, who was rumored to have had a hand in the overthrow of King Amanullah. British agents frequently visited Naqib's compound in Jilalabad at that time.

When the Musahiban Brothers captured the reign of power in Kabul, the intellectual and modernist's societal expectation reflected a very strong desire for the return of King Amanullah Khan and resumption of reform and modernization, but Nadir Khan declared himself King, which caused deep disappointment among the reformists. It led to the assassinations of two members of the Mushiban family. The Afghan ambassador in Germany and brother of King Nadir Shah, Mohammad Aziz Khan, was shot to death by an Afghan student in Germany. He faulted the Kingdom for not offering King Amanullah to return to Afghanistan. And concurrently another student at Nijat High School in Kabul shot King Nadir Shah to death. Although both assassins were "lone wolves", their incentives may have been parallel – they wanted Amanullah's return to Afghanistan and resumption of the reform and modernization movement. Some argue that Abdul Khaliq, the assassin of Nadir Shah, was motivated by revenge; his family's boss, Mr. Abdul Nabi Charkhi, was executed by Nadir Shah over the dispute of retuning

the kingdom back to Amanullah Khan. Others argue that since Abdul Khaliq belonged to a Hazara tribe, he was indebted to Amanuallah for his decision to grant freedom from slavery - freeing all slaves (the Hazara tribes) - and he was upset that Nadir Shah renegaded and did not offer Amanullah Khan back his kingdom in Afghanistan.

It is sad for the people of Afghanistan that they lost such a reformist leader – they lost a golden opportunity. No doubt, the Afghans have not had such a reformist and modernistic leader before and since Amanullah Khan and the intellectual's yearnings have been deeply frustrated. There was a longing by the intellectuals for his return as king of Afghanistan.

Nevertheless, the issue of writing memoirs by Afghans is a major bottleneck, as many historical facts and events have gotten lost with time in the absence of memoirs. In 1984, during a luncheon at the home of General Mohammad Wali , the cousin and son-in-law of King Mohammad Zahir Shah, I asked His Majesty if he had written his memoir or considered writing one. The former king answered, “No, I have not considered writing my memoir. My reason for not writing is that people usually write memoirs to justify their position in society and history. I am not interested in justifying myself. I leave that judgment to historians and the people of Afghanistan. The second reason for writing a memoir is to tell the truth and set the history record straight. I cannot write a memoir because it would implicate members of my family, and I do not wish to do that.”

One cannot argue with a King concerning His decision to protect his family but it is unfortunate that the former King did not write his memoir as it would have been a valuable piece of history. He was King of Afghanistan for 40 years (1932 – 1972). King Zahir Shah forged forward very carefully to avoid any serious uprising. He supported education for boys and girls, invested heavily in education, promoted democratic process and built up the institution of governance. He was a very intelligent and just king, widely read, and dedicated to Afghanistan. He maintained neutrality between the United States and the Soviet Union, and kept them at bay on political matters of Afghanistan. My father was favorably impressed with King Zahir Shah and was equally loyal to him as he was to King Amanullah Khan. Nevertheless his loyalty to King Amanullah was known by the government of Mohammad Zahir Shah and this factor imposed a limit to his promotion. Still he was highly regarded, known and respected as a nationalist, a renaissance man, one of the leading intellectuals, a modernist and highly respected in society. He was a member of the Pashtu Tolana, a military school created by an academy for training pilots and trained several generations of Afghan pilots. He had received

numerous awards including education awards. He was referred to by his colleagues as “RESPECTED TEACHER.” He was not known as a person of financial wealth but he was widely known as a person of dignity, honor and honesty. He enrolled all his six daughters to school against opposition by townsmen. All his sons and daughters finished high schools, and colleges and served as nurses, and teachers. All his progenies finished colleges with B.A., M.A., some Ph.D., M.D. and law degrees.

During visits of Soviet leaders to Afghanistan, my father generally accompanied the King of Afghanistan in deliberation with the Soviet leaders. There was a keen rivalry between the King and his cousin Mohammad Daud Khan. As a result however, the King was deposed in a palace coup by the King’s cousin Sardar Mohammad Daud Khan, who changed and ended the system of monarchy in Afghanistan and established a republic system. But Daud Khan made a fundamental mistake by sending and permitting military cadets to the Soviet Union. These cadets who were trained in Russia were also indoctrinated in Soviet style communism. Eventually, the KGB with the puppet Marxist party of Afghanistan overthrew the government and executed Daud Khan and 36 members of his immediate family through the military cadets. They were all surrounded at the palace known as “THE ARG” where they were summarily executed including women and children. It was the first time in world history that a foreign super power engaged in executing an entire royal family and its members in their palace of abode – the palace - THE ARG. The execution of Afghanistan’s leadership by the Soviet Union did not stop with Daud Khan. The Soviets installed Noor Mohammad Taraki as the first Marxist president of Afghanistan. But a power grab developed between Taraki and his Vice President Hafizullah Amin, a U.S. educated individual who was not trusted by the Soviet KGB due to his U.S. connection. Amin assassinated his President Taraki (he was smattered with pillows by Amin functionaries). Nevertheless, shortly thereafter Amin and his cabinet were invited by the KGB for a dinner gathering at Darluamaan Palace in the suburbs of Kabul. The Afghan guests were poisoned at first and subsequently executed by the KGB. At long last Soviet president Gorbachev admitted that Afghanistan was an open bleeding wound for Russia and decided to pull out after ten years of occupation (1979 -1989) and substantial loss of wealth and blood. In 1989, the Soviet Union withdrew from Afghanistan after 10 years of occupation and sustained substantial damages. Initially they admitted 13,000 dead and 10,000 injured. Later they came up with the more accurate figure of 35,000 dead and 350,000 injured. The Afghans sustained seven million emigrants to Pakistan, Iran, India and the rest of the world, one million dead and one million disabled. Although the people

in Moscow voted and Russian humanist/scientist/philosopher Andrea Sakharov advocated that the Russian Federation, which assumed full responsibility for the liabilities of the Soviet Union, pay war reparation to Afghanistan, it was to no avail. Upon the withdrawal of Soviet forces, the mujahidin (freedom fighters) took over but in-fighting for power turned destructive and finally the Taliban grabbed power in concert with Pakistani secret service ISI.

The downfall of Afghanistan started with the coup of Mohammad Daud Khan in 1971. Unbeknown to my father who had passed away, was the tragedy of 9/11 and the U.S. invasion and occupation of Afghanistan now in its 14 years, which is still in force at the time of this writing. The Afghans who live in 36,000 villages have learned to live with incessant bombing first by the Soviet Union and recently by the U.S. forces, sustaining casualties of men, children, women, animals, and destruction of villages for 14 years. Although, the U.S. has not produced any evidence that the Afghan government of Taliban in 2001 were accessories before, during or after the tragedy of 9/11 with Al Qaeda.

It is axiomatic that a nation cannot survive and sustain such a long pounding of military intrigue as the case of Afghanistan. It is well known to the students of Afghanistan's study that the country has been invaded often from antiquity to the present because it was in the path of invaders and empires, but it has survived. If history is any guide, Afghanistan will survive the current invasion /occupation by the U.S. and 48 NATO members.

Finally my tribute to the genius of my father's narrative prowess for providing incisive facts and penetrating information of Afghanistan's history through his memoir, especially covering the 1920s period, is an assurance of his ingrained involvement with his people, society and country. His most outstanding attribute to me was his belief of treating all people equally with respect and dignity. His regards for all people of all walks of life was the same for all - males, females, rich, poor, high ranked or low ranked regardless of age, ethnicity, language, geography or inheritance. His memoire is precious and we are lucky to have it however brief it may be. In 1969 when my first book was published, as a tribute I had dedicated it to my father and expressed my love and respect to him while he was alive.

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Submitted November 20, 2015

MY AUTOBIOGRAPHY

I am Shair Muhammad, son of Haji Rohullah Khan, grandson of Kamran Khan, great grandson of Ali Ahmad Khan from the tribe of Abdali, Durrani, Hasanzahi.

My Introduction:

I was born In the year of 1280 (Hijri Shamsi) in the village of Bala Karz Kandahar outside of the gates of Kabul City (leading toward Kabul, located in Kandahar). My great grandfather, the deceased Ali Ahmad Khan was one of the deputy governors under Ahmad Shah Baba. He was the tribal leader and head of the construction and establishment of the Bala Karz village. My grandfather, Kamran Khan, was among one of the friends of Saradar Muhammad Ayub Khan (one of the Durrani tribal elders). My grandfather, Kamran Khan, and my Uncle Abdullah Khan, were martyred in the battle of Maiwand (3rd Anglo Afghan war or Jang Esteqlal where Afghanistan finally gained independence from Great Britain). During this battle, my Father, Haji Rohullah Khan was injured and my Uncle Abdul Ghafoor Khan, lost both of his eyes due to gunshot wounds. After Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan defeated the Anglo army in Kandahar city, the remaining British soldiers were captured and held in Kandahar. Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan's brigade advanced toward the gates of Herat (also located in Kandahar city) and most of his soldiers lost their lives. That cemetery of veterans still continues to exist today outside the gates of Herat Bazaar. The defeated Anglo brigade retreated through the gates of Kabul after sunset. At the time that they were exiting, a troop of Afghan soldiers attacked the defeated British soldiers and most of them were killed.

Amir Abdul Rahman Khan (Reigning King)

The manner that the Anglo soldiers were defeated in Maiwand, Kandahar, Minasar and Shorandam

At this time, Amir Abdul Rahman Khan launched an attack on the soldiers of Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan but he was unsuccessful. Once again, he launched an attack from the village of Azam on Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan and finally defeated his soldiers in the village of Minasar. Sardar Muhammad Ayub Khan fled to Mahshhad (Iran) and then to India.

The capital city of Kandahar, Charso: Amir Abdul Rahman Khan took over the city of Kandahar. For three days, there were riots in the city of Kandahar where the city was looted. Because the tribal elders issued an edict that Amir Abdul Rahman Khan is an unbeliever, he pillaged the city in defiance. Amir Abdul Rahman Khan was a proponent of the British. During these riots, our home and the village of Bala Karz was also looted and our clothes and possessions were taken and loaded onto elephants. Amir Abdul Rahman used cannon balls to assassinate tribal elders, judges and religious leaders. His Majesty Amir Abdul Rahman Khan was a powerful and decisive King of Afghanistan. He managed the country well and firmly positioned the monarchy. He had many battles in Hazarajat. He brought the Hazaras into submission and established security. The male and female Hazaras were servants and were sold into slavery. Amir Abdul Rahman Khan squashed the rebellion of Qadaghan and killed 700,000 people using cannons. Saradar Muhammad Eesa Khan who was the paternal cousin of Amir Abdul Rahman Khan and resisted the King in Mazar Sharif. Amir Abdul Rahman Khan in Ghazni Gul Aybak (in Ghazni) at the Aalaqay Sultan, defeated Muhammad Eesa Khan's troops and he fled to Bukhara. His Majesty Amir Abdul Rahman Khan defeated Nuristan. Prior to his invasion, Nuristan was called Kafiristan and Amir Abdul Rahman Khan officially changed the name to Nuristan. Abdul Rahman Khan was a friend of the British and had an agreement that Abdul Rahman Khan was a sovereign with allegiance to the British. He received an annual salary from the British in the amount of 100,000 Kaldars and held the Afghan army strong and agile in order to maintain the strong defense of Afghanistan so that they could defend against invasion from Russia into India. Abdul Rahman Khan died in the city of Kabul and Sardar Habibullah Khan. Abdul Rahman Khan's eldest son became the Amir and had allegiance and affinity toward the British administration. He received an annual salary of 180,000 Kaldars from the British. Sardar Habibullah Khan was an autonomous ruler internally but was not independent from foreign influence. After 18 years of monarchy Sardar Habibullah Khan at Kalagosh Laghman, at Shergah Muhammad Nader Khan, one of Sardar Habibullah Khan's most trusted and authoritative generals, issued the order to assassinate Sardar Habibullah Khan and the order was carried out by Ahmad Shah jan at night in Sardar Habibullah Khan's tent by gun shot.

In the year 1297, on the first day of the month of Hout, Sardar Nasrullah Khan was selected as the Amir and became King. At the time that news of Sardar Habibullah Khan's assassination reached Kabul, Sardar Amanullah Khan announced that he himself is the new King and raised the salary of the Afghan National Army from 12 Afghanis to 20 Afghanis. His announcement was dispersed throughout all

of Afghanistan. It was requested from the Jalalabad army division to bring the murderer of his father to him and bring him to justice. The soldiers of Jalalabad protested and Saradar Nasrullah Khan, Sardar Enayatullah Khan, General Nader Khan (Zahir Shah's Dad) and their delegates were rounded up and brought to Kabul to His Majesty, Ghazi Amanullah Khan. Amanullah Khan imprisoned his uncle Sardar Nasrullah Khan at the Presidential Palace Tower. Amanullah Khan announced the independence of Afghanistan from the British. There were three war fronts: Jabhay Kandahar, Jabhay Paktia and Jabhay Mashriqi (Jalalabad/Nangarhar). In Jabhay Kandahar, Saradar Abdul Qudoos Khan, a trusted official of the King, and in Jabhay Paktia, General Muhammad Nader Khan as well as his brothers Sardar Shah Mahmood Khan and Shah Wali Khan were appointed commanders of the Jabhay Paktia. Jabhay Mashriqi was led by Saleh Muhammad Khan. This was for the protection of Afghanistan against Great Britain and threat of invasion by the British. These individuals were officially appointed as commanders by the King to serve as a defense force against Great Britain. Amanullah Khan called for war against the British forces in the country. The Afghan Army began to take position and form at bases throughout the country in order to defend against British threats and also positioned at posts near all borders. The artillery of the Afghan army were guns that were stuffed with gun powder (chaqmaqey). Patriotic individuals and veterans from the prior Anglo Afghan war were given these guns to fight with. The British had Chaqmaqey (antique guns) guns and they had airplanes, and sophisticated weapons, guns and cannons. The Afghans had guns and swords. In 1298, an attack on behalf of Great Britain began with planes and cannons – and the British soldiers advanced in the months of Ammal, Saowr and Jaowza. At the new village of Speenboldak between Kandahar at the Daka site toward Jalalabad, the Afghans claimed victory. Under the leadership of Saradar General Muhammad Nader Khan, in Paktia, the city of Tal was taken from the British and Tal was invaded. At that same time a peace treaty and cease fire was negotiated and an agreement was reached. Great Britain officially and publically accepted Afghanistan's independence.

II

In Kandahar, telephones, cars and other necessities and supplies were unavailable. Price of commodities at that time ranged as follows: flour = 7 kilos for 1 Kabuli, oil = 7 kilos 10 Kabulis, Meat = 7 kilos for 4 Kabulis. There was no railroad or car transportation in Afghanistan. All items were transported via camels and horses. Amanullah Khan was a virtuous King. He did not give his uncle or brothers

important or high ranking posts. Ministers and important posts were given to other members of the royal family. The King fought successfully and defeated Great Britain. He freed the Hazara slaves and stopped the practice of buying and selling slaves. The education sector began to grow and flourish. Schools for boys and schools for girls were opened. The King expanded the construction and industries. The King improved civil society, cultural and education sectors. He sent young talented Afghans on scholarships abroad to countries including: Europe, Germany, Russia, USSR, England, France, Italy and Turkey. King Amanullah Khan took important steps toward progress and development. He signed important tariffs, trade agreements, treaties and compacts with strong nations. He brought freedom and equality to Afghanistan. He gave rights and liberties to women. Women were freed from wearing the burqa. The school girls were free to attend school without wearing a veil. The young boys and girls were sent in 1307 to Turkey for higher education studies. He established diplomatic relations with foreign countries and opened Afghan embassies and sent Ambassadors (to represent Afghanistan). He established diplomatic ties with all key nations.

The Disorganized reign of King Amanullah Khan

Corruption and bribery was rampant throughout important key posts in his government. Bandits were running rampant. King Amanullah Khan did not want a big army. He was of the opinion that since he has not infringed upon the international allies, and has done right by the citizens of the nation, there was no imminent need for a large or expansive army. In the year of 1307, during the month of Aqrab, on the 14th day the people of Shinwar Mashriqi protested. The people disarmed the Afghan military bases and they surrounded Jalalabad. King Amanullah Khan sent military officers including generals, colonels, Nuristani Abdul Wakil Khan, Nayeb salar Ghulam Nabi Khan and the heads of each military company but it did not prove successful. In the month of Qaos, the thieves who were stealing in Kohistan, under the authority of Habibullah also popularly known as the son of Saqao, attacked the capital of the country, Kabul. They advanced and took the tower of Shahrara. The troops of King Amanullah pushed them back to Khairkhana and many of the soldiers of the royal guard were killed. After one month of fighting, on the 23rd of the month of Jadi, 1327, King Amanullah Khan resigned as King. He traveled by car without bodyguards or security to Kandahar. His older brother, Saradar Enayatullah Khan became King. After 100 days, he resigned too. He traveled by British plane to Peshawer, India and finally

to Kandahar. The royal family had gone to Kandahar one month prior. The son of Saqao, Habibullah Khan, followers of Saqaowian came from Koh Daman and occupied the Arg. The son of Saqao, Habibullah, announced that he is King. He designated his title as “the servant of the religion of the Prophet, Amir Habibullah.” Habibullah was from the village of Kalakaan in Kohistan from the Tajik tribe, a stealth and tall young man who was a strong and forceful individual. From 1302-1303, he was in the Special Forces as a soldier. He had gone through the battle of Mullah Lang in Paktia, Mangal. He was an educated, experienced and brave soldier. In the final years, however, he was stealing (before he became King) and had formed a group of bandits. Amanullah Khan was receiving assistance and support from Wakil Mohammad Wali Khan and Ali Ahmad Khan who was the governor. Mohammad Wali Khan wanted to take the place of King Amanullah. But, when the son of Saqao (Habibullah) arrived to Kabul, he himself became King and did not defer the throne to Mohammad Wali Khan. Mohammad Wali Khan said to the son of Saqao “then send me to prison, because people will speak bad of me (due to not becoming king)”. Mohammad Wali Khan was then sent to prison and the son of Saqao, Habibullah, became King. The workers in the administration of King Amanullah Khan were sincere and honest in their work and had no hand in the revolution. They fled and went to Kandahar to see King Amanullah Khan. Mohammad Wali Khan who was a proponent of the Saqaowian remained in Kabul. The son of Saqao, Habibullah, who took all of the major cities, received a request from Mohammad Wali Khan to be released from prison and Habibullah replied that “you were imprisoned by your own request and will be freed by your own request.”

Governor Ali Ahmad Khan

Governor Ali Ahmad Khan was appointed by King Amanullah to the head of the provincial council to bring peace (“tanzeema”) and calm in the uprising in Jalalabad. Before Ali Ahmad Khan, Shir Ahmad Khan occupied the provincial council head position, previously held by Mahmood Yawar. All of these along with Abdul Wakil Khan, Nayeb Salar Nooristani, Mahmood “the speaker” and one troop of soldiers went to Jalalabad to make contact with Hashimkhail and Nimla on behalf of Malik Qais but were ambushed by the Khogianis and looted. Shir Ahmad Khan too was unable to resist (the Khogianis). Ali Ahmad Khan along with Ghulam Nabi Khan Nayeb Salar, Panabake Khan General (Ferqamisher) and many colonels, and a large unit of soldiers left Kabul for Jalalabad. They took position in Jekdalek. Governor Ali Ahmad Khan and his companions arrived to

Jalalabad without soldiers. On the way, they consulted with and held jirgas with the people, tribal elders. They corresponded with King Amanullah by plane. And Amanullah Khan sent a great deal of aid, gold and money to Jalalabad via plane. In 1307, on the 23rd of the month of Jadi, Sayed Sharif Khan, chief of staff of the Ministry of Defense, came to Jalalabad and announced that King Amanullah has resigned from the throne and has gone to Kandahar. Sardar Inayatullah Khan became king in place of King Amanullah and he resigned after a few days. On a commercial airliner, he (Sardar Inayatullah Khan) left to the UK. At this time, Governor Ali Ahmad Khan had already talked to the people and tribal elders and announced himself as King. All of the soldiers, government workers, were paid 2 months salary as a bonus. He also gave all of them a one rank promotion. Colonels became generals and three-star generals became four star generals. Governor Ali Ahmad Khan said that "I was the one who groomed the son of Saqao, Habibullah Khan, and I have received letters from the son of Saqao that he would like the King's throne to be given to Governor Ali Ahmad Khan (this was the propaganda). A representative of the son of Saqao was sent as a messenger to bring his letters to Jalalabad. For the messenger, Governor Ali Ahmad Khan gave one gun and 1000 Afghanis. Wali Ahmad Khan left Jalalabad toward Kabul. When he passed Jekdalek he took a break and gave a message to the son of saqao to come and officially receive him. Governor Ali Ahmad Khan should be respectfully taken to the capital. The son of Saqao sent scholars, judges and religious elders to Jekdalek in order to receive Governor Ali Ahmad Khan and bring him to Kabul in order that he should declare his submission to the son of Saqao. The son of Saqao offered him any position that he would like to take. Governor Ali Ahmad Khan stayed in Jekdalek and sent word to Kabul and other provinces that "Governor Ali Ahmad Khan is the King and as a servant of the religion of the people to accept his kingship." After one month, his followers and supporters who included the brothers of Malik Qais and Khogianis became opponents. The brother of Malik Qais, Ahmad Shah Khan went to Kabul and he was appointed the head of the provincial council (tanzeema) in Jalalabad and received 200,000 Afghanis bonus. Ahmad Shah Khan promised the son of Saqao, Habibullah, that he would capture and send Governor Ali Ahmad Khan to Kabul for justice. When Governor Ali Ahmad Khan found out about this, he requested the soldiers of Shawar Jabarkheil and from Khogiani the soldiers of Malik Mohammad jaan to discuss what Malik Qais intends to do. "They want to capture and imprison me and hand me over to the son of Saqao?" Malik Mohammad jaan Khogiani along with his soldiers pledged their loyalty (to Governor Ali Ahmad Khan). They went to Ahmad Shah Khan and even though he was in opposition, he said "Don't do this. In the beginning you had sworn by the Quran with him. You will not be victor." A battle

began between Ahmad Shah Khan and Ali Ahmad Khan and many young people were killed and both groups took their dead to Khogiani. Hayat Khan, who was from Jalalabad, was the leader of the soldiers of Esarak, Jabarkheil and Shawar and came to Jekdalek in order to pledge his service to the Afghan code of pride and made an oath to Ali Ahmad Khan to take the capital city of Kabul. They spent the night in Jekdalek and in the snowing winter morning, they attacked Governor Ali Ahmad Khan and looted Jekdalek. A troop of soldiers surrendered and handed over their weapons to Shinwaris and Jabarkheils. All of the soldiers and officers, colonels and generals, government workers left without dying. Ali Ahmad Khan went to Peshawer through Jalalabad and Laghman.

I, the writer, was among this group of troops who were defeated and had the rank of major pilot. Ali Ahmad Khan left to India, then to Peshawer to Quetta and then to Kandahar. Habibullah, the son of Saqao, and his friends and followers, the group of bandits, Sayed Hussein, Nayeb Saltana, Pur Dil Khan Sepas Salar, Abdul Qayum Khan and other generals, colonels and majors each were doing as they wished and there was total disorder. The followers of Amanullah Khan were called "lateey." They would rob and mug the government workers and wealthy, steal the jewelry of women and put them in prison. The son of Saqao, Habibullah who became King in Kabul took over the cities of Ghazni, Bamiyan, Jalalabad, Aybak, Sheberghan, Mazar Sharif, Maimana, Herat. They killed and fought in many places and created much devastation (throughout Afghanistan). General Mohammad Eklil Khan was the division commander of Mazar Sharif, was killed and his body placed in a well. Saleh Mohammad Khan, commander of the forces in Maimana and Mohammad Ghaus Khan who was the commander of Herat sought refuge in the USSR to flee from the son of Saqao. Many soldiers were killed in the battles. Ghulam Nabi Khan was the ambassador of Afghanistan to Moscow and was assisted by Soviet troops to attack Mazar Sharif from the border. They had an intense battle with the Saqaowian and took over Sheberghan and Aybak. Soviet planes bombarded the Saqaowian all the way to Mazar Sharif, Sherberghan and Aybak.

Ghulam Nabi Khan was the son of Sepas Salar Ghulam Haidar Khan Charkhi and his brothers were General Jailani Khan, General Sher Muhd Khan, Abdelaziz Khan Minister of Interior, Mohd Siddiq Khan and Jaan Baaz Khan Nayeb Salar Charkhi were one family. Ghulam Nabi Khan sent a letter to King Amanullah Khan in Kandahar asking for guidance. Amanullah Khan replied "Whatever actions you take, you are responsible for." At that time, Ghulam Nabi Khan wanted to attack Kabul and take it over. During those critical days, a Soviet political delegation including Marshal Boodni went to see Amanullah Khan in Kandahar and found

out what his opinions were. This delegation then returned to the USSR. The Soviet soldiers also returned back to the USSR. Abdul Rahim Khan along with the support of a troop of soldiers went to Kabul. At that time, the son of Saqao, Habibullah, was the King. Abdul Rahim Khan received the ranking of Nayeb Salar and was appointed the civil and military commander of Herat province. The people of Mazar Sharif, Maimana, Balaa Morhab, Qalay now arrived to Herat and fought well in Herat and many people were killed. When news of the revolution in Afghanistan reached the rest of the world, they learned that the son of Saqao, Habibullah, became King. In all of Afghanistan, there was disorder, destruction and civil unrest. Schools and ministries were closed and the women's rights were taken away. Women had to wear burqas again.

The Freedom of Afghanistan

At this time that Sepas Salar Nader Khan and his brothers, Genral Shah Wali Khan, Saradar Mohammad Hashim Khan Nayeb Salar, came from France through Peshawer, India, Khost Gardez, Jaji and Jalalabad --in order to bring civil order and calm to the people. Mohammad Nader Khan and Shah Wali Khan came to Khost and Gardez. Sardar Mohd Hashim Khan came to Jalalabad and Khogiani. They convened a Jirga with the tribal elders and came together in agreement to uproot the Saqaowian. Sardar Mohammad Hashim Khan along with Nayeb Salar Mohammad Gul Khan Mohmand who was one of the soldiers of Jalalabad, Khogiani, assembled a troop of soldiers and attacked Saqaow's soldiers in Kabul. But, they were defeated and it was not destined to be. Malik Qais Khogiani took over Jalalabad and Sardar Mohammad Hashim Khan traveled through the deserts and mountains to flee to India. He then went to Peshawer and Quetta at which time were colonialized. Sepas Salar Mohammad Nader Khan came from Gardez with soldiers to Logar province and attacked the Saqaowian but were defeated and returned again to Gardez. At that time, Amanullah Khan was in Kandahar and assembled his troops and went to Ghazni but was defeated and returned back to Kandahar. Amanullah Khan's soldiers returned to Kandahar both by foot and on horseback. When they returned, they handed all of the authority over to the soldiers of Ali Ahmad Khan. Amanullah Khan went by car at night to Kandahar. From there, with the royal family, the queen and other family members, took a bus from Kandahar to Bombay and then traveled by sea to Europe.

Amanullah Khan fled and his soldiers disassembled. Governor Ali Ahmad Khan with his remaining royal troops came to Kandahar and again announced that he is King and Abdel Aziz Khan Barezkzai as prime minister who was previous defense

minister and appointed other ministers. Abdul Hadi Dawi was also present at this time. Governor Ali Ahmad Khan was king for one week in Kandahar when the soldiers of the Sqaowian arrived to Kandahar and entered the city gates. Ali Ahmad Khan attacked the saqaowian soldiers. Ali Ahmad Khan was on horseback and was shot and captured. They brought him back to Kabul and he was killed by cannon on the hilltop of Sherpour. All of the provinces of Afghanistan fell under the rule of the Sqaowian but Sepas Salar Nader Khan managed to flee from Sqaowian through Mirzakai Jaji. The elders, Mangolian, Zalmay Khan, Aseel Khan, Jaan Gul Khan, Serkay Khan and other tribal elders accompanied him to Jaji and established a base. They announced to Kabul and all other provinces that they will resist the Sqaow government and organized all of the tribal elders from Paktia province. They had unity, consensus on how to occupy the capital city of Kabul and defeat the Sqaowian and bring them to surrender. From the people of Wazeer, Masud and Mangal, a strong coalition of troops was formed. On behalf of Jaji, by the leadership of Marshal Shah Wali Khan and General Shah Mahmood Khan and Nayeb Salar Mohammad Gul Khan, they attacked Kabul by route of Logar. On the 22nd of Mizan in the year of 1308, they attacked Kabul. Sqaowian were defeated. The Sqaowian were surrounded at the Arg for two days and then they opened the gates leading to the north side of Shamali. The Sqaowian left with much money and jewels. By route of Sherpour airport, they went toward the northern areas of Shamali. In Charekaar, the son of Saqao, Habibullah, Sayed Hussein, Nayeb Saltana Pur Dil, Sepas Salar Sher jaan, Wazeer Darbar were all caught and captured and brought back to Kabul. After several days, they were executed by hanging at the Chaman Huzuri (near Arg). Sepas Salar Nader Khan came to Kabul and by consensus of the people announced that he is King.

In Afghanistan, there was looting, rioting, civil disorder and the economy had been destroyed. Again, the government was formed and several ministries were created such as defense, foreign ministry, interior and justice. Sardar Mohammad Hashim Khan was first Minister of Interior and was later appointed Prime Minister. He worked well on security, commerce, economy, construction and diplomacy and introduced the Afghan government to the whole world. Then, he established diplomatic relations with all countries. The brother of Mohammad Nader Khan, Sardar Shah Wali Khan, was appointed Ambassador to London. The government opened political affairs to manage Afghan foreign policy throughout the whole world and created a strong presence for Afghanistan throughout the world. Sardar Shah Mahmood Khan, brother of Al Hazrat Mohammad Nader Khan was appointed as Defense Minister and worked well and meticulously and managed the

diplomacy of the ministry during the 17 years that he served this post. Afterward, he became prime minister and retired after 7 years. Mohammad Nader Khan was king for four years and he was a good king who managed the country effectively. He opened new schools and ministries. He managed the internal and external affairs of the country and set the country's agenda aright.

Mohammad Nader Khan Was Martyred (Shaheed)

On Wednesday, 16th of Aqrab at 3:30pm in the year of 1312 in the garden of Bagh Dilkusha at Arg where all of the government and ministers were present, he was giving out gifts and certificates to students including bicycles and watches and one of the students from Lysee Nejat by the name of Abdul Khaliq fired a gun on him. The King fell to the ground and died instantly. His son, Mohammad Zahir Khan was appointed King by all of the Ministers and tribal elders and the military officers. Zahir Shah along with the ministers, generals and military officers went to the Arg Shahi and officially pledged allegiance to him as King. They then walked to Sherpour airport and by representation of Qalay Jangi some brigadier generals also pledged their allegiance. Zahir Shah was a virtuous king who reigned for forty years. He worked well on political issues, security, roads connecting the provinces, commerce, agriculture, construction of factories, electricity. He effectively managed the internal and external affairs of the country and created new institutions. The city of Kabul streets were paved, Hotel Kabul, and Hotel Khyber, Intercontinental Hotel, Bagh Balaa, Silo Oven Baking Factory, Factory of Jangalak, Factory of Pul Charkhi, Nasaji, Pul Khumri, Sheberghan, Factory of Gas and Petroleum, mineral resources, and technical and vocational schools, universities, Kabul-Kandahar road, military university, paving the roads to connect the provinces such as Herat, Lashkargah, Helmand, Ghazni, Gardez, Jalalabad, Mazar Sharif, Balkh, Sherberghan and the street of Salang etc. Kajaki Dam, Bughra Dam, Darunta Dam, Nangarhar Dam, irrigation and construction of agricultural lands – all took place under his direction.

Airports

The new King also established: Kabul Airport, Bagram airport, Jalalabad airport, Kandahar airport, Herat airport, Shendahn airport, Mazar Sharif airport, Qunduz airport. Reconstruction of the Salanag tunnel by adding 3 kilometers, airway passages and attracted foreign aid. He strengthened and solidified the army and airforce. Economy, commerce, agriculture, public health, women's rights and

liberties women's employment in government and other institutions. During the reign of Mohammad Zahir Shah, universities were erected in Kabul and Jalalabad. In all of the provinces of Afghanistan, schools were constructed for boys and girls. For women, equal rights were given (equal to men).

New ministries were created:

1. ministry of commerce,
2. ministry of public health,
3. ministry of mines,
4. ministry of communications,
5. ministry of agriculture,
6. ministry of urban development and planning,
7. ministry of culture and information.

On the 26th of the month of Saratan 1352 is when the coup d'état of Sardar Mohammad Daoud Khan took place. The coup d'état brought a change that took place where the reign of King Zahir Shah came to an end and the state was changed from a monarchy to a republic. Mohammad Daoud was the son of Aziz Khan, nephew of the martyred Mohammad Nader Khan and the son-in-law of Mohammad Nader Khan, the cousin of Zahir Shah, and the sister's husband of Mohammad Zahir Shah (brother-in-law). In the year of 1300, Daoud Khan left to France from Arbiyah High School during the reign of King Amanullah. In 1309, Daoud Khan came with Zahir Shah from France to Kabul. He and Zahir Shah together completed military studies and Daoud Khan was appointed to the position of Governor in Jalalabad and Commander of the army in Jalalabad. After a few years, he was appointed governor of Kandahar and commander of the Kandahar army. In the year of 1318, he was appointed the military head of the province. There was a revolution in Shinwar and Afridi and Daoud Khan calmed the protesters. In 1319, Daoud Khan was appointed to the position of Commander of all armies in Afghanistan. In 1324, there was another protest of revolutionaries in Kunar and the battle of Safiyan took place during which Daoud Khan was able to successfully quell the uprising. In 1325, Daoud Khan was appointed prime minister of Afghanistan. In 1342, Daoud Khan retired and stayed home for 10 years. During these ten years, he was busy plotting a coup. In Afghanistan, Daoud Khan was very popular. He was in contact with civilian workers of the ministry of defense, soldiers, generals, lieutenants, military officers. He had meetings with key individuals and at this time General Khan Mohammad, defense minister and General Farouq Khan, assistant to the defense minister and general Abdul Wali was the Kabul central command

commander. On 26th of Saratan 1352, in the middle of the night, commando special forces came with tanks. In Kabul, the streets and important intersections and neighborhoods were taken over. The Arg was invaded and Shahzada Ahmad Shah was captured and placed in jail. General Khan Muhammad, defense minister and General Sardar Abdul Wali, commander of the Kabul central command along with other generals were all imprisoned. After this, they took over the ministry of communications and all telephones were cut off. On the 26th of Saratan, 1352, at 7:00am radio Afghanistan announced the defeat of Zahir Shah's monarchy and the new government of Daoud Khan. During these days, Zahir Shah had gone to Europe and was in Italy. The change of monarchy to republic was a good change and was brought about peacefully with no Afghan casualties except 11 military and police officers. On the night of the coup d'état, all of the streets and main intersections were taken over by the revolutionaries. All of the generals, colonels and lieutenants and high ranking officers who were going to work were taken and captured. Ghulam Haidar Khan was imprisoned for 15 years, General Nake Mohammad Khan was imprisoned for ten years, Lieutenant Sayful Rahman was imprisoned for 10 years, General Mohammad Rahim was imprisoned for ten years, Shah Wali was imprisoned for 27 years. Naqibullah was imprisoned for 7 years. Noor Ahmad was imprisoned for 5 years, Lieutenant Mohammad Akbar was imprisoned for four years. On the 19th of Jadi 1352 is when they were imprisoned (6 months after the coup). The second wave of prosecution was by freezing assets and sentencing to twelve years in prison. Alaa Nazar Wakil was imprisoned for 12 years, Azar Gul tujar was imprisoned for 12 years, Gulistan tujar 12 years imprisoned, Abdul Annan tajar 12 years, Janat Khan Gharwal sentenced to 12 years, General Abdul Salaam 5 years sentence, Dawar Khan sentenced to five years, Mir Wali was sentenced to 5 years, Shair Afzal sentenced to 5 years, Wakil Baz Mohammad sentenced to 5 years and confiscation of his assets. Former member of parliament, Saadullah, was sentenced to 12 years, Lieutenant Sayed Baten Shah was sentenced to 4 years, Alaa Gul sentenced to 2 years, Mawla Gul sentenced to 2 years in prison.

People who were already imprisoned were sent home to retire as follows:

1. General Abdul Jabar Payzhanwal Malikyar
2. General Gul Baar Khan, commander pilot in the air force

People who were already imprisoned and released with no further punishment:

1. Dr. Esmatullah
2. Shah Mahmood

People who received dismissal:

1. Former member of parliament, Khairullah Mansoor
Mr. Daoud Khan established a central government and those who had worked for that government were given one rank promotion, military officers were brought into the cabinet and in all of the branches of government he brought good governance. Justice and security was excellent under Daoud Khan. Solving tribal disputes by giving daughters was prohibited and all who requested bribes would be arrested and fired. All of the work of the government was being handled well and the army was given a great deal of attention. "May Allah always bring security, justice and permanent peace in the country" All of the officers were given a one year promotion.

On the 26th of Saratan 1354, at the national celebration of the regime change, in Panjshir and Laghman, protesters attacked government offices and the government workers were injured but protesters were jailed.

My Travels

My first travels were for studies abroad.

I, Shair Mohammad, was born in the year of 1280 in the village of Bala Karz in Kandahar. I had a Father and Mother, 5 brothers and 4 sisters. I worked on the land as a farmer and studied in the mosque. I had memorized many chapters of the Quran, 5 books, 5 "ganj", read the life stories of Shaheed jaan and Rahman Baba. I learned how to read but not how to write. I was appointed to the army at the age of 20. In the year of 1301, I was sent from Kandahar to Kabul in the month of Saowr. We would walk by night and rest by day. We were given horses to use to transport our beds and clothing. There were no hotels on our way nor facilities for cooking, nor tea or samowars. When we would reach each town, a person from that town would bring us cooked food and tea. At that time, telephone lines had come to Kandahar. There were no cars or hotels in Kandahar yet. From Kandahar to Kabul, there were 22 stops. We would rest in the compound of Muqur, Ghazni and caravans would bring us tea, palow. It took us one month to walk from

Kandahar to Kabul. In between us, there were 50 new soldiers who came from the city of Deerawat and other areas. When we arrived to Kabul, we went to the Masjid Shahiyan. My friends and I did not know how to speak Farsi. In the mosque, we were introduced to our fellow countrymen. From the people that we met in the Arg, we also met people from our area. Khair Muhammad, my niece's husband was there. He was in the first group of close confidantes to King Amanullah Khan. Abdul Qader, the son of Ghulam Mohammad Khan was from our Bala Karz. Abdul Qader took me to his room and began to help get me situated. He financially supported me and paid for all of my expenses. Abdul Qader had 5 people living in one room and for every two people, the government had subsidized one worker. When Amanullah Khan became king, the education sector began to progress. Fathers would not enroll their sons in school. Amanullah Khan ordered that your sons should be enrolled in schools. With the help of Abdul Qader Khan, I completed my military tour and enrolled in Arbiyah Shwanzai military high school. I was not yet able to write. My classes were therefore difficult and I did not know that I was enrolled in the introductory first level courses. In the year 1301, I went to the school located in charm-gari and later in the fall moved to a school in mahtab qala. In the winter, school was in recess. The people of Kabul would go to their homes. We were 60 Kandaharis who lived in the school dorms. The school would give us food, clothing and coats. In the school, we had beds, blankets and 13-17 Afghanis allowance per month. No notebooks nor paper were given to us. We would buy these from our allowance. There were few teachers and few classes. Farsi, Writing, Geometry, Math, Geography, Health, Shooting classes, artillery training and other military courses such as practical infantry training to learn how to use guns, (toopchi). There were 3 subjects: infantry (foot soldier), specialist in cannon shooting and horsemen, physical education (PE), gymnastics and practical military training. The head of the school was Sayed Mahmood Samee and he was one of the military officers trained in Turkey. He had come to Afghanistan as an immigrant and had accepted Afghan citizenship and married with a Mohammadzai woman. All of the students in the school were studying hard and paying close attention to their studies. They were following the rules and were well-disciplined. There were no individuals who took bribes. Students had good food including palow, qorma, fresh fruit. General Effendi is the name that the Turkish head of school was popularly known by Amanullah Khan paid close attention to General Effendi and the school was well funded. Lt. Abdul Qayum Khan was in charge of security and there were three battalions. Three general education courses consisted of 3 courses in the major and three upper division courses. There were three military courses. Lt. Ghulam Haidar and Abdul Wakil Khan were teaching

the courses and five captains: Abdul Ahmad Khan, Abdul Qayum Khan, Amir Mohammad Khan, Sayed Akbar Khan, Mohammad Omar Khan, Abdul Baqi Khan - were all instructors who taught in our school. The school had no vehicle. During the recesses, students would walk to various places. Because of Independence Day in August, the students would go to Paghman. There, in the main park under the masjid there was a building with a park and students lived there during breaks and would hold the Independence Day parade there and fire their guns. The civilian government workers and foreign workers would come to watch the Independence Day parade. The Arbiyah School would display shooting targets and students would receive cash gifts. The students who graduated would receive the military rank of captain. At that time, there were no educated military officers. The army of Afghanistan was comprised of illiterates. Because of this, the students of Arbiyah high school were treated well, promoted and received accolades. In the school, corporal punishment was the norm. In each class, students who did not prepare well or did not pay attention were beaten by the teachers and military officers. Students who did something seriously wrong would have to lie down on the ground and two people would beat him with wooden sticks but the student would stay quiet and not cry. Military music would be played by General Effendi. In the past, the students did not have hot meals. They were given 14 Afghanis and 28 kilos of flour. Soldiers did not have cots or beds. In 1352, Amanullah Khan appointed hot meals for the school students and soldiers but the generals and military officers would also eat the hot meals.

My Education

In the year 1301, I was enrolled in Arbiyah High School and in the spring of 1302, I advanced to courses in my major, and three months later I began my third course and 3 months later I advanced to upper division courses. After 12 months, I went to the last of my upper division courses. In 1303, I began military training courses. In 1303, the province of Paktia, Junubi had protested against the government. They had closed girls schools and called the Government against Islam. They wanted to bring down King Amanullah Khan's regime. The leaders of the protesters were the disabled Mullah and Mullah Rashid. The battles were between Mangal, Zadran, Khost. Chamkani, Gardez, Orgun and were very intense battles. There were many casualties and injured. In the area of Dasht Saqao and Pul Alam a troop of soldiers who were willing to die and led by Abdul Hamid Khan were all killed in one night. Mohammad Wali Khan, the Minister of Interior and Gardez and Mohammad Gul Khan from Gardez were surrounded. All of the soldiers of Kabul went to Paktia to defend against the protesters and soldiers came from other provinces as well

to Paktia. From Kunar, Jalalabad, a civil delegation led by Mir Zaman Khan and Wali Ahmad Khan and the people of Gardez attacked Mangal. In Mizan, 1303 the protesters were calmed and defeated. The elders of the protesters fled to Turkistan and Mazar Sharif. The battle was over. The treatment of the injured took place in hospitals in Kabul. Amanullah Khan and the Queen visited the injured in the hospitals and gave them each a turban and gold as well as a silk scarf full of nuqul candy (for each injured soldier). The school of Arbiyah, Habibia and the girls' school was closed for the break. All of the students of Arbiyah high school and soldiers were given military ranks and I was given the rank of captain and assistant battalion leader.

My Travel to Study Piloting in USSR

In the month of Aqrab 1303 in the ministry of defense, Abdel Aziz Khan was the defense minister and appointed 3 military officers including me. In the Flower solarium of the Arg, 20 lieutenants were appointed by Amanullah Khan and I was also included in this group. Amanullah Khan gave a speech, advised and guided us. He told us to pay attention to our studies abroad and properly learn the knowledge of flying a plane and serve our country and protect the dignity and national patriotism. In the month of Qaos on the 8th day in the year of 1303, we went toward Mazar Sharif via Balkh with twenty lieutenants and one colonel Attal Haq Khan as our counselor and brought with us one portable stove and cooked food. There were no paved roads, cars or hotels. There were resting grounds on the way and it was a cold winter. We would travel on horseback during the day and rest at night. From Kabul to Mazar Sharif, there were 30 rest areas. We went to Kabul, Charikar, Ghorband, Kohtal Sheber, Bamiyan, Sheberghan, Kohtal Dandanshekan, Qara Kohtal, Aybak, Shahr Samangan, Khulum, Tash Qurghan until we got to Mazar Sharif. In Mazar Sharif, we were the guest of Governor Abdul Karim Khan for a week. On the day of "the red flower", we were guests and on the day of the raising of the flag of Ali Shah Mardan and drank tea with qaymagh cream in it. We were a guest for a day in Deedadee by General Jelani Khan. It took us two days to get from Mazar Sharif until the border next to the river of Amu, which is where the border between Afghanistan and Russia is. There was a great deal of sand and brush. We spent the night traveling and finally arrived. The river was full of water and we left the portable stove with the horsemen and horses there at the border. The Russians received us with a car and boat. We lieutenants rode the boat and went to the border of Russia. We went to Termiz and were very honorably received at a ceremony. The road was paved and they had hung paper flags. Next to the Amu River, there was military music and they conducted the ceremony. From the

River of Amu to Termiz, we rode in carriages pulled by Russians. Termiz was a village in the desert. Our guest house was a two story mud-brick building. There was a pond in front of the building as well as a mosque. With a fresh wudu, we went to the mosque to pray. On behalf of the heads of Termiz, that evening we were treated to a dinner party. The dinner table was prepared with a variety of foods as well as flower centerpieces. From both our side and theirs, we delivered speeches and music was played in between. Rahimullah Khan, a member of the ministry of foreign affairs of Mazar Sharif was with us and was newly appointed as first secretary to the Afghan Embassy in Moscow. At the end of the speeches, Rahimullah Khan moderated the question and answer session. There were very nice foods including palows, qormas, stews, lemon, bottled water and bottled soft drinks. Our friends would say that this soda water is not halal. We will not drink this. They would seek my advice. I drank it and said that drinking it is good otherwise they will make fun of us. The next morning, we rode on a boat for three days in the River of Amu until we arrived at Krake and left the boat to the station in the city of Bukhara. We were in Bukhara for three days. In Bukhara, Krake and Termiz, there were old houses with no modern shopping centers, vacation areas, bath houses or modern homes. After three days, a train came and we went on a two day journey to Tashkan and Samarkand. The city of Tashkan and its streets were made of concrete. Hotels were nicely built and the city was new with buildings that had metal roof tops. In Tashkan and Bukhara, there were mosques and churches and one could hear the church bells ringing. In Tashkan, there was an Afghan consulate. Three days later, we took the train to Moscow. The rooms in the train were made of wood and there were no beds in the train. We sat on the wooden chairs and their food as salty with thick bread. Their food was not in line with the appetites of us Afghans. It took us 8 days to get from the city of Tashkan to the city of Moscow. We received an honored welcome at the station with music and a ceremony respectfully greeting us. In old taxis, we went to the Afghan Embassy. In Kabul, they had not allocated money or supplies for us. In the month of Aqrab, we received a suit but no money was given to us. With that one suit, we passed the winter and arrived in Moscow. We rode a horse and our suits were ripped and our elbows were coming out of our suits. In the Afghan Embassy of Moscow, we met Mohammad Hashim Khan who was the Ambassador there. When the Ambassador saw our suits, he was very disappointed and said "why are you wearing these monkey suits!" After seeing the Ambassador, we went to a beautiful 10-story hotel in Moscow. At that time, we had private fancy rooms that had separate sitting rooms. There was white bread and stew. Afghans didn't like wheat bread. It took three days for our medical exams to be completed. In the hospital, eight airplane engineers and 12 students to study piloting came with us to the city of Sogabey.

This city was in the south of Moscow in the state of Kupf. We were in the city of Borshoiglasik and went to our piloting school in a 2-story building. On the room floors there was metal sheeting and it was cold. The bathroom and commode were in the rooms but the showers were far in a separate building. We were given suits with meals four times per day. We received a stipend from the Afghan Embassy of one British pound which was equivalent to 27 Afghans. Sometimes our stipend would be paid 2-3 months at a time. We were so broke that we didn't even have enough money for a haircut or laundry detergent. Even though Colonel Ata ul Haq Khan was living in the Embassy, he would not pay attention or take responsibilities for us students. Instead of one sterling pound (which is what we were allotted), he would give us 9 riyals and 45 kapiks (coins). This was the bank exchange rate. He would, through an Embassy official, sell those sterling pounds for 30 riyals. 20 riyals and 45 kapiks would be pocketed by him (Col Ata ul Haq Khan). We were given 9 riyals and 45 kapiks. There was nobody to take care of us or take responsibility for us. We would bathe and do our laundry at midnight with no detergent. We 12 Afghan officers were studying in the air force pilot school. After lunch, we had 3 hours of theoretical studies. In the morning, we would go to have breakfast at 5am. Tea, bread, milk and 2 eggs would be served. We would practice on the planes for four hours at the airport. At 9pm, we would go home and have dinner consisting of rice, stew, fruits. From 10pm-12am we would sleep and then eat a meal of soup, feni pudding and maghood dessert, meat and vegetable stew. At 2 o'clock, we would start studying until 5 o'clock and then we would go into recess. We Afghans would uphold the military discipline very well. We would enter the airport and classrooms in an organized fashion. But the Russian students were disorganized and not orderly. When teachers and administrators of the school noticed this, the head of school who was a three star general, ordered that the Russian students must also be organized and orderly. The head of school said that "the Afghans have come here to learn from the Russians but now the Russians are learning from the Afghans." And that is what happened. This is because there was a coup in Russia and a change of regime so the army did not have good discipline. The uniforms were not properly organized but later their discipline improved.

The Heads of School

The teachers were very kind-hearted and friendly with us Afghans. And we know that we were treated better than the Russian students. They would say that they are not afraid of Afghans, and want to properly train and educate the Afghans so that they can protect Afghanistan and their people. We want Afghanistan to become so

strong, that other countries would be afraid of Afghanistan.

Our beds were made out of wood, not metal and would get infested with fleas.

When we would go from one school to the other, we would carry our mattress and pillows with us and then fill them up with straw at the new school we would arrive to. In the year of 1304, in Ammal, we began the piloting studies and studied for one and half years. We learned how to fly planes and successfully completed our studies.

1. The plane was made in France and had the capacity of 180 and would travel at the speed of 80 km per hour.
2. The next plane was British and in one hour traveled 12 km with 120 capacity. Both plane's motors shined brightly and ran like stars.
3. The British plane's motor would be cooled with water, had 130 ounce capacity with 130 km per hour travel speed. In the school, when we learned to fly these three planes, we were selected as fighter pilots. In the city of Siyopookh we went to the fighter pilot school. There, we learned how to fly four fighter planes (the kind that bombard). The planes were air, fighter planes and bombarding planes. In the month of Mizan 1306 Shamsi, we had studied in this fighter plane school for 15 months and completed our studies there. I was the captain of a 39 student class. They would not test me during exam time. I was like one of the teachers during testing. When Afghan students would get stuck answering their questions, I would solve them. I got a diploma that was the equivalent of graduating summa cum laude. I had higher marks than all of the other pilots and was ahead of them. The school gave us Afghans medals. We left the school and went to the Afghan Embassy in Moscow. His Excellency Mohammad Hashem Khan received me and complimented me. I was the captain of the class from the army and also was the lead person for the Embassy to take care of everything related to my class. On the 2nd of Qaos 1306, I began to head back to my beloved homeland of Afghanistan. It took 7 days by train to arrive in Tashkan. In three days, we came by train to Termiz. In the city of Termiz, 90 villages were built. From Termiz, we went in a wooden boat that had no motor and traveled for two days to Mazar Sharif. Once we arrived, we each received 30 Afghans for our travel expenses. By horseback, we arrived in Kabul on the 16th of Qaos in the year 1306.

His Excellency King Amanullah Khan on the 17th of Qaos, traveled from Kandahar and Chaman to Hindustan and finally to Europe. In the month of Saratan 1307,

from he traveled from Iran, Herat, Kandahar and came back to Kabul. Ten planes awaited his arrival in Herat. The newspapers titled “Akhbar Afghan and Akhbar Anis” nicely covered King Amanullah’s arrival with pictures of the Cabinet in both Pashto and Dari. King Amanullah was received in the garden of Dil Kusha by soldiers and the people. King Amanullah went to the Building of “Stor” at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and held a jirga for several days. The news of his travel to Europe was announced in the Jirga, some economic trade agreements and political compacts were discussed. At this Jirga, the cabinet of Afghanistan, military officers, foreign dignitaries and foreign Embassy officials were in attendance. King Amanullah sent female and male students through Jalalabad and India to Turkey for studies. Alqab Alfasol was selected from among all of the ministers and military officers as the King’s closest confidante or “aziz.”

My Rank, Title and Duties Commanding the Air Force Pilots

There were a number of Afghan lieutenants who had gone to Russia to learn how to fly planes and came back to the homeland of Afghanistan. For pilots, the Afghan Government gave them the rank of Captain and plane mechanics were given the rank of lieutenant. The salary of pilots was 28 Afghanis and mechanics had 45 Afghanis salary. The government added 300 Afghanis to the salary paid for specialists. Mechanics were given 200 Afghanis. Pilots made a total of 368 Afghanis and mechanics made 265 Afghanis total. This was ordered. As an air force pilot, my salary was 368 Afghanis. For us pilots, a reception was held for afternoon tea at the Ministry of Defense. The Defense Minister, Abdel Aziz Khan and Staff General of the Army Sayed Sharif Khan and other generals and officials of the Ministry of Defense were in attendance. Each of us pilots received a medal of honor by order of the King. For the fighter pilots, 2000 Afghans were given, for the (survey) pilots 1800 Afghanis and mechanics were given 700 Afghanis as a cash award at the ceremony. In the year of 1303, we went to study piloting in Russia. Three pilots had gone to Italy and after studying they returned successfully to Afghanistan. One such person was Mohammad Ehsan Pilot, the second was Mohammad Hashem Khan Kashaf and the third was Ghulam Dastagir Khan mechanic. These three pilots had come back to Afghanistan from Europe. Colonel Mohammad Ehsan was appointed the commander of the air force. Major Mohammad Hashem Khan was appointed his assistant and Ghulam Dastagir Khan was appointed air force director. The remaining were promoted based on their talent, luck and fate.

The organizational structure of the air force in 1306

1. Administrator of logistics
2. Administrator of the hangar
3. Secretaries.
4. Photography studios,
5. Pharmacies,
6. 12 new pilots,
7. 13 mechanics,
8. Security companies,
9. Transportation laree cars and one high speed vehicle that King Amanullah had given as an award,
10. A British Bristol plane that was purchased from Great Britain,
11. Airplane technicians and technologists (2 wings, one engine, 3 propellers, 2 tons, 1 pilot and 1 surveyor, 1 gun fighter, 10kg small bombs, they would work in detail to run our flight operations.

In 1307 Shamsi, from Russia, 10 new two-seater air planes arrived. Forty high powered 130km per hour speed, 2 gunfighters and bombs. In 1316, eight new planes were purchased from England. Two people, 2 gun fighters, 10 bombs would travel 25km per hour. 20 Italian planes were purchased from Italy for military operations.

Air Force Command

In the city of Sheerpour's military headquarters, all of the rooms were one story. In 1303, all of the buildings in the military headquarters including the hospital, road toward airport, were demolished and re-constructed. The military hospital was changed to an air force command. Mud houses were single level. We newly graduated pilots who were appointed to the air force command, were given one room for dining. Each person had 30 Afghanis they would pitch in for lunch. Palow, chalow, qabili, stew would be served and after meals tea was served each day. All meals were paid privately, not by the government. We were 8 Kandaharis and did not have homes there. We lived in In Char Bagh town of Kabul, at the hotel of the Minister of Finance Mir Mohammad Hashem Khan. My room rent was 50 Afghanis. At that time, I could manage to live on the salary I had. We were not required to be in attendance at the airport in the mornings but we did have to go every morning to the air force command. After lunch, we would carry

out our duties and then would be dismissed from work. There was one movie theatre in Kabul and the ticket cost was 1 Afghani. One time, in 1306, during King Amanullah's reign and once during Mohammad Zahir Shah's, the movie theatre was set on fire. The movie theatre building was in Salaam Khana during King Amanullah's Father's reign – facing the southside of the Arg palace. Now it is the place where the Estiqlal school bikes are kept. During the royal reign of King Amanullah Khan, men sat on the first story and second story was for women with a ticket price of 1 Afghani.

Trade and Administration Mohammad Ehsan Khan

He did not like us educated soldiers of Russia. Without any reason, he viewed us as Communists and Bollcheviks. When anyone would ask about the Russian educated soldiers, he would say they are Communists and Bolsheviks. We studied Russian books and when asked what the book is, they would say it is the book of Lenin. At the Cabinet meeting, they agreed that a number of the Russian educated students be executed. When Amanullah Khan returned from his travels to Europe, he said “I will burn wood and make it into a human. Young Afghans will be sent abroad to study so they can serve their country. And you will unjustly execute them?” We pilots made recommendations to the air force command. Even though our requests were not approved, they would threaten us and think we had a plan and would say “do whatever you are told, you did not have the right to plan or recommend/propose.” One day, I was standing with a guard in the Sherpoor airport. Mohammad Ehsan Khan passed by on his motorcycle. Another day, he assembled all of the military officers, pilots and security detail. He made them stand in a military fashion and asked them what did Sher Mohammad the pilot tell you? They replied that I had asked whether the guard's meal or allowance was being taken or whether it was being paid to them in full. He asked me why I asked this question and I said because the guard is an Afghan officer and I was asking about how he is doing. Mohammad Ehsan told the whole crowd not to have any further contact with Sher Mohammad Pilot.

The first Pilots of Afghanistan. The education of the Pilots of Afghanistan

1. 30 pilots trained in Italy. In 1301, they returned to Afghanistan after having graduated. Mohammad Ehsan Khan was the first pilot in Afghanistan. Mohammad Hashem Khan was the first surveyor in Afghanistan, and Ghulam Dastagir Khan was the first mechanic.

2. 25 pilots came from Russia. Between 1303-1306, they were educated and returned to Afghanistan in 1306.
3. 2 pilots during the decline of their government returned to Afghanistan,
4. 30 people in Italy were educated to be pilots and returned in 1308 after 8 months in the month of Asad during the government of the son of Saqao,
5. In 1315, those pilots that were educated in Italy studied for three months in France and Karachi with the help of the government of Great Britain.

I, Shair Mohammad, went to Mazar Sharif in the month of Asad in 1307. We obtained some airplane equipment and artillery from the military unit of Deedadee. We loaded three elephants and 400 camels to go through Khulum, Tashqurghan, Samangan, Aybak, Bamiyan, Charekar and finally to Kabul. 6) We sent back the elephants from Kabul to Mazar Sharif. All three elephants died on the way back. The big elephant had a fever and died in one day. The other two elephants died in Sayghan of fever and they were all buried in the ground. I was given 3 Afghans per day travel expense allowance. Our caravan with three elephants and 400 camels and all of the military in Koh Daman a group of criminal thieves led by Habibullah the son of Saqaow. We received word that the son of Saqaow plans to attack our caravan. I ordered the caravan to rest in Charekar the next day. In the late afternoon, I gave them the order to starting to travel again. We traveled through the night and arrived the next day at Saray Khoja. In the day, we rested again and traveled at night and arrived the next day at Kabul airport. We made it safely past the thieves.

The Invasion of Jalabad

In the month of Mizan 1307, I went to Jalalabad until I got to the east of Batteycote to make a new airport. General Gul Mohammad Khan Mohmand was the division commander and in the month of Aqrab I proposed to make the new airport. On the 14th of Aqrab, 1307 there was an uprising in Shinwar city. The Government offices were raided and looted by the people of Shinwar. Khan Mohammad Khan, airport colonel and major all fled. They went to the Jalalabad military division. At that time, the soldiers were leaving their military division. The Jalalabad military division was purely Jalalabadi and Nangarhari. They ran away by night and got together with the opposition forces.

King Amanullah Khan's Decision about the Resolution of this Uprising

Ahmad Khan Mohammadzai, head of the government, was appointed the head of the (tanzeema). His deputy was Mohd Yaqoob Khan and Burhanudin Khan Kushkaki. They were also secretaries/assistants of the parliament. One regiment of educated soldiers, equipped with canons along with Three Star General Abdul Wakil Khan, Mahmood Khan Yawar Barekzai, were sent from Kabul to Jalalabad. In Khogiani, Hashimkhail and Nimla were disarmed. Yawar Mahmood Khan and Abdul Wakil Khan took the Khogianis hostage. One royal company (resala) and one company of soldiers from the royal guard and one company of soldiers of Paktia were sent to Jalalabad. A number of military officers and lieutenant colonels were also among the group. From Kabul, they were sent to Jalalabad military base. The road from Kabul to Jalalabad which was the road of Nimla to Jekdalek was blocked. I was in the Jalalabad division. Eight planes from Kabul came to bombard Jalalabad. I was the commander of these planes. Pilots, surveyors and mechanics were Russians. The Royal Garden of Jalalabad was the Royal Hotel. The pilots lived in that hotel. I paid for their hotel and food expenses there. The village people of Khogiani under leadership of Malik Qais came to Jalalabad and orchestrated a parade for Sher Ahmad Khan, the head of the military unit. They promised to quell the uprising of the people. Sher Ahmad Khan became happy and expressed gratitude. In the evening, the Khogiani soldiers under leadership of Malik Qais, raided and looted the government buildings, Royal Hotel, Garden of Kaowkap and Saraj Lemarat Garden. All equipment, instruments were taken and robbed and then the buildings were set on fire. The fires continued for three days. Nobody tried to stop the fires. Sher Ahmad Khan came to the military unit. Eight of our planes had gone to Kabul a few days prior to this incident. The reason for sending the planes was that the Shinwari rebels had come to the Jalalabad airport. The planes would have been bombarded during the day. They were monitoring the communications between Kabul and Jalalabad. Mail, money and gold was taken from Kabul to Jalalabad. The injured were taken from Jalalabad to Kabul. King Amanullah ordered that Shinwar and Surkhrood be bombarded. And it was carried out. However, it was ordered that the people and villages not be bombed, rather only the mountains and outer lying areas. Twenty planes bombarded the Adaa Desert, but it was on the people and the villages. Naqib Sayed Hassan Khan sent me a letter. At the time that the planes were flying past Naqib's compound the women would get scared so Naqib requested that the planes not fly over his compound. I was living in the Royal Garden. When the planes went from

Jalalabad to Kabul, I packed up my bed and clothes and went from Saraj Lemarat to the military headquarters. When I arrived to the royal garden, Saraj Lemarat and Kaowkab were all set ablaze. All of the buildings were burned down by the Khogianis and Malik Qais. The military headquarters and entire city of Jalalabad were surrounded and were being fired at by guns all through the night. Jalalabad was taken over by rebels. In the military headquarters, there was movement and communication by day but all communication and movement was prohibited by night. The phones were not operational. Jalalabad and Daka road was closed and the lines of communication were down. Cars and commerce could not be seen. Contact with Kabul was made by planes. In the month of Saowr, on behalf of King Amanullah, Wali Ahmad Barezai was appointed to be the head of the Jalalabad (tanzeema). Previously, he was Mayor of Kabul. Several military officers including Brigadier General Ghulam Nabi Khan and one regiment of soldiers left Kabul for Jalalabad. Ghulam Nabi Khan, military officers and the regiment of soldiers stayed at a building on the Jekdalek road. Wali Ahmad Khan along with his group went to Jalalabad and arrived at Khogiani. There, they began a Jirga with Malik Qais and other Maliks. They reached an agreement and met with Sayed Hassan Naqib in Jalalabad. Several days later, they came to the military headquarters. The Governor of Jalalabad and General Mohammad Gul Khan with Ali Ahmad Khan Surkhrood came to Naqib saheb's home. The head of the military (tanzeema), Ali Ahmad Khan, sent King Amanullah notice of the goings on by plane. King Amanullah would also send letters back to Ali Ahmad Khan. The people and tribal elders would say that they do not accept King Amanullah and that their King is Ali Ahmad Khan. Sher Ahmad Khan, the military (tanzeema) head was helpful and kind to me. He gave me 50 British gold coins as an award for my service. Sher Ahmad Khan went back to Kabul by plane and Wali Ahmad Khan continued his work in his absence. Wali Ahmad Khan was very kind and he would first show me the letters that he would send to King Amanullah before sending them. Every day, he would give me 2-3 British gold coins. During the time that the planes were coming from Kabul, he would give me 2-3 gold coins to distribute to the other pilots and I distributed those to the pilots. There was an announcement that the son of Saqao, Habibullah Kohdamani has invaded Kabul. General Mohammad Omar Khan Nassery, famous for being known as Soor or Red General, along with one regiment of soldiers surrendered to the son of Saqao.

General Mohammad Omar Khan, “Soor General”, son of Three Star General Ghulam Nabi Khan.

There was propaganda that the son of Saqao, Habibullah, has sent one representative to Wali Ali Ahmad Khan. Via letters and by sending news, Wali Ali Ahmad Khan then sent 1000 Afghans and one gun as an award to that representative. For the protection of Kabul, a militia group was created by the Saqaoians. The (jabha) military line up of Shahrara was on Sheerpoor. The airport was built on the Sherpoor valley. The elder of the military line up of the airport was General Shah Mahmood Khan (uncle of Zahir Shah). Kabul was surrounded for one month. The way to defeat the Saqaoians was not found. In the month of Jadi 1317, King Amanullah resigned from his throne. Without any security detail or guards to protect him, he went to Kandahar. It was winter and on a difficult and treacherous road until he finally arrived to Kandahar. From Kabul, Sayed Sharif Khan, the General of the Army, came to Jalalabad. The news of King Amanullah's resignation and move to Kandahar was announced. Wali Ali Ahmad Khan announced that he himself is King. He gave one rank promotion to military officers and two months' salary. He then went with government officials to Kabul. Wali Ali Ahmad Khan would say in his speeches that the son of Saqao is my servant and has gone to Kabul by my order and I am King.” When Wali Ali Ahmad Khan arrived to Jekdalek, he stopped there for a rest. He said that Habibullah Khan, the son of Saqao should come to formally receive me in Jekdalek. Then, I will go with a caravan and an official royal ceremony to Kabul. Habibullah, the son of Saqao was given the message to come to Jekdalek. In Kabul, a number of well-known Mangals, Hazrats, judges and other important figures rode in cars to Jekdalek to see Wali Ali Ahmad Khan and ask him to come to Kabul and surrender. He was told that he would be given any position he wants. Wali Ali Ahmad Khan did not accept the son of Saqao's offer. In Jekdalek, he began issuing decrees and acting as King. In Kabul and other provinces, he announced that he is King. “I, Wali Ali Ahmad Khan, from Afghanistan, from religion, from country, I am the King. Please send your formal acknowledgments. And let's destroy and annihilate the son of Saqao. In Jekdalek, General Mohammad Gul Khan Mohmand, three Star General Ghulam Nabi Khan, Mohammad Sarwar Khan first assistant, Mohammad Yaqub Khan second assistant, generals, colonels and majors and a cadre of government officials were present. In handwriting, the mullahs were writing handwritten decrees on behalf of the son of Saqao to Jekdalek Wali Ali Ahmad Khan, on the other hand, was asking them to write their recognition of him as King. It was a large sheet of paper that the government officials did in fact sign but Mohammad Gul Khan and

Sayed Hassan Khan did not sign it. Mohammad Gul Khan told Wali Ali Ahmad Khan that “Wali Ali Ahmad Khan, first don’t act as King, instead bring peace and stability. When you have assembled the tribes around yourself, then you should be King after a loya Jirga.” Wali Ali Ahmad Khan said to Mohammad Gul Khan “You do not accept my being King and instead you are pledging allegiance to the son of Saqao?” Wali Ali Ahmad Khan beat Mohammad Gul Khan with a stick and (the end of the) gun. Mohammad Gul Khan and Sayed Hasan Khan were imprisoned in Khogiani at the home of Malik Qais. In the months of Jadi (January) and Dalwa (February) in 1307, in the rooms and tents, it was a very harsh, cold winter. British planes flew to Sorroobi. In a large plane, a group of British political figures arrived and their official delegation came to Wali Ali Ahmad Khan. They propositioned him to make a political concession in favor of the British Government but Wali Ali Ahmad Khan stood for the independence and freedom of Afghanistan and did not accept the British proposal. The British political delegation road in Wali Ali Ahmad Khan’s cars to Surkhrood to Naqeeb Saheb Sayed Hasan Khan’s house. The consulate of Great Britian had been looted and burned by rebels. The new consulate was opened in Naqeeb saheb’s house and occupied rooms and tents there in his home. The airport, by the direction of British pilots was re-built by Naqeeb saheb and his devoted workers as well as the people of Surkhrood.

The people of Surkhrood were assembled to work in the airport near Naqeeb saheb’s house. The salary of the workers was a half of one Afghani. But, the laborers would be paid 3 Afghanis by Naqeeb sahib. The British delegation could not go by car from Jalalabad to Peshawer. So, a plane came from Peshawer to Surkhrood and they left from there.

The Looting of Jekdalek

I, Major Shair Mohammad the Pilot, stayed until the end in Jekdalek and witnessed the riots and looting there until the very last of it. Weapons depots were set on fire. During the riots, Wali Ali Ahmad Khan and all of his workers fled during the chaos of looting and riots. The soldiers of Shinwar, Esarak and Jabrakhail began to conflict in the middle of the riots. They were pulling blankets and taking them away in pieces. When the riots and looting ended, the houses were burned. It was snowing and it was lunch time. All of the military officer’s food was looted and stolen. The Khans of Shinwar were friends of mine. From Shinwar, a group of soldiers went on foot in the snow through Jekdalek and arrived to Esarak in the dark and I was also in this group. Before us, the mosque compound was taken by another group of soldiers. Our people entered a basement of the mosque and set

up a fire there. The basement did not have any outlet for the smoke to exit. There was a lot of smoke and we went to sleep on the ground. The smoke was excessive and bothersome. One person from the compound came and asked who is in charge of the planes? I said "it is me." He said "come inside the compound because Khan sahib wants to see you." I left the basement and went to the compound to meet with Yar Mohammad Khan Jabarkhail who was my friend. He was in a warm room with lit fire and hot tea. In the rooms, oil, tea and wood were also there. Yar Mohammad Khan was an intelligent and wise, white-bearded man. There were beds in the room and we slept there and went to his other compound the next day. We had beds there along with some old blankets and judges there. Mohammad Gul Khan and General Abdullah Khan Tootakhail, General Mohammad Gul Khan Tootakhail and others were with them. The judges went to Kabul. General Mohammad Gul Khan left the compound and had taken his shoes off. He came to the compound barefooted. Another day, it was announced that the people of Esarak will come and raid /loot our compound. On Friday, it was raining and snowing. We were all with General Mohammad Gul Khan and Yar Mohammad Khan Jabarkhail. We all fled from Esarak to Surkhrood. At dusk, we finally arrived exhausted and fatigued to Tangak Wazeer, near Nimla. This was the compound of Sayed Ahmad Pacha. Among this group were: Sayed Hasan Pacha, Sayed Ahmad Pacha, General Sayed Hasan Khan. We were in the mosque and Sayed Sharif Khan, General of the Army, was a familiar face and friend there. Several days later, a group of armed soldiers came from Kaja under leadership of Abdul Razaq Khan. Mohammad Amin Khan Khogiani, Mohammad Gul Khan and others with Abdul Razaq Khan went to Kaja. I went with Yar Mohammad Khan by foot for two days until we arrived to Naqib saheb's house in Jalalabad. On this day, when I arrived to Naqib saheb's house, Malik Qais looted and staged riots in Jalalabad and began fighting in Surkhrood. The dead bodies were lying in the road. The people of Surkhrood wanted to take the looted goods and steal those from the Khogianis.

We came to colonized India from Afghanistan by way of Torkham and through the Mountains of Landee Kohtal. I was the eldest of the group and became the commander of the soldiers and I was introduced to the commander of the British soldiers. In the late afternoon, the British commander requested to spend the night in Landee Kohtal Mountains. I did not accept because it was a rainy night and the thieves would rob them. We rode our cars to Peshawer. Close to the Jama route we got flat tires and began to walk instead. It was night time and raining and eventually we got to Jama Route. There was a large door and an Afghan Pashtun guard opened the door. I asked him who the head of this compound is and he said "Taseeldar sahib is here." I told him we will go to see Taseeldar sahib. I,

Sher Mohammad, Adeeb Effendi and Abdul Qayum – three people went to see Taseeldar. They accepted us and we spent the night there. Taseeldar was a Pashtun. It was the month of Qaos in 1307. From Jama Route, we took a horse carriage to Peshawer. In Peshawer, Aminullah Khan Kakar was the head of passport there. They were very hospitable and fed us Afghan palows day and night. Adeeb Effendi was sick. The British vehicle arrived and took him to the hospital. I went to Abdul Wakeel Khan and a businessman and I was well received. They gave me 45 Kaldars for the train fare. We took the train from Peshawer to Quetta and finally Kandahar. We took the road of Sarkartabar to Quetta. When I got down from the train, spies came to talk to me and said “are you Major Shair Mohammad Khan the Afghan pilot?” I introduced myself and they took me to their intelligence agency. At first, when I went to their office, the head of the agency was there along with a few other employees. He complimented King Amanullah and recognized who I was. He asked me for information about my education and background. The head of the agency made some nasty remarks about why we let King Amanullah go and left the country to thieves and fled to Peshawer. There were a lot of spies working there and they knew many languages including: Kandahari, Jalalabadi, Hazaragi, Kabuli, Urdu, Hindi and many other languages. The head of the agency ordered me to be imprisoned in Quetta and said they would inform Delhi.

In Quetta, one month later the head of the Indian intelligence arrived and gave me a ticket to leave by train and drove me in a sports car to the train station. By train, I was sent to Chaman. By train, we passed through Gulistan, Bostan and the Kohtal Kozag through the tunnel and into Chaman. In Chaman, Achikzais were very hospitable and received us well. We spent the night and the next day we took a sports car and drove through the border, arriving in Kandahar at dusk. In Kandahar, we were introduced to King Amanullah through Yawar Mohd Yaqoob Khan. I was approved for one month's bonus salary. We had a meeting regarding Saqao's invasion with Yawar Mohd Yaqoob Khan and King Amanullah. Only us three were in the meeting. Yawar Mohd Yaqoob Khan said that in the future (when King Amanullah is not there) Afghanistan will be destroyed and will cease to exist. Jalalabad, Kabul, Kandahar will become part of colonized India. Herat will become part of Iran. Maimana, Badakhshan. Mazar Sharif, Qdaghan will go to the USSR. I was eating at my own expense in the Bazaar Kooti, at a Kandahari's store. In Peshawer, I was eating in a Kabuli Hotel. In Quetta and Keltejar Khudaidad Khan gave me 20 Afghanis for my travel expenses. From Quetta, I went to Spinboldak and Kandahar and that would cover the cost of the train ride.

King Amanullah Khan

King Amanullah resigned from the throne and came to Kandahar. At the request of the elders, he became King again. The military division of Kandahar and the Khans of Kandahar folded the flag and a 10,000 person military force began walking toward Kabul. From Kandahar, King Amanullah and his military arrived in Ghazni. In Ghazni, the soldiers of Habibullah, the son of Saqaow did not surrender. They fought with King Amanullah's troops. Planes came from Kabul and bombarded King Amanullah's soldiers. Noor Ahmad Khan, the son of Wali Ali Ahmad Khan and Sayed Ashraf, the tribal elder who was carrying the flag, were all killed in the fight. The soldiers of Habibullah, the son of Saqaow, under the leadership of Pur Del Khan Sepas Salar in Ghazni began a long battle. Sulaimankhail, Katawaz and other people surrounded and conquered the Ghazni mountains. They fought on the side of the son of Saqaow and against King Amanullah. Amanullah Khan's soldiers were fighting and resisting but Amanullah Khan said his supporters came from Kandahar to Ghazni to show their support for him. "The opposing side is fighting in Ghazni but I do not want the Afghan blood to be shed because of me (said King Amanullah). I don't want the Afghan youth to be killed." He ordered the soldiers to go back to Kandahar. King Amanullah's soldiers headed toward Kandahar in an orderly fashion. With King Amanullah. Abulahad Khan, Abdullah Khan Wardak, Major Abdul Ahmad Khan, Mohmand, Sher Mohammad Afzal Khan, Lt. Col Nasser, Lt Col Mohammad Qasim Khan Mohammadzai, Capt MOhd Safar Khan, Nooristani, Nayeb salar Abdul Wakil Khan, Abdul Qayub Khan Barekzai ghunmeshr and many other military officers who had come from Turkey after completing their higher education there. Abdul Qayum Khan had come from Moscow. Two planes came from Kabul. At this time when the soldiers of King Amanullah were going from Ghazni toward Kandahar, two planes from the airport came to Kandahar to serve Amanullah Khan. From these two planes, there were four pilots: Sayed Mohammad Khan Tolaymeshr Kandahari Barekzai, Mohammad Omar Khan pilot Tolay meshr Popalzai, Aziziullah Khan Blookmeshr Popalzai Kabuli, Mir Saifuddin Khan Blookmeshr mechanic Kabuli. These pilots were well received in Kandahar. Minister of Defense, Abdel Aziz Khan administered both the civilian and military operations. The Minister of Defense, Abdel Aziz Khan ordered me to take some political advertisements (stating that the son of Saqao had been defeated and King Amanullah was victorious) to King Amanullah by plane. I took the flyers and dropped them over Ghazni province. But, King Amanullah had left Ghazni and gone to Qarabagh. I dropped the advertisements near Amanullah and landed by his compound. The plane was out of gas. I flew for 5 hours from Kandahar to Ghazni. Haji Khair Mohammad Khan known as Khairoo jaan came to visit me

on horseback. He brought gas from Kandahar by car. Again, I flew the plane to Kandahar. That plane went 120 km per hour. Haji Khair Mohammad Khan, the head of the compound, was the friend of Amanullah Khan. He managed the food transportation and logistics between Kandahar to Ghazni and Ghazni to Kandahar. The family and women were educated, protected and disciplined by Haji Khair Mohammad Khan who was a Popalzai and Karzai. The soldiers of King Amanullah Khan arrived at his compound and prayed the Eid ul Adha prayers.

I, Sher Mohammad Khan was bringing the advertisements from Kandahar. I would fly the plane two meters close to the ground near King Amanullah's tent. I dropped the bundle of flyers to him and King Amanullah would come out to see me. From the compound, I went to Muqur to survey that area. From the compound, when I arrived close to Kabul, my plane had low altitude. The Saqaoian soldiers and civilians were with them. When I saw them, they started to fire at me and I became very anxious about their fires and quickly moved the plane back up. The plane had been shot in several places and I flew it back to Kandahar. The way Amanullah Khan wanted, he wanted to go by way of Kandahar to India, to Italy. Wali Ali Ahmad Khan was appointed the head of the soldiers. At night, he came to Kandahar and at night he went by car and by bus to Spinboldak with his wife and family and then left Afghanistan.

Narrated by Haji Saleh M. Kamrany about the experience of his Father:

Amanullah Khan asked me to go with him. I told him that up until now, I had military ranking and honor and prestige. Now that the country is burning in fire, I will not leave the country. When Kamrany was in Kandahar, one of the Kandahri businessmen took him to Nayeb Salar Saqao who was a pilot and there on vacation. Nayeb Salar Saqao asked who that pilot was who was dropping flyers and firing at us. He said "that was me." Immediately, they arrested Shair Mohammad Kamrany and beat him and wanted to execute him by firing squad. At this time, the Governor of Kandahar who was from the family of Sardar Abdul Quddus Khan, beseeched Nayeb Salar Saqao that Shair Mohammad Khan is a famous pilot from Kandahar. "If you kill him, the Kandaharis will stage an uprising and you will have problems. Kandahar is surrounded at this time. Whenever you have fully acquired Kandahar, then you can execute him in the public square there." Nayeb Salar Saqao agreed and handed Kamrany over to the Governor of Kandhar. The Governor ordered a doctor to treat his wounds and injuries. At this time, the people of Kandahar defeated the Saqaoian and Saradar Mohammad Hashem Khan (Uncle of King Zahir Shah) came to Kabul and took Kandahar from the Saqaoian. The Governor of Kandahar asked Kamrany to select the punishment for Nayeb Salar Saqao. He said "just send him to Kabul."

America's Exceptionalism for a Muslim AFGHAN FAMILY

02/01/2016 12:49 pm ET

Nake M. Kamrany Professor of Economics, University of Southern California
The current political dialogue and debate of the 2016 presidential election has propelled the issue of merit and demerit of Moslems entering and residing in the United States. The debate transcends elements of religion, nationality, qualification, prejudice and the broader issue of global religious conflict between Islam and Christianity. Although President George Bush and President Obama both have emphatically denied the current Middle East conflict to reflect a religious war, one cannot deny that the current Western, and in particular, U.S., England, and France intrigue against ISIS and other insurgent groups have radicalized many of the affected population in the region. However, the West's military response is not the answer to resolve the issue, instead some diplomatic approach must be found to resolving the conflict.

The West has to stop killing innocent villagers through incessant bombing and the insurgent must agree to cease and desist killing their own people and innocent people in the West. The West must recognize the formation of Sunni ISIS as legitimate government covering specific areas in Iraq and Syria that are under their control in exchange for peace and eventual march to civility and internationalism. Diplomacy may resolve the conflict as it did in the Iran-U.S./coalition agreement. Otherwise the war damages sustained in blood, wealth, refugees and time could go on in perpetuity. And the conflict will permeate the major religions and implicate many innocent people who do not wish to be a part in the current conflict and hugger-mugger.

Moreover, negative worth created about Islam is offensive and unfair. Moslems in the United States are good citizens and productive as the rest of the population and the exceptionalism of the American society spreads over to the Moslem population as it does to the rest of the population. Let me illustrate with respect to my own family. As a Moslem exchange student from Afghanistan I enrolled at UCLA many years ago. My six sisters made me promise to bring them to the United States, which I did. At first we took menial jobs but attended schools and universities including our progenies. Today we have among our adult cousin, nephews, nieces and grandchildren - 60 family members with college degrees including Ph.D's, J.D.s, M.D.s, M.A.s and B.A.s. All of us own houses, cars, TVs, computers, health insurance, adequate food and vacations. We are acculturated to the American society and are proud and loyal Americans and will defend our beloved and adopted country.

Members of our family have married individuals of different national origins, ethnicity and religions - and we love and enjoy the diversity. This is the story of a Moslem extended family in the United States. It is not an incongruity and not an exception. There are many Moslem families who have integrated with the American culture and have contributed to its prominence. We have indeed experienced the wonders of American life and its exceptionalism.

**NAKE M. KAMRANY, USC Professor of Economics -
(retired) and member of California Bar**

Educational Achievements of the Extended Kamrany Family

As Prepared By: Nazaneen Habib

Family members are being congratulated for their academic achievements. All members attended top-tier universities and are the reasons their universities are world famous. Family members took the opportunity to be students – studied, learned, grew, wrote term papers, spent hours in libraries, labs and contributed to the excellence of their institutions. They learned, grew, and contributed at one of the best universities in the world. They also have great personal attributes. They have achieved high degrees in difficult fields– they have attained high degrees in most difficult fields of studies, they are professionally competent and have aspirations for public service. Members have great physical and psychological and social attributes.

Name:

Nazaneen Habib

Highest Degree Attained:

B.A., Classical Civilizations

Institution:

UC Irvine

Current Field:

Teaching

Current Positions Held:

Domestic Violence Crisis Hotline Volunteer, Community Emergency Response Team Member

Aspirations:

To travel the world, reach fluency in multiple languages and much more.

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Grandniece

Name:

Michelle Kamrany

Highest Degree Attained:

BA, Theatre Performing Arts

Institution:

USC

Current Field:

Banking

Current Positions Held:

Relationship Banker, JPMorgan Chase Bank

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Daughter

Name:

Lisa Kamrany

Highest Degree Attained:

Master of Education (M.Ed.), Educational Counseling

Institution:

USC

Current Field:

Higher Education

Current Positions Held:

Academic Advisor - University of Southern California

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Granddaughter

Name:

Taymor Kamrany

Highest Degree Attained:

MBA

Institution:

USC

Current Field:

Business Development - Federal Government

Current Positions Held:

1. Executive Board Member and Trustees of World Affairs Council of Orange County
2. Executive Board Member of Marshall School of Business at University of Southern California.

Aspirations:

Follow in Uncle's footsteps by helping family with school, career and life.

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Nephew

Name:

Farahnaz Yaqubi

Highest Degree Attained:

Bachelor's Degree

Institution:

Cal State Northridge

Current Field:

Human Resources

Current Positions Held:

Human Resources

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Niece

Name:

Yama Yaqubi

Highest Degree Attained:

M.B.A., Finance

Institution:

Pepperdine University

Current Field:

Finance

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Nephew

Name:

Nilofar (Habib) Moore

Highest Degree Attained:

Bachelor's Degree in Criminology, Law and Society

Institution:

UC Irvine

Current Field:

Law Enforcement

Current Positions Held:

Deputy Probation Officer-Institution for Placer County Probation
Volunteer at Front Street Animal Shelter in Sacramento

Aspirations:

Working for a Federal Law Enforcement agency such as the FBI

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Grandniece

Name:

Ajmal Zarifi

Highest Degree Attained:

B.S., Pharm.D Candidate, Pharmacy

Institution:

UC Irvine

Current Field:

Intern Pharmacist- Kaiser Fontana

Current Positions Held:

Too many to list :)

Aspirations:

Oncology Pharmacist

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Grandnephew

Name:

Laila Hamid

Highest Degree Attained:

Bachelor Degree, Chemistry

Institution:

Kabul University, Basel University

Current Field:

Banker, Wells Fargo Bank

Current Positions Held:

Banker

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Niece

Name:

Lily Jackson

Highest Degree Attained:

BS Business Administration

Institution:

USC

Current Field:

Real estate

Current Positions Held:

Board of Directors: Talega Homeowners Association

Ethics committee as Realtor- California Association of Realtors

Aspirations:

To build homes in Afghanistan in the next ten years, to educate my children, and to spend time with my wonderful family.

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Daughter

Name:

Walid Omary

Highest Degree Attained:

D.D.S.

Institution:

NYU College of Dentistry

Aspirations:

To one day own a chain dental practices.

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Nephew

Name:

Farzan Ahmed Khairzad

Highest Degree Attained:

B.S., Mechanical Engineering

Institution:

Cal Poly Pomona University

Current Field:

Mechanical System Engineering in the U.S. Department of Defense

Current Positions Held:

Senior Mechanical System Engineer Lead

Aspirations:

I achieved my career goals. Now, I love to help out and give back to my community. Also, love to coach my kids' soccer teams. :)

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Nephew

Name:

Shak Khairzad

Highest Degree Attained:

B.S, Information Systems

Institution:

CSUN

Current Field:

Financial Services - MUFG Union Bank

Current Positions Held:

Vice President - Private Banking - Develop and present creative comprehensive financial solutions and advice to high-net-worth individuals, families and business owners.

Aspirations:

I started my CFP classes. And my next step in my career is to become the director within the private bank.

Name:

Weiss Hamid

Highest Degree Attained:

Juris Doctorate

Institution:

Loyola Law School

Current Field:

Law Firm

Current Positions Held:

Associate Attorney

Aspirations:

Hoping to some day be Partner at a law firm.

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Grandnephew

Name:

Kamran Khairzad

Highest Degree Attained:

M.S., Computer Engineering

Institution:

CSULB

Current Field:

Information Technology, UCLA

Current Positions Held:

Sr. Technical Manager

Aspirations:

To visit Afghanistan one day and see peace and prosperity

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Nephew

Name:

Dennis Kamrnay

Highest Degree Attained:

B.A., Theatre

Institution:

USC

Current Field:

Real Estate

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Son

Name:

Haseena Qudrat

Highest Degree Attained:

MBA

Institution:

Pepperdine University

Current Field:

Master's Business Administration emphasis in Dispute Resolutions in mediation and arbitration separately from the law school.

Current Positions Held:

The American Univeristy of Afghanistan - Instructor of Business and Economics
(Former job)

Aspirations:

To make a meaningful contribution to this world before I die.

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Niece

Name:

Brian Kamrany

Highest Degree Attained:

B.S., Computer Science and Engineering

Institution:

UC Irvine

Current Field:

Software Engineering

Current Positions Held:

Software Engineer, TEKSystems

Consultant, DirecTV

Consultant, AT&T

Aspirations:

To get closer to truly enjoying my life.

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Grandson

Name:

Naheed Hamid Momand

Highest Degree Attained:

Medicine

Institution:

Western University

Current Field:

Family Medicine

Current Positions Held:

Resident Physician at Pomona Valley Hospital

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Grandniece

Name:

Omar Qudrat

Highest Degree Attained:

BA Philosophy, MA International Relations, MS Public Relations, JD

Institution:

UCLA, Maxwell School of Policy at Syracuse, S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse, Syracuse Law

Current Field:

Law and Policy

Current Positions Held:

Adviser to the President's Special Envoy, U.S. Department of State
Prosecutor, Office of the Secretary of Defense, U.S. Department of Defense

Aspirations:

Learn the atan and honor my uncle on this occasion and on his achievements when I see him next.

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Nephew

Name:

Frozan Habib

Highest Degree Attained:

Industrial Chemistry, Computers

Institution:

Kabul University, United College of Business of Los Angeles

Current Field:

IT - Desktop Support

Current Positions Held:

Senior Analyst at UCLA Medical Center

Aspirations:

To see my daughters' success and happiness.

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Niece

Name:

Ahmad S. Kamrany

Highest Degree Attained:

Master of Science in Structural Engineering

Institution:

UC Berkeley

Current Field:

Structural Engineering

Current Positions Held:

Senior Project Engineer for a consulting firm specialized in structural engineering design, retrofit and forensic investigation of building structures, I'm a licensed Professional Civil Engineer and a Licensed Structural Engineer in California, I'm also a Certified Buildings Plans Examiner by the International Code Council. Currently my area of practice is primarily forensic structural engineering. For the past 20 years I've been working in the structural engineering industry involved in design, retrofit, and forensic investigation of all types of building structures, including

residential and commercial. In addition to the private consulting work, I was also a lecturer for the UC Irvine Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering for 9 years, teaching an engineering design class.

Aspirations:

To see my daughters' success and happiness.

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Nephew

Name:

Lemar Zarifi

Highest Degree Attained:

MBA

Institution:

USC, UC Irvine

Current Positions Held:

Manager at Chase Bank

Aspirations:

To meet Kobe Bryant

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Grandnephew

Name:

Spozhami Zarifi

Highest Degree Attained:

High School/Banking and Financial

Institution:

Regional Occupation Center/ROP

Current Field:

Banker at JPMorgan Chase

Current Positions Held:

Been in banking field for over 20 years, have done every field, mortgage, business banking, investment, operation and sales . Have helped over 10 family members get hired in banking field

Aspirations:

My goal in life is for my kids to get the highest education and fulfill their dreams. I have always been there for all my family members and help everyone in every way that I could all my life. That is my passion and aspirations. #grandkids

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Niece

Name:

Shugoofa Zarifi

Highest Degree Attained:

High School

Institution:

Santa Monica High School

Current Field:

J.P. Morgan Chase Bank

Current Positions Held:

Five years of consumer banking experience

Aspirations:

CEO

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Grandniece

Name:

Suezan Abkarian

Highest Degree Attained:

Business Administration-Finance

Institution:

University of Phoenix

Current Field:

Business Relationship Manager- JP Morgan Chase

Aspirations:

Travel the world!

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Grandniece

Name:

Trina Batta Zarifi

Highest Degree Attained:

Accounting, Dental Assistant Degree & Real Estate License

Institution:

Saddleback College, Pierce College, Santa Monica College

Current Field:

Realtor, Pinnacle Estate Properties Income

Aspirations:

For an early retirement to travel the world!

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Niece

Name:

Farzana Khairzad

Highest Degree Attained:

Journalism

Institution:

Kabul University

Current Field:

Banking

Current Positions Held:

Operations Specialist

Aspirations:

Continue to grow in banking

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Niece

Name:

Arian Yaqubi

Highest Degree Attained:

B.A., Mathematics, General

Institution:

Cal State Northridge

Current Field:

Budget Analyst - UCLA Health

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Niece

Name:

Sajia Kamrany

Highest Degree Attained:

A.A., Cosmetology; Real Estate License

Institution:

Santa Monica College

Current Field:

Director, Television Personality: Afghanistan TV Ariana Network

Current Positions Held:

Manager for Nabizada Foundation, an organization that fundraises to distribute help to this in need in Afghanistan.

Aspirations:

SAJIA KAMRANY IS THE FIRST AFGHAN FEMALE WHO SUCCESSFULLY STARTED AFGHANISTAN TV - She is a most Afghan popular TV personality including producer, director and commentator. She is the Barbara Walter of Afghanistan, highly popular and loved by her viewers.

Name:

Maryam Qudrat

Highest Degree Attained:

Ph.D., Philosophy

Institution:

USC

Current Field:

Philosophy faculty - Cal State Long Beach

Current Positions Held:

Board of Trustees - American University of Afghanistan

Relation to Professor Kamrany:

Niece

Family Photos



From left to right: Aziza Yaqubi and Karima Zarifi, along with their mother, Farukh Sultan, at Kabul Airport.



Farahnaz Yaqubi and Yama Yaqubi (Dr. Kamrany's niece and nephew) wearing traditional Afghan clothes in Kabul.



The Kamrany Family bids Shaesta Qudrat (née Kamrany) farewell at Kabul Airport before she boards her flight to America.



Farukh Sultan (left) with her granddaughters Arian Yaqubi (center) and Frozan Habib (née Yaqubi; right) at Aziza and Zewar Yaqubi's home in Karte Parwan, Kabul, Afghanistan.



Shair Mohammad Kamrany (right) with his wife Farukh Sultan (left).



Sisters of Nake Kamrany with a Russian expat in Jalalabad, Afghanistan. From right Shaesta Qudrat, Aziza Yaqubi and Rahima Melgerai



From left to right: Zewar Yaqubi, Saleh Kamrany, Shair Mohammad Kamrany, Aziz Zarifi and his wife Karima Zarifi on vacation at one of Shair Mohammad Kamrany's homes in Jalalabad, Afghanistan.



Aziza Yaqubi (left) and three friends at the Continental Hotel in Kabul, Afghanistan.



Rahima Melgerai (Dr. Nake Kamrany's oldest sister)



At the Kabul Airport in late 1960's from left to right: Lailoma Nazari, Trina Zarifi Batta, Karima Zarifi (Kamrany's sister), Shaesta Qudrat (Kamrany's sister), Hayat Zarifi, Breshkai Zarifi and Haseeb Zarifi



Nake Kamrany at UCLA international festival, 1957



Najiba Khairzad (Dr. Kamrany's sister) and Bashir Khairzad



Kaysar Ridha, Haseena Qudrat, Maryam Qudrat, Shaesta Qudrat (Dr. Kamrany's sister), Omar Qudrat and Abdul Qadir Qudrat



Taymor Kamrany, Spozhmi Zarifi, Zarmina Kamrany, Saleh Kamrany (Dr. Nake Kamrany's brother), Ahmad Shah Kamrany



Spozhmei Zarifi (Dr. Kamrany's niece) and Hayat Zarifi



All cousins – from left to right: Lailoma Nazari, Spozhmi Zarifi, Farahnaz Yaqubi, Breshkai Zarifi Berlin, Laila Hamid, Frozan Yaqubi Habib, Arian Yaqubi, Shaesta Qudrat. Haseeb Zarifi in the background (Dr. Kamrany's nieces and sister)



Dr. Kamrany's sisters from left to right: Karima Zarifi, Aziza Yaqubi, Shaesta Qudrat



Dan Suzewitz, Engineer Zewaruddin Yaqubi, Frozan Habib, Aziza Yaqubi (Dr. Nake Kamrany's sister), Yama Yaqubi, Arian Yaqubi, Farahnaz Yaqubi



Nazaneen Habib (Dr. Nake Kamrany's great-niece)



Patrick Moore with wife Nilofar Habib Moore (Dr. Nake Kamrany's great-niece)



From left to right: Zpzhmi Zarifi, Lailoma Nazari, Tina Nasratyar, Trina Batta, Karima Zarifi, Breshkai Zarifi Berlin



Description: From left to right: Janet Zarifi, Breshkai Zarifi Berlin, Suzy Abkarian and son, Priscilla Zarifi-Canizalez, Lailoma Nazari, Trina Batta, Karima Zarifi (Dr. Kamrany's nieces and



Dr. Shapoor Hamid, Laila Hamid (Dr. Kamrany's niece), Keli Hamid, Weiss Hamid, Dr. Naheed Momand and Wahid Momand



Ariana Momand in Afghani traditional clothes in Los Angeles



From left to right: Cameron Zarifi, Janet Zarifi, Haseeb Zarifi (Dr. Kamrany's Newpew), Sabrina Zarifi, Priscilla Zarifi-Canizalez, Oziel Canizalez



Dr. Kamrany's nieces and nephews From left to right: Breshkai Zarifi, Haseeb Zarifi, Trina Zarifi Batta, Hayat Zarifi, Lailoma Nazari



Dr. Nake Kamrany and Barbara Kamrany



Michelle Nazo Kamrany, Dr. Nake Kamrany, Sajia Kamrany and Dennis Wali Kamrany



Steve Jackson, Lilly Jackson (Dr. Nake Kamrany's daughter) , Sydney Jackson and Matthew Jackin



Saleh Kamrany (Dr. Nake Kamrany's brother) with wife Zarmina Kamrany



Michelle Nazy Kamrany -
Granddaughter of Shair Kamrany



Fatima Ginther (Dr. Kamrany's sister) with
husband George Ginther



Dr. Maryam Qudrat (Dr. Nake Kamrany's
niece), Attorney Omar Qudrat (Dr. Kamrany's
nephew) and Haroun Qudrat



Fahin Kamrany, Michael Kamrany (Dr. Nake
Kamrany's son), Brian Kamrany and Lisa
Kamrany

POEM:

O you whose name is Lion

You were a Lion in the Battlefield

You rip the enemy into two just like a whale

With knowledge and wisdom nobody is your equal.

By way of knowledge, you create a burden of unbreakable stone for your opponent

From Knowledge you are the victor of action and deeds

Your trials and difficulties have been so bright that it has stolen

the brightness and luster away from the mirror

Strategic, Wise, Experienced and Swift Thinker are you

You are the friend and master of Pashto and a skilled translator

You spent your entire life in the service of the soil of your homeland

With accolades of sincerity, honor and integrity

Your noble name will be left in the world for not taking vengeance or adopting

harsh ways with those who opposed you.

ای که نامت شیر همچو شیر در میدان جنگ
خشم را سازی دو پاره گر چه باشد چون نهنگ
همچنان با عقل و دانش کس نیست با تو قرین
از ره دانش مقابل را کنی بارش ز سنگ
در طریق حلم هم هست کامرانی عمل
برده باری هایت برده از رخ آینه رنگ
نکته سنج و زودرس صاحب تجارب بیز هوش
ماهر پشتو لسانان و ترجمان با زرنگ
صرف عمرت را نمودی خدمت خاک وطن
با کمال همت و اوصاف نیک و نام و ننگ
در جهان باقی بماند نام نیکو از کسان
بلخصوص آنانکه با اشخاص نگیرد صحنه تنگ
هر کسی را خواهد افلاح رستگاری در عمل
قوم افغان را ستایم وصف و صفات و آب و رنگ