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State-building, lawmaking, and criminal justice in Afghanistan: a case study of the prison system's legal mandate, and the rehabilitation programmes in Pul-e-charkhi prison

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Curriculum Vitae

Najib Amin is an Afghan lawyer and development practitioner born in 1976. He received his basic and primary education in Kabul, Afghanistan. Najib studied law at Kabul University and earned a master's degree in Law and Economics from Bologna University, Italy. In 2016, he became an external PhD candidate at the Van Vollenhoven Institute for Law, Governance, and Society at the Leiden Law School of Leiden University where he also wrote this dissertation.

Najib began his career as an assistant lecturer of law at Kabul Law School, in 2001. In due course, he became an associate professor there, teaching Theoretical Criminology, General Criminal Law, and International Criminal Law courses, up until the end of 2020. In addition to his academic role, Najib served in other key capacities, which provided him with extensive experience in policy formulation, leadership, and organisational development.

From 2002 to 2004, Najib led the research and analysis department of the Afghan Constitutional Drafting and Constitutional Review Commissions and later served as Chief Rapporteur for the Afghan Constitutional Loya Jirga, which adopted the Afghan constitution in 2004. During 2004, 2007, and 2008, Najib also assisted the Asia Foundation with the design and implementation of Afghanistan's largest public opinion surveys.

Between 2008 and 2014, Najib served as Undersecretary for the Cabinet of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and Deputy Director General of the Office of Administrative Affairs. He resumed his government work in 2017 as Commissioner for the Independent Administrative Reform and Civil Service Commission of Afghanistan and Director General of the Civil Service Appointments Board until the end of 2020. His latter role involved overseeing Afghan government's public sector reforms and putting together a merit-based civil service appointments system.

In 2021 Najib advised the Afghan government on the situation of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan at the International Criminal Court (ICC). As the government's focal point, Najib liaised with the ICC and facilitated inter-governmental coordination, mainly within domestic justice institutions. In addition to these engagements, Najib played a substantive role in all Jirgas and Loya Jirgas held from 2002 to 2021, and led policy and content management of the Loya Jirgas from 2008 to 2019.

In the range of books published by the Meijers Research Institute and Graduate School of Leiden Law School, Leiden University, the following titles were published in 2022 and 2023

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