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Article:	The Legal Status of Afghan Refugees and Peace Building in Pakistan on the Touch-Stone of International Refugee Law
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ABSTRACT

Refugees are also human beings the must be treated as a human in first instance without any discrimination. Our capacity for sympathy is only damaged when we strip individuals of their humanity, when we cease to consider other people to be fully human in the same way that we are; in other words, when we stop thinking that other people are just like us. More than 25% of existing refugees live in Pakistan, and most have lived in Pakistan for more than 25 years. Pakistan hasn't signed or ratified the 1951 Refugee Convention or the 1967 Refugee Protocol. In order to be considered a refugee, a person must have a reasonable fear that they will be subjected to persecution if they are forced to return to their place of origin or their country of habitual residence. This fear must be connected to one or more of the five reasons outlined in Article 1A (2) of the 1951 Convention, which are as follows: religion, nationality, race, social background group, or political opinion. There is no reason to presume that Afghan refugees will automatically have legal status, but during the first two decades in Pakistan, they were initially regarded as refugees. This article describes the legal status of Afghan refugees due to several agreements with Pakistan, the UNHCR, and, rarely, Afghanistan.

Key Words: Refugees, UNHCR, International Refugee Law and Afghan Refugees.

Introduction:

Refugees are entitled to more than just protection from being sent back to their country of origin. They are entitled to a wide variety of additional rights in accordance with the 1951 Convention as well as international human rights law in general. There is no question that the presence of refugees may put a significant amount of pressure on host countries. This is especially true for areas that are already struggling with their own economic and social stresses. The latest in a series of agreements allows Afghan refugees to enter Afghanistan as part of UNHCR-sponsored return program. Given that all Afghans are currently permitted to remain in Pakistan, many are more likely to remain in Pakistan than to return home with UNHCR assistance. Unlike previous agreements, the previous agreement did not include the fate of those who would remain in Pakistan after the unpaid repatriation programme was completed. It therefore appears authoritative to recognise the legal status and consistent rights of Afghan refugees. In addition, while UNHCR's existing "profiling" activities seem useful to the most helpless refugees, they are incompatible with the situation and rights of Afghan refugees, and individual refugees who choose not to return home as part of their routine "confirmation" voluntary repatriation programmes where similar quarantine attempts are routine. A reconcilable alternative is the general termination of the refugee situation if the circumstances of the country of origin allow the individual refugee to challenge it. The primary objective of the study is to investigate the legal standing of Afghan refugees living in Pakistan and, as a secondary objective, the protection afforded to refugees on an international level.

This pressure frequently leads to political decisions that restrict refugees' access to their rights, which in turn can foster racist and xenophobic views toward migrants, as well as physical assaults on refugees. The approach is not to exclude refugees from society but rather to provide opportunities for them to participate actively in the society in which they find themselves.

Those who are seeking asylum and those who are already refugees are entitled to fully enjoy all of the rights and liberties that are outlined in the international human rights agreements. Because of this, the safeguarding of the rights of refugees needs to be understood in the broader framework of safeguarding human rights. The work done by the United Nations in the area of human rights and that done by the High Commissioner for Refugees are intrinsically tied in the sense that both organisations work toward the same goal, which is the protection of human dignity. This common goal is what binds the two areas of work together. The rights of persons within the boundaries of states are the focus of the human rights programme run by the United Nations. After fleeing their home countries, people who become members of the refugee group have their basic legal protections and civil liberties restored by the organisation.

ICCPR and UDHR is one of worldwide human rights covenants. Together with the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, it mirrors, with changes, the 1948 Universal Declaration on Human Rights and makes this soft-law obligatory for States parties. The ICCPR includes Enlightenment-era civil liberties including freedom from torture, free speech, equality before the law, and due process. With the exception of Article 13, relatively few concerns relate to refugee protection aspects and rights.

A Contribute to the Effective Voluntary Repatriation and Administration of Afghan Nationals was approved by the cabinet of the federal government of Pakistan in February of 2017. This policy intended for the continuous voluntary repatriation of Afghan refugees in Pakistan and the registration of undocumented Afghans. It also mandated the management of Afghan nationals. In addition, the programme called for the passage of national refugee legislation, improved border control, and the implementation of a visa policy that isn't restricted in any way for several types of Afghan refugees (healthcare workers, students, untrained labourers, businessmen, and their wives). Despite being required to implement cabinet decisions; little progress has been made on the February 2017 Policy. Even though there has been a lot of progress in registering Afghans without papers and working to improve border management, there hasn't been much progress in putting the rest of the February 2017 Policy into action.

Despite the decision made by the federal cabinet in February 2017, Pakistan's policy for Afghan refugees has not always been consistent with how it has been carried out on the ground. Pakistan's policy objective focused on "early repatriation" of Afghans till recently. This could be seen as a disrespect for Afghan refugees' rights under the Constitution of Pakistan, customary international law, and other legislation, regardless of whether Pakistan is a party to the 1951 UN Convention on Refugees and its Protocol., in spite of the fact that there is a significant need for more elaboration on the legal standing of refugees in accordance with the Constitution of Pakistan and other legislation.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) assisted more than 3.69 million Afghan refugees who returned to Afghanistan in March 2002. It defines the main arrival procedures sponsored by UNHCR.(Margesson, 2007) In addition, more than 1 million refugees returned to Afghanistan without the help or support of UNHCR (also known as 'impulse return'), bringing the total to more than 4.8 million. Almost all of these Afghans have returned from neighbouring Iran, particularly Pakistan, where huge numbers of Afghan refugees have survived there for nearly 20 years.(Margesson, 2007) Afghans began to leave their homes in April 1978, after the Marxist Afghan People's Democratic Party (PDPA) took control of Muhammad Daud's administration. After the Soviet Union joined in December 1979, the influx of refugees intensified. The political struggle for power was undoubtedly difficult, but some witnesses pointed out that the Afghan leadership began to offend Moscow by making decisions without Soviet approval. At the time, attempts by the Soviet Union to defeat Afghanistan were mostly ruthless, as were the outright use of torture and joint punishment.(Kakar, 1995) By early 1981, nearly 3.7 million refugees had fled to Iran and Pakistan.(Turton & Marsden, 2002)

During the invasion of Afghanistan by the United States in October of 2001, a total of 200,000 to 300,000 refugees fled the country. A month later, UNHCR organised a meeting with the authorities of three countries focusing on the issues of Afghan refugees, Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan, and began preparing for another large-scale repatriation.(UNHCR, 2006) Opened in 2002, UNHCR, along with Afghanistan, approved separate tripartite agreements with Pakistan and Iran, providing the legal and operational framework for voluntary repatriation between the two countries. Since then, these agreements have been repeated several times.(Katzman, 2004) The operational assumption at the time was that there were about 2 million refugees in Pakistan and 1.5 million in Iran. When 2.15 million refugees

subsequently returned to Afghanistan in 2002, almost everyone was imprisoned unprepared, and so far, the largest number of Afghan refugees in Pakistani camps has survived. It turns out that there are more Afghans living in Pakistan than many experts think. It can be seen that although the number of returns decreased in the following year, the return rate remained very high in 2005.(Margesson, 2007)

2. Status of Afghan Refugees under International Legal Framework

2.1. The United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees 1951:

The Refugee Status Convention of the United Nations was adopted in 1951, and it continues to be the foundation of the International Protection for Refugees to this day.(Goodwin-Gill, 2010) The geographical and temporal restrictions that were outlined in the Convention were taken out of the equation when the Protocol to the 1967 Convention was made public. At the level of the international community, the Convention provides the clearest and most exhaustive categorization of refugee rights. In addition, as of right now, there are 145 states that have agreed to be parties to the Convention. The term "refugee" is defined more precisely, and the state's legal obligation to provide for the rights and protection of refugees is laid out in greater detail. A person is considered to be a refugee if, as per Article 1 of the Convention, they are reluctant or unable to return home due to justifiable persecution on account of their religion, nationality, race, association in a particular social group, or affiliation with a particular political group.(UN General Assembly, 1951) This can be the case even if the persecution is not based on these factors. Political viewpoints and efforts to put pressure on all types of oppression. The Convention also protects against discrimination based on race, religion, or national origin.(UN General Assembly, 1951) It gives people access to courts,(UN General Assembly, 1951) the freedom to practise their religion,(UN General Assembly, 1951) and the freedom to move around,(UN General Assembly, 1951) the right to education.(UN General Assembly, 1951)

2.2. Customary International Law, The Principle of Non-Refoulement:

On the basis of the recorded norms of customary international law, the concept of non-refoulement is obligatory on all states, regardless of whether or not such states are parties to an international agreement. Corresponding to this concept, "States shall not expel or return refugees in any way, regardless of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or limits on areas where their life or freedom may be threatened for political or political reasons." (States are not permitted to expel or return refugees in any way.)(UNHCR, 1998)

2.3.The International Bill of Human Rights:

Resolution 217(III)(UN General Assembly, 1948) of the United Nations General Assembly and two international treaties that have been ratified by the United Nations are collectively referred to as the "International Bill of Human Rights." Among these are the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), and two optional protocols thereto (ICESCR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). Despite some minor differences, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights both set legally binding duties for states and mirror the

UDHR.(H. R. Committee, 1991) They work together to protect the long-standing and fundamental rights of all individuals.

2.4.The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR):

People have the legal right to seek refuge in another country without fear of being persecuted, as stated in the document, known as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, was approved in the year 1948.It declares that "everyone has the right to seek shelter in other countries and not be persecuted."(Rights, 1948) It also specifies essential legal protections, such as the right to freedom to move, the right to freedom and protection of the body, the right to education and work, and access to the judicial system and medical facilities.

2.4.1. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966:

The non-refoulment concept is reaffirmed in the ICCPR. According to Article 2 of the Covenant, member states are obligated to respect the accomplishment of the rights granted by the Covenant and to ensure such rights to anybody who resides on their territory as well as any person who is a member of the entity concerned. This includes extradition, deportation, or the use of compulsion to refuse to deport an offender if there are serious grounds to believe that there is a genuine danger of permanent harm, as allowed for in Articles 6(Wicks, 2012) and 7(Shkembi & Dura, 2013) of the Covenant. There is always the possibility of making an exception, or the individual could be appointed at a later time. In a situation with such complications, the applicable judicial and administrative superior authorities should take into consideration the need to ensure compliance with the duties outlined in the Covenant.(U. H. R. Committee, 2004) It also means that refugees are protected from being exposed to unjust behaviour and cannot be ejected from the country in which they initially sought asylum. On April 17, 2008, Pakistan became a signatory to the aforementioned agreement, and on June 23, 2010, it was ratified.

2.4.2. International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights 1976:

The Declaration of Acceptance, Commitment, and Undertaking Regarding the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) "The States Parties to this Covenant agree and justify that the rights set forth in this Covenant will be exercised without discrimination on the basis of race, colour, or sex as well as language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property status, birth or other status."(U. G. Assembly, 1976) This is also relevant for people who are seeking asylum. In addition, the Covenant ensures that individuals have the right to work,(ICESCR, 1966) the right to social security,(ICESCR, 1966) the right to decent health care,(ICESCR, 1966) and the right to receive an education.(ICESCR, 1966) On November 3, 2004, Pakistan became a member of the ICESCR, and on April 17, 2008, it ratified the Covenant.

2.4.3. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) 1989:

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) permits all Member States to adopt appropriate procedures, whether alone or with parents, of a child claiming or presuming refugee status in accordance with applicable international or national laws and procedures. This provision applies to children who are claiming or presuming refugee status. It is imperative that this provision be respected, that refugee children's safety be ensured, and that their rights be regarded as fundamental components of international humanitarian standards.(CRC, 1989) This is because refugee children are extremely helpless when they are forced to relocate to another country. Since 1990, Pakistan has been a signatory to the CRC.

2.4.4. Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment 1987:

The Convention against Torture has the following goals:

- (1) To put an end to cruel, torture, degrading, or inhuman, acts and punishments all over the world.
- (2) to compel states to use operational methods to avoid the use of torture within their borders; and
- (3) to require states to treat individuals differently based on how those individuals demand to be treated. Any nation that has cause to suspect that its citizens will be subjected to torture.

The non-refoulment principle, which is part of customary international law, is reaffirmed in this Convention, and states that "no State Party shall expel, repatriate, or extradite a person to another State on the ground of coercion." As was mentioned earlier, this principle was established as a result of the United Nations Convention against Torture (Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, 1987) because they believed there was a possibility that they might be tortured. On April 17, 2008, Pakistan signed the aforementioned document, which was later ratified on June 3, 2010.

3. UNHCR's Mandate and Statute:

The UNHCR has the unique and critical mission of protecting all individuals who are located outside of their home country, regardless of whether they fear persecution, conflict, civil unrest, or supplementary situations; as a consequence, refugees who require international protection upon their return home. (Edwards, 2012) Even though the UNHCR does not have a universal agenda for internally displaced individuals (IDPs), the UNHCR's role of providing safety and humanitarian aid could be made more difficult in certain circumstances. The UNHCR is obligated to offer the aforementioned groups both international protection and humanitarian assistance. (UN General Assembly, 1950)

4. The Global Compact on Refugees 2018:

After an intensive two-year meeting with member states, civil society, the commercial sector, international organisations, refugees, and experts, the UNGA renewed the UNHCR Refugee Global Compact on December 17, 2018. Due to the fact that a just resolution to the refugee problem is impossible to achieve without the support of the international community, this also sets the conditions for a more equitable and expected division of responsibilities. It also provides governments, international organizations, and other stakeholders with a strategy for ensuring that refugee populations can lead productive lives and that host countries receive the necessary assistance. The primary objectives are to lessen the load placed on countries that take in refugees, raise the level of autonomy enjoyed by refugees, broaden refugees' access to solutions offered by third countries, and assist countries of origin in the establishment of environments that are protected and respectful of human dignity. (Türk, 2018)

5. Afghan Refugees in Pakistan

In 1979, when the Soviet Union was still in the process of invading Afghanistan, Pakistan began taking in its first Afghan refugees. By the year 1979, There are at least one million people from Afghanistan according to estimates had landed in Pakistan, and by the year 1980, 3.3

million Afghans had flown to Pakistan and Iran, respectively.(Grare & Maley, 2011) In the same year, the UNHCR built its first office in Pakistan in response to the significant influx of refugees. According to figures that have been approved by the government, the number of refugees who were registered touched 2 million in 1981 and 3.2 million in 1990, while the number of refugees who are projected to arrive is 500,000. As a direct result of the ongoing conflict, the UNHCR built a total of 334 official refugee camps in the provinces of Baluchistan, Punjab, and what was formerly known as the north-western frontier region (now known as Khyber Pakhtunkhwa). In 1994, Pakistan saw the second-largest migration of refugees of any country in the world. After the Soviet Union withdrew from Afghanistan in 1989, the conflict that ensued between competing factions for control of the country caused approximately 74,000 refugees to flee to Pakistan for safety. In 1996, when the Taliban took control of the eastern city of Jalalabad as well as the capital city of Kabul, more than 50,000 Afghans fled the country and sought refuge in Pakistan, notably in the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. In the year 2002, the south-western state of Baluchistan was rocked by not one but two unexpected surges of people fleeing Afghanistan. In spite of the fact that the borders were closed to Afghan refugees in 1998, the Pakistani government nonetheless permitted new arrivals to stay. The only exception to this was the voluntary repatriation that took place at the beginning of 2002. However, later that year, when further Afghan migrants came, the Pakistani government once again blocked the border, forcing approximately 26,000 people to remain in the city of Chaman, which is located on the border of Baluchistan.(Dr. Hidayet Siddikoglu, 2016) This location earned the nickname "the waiting space." The UNHCR in Afghanistan and its partners have constructed a provisional decision for these refugees.(Grare & Maley, 2011)

6. Domestic or Non-International Laws

6.1.The Constitution of Pakistan:

Regarding the fundamental rights, the Constitution of Pakistan from 1973 states that the borders might be persons or citizens. Equal rights and protection before the law,(C. o. Pakistan, 1973a) protection of persons,(T. C. o. t. I. R. o. Pakistan, 1973) protection against illegal sojourn and detention,(C. o. Pakistan, 1973b) fair trial,(C. Pakistan, 1973) protection against slavery and forced labour,(T. C. o. Pakistan, 1973a) protection against retroactive punishment,(C. o. Pakistan, 1973c) protection against double punishment,(T. C. o. Pakistan, 1973b) dignity and privacy,(T. C. o. Pakistan, 1973c) the right to protected property for all,(C. o. Pakistan, 1973d) the right to education necessary for children's under the age of 16.(T. C. o. Pakistan, 1973e) and protection against special taxes,(T. C. o. Pakistan, 1973d) The term "person" does not have a precise definition in the Constitution or in any of the other legal texts; as a result, it has the general sense that is translated to include everyone.

As a direct consequence of this, those who are refugees, illegal immigrants, or stateless are afforded protection by the domestic laws. According to Article 4 of the Constitution, refugees have the right to equal protection by the law as well as the right to equal standing before the law. However, neither the executive branch nor the legislative branch is able to defend this right. In addition, those who are stateless, illegal immigrants, or refugees in Pakistan have the ability to file cases in the country's local courts, which respect their legal rights as established by customary international law. In a number of instances, the higher courts in Pakistan have made it easier for the incorporation of aspects of customary international law into Pakistan's

legal system. According to a decision made by the Sindh High Court" (Hamid, 1994) the national community should be merged into one local law without direct legislative permission unless the standards of international law clash with the acts of Parliament." In spite of the fact that Pakistan did not sign the 1951 Refugee Convention or the 1967 Protocol and that there is no domestic refugee law, this ruling from the Sindh High Court suggests that Pakistani refugees may apply to the courts. In Section 4 of the Pakistani Citizenship Act of 1951, the principle of *jus soli*, sometimes known as citizenship at birth, was outlined. Additionally, deportation was made illegal.

6.2. Tripartite Agreement:

The UNHCR, along with the governments of Afghanistan and Pakistan, signed a trilateral agreement on March 17, 2003. This marked the beginning of the first official procedure to clarify the 23-year-old issue of Afghan refugees in Pakistan. The UNHCR has committed to continuing its support for the voluntary repatriation of Afghan refugees now living in Pakistan. Contracts are constructed to support regular and planned returns, which can be kept up. Following the conclusion of this procedure, a screening will be carried out to identify and track the remaining members of the Afghan community who need protection and permanent refugee status. The deal reached with Pakistan is the fourth of its kind to be reached in recent years. The first three of these agreements were signed by the governments of United Kingdom, France, and Iran, in addition to the government of Afghanistan and UNHCR.

6.3. Proof of Registration:

It has always been a very reasonable estimate to determine the number of Afghans living in Pakistan at the beginning of March 2005. Three wars and battles have forced millions of Afghans to flee their homes in Pakistan. Similarly, many people were extradited to Afghanistan after leaving the USSR in 1989 through various stages. This is either because there is no official process for issuing documents to all Afghans in Pakistan working in the workplace, or because of attempts to fully use the 1998 National Census documents. Fixing the Afghan population in Pakistan is becoming a growing profession. Most Afghans who fled from the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 were the first refugees from conflict and persecution and lived outside refugee camps across Pakistan. However, the 1989 withdrawal of Soviet troops and the withdrawal of Pakistani international forces to halt food aid to refugee camps increased the continued migration of Afghans from the camps to rural urban areas and large cities in search of socio-economic prospects. Although more than two million Afghans were deported in the 1990s, the struggle between rival Mujahedeen factions and Taliban rule in Afghanistan also shaped Pakistan's popular movement during this period. After the fall of the Taliban in 2001, travel to Afghanistan from Pakistan also changed. More than 3 million Afghans have been deported since 2002 with the support of the UNHCR-funded Voluntary Return Program. The second implementation phase consisted of creating a numbered Afghani list for the census and providing proof of registration (POR) cards. The registration strategy was developed over a year in consultation with local authorities, federal ministries, the Afghan government, the refugee community and through formal dialogues between UNHCR and the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA). NADRA, a subsidiary of the Ministry of the Interior, is responsible for the issuance of National Identity Documents (NIDs) for Pakistan and is recognised as a large registrar with modern infrastructure, logistics, and coverage in all regions of Pakistan. Afghanistan via Pakistan. In February 2007, at the twelfth meeting of the Tripartite

Commission between the governments of Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the UNHCR, the parties decided to link the POR card with new voluntary deportation conditions and an improved reconstruction platform in Afghanistan. Valuable individual level data will be used to jointly develop future policies through registration. This includes summarizing potential UNHCR detention policies, providing voluntary repatriation and rehabilitation through aid to Afghanistan, and finding the ideal way to govern Afghanistan in Pakistan. Gathering data on the Pakistani population in Afghanistan has been a superhuman task for both the administration and UNHCR. The present state and the UNHCR put on the event, which is the largest permanent non-state population registration in history.(Loescher, 2001)

6.3.Naturalization Act, 1926

The Naturalization Act of 1926 (Act 23 of 1951), as modified by the Amendment Ordinance of 1949 and the Amendment Act of 1950, was passed into law by Pakistan with the intention of granting citizenship to foreign nationals who were already residing in Pakistan at the time that the act was enacted. These amendments were made in 1949 and 1950, respectively. The possession of a document of citizenship, which can be obtained from the federal government due to the authority granted to it by the Act, is a legal reason for attaining citizenship, as stated in Section 9 of the Pakistan Citizenship Act, which was passed in 1951. This authority was granted to the federal government. The Act specifies the standards that must be satisfied before a person can become a citizen, as well as the contents and form of the application, the mechanism for certification and cancellation, as well as the repercussions of withdrawing citizenship. If a person satisfies all of the qualifications outlined in Section 3 of the Act, they are qualified to apply for a certificate of naturalisation and become a citizen. In accordance with the provisions of Section 3 of the Act, a person is considered qualified to receive a certificate of naturalisation if they satisfy all of the following requirements:

- Status of minors.(Farhat, 2019)
- They are neither citizens of Pakistan nor subjects of any other foreign state.
- has lived in Pakistan for a total of at least four years in the seven years before the application.
- It exemplifies high moral standards.
- possesses a competent command of a language that the federal government of Pakistan has recognised as being among the principal languages and dialects of the country; and
- has the intention of settling down in Pakistan, or of beginning or continuing to work for Pakistan, in the event that the certificate is issued.

6.4.Foreigners Act, 1946

Pakistan passed a law known as the Foreigners Act on September 23, 1946, with the intention of using it to regulate the entrance, residence, and departure or escape of any and all foreign nationals living in the country at the time. The Foreigners Act of 1946 establishes rules for the entry, transit, and exit of Pakistan, as well as punishments for foreign nationals who overstay their visas or otherwise violate the country's immigration laws.(NATIONALITY) A person who is not a citizen of Pakistan is considered to be a "foreigner" according to the Act's definition of the term.(Patel, Kaushik, & Baruah, 2022) Additionally, the Act grants the government the authority to imprison or intern any foreign national.(Authorities, 1946a) NARA was founded in accordance with the Foreigners Act by means of the Amended

Ordinance No. XXV of 2000, which was issued on July 10, 2000. (Authorities, 1946b) SRO 141 (R) 65 of 1965 offers a specific rule under Sections 3, 4, 8, and 10 of the Foreigners Act, which was passed in 1946. This regulation only applies to enemies of foreigners.

7. CONCLUSION

Clearing up any confusion over the legal standing of Afghan refugees should be the first element in the development of improving the economic activity of these individuals so that they can more effectively profit from the possibilities of their economic growth. According to legal writings in Pakistan on Afghan refugees, they are distinguished from other refugees, which violates the Constitution of Pakistan. This has occurred despite the fact that the majority of refugees in Pakistan come from states other than Afghanistan. This is because Afghan refugees are treated differently than refugees from other countries. Adopting national refugee legislation is arguably the best way to address Afghan refugees' legal difficulties in the absence of a solution to these problems; in any case, it is certainly the most feasible solution. In 2013, the government of Pakistan drafted a piece of legislation, which was then distributed to the relevant stakeholders for the purposes of receiving feedback and being reviewed. On the other hand, some of the most important people who make decisions about things like how national refugee laws are put into place don't know much about refugee issues.

Considering the fact that the main formal POR status of Afghan refugees in the host country creates obstacles for the host country to completely utilize from the economic opportunities of the Afghan refugee population, Pakistan continues to welcome refugees from Afghanistan. As a result, there is an urgent requirement for the Pakistani parliament to hold an enlightened discussion on the topic of Afghan refugees currently residing in Pakistan. While the humanitarian and security aspects of the refugee issue must be addressed, it is also important to consider the economic contributions of Afghan refugees in order to better comprehend the policy-level discourse on the subject and to understand better those who are most significant to it. As an alternative, the work of emerging reporters and opinion writers might be merged with another initiative that is already underway to increase awareness regarding refugees. As a result of these steps, Pakistan may be in a better position to gain from the economic opportunities of Afghan refugees in Pakistan and to improve the lives of Afghans in the country. Improving the quality of life of Afghan refugees in Pakistan begins with enacting these laws.

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