



Afghan Student News



VOL 6, NOS. 3 AND 4

SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA

JUNE-JULY, 1961

Convention to Begin Sept. 1st at U of Colorado

CONVENTION PLANS REVEALED

The Executive Committee of your Association is happy to announce that our forthcoming annual convention will take place at the University of Colorado at Boulder, Colorado from September 1 through September 5.

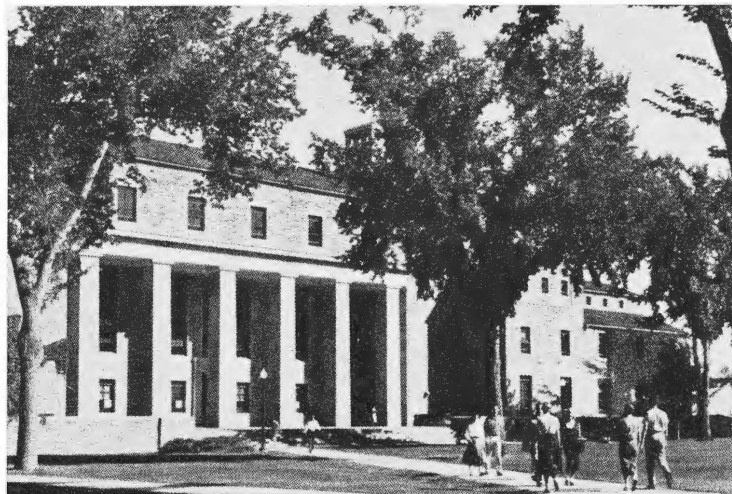
The advance in the date of the convention is arranged due to consideration of the majority request of the members and convenience for the fall program of the attending delegates.

The University of Colorado has been very gracious to accommodate our convention on their beautiful campus. From all the indications, it is evident that this convention promises to be one of the best in the history of ASA. Your Executive Committee is taking, and will continue to take, every opportunity and measure to make our gathering a memorial event. Your suggestions as to the program for the convention are strongly urged.

Afghanistan's Second Five-Year Plan

Preliminary reports of Afghanistan's Second Five-Year Plan indicate an expenditure of 15 billion Afghanis, which is about 2½ times the expenditure of the first plan. The emphasis of the Second Plan is placed on mining, industry and agriculture. Community project works and education are other items of respective importance. It is also indicated that the capital requirements for the Second Five-Year Plan have been discussed with the governments of the USSR, the United States and international institutions of credit facilities.

The impressive accomplishments of the First Five-Year Plan are certainly an indication of the long term line of credit and technical assistance that are in perspective for Afghanistan.



A view of the beautiful University of Colorado campus, site of the 8th annual ASA convention.

AFGHAN DELEGATE CONDEMNS SOUTH AFRICA POLICY OF APARTHEID IN THE ADHOC POLITICAL COMMITTEE

New York-Ap. 1st: Mr. Zulmai Mahmood Ghazi, speaking on the question of apartheid in the Adhoc Political Committee elsewhere, it was acknowledged with embarrassment and attempts said that although forms of discrimination and prejudice exist made to eradicate it. He said it was shocking to note that responsible leaders of South Africa openly disregard basic principles of freedom and equal opportunity. He explained that violence in Africa was a logical result of policies of oppression and humiliation. Mr. Mahmood Ghazi urged the Union Government of South Africa to comply with provisions of the resolutions which was co-sponsored by Afghanistan and was dedicated to the spirit and ideals of the United Nations.

Dr. Osman Elected President of UofK

It is reported that in the recent elections by the faculty members of Kabul University Dr. Mohammed Osman has been elected President of the Kabul University. ASA would like to congratulate Dr. Osman and extend its best wishes while looking forward to another four years of great accomplishments at Kabul University.

Next Issue to Honor Independence

The next issue will be a special dedicated to Afghanistan independence. A special award will be given for the best essay submitted on the subject of our Independence at the next convention. Please submit your entries as soon as possible.

Asia Foundation to Continue Aid

Your Executive Committee has recently been informed that the Asia Foundation again has kindly consented to continue to furnish financial assistance for the activities of ASA. In discussions between Mr. Stanley Spangler, Dr. Robert Blum, President of the Foundation and Zia Noorzoy of ASA, the programs of your Association have been described as "ambitious, imaginative and eminently worth while". The Asia Foundation has also recently expanded its scope of economical and educational assistance to Afghanistan.

ASA would like to offer its thanks and gratitude to the Asia Foundation.

AFGHANISTAN: ITS INTERNATIONAL POLICY

By DR. A. H. TABIBI

Councillor of Afghan Permanent Mission to the U. N.

Afghanistan is a peace-loving nation with a policy of friendship with all countries, but having military alliances with none. This policy is evidenced in the text of all treaties which Afghanistan has signed, as well as in the declarations of the heads of the Afghan Government since the nineteenth century.

During the First World War, Afghanistan continued to follow this policy, despite numerous attempts on the part of the great powers of Europe to persuade her to abandon her neutrality.

Afghanistan was pleased to see the formation of the League of Nations as an organization dedicated to the preservation of world peace and international cooperation. She also welcomed the disarmament conferences of the post-war era and took part in these as well as in the League of Nations.

In the work of the League, Afghanistan was particularly interested in the work of the League Assembly on the question of defining aggression, which at that time was a ques-

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Dr. A. H. Tabibi, Councillor to the Afghan Permanent Mission to the U.N. signing the new treaty on narcotic control which will replace multilateral instrument in that field.

AMERICAN PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH

Editor's Note:

The university life of foreign students in America is best seen through the eyes and mind of a Foreign Student Advisor. He is aware of the problems, difficulties and achievements of foreign students better perhaps than the administrative officials of the student's home country.

We are happy in this issue of ASN to feature Mr. Allen C. Blaisdell of the University of California at Berkeley, which has the largest number of foreign scholars and visitors of any university in America.

Mr. Blaisdell graduated from Pomona College in 1919. After teaching English in Japan for some time he joined the staff of the International House at Columbia University.

Since 1928 he has coordinated the construction and served as Director of the International House in Berkeley. In 1934 he assumed the duties of Foreign Student advisor as an official of the University at Berkeley. Later in 1958 he became the Foreign Service official of the University.

Mr. Blaisdell's contact with the Afghans began in 1934. At that time Mr. Abdul Majid, the Afghan Ambassador to Japan was the only full time student in Berkeley from Afghanistan. During these past long years, not only the Afghans but numerous other overseas students have received the inexhaustible help, friendship and guidance of Mr. Blaisdell. His patience and administrative ability have been a source of international service and recognition for him. His efforts were substantiated by the late Mrs. Josephine Blaisdell who is remembered by all as the most gracious, understanding and friendly lady that can be remembered on the Berkeley campus.



Mr. Blaisdell shown at his office at Berkeley.

Allen C. Blaisdell

I deeply appreciate the kind recognition accorded me by the Associated Students of Afghanistan in the United States in this issue of their publication. The number of Afghan students in the United States has always been, and remains, small as compared to other nationality groups. However, because of the high quality of the individuals the group has always enjoyed an enviable reputation for thoughtfulness, statesmanship and fine character in the conduct of their affairs as individuals and collectively as a national organization. This publication and their national conferences, conducted with dignity and a fine sense of social responsibility, are concrete evidence justifying their reputation.

As individuals, they, of course, brought with them their fair share of scholastic and personal problems. These were accentuated because of much delayed educational relationships of Afghanistan with the Western world. In spite of struggle and often despair, the members of few group have made as fine, mature and satisfactory scholastic adjustment. I have watched with interest and pride their developing maturity and self-confidence.

Our records of earlier years are rather sparse, and maybe I am mistaken, but was not Abdul Majid one of the first Afghan students to come to the University of California, Berkeley, in the spring of 1934? There are indications that one or two others may have preceded him. However, as I remember it, he was a pioneer in the educational relationships of Afghanistan and the United States. Then came Mohammad Atik; the Tarzi brothers, Abdullah, Hamidullah and Wahidullah; the Younoszai brothers, Monir and Rafi; the Noorzoy brothers, Mohammad and Zia.

Of the comparatively small group at Berkeley, three have served as president of your National Association, Mohammad Ghausi, Ehsan Ferzad and now Zia Noorzoy. Probably the one who has achieved the most outstanding recognition locally and nationally for his distinguished scholastic achievements and his contribution to university life in so many ways is Mohammad Ghausi. In his achievement and recognition he is second to none among the thousands of foreign students in the United States. We now reluctantly share him with New York University.

How I would like to mention each and everyone I have known during the last twenty-five to thirty years, but space will not permit. I would like, however, to speak a special word of appreciation

to those of the Royal Afghan Embassy, who through correspondence, personal visits and interviews, assisted me and the students to solve the sometimes difficult problems facing us; Hakim Tabibi, Ghulam Farouk, now Etemadi, Mohammed Sulaiman and Mohammed Mohseni. They in concert with their colleagues and the several Ambassadors constantly showed interest in and concern for the welfare of their students. They always listened sympathetically to my pleadings and recommendations for those students facing scholastic and social problems. Their courtesy and patience must have frequently been strained by me as I plead the cause of some slowly developing student or one who had stubbed his toe against the exacting clauses of his contract.

Thank you, dear friends, one and all, for what you have done for the University of California, and more particularly for me personally, by lifting the horizons of our limited knowledge about you and your country and by enlarging the circle of our friendship and affection. If ever it is my good fortune to visit your country in the years ahead, I know I will find many of you in high places of leadership and influence. It is my fond hope that the universities of the United States, and particularly the University of California, shall continue and increasingly profit from an ever growing number of Afghan students and scholars entrusted to their care and hospitality. As you return to Afghanistan, your success and contributions to the developing life of your country and the solving of its many and perplexing problems will be the strongest argument in support of this hope.

—Allen

AFGHANISTAN: THE ECONOMIC KOREA BY LOUIS DUPREE

Ed. Dr. Dupree recently returned from his third trip to Afghanistan. He is presently Associate Professor of Anthropology at Pennsylvania State University, Research Associate in Anthropology at the American Museum of Natural History, and is on the staff of the American Universities Field Staff. This summer he plans to return to Afghanistan for two more years with his wife and three children. He received his BA, MA, and PhD degrees from Harvard in Anthropology.

If one believes most of the Western press these days, Afghanistan is either communist, communist-controlled, or at least communist sympathizing. In spite of artificial appearances this is far from the truth. True, the Soviet bloc plays a leading role in Afghan development programs, and controls about 40% of Afghanistan's total trade transactions. Before 1950 little trade existed between Afghanistan and the north, and even today a sizeable amount of Soviet bloc goods travels from ports in north Poland to Karachi, West Pak-



Dr. Dupree (left) talks with Prime Minister Daud on his last visit to Afghanistan

istan, and then by rail and truck to Afghanistan. Before 1950, no Russians, except those on diplomatic status, lived in Afghanistan. Today at least a thousand Soviet bloc technicians build roads, airfields, dams, canals, power stations, explore for oil, and improve the port of Quizil Qala (Imam Sahib) on the Oxus (or Amu Darya) River.

Admittedly, the presence of such massive Soviet aid in a neutral country should worry the West, but before we analyse the worries, let us examine the sources of the problem.

SOURCES OF THE PROBLEM

The 1947 partition of the British Indian Empire into independent Muslim Pakistan and Hindu India brought Afghanists into the international political arena when it demanded a United Nations sponsored plebiscite among several million Pushtuns (Pathans) living on the Pakistan side of the Durand Line. Afghanistan, with a dominant Pushtun population, claims the Durand Line, which the British forced upon Amir Abdur Rahman (1880-1901), first ruler of modern Afghanistan, demarcated zones of responsibility and never constituted a permanent boundary. Pakistan, however, considers itself the legal inheritor of the region. Regardless of the merits of the respective arguments, the issue produced *disastrous effects on Pak-Afghan relations*. Particularly vitriolic propaganda flows from both sides, and the two Pakistani "blockades" (1950-1955) of Afghan in-transit goods resulted from the "Pushtunistan" quarrel. These blockades (actually slowdowns of goods in transit to Afghanistan through Pakistan) contributed to Afghanistan's acceptance of Soviet aid offers.

Two Pakistan Blockades

During the 1950 blockade, the Afghans asked the Americans and Iranians to consider building a new transit route to an Iranian port on the Arabian Sea, but the United States rejected this plan as impractical and too expensive. The Soviets offered to barter gasoline, cement, and textiles—desperately needed items—for Afghan raw materials, and in July, 1950, the two countries signed a 4-year trade agreement.

In 1955, when Pakistan announced the One Unit Plan which would eventually incorporate the Pushtun areas under dispute irrevocably into the province of West Pakistan, riots broke out in Kabul and Qandahar against Pakistani diplomatic buildings. In retaliation, a Pakistani mob attacked the Afghan consulate in Peshawar, and another slowdown of in-transit goods began.

Soviet Gives Aid at Crucial Time

In December, 1955, just as the blockade ended, Bulganin and Krushchev arrived in Kabul for a state visit, and left behind a fabulous \$100 million long-term, low-interest loan, which gave the Afghans the opportunity to expand their development schemes manifold. *No one should have been surprised when the Afghans accepted this offer.* The United States had given economic and military aid to Pakistan, and Pakistan, by her decision to join SEATO and the Baghdad Pact (now called CENTO) became firmly committed to the West. Previously, the United States had refused to give Afghanistan military aid. The Russians, on the other hand, seemed to give aid without strings attached and actively supported Afghan demands for an impartial plebiscite in "Pushtunistan." When the extent of Russian aid became apparent, the United States, through ICA, did step up its economic programs in Afghanistan.

The Soviet Experiment In Economic Penetration

Large-scale social experimentation with human guinea pigs is not new in the Soviet system. In just one instance, the Soviets established many experimental farms and ranches before attempting total collectivization in Central Asia. Afghanistan admirably suits all conditions for a controlled experiment in economic penetration without overtly disturbing the social or political

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An Open Letter to Arnold Toynbee

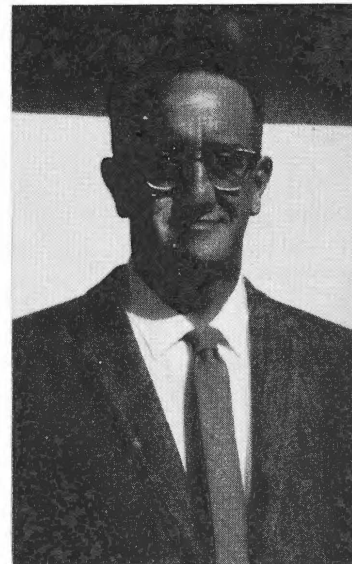
INTRODUCTION

By Nake M. Kamrany

In late 1960, the famous British historian Dr. Arnold Toynbee made a brief visit to Afghanistan and Pakistan. Upon his return, Professor Toynbee took a negative stand with respect to the freedom of Pakhtunistan.

His stand has been challenged by many sources including several Afghan newspapers and magazine. I have been extremely disappointed in Dr. Toynbee's position in regard to the independence of Pakhtunistan. His stand was biased, one-sided, naive, and non-academic. There is no question in my mind that Dr. Toynbee's biased stand has damaged his personal integrity.

The Afghan Student News readers will be convinced of my criticism of Dr. Toynbee's views once they read the following open letter written by the noted American historian, Dr. Arnold Fletcher. Historian Fletcher is probably the most informative Western observer about the facts of Pakhtunistan. He spent several years in Afghanistan while he was serving as Deputy Director of Habibia College in Kabul. He has written his doctoral dissertation on the History of the Afghan People, and he has visited Pakhtunistan on several occasions.



Dr. Arnold Fletcher

Dear Mr. Toynbee:

Your article on your visit to Afghanistan and Pakistan published in the Observer on September 2nd surprised and saddened me. Like other historians, I have long admired your work. It came as a shock, therefore, to read your article and to find that in it, particularly with regard to the Pakhtunistan issue, your statements seemed based upon scanty knowledge coupled with a lamentable lack of objectivity.

You state, for example, that the Pakhtunistan concept "does not seem to correspond to the present feelings and wishes of the Pakhtun people on the Pakistan side of the border." This remark would be more fitting coming from the platform of a politician than it is from the pen of a historian. Neither you nor anyone can state the "feelings and wishes of the Pakhtun people" for the simple reason that they have never been asked. I can certify that I have talked with many of these Pakhtuns who were heartily in favor of the Pakhtunistan concept but I admit that this does not give me the right to speak for the Pakhtun people. I suggest, however, that they be given the right and the opportunity to speak for themselves.

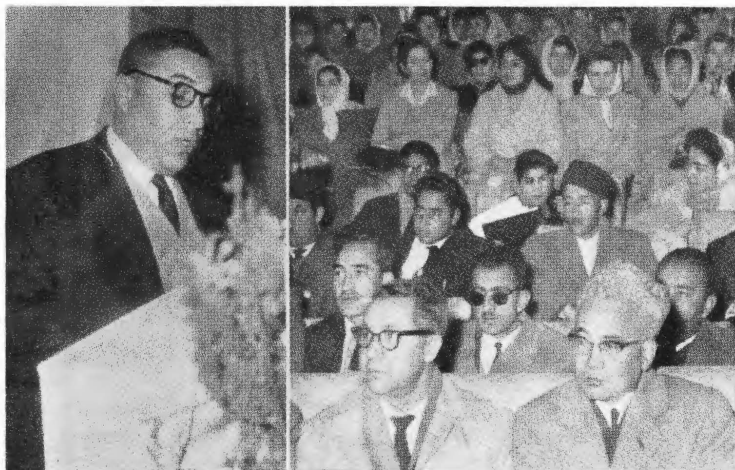
Your position that the Pakhtunistan concept is wrong because the territory is not economically viable would, if carried to its logical conclusion, have blocked the independence of many countries that have gained nationhood in recent years. It is similar to the statement that I heard frequently before 1947, uttered incidentally by many of your countrymen, that India should not be given its freedom because the Indians were not capable of running their country.

The economical potential of the Pakhtun territory is considerable; in fact, its economic viability probably exceeds that of Pakistan itself. It is not overpopulated and many of its potential resources are still unexploited. To compare the economical potential with that of Libya, for example, is ludicrous.

It is unfortunate, Dr. Toynbee, that the position of Afghanistan—the chief supporter of the Pakhtunistan concept—has received singularly unfair and biased treatment in your country

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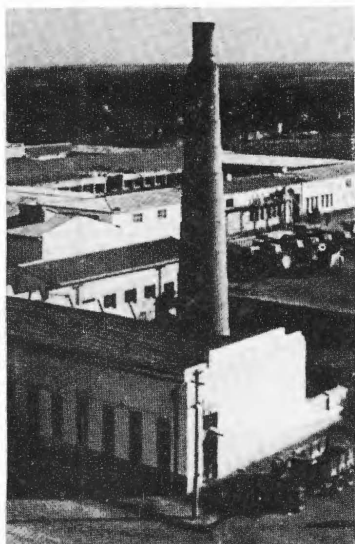
NEWS IN BRIEF



Dr. A. A. Popal, Minister of Education, opening the winter courses for teachers at the Institute of Education.

Ten Countries Apply to Participate in International Exhibit in Kabul

On the occasion of the successful completion of the First Five-Year Development Plan and the start of the Second Development Plan, which coincides with the 43rd anniversary of the Afghan Independence Day, the Ministry of Commerce has requested friendly countries to participate in the International Exhibition due to open in Kabul next August. It is learned that so far, the Soviet Union, Turkey, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Iraq, India, Italy, Iran, Austria, and Belgium have applied to the Ministry for participating in the exhibition. Other countries are expected to do the same in due course.



A new China factory of Kunduz, which was established with the joint capital of the Kunduz Cotton Combine and the Marohini Company of Japan.

Gun-Powder Explosion Kills Twenty-Three

Kabul-Apr. 7: It is learned with regret that an explosion which took place in a shop selling gun-powder and cartridges in one of the side streets off the Maiwand Watt yesterday killed twenty-three and injured thirty-three persons. A number of adjacent shops and buildings have also been completely destroyed. The wounded persons were immediately taken to the hospital. Workers of the Municipal Corporation, Security and Army were called to make an intensive search for the victims in the wreckage.

Telegrams Received

On the occasion of EID and NAWROWZ congratulatory telegrams have been received from the Kabul University, the Minister of Education, His Excellency Mr. Maiwand and The Honorable Mr. Etemadi.

Also telegrams on the occasion of EID-AZHA have been received from the President of Kabul University and Mr. Etemadi and the Minister of Education conveying their best wishes to all the members of ASA.

Planning Bureau Head Arrives

Mr. Shalezi, the head of the Planning Bureau of the Ministry of Planning, has arrived in the U.S. recently. His itinerary of business includes the publication of a book on Afghanistan in English and Pushto languages on recent developments in Afghanistan.

AN OPEN LETTER TO TOYNBEE

(Continued from Page 3)

and mine; treatment characterized by distortion, misstatement, and occasional absurdity. This may seem proper to a politician but it should be anathema to a historian.

Certain truths about the matter are self-evident, at least to anyone who makes the slightest effort to find them. First the Pakhtuns on the Pakistan side of the Durand Line are the same people as those on the Afghan side and that the Afghan government by all possible historic precedent has a right to be concerned over their future. Second that the Durand Line was imposed upon Afghanistan by force and with complete disregard of the ethnic and historic factors. Third, that the Pakhtun people outside the "administered areas" were never given the opportunity to determine their destiny. Fourth, that even in the area where voting was held, the restrictive nature of the choice produced a widespread popular boycott of the polls. Fifth, that many Pakhtuns including their most popular leader have never accepted inclusion in Pakistan and have been subject to arrest and imprisonment. Sixth, that Pakistan has used and continued to use military force including aerial bombardment to attack adherents of the Pakhtunistan concept.

These are "facts", Dr. Toynbee, and not opinion. Their documentation is extensive and I will gladly provide it to you if you desire.

This letter is written with sympathy for the nation of Pakistan and admiration for its people. As a historian, however, my first responsibility is to the truth.

Sincerely, Dr. Fletcher



Some students from the winter courses photographed with doctors and nurses from the Maternity Hospital which they visited recently

New Bank Buildings Under Way

The construction work of the new building for the City Branch of D' Afghanistan and at Ghazi Mohammad Jan Khan Watt, which was started last year under the supervision of Hochtief Construction Company is nearing completion. According to a statement made by an engineer of Hochtief, minor jobs such as piping, installations of central heating and electric wiring remain to be done.

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New Publishing House

A new publishing house has been established in Shiberghan Province. It is called 'Daiwa Publishing Institute' and at present publishes a weekly magazine titled 'Daiwa'.

How About That!

The influence of Afghans on the culture of the Americas didn't start with the A.S.A., but rather a few years previous to the organization's introduction.

In 499 A.D., a Buddhist monk by the name of Hwui Shan arrived in China after a remarkable journey. This Afghan started his trip of missionary activity by sailing north from the mainland of China, following the Japanese Current until he reached a highly developed society in a country, which he called "Fusang." His description of the Aleutians, Alaska, and the West Coast is quite accurate and it would seem that the society he found was one of the Indian cultures of Mexico. While Hwui Shan returned after about twenty years in the land, he introduced the monastic system and reformed manners.

Jeff Longshaw

THE EDITOR'S MAILBOX . . .

Rejection of "Agricultural Reform" Challenged

In my opinion the challenge of Mr. Kamrany which appeared in the last issue of A.S.N. to Mr. Eltezam's "Agricultural Reform" is in turn subject to challenge.

True, the problem of landlordism is not as acute as in Pakistan, Egypt, and India. However, it is still a problem in rural Afghanistan.

Even with no change in farming methods, it is reasonable to assume that a land redistribution in Afghanistan would increase the total productivity. It is a well proven fact that a farmer will work longer and harder on his own land than on someone else's.

If economic growth is to continue, the agricultural and industrial industries must move ahead hand in hand. We must be aware of the fact any expansion in either agriculture or manufacturing increasing the demand for the products of the other. If this demand is not met at home the desired goods will be imported and a shortage in our foreign exchange will probably result. Unfortunately such a shortage in manufactured goods has been the situation in post-war Afghanistan. However, in the past few years agricultural productivity has lagged behind manufacturing, resulting in a need to import farm products. Thus increasing agricultural production (by land reform or any other method) is a must.

Mr. Kamrany says that "major consideration" should be given to the "probability that the undue giving away of land would encourage the peasantry to add to the population explosion . . ." Two points will show this "probability" to be an impossibility. First no great or immediate wealth will be forthcoming to the newly-landed peasantry. The land will have to be paid for regardless of how low the payments and the peasant will still have to pay taxes to support industrial expansion. Further, if, as Mr. Kamrany stated, there would be no increase in productivity then there would be no problem anyway.

Secondly, it is a well known phenomenon that hunger contributes to the size of a fam-

ily. The richer nations have a much longer birth rate with the poorer presenting the problem. An unemployed person or a farmer without incentives to work will spend more time in his bedroom than in the fields.

M. M. Shorish

—o—

Congratulations

Dear Editor,

I arrived in the U.S. in February of this year under U.S.I.S.'s special program for advanced studies and general observation in the field of motion pictures.

Since my arrival in the U.S., I have received two issues of the *Afghan Student News*. May I inform you that I was extremely impressed with the excellence of your work. I think the credit for such an outstanding job reflects upon the high quality of our Afghan students here in the U.S.

I believe that the *Afghan Student News* supplies adequate and interesting information about Afghanistan as well as being a good source of reference for our American friends. Your services with respect to ASN are of great value to both the Association, of which I am very proud, and to our motherland, Afghanistan.

My heartiest congratulations to you.

Sincerely yours,

Mohammad Akbar Shalizi
Acting Director of Motion
Pictures Afghanistan
Press and Information

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A Letter From Ambassador Pazhwak

Ed. the following is part of a letter sent to Mr. Toussi, Secretary General of the Michigan State University United Nations.

The student is the "youth" preparing himself as an effective instrument for the future. His role in the future world cannot be confined to any sphere, including the sphere of the United Nations. The United Nations and the role of the student in the future world however, should be considered important to all those who look forward to seeing a better world as a result of what the

United Nations as a collective aspiration of making for the preservation of peace and in the development of the ideal prosperity which would answer to the greatest question mark of human welfare, and particularly its development in the free aspirations of man, devoted to himself and his fellow beings on the highest level of cultural and spiritual thinking.

It is not the student who in fact has the role to play. It is in fact the education that he receives, the spirit in which he is taught, and for the aim that he is trained. Most unfortunately, even in countries members of the United Nations, the Charter and its ideals have not been satisfactorily finding their way toward becoming the basic force for creating the men wanted for the future world—a better world.

I personally think that the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter, being a result of some of the most unpleasant experiences of mankind, could serve as a basis for the education of the youth—in your words—the student; in fact, education itself, in order to serve the purpose of peace, the only source from which emanate prosperity, which can give hope for the realization of the ideal of man living for mankind.



M. Hassan Alief, ASA year book Editor and Study Grant recipient.

Alief Receives Study Grant and Assistantship

M. Hassan Alief, who is attending the University of Idaho and is working for his master's degree in geology, has received a two-year assistantship from the Idaho Bureau of Mines and Geology. He has also received a grant for this summer to study some new methods of stratigraphic correlation in southern Idaho. In this basic research, he hopes to apply the distribution of trace elements, radioactivity, thorium-uranium ratios, and if possible, paleomagnetism in strata correlations. This work will at the same time count as a thesis toward his M.S.

Nasser Confers Medal of Honor on Mrs. Saljuki

His Excellency Gamal Abdel Nasser, President of the United Arab Republic, has conferred the medal "Alkamal" on Mrs. Homara Saljuki, wife of Prof. Salahuddin Saljuki, His Majesty's Ambassador to the U.A.R. and the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps in Cairo. This is the first time that U.A.R. President has conferred such a medal on a woman member of the Diplomatic Corps in Cairo.



Mrs. Saljuki Receiving the Award

CHAPTERS REPORTING

WYOMING CHAPTER CELEBRATE EAD AND NEW YEAR

By Z. Sahibzada

The most active members of the Wyoming chapter of ASA staged a celebration on March 17, 1961 to acquaint their American friends with Moslem Ead and New Year 1340.

About 300 spectators and guests watched the program which included introduction with comments on Ead and New Year, Afghan music, songs and dancing. The songs were accompanied with robob, tanboor, accordion, mandolin, saxophone, tonette, and drum by the performers Anita Brown, Margaret Drury, Joyce Pirrie, Quraishi, Faizi, Salem, Ibrahim, Jabori, Ali, Samim, Hofiani, Paktiawal and Sahibzada as master of ceremonies.

M. Z. Salem (campus leader) gave a brief talk on the significance and history of the two occasions.



Shahabuddin Shabiby, recently elected President of the International Students Club at Los Angeles Technical-Trades College. He is majoring in Automotive Mechanics.

Noorzoy Goes to Washington to Discuss ASA Projects

Mr. Zia Noorzoy has left California for Washington and New York to discuss some of the projects of ASA and arrange plans for our forthcoming convention. His trip was arranged by AFME in view of the enlarged program of ASA for the forthcoming convention.

AFGHANISTAN: THE ECONOMIC KOREA

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status quo. Afghanistan has a common boundary with the U.S.S.R., is underdeveloped and an avowed neutral. It shares bitter memories of Western interference and occupation with the underdeveloped countries of Afro-Asia and Latin America. *The British and Czarist Russians created Afghanistan out of a series*

Berkeley Chapter Report

Mr. M. G. Bakhshi, the Assistant Director of the Community Development Program of Afghanistan, has completed a two months seminar at the University of California at Berkeley on social and economic problems of rural development. After a successful completion of his participation under the Asia Foundation, Mr. Bakhshi returned home in May.

Dr. Anas, the Deputy Minister of Education of Afghanistan, has arrived in Berkeley on an Eisenhower Fellowship to study the recent advancements in techniques of study and teaching of elementary education at Stanford and Berkeley.

During the week of April 29-May 5, Afghanistan along with fourteen other countries participated in a week of international festivities at the University of California. The Berkeley Chapter of ASA also presented Afghan songs, dances, handicraft and refreshments at the International House on May 5 and 6. The program was received with enthusiasm by a large audience.

Notice to Graduating and Graduated Seniors

Please send your pictures together with a brief autobiography for publication in the next issue of ASN.

"Afghanistan Student Directory and ASA Yearbook"

The news has been received that the plans for the completion of an Afghan Student Directory for the year 1961 have been completed. The Directory will be published by AFME. Please make sure that last-minute changes in your address are reported to Mr. Abdul Ghafoor, ASA Secretary. In order to have another most successful yearbook your short biographies and pictures must be sent to Mr. Hasan Alief, the Editor of ASAY. We particularly urge those members who were not included in the last yearbook to have their required information sent to Mr. Alief not later than July 20, 1961.

of tribal kingdoms with little regard for true cultural and ethnic boundaries. Such unnatural boundaries seem to form important features on the post World War II political landscape: East-West Germany, North-South Korea, Arab States-Israel, Pakistan-Kashmir, India-Pakistan, etc. Africa and Latin America were divided into colonies by Europeans without considering cultural or natural geographic boundaries; Latin America still suffers from periodic boundary disputes. Uncertain African boundaries will increase tension as more nations gain independence. And within each of these countries, as in Afghanistan, several distinct ethnic groups exist, each with its own interests. Also, within each country are delicately balanced—or potentially unbalanced—relations between have and have-nots, a wide gap between educated and uneducated, generally a strong central government, and a volatile student population.

Another important point: many African nations have some Islamic traditions and ethnic groups. And even Latin America is permeated with the Hispano-Moslem culture transplanted to the New World after half a century's incubation in Spain.

Part of Massive Aid to Afro-Asia

By 1965 most colonial nations in Africa will be free. About the same time, the Soviets (according to numerous Krushchev speeches) plan to offer massive economic aid to the underdeveloped countries of Afro-Asia and will go all out to penetrate Latin America. Actually, the Latin American penetration has begun. In October, 1958, the Soviets granted Argentina a long-term \$100 million loan; in February, 1960, Deputy Premier Mikoyan signed an agreement to give Fidel Castro's Cuba \$100 million long-term loan. Note these figures are identical to the original \$100 million Afghan loan in 1955, and the later loan of \$100 million to Ethiopia. The Soviets are already applying the lessons learned in Afghanistan.

Aim: To Affect All Institutions Through Economics

The key is economic penetration. The Soviets realize that massively affecting one institution in a society affects all institutions. Economies cannot be divorced from the family, religion, political organization, social and educational institutions. In the U.S.A., for example, intergration, a social change, eventually will affect the total institutional structure of the South, including the family and economic patterns.

Afghanistan, one of the four non-communist countries having major borders with the USSR (others are Finland, Iran, and Turkey), hopes by remaining *rigidly neutral* to gain as materially as has Finland without selling her national soul.

I look upon Afghanistan as the economic Korea. If we withdraw we do so at our future risk, because somewhere we must make an economic stand in a neutral, politically marginal country. I think part of the Soviet experiment is to see how far the United States will extend itself to compete under pressure.

Afghanistan: Neutrality, Independence, Development

Three words aptly describe Afghanistan's position in South Asia: neutrality, independence, development. If these three factors are strengthened, the free world benefits; the failure of one weakens the other two. The United States should encourage neutrality by not attempting to lure Afghanistan into regional defense pacts; neutrality is an old Afghan tradition. The United States should encourage independence by continuing to support Afghan educational and bureaucratic reforms, thereby helping shape the minds which will ultimately govern a free Afghanistan.

Prime Minister Daud's Plans Should Be Encouraged

Currently, American aid dominates assistance programs concerning education and public administration. The United States should encourage Prime Minister Daud's development plans, not withdraw economic aid, but add more. But—and this is an important but—we should attempt to select overseas personnel more carefully, spending more money for Afghanistan and less to make our technicians comfortable. Most visible result of American money spent in Kabul is in improved American living conditions. If our bureaucratic system cannot produce long-term Americans with an acute understanding of the areas they work in and the job they are to do, long-term aid is next to useless.

MY IMPRESSION OF THE U. S.

By Farouq Sharif

Editor's Note: Mr. Sharif arrived in the U.S. in September of 1960. He is a student at S.B.C.C. where he majors in the field of economics.

In this article, I wish to express my impression about the people, society, and educational standards in the U.S. rather



Farouq Sharif

Americans have a good sense of humor. Talent is greatly appreciated. And, at many festivities they would rather glamorize a beautiful girl (36-24-36) than a war hero, a demagogue, or the like.

Such an attitude and conventional taste, I believe, is healthy and represents a taste for peaceful living and prosperity. And it reflects the view point of many of those who contend, "Live and let live."

The only occasion where I cannot defend Americanism as such is of course the case of certain discriminations against minority groups; especially discrimination against the Negroes. However, I do admit that discrimination against minority groups has prevailed throughout the world over the centuries up to the present. Further, the U.S. government and many responsible American citizens have taken constructive steps in order to reduce and/or eliminate discrimination against the minority groups and award them equality in civil liberty and education. This is certainly a good step forward.

Characterized by Opportunity

Another impressive characteristic of the society is the wide-open opportunity for many individuals to provide themselves a successful and comfortable living. It is the inherent nature of the system which induces individuals toward business ventures, educational degrees, scientific explorations, future expectations, optimistic outlook, and even risk taking.

The U.S. society and system is certainly not perfect in every respect. Nor is any other society or system in the world. I should mention that the U.S. in some ways has failed to cope with the problems which arise as a result of dynamic and progressive industrialization. Family ties have been loosened, divorce rates have increased, the problems of delinquency and crimes cover a good deal of newspaper space. Constructive steps are yet to be supplemented in these areas.

The thing which I am least impressed with is the U.S. press. I feel that a good majority of the newspapers attempt to excite their readers rather than enlighten them.

While the best magazine of the U.S. is probably the best in the world, the worst of it is certainly the worst in the world. And as a whole, a good majority fill the pages of the paper with utterly useless material. Their treatment of foreign dignitaries and information about foreign countries (especially the under-developed countries) are a unique American-version of journalistic excitement-inducing techniques, which I think are quite indigestible.

As a whole, I enjoy myself very much and I welcome the privilege of being able to enroll in an American college.

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Afghanistan: Policy

(Continued from Page 1)

tion on which the great powers, especially the United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, sought a solution. Afghanistan also hoped for the success of the work of the League in the field of the codification of International Law.

During the Second World War

When the crisis in Europe which led to the dissolution of the League and to the Second World War developed, Afghanistan again followed a policy of neutrality, and maintained it throughout the war years.

In the aftermath of the war, Afghanistan was one of the first non-founders to apply for admission to the United Nations. Because of her clear record as a peaceful nation, both the Security Council and the General Assembly unanimously accepted the Afghan application for membership.

Since then, Afghanistan has fully cooperated with other members of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies for the preservation of world peace and the respect of the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations. She continued her policy of neutrality on political issues which continued the cold war and increased international tension. Afghanistan did as much as she could as a small country to defend those principles which could lead to world peace and amity.

Afghanistan places more hope in the work of the United Nations than it could in the League of Nations particularly

because the United Nations Charter envisages more clearly the economic and social aspects of international cooperation than did the League Covenant.

Afghanistan has supported all decisions and resolutions designed to aid the underdeveloped countries in the economic, social and cultural fields, not only in the General Assembly, but also in the Economic and Social Council of which she recently became a member.

In the field of disarmament, Afghanistan favors all plans which will help to lessen the armament race and put an end to nuclear testing. Afghanistan opposed the use of nuclear power for anything other than peaceful purposes.

Afghanistan has supported and will continue to support the independence of trust and non-self-governing territories, on the basis of the right of peoples to self-determination as enunciated in the United Nations Charter, particularly Chapter 11.

In the legal field, Afghanistan supports the universal recognition of the general principles of international law as well as their codification, and has cooperated in achieving this aim in the General Assembly and in international conferences.

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WHAT IS I.I.E?

By M. S. Noorzoy

I.I.E. is the abbreviation for Institute of International Education. But the name stands for more than it would reflect at the first glance. I.I.E. was established in 1919 as a private, non-profit organization to develop programs of educational exchange for students, teachers, leaders and specialists between the United States and foreign countries. Since then it has extended its exchange program between the U.S. and 80 other countries.

Through I.I.E. fellowships and scholarships are provided by the U.S. and other governments, universities, private organizations and individual donors. In addition I.I.E. arranges admission of foreign students at educational institutions in the U.S. The majority of the scholarships are for students

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than the sky-scrapers of N. Y., the smog of L. A., the crowded streets of Chicago, the marvelous bridges of San Francisco, or the beauty of Santa Barbara.

I should point out that my experiences in the U.S. have been very limited since I have been here only a short time. And consequently, my observations risk—broad generalization.

With respect to education, I must confess that competition is very keen on the college campuses. College education in an American institution has certainly offered me a great challenge. I feel that education in the U.S. colleges is constructive, enlightening, and of very high quality.

Most Outstanding Feature

The most outstanding feature of the people in the U.S. society, according to my observation, is the hard-working nature of individuals. Peoples, as a whole, welcome challenge, drive hard, possess strong will and belief in themselves and their system and country. Furthermore, I have found the Americans like our Afghans are very hospitable, friendly, and of good nature.

Cosmopolitan Elect Faizi as President

By Z. Sahibzada

The Cosmopolitan Club at the University of Wyoming elected Mohammad Hossian Faizi as the president. Faizi is a civil engineering junior, who has been a very active member of ASA from Wyoming chapter in presenting our country's social activities to the American friends in many occasions.

Despite the fact that he has kept making high grades in his academic activities, he has also shown a wonderful and amazing talent in playing guitar, singing and presenting the Afghan national dances.

His fellow students from the University of Wyoming wish him much success and prosperity.



Mr. Faizi Assumes His Duties as President of the Cosmopolitan Club.

WHAT IS I.I.E.?

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on the graduate level and cover almost every field of study.

I.I.E. selects candidates for 1,500 awards, including the Fulbright program. Through these awards foreign students come to the United States for advanced studies and to acquire technical training, and U.S. students go abroad to further their educational needs. I.I.E. arranges special orientation programs for newly arrived students. It has a program of non-academic nature of exchange for people in the professions, business, government and the arts. Laboratory technicians, factory experts, research analysts come from abroad to the U.S. to enhance their knowledge and skill and the American counterparts in these and

many more professions go abroad to help in the development of modern techniques.

I.I.E. carries on its extensive activities in cooperation with over 150 other organizations among which are the Asia Foundation, American Friends of the Middle East, World University Service, Association of American Universities, National Association of Manufacturers and so on.

In short, I.I.E. wishes and it was created to perform the delicate task of increasing international understanding and friendship among the citizens of the United States and the citizens of the countries which are taking part in these exchanges.

It was my good fortune to have been invited last December by Mr. Arthur Feraru, Director of Information, I.I.E., to attend the I.I.E. Fourth Annual Conference in San Francisco. Before that date I had not heard of I.I.E. or its extensive activities and perhaps like some of the readers was not aware of the educational opportunities that the activities of I.I.E. have been providing for those in need for the past forty years.

The main purpose of I.I.E. happily coincides with the purposes of our own student association in this country, namely that of providing understanding and friendship between the peoples of our two countries. But to know that this purpose is executed on the scale that I.I.E. does it, and at the same time provide educational opportunities for thousands, is indeed rewarding information.

I.I.E.'s headquarters is located at 1 East 67 Street, New York 21, N.Y. I am sure that inquiries by interested persons as to the detailed worth-while activities of this organization would be welcomed.

Afghans at U of W Attend the Academy of Science

By S. M. S. Samim

The 32nd annual meeting of the Colorado-Wyoming Academy of Science was held at Colorado College in Colorado Springs on May 5th and 6th 1961.

The meeting was concerned with the different phases of science in the various fields of Anthropology, chemistry, physics, plant science, psychology and zoology. Scientists and

students in these fields from the University of Wyoming joined this group and presented their recent research papers.

Afghan students from the University of Wyoming who attended this meeting on the 5th and 6th of May were M. N. Nawabi from the Department of Chemistry. G. M. Telwar from the Botany department and S. M. S. Samim representing the department of Plant Pathology.

Mr. Nawabi just recently finished a new research project on the reaction of oxalyl chloride with tryptophane and his paper was presented at this meeting by his major professor, Dr. R. O. Asplund, Professor of Biochemistry. Other scientists, representing various phases of the meeting, also presented their research papers. This reporter found the papers and the entire meeting of great interest.

The meeting ended on the 6th of May at 12:30 noon and representatives returned to their various schools to present re-



Z. Sahibzada, ASA Vice-President, shown during his recent graduation from the University of Wyoming.

ports on the exchange of ideas and on the accomplishments of their fellow scientists. Shah Samim presented the summarization of the meetings in a seminar of Plant Science division at the University of Wyoming.

Afghan Student News

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The *Afghan Student News* welcomes articles, photographs and constructive criticism from its readers.

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