

**Name:** Mustafa Khan

**Location:** Kabul

**Date:** July 16, 2022

Mustafa Khan has two brothers and three sisters. He lives with his extend family in Dehsabz District of Kabul Province. His family has been involved in farming for years since they live in an area where agriculture lands are vast. Personally, Mustafa Khan has no interest to be a farmer, that's why he decided to find a job in a house in Kabul City as a gate keeper so he could also pursue education and eventually find a better job. Presently, he has finished his high school and is waiting for his Kankor Exam (Entrance exam for University). He is a multi-skilled individual, and besides school, he is very interested in electrical and carpenter jobs.

Mustafa articulates that life before August 2021 was pretty good, and he had future plans for higher education and also to get a job in the government. According to him, locals had personal freedom, and people could rely on their long term goals. Though, the socio-economic and political state of the country was not in the perfect shape, however, there was still hope and the whole world's focus was on Afghanistan for its betterment and development. There were employment opportunities and businesses were blooming to some extent however, with the advent of the De-Facto Authority (Taliban), the whole structure of the government changed, and personal freedom of locals have been compromised. After August, 2021, Mustafa is feeling less interested towards education, and he is concerned that modern education will no longer prevail.

Prior to August 2021, Mustafa would always go to play Cricket on Fridays and socialize with his friends, but now he has lost interest in all of the activities and he is stressed by the current situation in Afghanistan.

Mustafa had a lot expectations from the previous government such as he wanted to get a job, because he thought that, getting a job in previous government will contribute towards his fame in the society, and eventually he can positively grow and will be counted as an elite in the society. According to him, previous government provided opportunities for youth, and there were several youth movements and civic activities for youth that he could be a part of for the betterment and achieving tranquility and peace in society, however, after arrival of the Taliban, his dream of getting a job in Republic government has been shattered. He is no longer interested to work with the Islamic Emirate of the Taliban, because he considers the new government extreme and unprofessional individuals and Mullas are hired in government positions. During Republic government, hiring would be carried out based on someone's education level, but now only those people are hired that have Jihad history marginalizing the educated youth.

The current expectations of Mustafa are that he just wants to live a peaceful life with his family and does not want to get involved in any activities of the government, however, he still wants the Islamic Emirate to provide employment opportunities and other civic activities for youth, so that, the youth do not feel marginalized and leave the country.

Presently, Mustafa is concerned about him and his family, because the future seems uncertain for him due to the current situation where economy is on the brink of collapse. Also, due to drought, their agricultural lands have been affected. His father has also lost his job after Taliban takeover of Afghanistan. To conclude, Mustafa believes, that if the current uncertain political situation continues, then his and his family's future is worrying, because they can face extreme poverty.

After August 2021, Mustafa has less expectations from life, because he does not see a future for himself in the current situation, and his future goals of becoming a government official and serve his country under Republic government has been compromised.