

Manifesto of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan — The New Standard-Bearers

People's Democratic Manifesto

New Program of Action of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan — New Standard-Bearers

Table of Contents

Chapter One — Fundamental Principles: 1
Chapter Two — Political Structure: 1
Chapter Three — Secular State and Religion: 4
Chapter Four — Civil Rights: 4
Chapter Five — Administration and the Judiciary: 5
Chapter Six — Ownership and the Economy: 5
Chapter Seven — Land Reform and the Kuchi Nomad Question: 6
Chapter Eight — Planned Economy and Public Finance: 7
Chapter Nine — Labor: 7
Chapter Ten — Industry and Resources: 8
Chapter Eleven — Education: 8
Chapter Twelve — Science and Research: 9
Chapter Thirteen — Health: 9
Chapter Fourteen — Housing, Water, Energy, and Transportation: 9
Chapter Fifteen — Social Security: 10
Chapter Sixteen — Women and the Family: 11
Chapter Seventeen — Children and Youth: 11
Chapter Eighteen — National, Linguistic, and Cultural Equality: 12
Chapter Nineteen — Culture and Media: 12
Chapter Twenty — Science, Technology, Artificial Intelligence, and Robotics: 13
Chapter Twenty-One — Environment: 13
Chapter Twenty-Two — Urban and Rural Development: 13
Chapter Twenty-Three — Foreign Policy: 14
Chapter Twenty-Four — The National Question and Territorial Integrity: 14
Chapter Twenty-Five — Transition to Socialism: 15
Chapter Twenty-Six — Socialist System: 15
Chapter Twenty-Seven — Communist Horizon: 16
Chapter Twenty-Eight — Principles for Implementing the Program: 16

Introduction:

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan — New Standard-Bearers formulates this manifesto on the basis of Marxism–Leninism, the historical experience of the workers' and socialist movement, and with due regard to the specific conditions of Afghanistan.

The aim of the program is to create an independent, free, just, prosperous, and developed Afghanistan; an Afghanistan in which natural wealth and the fruits of social labor serve the majority of the people, and no person is discriminated against on the basis of gender, ethnicity, language, religion, non-religion, region, or economic status.

Socialism is a historical and social process founded on the development of the productive forces; science and technology; education and social consciousness; economic planning; social ownership of the principal means of production; and popular participation.

Chapter One — Fundamental Principles:

Article 1 — Sovereignty of the People:

Political sovereignty emanates from the people, and all state institutions must be accountable to the people and to lawful representative institutions.

Article 2 — Social Equality:

All citizens are equal before the law, and no political, economic, social, or legal privilege on the basis of ethnicity, language, gender, religion, non-religion, region, or social class is acceptable.

Article 3 — National Independence:

The political, economic, and military independence of the country is a fundamental principle of the state, and no foreign power has the right to impose its will on Afghanistan.

Article 4 — Social Justice:

State policies must be directed toward reducing poverty, unemployment, inequality, and forms of exploitation, and toward creating equal opportunities for life and human development.

Article 5 — Comprehensive Development:

Development must simultaneously encompass agriculture, industry, energy, education, health, science, technology, housing, transportation, and the country's infrastructure.

Article 6 — Provision of Basic Needs:

The basic needs of the people shall be provided, in accordance with the country's productive and economic capacity, through free services, social subsidies, or other public mechanisms.

Article 7 — Socialist Orientation:

The country's economy and politics shall be organized, through a historical process and in accordance with the actual conditions of society, toward the expansion of social ownership, the reduction of exploitation and inequality, and a gradual transition to socialism.

Chapter Two — Political Structure:

Article 8 — Structure of the Councils:

The political system shall be founded on local, municipal, district, provincial, and state councils, the National Congress, and the Revolutionary Council.

Article 9 — Elections:

Elections shall be conducted on the basis of universal, equal, direct, and secret suffrage, and all eligible citizens have the right to elect and to be elected.

Article 10 — Local Council:

The Local Council is the representative institution closest to the people and is responsible for examining local needs, public services, local development, and oversight of local administration.

Article 11 — Municipal Council:

The Municipal Council oversees urban development, housing, water, energy, transportation, the environment, and municipal public services.

Article 12 — District Council:

The District Council pursues district development programs, public services, agriculture, infrastructure, and coordination among local councils.

Article 13 — Provincial Council:

The Provincial Council represents the people of the province and oversees the implementation of national programs and balanced development at the provincial level.

Article 14 — State Council:

The State Council is responsible for coordinating economic, social, and infrastructure programs at the state level and conveying the needs of its constituent regions to central institutions.

Article 15 — Revolutionary Council:

The Revolutionary Council is the highest permanent institution of national representation, legislation, and oversight. This Council examines and approves laws, national programs, the public budget, and the country's fundamental policies, and oversees the performance of the President, the Council of Ministers, and other state institutions.

No executive decision of the President or the Council of Ministers may contravene the law, the national program, or the lawful resolutions of the Revolutionary Council.

Article 16 — National Congress:

The National Congress shall convene once every five years, examine and approve the country's fundamental directions and national programs, and elect the President.

Article 17 — Political Activity and the Position of the Party:

The lawful activity of political parties, workers' unions, social organizations, civil associations, and other lawful associations is free, and these bodies may participate in political, social, cultural, consultative, and electoral affairs.

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan — New Standard-Bearers operates as the bearer of the socialist program and the vanguard political force on the path of transition to socialism; however, the exercise of state power must take place through lawful institutions, elections, representative councils, and enacted laws.

No party official shall, solely by reason of party membership, stand above the law or state institutions.

Other parties and organizations have the right to present their programs and political views within the framework of the law and to work to win the people's support, provided that they do not violate the principles of national sovereignty, territorial integrity, the rights of the people, and the country's legal order.

Article 18 — President:

The President shall be elected by the National Congress for a five-year term. The continuation of the President's service after the end of the term requires his or her re-election by the National Congress.

The President is responsible for implementing laws, national programs, and the lawful resolutions of the Revolutionary Council, and is accountable to the National Congress and the Revolutionary Council.

No President may invoke his or her office to suspend or restrict the implementation of laws or the oversight of lawful institutions.

Article 19 — Council of Ministers:

The Council of Ministers is the highest executive institution of the country and is chaired by the President.

The President proposes the members of the Council of Ministers, and their appointment takes place after approval by the Revolutionary Council.

The Council of Ministers is responsible for implementing the country's laws, budget, development programs, and public policies, and each minister is accountable to the President, the Revolutionary Council, and the law.

Article 20 — Accountability of the Executive Branch:

The Council of Ministers and its members are obliged to submit reports on their performance, budget, and the results of their executive programs to the Revolutionary Council.

The Revolutionary Council has the right to summon any executive official for an explanation, demand necessary documents and information, and, upon observing a violation, refer the matter to judicial or oversight bodies for legal review.

The National Congress also reviews the performance of the government and may, in accordance with the law, demand the correction, replacement, or dismissal of responsible officials.

Article 21 — Relationship between the President and the Revolutionary Council:

The President chairs the Revolutionary Council, but this does not mean that he or she has personal authority over the Council's resolutions or the power to halt the oversight process.

Decisions of the Revolutionary Council shall be made through voting and in accordance with the Council's internal regulations, and oversight of the President, the Council of Ministers, and other state institutions shall be guaranteed through collective mechanisms, specialized commissions, and independent oversight bodies.

Article 22 — Inspection and Audit Commission:

The Inspection and Audit Commission is an independent body for financial and administrative oversight of all state bodies, whose members are elected by the National Congress.

This Commission has the right to examine the financial and administrative performance of the President, the Council of Ministers, the Revolutionary Council, ministries, state-owned companies, local bodies, and other public bodies.

The principal reports of this Commission shall be submitted to the National Congress and the Revolutionary Council, and their public portion shall be published for the information of the people.

Article 23 — Rule of Law:

No official, party, organization, or individual is above the law. Corruption, embezzlement, bribery, abuse of power, and unlawful appropriation of public assets are crimes.

Article 24 — Dismissal of the President:

In the event of betrayal of national interests, a serious violation of the law, widespread corruption, abuse of power, or serious incapacity to perform duties, proceedings to examine the dismissal of the President shall begin.

The charges must be examined in a legal process, and the President has the right to a defense. After completion of the legal process, the National Congress may, by its lawful vote, dismiss the President from office.

If the President is dismissed or the presidency becomes vacant, the interim administration of the country shall be carried out in accordance with the law, and the National Congress is obliged to conduct the process of electing a new President.

Article 25 — Intra-Party Democracy:

The Party is founded on the principle of democratic centralism: discussion and criticism are free at the decision-making stage, but after a decision is made, implementation of the collective decision is obligatory for members.

Article 26 — Local Initiative:

Local councils have the right, within the framework of the law, to take initiative to solve the problems of their own region.

Article 27 — Public Accountability:

State institutions are obliged to report to the people on their performance and on how the public budget is spent.

Chapter Three — Secular State and Religion:

Article 28 — Separation of Religion and the State:

The state is separate from religious institutions, and no religion or cleric shall have a state privilege.

Article 29 — Freedom of Religion:

Every citizen has the right to choose any religion, change his or her religion, or have no religion.

Article 30 — Religious Equality:

All religions and non-religious citizens are equal before the law.

Article 31 — Prohibition of Religious Coercion:

No person may compel another to perform or refrain from religious rites.

Article 32 — Religious Institutions:

Religious institutions may operate in accordance with the law, but they have no right to establish a parallel government or impose religious laws on society.

Article 33 — Religious Education:

Private religious education may be freely conducted; the country's public education shall be founded on science, critical thinking, and secular principles.

Chapter Four — Civil Rights:

Article 34 — Personal Freedom:

Personal freedom, security, and human dignity are inviolable, and no one may be detained or restricted without a legal basis.

Article 35 — Freedom of Expression:

Every citizen has the right to express his or her opinion and thought.

Article 36 — Freedom of the Press:

The activity of the media and press is free within the framework of the law.

Article 37 — Assembly:

Lawful peaceful assemblies are free.

Article 38 — Association:

The formation of lawful unions, associations, and political organizations is free.

Article 39 — Prohibition of Torture:

Torture and every form of inhuman treatment are prohibited.

Article 40 — Prohibition of Discrimination:

Any legal or administrative discrimination on the basis of gender, ethnicity, language, religion, non-religion, region, or economic status is prohibited.

Article 41 — Access to Justice:

Every citizen has the right to equal access to the courts and to legal defense.

Article 42 — Privacy:

The privacy, home, correspondence, and personal information of citizens are protected from unlawful intrusion.

Chapter Five — Administration and the Judiciary:

Article 43 — Meritocracy:

State employment shall be based on expertise, merit, experience, and actual need.

Article 44 — Fight against Corruption:

Corruption and the unlawful assets of officials shall be examined, and appropriated public assets shall be returned to public ownership in accordance with the law.

Article 45 — Judicial Independence:

Courts are independent in implementing the law, and no political authority has the right to unlawfully interfere in judicial proceedings.

Article 46 — Equality before the Law:

All citizens are equal before the law.

Article 47 — Legal Services:

Low-income and disadvantaged persons shall receive public legal services and legal defense.

Chapter Six — Ownership and the Economy:

Article 48 — System of Ownership:

Ownership in the country includes public, state, social, cooperative, and private ownership.

Public ownership includes resources and assets that belong to the people as a whole, and whose use must serve the interests of society.

State ownership includes assets and institutions administered by the state as the representative of society.

Social and cooperative ownership includes institutions and assets collectively administered by councils, workers, peasants, or social cooperatives.

Private ownership is respected within the framework of the law, but it must not become an instrument for the exploitation of human beings by human beings, a monopoly over public resources, or domination over vital sectors of the economy.

Article 49 — Natural Resources:

Natural resources and public wealth belong to the people, and the income derived from them must serve public welfare and the development of the country.

Article 50 — Planned Economy:

The national economy shall be organized on the basis of planning, the development of the productive forces, provision of basic needs, and reduction of inequality.

Chapter Seven — Land Reform and the Kuchi Nomad Question:

Article 51 — Land for Peasants:

Arable land shall be made available to landless and smallholding peasants through just land reform.

Article 52 — End of Exploitative Landholding Relations:

Exploitative landholding relations and relations that keep peasants dependent and exploited shall be dismantled.

Article 53 — Peasant Cooperatives:

The formation of voluntary peasant cooperatives for production, the purchase of machinery, marketing, and use of common resources shall be supported.

Article 54 — Mechanization of Agriculture:

The state is obliged to develop mechanization, irrigation, fertilizer, improved seed, and technical knowledge.

Article 55 — Food Security:

Domestic food production and strategic reserves shall be created to prevent food crises.

Article 56 — Resolution of the Kuchi Nomad Question:

The Kuchi nomad question shall be resolved through a national, just, and gradual program. The aim of this program is to end conflicts over land and pasture, provide a dignified life for Kuchi nomads, and at the same time preserve the rights of peasants and residents of rural areas.

Kuchi nomads who seek a permanent life shall be voluntarily settled in suitable areas and shall receive land for housing and production, water, schools, health services, roads, electricity, and productive facilities.

In areas where traditional nomadism continues, lawful and orderly routes for the use of pastures shall be designated, and any forcible appropriation of the land of peasants or nomads is prohibited.

Article 57 — Public Land:

Public and state land shall be used for production, housing, and public infrastructure, and land grabbing and land speculation are prohibited.

Article 58 — Rural Development:

Villages must have access to water, electricity, education, health, roads, and communications.

Article 59 — Support for Peasants:

The state shall provide peasants with technical services, productive facilities, agricultural inputs, and economic and legal support.

Chapter Eight — Planned Economy and Public Finance:

Article 60 — Economic Planning:

The country's economy shall be organized on the basis of long-term, five-year, and annual plans.

No national program shall be approved without specified objectives, financial resources, productive capacity, human resources, responsible institution, timetable, and measurable indicators.

Economic programs must specify how much production, employment, housing, electricity, water, agricultural products, health services, and educational services will be created within what period, and from where the resources required for them will be provided.

Article 61 — Economic Priorities:

The priorities of national programs include food, housing, water, energy, education, health, industry, and infrastructure.

Article 62 — Budget:

The public budget must be transparent, connected to national programs, and include revenue, expenditures, investment, and financing sources.

Article 63 — Revenue from Natural Resources:

Revenue from mines, oil, gas, water, energy, and other natural resources belongs to public ownership and must not become the personal wealth of individuals, private companies, or political groups.

The main portion of this revenue must be returned to society, through the public budget and the National Development Fund, for free education, free health services, social housing, water and electricity, agriculture, industry, infrastructure, scientific research, and other development programs.

Where direct payment for public services is not possible, the state may use a system of subsidies and coupons or social credit to guarantee the people's equitable access to basic goods and services.

Article 64 — Taxation:

The tax system shall be organized according to ability to pay, and large-scale wealth and economic activity shall bear a greater share of public financing.

Article 65 — Anti-Monopoly:

Private monopoly over vital sectors of the economy is prohibited.

Article 66 — Cooperatives:

Production and consumer cooperatives shall be supported by the state.

Article 67 — Foreign Trade:

Foreign trade must serve the country's needs, domestic production, technology transfer, and economic independence.

Article 68 — Reducing Dependency:

Through the development of domestic production and economic diversification, the country shall reduce its dependence on imports and foreign powers.

Chapter Nine — Labor:

Article 69 — Right to Work:

Every citizen has the right of access to work and employment opportunities.

Article 70 — Wages:

Wages shall be determined according to work, skill, and the cost of living, and the minimum wage shall be reviewed regularly.

Article 71 — Working Hours and Rest:

Working hours, holidays, leave, and rest for workers shall be guaranteed in accordance with the law.

Article 72 — Unions:

Workers have the right to form unions and occupational organizations.

Article 73 — Occupational Safety:

The state and employers are obliged to provide a healthy and safe working environment.

Article 74 — Workers' Participation:

Workers shall participate in the administration of public and cooperative institutions and in decisions related to the workplace.

Chapter Ten — Industry and Resources:

Article 75 — Strategic Resources:

Mines, energy, and strategic resources are under public ownership and state oversight.

Article 76 — Basic Industries:

Basic and infrastructure industries must be predominantly under public, state, or social ownership.

Article 77 — Resource Extraction:

Resource extraction must be transparent, scientific, sustainable, and environmentally compliant.

Article 78 — Use of Resource Revenue:

Resource revenue shall be used primarily for education, health, housing, water, energy, industry, and infrastructure.

Article 79 — Industrialization:

The national industrialization program shall be organized on the basis of the country's resources, domestic needs, human resources, technology, and investment, and shall have specified quantitative goals and a timetable.

Chapter Eleven — Education:

Article 80 — Free Education:

Public education, from primary school to state higher education, shall be provided free of charge.

Article 81 — Scientific Education:

The education system shall be founded on science, critical thinking, technical knowledge, and social understanding.

Article 82 — Fight against Illiteracy:

A national program to eradicate illiteracy shall be implemented and evaluated every year.

Article 83 — Technical and Vocational Education:

Technical and vocational education shall be developed in accordance with the needs of the economy.

Article 84 — Higher Education:

State higher education shall be free for eligible students.

Chapter Twelve — Science and Research:

Article 85 — Scientific Budget:

A specified share of the national budget shall be allocated to science and technology and shall increase in proportion to economic growth.

Article 86 — Academic Freedom:

Scientific research and university activity shall enjoy academic freedom.

Article 87 — National Research:

Research must be connected to the needs of Afghanistan and the development of the productive forces.

Article 88 — Skilled Personnel:

A national program shall be created for the return or recruitment of Afghan specialists and the training of a new generation of specialists.

Article 89 — University and Industry:

Universities, research centers, and industries must have organized ties with one another.

Chapter Thirteen — Health:

Article 90 — Free Health Care:

Basic health services shall be free for citizens of Afghanistan.

Article 91 — Health Network:

A nationwide network of hospitals and health centers shall be established.

Article 92 — Medicines:

Essential medicines shall be provided free of charge or with public support; the use of medicines shall be regulated to prevent the smuggling of medicines out of the country.

Article 93 — Prevention:

Vaccination, prevention, and public health education shall be developed.

Article 94 — Maternal and Child Health:

Maternal and child health services shall be free of charge.

Article 95 — Healthy Environment:

Clean water, a healthy environment, healthy food, and the fight against communicable diseases shall be guaranteed.

Article 96 — Pharmaceutical Production:

Domestic production of medicines and medical equipment shall be developed.

Chapter Fourteen — Housing, Water, Energy, and Transportation:

Article 97 — Right to Housing:

Housing is among the basic needs of the people. Through national construction programs, public land, housing cooperatives, and social housing, the state shall provide for the housing needs of the people. Low-income persons and families, homeless persons, persons with disabilities, older persons, and families in special circumstances shall be given priority in receiving social housing.

Article 98 — National Housing Program:

The national social-housing program shall be implemented on the basis of population, regional needs, and the country's economic capacity.

Article 99 — Water:

Necessary and customary household water consumption shall be provided free of charge. The amount of customary consumption shall be determined according to the number of family members, climatic conditions, regional access, and actual need.

Consumption above the customary level may be subject to progressive tariffs in order both to reduce waste and to preserve water resources.

Article 100 — Electricity and Energy:

Necessary and customary household electricity consumption shall be provided free of charge or with full social support.

The basic level of consumption shall be determined according to family size and climatic conditions. Consumption beyond the basic level may be subject to progressive tariffs.

The state shall develop electricity-generation capacity through hydroelectric, solar, wind, and other sustainable sources.

Article 101 — Public Transportation:

Essential public transportation and services established to provide people's access to workplaces, education, health services, and other basic needs must be provided free of charge or at a very low, socially supported charge.

The state is obliged to develop a national network of public transportation, railways, and other means of public transport.

Article 102 — Infrastructure:

Infrastructure shall be established through national programs with the aim of balanced development of the regions.

Chapter Fifteen — Social Security:

Article 103 — Social Security:

A comprehensive social-security system shall be established.

Article 104 — Pensions:

Pension rights shall be guaranteed.

Article 105 — Persons with Disabilities:

Persons with disabilities shall receive social support and necessary services.

Article 106 — Older Persons:

Services and social support shall be provided for older persons.

Article 107 — Family Support and Returnees to the Country:

Families in need shall receive social and economic support.

Article 108 — Childcare:

Public centers for the keeping and care of children shall be established.

Article 109 — Social Insurance:

A general social-insurance system shall be established.

Article 110 — Fight against Poverty:

A national program for the reduction and eradication of poverty shall be created, and poverty indicators shall be measured regularly.

Chapter Sixteen — Women and the Family:

Article 111 — Equality of Women and Men:

Women and men enjoy equal political, economic, social, and cultural rights.

Article 112 — Women's Political Participation:

The participation of women in political and state institutions shall be guaranteed.

Article 113 — Equal Pay:

Equal pay shall be paid for equal work.

Article 114 — Education of Girls:

Education for girls at all levels is unrestricted, free of charge, and guaranteed.

Article 115 — Marriage:

Marriage is valid only with the free consent of both parties. Women shall have the right to divorce and the right to abortion.

Article 116 — Child Marriage:

Child marriage is prohibited and is a crime. No person, family, official, or religious institution has the right to compel a child to marry.

Article 117 — Sale and Trafficking of Girls:

The sale, purchase, transaction, exchange, or transfer of girls in return for money, land, debt, the settlement of a dispute, forced marriage, or any material or non-material benefit is prohibited and is a crime. Trafficking in girls and women and their use as a means of transaction or dispute resolution are likewise crimes.

Article 118 — Support for Victims:

Victims of forced marriage, child marriage, the sale of girls, and trafficking must have access to safe shelter, health services, education, legal support, and the opportunity for an independent return to social life.

Article 119 — Violence against Women:

Physical, sexual, psychological, economic, and social violence against women is a crime.

Article 120 — Economic Equality:

Women have equal rights in ownership, inheritance, work, education, and economic participation.

Article 121 — Elimination of Historical Oppression:

The state shall implement special programs to remove historical and social obstacles to women's advancement.

Chapter Seventeen — Children and Youth:

Article 122 — Children's Rights:

The rights of the child and the child's physical, psychological, and social security shall be guaranteed.

Article 123 — Child Labor:

Child labor is prohibited.

Article 124 — Youth Education:

General and technical education for young people shall be developed.

Article 125 — Youth Employment:

A national program shall be created for the employment and skills training of young people.

Article 126 — Sports:

Public sports and state sports facilities shall be developed.

Article 127 — Youth Participation:

Young people shall participate in councils, social institutions, and development programs.

Article 128 — Fight against Narcotics:

The fight against narcotics shall be founded on prevention, education, treatment, and combating trafficking.

Article 129 — Cultural Development:

The cultural, scientific, and intellectual development of young people shall be supported.

Article 130 — Equal Opportunity:

Equal educational and social opportunities shall be provided for all young people.

Article 131 — Support for Talents:

Scientific, artistic, athletic, and technical talents shall be supported.

Article 132 — Role of Young People:

Young people are regarded as a fundamental force in the country's scientific, economic, and social renewal.

Chapter Eighteen — National, Linguistic, and Cultural Equality:

Article 133 — National Equality:

All nationalities and ethnic groups of the country enjoy equal rights.

Article 134 — Languages:

The languages of the country have equal rights, and the teaching and development of local languages shall be supported.

Article 135 — Culture and Heritage:

Local cultures, historical heritage, and positive traditions shall be preserved and supported.

Chapter Nineteen — Culture and Media:

Article 136 — Public Culture:

The state shall develop scientific, humanistic, and social culture.

Article 137 — Public Media:

Public media shall operate in the service of education, social consciousness, and the interests of the people.

Article 138 — Art and Literature:

Freedom of artistic and literary activity and support for artists and writers shall be guaranteed.

Article 139 — Cultural Heritage:

Historical monuments and cultural heritage shall be protected.

Article 140 — Scientific Culture:

Through education and social consciousness, the state shall combat illiteracy, superstition, ignorance, prejudice, and hatred.

Chapter Twenty — Science, Technology, Artificial Intelligence, and Robotics:

Article 141 — Technological Development:

A national program for technological development shall be formulated.

Article 142 — Artificial Intelligence:

Artificial intelligence shall be applied in education, health, production, agriculture, resource management, and the resolution of social problems.

Article 143 — Robotics:

Robots shall be used to increase productivity and reduce dangerous, arduous, and wearing work.

Article 144 — Technology in the Service of the People:

Knowledge and technology produced with public funds must primarily serve the public interest.

Chapter Twenty-One — Environment:

Article 145 — Environmental Protection:

Protection of the environment and natural resources is the duty of the state and society.

Article 146 — Clean Energy:

Renewable and clean energy shall be developed.

Article 147 — Pollution Reduction:

Programs to reduce air, water, and soil pollution shall be implemented.

Article 148 — Ecological Balance:

Ecological balance and biodiversity shall be preserved.

Article 149 — Green City:

Green cities, public transportation, green space, water management, and energy efficiency shall be developed.

Chapter Twenty-Two — Urban and Rural Development:

Article 150 — Balanced Development:

The development of cities and villages must be balanced.

Article 151 — Urban Planning:

Urban planning shall be carried out on the basis of population, social housing, public services, transportation, and the environment.

Article 152 — Rural Services:

Villages shall receive infrastructure and social services.

Article 153 — Reducing Forced Migration:

Poverty and the lack of services must not cause the forced migration of people from villages and deprived areas.

Chapter Twenty-Three — Foreign Policy:

Article 154 — Independent Foreign Policy:

An independent foreign policy based on national interests shall be pursued.

Article 155 — Opposition to Imperialism:

The country opposes colonialism, imperialism, domination, political and economic dependency, and foreign imposition.

Article 156 — International Solidarity and Working-Class Internationalism:

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan — New Standard-Bearers, with steadfast commitment to the golden principle of working-class internationalism, regards itself as part of the common struggle of the workers, working people, and oppressed peoples of the world against imperialism, exploitation, and class oppression. The Party supports the liberation, anti-imperialist, and justice-seeking struggles of peoples; workers' and popular movements; left and democratic forces; and communist and Marxist parties in the region and throughout the world. It struggles to consolidate revolutionary solidarity and expand close and lasting relations with fraternal parties and like-minded forces, and considers the internationalist unity of progressive forces an essential necessity for the liberation of working people and the establishment of a world free of exploitation and oppression.

Article 157 — Foreign Economic Relations:

Foreign economic relations shall be founded on mutual benefit, technology transfer, domestic development, and prevention of the plundering of resources.

Chapter Twenty-Four — The National Question and Territorial Integrity:

Article 158 — Voluntary Unity:

National unity shall be founded on equality, justice, and the political participation of the people.

Article 159 — Resolution of the National Question:

National questions shall be resolved through legal equality, balanced development, and political participation.

Article 160 — The Durand Question:

The Durand question shall be pursued through political, historical, and diplomatic means and on the basis of the will of the people concerned by the question.

Article 161 — Territorial Integrity:

The territorial integrity of Afghanistan shall be preserved.

Article 162 — Regional Cooperation:

Regional economic, cultural, and scientific cooperation shall be developed.

Article 163 — Regional Peace:

Afghanistan seeks peace, good neighborliness, and regional cooperation.

Chapter Twenty-Five — Transition to Socialism:

Article 164 — Process of Transition:

The transition to socialism is a historical and social process that must take place on the basis of Afghanistan's actual conditions, the development of the productive forces, and the country's economic capacity.

Article 165 — Economy of the Transitional Period:

During the transition to socialism, public, state, and cooperative ownership shall have a central role in the fundamental sectors of the economy, while private activity in permitted sectors may continue within the framework of the law.

The state is obliged to prevent private monopoly over natural resources, strategic industries, energy, the banking system, and other vital sectors of the economy.

The economic policy of the transitional period must be organized in such a way that the weight of social and public ownership gradually increases and the material foundations of exploitation are reduced.

Article 166 — Development of the Productive Forces:

The development of industry, agriculture, science, technology, and human resources is the basis of the transition to socialism.

Article 167 — Reduction of Inequality:

Economic and social inequality shall be reduced gradually.

Article 168 — Social Education:

Scientific, social, and political education and courses in Marxism–Leninism shall be developed to raise social consciousness and train cadres.

Chapter Twenty-Six — Socialist System:

Article 169 — Social Ownership:

The principal means of production in the socialist system shall be under social ownership.

Article 170 — Socialist Planning:

The socialist economy shall be organized on the basis of national programs and social needs.

Article 171 — Distribution in the First Stage of Socialism:

In the first stage of socialism, the fundamental principle of distribution is according to work and the degree of social contribution; however, basic goods and services such as education, health, social services, basic water and electricity, social housing, and other public needs may be made available to the people outside the direct wage relationship and either free of charge or through social provision.

As productive capacity and social abundance increase, the share of needs provided free of charge shall increase.

Article 172 — Free Services:

Education, health, necessary water and electricity, social services, social housing, and other basic public services shall be provided either free of charge or through social provision.

Article 173 — Return of Social Wealth to the People:

Income derived from public ownership, natural resources, national industries, and social institutions must be returned to the people through free services, public subsidies, coupons or social credit, housing programs, education, health, nutrition, transportation, and other social services.

The aim of this system is that wealth produced by society, rather than accumulating in the hands of a minority, be used to increase public welfare and develop the productive forces.

Article 174 — Gradual Reduction of Monetary and Commodity Relations:

Reducing the role of money and commodity relations will be possible only with the development of the productive forces, increased production, the provision of an abundance of goods and services, the expansion of social ownership, and the creation of the capacity required for distribution according to need. Therefore, during the transition period, money and the market may be used, under social regulation and national planning, in sectors where their existence remains necessary, and their role shall gradually decline in proportion to the growth of the social economy.

Article 175 — Socialist Culture:

Socialist culture shall be founded on cooperation, solidarity, social labor, science, equality, and collective responsibility.

Chapter Twenty-Seven — Communist Horizon:

Article 176 — Classless Society:

The ultimate historical goal is to create a society without exploiting and exploited classes.

Article 177 — Gradual Withering Away of the State:

With the elimination of classes and the material conditions of domination and exploitation, the state, as an instrument of class domination, shall gradually lose its historical function and wither away.

Article 178 — Human World Society:

With the growth of cooperation among human societies, political borders shall gradually lose their separating and competitive role.

Article 179 — Distribution According to Need:

When society reaches a high level of material abundance, the principle of distribution according to need shall replace commodity and monetary relations.

Article 180 — Technology and Human Liberation:

Artificial intelligence, robotics, and future technologies must be used toward liberating human beings from wearing and dangerous work and providing the opportunity for the development of human talents.

Chapter Twenty-Eight — Principles for Implementing the Program:

Article 181 — Implementation Programs:

All goals of this manifesto shall be implemented through short-, medium-, and long-term programs, and each program must have objectives, resources, a responsible institution, a timetable, and measurable indicators.

Article 182 — Evaluation and Oversight:

Implementation of the programs shall be evaluated every year, and the Revolutionary Council and the Independent Inspection and Audit Commission shall oversee program implementation and the use of the public budget and report thereon to the people.

Article 183 — Social Participation:

Implementation of the program shall take place with the participation of councils, workers, peasants, women, young people, intellectuals, specialists, and social organizations.

Article 184 — Historical Goal:

The ultimate goal of the program is to create a society without exploitation, discrimination, and widespread poverty, and to move society gradually and consciously toward socialism and the communist horizon.

Article 185 — Popular Uprising and Resistance to Despotism:

Our Party remains faithful to the principles of peaceful struggle and opposes aggression and anarchism. We believe that the best method of struggle is to intensify political and organizational work among the masses, raise political and ideological awareness among the people—particularly Party members—and train cadres who are militant, conscious, versed in revolutionary scientific theory, and faithful to the noble ideals of Marxism.

However, this in no way means that we consider armed and military struggle against reactionary, backward, oppressive, and murderous forces to be entirely out of the question.

We cannot remain silent or indifferent in the face of killing, torment, torture, and injustice inflicted upon our sisters and brothers.

Taking an objective and realistic view of our Party's position under current conditions, the Party's leadership committee has not issued an order for an armed and military uprising in the country; rather, it emphasizes and focuses on deepening and expanding political and educational work among the people and within the Party's ranks.

Considering changes in conditions and the balance of forces, the Party does not rule out the possibility of establishing a military commission and an army.

Final Principle!

This manifesto is a document for the conscious organization of society and for responding to the real needs of the people. Its implementing policies must evolve on the basis of Afghanistan's specific conditions, historical experience, science, technology, and the actual results of program implementation.

The measure of the program's success is its effect on the lives of the people, the development of the productive forces, the reduction of exploitation and inequality, the expansion of science and culture, increased production, and the strengthening of national independence.

People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan — New Standard-Bearers