

Welcoming Newcomer Afghan Students and Families

Refugee Educator Academy at the Center for Learning in Practice

SARAH BRACKEN AUG 31, 2021 09:40PM

Resettlement Process

Head Of Immigration And Refugee Service Talks About Resettling Afghan Refugees

NPR's Mary Louise Kelly talks with Krish O'Mara Vignarajah, president and CEO of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service about the daunting task of finding new homes for thousands of Afghan refugees. MARY LOUISE KELLY, HOST: We have been watching images of Afghans at the Kabul airport frantically trying to flee their country as the Taliban assumes control.

NPR.ORG



Afghan families are being rapidly resettled in the US. But adjusting to their new lives will take years.

One Afghan family in Sacramento recently arrived from Kabul, where the Taliban came knocking on their door. The father was able to get a Special Immigrant Visa to resettle in the US. The family counts themselves as among the fortunate ones, but they worry about those they left behind.

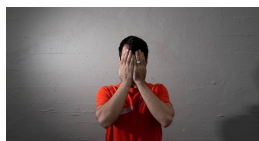
THE WORLD FROM PRX



Explainer: Who are the Afghan refugees coming to the U.S. and what happens when they arrive?

WASHINGTON, Aug 26 (Reuters) - Thousands of Afghans have arrived in the United States since the hurried evacuation of Afghanistan began in mid-August, including many who helped U.S. forces during its 20-year involvement in the country's war. WHY IS THE U.S. MILITARY EVACUATING AFGHANS?

REUTERS



They made it out of Afghanistan. But their path ahead is uncertain.

As the United States winds down its evacuation operation in Afghanistan, the Biden administration is accelerating efforts to resettle Afghans on U.S. soil, where they will be expected to apply for visas or humanitarian protection that could put them on a path to legal residency and citizenship.

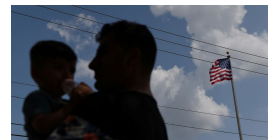
WASHINGTON POST



Waves Of Afghan Refugees Are Arriving In The U.S. Here's Some Help They Can Expect

Tens of thousands of Afghans who helped American forces over the two-decades-long war are now arriving in the U.S. as refugees, following what, for many, has been a harrowing escape from the Taliban-controlled country as it erupts into more violence. Most will start the new American chapter of their lives at military installations scattered across the U.S.

NPR.ORG



Which Afghan refugees are being resettled in the U.S. and how are they being processed?

The surprisingly swift Taliban conquest of Afghanistan this month and frantic evacuations from Kabul have ignited a national conversation about U.S. efforts to resettle Afghans who aided American forces during the 20-year conflict. Providing refuge to Afghans who assisted the American war effort is a rare immigration policy with broad public support, including among both Republicans and Democrats.

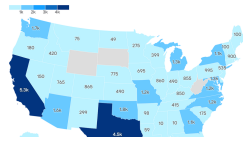
CBSNEWS



Where are Afghan newcomers headed in the U.S.?

Mapped: Afghan refugees headed to 46 states

The Biden administration notified governors and mayors on Wednesday of the number of Afghan evacuees their state is expected to receive in the coming weeks, two senior administration officials told Axios. Why it matters: Although their exact immigration pathway is still unclear, an initial group of 37,000 Afghans will soon be headed to states across the country after many faced harrowing journeys from Afghanistan.



AXIOS

12 Ways to Support Afghan Refugee Students (Opinion)

The new question-of-the-week is: It's possible that a number of schools might be welcoming Afghan refugee students soon. How can teachers/schools/districts best support them? Depending upon the numbers of refugees the United States military is able to evacuate from Afghanistan, many U.S. schools may be able to anticipate large numbers of those children to be enrolling soon.

EDUCATION WEEK

“
As refugees, we found a better life with the help of teachers like you.”

Tom Ruych

Responding to Increased Arrivals from Afghanistan - CORE

Since the end of July, the United States Refugee Admissions Program has been assisting in the evacuation of Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) holders as a part of Operations Allies Refuge. In response, CORE has compiled a list of tips and resources that you and your organization may find helpful to use in delivering Cultural Orientation and other early resettlement [...]Read More...



CORE

Educators Must 'Walk Alongside Afghans and Support Them' (by Larry Ferlazzo)

Educators Must 'Walk Alongside Afghans and Support Them' (Opinion)

The new question-of-the-week is: It's possible that a number of schools might be welcoming Afghan refugee students soon. How can teachers/schools/districts best support them? Today, Pamela Broussard, Claudia Leon, and Silvina Jover share their advice. Pamela Broussard is an award-winning New Arrival Center teacher, trainer, and speaker.

EDUCATION WEEK

“
Our schools can be a welcome refuge and place where healing can begin...”

Pamela Broussard
Education Week

Resources for Afghan Allies from the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants

These resources can be shared with Afghans resettling or looking to resettle in the United States. They include information and forms related to visas, resettlement processes, and safety plans.

Resources for Afghan Allies - USCRI

What is the Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) program? SIVs are available to individuals who have worked as translators, interpreters, or other professionals employed by or on behalf of the United States government in Afghanistan. SIV holders receive the same benefits and services as do refugees under the US Refugee Assistance Program (USRAP).



USCRI

Ideas from Austin ISD

Welcoming Afghan Families: Lessons Learned from Austin ISD

The Austin, TX Independent School District (Austin ISD) is home to more than 21,000 English language learners. While the majority of students are Spanish speakers, students throughout the district speak 116 languages. Austin ISD also serves about 700 refugee students.

COLORÍN COLORADO



Welcoming Schools

12 Ways to Support Afghan Refugee Students (by Larry Ferlazzo)

<https://www.edweek.org/teaching-learning/opinion-twelve-ways-to-support-afghan-refugee-students/2021/08>

"A Round-up of Resources"

A Round-up of Resources for Serving Afghan Evacuees

In July 2021, the U.S. government initiated Operation Allies Refuge to quickly admit and resettle individuals from and in Afghanistan who have worked for, or on behalf of, the U.S. government. The resettlement network is working to support Afghan evacuees by providing available benefits and services, including those funded by ORR.

SWITCHBOARD



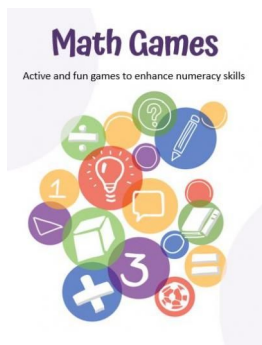
Emergency Resource Collection for supporting Afghan students from Education Above All

These activities books include lessons/activities for students of all ages and language abilities, with materials translated into Dari and Pashto as well.

Refugee Response

EAA have developed educational resources in a program for continuous learning for the Afghan refugee children in order to support a short-term and quick learning and growth program. The following sequence is recommended: 1.

EDUCATIONABOVEALL



Teacher to Teacher - Advice from Afghan teachers - SIRIUS network

Ireland's experience of migration has changed radically over the past two decades, with a shift from net emigration to net immigration. The 2016 Census indicates that 535,475 non-Irish nationals, from 200 different nationalities, are now living in Ireland.

SIRIUS NETWORK



Resources from the Virtual Learning Event on Oct. 2

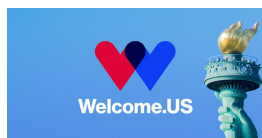
"Welcoming Afghan Students and Families" virtual learning event recording

A national movement to welcome newly arriving Afghans

Welcome.US

Join the national coalition working together to welcome Afghan refugees.

WELCOME

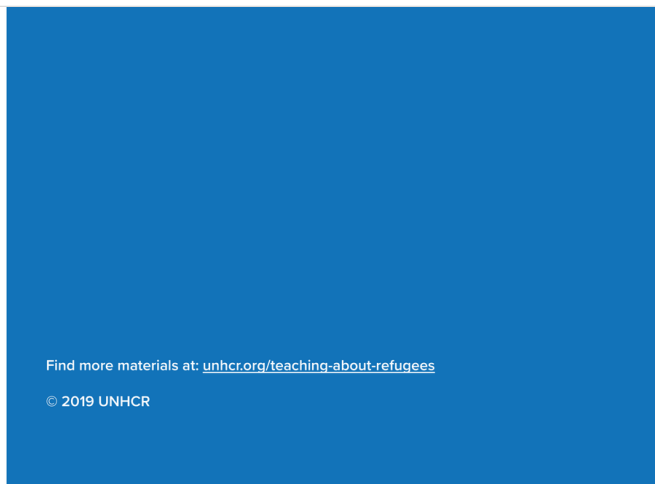


Welcoming Afghan Students and Families

by Childhood Education International

YOUTUBE

Working with refugee children struggling with stress and trauma



59d346de4.pdf

PDF document

WWW.UNHCR.ORG

Session 1 Resources: Texts, Videos, People to Check out, etc

(video from Meheria's presentation in Session 1)

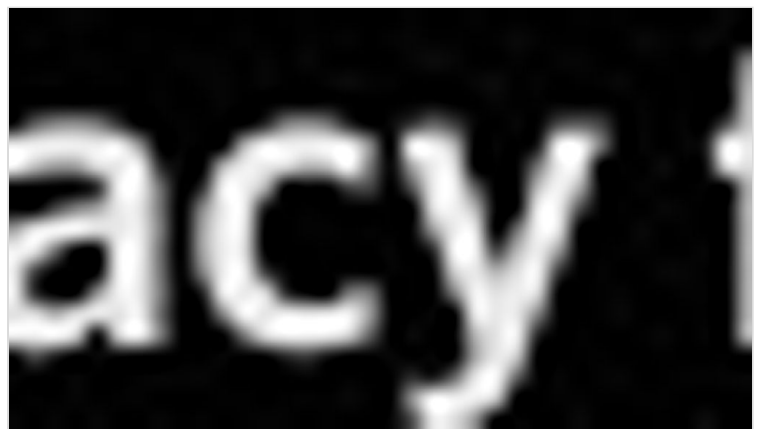
Advice from Afghan teachers



Afghan Girls: "Boys Cannot Build the Future Alone"

by International Rescue Committee UK

YOUTUBE

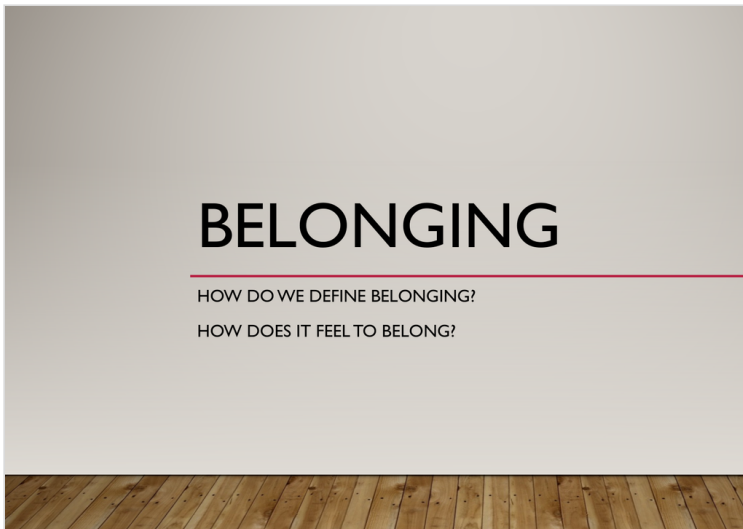


2019 PhDs Go Public: Assadullah Sadiq

by UBC Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies

YOUTUBE

Session 2 slides: Creating welcoming schools and a sense of belonging for newcomer Afghan students and their families (Eileen Mullen, School Counselor)



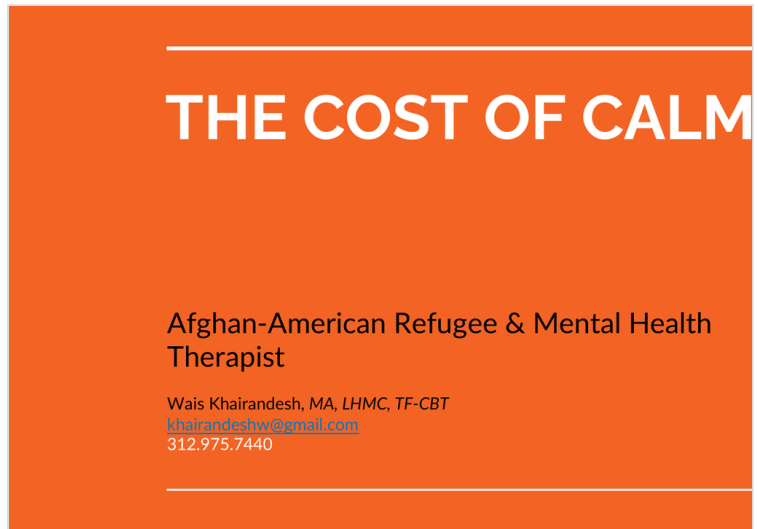
REA presentation Belonging - Read-Only

PDF document

PADLET DRIVE

Session 4 slides: The Cost of Calm (Wais Khairandesh, Mental Health Therapist)

Attending to mental health and wellbeing: Perspectives from a psychologist resettled from Afghanistan as a high school student



The Cost of Calm - Read-Only

PDF document

PADLET DRIVE

Session 2 Resources: Texts, People to Check out, etc

Assadullah Sadiq (mentioned by Eileen) - Here's a youtube video of him: <https://youtu.be/1MVhs18V8uk>

Language & Culture Resources

Afghan Students (Primer) from USAHello

Afghan students - USAHello

Many educators teaching diverse students report that they do not receive enough cultural background information on their students. If you are teaching Afghan students, it is important to be aware of newcomers' backgrounds. The information below is meant to provide an overview of key highlights, so you develop culturally responsive teaching strategies that are in tune with your students' learning styles.



USAHELLO

Refugee Educator Foundations of Practice Course Part 1

Deepening Connections & Building Conditions for Learning
For information and registration click [here](#).



Dari Language Resources

<https://www.mei.edu/education/oman-library/resource-guides/dari-language>

Dari Language Resources

Omniplot Encyclopedia: Describes the locations where Dari (also known as Afghanistan Persian) is spoken. Includes sample texts, explanation of sounds, and video clips, with links for more information at the bottom of the page. The Persian page provides the general history of Persian (Farsi) and its variations, some information about the different alphabets used to express it.

Dari-English/English-Dari practical dictionary / Carleton Bullin
By Bullin, Carleton
Edition: 1st ed.
National code: 01311
Language: English, Persian
Publisher: New York : Columbia University Press, 2012
Availability: Items available for reference: Call number: PS1495 .B85 .D612015
Request article Save to lists Add to cart

MIDDLE EAST INSTITUTE

Registration Link:

https://rescue.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_s3RWRvvoeREGz1QYaNoohrQ?mc_cid=79bc9152a7&mc_eid=8bd3373e85

Farsi Language Resources

<https://www.mei.edu/education/oman-library/resource-guides/persian-language>

Persian Language Resources

Aspirantum: This blog post on the Persian alphabet discusses its history and relation with Arabic, in addition to providing the various forms of Persian letters and their sounds.



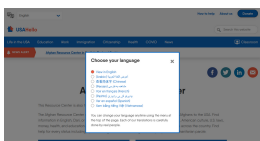
MIDDLE EAST INSTITUTE



**Psychological First Aid (PFA)
to Support Clients Affected
by the Crisis in Afghanistan**
Monday, October 4, 2:00-3:30PM ET

Afghan Resource Center

USAHELLO



Upcoming Events

"Flee" Documentary (official trailer)

Sundance Grand Jury Prize winner FLEE tells the story of Amin Nawabi as he grapples with a painful secret he has kept hidden for 20 years, one that threatens to derail the life he has built for himself and his soon to be husband. Recounted mostly through animation to director Jonas Poher Rasmussen, he tells for the first time the story of his extraordinary journey as a child refugee from Afghanistan.



FLEE - Official Trailer
by NEON
YOUTUBE

Welcome! You are invited to join a webinar: **Who are the Afghan Newcomers? Understanding the Background and Socio-cultural Strengths and Needs of Afghan Evacuees to the United States.** After registering, you will receive a confirmation email about joining the webinar.



This webinar is presented by Switchboard, a one-stop resource hub for refugee service providers in the United States. Visit www.SwitchboardTA.org to learn more. ★ What will this webinar cover? This webinar will provide an overview of events leading to the displacement of Afghan newcomers to the U.S. (also known as evacuees from Afghanistan).

FACEBOOK.COM

Nov. 10: Educational Experiences of Afghans: Learning from Afghan Students and Families

From Immigrant Connections

Welcome! You are invited to join a webinar: **Educational Experiences of Afghans: Learning from Afghan Refugee Students & Families.** After registering, you will receive a confirmation email about joining the webinar.



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ZOOM VIDEO COMMUNICATIONS

Oct 26: Who are the Afghan Newcomers? Understanding the Background and Socio-cultural Strengths and Needs of Afghan Evacuees to the United States

News & Contextual Info

"98 Countries Pledge to Accept Afghans After U.S. Military Departs"

98 Countries Pledge to Accept Afghans After U.S. Military Departs

"Most of the guys that we're tracking now are terrified to even try to go through Taliban checkpoints," said Michael P. Mulroy, a former C.I.A. officer and top Middle East policy official at the Pentagon during the Trump administration.



NYTIMES

An older article (2015), but still helpful in imagining context for some Afghans who made the choice to leave their homeland.

Dispatches: Why Afghans are Leaving

Tens of thousands of Afghans have swelled the ranks of those seeking refuge in Europe this year. Second only to Syrians, Afghans represent the next largest group - 13 percent - of those making the journey so far in 2015.



HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

U.S. War in Afghanistan Timeline 1999-2021

Timeline: U.S. War in Afghanistan

The Taliban surged back to power two decades after U.S.-led forces toppled its regime in what led to the United States' longest war.



COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

'After the airlift'. News Comment attributable to UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi

30 August 2021 | Français | عربي The act of fleeing the country of one's birth brings with it a harrowing sense of loss. The scenes at Kabul airport these past few days have sparked an outpouring of compassion around the world at the fear and desperation of thousands of Afghans.

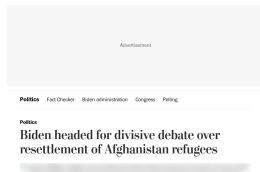


UNHCR

"Biden Headed for divisive debate over resettlement of Afghanistan refugees"

Biden headed for divisive debate over resettlement of Afghanistan refugees

President Biden, already facing political peril over the chaotic exit from Afghanistan, has in recent days waded into an escalating domestic debate over thousands of refugees slated to be resettled in the United States.

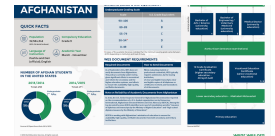


WASHINGTON POST

Education in Afghanistan

Education in Afghanistan

Editor's note: WES is deeply concerned by the deteriorating situation in Afghanistan. We welcome the efforts of governments around the world to expedite special migration pathways. We also urge the U.S. and Canadian governments to ensure the safety and well-being of Afghans, particularly those who are most vulnerable to persecution.



WENR

Afghan Ethnic Groups - A Brief Investigation

Afghan Ethnic Groups: A Brief Investigation - Afghanistan

Ethnic groups often form an individual's perceptions, behaviours and interactions in society. Afghans have historically identified or associated with ethnic groups, however specific data as to the composition and role continues to be disputed.



RELIEFWEB

Girls' Access to Education in Afghanistan

"I Won't Be a Doctor, and One Day You'll Be Sick"

Summary Sixteen years after the US-led military intervention that ousted the Taliban government, an estimated two-thirds of Afghan girls do not go to school.



And as security in the country has worsened, the progress that had been made toward the goal of getting all girls into school may be heading in reverse—a decline in girls' education in Afghanistan.

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH

On children's rights within the crisis in Afghanistan

Afghanistan: "Children Have Suffered Enough": UN officials call to uphold the rights of children, including through global action - Afghanistan

Joint statement by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Virginia Gamba and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, Najat Maalla M'jid (New York, 31 August 2021) With alarming reports of human rights violations against civilians in Afghanistan, the two UN Officials call on the Taliban and other parties to respect and protect human rights for all.



RELIEFWEB

A new refugee crisis from Afghanistan?

Will the Taliban's Takeover Lead to a New Refugee Crisis from Afghanistan?

The Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan has prompted fears of a rollback of human rights and a new refugee crisis. This article examines the prospects for possible future Afghan displacement in the region and beyond by looking at the last four decades of forced migration from Afghanistan and new factors that could determine what happens now that the U.S.



MIGRATIONPOLICY.ORG

The UN High Commissioner discusses the refugee situation from Afghanistan

"A Narrative Inquiry of Afghan Refugee High School Young Women"

Free to download. Pages 107-145 tell the stories of 3 Afghan Refugee high school students who came to the U.S. & what helped them the most.

A Narrative Inquiry of Afghan Refugee High School Young Women: Experiences and Transnational Literacy Practices from Home Country to Resettlement



This qualitative study analyzed the narratives of Afghan refugee high school young women and their educational experiences and transnational literacy practices. Narrative inquiry (Clandinin & Connelly, 2000) informed the methodology of the study. This study was situated within critical literacy (Vasquez, 2014) and Massey's (2005) notion of space and place.

SCHOLARWORKS @ GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY
