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**EVENT ANALYSIS OF THE RAMIFICATIONS OF THE TALIBAN TAKING
CONTROL IN AFGHANISTAN**

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In April 2021, US President Joe Biden announced that US and NATO troops would be withdrawn from Afghanistan by September 11, 2021. The departure of the international coalition forces from the country served as an impetus for the rapid offence of the Taliban, which ended with the capture of Kabul and the establishment of control over the territory of the entire country. The return of the Taliban caused shock around the world, as well as great concern for the fate of women in this country [1].

They call themselves “students” - this is how the word “Taliban” is translated from the Pashto language. Today, the name of this Islamist paramilitary group is associated not with university students, but with terror and destruction. On August 15, Taliban fighters entered Kabul and finally took control of power in Afghanistan. They were going to restore the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan – that is what the country was named from 1996 to 2001, when it was under the control of the Taliban [1].

Even before August, when the power in the country passed to the Taliban movement, 2021 was a record year for the number of civilian casualties. Moreover, women and children accounted for half of the total number of victims. Since August, the situation has improved somewhat - there are fewer clashes, but people continue to die at the hands of ISIS militants and other armed groups [2].

Since August, according to the UN Human Rights Office, at least eight civil society activists and two journalists have been killed in Afghanistan. 59 cases of arbitrary detentions and beatings of representatives of this group of society were registered. Many mass media are closed in the country, and journalists are subjected to intimidation and harassment [2].

In Afghanistan, more than half a million people have lost their jobs since the Taliban seized power in August 2021. These are the statistics only for the third quarter. This is reported by the International Labor Organization (ILO). Its experts fear that by the middle of this year this number will reach 900,000. Such a rapid increase in the unemployment rate is a consequence of the introduction of restrictions on the employment of women and the dismissal of many civil servants, as well as a severe economic crisis [3].

According to Ramin Behzad, ILO Senior Coordinator for Afghanistan, the labor market situation in Afghanistan is extremely difficult and the country needs urgent support to stabilize it. Now the focus is on providing humanitarian assistance to the citizens of the country, however, according to ILO experts, success in recovery will depend on people’s access to work that will allow them to independently provide for their livelihood [3].

After the Taliban came to power, key sectors of the economy, in particular agriculture and the construction industry, were practically destroyed. All civil servants have lost their jobs and wages. In this situation, the ILO is stepping up its projects to expand the employment of Afghans, paying special attention to attracting investment in manufacturing sectors, developing entrepreneurship and acquiring new skills for workers [3].

Taliban leaders in Afghanistan resort to systematic discrimination and violence against women and girls who are prevented from working and studying or appearing in public places unaccompanied by men. Since August 2021, after the takeover of Afghanistan by the Taliban, many restrictive and prohibitive measures have been introduced, including those based on gender stereotypes and prejudices. UN experts believe that such steps are a collective punishment of women and girls. Women from ethnic, religious and other minority communities, such as the Hazaras, Tajiks and Hindus, as well as women in families without men, were in the most difficult situation [4].

Since the establishment of the “new order” in Afghanistan, women and girls have become more at risk of human trafficking, forced marriage, and sexual exploitation. Afghan women are isolated and discriminated, and the Taliban have banned them from returning to their jobs, as well as from appearing in public places unaccompanied by men. Women cannot use public transport on their own and must adhere to a strict dress code [4].

The Ministry of Women's Affairs was liquidated in the country and the premises of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission were seized. Due to fear of retribution and persecution, various important centers where women could receive some kind of support, including protection from violence, have closed down. The de facto authorities are abolishing the specialized

courts and prosecutorial units responsible for enforcing the 2009 law to end violence against women [3].

Millions of Afghans face starvation. Already today in this country 95 percent of the population is malnourished. Afghan children are emaciated. Afghan hospital wards are filled with children suffering from the effects of malnutrition. Many babies at one year old weigh as much as six-month-old babies in a developed country. Some are so weak that they can't even move. Afghanistan continues to struggle with the effects of a terrible drought, and another crop failure is expected this year. The country has a very serious banking and financial crisis. More than 80 percent of the population ended up in debt. Food and fuel prices are skyrocketing [5].

UN partners have already provided food assistance to 8.2 million Afghans this year. People received food rations. The children received free school meals. UN representatives delivered seeds, fertilizers and animal feed to local farmers. Projects were expanded to deliver food and supplements to breastfeeding mothers and their babies. However, these efforts are not enough. Today, more than 3.5 million children in 28 of the country's 34 provinces are in need of food support. Already, there are more than 2,500 diet therapy centers in all 34 provinces, both in cities and in rural areas. Since mid-August, 800,000 children have received assistance there [5].

The UN Security Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) for an additional 12-month period until March 17, 2023. The role of the UN in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan is very important [6].

The UN Secretary General called on all countries not to stop supporting Afghanistan's development programs and to unfreeze Afghan assets abroad - almost \$ 9 billion - so that the Afghan economy can begin to recover, and "the Afghan people have access to food" [7].

The current situation is aggravated by the unresolved acute humanitarian problems, despite the numerous convoys and trains of humanitarian aid sent to Afghanistan. In this regard, even the Pashtun regions that support the new government are declaring their dissatisfaction. Footage of armed groups from the Nangarhar Province appeared on the network, promising to fight the Taliban and liberate the country from them. The United Islamic National Front for the Salvation of Afghanistan is limited to individual attacks on the Taliban forces: blowing up cars, warehouses, killing a number of representatives of the movement. In response to this, searches began throughout the city in search of Masud's spies, later a wave of repressions and searches swept across the country, which can also be attributed to the number of preventive anti-Masud measures [8].

It is clear that inter-ethnic conflicts are smoldering in the non-Pashtun wing: the head of the Taliban police, Abdul-Hamid Khorasani, declared the local Taliban governor, Maulvi Quadratullah, as the enemy of Islam and the Afghans, who allegedly delayed payments to militants. General searches took place in Kabul. In several provinces, mostly non-Pashtun, personnel rotation took place - Uzbeks and Tajiks were removed from leading managerial posts. Zabiullah Mujahid, Deputy Minister of Culture of the Taliban, stated that the searches were carried out in order to combat crime, but Shi'a Hazara families, immigrants from the Tajik provinces of Kapisa, Panjshir, Parwan got hit [8].

During the searches, the Taliban repeatedly found weapons. This suggests the dissatisfaction with their regime the Taliban, primarily due to terrible poverty. In order to somehow save the situation in the southern and eastern provinces, they turn a blind eye to the fact that people began to sow opium poppy instead of wheat [8].

For the Taliban, the issues of their recognition and survival remain urgent. In fact, the country now survives only on humanitarian aid and smuggling (drugs, weapons, people, etc.). At the same time, there has been some progress on this issue. The United States allowed its organizations and companies to trade and have commercial transactions with Afghanistan, with the exception of the Taliban and the Haqqani Network [8].

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