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## Famine in Afghanistan



Sources: Working world

*After twenty years of war and military occupation, after countless massacres and bombings, the United States left Afghanistan in the summer of 2021, leaving behind a trail of destruction and death.*

The United States did not improve the situation in the country, and after its flight the situation has continued to deteriorate. Tens of thousands of Afghan civilians were killed by U.S. military operations, which also caused more than eleven million refugees. The United States not only destroyed the country: it also used it as a center of operations to train its troops and then to poison the region in its stated objective of "containing China.

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The British newspaper *The Guardian* recently published revelations about the secret detention centers in Afghanistan created by the Pentagon command and that US forces used as "schools" where detainees were mistreated and the new agents in charge of interrogating prisoners were trained in harsh torture techniques. Many prisoners died in those centers. Thus, it is not surprising that the "Costs of War" project, promoted by *The Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs*, of the American Brown University, showed that the government of Washington and the Pentagon created "black places" in at least fifty-four countries and regions around the world, where over the last twenty years hundreds of thousands of people were arrested.

The US flight from Afghanistan left the country in the hands of the Taliban, although the country still does not know peace and today fighting continues in the border regions with Uzbekistan, in the eastern provinces bordering the Pakistani Warizistan, a very permeable region, and the action of *daesh* terrorist groups, which oppose the Taliban government, it causes frequent attacks in bazaars or in temples of other religious confessions. The strategic disaster of the United States, burying billions of dollars in destroying the country, has taught the Pentagon military nothing in view of its new objectives in Asia.

With international aid blocked, hunger is now gripping Afghanistan: twenty-four million people do not have access to food on a regular basis, and nearly four million children do not have enough food. The Taliban government tries to navigate this sea of misfortune by applying its delusional program. Mullah Haibatullah Ajundzada (who replaced Akhtar Mansur, whom Obama ordered assassinated), the taliban's top leader, insists on the application of *sharia*, Islamic law, and in early July 2022 met with three and a half thousand ulema and clan chiefs to examine in the *Loya yirgah* the mechanisms and procedures of the Islamist government. But the long-suffering Afghan people cannot wait.

Estados Unidos se apropió de las reservas de divisas de Afganistán, impidiendo a los talibán que dedicaran esos recursos a la compra de alimentos: Biden es responsable de la hambruna en el país, en un momento en que el precio de la harina de trigo ha aumentado casi el 50 por ciento y el precio del aceite subió un 40 por ciento respecto a 2021. En la completa desgracia, solo faltaba el reciente terremoto, que causó más de mil muertos en el sur de Afganistán. El hambre es más terrible que la guerra: en Afganistán se venden ahora niñas por trescientos euros, y quienes son «afortunados» pueden llegar a conseguir algo

más de dos mil euros por una niña de ojos tristes; se arreglan bodas forzadas por la miseria y el hambre, y en muchas ocasiones padres avergonzados venden a sus hijas a cambio de algunos alimentos, y otros entregan como esposas a niñas de ocho años a hombres mayores. Ni Estados Unidos ni los gobiernos títeres que impuso a lo largo de veinte años acabaron con esas prácticas, que se han agravado ahora con la hambruna.

China, que ha enviado ayuda humanitaria e intenta detener la catástrofe, ha exigido a Estados Unidos que devuelva a Afganistán los activos nacionales que intervino, más de siete mil millones de dólares, para que el país pueda combatir la hambruna. El gobierno de Pekín ha recordado también que Estados Unidos apoyó y participó en la producción y comercio de drogas en Afganistán, y que el cultivo de la amapola y la producción de opio aumentaron tras la invasión estadounidense, y la proliferación de drogas en todo el país ha causado una gran mortandad y serios problemas sanitarios a los que el gobierno talibán de Kabul no puede hacer frente. El presidente iraní, el clérigo islamista Ebrahim Raisi, también ha denunciado el papel de Estados Unidos y la OTAN en el aumento del tráfico de drogas durante la ocupación del país, cuyas redes llegan a Irán introduciendo cargamentos de narcóticos. En Irán viven cinco millones de refugiados afganos.

China, which has always distrusted the Taliban, seeks stability, and is interested in the East Turkestan Islamic Movement not being able to operate from Afghanistan, and monitors the activity of the *World Uyghur Congress* (a Xinjiang independence organization led by Rebiya Kadeer, supported by the United States) whose actions caused almost two hundred deaths in Urumchi in 2009. Beijing also promotes collaboration with Kabul in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, SCO, and in the meetings of foreign ministers of neighboring countries, and in meetings of leaders in the format "China + Central Asia" (the so-called C + C5, by the five former Soviet republics of the region), to control Islamist terrorism, reach agreements for the reconstruction of the country and to stop the human disaster. In the aftermath of the pandemic, China wants Central Asian countries to contribute to economic recovery, the development of projects for the construction of natural gas pipelines, the boost to freight trains between China and Europe and the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railway, as well as the development of a "digital silk road" and a "green silk road", together with cooperation to modernize agriculture in the region, and for all this the pacification of Afghanistan is important.

While Afghans endure the Taliban dictatorship and the new outbreaks of cholera, and the specter of hunger takes over the country, news is emerging that reveals the bloodthirsty action of the NATO military, because the commission of war crimes has been a constant of the action of the American and British forces in Afghanistan. The BBC recently reported that members of the British special operations groups, the SAS, murdered fifty-four unarmed and detained Afghan men in cold blood: the lethal killers of the SAS went hunting at night and, after the raids, tortured and killed the detainees. The British military command covered up the killings, but London and Washington are now ignoring the Afghan misfortune, without seeming to be worried about the famine they have left behind.

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