



Province: Logar
Governor: Attiqullah Ludin
Chief of Police: Mustafa Hussein

Population Estimate: 332,400		Urban: 7,900	Rural: 324,500
Area in Square Kilometers:	3,880		Capital: Pol-e Alam
Names of Districts:	Azra, Baraki Barak, Charkh, Kherwar, Khoshi, Mohammad Agha, Pol-e Alam		
Composition of Population:	<u>Ethnic Groups:</u> Tajik, Hazara, Pashtun, Kuchi	<u>Religious Groups:</u> Primarily Sunni with some Shia Muslim <u>Total # Mosques:</u> 1,665	<u>Ethnic Groups:</u> Pashtun: Ghilzai, Wardaki, Khogiani
Occupation of Population	Major: Agriculture, daily labor, business, animal husbandry		Minor: Gathering firewood for sale
Crops/Farming/Livestock:	Wheat, potato, corn, alfalfa, beans, almonds, apricots, walnuts, maize, barley, grapes, apple, mulberry, vegetables		Sheep, goats, cows
Literacy Rate Total:	17% ¹		
Number of Educational Institutions: 46	<u>Schools:</u> Primary: Secondary:	<u>Colleges/Universities:</u> Pedagogy Institute established recently, likely to be active in the next year. ²	
Number of Security Incidents, Jan-Jun 2007: 13	January: 2 February: 1	March: 0 April: 2	May: 5 June: 3
Poppy (Opium) Cultivation:	<u>2006:</u> 0 ha	<u>2007:</u> 0 ha	<u>Percent Change:</u> 0%
NGOs Active in Province:	UNHCR, HAND, AMDA, WROR, ISRA, DACAR, NCA, SCA, UNICEF, NPO, CARE, MEDAir, INTERSOS, UNOPS, IRC, Barak		
<u>Provincial Aid Projects:</u> ³ Total Projects: 720 Planned Cost: \$13,526,968 Total Spent: \$3,816,870	Total PRT Projects: 28 Planned Cost: \$2,185,497 Total Spent: \$599,429		Other Aid Projects: 692 Planned Cost: \$11,341,471 Total Spent: \$3,217,441
Transportation:	<u>Primary Roads:</u> Kabul-Pol-e Alam-Gardez Highway; Pol-e Alam-Dadir Khel Highway; provincial highways connecting Pol-e Alam with Ghazni, Ali Khel (Paktia) and into Nangarhar; other secondary roads and tracks ⁴		
Electricity:	<u>Estimated Population w/access:</u>		
Health Facilities:	<u>Hospitals:</u> 4		<u>Clinics, etc.:</u> 41
Primary Sources/ Availability of Drinking Water:	Kherwar and Surkab Reservoirs, ⁵ River, springs, karezes		
Rivers:	Logar River		
Significant Topographic Features:	Dominated by the Logar Valley and surrounding mountains; Spin Range in the east and south. The land of the Logar Valley is a conglomeration of irrigated fields, gardens, rainfed crops, and rock outcrops. ⁶		

¹ UNDP Afghanistan, *Afghanistan Human Development Report 2007*

² Regional Rural Economic Regeneration Strategies (RRERS), *Provincial profile for Logar*, (2006), at <http://mrrd.gov.af/ENGLISH/GRM/Logar%20Provincial%20Profile.pdf>, accessed on 8 October 2007.

³ ISAF and CJTF 82, *Afghanistan Comprehensive Stability Project*, June 2007.

⁴ Nelles Verlag, *Afghanistan*, 2006.

⁵ Regional Rural Economic Regeneration Strategies (RRERS), *Provincial profile for Logar*, (2006), at <http://mrrd.gov.af/ENGLISH/GRM/Logar%20Provincial%20Profile.pdf>, accessed on 8 October 2007.

⁶ AIMS, *Afghanistan Paktika Province Land Cover Map*, April 2002 and Nelles Verlag, *Afghanistan*, 2006.

Political Landscape:

Political Leaders:



Governor Attiqullah Ludin:

Attiqullah is 40 years old, and is originally from the Muhammad Agha district Logar province. He was a commander for the Jamiat-i-Islami Party of former Afghan president Burhanuddin Rabbani during war against the Soviets. Attiqullah nominated himself for elections in Logar province for the lower house of parliament but could not gain a seat.⁷

Ludin has replaced Abdullah Wardak as Logar's governor after Wadak was assassinated in the Paghman district on September 13, 2008. He was leaving his home on way to his office when his car struck an IED killing him and three other men instantly.⁸ The Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack.

Deputy Governor Abdul Gheyas Patang:

Ethnic Pashtun. Appointed deputy governor in June 2004.

Chief of Police Mustafa Hussein:

Ethnic Tajik; approximately 45 years old. Graduated from the Military University in 1981. Previous job was as commander, AMF 20th Division.

National Defense Service Chief, Lt Col Ghulam Rabbani:

Appointed in March 2005. Previously the NDS Chief in Nangarhar province.

Wolesi Jirga:⁹

Doctor Faziullah Mujadidi:



Ethnic Tajik. Legislation committee. Former governor of Logar and Jamiat-e Islami commander.

Doctor Asadullah Hematyar:



Ethnic Pashtun. Education committee. Medical doctor. He was a delegate to the Loya

Hajji Ali Mohammad:



Ethnic Pashtun; associated with Hezb-e Islami and possibly the Qanuni faction. Communications committee. High school graduate. He is a tribal elder and runs a clinic in Kabul.

Al-haj Doctor Shakila Hashemi:



Female Pashtun; possibly associated with the Qanuni political faction. Chair of the Health committee. Medical doctor and delegate to the Loya Jirga

Meshrano Jirga:¹⁰

⁷ Shah Pur Arab, "Logar new governor assumes charge," Pajhwok, October 23, 2008, <http://www.pajhwok.com/viewstory.asp?lng=eng&id=64152>

⁸ "Afghan provincial governor killed," BBC, September 13, 2008. http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/7613888.stm

⁹ US Embassy Kabul Afghanistan Election Observation Team and Joint Election Management Board, 2005.

Doctor Abdul Wali Ahmadzai:












Ahmadzai Pashtun; associated with Hamnazar. International Relations committee. Medical doctor. Former employee of the International Rescue Committee in Pakistan. He runs a drug store in Pol-e Alam

Sultan Jan Khaksar:



Ahmadzai Pashtun; associated with Hamnazar. Secretary of the Public Welfare committee. University educated. He is a former officer in the Ministry of Trades.

Provincial Council Members:

	Hajji Aziz Ahmad		Hajji Mohammad Sadiq
	Malim Abdul Hakim Sulimankhel		Feroza (female)
	Sifatullah Haqmal Ahmadzai		Farzana Shansab (female)
	Abdullah Ahmadzai		Engineer Zuhra Mathar Ahmadzai (female)
	Hajji Agha Gul Khushiwal		

Primary Political Parties:

Hezb-e Islami Khalis (HiK):

Originally a mujahideen group which split with Hekmatyar’s Hezb-e Islami under the leadership of Yunus Khalis. HiK was dominant in Nangarhar. Khalis died in 2005 or 2006, resulting in an internal power struggle for control of the party between Khalis’ son Anwarul Haq Mujahid and Hajji Din Mohammad. It appears that Mohammad was successful in consolidating his control over much of the party. Recent and active political players in Nangarhar have connections to HiK. Led by Hajji Din Mohammad, current governor of Kabul.

Hezb-e Afghanistan Naween (New Afghanistan Party/Qanuni):

Led by Mohammad Yunus Qanuni. Part of a political alliance called Jabahai Tafahim Millie or National Understanding Front. Qanuni was the primary contender against Karzai for the presidency. He is a Tajik who has been a mujahideen, spokesman for Ahmed Shah Masoud, and Minister of Interior and Education. He was elected to parliament in 2005 and was chosen to lead the Wolesi Jirga. Support for him and his party may be a political counter-weight to Karzai.

Hamnazar

One of the most important parties of the Meshrano Jirga, Hamnazar (Alliance), It mainly consists of pro-Karzai MPs, who are Western sympathizers. The group numbers some thirty parliamentarians and is led

¹⁰ US Embassy Kabul Afghanistan Election Observation Team and Joint Election Management Board, 2005.

by Amin Zai. A doctor by profession, he is closely allied with Karzai who strongly supported him for this position.¹¹

Hezb-e Islami Gulbuddin (HiG):

Mujahideen party active since the Soviet invasion; led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar. Actively opposed to US-led and Afghan national forces. Politically active in Sherzad, Surk Rod and Pachir Wa districts. Hekmatyar is a Kharoti Ghilzai and, therefore, less influential than the much more respected and powerful Khugianis, such as Hajji Din Mohammad and Anwarul Haq Mohammad.¹²

Public Attitudes toward Political/Religious Leaders:

According to survey data, shuras and elders are considered the most respected leaders by 87% of the provincial population; mullahs and mullahs by 6%.¹³

Human Terrain:

Ghilzai:

There are Ghilzai Pashtun in every district of Logar, but are particularly concentrated in Azra and Kherwar. The largest single tribe of the Pashtun ethnicity, the Ghalji or Ghilzai, and in particular the Hotaki clan, formed the backbone of the Taliban movement. Long resentful of the power the Duranni tribe (of which Karzai and Zahir Shah are members), the Ghilzai are fiercely independent and often view themselves, as the largest grouping of Pashtuns in the country, as the rightful leaders of Afghanistan. That being said, they suffered much during the Soviet invasion, and must be included in any effort to secure and develop Ghazni Province.

Wardak Pashtun:

There are some Wardak Pashtun in Mohammad Agha district. Some leaders of the Wardak Pashtun were notorious for their opposition to the British in 1879-1880. The Wardak tribe is subdivided in the Mayar, Mirkehl (which may be the same as the Amir Khel), and the Nuri.¹⁴ There is some disagreement whether the Wardaks are Karlanri or Ghilzai Pashtun. Most evidence suggests they are Karlanri. Currently several Wardak Pashtuns hold important posts in the central government, including the Ministry of Defense (General Abdur Rahim Wardak), the Ministry of Information, Culture and Youth (Abdul Karim Khoram), and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. It is also important to note that “several Islamic radicals emerged from Wardak who helped to promote and implement Taliban’s conservative interpretation of Islam.”¹⁵

Khugiani:

Khugiani reside in the eastern portion of the Azra district. Feud with Shinwari and Ghilzai. History of opposing the British. They are classified as Karlanri and Hill Tribe Pashtuns.

Tajik:

Ethnic Tajiks are located in Mohammad Agha, Baraki Barak, Charkh, Pol-e Alam and Khoshi districts. Tajiks are the second largest ethnic group in Afghanistan, after the Pashtuns and comprise between 25-30% of the population. The Tajiks in Afghanistan tend to live in settled communities as opposed to a

¹¹ “The New Parliament: an Afghan Way to Democracy,” *CeMiSS Quarterly*, Centro Militare di Studi Strategici, April 2006, available from www.difesa.it/NR/rdonlyres/0FA44F42-56BC-4D58-9F93-46A7F42CC8DE/11177/quart_spring_06.pdf (accessed September 25, 2007).

¹² Chris Mason, *Tora Bora Nizami Mahaz*.

¹³ Altai Consulting, *CEE: Cognitive Effects Evaluation*, 9 March 2007.

¹⁴ Adamec, Vol. 6, 802-803.

¹⁵ Mirwais Wardak, Idrees Zaman, and Kanishka Nawabi, “The Role and Functions of Religious Civil Society in Afghanistan: Case Studies From Sayedabad & Kunduz,” *Cooperation for Peace and Unity*, (July 2007): 9, at www.cpau.org.af, accessed 10 August 2007.

nomadic lifestyle. They are of Iranian descent and primarily speak Dari. The majority of Tajiks are Sunni Muslims. Tajiks made up the majority of the Northern Alliance, both in terms of membership and leadership. Tribal ties have largely broken down among the Tajiks; therefore, social organization is defined primarily by geography. Despite their lack of cohesiveness the Tajiks are often brought together due to the perceived common threat posed by the Pashtuns.¹⁶

Hazara:

There is a small percentage of Hazara in the Khoshi and Pol-e Alam districts.¹⁷ The Hazara, a distinct ethnic and religious group within the population of Afghanistan, have often been the target of discriminatory and violent repression. Most likely descended from the Mongols of Genghis Khan, (there is also a strong argument that they are of Eastern Turkic origin), the Hazara are noticeably different in physical appearance when compared to the Pashtun majority. In terms of religion, the vast majority of the Hazara are of the Shia Muslim faith, again in contrast to the Pashtuns who are Sunni Muslim. Due to these differences, “the Hazara have experienced discrimination at the hands of the Pashtun-dominated government throughout the history of modern Afghanistan.”¹⁸ As the traditional underclass of Afghan society, Hazara were exploited and made to work as servants and laborers. As a result there tends to be an anti-government and anti-Pashtun bias among the Hazara. In present day Afghanistan, the Hazara are divided geographically into two main groups: the Hazarajat Hazara and those who live outside the Hazarajat. The Hazarajat is located in the Hindu Kush Mountains in central Afghanistan and is “centered around Bamiyan province and include[s] areas of Ghowr, Uruzgan, Wardak, and Ghazni province.”¹⁹ The Hazara living outside of the Hazarajat live in and around Kabul, Herat, Mazar-e-Sharif and Samangan province. Due to atrocities committed against them by the Taliban, the Hazara by and large are opposed to the Taliban. In August 1998, the Taliban massacred approximately 4,000 Hazara in Mazar-e-Sharif; this massacre was followed by another the next month when the Taliban killed another 500 Hazara in Bamiyan. The Hezb-e Wahdat (Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan) is an umbrella political organization which commands the support of large numbers of Hazara. The Hazara are also often at odds with the Kuchi population within the Hazarajat.

Kuchi:

Kuchi can be found in Pol-e Alam and Kherwar districts.²⁰ Involved in a constant and centuries old range war with the Hazara, the Kuchi are Pashtun nomads. Drawn primarily from the Ghilzai tribe, the Kuchis have moved across Afghanistan and Pakistan for generations, and only since Pakistani independence were banned from Pakistani territory. Dispersed and well-traveled, they often receive news from distant relations in far-away provinces relatively quickly. The self-declared “leader” of the Kuchis is one Hashmat Ghani Ahmadzai. Partially settled by the king and the following socialist governments, they were strong supporters of the Taliban, both ideologically and pragmatically, as they came into possession of many Hazara lands thanks to the repression of the Shi’ite Hazara by the Taliban. There are estimated to be around three million Kuchi in Afghanistan, with at least 60% remaining fully nomadic.²¹

Security Landscape:

General Level of Security:

The threat level in Logar was considered moderate in 2007 with BBC Monitoring reporting 13 security related incidents during the first six months of 2007, one of which was a suicide attack. Five of the

¹⁶ US State Department Afghanistan Culture and Ethnic Studies, 2004.

¹⁷ UNHCR District Profiles, http://www.aims.org.afg/dist_profiles/unhcr_district_profiles/centra/logar/khoshi.pdf and http://www.aims.org.afg/dist_profiles/unhcr_district_profiles/centra/logar/puli_alam.pdf, accessed on 2 October 2007.

¹⁸ US State Department Afghanistan Culture and Ethnic Studies, 2004.

¹⁹ US State Department Afghanistan Culture and Ethnic Studies, 2004.

²⁰ Adamec, Vol. 6, 418-419/

²¹ Afghan Nomads Say U.S. Bombing Killed Nine,” Associated Press, September 25, 2003

http://abcnews.go.com/wire/World/ap20030925_221.html and Paul Garwood, “Poverty, violence put Afghanistan’s fabled Kuchi nomads on a road to nowhere,” Associated Press, May 14, 2006, <http://www.rawa.org/nomad.htm/>.

security incidents occurred in the Pol-e Alam district, two in Mohammad Agha district and two in Kherwar district. Logar is close to areas of HiG and Taliban activity and the HiG traditionally has had a significant support base in the province.

Recent insurgent activity has included the assassination of three Western aid workers (International Rescue Committee), all of them female, by Taliban gunmen on August 13, 2008.²² The longtime governor of Logar province, Abdullah Wardak, was assassinated by a Taliban planted IED on September 13, 2008 and a legislator from Khushi district was shot to death on October 17.

The two hundred-strong Czech led PRT for Logar, which arrived in March, has been repeatedly attacked by insurgents. A 21-man Czech patrol was ambushed on October 1 which left seven soldiers injured and a number of their attackers dead.²³ The Czech PRT base (Shank) has endured a series of insurgent mortar attacks, including a direct hit on September 23 that left three soldiers wounded.²⁴

Public attitudes toward security:

Despite a moderate threat level 94% of those surveyed indicated that they feel unsafe. 90% worry about roadside explosions/IEDs.²⁵

Public attitudes toward FF:

65% of those surveyed feel that foreign and coalition forces bring some peace and security to the area.²⁶

²² “Three Western female aid workers shot dead in Afghanistan,” AFP, August 13, 2008.

<http://afp.google.com/article/ALeqM5gXQhNoEYGDskNyQ8Qn-BLOIk8IDA>

²³ Jan Velinger, “Czech soldiers attacked in Afghanistan,” Radio Prague, October 2, 2008.

²⁴ Shahpur Arab, “Three Czech soldiers wounded in attack,” Pajhwok, September 22, 2008.

<http://www.pajhwok.com/viewstory.asp?lng=eng&id=62519>

²⁵ Altai Consulting, 9 March 2007.

²⁶ Altai Consulting, 9 March 2007.

