

Briefing Paper

The Taliban and the War on Terror

Timeline of Events

Procedure: In this activity, you will work with your partners to author a briefing paper on the struggle in Afghanistan. Using information links provided here as well as other resources you deem appropriate, work as a team to construct the different parts of the paper.

Timeline: Go to the NewsHour's timeline on Afghanistan at http://www.pbs.org/newshour/indepth_coverage/asia/afghanistan/timeline/index.html. Summarize in your own words and write up a timeline on the following entries. Include the date and a brief explanation.

- Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan
- The emergence of Osama bin Laden
- U.S. and allies support of the Mujahadeen
- The formation of Al Qaeda
- Peace in Afghanistan and Soviet withdrawal
- Mujahadeen takeover of Afghanistan
- Rise and establishment of the Taliban
- Al Qaeda bombing of two American embassies and the bin Laden - Taliban relationship
- Taliban repression in Afghanistan
- Airline hijack attacks on the United States
- U.S and coalition attack on Taliban government
- Fall of Taliban and establishment of new government

Afghanistan Map: Go to the NewsHour's interactive map at http://www.pbs.org/newshour/indepth_coverage/asia/afghanistan/map_flash.html. Develop a map of Afghanistan that shows the different ethnic groups and areas of control by coalition forces and the Taliban. Include information on the Pastuns, the Tajiks, the Hazara, and the Nuristanis.

The Taliban Briefing: Go to the NewsHour's report on the Taliban at http://www.pbs.org/newshour/indepth_coverage/asia/afghanistan/keyplayers/taliban.html and write up a briefing on the following:

- History of the Taliban
- Life under the Taliban, 1994-2001
- Afghani views of the Taliban, 1994
- The Taliban in Afghanistan after 9/11
- The Taliban in Afghanistan today