

Names Pertaining to Afghanistan

People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) – communist party

Parcham – pro-Soviet faction of PDPA

Khalq – radical faction of PDPA, led by Mohammad Nur Taraki

Colonel Abdul Qadir – air force officer, led 1978 coup

Taliban – rulers of Afghanistan after 1996

Mahammed Nur Taraki – president of Afghanistan
1978-79

Hafizullah Amin – Khalq member; foreign minister, later president, 1978-79

Zbigniew Brzezinski – US National Security Advisor, 1977-1981

Mujahiddin – collection of several Islamic guerrilla groups during the period 1978-89

Gulbadin Hekmatyar – Mujahiddin commander of the group Hisbi Islami

Peshawar – city in northwest Pakistan, served as base for most Mujahiddin guerrillas

Babrak Karmal -- Afghan president and Soviet puppet, after 1979 invasion

Burqa – confining female garment, required during the Taliban regime

Najibullah – President of Afghanistan, 1986-1992