

Province: Day Kundi
Governor: Sultan Ali Uruzgani

Population Estimate: 477,544		Urban: ~472,800	Rural: ~4,750 ¹
Area in Square Kilometers:		16,665	Capital: Nili (pop. 30,058)
Names of Districts:	Sang-e Takht, Ashtarlay, Khadir, Kiti, Nili, Shahrestan, Mir Amur, Kajran, and Gizab		
Composition of Population:	<u>Ethnic Groups:</u> Hazara (86%), Pashtun (8.5%), Baluch (3.5%), Sayeed (2%)	<u>Religious Groups:</u> Shi'a, Sunni	<u>Tribal Groups:</u> Bacha Ghulam, Dai Kundi, Sheikh Miran, Dai Zangi, Achekzai & Alizai (Durrani Pashtuns)
Occupation of Population	Major: Agriculture, labor		Minor: Animal husbandry, trade ²
Crops/ Farming/ Livestock:	Wheat, maize, barley, fruits, nuts, cotton, silk, tobacco		Goats, cattle, sheep, donkeys, poultry
Literacy Rate Total: 28% (38% of men, 18% of women) ³			
Educational Institutions:	<u>Schools:</u> 80 (Primary & secondary), with over 50,000 students (one third female)		<u>Colleges/ Universities:</u> None
Number of Security Incidents, Jan-Jun 2007:	January: 0 February: 0 March: 0 April: 0	May: 0 June: 0 July: 0 August: 0	September: 0 October: 0 November: 2 December: 0
Poppy (Opium) Cultivation:	<u>2006:</u> 7,044 ha	<u>2007:</u> 3,306 ha	
NGOs Active in Province:	Oxfam, ACF, LEPCO, AIHRC, RCDC, Green Way, DHSA, BDF ⁴		
Transportation: Poor; only 7% of roads accessible year round. Motor vehicle and animal.	<u>Primary Roads:</u> From Yakawlang to Tirin Kot, a main road runs North-South through Khadr and Gezab.		
Electricity:	There is no public electricity		<u>Estimated Population w/access:</u> 25% ⁵
Health Facilities:	<u>Hospitals:</u> 1		<u>Clinics, etc.:</u> 13
Primary Sources of Drinking Water/Availability of Potable Water:	Rivers and wells; approximately a quarter travel an hour or more from home to water source		68% have direct access to water source, only 3% have safe drinking water
Rivers: The Helmand, and the Helmand's tributary the Khud			
Significant Topographic Features	90% Mountainous, 8% hilly, 2% plains ⁶		

¹ Afghan Information Management Services, *2003-2004 Population Statistics*, available from <http://www.aims.org.af/> (accessed September 17, 2007).

² "Provincial Profile," *Day Kundi*, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development and the National Area Base Development Programme, 2006, <http://www.mrrd.gov.af/> (accessed February 29, 2008).

³ "Provincial Profile," *Day Kundi*, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development and the National Area Base Development Programme, 2006, <http://www.mrrd.gov.af/> (accessed February 29, 2008).

⁴ "Provincial Profile," *Day Kundi*, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development and the National Area Base Development Programme, 2006, <http://www.mrrd.gov.af/> (accessed February 29, 2008).

⁵ "Provincial Profile," *Day Kundi*, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development and the National Area Base Development Programme, 2006, <http://www.mrrd.gov.af/> (accessed February 29, 2008).

⁶ "Provincial Profile," *Day Kundi*, Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development and the National Area Base Development Programme, 2006, <http://www.mrrd.gov.af/> (accessed February 29, 2008).

Political Landscape:

Political Leaders:



Governor Sultan Ali Uruzgani

Appointed governor on July 26, 2006, he is a member of the Shi'ite/Hazara Party of National Movement (*Hezb-e Muttahed-e Melli*). Born in Khas Uruzgan district, Uruzgani has been the governor of greater Uruzgan (Uruzgan split into what is now Uruzgan and Day Kundi in March of 2004) before, from 1988 to 1992. He has also previously worked in Tehran. He has a good reputation as far as poppy eradication and developing alternative projects for possible growers. He had some friction in the past with the Central government, complaining that Day Kundi was ignored during the recent harsh winter.

Wolesi Jirga Members:⁷

	Sadiqi Zada Nili	Male Shi'ite Hazara	Is a member of the Budget committee. Married to MP Shirin Mohsini. A former commander and the son of a former commander, he is affiliated with the Wahdat party.
	Dr. Mohammad Ali Sitigh	Male Shi'ite Hazara	Is a member of the Health committee, and a member of the Wahdat party. Recent graduate of Balkh U.
	Mohammad Noor Akbari	Male Shi'ite Hazara	Is a member of the International Relations committee, and a member of the Eqtedar-e Melli party.
	Shirin Mohsini	Female Shi'ite Hazara	Of the Wahdat party. Married to MP Sadiqi Zada Nili.








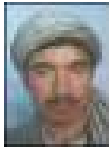

Meshrano Jirga Members:⁸

	Haji Sayyad Dawood Nasiri	Male Shi'ite Hazara	Member of the National Economic Committee. Misaq-e Melli Party.
	Haji Mohammad Baqir Sharifi	Male Shi'ite Hazara	Secretary of the Legislation committee. Misaq-e Melli Party.

⁷ US Embassy Kabul Afghanistan Election Observation Team and Joint Election Management Board, 2005.

⁸ US Embassy Kabul Afghanistan Election Observation Team and Joint Election Management Board, 2005.

Provincial Council Members:

	Fatima Hashemi		Mohammad Waizzada
	Mullah Ibrahim Rahmani		Doctor Zaraa
	Raihana Azad		Ustad Naveed
	Yasin Akbari		Ghairat Jawahiri
	Raihana Mehdizada		

Human Terrain:

Achekzai: Durrani Pashtuns, they exist primarily in Gizab District. Formerly part of the Barakzai grouping, the Achekzai were separated from the rest of the tribe by Ahmad Shah Durrani for management purposes, and the Achekzai remained one of the most troublesome tribes in the area. Traditionally nomadic, they further divide themselves into two large sub-groupings, the Gujanzais and the Badinzais, and had a reputation for disunity and predation.

Alizai: They form a major branch of the Panjpay Durrani Pashtuns with two main sub-tribes, **Jalozai** and **Hasanzai**. Other subtribes include the Shekzai, the Guerazai, the Adozai, the Pirzai, the Alekzai, and the Habizai. Clashes between the Jalozai and Hasanzai have been a major source of tension in northern Helmand province. Present Helmand Governor Sher Mohammad Akhundzada is Jalozai. They live primarily in Kijran and Mir Amur districts.

Bacha Ghulam: In Sang-e Takht district. The name seems to mean “boy of the manor.”⁹ They are a subtribe of the Dai Zangi, and they include the divisions Bubak, Gaoshak, Ghulam Ali, Ismail, Kaum-i-Barfi, Kaum-i-Mizra, Kaum-i-Yari, Neka, Shah Masid, and Waras.

Dai Kundi: Found primarily in Kajran, Kiti, Nili, Khadir, Ashtarlay, Gizab, Mir Amur, and Shahrestan districts, the Dai Kundi have traditionally been very closely allied with the Dai Zangi. Subsets of the Dai Kundi include the

⁹ Adamec, Ludwig W. *Kandahar and South-Central Afghanistan: Historical and Political Gazetteer of Afghanistan*. Vol. 5. Akademische Druck u. Verlagsanstalt Graz, Austria. 1980.

Ainak, Alak, Babuli, Baibagh, Barat, Bubak, Chahkuk, Chahush, Chora, Daulat Beg, Doda, Fihristan, Haider Beg, Jami, Jasha, Kalanzai, Kaum-i-Ali, Khudi, Khushak, Mamaka, Mir Hazar, Neka, Roshan Beg, and Saru.

Dai Zangi: Inhabiting Sang-e Takht, Shahrestan, and Mir Amur, the Dai Zangi have traditionally had a fraternal relationship with the Dai Kundi. Their subtribes include the Bubali, Gedi, Kamyaba, Kut-daghi, Khushamadi, Kirigu, Miramur, Qaraqul Daghi, Sag Deh, Sag Jui, Sag-Pae, Sehpai, Takana, Takash, Urarus, and Yangur.

Hazaras: Forming the majority in Day Kundi District, the Hazara, a distinct ethnic and religious group within the population of Afghanistan, have often been the target of discriminatory and violent repression. Most likely descended from the Mongols of Genghis Khan, the Hazara are noticeably different in physical appearance when compared to the Pashtun majority. In terms of religion, the vast majority of the Hazara are of the Shia Muslim faith, again in contrast to the Pashtuns who are Sunni Muslim. Due to these differences, “the Hazara have experienced discrimination at the hands of the Pashtun-dominated government throughout the history of modern Afghanistan.”¹⁰ As the traditional underclass of Afghan society, Hazara were exploited and made to work as servants and laborers. As a result there tends to be an anti-government and anti-Pashtun bias among the Hazara. In present day Afghanistan, the Hazara are divided geographically into two main groups: the Hazarajat Hazara and those who live outside the Hazarajat. The Hazarajat is located in the Hindu Kush Mountains in central Afghanistan and is “centered around Bamiyan province and include[s] areas of Ghowr, Uruzgan, Wardak, and Ghazni province.”¹¹ The Hazara living outside of the Hazarajat live in and around Kabul, Herat, Mazar-e-Sharif and Samangan province. Due to atrocities committed against them by the Taliban, the Hazara by and large are opposed to the Taliban. In August 1998, the Taliban massacred approximately 4,000 Hazara in Mazara-e-Sharif; this massacre was followed by another the next month when the Taliban killed another 500 Hazara in Bamiyan. The Hezb-e Wahdat (Islamic Unity Party of Afghanistan) is an umbrella political organization which commands the support of large numbers of Hazara. The Hazara are also often at odds with the Kuchi population within the Hazarajat.

Security Landscape:

General Level of Security:

Good, although the province borders some dangerous areas, especially Shahid-e Hassas and Khas Uruzgan districts in Uruzgan Province, and Ajrestan District in Ghazni.

Significant Risk:

The districts of primary concern are:

Kijran: Not only does it border a dangerous area, but the district center itself was overrun in November of 2007 by approximately 60 Taliban on motorbikes and pickup trucks.¹² What makes this especially disturbing is that the Taliban had been attacking for five days, and yet sufficient reinforcements were apparently not able to reach the district. The district was held for about six days.

Gizab: Gizab, again due to its proximity to other dangerous districts, is at danger itself. Opium cultivation is greatest in the district, and trafficking is also a problem.

¹⁰ US State Department Afghanistan Culture and Ethnic Studies, 2004.

¹¹ US State Department Afghanistan Culture and Ethnic Studies, 2004.

¹² “Taliban bikers storm Afghan region,” *CNN*, November 6, 2007,

<http://www.cnn.com/2007/WORLD/meast/11/06/taliban.motorcycle.ap/index.html> (accessed March 28, 2008).

DISTRICTS

The districts of Day Kundi Province are Sang-e Takht, Ashtarlay, Khadir, Kiti, Nili, Shahrestan, Mir Amur, Kajran, and Gizab.

