

2015-11-20

Fråga-svar

Afghanistan. Registrering av efternamn

Fråga

Hur registreras efternamn i Afghanistan?

Är det vanligt att man inte har ett efternamn och endast kallas vid förnamn?

Har man har sin far eller farfars namn som mellannamn och efternamn?

Svar

Tidskriften *The Atlantic* (2015) rapporterar om att regeringen vill främja antagande av efternamn. Det är dock inte obligatoriskt enligt lag ännu att anta ett efternamn. Afghaner kan välja vilket efternamn de vill. Tidningen *New York Times* (2014) uppges att en del afghaner har antagit efternamn under senare år då de ansökt om visum till utlandet. I guiden från *FBIC* (2006) uppges att det traditionellt inte finns efternamn i Afghanistan. Afghaner med kontakter med länder i västvärlden brukar dock anta ett familjenamn. Afghanska namn är ofta influerade av arabiska namn men det finns även traditionella pashtunnamn. Vid giftermål tar kvinnan vanligtvis sin makes efternamn. Dagstidningen *Chicago Tribune* (2002) beskriver att de flesta afghaner med både förnamn och efternamn ärver efternamnet från sin far. Men det finns även en tradition av ta ett annat familjenamn som upplevs beskriva personen bättre eller som personen tycker är finare. Detta kan innebära att människor i samma familj kan ha olika efternamn.

Nedan följer en sammanställning av information/länkar om registrering av afghanska efternamn. Sammanställningen gör inte anspråk på att vara uttömmande. Refererade dokument bör alltid läsas i sitt sammanhang. Observera att informationen/länken är aktuell vid söktillfället men kan ändras över tid.

The Atlantic är en amerikansk tidskrift som utkommer 10 gånger per år.

The Atlantic (2015):

The latest example comes courtesy of Afghanistan, where officials are conducting the first nationwide census in three and a half decades—and confronting a major obstacle: names in the country are malleable, and many Afghans use only one. The government’s solution is to urge its people to take on surnames. “The remote, tribal nature of Afghan villages may have had something to do with the lack of surnames”.

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One major goal of the census is to “know the needs of the nation, and the most basic step is knowing your population,” Bilal Askaryar, the communications and outreach liaison at the Afghan embassy in Washington, D.C., told me. Officials hope to not only better estimate the size of the population, but also to register Afghans in a central ID system and avoid the kind of voter fraud that came close to sparking civil war in the multi-ethnic country last year. And while the government is actively encouraging the adoption of last names, it is not yet compulsory by law to do so and the request is open-ended—Afghans can choose whatever surname they’d like.

New York Times (2014):

But for many Afghans, the trickiest question to answer is probably their name.

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The remote, tribal nature of Afghan villages may have had something to do with the lack of surnames. So perhaps did the historic weakness of national governments, which have tended to require fixed names in the interest of keeping track of people, to draft them or tax them.

Some Afghans adopted surnames in recent years when applying for visas to foreign countries. Others did so with the influx of foreign organizations and employers after the Taliban government was toppled in 2001.

But even some Afghans with two names lack a true surname in the sense that neither name is commonly held by relatives.

So when Mohammad Akhtar, a retired police commander, opened the door last month to Khaliddudin’s census team, he said he was ready to select a surname

and bestow it on his seven children. "Mohammad Akhtar," he explained, was just his first name. For a surname he chose Naibkhil, the name of his tribe.

Coram Children's Legal Centre är en välgörenhetsorganisation.

Coram Children's Legal Centre (CCLC) (August 2013):

This system, as it is not based on the Western structure of 'first name(s) plus surname', might also cause confusion when meeting with people from Afghanistan.⁶⁶ Most of Afghan names are Arabic and do not have surnames. Afghans' first name is composed of two parts, which can be the confusing part.

The first part of the name is a subordinating noun, commonly for instance Mohammad, Ali, and Abdul. The second part is a proper noun, and the actual given name. Consequently, a person named Ali Madad, would have Madad as the given name, and not as a surname. Neither of the parts composing a person's name is related to her/his parents or grandparents.⁶⁷ Those who do have a surname use their tribal name.⁶⁸ (s. 7)

Financial and Banking Information Infrastructure Committee (FBIIC) (2006):

22.1 There are traditionally no family names in Afghanistan; therefore Afghan names may consist only of a personal name(s). However, Afghans with Western connections usually adopt a family name.

a. DARI

22.2 personal name(s) [+ family name]
e.g. Hamid Shah AZIZI

22.3 Names are influenced by Arabic names.

22.4 A woman typically takes her husband's family name (if present) upon marriage.

22.5 The following titles are used in Dari:

Mr - Agha
Mrs - Khanum
Miss - Mohtarama

b. PASHTU

22.6 personal name(s) [+ family name]

22.7 Pashtu names are influenced by Arabic, but there are also traditional Pashtu names.

22.8 Pashtuns commonly take their family name from a tribal or regional name. Names taken from tribal names will typically end in **-AI** or **-I**:
e.g. QALZAI.

22.9 The majority of Pashtu female personal names end in **-a** or **-ai**:
e.g. Spogmai.

22.10 Women typically take their husband's family name (if present) upon marriage.

22.11 The following titles are used with the family name:
Mr - Shagheli
Mrs - Mermen
Miss – Peghla

22.12 The following naming practices should also be noted:

a. although Pashtu names are often Arabic, there are some traditional names still in use (see also Annex A. Common Names Guide):

i. *male personal names: Aymal, Babrack, Arsalakhan, Jelandar;*

ii. *female personal names: Spogmai, Kawatara, Torpekai.*

(s. 42)

Chicago Tribune (2002):

Most Afghans with both a first name and a last name inherit their last name from their father, just like most Americans. But there's also a long tradition of abandoning the family name for one you like better, or which describes you better.

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This can get a little complicated, especially when people in the same family choose a variety of last names that makes them appear unrelated.

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It's entirely fair to just make up a last name. Gen. Abdul Rashid Dostum, one of Afghanistan's most powerful and feared warlords, got his name (it means "everyone's friend") as a young man. Apparently he has not gotten around to updating it.

To complicate matters, nearly all Afghans, while they may not have a last name, do have a tribal name, which they add at the end when they feel like it. Technically, Farouq is Ghulam Farouq Samim Omarkhil, though he often drops the Pashtun suffix.

There are add-ons to the front of names as well. Anybody who has been to Mecca becomes Haji. If Farouq makes the trip, he could be Dr. Haji Ghulam Farouq Samim Omarhil, more names than most Afghans go through in a lifetime.

Spelling the names is a whole different challenge. Afghanistan's two dominant languages, Dari and Pashtu, are written in Arabic script, which means there is essentially no correct spelling in English. Is Farouq really Farouq? Or maybe Farooq or Farook? It's simply a matter of taste.

Denna sammanställning av information/länkar är baserad på informationssökningar gjorda under en begränsad tid. Den är sammanställd utifrån noggrant utvalda och allmänt tillgängliga informationskällor. Alla använda källor refereras. All information som presenteras, med undantag av obestridda/uppenbara fakta, har dubbelkontrollerats om inget annat anges. Sammanställningen gör inte anspråk på att vara uttömmande och bör inte tillmätas exklusivt bevisvärde i samband med avgörandet av ett enskilt ärende. Informationen i sammanställningen återspeglar inte nödvändigtvis Migrationsverkets officiella ståndpunkt i en viss fråga och det finns ingen avsikt att genom sammanställningen göra politiska ställningstaganden. Refererade dokument bör läsas i sitt sammanhang.

Källförteckning

(Länkarna hämtade 2015-11-19)

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