

## **Fateh Sami**

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## Afghanistan's Struggle Under Taliban Rule

As you may know, Afghanistan is a vast land that, throughout history, has been called Ariana, covering a wide area from Central Asia to the Indus River, including the eastern provinces of the Achaemenid Empire and the eastern and central regions of present-day Iran. When it was known as Khorasan, it encompassed four large regions: Nishapur, Meru, Herat, and Balkh, now divided among Iran, Afghanistan, and Turkmenistan. Despite its changing names and borders, it is now called Afghanistan.

Historically, except for a few years of relative stability, Afghanistan has been embroiled in internal conflicts and foreign invasions. Its geographical boundaries have never been fixed, always expanding, or contracting due to various factors. Despite many ups and downs, its political and social situation has never been as dire as it is now. Throughout history, the inhabitants of this land have often chosen silence against caliphs, despotic kings, and great invaders from the north, east, and west. However, the current situation is unprecedentedly bleak. The explosion of this tension could be dangerous and fatal.

The Taliban's Repressive Rule: Taliban criminal gangs are so disconnected from the realities of Afghan society that they underestimate the significance of the current silence, potentially a calm before a storm. The people of Afghanistan are paying a heavy price, losing the right to work, education, and other human rights and civil liberties due to the Taliban's strict policies. Taliban leaders have ignored popular uprisings, failing to recognize the historical resilience of the Afghan people. Their baseless orders are leading the Afghan people toward a spontaneous and uncontrollable uprising.

Suppression and Resistance: As explained, the Taliban have imposed many restrictions on women and girls in Afghanistan after coming to power. Most of the orders of the leader of the Taliban group have been issued regarding restrictions against women and girls. The Taliban leader has so far issued more than 65 strict decrees, more than forty of which are against women and impose heavy restrictions on girls and women. Issuing these orders not only expresses tyranny, violation of the rule of law, and absolute sovereignty of one person over the people of Afghanistan; Rather, it is a clear violation of the rule of law, because Talban's administration through command is a wrong action and a sign of domineering and anti-human governance. Surprisingly, these decrees were issued under the name of religion, but they are not compatible with the spirit of religion. For example, banning girls from education in schools and universities, preventing women from working in government offices, tailoring and hairdressing shops, and the most criminal of all, the Taliban's gang rape of imprisoned women and the field killings of former soldiers and young men. Only that it conflicts with human rights conventions; Rather, it is against the Quran, Sunnah, and Islamic jurisprudence, and they are not compatible with tribal covenants. The Taliban is not satisfied with this and even the religious minorities are not spared from the violence and harassment of the Taliban gunmen. As a few days ago, some Taliban people had entered the place of worship of Hindus and Sikhs in Karte Parwan, Kabul. Recently, the Taliban have started to destroy and remove several photos of religious and ethnic leaders in Afghanistan, which has provoked strong reactions from the people.

Do not the Taliban know that depriving thousands of women breadwinners from work and thousands of girls from education, imprisoning women and sexually assaulting them, field killings of former soldiers and youths on various charges and disrespecting religious, ethnic, and religious leaders It also contains the growing anger of the people against the Taliban group, and at the same time, these restrictions deepen the crisis in Afghanistan. The violence of the Taliban has increased every day to the anger and hatred of the people of this country against their government, and the fragility of the anger before the storm is more and more keyed.

**Global Implications and Future Prospects:** Along with his ambitions to control the government and the country, Taliban leaders are trying to hide their crimes under the slogan of purity and piety. Likewise, the Taliban stubbornly sticks to the theocracy, which leads its puppet administration to poverty and ignorance. Meanwhile, the world cannot do anything to stop them. Issuing misogynistic decrees of the Taliban has not only stopped humanitarian aid to Afghanistan;

Rather, some foreign actors who are shocked by the behaviour of the Taliban are known are reconsidering their role in Afghanistan. Some aid agencies have suspended operations while negotiating with the Taliban to obtain limited permits for their female workers and permission to resume work in health, nutrition, education, and other programs. But many lifesaving activities are officially illegal.

At the same time, Afghanistan's infrastructure is bankrupt due to decades of war, and farmers' products are being destroyed to some extent due to climate changes that are disproportionately caused by the West, and some of the inefficiencies of Afghanistan's economy are also caused by the isolation of the West. and the confiscation of Afghan assets deposited abroad. The heavy price of all this is paid by women, minorities, and the poor with the worst consequences. From the point of view of the world, the most fundamental answer to the terrible behaviour of the Taliban will be to find ways to reduce the damage caused to those vulnerable groups, which unfortunately, no important work has been done in this regard yet. Therefore, the mentioned factors have joined hands again and add to the storm of people's anger against the Taliban leaders and their government.

How long will the Taliban ignore the patience and perseverance of the Afghan people? Sooner or later, people's patience will be exhausted, and with the breaking of the current silence, the tower and rampart of the Taliban government will also collapse. Have the Taliban forgotten the coordinated uprising of Panjshir, Parwan and Kapisa provinces and several northern districts of Kabul in 1997, when they were proud of the burnt lands and gardens in the north, and the Taliban in the first round of their rule destroyed thousands of acres of vineyards. They destroyed in the north of Kabul, and this crime of the Taliban has been recorded in history under the name of scorched earth policy.

Unfortunately, the Taliban are forgetful people and not only did they not learn from their previous crimes in the first round of their rule; Rather, on the contrary, in the second round, they have increased their crimes against humanity, and now the edge of the Taliban's oppression is weighing on the veins of the Afghan people more than ever. However, in a wave of tribal neglect and false selfishness, the Taliban have not paid the slightest attention to the humane and legitimate demands of the Afghan people regarding the formation of an inclusive government for the transition phase, and the edge of their oppression is more and more visible every day. The throats of the Afghan people are sinking.

From what has been discussed, whether the Taliban like it or not, their government is facing increasing pressure and isolation from the world each day. It is unlikely that China, Russia, and Iran will offer further support to the Taliban in their competition with America. The Taliban have failed to address the three

countries' concerns regarding terrorism threats and water rights. Moreover, there is no guarantee that humanitarian aid to Afghanistan will continue indefinitely under the guise of interaction with the Taliban. The season of the Taliban's deceit is ending, and for the international community, further engagement with the Taliban is a mistake.

It should be concluded that the ongoing restrictions on women, rising poverty and unemployment, and the Taliban's unresponsiveness to the people's demands will eventually exhaust the patience of the Afghan people. It is not far-fetched to predict that sooner or later, the anger and frustration of Afghan men and women will overflow. When this happens, the current silence will break, turning Afghanistan into a tinderbox under the feet of the Taliban. Such an uprising will catch the Taliban leaders and fighters off guard, potentially leading to a situation like 2001, where the Taliban were forced to flee. This time, neither President Bush nor General Musharraf will arrange for the Taliban's escape to Karachi, Peshawar, and Islamabad through covert intelligence deals.

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