

**Course Title:** Geopolitics of Afghanistan

**Course No:** SA653

**Total Credits:** 3 (Three)

**Course Teacher:** Dr. Ambrish Dhaka

## INTRODUCTION

This course is designed to impart understanding of geopolitics of Afghanistan. The location of Afghanistan has been a source to every U-turn in Afghanistan's national life. It always had extraneous factors deeply embedded into ethno-political strife taking aback decade's progress into one backwash. The geographical setting of Afghanistan has had important bearing on its autochthonous ethno-national life that needs be studied under ethnicity and its internal hierarchy. The Imperial period and the Cold War geopolitics had been reckoning example of Afghanistan's location in World Order. Based on above facets of Afghanistan, an understanding of the region's geopolitical dynamics can be carved out for the present century with in the most current context.

**INSTRUCTION METHOD:** Lectures, Web-Digital content, Seminars/Tutorials

**EVALUATION PATTERN:** Sessional Work and Semester Examination

## COURSE CONTENTS

1. Geographical Setting of Afghanistan: location & political frontiers, physiography, climate, natural resources & land use.
2. Afghanistan's Geopolitical Epochs: Anglo-Afghan Wars & the Concept of Great Game, the Cold War resistance and the post-Cold War Geopolitics.
3. Geopolitical Matrix: Regional players- Iran, Pakistan, China and Central Asia, Global players- Russia, Turkey, Saudi Arabia and the US.
4. Geoeconomic evaluation: Oil geoconomics; Economic-strategic location of Afghanistan vis-à-vis South Asia and Central Asia; Reinventing the Silk Route - the TAGP & TARR routes.
5. India- the extended neighbourhood, Af-Pak and the South Asian regional geopolitics.

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