

HUMAN RIGHTS BULLETIN – AFGHANISTAN

November – December 2025

The human rights situation in Afghanistan during November and December 2025 continued to exhibit severe violations and systematic repression. Across these two months, multiple incidents were documented affecting civilians, women, religious minorities, and former government personnel. Extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances persisted, highlighting the ongoing impunity of armed groups and lack of accountability.

Public punishments, including mass floggings and executions, remained widespread, reflecting the Taliban’s continued reliance on fear and corporal penalties to enforce social control. Gender-based restrictions and attacks on civil liberties further intensified, with women facing severe limitations on mobility, education, and professional life.

Ethnic and religious minorities experienced harassment and discrimination, while arbitrary arrests and torture of former security personnel persisted. The overall pattern underscores a continuation of the year-long deterioration in human rights, adding new layers of targeted repression and restrictions in the last two months of 2025.

Category	Details	Examples / Locations	Key Notes
EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLINGS & ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES	Din Mohammad – shot dead while hunting; Ali Khan Akbari – killed by Taliban officer; Joraghul – killed by battalion commander’s bodyguard; Shirindel Sheyda & Azimullah – arrested and fate unknown	Panjshir, Daikundi, Faryab, Kabul	Multiple former military/security personnel targeted; enforced disappearances reported
PUBLIC EXECUTIONS, FLOGGING, AND AMPUTATIONS	15 people flogged in Nangarhar & Ghor; 19 flogged in Zabul; 17 flogged in Kabul & Helmand; public execution in Khost; 18 flogged in Kabul & Paktia; 34 flogged in Khost; 9 flogged in Bamyan & Kapisa; 17 flogged in Kunar	Nangarhar, Ghor, Zabul, Kabul, Helmand, Khost, Paktia, Bamyan, Kapisa, Kunar	Punishments ranged 10–39 lashes; several also received prison sentences; included both men & women
PERSECUTION OF ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS MINORITIES	Shia seminary students harassed; textbooks confiscated; dormitories inspected	Daikundi	Religious coercion and pressure on minorities noted
HUMAN RIGHTS REGRESSIONS & RESTRICTING POLICIES	Women banned from entering shops/offices without burqa; female surgeon arrested in Herat; women’s literacy classes closed; theater artists detained for criticism	Herat, Panjshir	Restrictions targeted women, education, and freedom of expression
ARBITRARY ARRESTS & TORTURE	Five former security personnel arrested after deportation; three sons of former police chief detained	Panjshir, Uruzgan	Detainees often former government officials or security personnel; reasons largely unclear

Summary Analysis of Human Rights Violations November - December 2025



The data for November and December 2025 highlights a continued deterioration of human rights conditions in Afghanistan, with a total of 22 documented incidents across the two months. Extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances remained a persistent threat, particularly targeting former security personnel and individuals deported from abroad. Public punishments, including floggings and executions, continued to be used as tools of control, affecting at least 8 documented cases during this period.

Human rights regressions and restrictive policies intensified, especially toward women, with bans on access to public spaces, literacy classes, and artistic expression. Arbitrary arrests and torture persisted, reflecting ongoing impunity for security forces and intelligence operatives. Persecution of ethnic and religious minorities, although fewer in number, continued to signal targeted discrimination and pressure on vulnerable communities.

Compared with the trends observed throughout 2025, the final two months show a slightly lower number of incidents but maintain the same severity and systematic nature of abuses. Across the year, public punishments, repression of civil liberties, targeted violence against minorities, former government personnel, and women persisted as dominant forms of oppression, illustrating a consistent and cumulative decline in human rights protections.

The overall pattern for 2025 demonstrates that, despite monthly fluctuations in incident counts, Afghanistan's human rights environment remained extremely repressive, with sustained attacks on personal safety, freedom of expression, gender equality, and civic space, indicating the urgent need for international attention and intervention.

Incident Reports

The human rights situation in Afghanistan during November and December 2025 remained deeply concerning, continuing the patterns observed throughout the year. Civilians, former government personnel, women, children, and minority groups were all affected by systematic abuses and state-sanctioned violence.

Extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances persisted, particularly targeting individuals previously affiliated with the Afghan security forces or those recently deported from Iran. Several former soldiers and officials were detained or killed without due process, illustrating the ongoing impunity of Taliban forces.

Public punishments, flogging, and executions continued as instruments of control and intimidation. At least 8 documented cases involved corporal punishment, with sentences ranging from 10 to 39 lashes and prison terms up to several years, demonstrating the persistent use of fear to enforce Taliban rules.

Human rights regressions intensified, particularly for women. Restrictions on access to public spaces, literacy programs, and artistic expression continued. Taliban authorities closed women's literacy classes, detained artists, and enforced strict dress codes, severely limiting women's participation in social, cultural, and educational life.

Ethnic and religious minorities faced targeted harassment, including inspections of Shia religious institutions, confiscation of religious materials, and intimidation of students and teachers. These actions reflect ongoing discrimination and coercion.

Arbitrary arrests and torture remained widespread. Former security personnel, family members of targeted individuals, and activists were detained without charge, often following deportations from neighboring countries. Reports indicate that detainees were subjected to physical abuse and denied access to legal recourse.

Overall, the November–December 2025 period underscores a persistent climate of fear, repression, and social marginalization, continuing the trends observed throughout the entire year of 2025.

Incident Records

EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLINGS & ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES

In Panjshir's Abshar district, a local man named Din Mohammad was shot dead by Taliban fighters while hunting. Taliban forces reportedly mistook him for an opponent when they saw him with a weapon. Officials have not commented, but such incidents have been frequent in Panjshir, where civilians are often accused of ties to anti-Taliban groups. [Source](#), [Source](#)

Balkh
29.11.2025

Local sources report that Taliban forces shot and killed Ali Khan Akbari, a young man from Daikundi, in the Aliabad area of Mazar-e-Sharif on 6 Qaws. He was reportedly hit by six bullets fired by a Taliban officer after an argument at home led to Taliban intervention. The motive for the shooting has not been clarified. [Source](#), [Source](#)

Herat
22.12.2025

Shirindel Sheyda, a former military officer from Dara District of Panjshir Province, was arrested by Taliban intelligence forces after being deported from Iran through the Islam Qala border. He had lived in Iran for over a year and held a valid residence permit before being forcibly returned to Afghanistan. [Source](#)

Faryab
27.12.2025

A former Afghan army soldier named Joraghul was killed in Kolyan market, Belcheragh District of Faryab Province by the bodyguard of a Taliban battalion commander. The victim had recently been deported from Iran after fleeing there following the Taliban takeover. He had returned to Afghanistan about two weeks prior to the incident. [Source](#), [Source](#)

Kabul
27.12.2025

Taliban intelligence forces in Kabul have arrested Azimullah, a former commando from the previous government's army originally from Baba Ali in Panjshir. He was detained at Qambar Square on 28 Qaws, and there has been no information about his fate since the arrest. [Source](#), [Source](#)

PUBLIC EXECUTIONS, FLOGGING, AND AMPUTATIONS

N, G
12.11.2025

The Taliban Supreme Court announced that 15 people, including one woman, were publicly flogged in Nangarhar and Ghor provinces on 20–21 Aqrab. According to the court, the punishments were carried out following court rulings for charges including running away from home, alcohol trade, sodomy, and theft, with each individual receiving between 30 and 39 lashes in public. [Source](#), [Source](#)

Zabul
17.11.2025

The Taliban Supreme Court reported that 19 people, including one woman, were flogged in Zabul province after being convicted of offenses including theft, adultery, sodomy, and illicit relationships. The court said the individuals had also received prison sentences ranging from 10 months to six years, in addition to corporal punishment. [Source](#), [Source](#)

K, H
30.11.2025

The Taliban Supreme Court reported that 17 people were publicly flogged on 9 Qaws in Kabul and Helmand. Fifteen individuals in Kabul were punished for drug-related offenses, receiving 10–20 lashes and prison sentences of up to two and a half years. In Helmand's Musa Qala district, two others were publicly flogged on adultery charges, receiving 20 and 39 lashes. [Source](#), [Source](#)

Khost
01.12.2025

The Taliban governor's office in Khost announced that a public execution will be carried out on 11 Qaws at the provincial stadium at around 10:00 a.m. Taliban authorities have invited officials and residents to attend while prohibiting weapons and camera phones. The individual was convicted in connection with a case in Ali Shir district. [Source](#), [Source](#)

K, P
04.12.2025

The Taliban Supreme Court reported that 18 people were publicly flogged in Kabul and Paktia provinces. Fifteen individuals in Kabul were punished on 13 Qaws for drug- and alcohol-related offenses, receiving up to 39 lashes and prison sentences of up to four years. In Paktia's Jani Khel district, three others were flogged for counterfeiting and sentenced to six months in prison. [Source](#), [Source](#)

Khost
07.12.2025

The Taliban Supreme Court reported that 34 individuals were publicly flogged in Khost province on charges of drug trafficking and forgery. The punishments included between 10 and 39 lashes and prison sentences ranging from one to seven years. The flogging was carried out publicly in the presence of Taliban officials and a large crowd. [Source](#), [Source](#)

B, K
20.12.2025

The Taliban Supreme Court reported that four women and five men were publicly flogged in Bamyan and Kapisa provinces on charges of illicit relations and adultery. In Bamyan city, two women and two men were flogged in public, with two of them receiving 15 and 35 lashes and also sentenced to six months in prison. [Source](#), [Source](#)

Kunar
21.12.2025

The Taliban Supreme Court reported that 17 individuals in Kunar province were punished with public flogging on charges of drug use and sodomy. The individuals were sentenced to between one and two years in prison and received between 10 and 39 lashes. [Source](#), [Source](#)

HUMAN RIGHTS REGRESSIONS / RESTRICTING POLICIES

Herat
05.11.2025

Local sources in Herat say the Taliban have banned women from entering shops without wearing a burqa. The order was announced on Wednesday, 14 Aqrab, during a meeting with shop owners. The restriction also applies to public institutions. According to reports, the Taliban are preventing women without burqas from entering government offices, courts, and hospitals in Herat. [Source](#)

Herat
10.11.2025

Sources from Herat report that Taliban morality police arrested a female surgeon, Shabnam Fazli, at the entrance of Herat Regional Hospital on Monday, 19 Aqrab, for not wearing a burqa. Her husband confirmed the arrest publicly, stating that she has since been unreachable. [Source](#), [Source](#)

Panjsher
12.11.2025

Local sources report that the Taliban have cancelled women's literacy classes in Panjshir province, shutting down more than five classes in the provincial center and districts. The classes, which had been operating since the former republic and served women excluded from formal schooling, were closed by the Taliban's education authorities, who also dismissed the instructors teaching these courses. [Source](#), [Source](#)

Balkh
30.12.2025

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Herat
31.12.2025

Taliban authorities in Herat detained two prominent theater artists, Gholam Farooq Sarkhosh and Firoz Ahmad Malaeka, after summoning them following their criticism of a new ban on publishing live images. The detentions were carried out by the Department for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice. Local officials have not commented publicly on the arrests. [Source](#), [Source](#), [Source](#)

PERSECUTION OF ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS MINORITIES

Daikundi
29.11.2025

A teacher at a Shia religious seminary in Daikundi province says Taliban morality police are harassing students by entering dormitories without permission, targeting them over beard length, and removing images of Shia religious authorities. He also reported that the Taliban have inspected Shia seminary textbooks and confiscated some materials, creating growing pressure on Shia religious institutions. [Source](#), [Source](#)

ARBITRARY ARRESTS & TORTURE

Panjsher
22.11.2025

Local sources report that Taliban intelligence arrested five former members of the previous Afghan security forces from Panjshir on 29 Aqrab after their deportation from Iran. The arrests took place on the Kabul–Panjshir route, and the detainees include three former soldiers and two former officers. [Source](#), [Source](#)

Uruzgan
23.11.2025

Local sources report that the Taliban arrested three sons of former Uruzgan police chief General Matiullah in Tarin Kot on 26 Aqrab. The reason for their detention has not been clarified, though Taliban forces reportedly confiscated weapons and ammunition from their home. [Source](#)

Recommendations

To address the escalating human rights violations and the ongoing humanitarian crisis, it is essential to strengthen monitoring, protection, and support mechanisms across Afghanistan:

Immediate International Engagement: Urgent diplomatic pressure and engagement are needed to hold Taliban authorities accountable for extrajudicial killings, arbitrary detentions, and public punishments.

Protection of Women and Girls: Enforce international norms to ensure women's access to education, public spaces, healthcare, and literacy programs.

Monitoring of Public Punishments: Independent human rights observers should document executions, floggings, and amputations to build accountability and prevent further abuses.

Support for Minorities: International organizations must provide protection and humanitarian assistance for ethnic and religious minorities targeted by Taliban policies.

Access to Justice and Legal Safeguards: Demand transparent judicial processes and prevent unlawful detentions, enforced disappearances, and torture.

Humanitarian Aid Facilitation: Lift restrictions on female aid workers, schools, and medical services to ensure vulnerable populations receive life-saving assistance.

Acknowledgments

This report has been compiled using verified sources, including local and international media, UN and NGO reports, and eyewitness accounts. The data reflects documented incidents between November and December 2025, aiming to provide an accurate account of human rights conditions in Afghanistan.

While every effort has been made to ensure reliability, some cases may remain unreported due to restricted access and ongoing censorship. The compilation and analysis acknowledge the courage of local informants, journalists, and human rights defenders who risk personal safety to provide essential information.

