

## List of the Taliban's Edicts, Orders, and Directives Infringing on the Rights of Women and Men

Compiled by Belquis Ahmadi  
United States Institute of Peace

### August 2021

- August 13: [Ordered](#) imams to bring them lists of unmarried women aged 12 to 45 for their fighters to marry.
- August 17: [Announced](#) amnesty for opposition and former pro-republic officials and urge women to join Taliban's government.
- August 17: [Invites](#) women to join government.
- August 19: [Declared](#) the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan as form of government.
- August 20: [Carried](#) out house to house search looking for journalists and individuals with ties to the republic and Western forces.
- August 25: [Ordered](#) women to stay indoors at home because soldiers are not trained to respect women.
- August 30: [Declared](#) ban on co-education and prohibited men from teaching girls.

### September 2021

- September 8: [Announced](#) a caretaker government.
- September 8: [Banned](#) protests and slogans that don't have prior approval from Taliban.
- September 12: [Ban](#) girls from secondary education.
- September 17: [Replaced](#) Ministry of Women's Affairs with Ministry of Propagation of Virtue and Prevention of Vice.
- September 20: [Ordered](#) professional/working women to stay home until further notice.
- September 27: [Ordered](#) barbers not to shave men's beard.
- September 28: [Indicated](#) they might temporarily implement the 1964 Constitution.
- September 29: Women [banned](#) from attending and teaching at Kabul University.

### October 2021

No decree or specific order concerning women was tracked during this month.

### November 2021

- November 22: [Banned](#) women from television dramas.
- November 23: [Stormed](#) the Afghan Independent Bar Association.
- November 25: Ordered followers of non-Islam religious to follow the Sharia orders and the Hanafi jurisprudence in performing their religious rituals and that senior government employees must be follower of Imam Abu Hanifa. *Source: Copy of the order.*

### December 2021

- ❑ December 4: Haibatullah Akhundzada [issued](#) a decree about women's rights, outlined the importance of women's consent during Nikah, that a woman is not property, but a noble and free human being. *Source: Copy of the decree.*
- ❑ December 26: [Banned](#) women from travelling long-distance (72 km/45 miles) road trips without a mahram.
- ❑ December 26: [Banned](#) drivers from playing music in cars and having women passengers without hijab.
- ❑ December 26: [Dissolved](#) election commission, ministry of peace and ministry of parliamentary affairs.
- ❑ December 29: [Closed](#) public baths for women in Balkh.
- ❑ December 31: [Ordered](#) clothing stores to remove mannequin's heads.

### January 2022

- ❑ January 3: [Closed](#) public baths for women in Balkh.
- ❑ January 7: [Ordered](#) coffee shop owners in Herat not to serve women if they are not accompanied by a mahram.

*Note: In January the Taliban met with representatives of the US, France, Britain, Germany, Italy and the European Union and Norway in Oslo to discuss Afghanistan's humanitarian crisis.*

### February 2022

- ❑ Ordered NGOs to replace board members and those in leadership positions with Afghans living inside Afghanistan. *Source: Copy of the order.*
- ❑ [Ordered](#) universities to enforce gender segregated classrooms.
- ❑ [Banned](#) women from traveling abroad without a mahram and without a legitimate reason.

*Note: In February the Taliban in Geneva signed a document vowing to "facilitate principled humanitarian action in Afghanistan and to ensure the protection of humanitarian workers and aid..."*

### March 2022

- ❑ March 2: [Banned](#) women from entering health centers without a mahram.
- ❑ March 13: [Ordered](#) enforcement of segregation of women and men's offices.
- ❑ March 17: [Announced](#) the reopening of girls' schools at the start of 1401 (March 2022) school year.
- ❑ March 18: [Banned](#) foreign TV series.
- ❑ March 24: [Announced](#) schools for girls' grade 7 and up will remain close.
- ❑ March 20: [Canceled](#) the Nowroz public holiday.
- ❑ March 27: [Banned](#) women from traveling abroad without a mahram and without a legitimate reason.
- ❑ March 28: [Ordered](#) male civil servants to grow beard or risk being fired.
- ❑ By verbal instruction of Haibatullah, women must not be employed in offices and must not leave home. The order was issued by the ministry of interior and signed by Qari Ihsanullah Sohail, Chief of staff of deputy for security affairs. *Source: Copy of the edict.*

### April 2022

- April 6: [Dictates](#) different days for men and women to visit parks.
- April 22: [Banned](#) TikTok and PUBG insisting they were leading Afghan youths astray.
- April 29: [Announced](#) three days of week for female and three days for male university students.

## May 2022

- May 5: [Stopped](#) issuing driving license to women.
- May 7: [Issued](#) order that women are not allowed to use public transport if they are alone.
- May 7: [Issued](#) recommendation and implementation plan regarding proper hijab, stating the best hijab is for women to wear a burqa or stay home.
- May 16: [Dissolved](#) the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission.
- May 19: [Ordered](#) female TV presenters on air to cover their faces.
- May 29: [Issued](#) order that women are not allowed to use public transport if they are alone.

*Note: May 29: The Al-Qaeda leader, Ayman al-Zawahiri [renewed](#) allegiance to the Taliban leader.*

## June 2022

- June 1: [Ordered](#) female students in Ghazni in grades 4-6 to cover their faces while commuting to school or face expulsion.
- June 2: [Banned](#) poppy cultivation through a decree.

*Note: June 28: [Held](#) an all-male gathering of 4,500 clerics and leaders in Kabul. Claimed men can sufficiently represent the views of female relatives.*

## July 2022

- July 18: [Directs](#) women employees of the ministry of finance to send a male relative to take their jobs if they want to be paid their salaries.

## August 2022

- August 7: [Removed](#) Ashura as a religious public holiday.
- August 10 Female flight attendants are [removed](#) from their jobs.
- August 16: [Made](#) attending religious classes mandatory in universities, adding five new religious subjects to the existing eight.
- August 23: [Established](#) female moral police department.
- August 25: Statement [issued](#) an order banning women from going to parks where parks authorities cannot ensure segregation between and women.
- August 29: [Ordered](#) female university students to cover their faces in classrooms.

*Note: On August 2nd, 2022, a US drone missile strike killed Al Qaeda leader, Zawahiri, in Kabul. Al-Qaeda leader was believed to be in a house in Wazir Akbar Khan together with some family members of Sirajudin Haqani.*

## September 2022

- September 8: [Made](#) attending daily religious classes (offered by the Vice and Virtue agents) mandatory in all government offices. To keep their jobs, they must pass a test.
- September 11: [Closed](#) secondary and high schools for girls that had briefly opened in Paktia.
- September 17: Prohibited the hiring of former government's employees of Hajj and Religious Affairs, Supreme Court and Ministry of Education and ordered their termination. *Source: Copy of the order.*
- September 20: [Banned](#) female students from taking videos and photos on university campus.
- September 26: [Ordered](#) media outlets that female TV guests must cover face.

## October 2022

- October 6: [Expelled](#) hundreds of pubescent female students in Kandahar.
- October 7: [Blocked](#) women from choosing agriculture, mining, civil engineering, veterinary, and journalism as their study major. Taliban said these subjects are too difficult for women.
- October 13: [Ordered](#) removal of non-Islamic policies in ministries.
- October 13: [Ordered](#) male teachers and students to sign pledge to observe Sharia, in Kandahar.
- October 28: [Removed](#) women's seat from Commission of Media Violations.
- October 30: [Whipped](#) female university students in Badakhshan for wearing jeans under their long coats.

## November 2022

- November 1: The department of finance in Balkh issued a letter instructing the education department to deduct 18,000 from Dalwa and Hot salaries. *Source: Copy of the letter.*
- November 6: [Closed](#) public baths for women in Badghis.
- November 10: [Banned](#) women and girls from parks and gyms.
- November 14: Taliban Supreme Leader [reinstate](#) Hudud and Qisas punishments in cases such as robbery, kidnapping and sedition.
- November 20: Ministry of Haj of Taliban [ordered](#) mosques to praise Taliban Supreme Leader and refer to him as "Amir" in Friday prayers.

## Enforcement of Tazeer, Hadd and Qisas (November 2022)

- November 11: Nineteen people, including nine women were [flogged](#) in public 39 times each for adultery, theft, running away from home in Takhar.
- November 15: Five men accused of theft and kidnapping [received](#) between 30 and 39 lashes in public.
- November 17: Taliban [flogged](#) a man and a woman in Bamyan.
- November 23: Three women were among several other people [flogged](#) by the Taliban in Logar province in front of thousands of onlookers in a football stadium.
- November 23: Taliban also [enforced](#) their sharia interpretation on a man and a woman in Laghman by flagging them in public.
- November 30: In Samangan, two women and three men were [flogged](#) for moral crime.

## December 2022

- December 14: Ministry of Vice and Virtue issued a letter to the Ministry of Interior Affairs to improve oversight on production firms that produces tarana (songs without music) to ensure they are in line with Islamic values. *Copy of order is available.*
- December 20: Taliban [banned](#) female students from public and private universities until further notice.
- December 22: Taliban Ministry of Education [banned](#) girls beyond grade 6 from attending private courses.
- December 23: The department of education in Kandahar informed teachers and students that wearing necktie is banned as it is against Sharia. *Source: Copy of the letter.*
- December 24: Ministry of Higher Education issued a letter clarifying that only higher education for girls is suspended and madrasas education is not. *Source: Copy of the letter.*
- December 24: Taliban [banned](#) female staff working for I/NGOs.
- December 27: Taliban [banned](#) women-run bakeries in Kabul.

### **Enforcement of Tazeer, Hadd and Qisas (December 2022):**

- December 1: Taliban [flogged](#) 21 people including six women in Kabul.
- December 4: Taliban publicly [whipped](#) seven people including a woman in Ghor.
- December 6: Taliban [lashed](#) 5 people accused of extra marital relationship, drinking alcohol and smuggling drugs in Khost.
- December 7: First public execution [took](#) place in Farah province attended by Supreme Court justices, military personnel and senior ministers - including the justice, foreign and interior ministers.
- December 8:
  - Taliban's Supreme Court issued the final rulings that twenty-seven people among them nine women be punished by public flogging for alleged theft, adultery and other crimes. Each person was flogged between 25 and 39 times in Parwan.
  - Three women were among 22 people flogged in Jawzjan. Those flogged were suspected of moral crimes, alcohol consumption, sodomy and selling of narcotics.
  - Three men accused of theft were given Tazeer punishment in Paktika.
- December 14: Two women and 25 men were publicly [flogged](#) in Zabul and Helmand provinces.
- December 18:
  - Two women and three men accused of moral crimes and theft were [flogged](#) in Kapisa.
  - Twelve people including one woman accused of moral crimes, drinking alcohol, and theft [received](#) between 23 and 35 lashes in public in Ghor.
- December 19: Twenty-two men and women accused of adultery, running away from home, sodomy, theft and smuggling narcotics were [lashed](#) in the sport stadium in Jawzjan.
  - December 20: One person accused of entering a stranger's house "with the wrong intention" was [lashed](#) 39 times in Maidan Wardak. Twelve people accused of moral crimes and theft were [flogged](#) in Helmand.
- December 22:
  - Two women were among 23 people [flogged](#) in Uruzgan. They were accused of moral crimes, robbery, sodomy, and theft.

- December 22: Twenty-one people including four women accused of moral crimes were [lashed](#) in public in Badakhshan.
- December 24:
  - Nine people including one woman accused of moral crimes were [flogged](#) in Khost.
  - One person accused of theft had his hand [chopped](#) off in Laghman.
- December 25: Nine people accused of moral crimes and theft were [flogged](#) in public in Kunduz.
- December 27: December 27: Six including two women accused of moral crimes were publicly [flogged](#) in Laghman.
- December 28: One person accused of selling and purchasing narcotics was [punished](#) in public in Parwan.
- December 31: Taliban [lashed](#) five people including one woman accused of moral crimes and theft in Paktia.

## January 2023

- January 1: A letter issued by the Finance department of Balkh province [instructed](#) the education department to deduct 18,000 Afs from teachers' salaries paid by UNICEF and transfer the amount to the government's revenue account.
- January 3, 2023: Kabul Education University suspended salaries of two of its professors that resigned to protest the university ban for the female students. *Source: Copy of the letter.*
- January 11: Taliban's Herat Department of Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice issued a letter banning women from visiting historic places. *Source: Copy of the letter.*
- January 16: Taliban [instructed](#) travel agencies not to sell tickets to women without mahram.
- January 16: Taliban [instructed](#) poets not to compose musical proses.
- January 3: Taliban [closed](#) blind girls' schools in Nangarhar and Kunar.
- January 10: Taliban [appointed](#) the leadership members of Ulema Council of Kabul from among its members.
- January 16: Taliban [instructed](#) elders in Panjshir to hand over list of those that worked in the intelligence agency of the republic and those who worked with the foreign agencies.
- January 18: Taliban intelligence [instructed](#) Kabul province governor to arrest 13 members of former armed forces officers.
- January 25, ministry of vice and virtue issued a letter to MoPH summarizing the findings of the vice and virtue's monitoring report, expressing concern that only 5% of health workers have complied with the hijab and physical appearance [beard] requirement. *Source: Copy of the letter.*
- January 25: Ministry of higher education in a letter to Kabul University, instructed female lecturers to sign their time sheets on the last Thursday of the month in a designated location in the north entrance of the campus. *Source: Copy of the letter.*
- January 13: the AGO's department of guidance and Islamic invitation administered a one hour written test assessing religious knowledge of AGO staff. *Source: Copy of the test questions.* **Note: Employees are required to attend a 2–4-hour daily lecture and training on Islamic teaching.**
- January 21, the ministry of higher education in a letter to institutions of higher education ordered the exclusion of females from university entry exam. *Source: Copy of the letter.*
- On January 25, the Taliban verbally [informed](#) pharmacies that selling of contraceptives is haram and Islam and therefore, pharmacies must refrain from selling them.
- January 24: Supreme Court issued a letter to Southwest Intelligence and police citing a report from an independent judicial monitoring committee that had expressed concern about torture of detainees in inmates. Threatening the abusers with dismissal and severe punishment. *Source: Copy of the letter.*

### **Enforcement of Tazeer, Hadd and Qisas (January 2023):**

- January 4: Taliban [enforced](#) Tazeer punishment on 9 men accused of sodomy and theft. The punishment took place in Ahmad Shahi sports stadium of Kandahar.
- January 1: Taliban [enforced](#) Tazeer punishment on two men accused of theft in Bamyan.

### **February 2023**

- February 1: Taliban [instructed](#) hospitals in Kabul that their medical staff must wear black hijab (Arabic long gown) and mask at all times.
- February 1: Taliban verbally [instructed](#) female government medical staff to be accompanied by a mahram while going to their offices in Kandahar.
- February 1: Taliban [closed](#) a Karat-e club in Farah province. It operated in spite of the earlier ban on female sports clubs.
- February 2: The district governor of Nasi district of Badakhshan issued a letter prohibiting the inter Suni/Shia marriage. Source: Copy of the letter.
- February 22: Taliban [closed](#) four medical centers run by female doctors in Ghazni because male patients were treated by female doctors.
- February 18: Taliban [conducted](#) the exit exam for only male medical students.
- February 17: Tribal elders [banned](#) woman from taking a mehria for her marriage. Taliban have banned bride price (toyana) across the country. Mehria is a woman's right under Islamic rules.
- February 22: Taliban [removed](#) the students and closed a few private education centers because of having female students.

### **Enforcement of Tazeer, Hadd and Qisas (February 2023):**

- February 7: Taliban [flogged](#) five men and one woman in Ghor province.
- February 7: Taliban enforced Tazeer punishment on three people accused of producing alcoholic drinks in Ghor.
- February 17: Taliban [enforced](#) Tazeer punishment on eleven people including two women accused of illegal relations in Badakhshan.
- February 22: Taliban [flogged](#) 23 people including 9 women in Sar-e Pul. The women were accused of pre-marriage relationships and fleeing their houses.

### **March 2023**

- March 4: Taliban [invalidated](#) thousands of divorce cases that were decided during the republic.
- ☒ March 6: Taliban [instructed](#) institutes of higher education to only admit male students in the forthcoming academic year (academic year started on March 22).
- March 10 : Taliban announced gender [segregated](#) visit to shrines in Herat.
- March 12: Taliban [banned](#) issuing transcripts and certificates for female university graduates.

- ☒ March 13: Small businesses council of Parwan issued a circular to its members that operate beauty salons and instructed them to require their clients to “take an ablution” before they initiate a service. *Source: Copy of the decree.*
- ☐ March 15: Taliban [ordered](#) restaurants in Takhar not to serve women without mahram.
- ☐ March 17: Taliban’s Hajj and Religious Affairs ministry declared the celebration of Nowroz as an act against sharia. The ministry instructed mullah imams of mosques throughout the country to inform the public to refrain from celebrating Nowroz, Christmas, Birthdays, Lovers’ Day [Valentine’s Day], Women’s Day and April Fools Day, as these are significant days for *Kafirs* (infidels). *Source: Copy of the directive.*
- ☐ March 20: The Emir issued a decree [barring officials from hiring relatives](#) in government positions.
- ☐ March 25: In Balkh province, the Taliban have [segregated](#) banking services based on gender. .
- ☐ March 25: The Emir issued a verbal decree [re-tasking the Attorney General's Office](#) as the “General Directorate for Monitoring and Follow-up of Decrees and Directives.”
- ☐ March 30: Taliban’s Emir issued an order to courts to [re-examine and invalidate legal cases](#) that had been settled by the republic courts and did not comply with Sharia.

### **Enforcement of Tazeer, Hadd and Qisas (March 2023):**

- ☐ March 4: Taliban [flogged](#) sixteen people (39 lashes each) accused of a variety of crimes by the Taliban in Helmand.
- ☐ March 6: Taliban [flogged](#) six people including two girls in Parwan.
- ☐ March 9: Taliban [flogged](#) six people including one woman accused of extramarital relationships.