

Daily Editorial Analysis

16 Aug 2021



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Afghan tragedy: On the second coming of the Taliban

The article at hand takes into account the Taliban's power seizure in Afghanistan in the wake of the U.S pulling its troops out of the war-torn nation. With the capture of Kandhar and Herat, Afghanistan's second and third-largest city, the civil war in the country seems to have reached an irretrievable stage.

The speed with which the Taliban staged the power capture is quite surprising, and it is expected that Kabul will be confiscated within the next 90 days. The Taliban have not met the Afghan government's offers of a power sharing proposal, and neither the warnings from developed western nations have affected the militants so far.

It is clear as daylight that the Taliban wants the whole of Afghanistan under their chain of command. With the withdrawal of the U.S led international forces, the Afghan government lost the most critical piece of its defence. And now that the Taliban lurking at the doorstep of Kabul, it seems all the progress and freedom that the Afghans gained over the last 20 years is now at the risk of being relinquished and that religious tyranny of the highest proportion is on the cards.

Words to look out for

Insurgent:

- **Synonyms:** rebel, revolutionary, guerrilla
- **Antonyms:** obedient, loyal, compliant
- **Word usage:** The insurgents led the mutiny on all fronts.

Siege:

- **Synonyms:** attack, onslaught, bout
- **Antonyms:** defend, guard, armistice
- **Word usage:** The siege was carried out with much precision by the extremists.

Barbaric:

- **Synonyms:** cruel, brutal, vicious
- **Antonyms:** civilized, kind, humane
- **Word usage:** The barbaric manner in which the militants killed the civilians was disturbing.

Article Link: <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/afghan-tragedy-the-hindu-editorial-on-the-talibans-return/article35903224.ece>

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House repairs: If, and this is a big if, there's political consensus, there are ways to make Parliament a more edifying forum

The article talks about the Monsoon session that was adjourned indefinitely. The data reveals that this is the 4th session that ended before time. Twenty bills have been passed, and all citizens, businesses are forced to adjust to the mentioned terms.

The opposition seems to be on a different page and disruptive mood this time. The problem is more critical than it appears. Note that the speaker of the parliament vests enormous discretionary power, but the records are just the opposite where the first speaker had the no-confidence motion passed against him. We need a more rules-based approach now.

Another issue is the lack of proper debate resulting in poor legislation. The bills introduced were never referred to the parliamentary committee. This means that the system is a failure now, and the only consensus can bring the required change.

Words to look out for

Jostle:

- **Synonyms:** shove, push, shoulder
- **Antonyms:** pull, tug, ignore
- **Word usage:** He jostled the big door, but still, he was unable to open it.

Impasse:

- **Synonyms:** stalemate, deadlock, dead-end
- **Antonyms:** breakaway, advance, headway
- **Word usage:** The contract negotiations reached an impasse after the heated debate.

Granular:

- **Synonyms:** grainy, gritty, mealy
- **Antonyms:** smooth, floury, silken
- **Word usage:** The granular carpet provided the much-needed acupressure.

Article Link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/toi-editorials/house-repairs-if-and-this-is-a-big-if-theres-political-consensus-there-are-ways-to-make-parliament-a-more-edifying-forum/>

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