


## Taliban withdraw from Kabul

 November 13, 2001 Posted: 10:19 a.m. EST (1519 GMT)



**(CNN) -- The Northern Alliance marched into Kabul Tuesday as the ruling Taliban pulled out of the city, the most dramatic development in a rapid string of victories for the opposition Northern Alliance.**

CNN's Matthew Chance traveled into Kabul from Jabal Saraj with opposition fighters. Along the way he saw evidence of fierce fighting and airstrikes, including bodies strewn along the road, devastated buildings and twisted metal.

The bulk of the opposition forces remain on the northern outskirts of the city, though some troops, serving as police, entered the capital. A large number of Northern Alliance fighters are patrolling the streets.

Chance said he has seen no evidence that the Taliban remain in the Afghan capital, and the atmosphere among residents along the road into Kabul was festive as thousands came out in support of the Northern Alliance.

Meanwhile, Western officials tell CNN that as many as 600 people have been killed or executed by anti-Taliban forces since Northern Alliance fighters took control of Mazar-e Sharif on Friday.

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# Afghanistan

**Encounters with the mujahedin, the Taliban and the drug business**

**Stories and slides**

**by Alexander Seger**

**Strasbourg, November 2001**



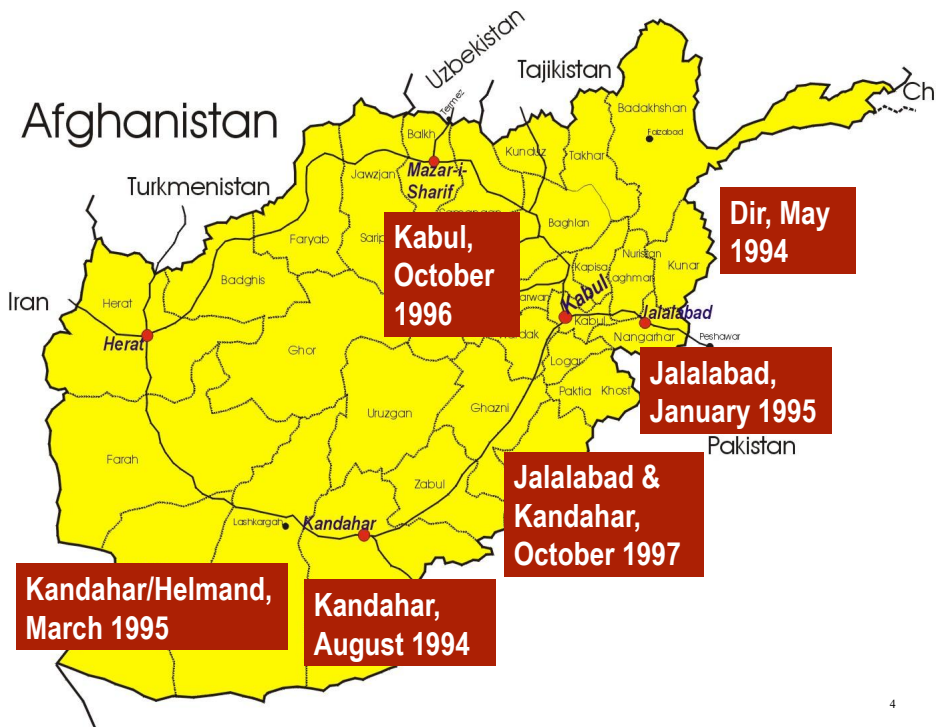
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### Kandahar, August 1994



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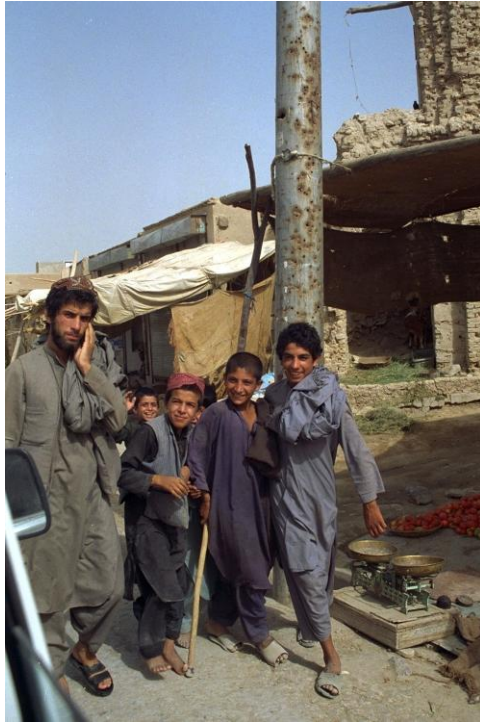
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**S.P. Huntington and the clash of civilisations**

Clash of superpowers is replaced by the clash of civilizations  
 West will lose its influence. Asiatic cultures will gain in economic  
 military and political power. Destabilisation through Islam.  
 Americans need to maintain their western identity and to protect  
 their culture against non-western societies.....

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## How did Afghanistan get into such a situation?



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**327 B.C. Alexander the Great**

**1747 Ahmad Shah Durrani, founder of Afghanistan**

**1838 - 42, 1878, 1919 Anglo-Afghan wars**

**1933 - 1973 King Zahir Shah**

**1973 Prime-minister Daoud abolishes monarchy**

**1978 Saur revolution: marxist PDPA takes power. Conflicts within PDPA**

**Dec 1979 Sowjet invasion. Babrak Karmal**

**1985 Islamic Unity of the Afghan Mujahedin**

**May 1986 Najibullah**

**Feb 1989 Sowjet withdrawal completed**

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### Principle of governance until 1992:

**“a Pashtun ruler using external resources to reign over an ethnically heterogenous society while manipulating that social segmentation to weaken society’s resistance”**

**Barnett Rubin (1996): The Fragmentation of Afghanistan.**

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**April 1992 - the Najibullah regime collapses. Ten mujahedin groups establish transition council**



**June 1992 - Burhanuddin Rabbani president. Increasing conflicts between mujahedin groups**

**March 1993 - “Islamabad compromise”. Rabbani president, Hekmatyar prime-minister, Mahsood minister of defence**



**1992 - 1996 “Fragmentation of Afghanistan”**

***From June 1994 Taliban .....***

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### Situation in mid-1990s:

- Some 4 million returnees, but still more than 2 million refugees in Pakistan and Iran, some 500 000 internally displaced people
- Some ten million landmines. At least 1.5 million Afghans crippled
- Second lowest life expectancy in the world. 257 children die before the age of five
- 44% of men and 13% of women can read and write
- Food production at 63% of level of 1979
- Civil war. Warlord culture. “Famous commanders”. Rape and murder
- Leading producer of opium

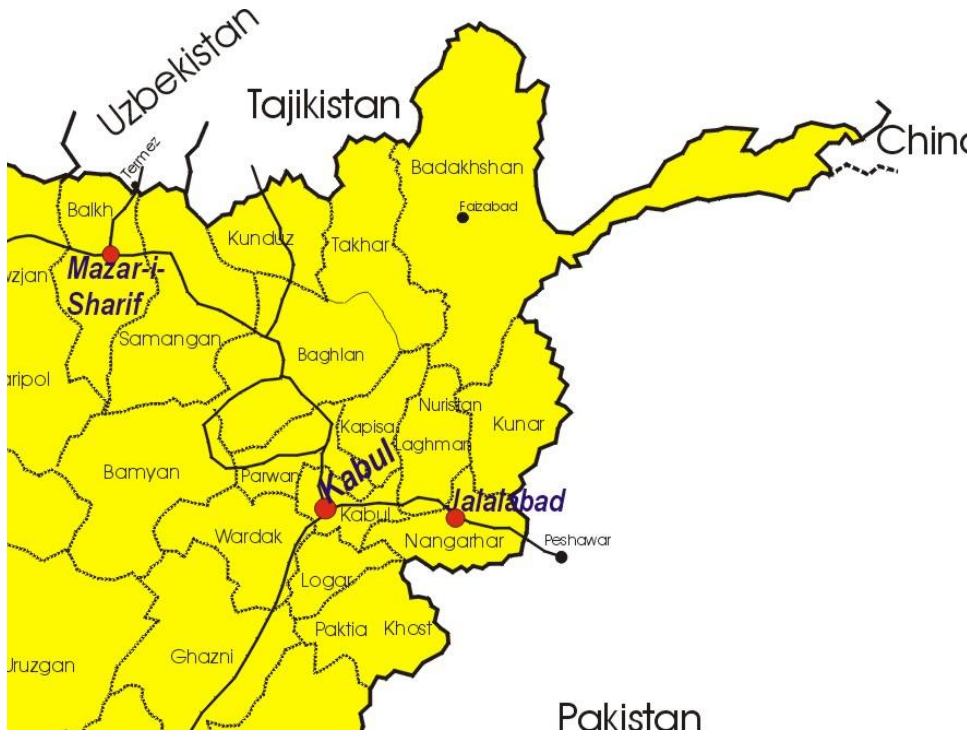
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## Jalalabad, January 1995



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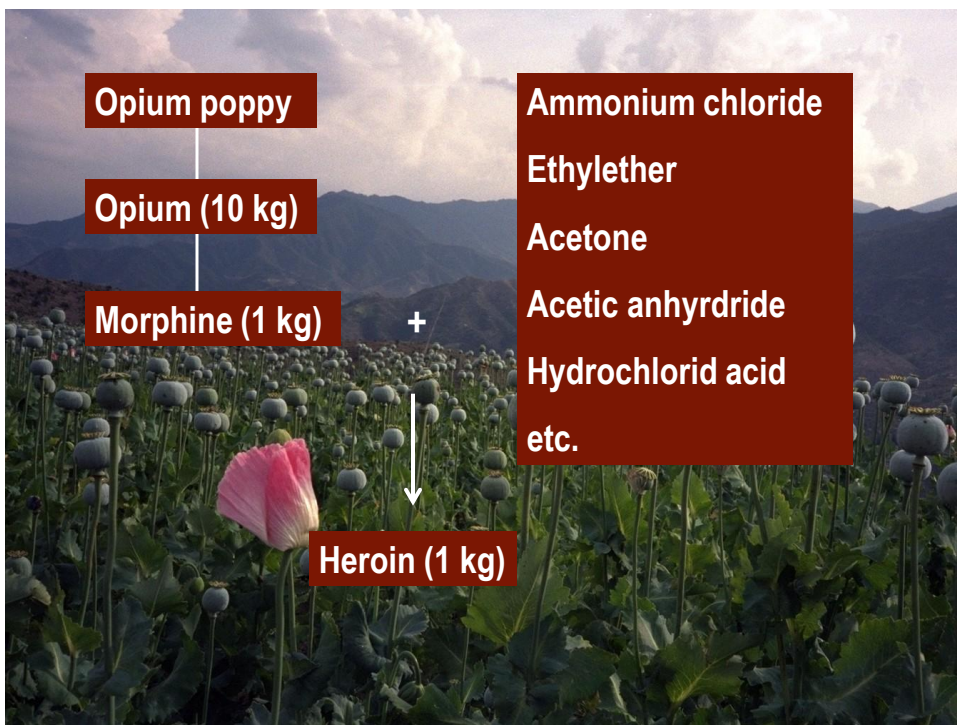
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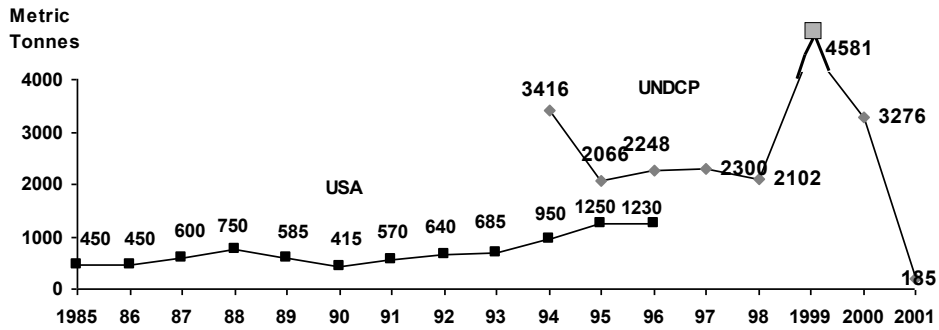


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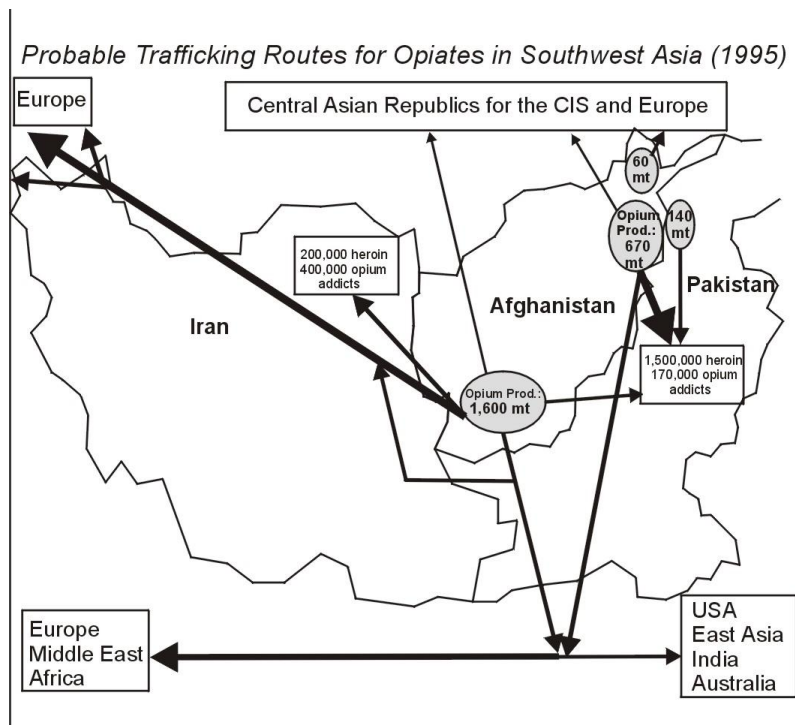


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### Trends in opium production in Afghanistan



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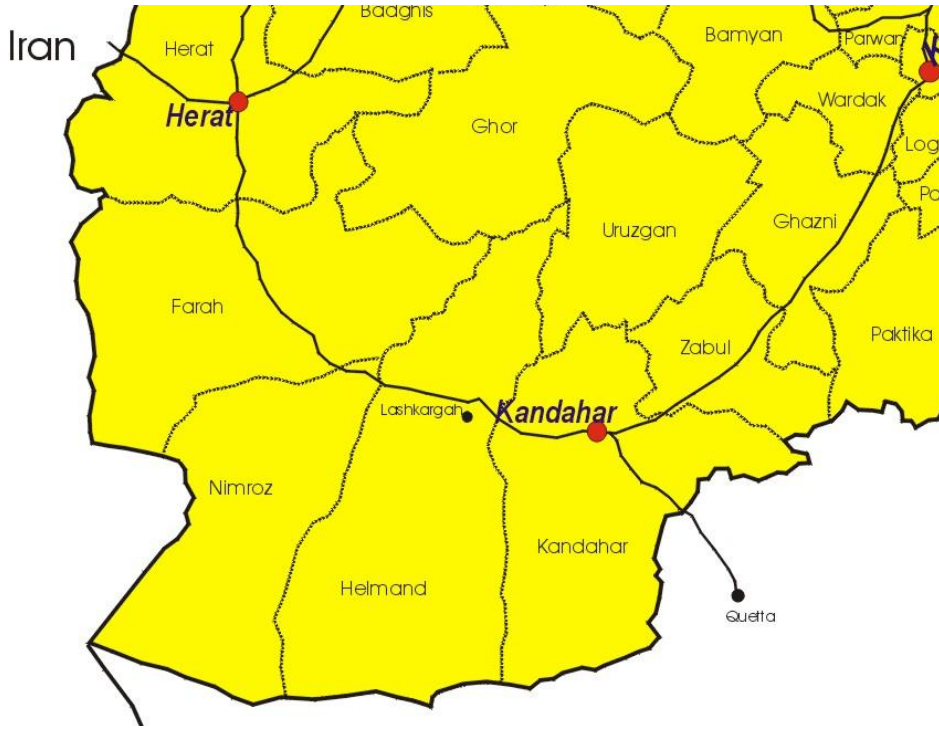
Farmer in Afghanistan	10 kg of opium	= \$ 250	1
Morphine laboratory (Afg)	1 kg of morphine	= \$ 450	1.8
Heroin lab (Afg/Pak)	1 kg of heroin	= \$ 650	2.5
Export Southwest Asia	1 - 1.5 kg heroin (70%)	= \$ 4500	17.5
Europe wholesale	2 kg of heroin (50%)	= \$ 60000	350
Europe retail			2000

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## Kandahar/Helmand, March 1995



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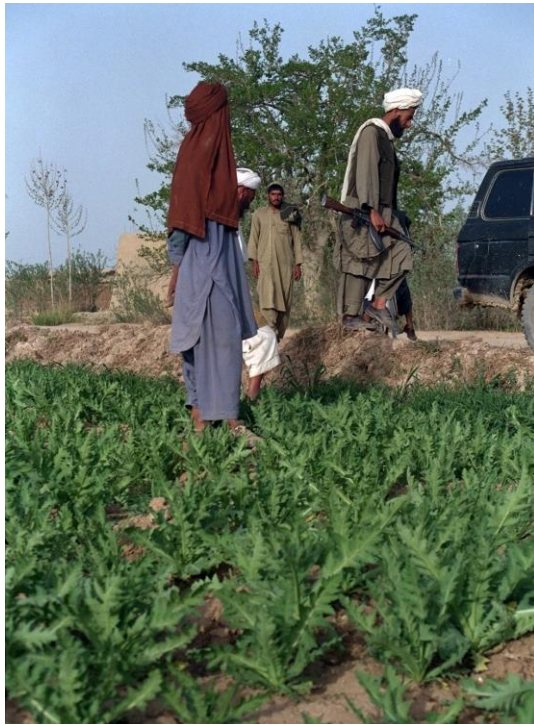
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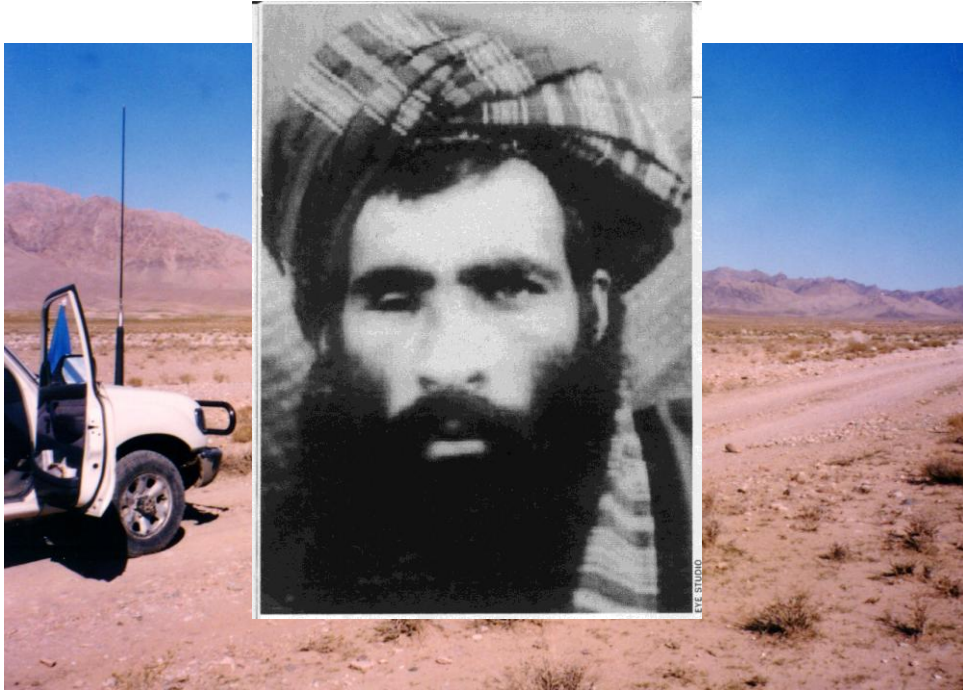
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## Kabul, October 1996



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[www.rawa.org](http://www.rawa.org)

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## Dir District, Pakistan



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## Pukthunwali

Gold, land, women

- to avenge blood
- to fight to death for a person who has taken refuge with me
- to defend to the last any property entrusted to me
- to be hospitable
- to refrain from killing a woman, a Hindu, or a boy not yet circumcised
- to punish all adulterers with death
- defence of the honour of women
- to refrain from killing a man who has entered a mosque

Olaf Caroe 1958: *The Pathans*

Louis Dupree 1978: *Afghanistan*

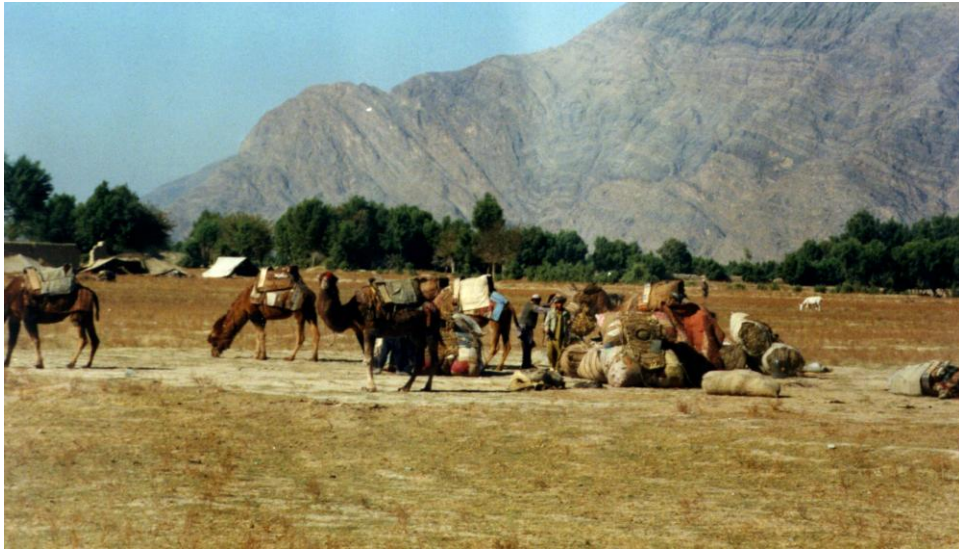
James Spain 1962: *The Way of the Pathans*

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## Jalalabad & Kandahar, October 1997



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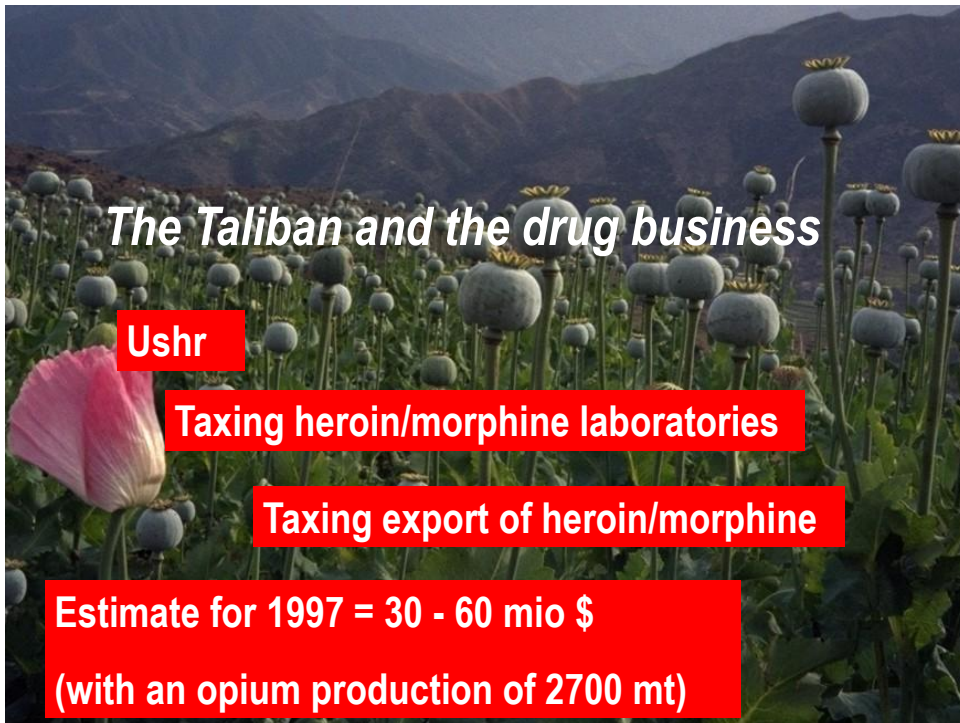


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“Dear road tax collectors. Asalom Alaikum. Gentlemen. The bearer of this letter, who possesses 4 kg of white heroin, has paid the customs duty .... It is hoped that the bearer will not be bothered.”



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## *The Taliban and the drug business*

**Ushr**

**Taxing heroin/morphine laboratories**

**Taxing export of heroin/morphine**

**Estimate for 1997 = 30 - 60 mio \$**

**(with an opium production of 2700 mt)**

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**Afghanistan: what future?**

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P.S. Barbara Tuchman 1984:  
**The March of Folly**. New York.

From Troy to Vietnam.  
The pursuit of policy contrary to  
self-interest.