

## THE IMPACT OF TALIBAN RULE ON AFGHANISTAN'S ECONOMY

Khalid Ghani <sup>1</sup>

### Abstract:

*This article examines the profound economic implications of Taliban rule in Afghanistan after their takeover in August 2021. The study highlights the severe economic contraction experienced by Afghanistan, with significant declines in GDP, sky-high inflation, and a dramatic devaluation of the national currency. It examines the breakdown of key economic systems, including banking and financial infrastructure, exacerbated by international sanctions and the freezing of foreign reserves. The study further examines the Taliban's economic policies, including efforts to stabilize the economy, fight corruption, and attract foreign investment, particularly in mining and agriculture. Despite these efforts, the Taliban's rule has come about due to international isolation and ongoing instability. This article discusses the broader socio-economic consequences, including increased poverty, food insecurity, and a poor employment environment. It concludes with policy recommendations for both the Taliban and the international community aimed at mitigating the economic and humanitarian crises in Afghanistan. These recommendations include diplomatic engagement to lift sanctions, comprehensive economic reforms, targeted sectoral support, and sustained humanitarian assistance. Future research directions are suggested to better understand the long-term effects of Taliban rule and the effectiveness of international interventions.*

### Keywords:

Economic Contraction, Inflation, International Sanctions, Humanitarian Crisis, Banking System and Foreign Investment

---

<sup>1</sup> MBA scholar, University of Peshawar

These keywords capture the primary themes and focus areas of the research paper.

## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1 Background:**

Historical context: Afghanistan's economy has historically been affected by its strategic location, rich natural resources, and turbulent political landscape. The country has experienced decades of conflict, including invasions, civil war, and political unrest, which have significantly affected economic development (Rubin, 2002; Barfield, 2010). These events have caused instability and disrupted economic activity, challenging sustainable growth.

### **1.2 Pre-2021 Economy**

Economy before 2021: Before the Taliban took over in 2021, Afghanistan's economy was heavily dependent on international aid, agriculture, and the service sector. The country's infrastructure and institutions are being rebuilt, albeit slowly, after years of conflict (World Bank, 2019; Byrd, 2012). International aid forms a significant part of GDP, supporting various sectors and humanitarian needs.

### **1.3 Objective:**

Analyzing the Economic Impact of Taliban Rule Since 2021:

The purpose of this paper is to find out how the Taliban rule has affected the economy of Afghanistan.

It will assess changes in economic metrics such as GDP, inflation, and employment, which indicate the impact on overall economic stability and growth.

The focus will also include key sectors such as agriculture, mining and trade, analyzing how these are affected under the new regime.

Additionally, the presentation will examine the impact on international relations and aid dependency, specifically how changes in diplomatic relations and sanctions have affected economic activity.

Socio-economic impacts on the Afghan population will also be examined, including changes in income distribution, poverty rates, and access to essential services such as health and education.

## 1.4 Research Questions:

How has the Taliban's rule affected Afghanistan's economy?

What are the major economic challenges under the Taliban regime?

What policies has the Taliban implemented to address these challenges?

## 2. Scope and Limitations

### 2.1 Scope:

**Geographic coverage:** This study covers the entire region of Afghanistan, covering both urban and rural areas to provide a comprehensive overview. This broad coverage allows for a detailed analysis of regional differences and differences in economic impact.

**Time frame:** The analysis focuses on the period of Taliban rule from August 2021 to the present. This timeline is critical to understanding the immediate and short-term economic effects of regime change.

**Economic Indicators:** The study examines key economic indicators such as GDP, inflation, employment rates, trade balance, and agricultural, mining and service sector output. These indicators provide a quantitative measure of a country's economic health and allow comparisons with the pre-Taliban period (World Bank, 2021).

**Socio-economic factors:** The study also explores socio-economic influences, including changes in income distribution, poverty rates, and access to basic services such as health care and education. Understanding these factors is essential to assess the broader impact of economic changes on the Afghan population (UNDP, 2022).

### 2.2 Limitations:

**Availability of data:** Obtaining accurate and up-to-date economic data is challenging due to the unstable political situation and the Taliban's restrictive policies. Lack of transparency and limited access to reliable data sources may affect the completeness and accuracy of analysis (International Crisis Group, 2022). This issue is exacerbated by potential biases in reporting from different sources.

**Political sensitivity:** Political sensitivity surrounding the topic may lead to bias in the available data and interpretations. The research relies on local and international sources, which may have different perspectives on the situation. This diversity of opinions can complicate analysis, as it may be difficult to identify objective data (Human Rights Watch, 2021).

**Rapidly Changing Situation:** The economic and political landscape in Afghanistan is rapidly evolving, making it difficult to comprehensively capture all recent developments and their implications.

The situation on the ground can change rapidly, affecting economic indicators and socio-economic conditions (Al Jazeera, 2022).

Limited access to ground facts: Due to security concerns and limited access, on-the-ground data collection and first-hand observations are limited. This limitation may rely on secondary sources, which may contain inherent biases or errors (BBC News, 2021). The lack of direct data collection creates challenges in verifying the accuracy and reliability of available data.

### 3. Literature Review

#### 3.1 Previous Studies:

**Afghanistan's Economy Pre-2021:** A number of studies have highlighted the fragile nature of Afghanistan's economy before the Taliban came to power. The economy was heavily dependent on international aid, which made up a significant portion of GDP. Key sectors include agriculture, employing most of the population, and a small but growing service sector. Persistent issues such as corruption, poor governance, and security concerns were significant obstacles to sustainable economic growth (World Bank, 2019; Byrd, 2012).

**Impact of Political Instability:** Studies consistently show that political instability in Afghanistan disrupts economic activity, undermines investor confidence, and exacerbates poverty and unemployment. The previous Taliban rule (1996–2001) was characterized by international isolation, economic sanctions, and limited development aid, leading to severe economic decline and humanitarian crises (Rubin, 2002; Barfield, 2010). Studies also highlight the consequences of ongoing conflict, including infrastructure damage, population displacement, and trade disruption (Goodhand, 2002).

**Post-2001 Reconstruction:** After the US-led invasion in 2001 and the establishment of a new government, significant international efforts were made in the field of state building and economic reconstruction. However, challenges such as aid dependency, uneven economic development, and persistent insurgency threaten stability. Studies have shown that despite the influx of international aid, long-term sustainable development has been hampered by issues such as corruption and the lack of a coherent policy framework (Ghani and Lockhart, 2008; Soharak, 2011).

#### 3.2 Theoretical Framework:

Conflict economics theory explores the economic consequences of conflict on a nation. War and instability disrupt production, trade and investment, leading to reduced economic growth. In Afghanistan, ongoing conflict has damaged infrastructure, displaced people, and created uncertainty, which has negatively affected economic development (Collier, 2007; Blatman and

Miguel, 2010). This theory helps explain how the cyclical nature of violence and economic decline perpetuates poverty and underdevelopment.

**State-Building Theories:** These theories focus on the processes through which a state develops institutions, governance structures, and policies to achieve stability and development. In Afghanistan, state-building efforts have been challenged by ethnic diversity, lack of central authority, and external influences. Effective state-building requires political stability, governance and inclusive economic policies (Fukuyama, 2004; Paris, 2004). These theories provide a framework for understanding the complexities of functional state formation in post-conflict society.

**International Sanctions and Their Impact:** International sanctions theory examines how economic and financial restrictions imposed by other countries affect a country's economy. Sanctions can limit access to international markets, reduce foreign investment, and lead to economic decline. Sanctions during the previous Taliban regime had a severe impact on trade, humanitarian aid and the overall economy (Hufbauer et al., 2007; Galtung, 1967). This theory suggests that while sanctions force regimes to conform to international norms, they often disproportionately affect civilians.

## 4. Methodology

### 4.1 Data Collection:

**Data Sources:** This study uses a range of data sources to provide a comprehensive analysis of Afghanistan's economic situation before and after the Taliban took over. These sources include:

**Reports from International Organizations:** Information from institutions such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and other international organizations provide important economic indicators and analysis.

**Economic Indicators:** Key indicators such as GDP, inflation, unemployment rate, balance of trade, and agricultural, mining and service sector output are collected from databases such as the World Bank and the IMF.

**News Articles:** Current events and status reports from reputable news outlets such as Al Jazeera, BBC News, and Reuters provide real-time updates and insights on the economic and political landscape.

**Academic Journals and Policy Papers:** Academic papers and policy analyzes provide in-depth insights and theoretical foundations on Afghanistan's economic and political changes.

### 4.2 Analytical Framework:

**Methods Used:** Qualitative analysis: This method involves interpreting data from reports, news articles, and scholarly literature to understand the broader socio-economic context and narratives of Afghanistan's economic situation. It helps explore the impact of policy changes, international relations, and internal governance on the economy.

Case studies: This research uses case studies to examine specific sectors such as agriculture and mining. This approach provides a detailed examination of how these sectors have been affected by the Taliban regime, including the challenges and opportunities they face.

Statistical Analysis: Statistical methods are used to analyze quantitative data from economic indicators. It includes comparisons of GDP, inflation, and employment rates before and after the Taliban took power, providing a numerical basis for evaluating economic changes. Trends and patterns are identified to understand the economic trajectory under the new regime.

## 5. Economic Conditions Before and After Taliban Takeover

### 5.1 Pre-Taliban Economy:

**Overview:** Before August 2021, Afghanistan's economy was characterized by a heavy reliance on international aid, which accounted for nearly 40% of its GDP. Key economic sectors include agriculture, mining and services, with agriculture being the primary occupation for the majority of the population. Despite various development efforts, the economy struggled with structural challenges such as a limited industrial base, infrastructure development, and widespread corruption (World Bank, 2019).

**GDP Growth:** Afghanistan experienced moderate GDP growth through 2021, averaging around 2.9% annually from 2015 to 2019. However, this growth was uneven and was mainly due to foreign aid rather than sustained domestic economic activity (IMF, 2020). The country's economy has suffered from political instability, security challenges and changes in international aid.

**Foreign Aid Dependency:** The country's reliance on foreign aid was an important aspect of its economic structure. Aid flows supported various sectors, including health care, education and public services, and were critical to maintaining fundamental economic stability. However, this dependence has also made Afghanistan vulnerable to changes in international policy and donor priorities (Ghani and Lockhart, 2008).

### 5.2 Post-Taliban Economic Changes:

**GDP and Economic Growth:** After the Taliban took power in August 2021, Afghanistan's GDP experienced a rapid contraction. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has estimated that the economy will shrink by up to 30% in 2021-2022 due to cuts in foreign aid, international sanctions and the withdrawal of foreign businesses (IMF, 2022). This contraction was exacerbated by the

Taliban's lack of international recognition, which had limited access to international financial systems and foreign reserves.

**Inflation and Currency Stability:** After the Taliban came to power, the value of the Afghani decreased significantly. The sudden stoppage of international aid and the freezing of Afghanistan's assets abroad led to a liquidity crisis, which fueled inflation. Essential commodities, including food and fuel, have become more expensive, significantly affecting the purchasing power of Afghan households (UNDP, 2022). Inflationary pressures have been exacerbated by disruptions in supply chains and trade restrictions.

**Employment and Business Environment:** The employment situation in Afghanistan deteriorated significantly after the Taliban took over. Many businesses, especially those linked to international markets or dependent on foreign investment, have either closed or significantly reduced operations. The service sector, which flourished before the takeover, faced particularly severe restrictions on banking and telecommunications (BBC News, 2021). The informal economy, which has always been an important part of Afghanistan's economic landscape, has become more important as formal job opportunities decline. But this sector also faced challenges due to increasing insecurity and mistrust of the Taliban's policies.

## 6. Key Economic Challenges

### 6.1 Sanctions and International Isolation:

**Impact of Economic Sanctions and Lack of Formal Recognition:** After the rule of the Taliban, Afghanistan faced severe economic sanctions and the lack of official recognition by many countries. These sanctions include the freezing of Afghan assets abroad and restrictions on international financial transactions. The lack of recognition has also hindered Afghanistan's ability to engage in international trade and access development aid, exacerbating the economic crisis (Al Jazeera, 2022). The position of the international community is largely influenced by concerns about human rights, governance issues, and security threats.

### 6.2 Banking and Financial System:

**Issues in the Banking Sector, Liquidity Problems, and Foreign Reserves Freeze:** Afghanistan's banking sector has been hit hard by sanctions and the freezing of foreign reserves of about nine billion dollars by the central bank abroad. This situation has led to a severe liquidity crisis, with banks unable to meet withdrawal demands or facilitate international transactions. Restrictions in the banking system have disrupted the flow of payments, affecting businesses and ordinary citizens alike. The lack of liquidity also led to cash shortages, which exacerbated economic instability and public unrest (IMF, 2022).

### 6.3 Humanitarian Crisis and Poverty:

**Rising Poverty Levels, Food Insecurity, and Humanitarian Needs:** Economic collapse and sanctions have contributed to the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan. Poverty levels have increased, with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) estimating that 97% of the population will fall below the poverty line by mid-2022. Food insecurity has become a major issue, with many families unable to meet basic needs due to rising prices and lack of income. Humanitarian aid is constrained by the political situation, exacerbating the crisis and leaving millions in urgent need of aid (UNDP, 2022).

#### 6.4 Agricultural Sector:

**Challenges in Agriculture Due to Drought, Policy Changes, and Market Disruptions:** The agricultural sector, which employs a significant portion of Afghanistan's population, is facing many challenges. Prolonged droughts have devastated crop yields, while policy changes under the Taliban have created uncertainty about land ownership and farming practices. Market disruptions, including reduced access to international markets and supply shortages, have further strained the sector. The Taliban's position on poppy production, an important economic activity for many farmers, is also contradictory, complicating efforts to stabilize agricultural incomes (FAO, 2021).

### 7. Taliban's Economic Policies and Strategies

#### 7.1 Governance and Administrative Measures:

**Efforts to Stabilize the Economy, Tackle Corruption, and Manage Public Services:** The Taliban have taken several steps to stabilize the Afghan economy, although these measures have met with varying degrees of success. They have tried to streamline administration and implement strict controls to combat corruption, which has been a significant issue in Afghanistan's public sector (BBC News, 2021). Efforts include replacing old officials, hiring Taliban and enforcing new rules. However, the effectiveness of these measures is hampered by the lack of experienced personnel and resources. Public services such as health care, education and infrastructure maintenance have been greatly affected, with many services disrupted by funding shortages and administrative challenges (Al Jazeera, 2022).

#### 7.2 Trade and Investment:

**Initiatives to Promote Trade, Attract Foreign Investment, and Develop Natural Resources:** The Taliban have shown interest in attracting foreign investment and promoting trade in Afghanistan's natural resources, including lithium, copper and rare earth elements. They have reached out to neighboring countries and regional powers such as China, Russia and Iran to seek



investment opportunities and secure business partnerships (Reuters, 2022). However, the lack of international recognition and ongoing sanctions significantly limit the potential for foreign direct investment. Additionally, the volatile security situation and unclear regulatory framework deter many potential investors. Taliban control over trade routes and border points also affects the flow of goods, increasing the costs of doing business by increasing tariffs and fees.

### **7.3 International Relations and Aid:**

**Attempts to Engage with International Organizations and Secure Humanitarian Aid:** Despite the international community's initial reluctance to engage with the Taliban, the regime has sought to secure humanitarian aid and build diplomatic ties. The Taliban have called on international organizations and donor countries to freeze Afghan assets and lift sanctions, arguing that these measures disproportionately affect the Afghan population rather than the leadership (UNDP, 2022). While some humanitarian aid is flowing into the country, it is often limited and heavily monitored to ensure that what is needed is delivered by the Taliban. The regime has also attempted to present a moderate image internationally to gain legitimacy and support, although significant concerns about human rights and governance remain (Human Rights Watch, 2021).

## **8. Discussion**

### **8.1 Effectiveness of Taliban Policies:**

**Successes:** The Taliban have implemented some measures to stabilize the economy, such as administrative reforms aimed at reducing corruption and efforts to attract foreign investment in natural resources. These actions have reduced the level of economic management and transparency in governance. For example, efforts to simplify bureaucratic processes and implement new regulations reflect a proactive approach to solving long-standing issues in Afghanistan's public sector (BBC News, 2021).

**Shortcomings:** However, the Taliban's policies face significant challenges. The administration's lack of experience and resources has hindered effective governance, leading to inefficiencies in managing public services and responding to economic needs. Ongoing international isolation and sanctions have limited access to global financial systems, strongly affecting liquidity and economic stability (Al Jazeera, 2022). Additionally, poor policy implementation and persistent security concerns have undermined investor confidence and hampered economic growth.

### **8.2 Comparative Analysis:**

**Comparison with Other Conflict-Affected Regions:** Under the rule of the Taliban, the economic situation of Afghanistan can be compared with other war-torn regions such as Syria and Yemen. These countries, like Afghanistan, are facing severe economic problems due to ongoing wars, international sanctions and governance challenges.

In Syria, for example, the conflict has led to significant declines in GDP and damage to infrastructure, as has the economic contraction experienced in Afghanistan (World Bank, 2020). Yemen has also seen high levels of poverty and humanitarian crises due to the conflict, reflecting some of the socio-economic impacts in Afghanistan (UNICEF, 2021).

**Comparison with Previous Periods in Afghanistan:** Comparing the current economic situation before the Taliban regime shows a dramatic change. Before August 2021, Afghanistan's economy was relatively stable, but it was mostly dependent on international aid. Since the Taliban's rule, the economy has suffered severe disintegration, high inflation, and rising poverty rates (IMF, 2022). The sudden end of international aid and severe restrictions on banking and trade represent a stark contrast to the gradual development efforts seen in previous years.

### 8.3 Potential Scenarios:

**Continued Economic Decline:** If the current policies and international isolation continue, Afghanistan may face a continuous economic decline. Lack of foreign investment, ongoing liquidity problems, and high levels of poverty can further strain the economy, leading to worsening human conditions and increased instability (UNDP, 2022).

**Potential Stabilization and Growth:** Alternatively, if the Taliban negotiates partial relief from international sanctions and improved governance, economic stabilization is possible. Engaging with international organizations and securing humanitarian aid may provide temporary relief. Additionally, successful management of natural resources and improved security conditions may create opportunities for gradual economic recovery (Reuters, 2022).

**Prolonged Stalemate:** Another possibility is prolonged economic stagnation, where Afghanistan remains in a period of limited growth and ongoing humanitarian issues. This scenario will include continued governance challenges, continued global isolation, and a fragmented economy that struggles to meet basic needs (Human Rights Watch, 2021).

## 9. Conclusion

### 9.1 Summary of Findings:

The study highlights the deep economic impact of Taliban rule in Afghanistan since August 2021. Key findings include:

1. Severe economic contraction: Afghanistan's GDP has contracted rapidly due to foreign aid cuts, international sanctions and the withdrawal of foreign businesses. The IMF forecasts a contraction of up to 30% in 2021-2022, reflecting a significant slowdown from the moderate growth experienced before the takeover.

2. High Inflation and Currency Devaluation: Afghanistan's currency, the Afghani, has experienced a dramatic devaluation, causing inflation to skyrocket. This situation has exacerbated the cost of living and purchasing power, poverty and food insecurity of Afghan families.
3. Deterioration of work and business environment: The business environment has been adversely affected by Taliban policies and international sanctions. Many businesses have closed or scaled back operations, leading to increased unemployment and reliance on the informal economy.
4. Human Disaster: Economic disaster has exacerbated the humanitarian crisis, with rising levels of poverty and food insecurity. The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) has estimated that up to 97% of the population could fall below the poverty line, indicating severe impacts on daily life.
5. Challenges in key sectors: The agricultural sector faces challenges from drought, policy changes and market disruptions, while the mining sector is underutilized due to lack of foreign investment and regulatory uncertainty.
6. Taliban policy measures: The Taliban have tried to stabilize the economy through administrative reforms, anti-corruption measures and attracting foreign investment in natural resources. However, these efforts have been hampered by international isolation and internal governance challenges.

## **9.2 Policy Recommendations:**

1. Engagement and Dialogue: The Taliban should engage in dialogue with international organizations and donor countries to negotiate some relief from sanctions and access to humanitarian aid. This can help alleviate the immediate humanitarian crisis and provide the basis for a gradual economic recovery.
2. Economic Reforms: The Taliban should focus on implementing comprehensive economic reforms, including improving governance, increasing transparency, and creating a clear regulatory framework to attract foreign investment. Simplifying bureaucratic processes and reducing corruption will be critical to rebuilding investor confidence.
3. Support to key sectors: Targeted support to key sectors such as agriculture and mining is essential. International organizations and donor countries can provide technical assistance and investment to help revitalize these sectors, helping to address challenges such as drought and market barriers.
4. Humanitarian Aid: The international community must continue to provide humanitarian aid with mechanisms that ensure it reaches the people who need it. Ensuring that aid is delivered effectively is critical to reducing the immediate impact on people, regardless of the political situation.

5. Regional Cooperation: The Taliban can seek regional partnerships to facilitate trade and investment. Engagement with neighboring countries and regional powers may provide opportunities for economic cooperation and access to markets that are otherwise limited.

### 9.3 Future Research Directions:

1. Long-term economic effects: Further research could focus on the long-term economic effects of Taliban rule, including how current policies will shape Afghanistan's economic trajectory over the next decade.

2. Sectoral analyses: In-depth studies of specific sectors, such as health care, education and infrastructure, can provide insight into how different sectors of the economy are coping under the new regime and identify targeted interventions.

3. Impact of International Sanctions: Investigating the specific impact of international sanctions on Afghanistan's economy and exploring possible ways to remove or modify these sanctions may provide valuable policy insights.

4. Comparative Study: Comparing Afghanistan to other war-torn regions or historical periods can provide a broader understanding of the economic consequences of political instability and regime change.

5. Humanitarian Impact Assessment: A detailed humanitarian impact assessment on various demographic groups, including women, children, and marginalized communities, can help tailor aid and support programs to meet specific needs.

### References

#### Books and Academic Journals

- Barfield, T. (2010). *Afghanistan: A Cultural and Political History*. Princeton University Press.
- Blattman, C., & Miguel, E. (2010). *Civil War*. In *Handbook of Development Economics* (Vol. 5, pp. 1-82). Elsevier.
- Collier, P. (2007). *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries Are Failing and What Can Be Done About It*. Oxford University Press.
- Fukuyama, F. (2004). *State-Building: Governance and World Order in the 21st Century*. Cornell University Press.
- Galtung, J. (1967). *Theories of Peace: A Synthetic Approach to Peace Thinking*. International Peace Research Institute.
- Ghani, A., & Lockhart, C. (2008). *Fixing Failed States: A Framework for Rebuilding a Fractured World*. Oxford University Press.

- Goodhand, J. (2002). *Aiding Peace? The Role of International Aid in Afghanistan's Reconstruction*. *Third World Quarterly*, 23(5), 871-889.
- Hufbauer, G. C., Schott, J. J., & Elliot, K. A. (2007). *Economic Sanctions Reconsidered: History and Current Policy*. Peterson Institute for International Economics.
- Rubin, B. R. (2002). *The Fragmentation of Afghanistan: State Formation and Collapse in the International System*. Yale University Press.
- Suhrke, A. (2011). *When More Is Less: The International Project in Afghanistan*. Columbia University Press.
- World Bank. (2019). *Afghanistan Systematic Country Diagnostic: Priorities for Ending Poverty and Promoting Shared Prosperity*. World Bank Group.
- World Bank. (2020). *The Economics of the Syrian Conflict*. World Bank Group.

#### Reports and Policy Papers

- Al Jazeera. (2022). *Economic Crisis in Afghanistan*. Retrieved from Al Jazeera.
- BBC News. (2021). *Afghanistan's Economy Under the Taliban*. Retrieved from [BBC News](#).
- FAO. (2021). *Afghanistan: Drought Impact on Agriculture*. Food and Agriculture Organization. Retrieved from [FAO](#).
- Human Rights Watch. (2021). *Human Rights in Afghanistan Under Taliban Rule*. Retrieved from HRW.
- IMF. (2020). *Afghanistan: 2019 Article IV Consultation-Press Release; Staff Report*. International Monetary Fund.
- IMF. (2022). *Afghanistan Economic Outlook*. International Monetary Fund.
- International Crisis Group. (2022). *Afghanistan: Economic Collapse and Humanitarian Crisis*. Retrieved from International Crisis Group.
- UNICEF. (2021). *Yemen: Humanitarian Crisis and Economic Impact*. United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund. Retrieved from UNICEF.
- UNDP. (2022). *Afghanistan Human Development Report*. United Nations Development Program. Retrieved from UNDP.

#### News Articles

- Reuters. (2022). *Afghanistan's Economic Future Under Taliban*. Retrieved from Reuters.

#### Additional Sources

- Byrd, W. A. (2012). *Aid and the State in Afghanistan*. *Journal of Development Studies*, 48(5), 619-634.

- Collier, P., & Hoeffler, A. (2004). *Greed and Grievance in Civil War*. *Oxford Economic Papers*, 56(4), 563-595.
- Galtung, J. (1967). *Theories of Peace: A Synthetic Approach to Peace Thinking*. International Peace Research Institute.
- Paris, R. (2004). *At War's End: Building Peace After Civil Conflict*. Cambridge University Press.
- Rubin, B. R. (2002). *The Fragmentation of Afghanistan: State Formation and Collapse in the International System*. Yale University Press.

