

Afghanistan Human Rights Center

Human Rights Situation Report

Past 30 days · generated 23 August 2026

Dignity, Freedom, and Justice for All

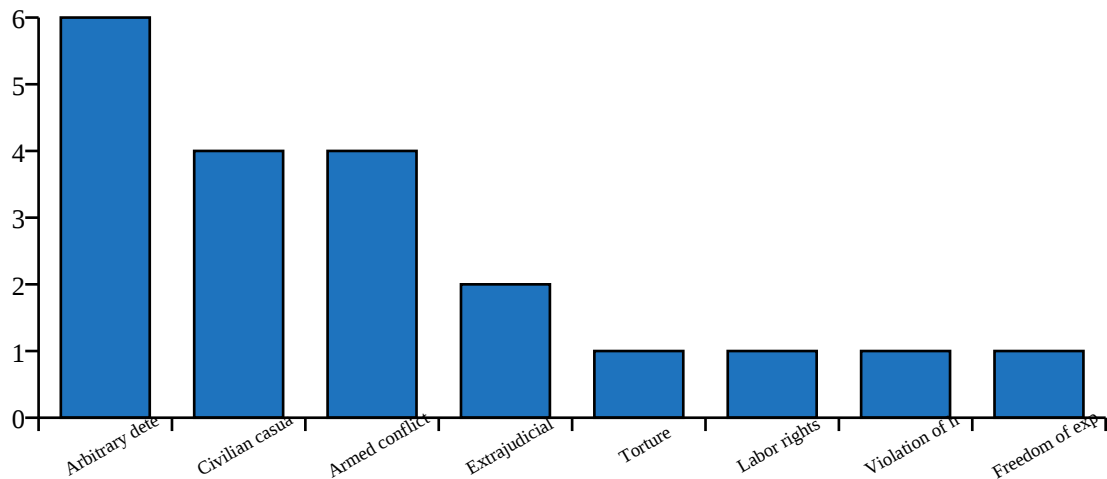
Executive summary

During the reporting period (past 30 days), the Afghanistan Human Rights Center verified and documented **29** human-rights incident(s) across Afghanistan. The most frequently documented category was **Arbitrary detention**, and the most affected province was **Kabul**. Of these, **1** incident(s) were assessed as critical severity. All figures below reflect only human-reviewed, confirmed, and de-duplicated events, coded to international human-rights and humanitarian law.

Methodology

Incidents are gathered from Afghan and international media, verified reports, and vetted contributor submissions. Each item is classified with AI assistance and then confirmed by a human reviewer before inclusion. Duplicate reports of the same event are merged. Counts represent distinct, confirmed events, not article volume.

Incidents by type



By incident type

Type	Count
Arbitrary detention	6
Civilian casualties	4
Armed conflict	4
Extrajudicial execution	2
Torture	1
Labor rights	1
Violation of human dignity	1
Freedom of expression	1
Discrimination	1

Geographic distribution

Province	Count
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Kabul	4
Herat	4
Badakhshan	4
Khost	2
Kandahar	2
Helmand	2
Parwan	1
Balkh	1
Baghlan	1

Severity breakdown

Severity	Count
Critical	1
High	16
Medium	4

Notable incidents (critical & high severity)

Taliban forces ambushed an NRF convoy in the northern Salang area as it traveled from Panjshir toward Andarab, Baghlan. Senior NRF commander Hasib Panjshiri and

2026-08-21 · Parwan · Armed conflict · severity: high

Taliban forces ambushed an NRF convoy in the northern Salang area as it traveled from Panjshir toward Andarab, Baghlan. Senior NRF commander Hasib Panjshiri and at least four other fighters were killed in the clash; the fate of three additional fighters remains unknown. The NRF's political leadership confirmed Panjshiri's death.

Eleven professors from the Faculty of Medicine at Herat University formally resigned on August 20, 2026, citing insulting and degrading treatment by the Taliban

2026-08-20 · Herat · Violation of human dignity · severity: high

Eleven professors from the Faculty of Medicine at Herat University formally resigned on August 20, 2026, citing insulting and degrading treatment by the Taliban's Morality Police, including the imprisonment of professors for having short beards. The Taliban Morality Police had also previously detained several UN staff members in Herat for the same reason. Separately, students at Sheikh Zayed University in Khost were expelled from university dormitories for not having beards. The resignations significantly impact medical education in Herat province.

A bombing near a school in the Dasht-e-Barchi area of Kabul's 18th police district injured approximately 42 children. The incident drew condemnation from the US

2026-08-18 · Kabul · Civilian casualties · severity: high

A bombing near a school in the Dasht-e-Barchi area of Kabul's 18th police district injured approximately 42 children. The incident drew condemnation from the US, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Syria, UN agencies, and the Muslim World League. The US State Department confirmed awareness of the attack and said an investigation is underway. No perpetrator has been identified.

On August 17, 2026, unidentified assailants threw multiple grenades into the compound of the Sham-e-Hedayat private school in Dasht-e-Barchi, western Kabul — a

2026-08-17 · Kabul · Civilian casualties · severity: high

On August 17, 2026, unidentified assailants threw multiple grenades into the compound of the Sham-e-Hedayat private school in Dasht-e-Barchi, western Kabul — a predominantly Hazara area — wounding approximately 44 students aged 10–14, eight of them seriously. At least three required surgery. Two days later, Taliban intelligence detained four school staff members (principal, two teachers, and a security guard) for over 28 hours without publicly stated charges.

On August 15, 2026, a Taliban Ranger vehicle transporting dozens of children for the Taliban's fifth-anniversary celebrations overturned near the Esmatullah Man

2026-08-15 · Kandahar · Civilian casualties · severity: high

On August 15, 2026, a Taliban Ranger vehicle transporting dozens of children for the Taliban's fifth-anniversary celebrations overturned near the Esmatullah Mandi area in Spin Boldak district, Kandahar. Three children were killed and eight others were injured. The article also notes that Taliban forces compelled local residents, shopkeepers, and vendors to purchase and display Taliban flags and participate in the celebrations.

The mayor of Fayzabad, Badakhshan province, Habib-ur-Rahman, was killed by a magnetic IED planted in his vehicle. One companion was wounded and taken to hospital

2026-08-14 · Badakhshan · Extrajudicial execution · severity: high

The mayor of Fayzabad, Badakhshan province, Habib-ur-Rahman, was killed by a magnetic IED planted in his vehicle. One companion was wounded and taken to hospital. The National Resistance Front (NRF) claimed responsibility for the attack, stating they targeted the Fayzabad mayor.

Taliban Morality Police arrested 18 shopkeepers in Rang-Rizan Alley, Kandahar city, on August 12, 2026. The arrests were made on charges of selling women's underwear

2026-08-12 · Kandahar · Arbitrary detention · severity: high

Taliban Morality Police arrested 18 shopkeepers in Rang-Rizan Alley, Kandahar city, on August 12, 2026. The arrests were made on charges of selling women's underwear and other goods for women, and for shaving their beards — neither of which constitutes a legitimate criminal offense under international human rights law. The detentions reflect the Taliban's continued use of arbitrary morality-based enforcement against civilians engaged in lawful commerce.

At least 4 people were killed and 1 injured in an armed clash between two families over an agricultural irrigation water dispute in Tala wa Barfak district, Bag

2026-08-12 · Baghlan · Civilian casualties · severity: high

At least 4 people were killed and 1 injured in an armed clash between two families over an agricultural irrigation water dispute in Tala wa Barfak district, Baghlan province. Those involved fled the scene and no arrests had been made as of the report date.

Local commander Jumakhan Fateh and his armed followers clashed with Taliban Ministry of Defense special forces in Badakhshan's Nusay district and surrounding Da

2026-08-10 · Badakhshan · Armed conflict · severity: high

Local commander Jumakhan Fateh and his armed followers clashed with Taliban Ministry of Defense special forces in Badakhshan's Nusay district and surrounding Darwaz region for approximately one week before Fateh surrendered unconditionally. Both sides sustained casualties and some residents were forced to flee their homes. Fateh was helicoptered to Faizabad following negotiations led by Taliban army chief of staff Fasihuddin Fitrat. Disarmament of Fateh's forces was reported as a key condition of the agreement.

Civil society activist Ehsan Sadat, linked to the Pashtun Protection Movement, was arrested by Taliban intelligence forces in Khost province approximately four

2026-08-07 · Khost · Torture · severity: high

Civil society activist Ehsan Sadat, linked to the Pashtun Protection Movement, was arrested by Taliban intelligence forces in Khost province approximately four days before August 11, 2026. He was severely tortured and fell into a coma; his condition remains critical. His family confirmed the arrest but the reason for detention is unknown. The Taliban have not commented.

More than 130 Hazara and Shiite university students were denied dormitory access at Balkh University and Herat University beginning August 6, 2026. University o

2026-08-06 · Balkh · Discrimination · severity: high

More than 130 Hazara and Shiite university students were denied dormitory access at Balkh University and Herat University beginning August 6, 2026. University officials explicitly cited the students' Hazara

ethnicity and Shiite religious affiliation as grounds for rejection. Some students signed withdrawal forms and left university, as dormitory access is essential for students traveling from distant provinces. The incident raises serious concerns about ethnicity- and religion-based discrimination in access to higher education services under Taliban rule.

Taliban morality police arrested 10 women in Lashkar Gah, Helmand, for not wearing a burqa despite being in Islamic dress. Their whereabouts remain unknown. Sep

2026-08-04 · Helmand · Arbitrary detention · severity: high

Taliban morality police arrested 10 women in Lashkar Gah, Helmand, for not wearing a burqa despite being in Islamic dress. Their whereabouts remain unknown. Separately, two female students were detained in Herat while traveling to a private educational center. A former detainee described systematic physical and psychological abuse inside Taliban detention facilities. Taliban officials denied the arrests.

Taliban morality police arrested 10 women in Lashkar Gah, Helmand province, following a verbal confrontation with enforcers from the Ministry for the Propagation of Virtue and the Prevention of Vice

2026-08-04 · Helmand · Arbitrary detention · severity: high

Taliban morality police arrested 10 women in Lashkar Gah, Helmand province, following a verbal confrontation with enforcers from the Ministry for the Propagation of Virtue and the Prevention of Vice. Local sources, including two journalists, described this as the first reported detention of women in the province under the Taliban's latest enforcement campaign.

Taliban morality police detained at least nine women in Herat city over two days, arresting them in the 64-Meter area, Marmar Market, and Bakrabad neighborhoods

2026-08-03 · Herat · Arbitrary detention · severity: high

Taliban morality police detained at least nine women in Herat city over two days, arresting them in the 64-Meter area, Marmar Market, and Bakrabad neighborhoods despite the women wearing Islamic head coverings. Residents report women are increasingly afraid to leave their homes due to harassment and intimidation. Former detainees describe prolonged detention, psychological abuse, isolation from family, and denial of legal representation. Separately, female doctors in Panjshir were reportedly ordered to wear a burqa or be barred from work. The detentions are part of a broader enforcement campaign.

Taliban security forces reportedly opened fire on protesters in Yeftal-e-Pain district, Badakhshan, killing an estimated 3–4 people and wounding at least 7. The

2026-08-02 · Badakhshan · Freedom of expression · severity: high

Taliban security forces reportedly opened fire on protesters in Yeftal-e-Pain district, Badakhshan, killing an estimated 3–4 people and wounding at least 7. The protest was triggered by the alleged search of a woman at a Taliban checkpoint in the Sang Ab area. Casualty figures remain unverified and are disputed by Taliban authorities.

Taliban police killed 11 people in Kabul in less than 10 days. The Taliban claimed all victims were armed robbers, but relatives dispute this — one victim, Ali,

2026-08-01 · Kabul · Extrajudicial execution · severity: critical

Taliban police killed 11 people in Kabul in less than 10 days. The Taliban claimed all victims were armed robbers, but relatives dispute this — one victim, Ali, was a young street vendor (~20-21 years old) from the Dasht-e-Barchi area of western Kabul who supported his family. The UN special rapporteur for Afghanistan called for prompt and impartial investigations into the killings.

Armed clashes between the Bori Khail tribe (Khost, Spira district) and the Giyan Khail tribe (Paktika, Giyan district) over a disputed mountainous area entered

2026-07-31 · Khost · Armed conflict · severity: high

Armed clashes between the Bori Khail tribe (Khost, Spira district) and the Giyan Khail tribe (Paktika, Giyan district) over a disputed mountainous area entered a fourth consecutive day on 3 August 2026. Both sides reportedly used light and heavy weapons, including mortars. At least two people were injured in the current round of fighting. Shelling damaged at least two houses in Gelay village, Giyan district. Taliban forces were deployed to the area to prevent further escalation. The underlying land and resource dispute is reported to span nearly 80 years, with historical casualties estimated a