

# One year after the Taliban takeover



■ **Feb 29, 2020:** After more than 18 years of war, U.S. President **Donald Trump** (left) announces a peace deal with the Taliban. The U.S. will pull out of Afghanistan by May 2021

Taliban's top political leader **Abdul Ghani Baradar** (right) agrees to cut ties with **Al Qaeda**, stop harbouring terrorists and end attacks on U.S. troops



**Operation Enduring Freedom** (Deaths to Dec 2021, est.)

Afghan security forces		69,125
Civilians	45,900	Number could be as high as 92,000 – Afghan former army chief of staff <b>Gen. Yasin Zia</b>
Opposition fighters	42,000	
7,413	U.S. contractors 3,820, U.S. troops 2,448, other allied troops 1,145	

■ **Apr 14, 2021:** American President **Joe Biden** (below) delays withdrawal of troops from May to September – 20th anniversary of Al Qaeda attacks on U.S.



■ **May 2:** Handover from U.S. to Afghan security forces. Cracks in peace deal emerge as intense fighting breaks out between insurgents and security forces

■ **May 8:** Attack by **Islamic State-Khorasan (IS-K)** at girl's high school in Kabul kills 85 people, including 70 women and girls. **IS-K** will stage multiple suicide attacks in coming months



■ **Jun:** Taliban captures several districts in northern provinces. **UN** reports that Taliban and rival **IS-K** are responsible for 47 percent rise in Afghan deaths and injuries

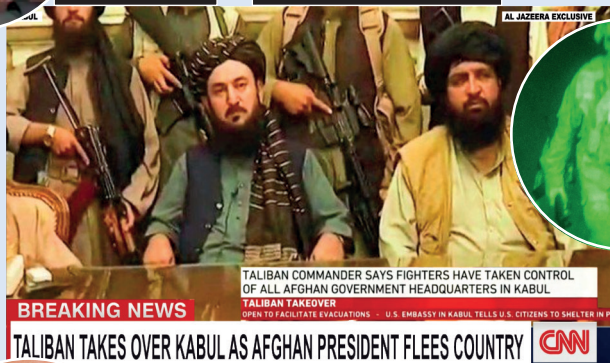
■ **Jul:** U.S. announces departure of all American and NATO troops from strategic **Bagram** **airbase**. Taliban offensive escalates sharply – taking control of key **Spin Boldak** border crossing with Pakistan

■ **Aug 8:** Taliban now controls 229 of Afghanistan's 399 districts

■ **Aug 14:** U.S. and Britain send airborne troops to secure Kabul's airport as foreign nations scramble to get tens of thousands of their citizens and Afghans to safety



**Aug 6-15: Taliban's 10-day blitz across Afghanistan's provincial capitals**



■ **Aug 15, Kabul:** Afghan government collapses. President **Ashraf Ghani** (left) flees country – within hours, Taliban seizes presidential palace (above)

■ **Aug 18:** Washington blocks access to about **\$9 billion** of Afghan foreign currency reserves in U.S. banks as IMF blocks **\$460 million** in pandemic funding

■ **Aug 26:** IS-K suicide bomber kills 13 U.S. service members and at least 170 Afghans at Kabul airport – **Biden** vows retaliation

■ **Aug 29:** U.S. Hellfire missile strike in aftermath of attack kills ten civilians, including seven children. All are members of same extended family



■ **Aug 30:** U.S. Army **Maj. Gen. Chris Donahue** (left) is last U.S. service member to leave Afghanistan

■ **Sep 7:** Taliban announces

"caretaker government," but excludes women

■ **Sep 17:** Edict bans girls from secondary education

■ **Oct:** UN warns more than half population face acute food insecurity

■ **Jan 14, 2022:** Afghan currency plummets, sending food prices skyrocketing

■ **Apr:** Panjshir-based **National Resistance Front** steps up attacks on Taliban

■ **Jul 31:** U.S. drone strike in Kabul kills Al Qaeda chief **Ayman al-Zawahiri**

■ **August 15:** Anniversary of fall of Kabul