

Herat Security Dialogue

Short Bios of the Presenters and Moderators

Abdullah Ahmadzai



Abdullah Ahmadzai is The Asia Foundation's County Representative in Afghanistan. He served as the Deputy Country Representative from 2012 to 2014. He was formerly Chief Electoral Officer for the Independent Election Commission (IEC) of Afghanistan. Prior to his position with the IEC, from June 2006 to October 2009, Ahmadzai worked with the Foundation, serving under the Support to Center of Government project in Afghanistan. Between 2004 and 2006, he held positions with the UN under the Joint Electoral Management Body Secretariat (JEMBS), first as an Area Manager and then as Chief of Operations.

From 2003-2004, Ahmadzai was actively involved with the Afghanistan Constitution Commission which was mandated by the 2001 Bonn Agreement to draft a new constitution for the country. Under the Commission, he assisted with the Emergency Loya Jirga and later the drafting of the constitution which was formally adopted in January 2004. He has a Bachelor's degree in Information Technology from Brains Degree College in Peshawar, Pakistan, in addition to several workshop certificates earned through Harvard and Georgetown Universities, and the International Foundation for Electoral Services.

Abdul Ghafour Liwal



Abdul Ghafour Liwal is the Special Advisor to the President of National Unity Government for Tribal and Border Affairs. Prior to this, he worked as a Deputy Minister of Tribal and Border Affairs. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Literature from Kabul University and two Masters, one in Journalism from Maryland University (2004-2005), and another in Pashtu from Kabul University in 2008. He is fluent in Pashtu, Farsi and English. He has published numerous papers in national and international publications.

Mahmoda Sonia Eqbal



Mahmoda Sonia Eqbal is the country director of Open Society Afghanistan. Sonia brings a depth of knowledge and experience from across different sectors in Afghanistan. She has over a decade of experience in management as well as research and evaluation and has worked with several national and international organizations.

Sonia holds a BA in Peace Studies and International Politics from Juniata College and earned an MA in Political Science, Post War Recovery and Development from the University of York, where she held a Chevening fellowship from the Open Society Institute. In 2013, she was elected chair of Afghanistan 1400, the Afghan youth political movement, and has also served as its secretary general and as an elected member of the council.

Afrasiab Khattak



Afrasiab Khattak was born in a small village known as Mandoori Khaderkhal. After receiving early education from Kohat, Khattak was admitted to the Peshawar University There, Khattak obtained a bachelor's degree in Russian history and a BSc in Political Science During this time, Khattak was also the student leader at the local university union and took active participation during his college times.

During this time, Khattak became an active member of Communist party of Pakistan. He was an active leftist politician during the 1970s and 1980s. Khattak spent many years in self-exile in Afghanistan during the 1980s, due to his strong opposition to General Zia-ul-Haq's military rule. After his return from Afghanistan, Khattak contested the general elections from Karak in 1990 but lost to Aslam Khattak.

Ajmal Ahmadi



Mr. Ajmal Ahmady is the Senior Economic Advisor to President Ashraf Ghani. He has a MBA from Harvard Business School, a Master of Economics and Public Administration from the Harvard Kennedy School, and a Bachelors in Mathematics and Economics from UCLA. He previously spent eight years in the asset management industry investing in global macro, emerging markets, and corporate strategies for some of the largest asset managers in the world. He has also worked for Booz Allen Hamilton, the World Bank, an EM private equity group, the US Treasury Department and the Afghan Ministry of Finance.

Alexey Malashenko



Alexey Malashenko is a former chair of the Carnegie Moscow Center's Religion, Society, and Security Program. Malashenko also taught at the Higher School of Economics from 2007 to 2008 and was a professor at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations from 2000 to 2006. From 1976 to 1982 and again from 1986 to 2001, Malashenko worked at the Institute of Oriental Studies at the Russian Academy of Sciences as a research fellow, head of the Islamic Department, and finally as senior associate. In 1990, he was also a visiting professor at Colgate University in New York. From 1982 to 1986, he was editor of the journal Problems of Peace and Socialism.

Malashenko is a professor of political science as well as a member of the RIA Novosti advisory council. He serves on the editorial boards of the journals Central Asia and the Caucasus

and Acta Eurasica and the newsletter Russia and the Muslim World and is a board member of the International Federation for Peace and Conciliation.

Ali Ahmad Osmani



Ali Ahmad Osmani was born in 1971 in Herat. He has a Master's Degree in Dam Construction from Mashhad University. Osmani served as the Minister of Water and Power in the National Unity Government. He is a founder member of the Steering Committee of Private Universities Association. He was elected as a Deputy of International Sustainable Energy Organization in 2018 and Head of Afghanistan Committee for Dam Construction in 2017. He has chaired several panels on Energy and Water Resources and Sustainable Development in international conferences.

Ali Asghar Davoodi



Ali Asghar Davoodi has a PhD Degree in Political Sociology. He has more than 25 years of teaching experience in Iran and Afghanistan. Currently, he is faculty of Islamic Azad University, Mashhad Branch; Head of Department of Political Science, Islamic Azad University, Afghanistan Branch; and Chancellor of Islamic Azad University, Turbat-e Jam Branch. He has published five books and 35 Journal papers. Davoodi is member of four associations: Iran Political Science Association, Iran Sociology Association, Iran Geopolitics Association, and Iran and Afghanistan Friendship Association.

Barnett Rubin, Dr.



Barnett R. Rubin is a Senior Fellow at New York University's Center on International Cooperation, where he also directs the Afghanistan-Pakistan Regional Project. From April 2009 until October 2013, Dr. Rubin was the senior adviser to the Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan at the U.S. Department of State. He previously served as special advisor to the UN Special Representative of the Secretary General for Afghanistan, during the negotiations that produced the Bonn Agreement. He subsequently advised the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan on the drafting of the constitution of Afghanistan, the Afghanistan Compact and the

Afghanistan National Development Strategy.

Rubin is the author of *Afghanistan from the Cold War through the War on Terror* (2013) and has written numerous articles and book reviews on Afghanistan, South and Central Asia, U.S. foreign policy, conflict prevention, state formation and human rights. His articles have appeared in *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, *The New Yorker*, *Survival*, *International Affairs*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and *The New York Review of Books*, as well as several academic journals.

Bushra Gohar



Bushra Gohar is a Pakistani politician who is leader of Awami National Party and has served as Member of the National Assembly of Pakistan from 2008 to 2013. Gohar studied economics at the University of Peshawar and moved to the United States where she received master's degree in human resource management from the Wilmington University in 1991 followed by a postgraduate certificate in South Asian Studies from the University of Pennsylvania. On return to Pakistan, she worked as a consultant with UNDP, USAID and UK-AID. In 2000, Gohar became the member of the National Commission on the status of women, a position she retained until 2003.

Carol Christine Fair



C. Christine Fair is a Provost's Distinguished Associate Professor in the Security Studies Program within Georgetown University's Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service. She previously served as a senior political scientist with the RAND Corporation, a political officer with the United Nations Assistance Mission to Afghanistan in Kabul, and a senior research associate at USIP's Center for Conflict Analysis and Prevention. She has served as a Senior Fellow at West Point's Combating Terrorism Center, a Senior Resident Fellow at the Institute of Defense Studies and Analysis (New Delhi) and will take up a Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellowship in the spring of 2017. Her research focuses on political and military affairs in South Asia (Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka). Her most recent book is *Fighting to the End: The Pakistan Army's Way of War* (Oxford University Press). Additionally, she has authored, co-authored and co-edited several books, including *Pakistan's Enduring Challenges* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2015), *Policing Insurgencies: Cops as Counterinsurgents* (Oxford University Press, 2014); *Political Islam and Governance in Bangladesh* (Routledge, 2010); *Treading on Hallowed Ground: Counterinsurgency Operations in Sacred Spaces* (Oxford University Press, 2008); *The Madrassah Challenge: Militancy and Religious Education in Pakistan* (USIP, 2008), and *The Cuisines of the Axis of Evil and Other Irritating States* (Globe Pequot, 2008), among others. Her current book project is *Lashkar-e-Taiba: In its Own Words*.

David Samuel Sedney



David Sedney is a Senior Associate (non-resident) with the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C. He was the Acting President of the American University of Afghanistan (AUAF) 2016-7. He is an independent analyst/commentator on national security and foreign policy and has appeared on CNN, BBC, PBS, Al Jazeera, VOA, and Public Radio International. His views have been published in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Newsweek*, *Time*, *The Guardian*, *Business Week* and other media. Mr. Sedney has testified before the U.S. Congress and been a speaker at think tanks and academic institutions. He was Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asia (2009-2013) and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for East Asia (2007-2009). He was Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing (2004-2007), after service as DCM at U.S. Embassies in Kabul and in Baku. Earlier he served as a U.S. diplomat abroad and in Washington and was detailed twice to the National Security Council. He is on Board of Trustees of the American University of Afghanistan and a member of the Board of Advisors of the Afghan Institute for Strategic Studies.

Ehsan Zia



Minister Zia is the pioneer of Peacebuilding & Conflict Resolution in Afghanistan. Back in 1993 he attended a three months course on conflict resolution in Birmingham UK and soon after return to Pakistan he organized a two weeks training in Swat for the staff of NGOs working in Afghanistan. During this training Zia promoted the idea of establishing a local organization to pursue the capacity development of Afghanistan people on conflict resolution and peacebuilding. His efforts led to the birth of Cooperation for Peace and Unity (CPAU). In this position he led CPAU's involvement in the development of local capacities for peace and the promotion of peace building and human rights at the community level that is now an active NGO

in the area of peacebuilding conflict resolution in Afghanistan. Zia served as chairperson of Cooperation for Peace and Unity (CPAU) from 1996-2001. As a Minister of the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development Zia integrated peacebuilding conflict resolution and do no harm into the policies and programming of the ministry and organized extensive capacity development of the MRRD staff in this area.

Gautama Mukhopadhaya



He has been Ambassador of India to Syria, Afghanistan and Myanmar. He has also worked in the United Nations Headquarters in New York as a Consultant on Social Development and has been a Visiting Scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He was born on May 24, 1956 and studied in Delhi University in India.

He joined the Foreign Service in 1980, and has served in various capacities in Indian Embassies in Mexico, France, Cuba, Afghanistan and Syria, the UN Mission in New York City and the Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of defense, in India. He has also worked in the UN Headquarters in New York as a Consultant on Social Development. He re-opened the Indian Embassy in Kabul in November 2001 after the new regime took

over in Afghanistan. His father B. Mukhopadhaya was a very famous doctor of his times in Bihar.

Hakim Abdullohi Rahnamo, Dr



Dr. Hakim Abdullohi Rahnamo is Head of the Department on Analysis and Foreign Policy Perspectives (Vision) of the Center for Strategic Researchers under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan. He is an expert of the issues related to Central Asia including Afghanistan.

Irgashev Ismatulla Irgashev



Mr. Ismatulla Irgashev was born on September 24, 1960 in Tashkent city. He graduated from Tashkent State University in the specialty of “Orientalist-philologist, teacher of Farsi and English language” (1982). From 1982 to 1984, he served in the Soviets army in Afghanistan. After independence of Republic of Uzbekistan, he served in different capacities in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Uzbekistan. Since May 24, 2017, he is Special Representative of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Afghanistan. He speaks Persian, English and Turkish and he is married and has five children.

Jawed Ludin, Ambassador



Jawed Ludin is an Afghan entrepreneur and former diplomat. He was formerly deputy minister of foreign affairs and chief of staff to the President of Afghanistan. With over 20 years of professional experience and a diverse career, Ludin currently runs a number of private sector initiatives between Kabul, Dubai and London. Ludin entered politics in Afghanistan in the year 2003 and served in various high level positions in the Afghan Government over the years, including as Presidential Spokesman (2003-2005), Chief of Staff to President Karzai (2005-2007) and Deputy Foreign Minister (2011-2013). His diplomatic experience includes serving as Afghanistan’s Ambassador for the

Nordic Countries (2007-2009) and for Canada (2009-2011).

Ludin has written on Afghanistan for UK-based publications, notably the Guardian, and is the co-author of a book on conflict management strategies ‘Working with Conflict’, He is fluent in Dari, Pashto and English, and also speaks some French and Hindi. Ludin is married and has four daughters.

Lotfullah Najafizada



Lotfullah Najafizada, 30, is an award-winning journalist and director of TOLONews, Afghanistan's top 24/7 news and current affairs TV channel. At TOLONews, Mr. Najafizada oversees the largest news operation in Afghanistan. His international recognitions include Reporters without Borders’s prestigious medal of Press Freedom Hero for his fight for free press in Afghanistan, TIME Magazine’s title of Next Generation Global Leader and Forbes magazine 30 under 30 Asia influencers in media. He’s a former fellow with the World Press Institute, the Asia Society and the Rumsfeld Foundation. He has a BSc in Economics. He’s married and lives in Kabul.

Mariam Safi



Mariam Safi is the founding director of Organization for Policy Research and Development Studies (DROPS). She was honored by the Diplomatic Courier media network as one of their Top Global Women in 2014 for her contribution to the research community in Afghanistan. She is a member of the FES Afghanistan Policy Group, a Senior Fellow at the Institute of National Security Studies in Sri Lanka, and an alumna at the Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies and a local peace-building expert for Peace Direct. Ms. Safi has an MA in International Peace Studies from the United States.

Michael Barry, Dr



Born in New York City in 1948 and raised in France to American parents based in Paris (with UNESCO), Dr Michael Barry is an internationally recognized scholar in Islamic art and civilization. Dr Barry holds higher degrees in Arabic and Persian studies and social anthropology from Princeton University (USA), Cambridge University (Great Britain), McGill University (Canada), and the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (France). After teaching for sixteen years at his alma mater Princeton in the United States, Dr Barry has now been serving since autumn 2017 as the Distinguished University Professor at the American University of Afghanistan.

M. Nazif Shahrani



M. Nazif Shahrani is a professor of anthropology and of Central Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at Indiana University, Bloomington. Shahrani has had research and teaching positions at several American Universities, including Harvard's Center for Middle Eastern Studies, the University of Nevada-Reno, Stanford University, and UCLA, before moving to Indiana University in 1990. He was also a Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars of the Smithsonian Institution (1997–98). He teaches in the departments of Anthropology, Central Eurasian Studies, and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures departments at Indiana University. He has conducted extensive field research in Afghanistan, Turkey, Pakistan and Uzbekistan.

Mohammad Naser Timory



Mr. Timory joined Integrity Watch as a researcher in January 2015 and was part of National Integrity System Assessment (2015), Community Score Card of Kabul Municipality (2016), Scoping Study of Construction Sector Transparency Initiative (2016) and Fighting Corruption in Afghanistan: Solving the Institutional Puzzle (2016). He was previously Adjunct Assistant Professor of Philosophy in Herat University and has taught for more than five years. Mr. Timory has a BA in Philosophy from Fergusson College (Pune) and completed his post-graduate studies in International Relations from South Asian University (New Delhi).

Mohammad Natiqi



Mohammad Natiqi was born in 1954. He was one of the participants of Bonn Conference on Afghanistan in 2001. Following that, he served as the Ambassador of Afghanistan to Libya from 2003 to 2008. Subsequent to that he worked as an advisor for West Asia and North Africa Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Currently, he is the head of High Level Commission on Overseeing the Implementation of the National Unity Government Agreement.

Nadir Naeem



Nadir Naeem is Deputy Chairman at High Peace Council. He was born 1965 and is the son of the late king's daughter Princess Mariam and former king's grandson. Prince Nadir launched the "Voice of the People" movement at a People's Jirga (traditional assembly of tribal elders) March 2013, following four years of "informal" consultations with the Afghan people. Nadir, returned to Afghanistan as his grandfather's private secretary in 2003 - after more than 20 years in exile in the UK. On October 6, Prince Nadir announced his candidacy for the 2014 Afghan presidential elections.

Naheed Farid



Naheed is currently a member of the International Relations Committee in Parliament. She previously served as a temporary secretary of the Wolesi Jirga, or lower house. Naheed Farid earned a Bachelor's degree in Law and Politics from Herat University. Two years (2010) later she was awarded her Master's degree in International Relations from the George Washington University in the United States.

Her background includes work for different NGOs and the World Food Program (WFP). She still runs the family Farid Foundation, which, according to her, has provided stationery and clothes to 70,000 school children in Herat. Farid is a member of the International Youth Association.

Nasir Ahmad Andisha



Nasir Ahmad Andisha obtained a bachelor's degree in law and political science from the Kabul University. Before joining the Foreign Service, Andisha worked with the International Committee of Red Cross as a field officer. He taught International Relations and Economics at the Al-Beruni University, Afghanistan (2005-2006). In summer of 2007, Andisha received the prestigious Fulbright Scholarship and completed his master degree in international affairs (International Economics and Development) at The George H. Bush School of Government and Public Services in Texas A&M University. He later finished Advanced Security Studies Diploma from the Marshall Center for European Studies in Garmisch-Germany and

Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies in Hawaii, USA. He earned his undergraduate degree, in Economics and Political Science from Osmania University in Hyderabad- India. Andisha was teaching Economic at the Institute of Diplomacy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Andisha is married. He and his wife having two children.

Nazar Mohammad Mutameen



Nazar Mohammad Mutameen is a journalist & political analyst based in Kabul, Afghanistan. He has a bachelor degree in engineering faculty of Kabul University. Following the events of 9/11, Mutameen continued to work with a couple of NGOs operating in the fields of engineering & construction. In 2005, Motmaeen joint UNOPS (United Nations Office for Project Services) in Kandahar, but he was later shifted to continue working at UNOPS Kabul office until his resignation in back 2009.

Mutmaeen was able to meet a number of civil societies & political parties while he was physically present in Kabul, but it was during the recent times when Mutmaeen joint the ongoing peace efforts to compromise with the Afghan armed groups. Mutmaeen attended the peace conferences of Islamabad, Istanbul & Warsaw, which were held to settle peace & reconciliation in Afghanistan

Qi Zhenhong



Qi Zhenhong is currently President of the China Institute of International Studies. He joined the Chinese Foreign Service in 1988, with a university degree. He served in different capacities as following:

1988-1996 Assistant Economist, Economist, Deputy Director of the Operation and Audit Office, Beijing Service Bureau for Diplomatic Missions. 1996-1997 Second Secretary, Representation of the People's Republic of China to the Sino-British Joint Liaison Group. 1997-1998 Second Secretary, Office of the Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The People's Republic Of China in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. 1998-2004 Second Secretary, Deputy

Division Director, Division Director, Policy Planning Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). 2004-2009 Division Director, Counselor, Policy Planning Department, MFA. 2009-2012 Counselor, Deputy Director-General, Policy Planning Department, MFA. 2012-2014 Deputy Director-General, General Office, MFA. 2014-2017 Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Rangin Dadfar Spanta, Dr.



Dr. Rangin Dadfar Spanta is former Afghanistan's National Security Adviser, former Foreign Minister and the Senior Advisor on International Affairs to President Hamid Karzai. Dr. Spanta fled to Turkey during the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan before moving to Germany. There he became assistant professor of political science at RWTH Aachen University. He also served as spokesperson for the Alliance for Democracy in Afghanistan, and was active in the German Green Party. He also briefly taught at Kabul University after the fall of Taliban.

Robin L. Raphel, Ambassador ret'd



Ambassador Robin Raphel is an expert in political, security and economic development issues in South Asia and the Middle East. As a career foreign service officer, she served nearly 40 years in U.S. foreign affairs agencies, including the Department of State, USAID, and DoD. She was the first Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia, Ambassador to Tunisia, Vice President of the National Defense University, and Deputy Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction. She managed the sharp increase of development assistance to Pakistan under the late Ambassador Holbrooke, and deployed to Iraq with the first civilian contingent after the 2003 invasion to help restore the critical food ration

system throughout the country. Earlier in her career she served in Pakistan, India, South Africa and the UK, and taught history at Damavand Women's College in Iran. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a Senior Adviser at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. She serves on the board of the Association of Diplomatic Studies and Training, and the Friends of The American University of Afghanistan. Ambassador Raphel holds a BA degree in history and economics from the University of Washington, and Master's degrees in Economics from the University of Maryland and Modern European History from Cambridge University in the UK.

Sardar Mohammad Rahimi



Dr Sardar Mohammad Rahimi was born in 1977 in Dikundi. He accomplished his preliminary and higher education till PhD in Iran. He earned his doctoral degree in geopolitics from Tehran University, Iran. Following that, he has taught in governmental and numerous private universities in Kabul. At the same time, he worked as advisor to Minister of Urban Development. Currently, he works as a Deputy Minister of Education for Literacy. He speaks fluently Farsi, English and Pashtu. He has published a book titled the *Geopolitics of Afghanistan*.

Shah Gul Razai



Shah Gul Razai is a member of National *Shura* of Afghanistan. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Law and Political Science and Master's in Public Policy and Administration from Kabul University. She represented Ghazni in the 15th and 16th terms of National *Shura*. Ms Razi was member of Committee for Formation of National Unity Government in 2014. She has also been member of several parliamentary committees such as Anti-Administrative Committee and Advocacy for Political Participation of Women Committee.

Thomas H. Johnson



Professor Thomas H. Johnson is a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Afghanistan Institute for Strategic Studies and Director of the Program for Culture and Conflict Studies at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA. He has conducted research and written about Afghanistan, South Asia, the Middle East, and North Africa for over 2 decades.

Military History of Insurgency Military History of Counter-Insurgency Counter-Insurgency in Afghanistan Introduction to Central Asia. He has taught at the University of Southern California and the Foreign Service Institute, and frequently lectures at Service Academies. Before joining the faculty of the

Naval Postgraduate School, he served on the research faculty of George Mason University. He regularly conducts field research in Afghanistan and South Asia. He served as the counterinsurgency advisor to the Commander of Task Force Kandahar (General Jon Vance).

William Maley, Professor



Dr William Maley is Professor of Diplomacy at the Asia-Pacific College of Diplomacy at The Australian National University. He is author of *Rescuing Afghanistan* (2006), *The Afghanistan Wars* (2009), *what is a Refugee?* (2016); and *Transition in Afghanistan: Hope, Despair and the Limits of Statebuilding* (2018); edited *Fundamentalism Reborn? Afghanistan and the Taliban* (1998); and co-edited *The Soviet Withdrawal from Afghanistan* (1989), *From Civil Strife to Civil Society: Civil and Military Responsibilities in Disrupted States* (2003); *Reconstructing Afghanistan: Civil-military experiences in comparative perspective* (2015), *Theorising the Responsibility to Protect* (2015), and *Afghanistan – Challenges and Prospects* (2018).