

LAW LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

AFGHANISTAN

TRANSLATION OF NATIONAL LEGISLATION INTO ENGLISH

Official laws and judicial decisions of Afghanistan are published only in the Dari or Pashto languages. A few unofficial translations of laws into English are available from Afghan government agencies, international agencies, and private organizations.

I. Official Publications

The *Official Gazette* is published intermittently in Dari and Pashto. The publication started in 1963, but stopped around 1980, restarting again around 1997.

- RASMĪ JARĪDAH [OFFICIAL GAZETTE] (Ministry of Justice, Kabul), LC Call No. KNF7 .A33.

II. Unofficial Translations of Laws

Compilations of the laws of Afghanistan have been translated into English. Note, however, that the sources below are a few decades old.

- COMPILED TRANSLATIONS OF THE LAWS OF AFGHANISTAN (United Nations Development Programme, Kabul, 1975–), LC Call No. LAW AFG 2 1975 v. 1.
- LAWS OF AFGHANISTAN (1975–), LC Call No. LAW AFG 2 1975.

III. Court Reporters

Afghanistan has no official system of reporting judicial decisions or cases. *Afghan Judicial Reports*, an official government publication that commenced in 1976, has since ceased publication:

- AFGHAN JUDICIAL REPORTS (Ministry of Justice, Judiciary Branch, Research and Study Dep't, Kabul), LC Call No. KNF19 .A76.

IV. Other Compilations of Court Decisions

There are also unofficial collections of judicial decisions in the English language. Note, however, that the following publication is a few decades old.

- A COLLECTION OF AFGHAN JUDICIAL DECISIONS (Richard C. Csaplar Jr. ed., 1976), LC Call No. KNF19 .A4 1976.

V. Online Resources

There are also additional online sources of Afghan laws in the English language. The Afghanistan Investment Support Agency provides unofficial English translations of laws on its website:

- *Afghanistan Laws*, AFGHANISTAN INVESTMENT SUPPORT AGENCY, <http://www.aisa.org.af/english/investmentlaws.html>.

The Ministry of Justice's Legislative Department (*Taqnin*) has limited capacity to translate laws into English. Therefore, international agencies and organizations have been providing support in the translation of certain Afghan laws into English. For example, USAID had been funding the Afghanistan Rule of Law Project (ARoLP), which provided unofficial English translations of Afghan laws. The organizations and international agencies that provide some laws of Afghanistan translated into English are listed below:

- AFGHANISTAN LEGAL DOCUMENTS EXCHANGE CENTER, <http://afghantranslation.checchiconsulting.com/> (run by the ARoLP).
- *Afghan Laws*, ASIAN LEGAL INFORMATION INSTITUTE (ASIANLII), <http://www.asianlii.org/af/legis/laws/>.
- *Afghanistan: Legal Documents*, MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR COMPARATIVE PUBLIC LAW AND INTERNATIONAL LAW, http://www.mpil.de/ww/en/pub/research/details/know_transfer/afghanistan_project/legal_documents.cfm.

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