



Full Bio

## Ambassador Said T. Jawad Biography

### Career

Said T. Jawad is the **Ambassador of Afghanistan to the United Kingdom**. He has previously served as **Chief of Staff to the President** of Afghanistan (2001 to 2003), Afghanistan's **Ambassador to the United States, Mexico, Brazil, Columbia and Argentina** (2003-2010), the **Senior Political and Foreign Policy Advisor** to the Chief Executive of Afghanistan (2015-2017), the **Chief Executive Officer** of Capitalize LLC, a global strategic advisory firm headquartered in Washington, DC (2010-2017), the **Chairman** of the Foundation for Afghanistan (2004-2014); and **Global Political Strategist and Senior Counselor** at APCO Worldwide (2010-2017).

### Academia

Ambassador Jawad was a **Diplomat-in-Residence** at Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (2010-2015), focusing on South and Central Asia. He was the inaugural **Senior Fellow** at Harvard University's Future of Diplomacy Project at the Belfer Center, the John F. Kennedy School of Government, lecturing and researching the role of modern diplomacy in conflict resolution (2010-2011). He is a graduate of Kabul French Lycée Esteqlal (1975) and the Faculty of Law and Political Science of Kabul University (1980). He studied Law in the Westfaelische Wilhelms University in Muenster, Germany (1981-1985), and obtained an MBA from the Golden Gate University in San Francisco (2001). He holds an honorary doctorate degree in International Management from Argosy University in Washington, D.C.

### Private Sector

As **Corporat CEO** of Capitalize, Ambassador Jawad led a dynamic team of international business experts advising foreign governments, international companies, and investors on politics, defense, security, market entry, commercial opportunities, and development strategies in Central Asia and the Gulf regions, including Afghanistan.

### Public Service

As **Chief of Staff of the President** of Afghanistan and **Press Secretary**, he was a **member of the cabinet and the National Security Council** contributing to rebuilding the country's national defense, security and civil institutions, notably the Ministry of Defense, formulating strategies and implementing structural reforms and organizing national councils and grand jirgas. During the historic period of drafting Afghanistan's new Constitution, he acted as the President's Advisor and **Principal Liaison** with the Constitutional Drafting Commission. He also drafted the first investment law of Afghanistan. Ambassador Jawad was a member of several commissions on judicial reforms as well as a delegate to Afghanistan's Emergency and Consultative Loya Jirgas (Grand National Assemblies).

As **Ambassador**, he re-established the Embassy of Afghanistan in Washington, DC and developed it into one of the most responsive and successful missions in



Washington and managed all aspects of diplomacy, defense and development of Afghanistan through extensive interaction with the White House, State Department, Pentagon, U.S. Congress, U.S. agencies, U.S. media and academia; and established the highest profile for an Afghan mission as well as initiated diplomatic relations with Brazil, Argentina, Colombia and Mexico.

He has represented Afghanistan in over fifty key international economic and security conferences in North America, Latin America, Europe, the Middle East and Central Asia, and/or coordinated and accompanied the leaders of Afghanistan to international summits. Ambassador Jawad maintains close relations with members of U.S. Congress and the American media. He managed the convening of the historic “Camp David” talks between President Bush and President Karzai in 2005, and coordinated state visits and foreign trips of Afghan leaders to economic summits in Berlin, Tokyo, Paris, Rome and London, as well as NATO security conferences in Brussels and Warsaw. During his Ambassadorship, the American media often referred to the Afghan embassy as the most effective diplomatic mission in Washington, D.C.

### **Media**

He has published hundreds of articles and commentaries in the United States, Europe and Afghanistan. His op-eds have appeared in The New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, Time, the International Herald Tribune, Der Spiegel, Le Monde, The Guardian, Foreign Affairs, Ambassador’s Review and Foreign Policy. Interviews with Ambassador Jawad have appeared in many prominent media outlets, including NBC’s “Meet the Press,” CNN’s “The Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer,” Bloomberg’s “Night Talk with Mike Schneider,” CBS, C-SPAN, Al Jazeera, BBC and Voice of America. On occasions, he writes on literature, mysticism, history and politics. His co-authored book called “*The realities of War and Rebuilding in Afghanistan*” was published in 2005 in the United States. His recent book “*Be the Provider of Relief, Not an Inquisitor of Belief*” was published in Kabul in 2016.

### **Public Relations**

He has lectured at many academic institutions, including Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, Princeton University, Stanford University, University of California-Berkeley, Kansas State University, Georgetown University, George Washington University, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, University of Texas, as well as the National Defense Intelligence College and National Defense University. He is also a frequent speaker at many think tanks and policy centers, including the RAND Corporation, the Brookings Institute, the U.S. Institute of Peace, Center for Strategic and International Studies, Council on Foreign Relations, Center for American Progress, New America Foundation, American Bar Association, American Enterprise Institute, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, the Asia Society, Observer Research Foundation of India, Emirate Center for Strategic Studies, Fredrich Ebert Foundation of Germany, Council on Foreign Relations of Brazil, and Center of Implementation of Public Policy of Argentina.



### **Advocacy**

He has been a passionate advocate of human rights, women's empowerment, social justice, and equitable conflict resolution both during his government service and as a private citizen. Shortly after the establishment of the U.S.-backed Afghan government, he published an article in New York Times in March 2002 – "*The Guns of Kabul*"—insisting on disarmament of militias in Afghanistan. His government responsibilities have contracted when deciding issues of national security, his independent commitment to social justice, democracy and pluralism, peace and negotiations with the armed opposition, and Afghanistan's diplomatic relations with its key international partners.

### **Decoration**

He has received numerous national and international medals and awards, including the Medal of Sustained Service by the Constitutional Loya Jirga, Kabul, 2003; Special Award for Improving the Quality of Life, Washington, DC, 2007; and Award of Merit for Rebuilding a Nation, American Society of Civil Engineers, Washington, D.C., 2004.

He was born in an intellectual family in Kandahar. His Father, Mir Hussain Shah, was a distinguished Professor at Kabul University and a member of the Academy of Sciences of Afghanistan. His hobbies are poetry, polo, and politics. He is an honorary member of the Black Feet, a Native American Tribe of Missoula, Montana, 2004. He is married to Shamim Jawad, Chairman of Ayenda Foundation, and they have a son, Iman, an IT professional and graduate of Tufts University.



## Conference

He has participated in hundreds of international conferences and represented Afghanistan in over fifty key international economic and security forums in North America, Europe, the Middle East, South & Central Asia and has coordinated and/or accompanied the leaders of Afghanistan to international summits, including:

- HALIFAX INTERNATIONAL SECURITY FORUM, Halifax, Nova Scotia, November 18 – 21, 2016
- THE INDIA-PAKISTAN-AFGHANISTAN DIALOGUE, (IPA) Bangkok, September 21 – 23, 2016
- WARSAW NATO SUMMIT, Warsaw, July 9 -10, 2016
- WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT, Istanbul, May 23-24, 2016
- OFFICIAL VISIT TO INDIA WITH CHIEF EXECUTIVE DR. ABDULLAH ABDULLAH, March 28-30, 2016
- INDIA TODAY CONCLAVE, New Delhi, March 17-18, 2016
- THE INDIA-PAKISTAN-AFGHANISTAN DIALOGUE, Istanbul, March 3-6, 2016
- COUNTER TERRORISM CONFERENCE, Tackling Global Terror Outfits, Jaipur, India February 2-3, 2016
- INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT LAW ORGANIZATION'S ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES, Rome, November 24-27, 2015
- CONCORDIA SUMMIT, New York, NY, October 1-2, 2015
- WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM ON THE MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA, Amman, May 21-23, 2015
- US-AFGHANISTAN DIALOGUE AT CAMP DAVID, Catocin Mountain park, March 23, 2015
- STATE VISIT TO AZERBAIJAN WITH PRESIDENT GHANI AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE DR. ABDULLAH ABDULLAH, Baku, February 28, 2015
- HALIFAX INTERNATIONAL SECURITY FORUM, Halifax, Nova Scotia, November 20-22, 2015
- LONDON CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISTAN, London, December 3-4, 2014
- NATO SUMMIT, Brussels, December 2, 2014
- STATE VISIT TO GERMANY, Berlin, December 1, 2014
- HALIFAX INTERNATIONAL SECURITY FORUM, Halifax, Nova Scotia, November 21 – 22, 2014
- HALIFAX INTERNATIONAL SECURITY FORUM, Halifax, Nova Scotia, November 22-23, 2013
- HALIFAX INTERNATIONAL SECURITY FORUM, Halifax, Nova Scotia, November 16-18, 2012
- HALIFAX INTERNATIONAL SECURITY FORUM, Halifax, Nova Scotia, November 18-20, 2011
- EUROMINES: MINING INVESTORS FORUM, Investment Opportunities and the Economic Future of Afghanistan, Brussels, Belgium, October 26, 2011



- THE BUXTON INITIATIVE FORUM, Islam: Myths & Realities, Winston-Salem, NC 27106, October 24, 2011
- THE HALIFAX INTERNATIONAL SECURITY FORUM, Halifax, Nova Scotia, November 5-7, 2010
- INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND WORLD BANK GROUP ANNUAL MEETINGS, Washington, DC, September 24-25, 2009
- LEADING THINKERS FORUM. The Foundation for the Defense of Democracies, Freeport, Bahamas, June 11-12, 2009
- EMERALD EXPRESS, National Defense University, Quantico Base, USA, April 8, 2009
- NEW STRATEGY FOR AFGHANISTAN, Hague Centre for Strategic Studies, The Hague, Netherlands. March 30, 2009
- A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY IN A REGIONAL CONTEXT, The Government of the Netherlands, The Hague, Netherlands, March 31, 2009
- UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY 63RD SESSION, United Nations, New York, September 27, 2008
- INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND WORLD BANK GROUP ANNUAL MEETINGS, Washington, DC, September 24-25, 2008
- SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON AFGHANISTAN, United Nations, New York, July 9, 2008
- ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AT A NEW CROSSROADS, German Marshall Fund and the Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation, Istanbul, Turkey, June 15-17, 2008
- U.S. ISLAMIC WORLD FORUM, The State of Qatar, Doha, February 16-18, 2008
- INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND WORLD BANK GROUP ANNUAL MEETINGS, Washington, DC, September 24-25, 2007
- UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY 62ND SESSION, United Nations, New York, September 22, 2007
- INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND WORLD BANK GROUP ANNUAL MEETINGS, Washington, DC, September 24-25, 2006
- UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY 61ST SESSION, United Nations, New York, September 22, 2006
- XIV NON-ALLIED MOVEMENT SUMMIT, Havana, Cuba, September 15-16, 2006
- LONDON CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISTAN, London, Great Britain, January 31- February 1, 2006
- INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND WORLD BANK GROUP ANNUAL MEETINGS, Washington, DC, September 24-25, 2005
- UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY 60TH SESSION, United Nations, New York, September 22, 2005
- INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND WORLD BANK GROUP ANNUAL MEETINGS, Washington, DC, October 23, 2004
- UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY 59TH SESSION, United Nations, New York, September 22, 2004



- 17TH NATO SUMMIT, Istanbul, Turkey, July 28-29, 2004
- WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM, Davos, Switzerland, January 21-25, 2004
- THE CRANSMONTANA FORUM, The Kingdom of Bahrain, Manama, December 3-5, 2003
- THE LABOUR PARTY ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Bournemouth, United Kingdom, September 28-October 2, 2003
- INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND AND WORLD BANK GROUP ANNUAL MEETINGS, Washington, DC, October 23, 2003
- UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY 58TH SESSION, United Nations, New York, September 22, 2003
- FIGHTING TERRORISM FOR HUMANITY, International Peace Academy, New York, September 22, 2003
- WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Amman, Jordan. June 21-23, 2003
- REBUILDING A NATION CONFERENCE, US Trade and Development Agency, Chicago, Illinois, June 8-10, 2003
- THE TOKYO CONFERENCE ON CONSOLIDATION OF PEACE IN AFGHANISTAN, The Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tokyo, Japan, February 22, 2003
- XIII NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT SUMMIT, The Government of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, February 20-25, 2003
- AFGHANISTAN SUPPORT GROUP ANNUAL MEETING, The Kingdom of Norway, Oslo, Norway, December 17-18, 2002
- SUMMIT OF STATES OF AFGHANISTAN, PAKISTAN AND TURKMENISTAN, The Government of Turkmenistan, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, October 26, 2002
- SEVENTH ECO HEADS OF STATE SUMMIT MEETING, The Government of Turkey, Istanbul, Turkey, October 14, 2002
- UN FRIENDS OF AFGHANISTAN CONFERENCE, United Nations, New York, September 15, 2002
- CONSTITUTIONAL LOYA JIRGA, The Government of Afghanistan, Kabul, Afghanistan, June 10-16, 2002
- EMERGENCY LOYA JIRGA, The Government of Afghanistan, Kabul, Afghanistan, June 10, 2002
- UNCTAD LEGAL AFFAIRS AFGHANISTAN FORUM, Geneva, Switzerland, February 21, 2002
- STOP GENDER APARTHEID IN AFGHANISTAN, Feminist Majority Foundation, March 29, 1999