**Background information on Afghanistan**

In your presentation you and your partner will focus on one aspect of The Kite Runner, such as:

o Characters and character development

o Theme(s)

o The writer’s message / what the book has taught you (has it given you insight into other people’s lives, broadened your world view, influenced your thoughts on political or social issues?)

o Symbolism

Possible topics for your presentation are: friendship, betrayal, the father-son relationship, atonement and redemption, ethnic quarrels and discrimination, refugees, sexism and racism in Afghan society, Afghanistan: the war that never ends, Afghanistan and the West

Whatever topic you choose, you will have to understand the setting of the book and how it impacts the lives of the main characters. Today, you are going to learn more about Afghanistan.

* Find a partner
* Read through the list below. Read a few articles and/or watch a few videos to help you decide on a topic for your presentation.

Trailer The Kite Runner

<https://youtu.be/sLtavGjAOJY?si=CKwNvANaiNk7Yjh1>

Afghan history from the 70s, when The Kite Runner begins: the war that never ends

<https://youtu.be/lyp7a_RI-oU?si=1Fb2A-IjAWmmkMgi>

Who are the Taliban and what’s happening in Afghanistan?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/58221225>

People trying to flee Afghanistan after US evacuation

<https://www.unrefugees.org/emergencies/afghanistan/>

<https://youtu.be/tz4D6Rnx9j0?si=yPjAB9-XlipFZ9iD>

<https://youtu.be/f9Vg0iB4JRU?si=NxLDgCFElfEhqHc3>

Taliban and women’s rights

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/03/afghanistan-un-experts-say-20-years-progress-women-and-girls-rights-erased>

<https://youtu.be/o95Mt48xVgM?si=ZnAFwl7l94rTr9xr>

Taliban and the Hazara people

<https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2021/10/27/why-the-hazara-people-fear-genocide-in-afghanistan>

Kite fighting

<https://youtu.be/sl3qWHkqfI8?si=_tEnhgZAI8qECyP3>