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# An Assessment of the Foreign Trade Structure of Afghanistan Agricultural Products

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Makale Künyesi	Abstract
Derleme / Review	Agriculture is traditionally a driving force of the Afghan economy with the majority of the Afghans rely on agriculture to feed their families and earn a livelihood. Prior to Taliban rule and decades of conflict, Afghanistan
<b>Sorumlu Yazar /</b> Corresponding Author M. Metin ARTUKOĞLU metin.artukoglu@ege.edu.tr	was not only able to produce enough food for its own population but also exported many agricultural products, such as almonds, pomegranates, pistachios, raisins, apricotsetc. Nevertheless, agriculture is now on the way to recovery. This paper aims at assessing the role of agriculture in Afghanistan's economy and recent agriculture in development after Taliban Government. The paper further highlights the place and importance of agriculture in Afghanistan foreign trade, economy in general, international trade status and importance of the geographical
Geliş Tarihi / Received: 20.05.2019 Kabul Tarihi / Accepted: 29.10.2019	position including its natural resources for future development. Hence, the study aid importance of the geographical position including its natural resources for future development. Hence, the study is based on secondary data obtained from various sources such as government websites, reports, journals and others. According to the finding, the agricultural products contributed about 73.3 % to the total export in Afghanistan as of 2016 with 61.6% labor force engaged in this sector. It is one of the major contributors to the country's gross domestic product (GDP) after service which was 19.88% in 2018. Simulations with an economy wide model show that by
Tarım Ekonomisi Dergisi Cilt: 25 Sayı:2 Sayfa: 267-274 Turkish Journal of Agricultural Economics Volume: 25 Issue: 2 Page: 267-274	raising productivity in agriculture, Afghanistan could raise its GDP growth rate to 5.8 percent annually, on average, over the next ten years. Therefore, it is essential for Afghanistan to make better use of it geographical location opportunities in the region to realize its potential for regional and international trade. <b>Keywords:</b> Afghanistan, Agriculture, Agricultural Economics, Economy, Trade, Foreign Trade.
DOI 10.24181/tarekoder.567891	Afganistan Tarım Ürünleri Dış Ticaret Yapısına İlişkin Bir Değerlendirme Özet
	Tarım geleneksel olarak Afgan ekonomisinin itici gücüdür. Afganların çoğunluğu ailelerini beslemek ve geçim elde etmek için tarıma güveniyor. Taliban yönetimi ve on yıllarca süren çatışma döneminden önce Afganistan, yalnızca kendi nüfusu için yeterli yiyecek üretmekle kalmayıp aynı zamanda badem, nar, antep fıstığı, kuru üzüm, kayısı vb. gibi birçok tarımsal ürünü de ihraç ediyordu. Bununla birlikte, tarım şimdi daha da iyileşme yolundadır. Bu makale, Afganistan'ın ekonomisindeki tarımın rolünü ve Taliban Hükümeti'nden sonraki son tarımsal gelişmeyi değerlendirmeyi amaçlamaktadır. Raporda ayrıca, Afganistan dış ticaretinde tarımın yeri ve önemi, genel olarak ekonomi, uluslararası ticaret durumu ve gelecekteki kalkınma için doğal kaynakları içeren coğrafi konumun önemi vurgulanmaktadır. Bu nedenle, çalışma devlet web siteleri, raporlar, dergiler ve diğer kaynaklar gibi çeşitli kaynaklardan elde edilen ikincil verilere dayanmaktadır. Bulguya göre tarım ürünleri, 2016'dan itibaren Afganistan'daki toplam ihracatın yaklaşık %73,3'ünü, bu sektörde çalışanların %61,6'sını oluşturmuştur. 2018'de %19,88 olan hizmet sonrası ülkenin gayri safi yurt içi hasılasına(GSYİH) en büyük katkılardan biri de tarımdır. Ekonomi genelinde bir model olan simülasyonlar, Afganistan'ın tarımda üretkenliği artırarak, GSYİH büyüme oranını önümüzdeki on yılda yıllık ortalama yüzde 5,8'e yükseltebileceğini göstermektedir. Bu nedenle Afganistan'ın, bölgedeki coğrafi konum fırsatlarından daha iyi yaarlanabilmesi için bölgesel ve uluslararası ticaret potansiyelini artırması şarttır. <b>Anahtar kelimeler:</b> Afganistan, Tarım, Tarım Ekonomisi, Ekonomi, Ticaret, Dış Ticaret.

### **1.INTRODUCTION**

Afghanistan is a mountainous and lanlocked country located in the Central Asian and Middle Eastern countries and it frequently experiences droughts. It has surface area of about 647500 square kilometers and population of 31.6 million. It is bordered by Iran in the west, Pakistan in the south and east, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan in the north and China in the far northeast (NSIA, 2019, Razia's Ray of Hope Foundation, 2018; Global Edge, 2018).

The government system is an Islamic Republic; the chief of state and head of government is the president. Afghanistan has a controlled economic system in which the central government directs the economy regarding the production and distribution of goods.

The majority of the Afghans rely on agriculture to feed their families and earn a livelihood. About 12% of the land is arable and less than 6% is currently cultivated (Nations Encyclopedia, 2009).

Agriculture is traditionally a driving force of the Afghan economy. Prior to Taliban rule and decades of conflict, Afghanistan was not only able to produce enough food for its own population but also exported many agricultural products, such as almonds, pomegranates, pistachios, raisins, and apricots. Nevertheless, agriculture is now on the way to recovery, mainly through international aid, and continues to be the main source of income for many households (Alawwalbank, 2019).

Agriculture is the backbone of the Afghan economy, the contributions of agriculture to the country's gross demotic product (GDP) was 19.88% in 2018 (Table 1); while the labor force engaged in this sector is around 61.6% a little less than 40% of the male and two thirds of female workforce (Alawwalbank, 2019). Afghanistan produces organic fruits, nuts, grain, vegetables and livestock products including cashmere, skin, wool, and a significant amount of these commodities is moving towards the export market. Agriculture represents about one-quarter of national GDP and is the second largest sector after services. Over 70% of the poor populations are living in rural areas, and agriculture plays a significant role in their livelihoods. The majority of Afghan farms are very small, and their productivity has been low over the past years to satisfy the food needs of their household, with limited agricultural production entering commercial marketing channels, hence resulting into the overall trade account deficit. The agricultural sector is entirely run by private enterprises, including farmers, cooperatives, input suppliers, herders, agribusiness processors, and exporters (Muradi, 2018;Bassam 2016).

Afghanistan has long been suffering from what Paul Collier describes in his book The Bottom Billion as a "landlocked trap" a landlocked situation with bad neighbors. Afghanistan's lack of direct access to the sea and a capricious political relationship with neighboring Pakistan has marginalized the country from the international trade network, thereby hampering economic growth, surging unemployment, and proliferating poverty (Majidyar, 2018).

In this study, Afghanistan foreign trade and foreign trade of major products have been evaluated in general. The major problems of Afghanistan foreign trade are investigated and the related solutions have further been proposed in this study. According to the 18-year data obtained in the study for Afghanistan, foreign trade and economy in general have been analyzed and the calculations have been presented in %.

### 2. AFGHANISTAN ECONOMY IN GENERAL

Afghanistan is a country located in the heart of the continent of Asia and one of the richest countries in the world in terms of mineral reserves. The country's natural resources remain intact and The Afghanistan Ministry of Mines and Petroleum has estimated that the country's reserves are estimated at \$3 trillion.

Mineral reserves in Afghanistan are the biggest hope for the country's economic growth, so that Afghanistan can benefit from economic opportunity and economic dependence (AIN, 2018).

The Afghan government has named the period 2014-2024 as a transformation decade and the government is trying to change the country's current situation, and Afghanistan's minerals will be replaced by foreign aid.

Afghanistan has natural resources such as natural gas, petroleum, gold, coal, copper, chromite, talc, barite, sulfur, lead, zinc, iron, lithium, niobium, cobalt, salt, precious and semi-precious stones (lapis lazuli, emerald) etc. which by mining these minerals, Afghanistan will be one of the strongest minerals exporting countries in the world (AIN, 2018).

Afghanistan Industries include - small-scale textiles, soap, furniture, footwear, fertilizer, cement production, hand-woven carpets, wool, and Agricultural products include - Afyon, cereals, pulses, fresh and dry fruits, vegetables, cotton, saffron etc.

In recent years, Afghanistan has experienced a sharp decline in economic growth. The GDP growth decreased from 20.6 percent in 2009 to 1 percent in 2018 showing an average growth rate of 6.79 percent from 2003 to 2018 (Table 1). Economic growth is calculated as the percent change in the GDP from one year to the next. It measures whether production has increased or decreased, and by how much. The output growth has slowed down to an estimated 1.0 percent in 2018, from 2.7 percent in the previous year. The decline was because of a severe drought that affected wheat production and livestock pasture and, heightened political uncertainty which dampened business confidence (The World Bank, 2019).

The Growth is expected to be raised further to 3% in 2019 and 5% by 2020 amid a recovery in agriculture largely due to improved weather conditions but this is dependent on improved stability and delivery of key reforms (Societe Generale, 2019).

Afghanistan GDP has been rising over the years which was recorded at \$19.88 billion in 2018. The GDP value of Afghanistan represents 0.03 percent of the world economy. GDP in Afghanistan reached an all-time high of \$20.62 Billion in 2017 and a record low of \$4.55 Billion in 2003 (Table 1). GDP share of Agriculture decreased to 19.88% in 2018 from 37.42% in 2003(Table 1).

The Afghan economy shows signs of recovery, with a population growth of 2.14% (NSIA, 2018), current levels of economic growth implies a decline in per capita income. Nevertheless, if the illegal productions of poppy were taken into account, growth would be much higher. The poppy industry represents 90% of worldwide production and generates \$2 billion in yearly revenues for the country. Inflation fell to 3% in 2018, lower than the initial forecast of 5%, but it is expected to rise to 4% in 2019, and further to 5% in 2020 (Gov.Uk, 2019). The highest Inflation level of 26.42% was shown in 2008 whereas the lowest was in 2015 with a value of -0.66% (Table 1).

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Years	GDP Billion \$	GDP Growth %	Agri % of GDP	İnflation (%)	Population (Mn)	Annual changes (%)
2003	4.55	8.70	37.42		22.20	1.83
2004	5.15	0.70	29.72	16.36	23.20	4.50
2005	6.17	11.80	31.11	10.57	23.60	1.72
2006	6.93	5.40	28.64	6.79	24.10	2.12
2007	8.56	13.30	30.11	8.68	24.50	1.66
2008	10.30	3.90	24.89	26.42	25.00	2.04
2009	12.07	20.60	29.30	-6.81	25.50	2.00
2010	15.33	8.40	26.21	2.18	26.00	1.96
2011	17.89	6.50	23.74	11.8	26.50	1.92
2012	20.29	14.00	24.39	6.44	27.00	1.89
2013	20.17	5.70	22.81	7.39	27.50	1.85
2014	20.62	2.70	22.14	4.67	28.10	2.18
2015	20.06	1.00	20.63	-0.66	28.60	1.78
2016	19.43	2.20	21.08	4.38	29.20	2.10
2017	20.24	2.70	20.47	4.98	29.70	1.71
2018	19.36	1.00	19.88	3.00	31.60	6.40

 Table 1. GDP Development, Population And Inflation In Afghanistan

Sources: 1) Country Economy, 2018.

2) AOEA, 2017.

3) The Global Economy, 2017.

4) NSIA, 2019.

### 3. AFGHANISTAN GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Afghanistan has always been geographically considered as a country of key importance in the Middle East and Central Asia. The use of this exceptional opportunity for the prosperity of transit, which is a source of value for money, can be one of the vital pillars of the Afghan government.

History of Afghanistan has witnessed its special position on the path to the ancient Silk Road, which has been connecting Europe and Asia for more than 3000 years, and has helped to shift the wealth and ideas to various continents. Afghanistan is important because of its strategic location as a link between the Indian subcontinent, Central Asia and the Persian Gulf. It has a natural advantage to facilitate trade and transit from Central Asia to South Asia and from Central Asia to the Indian Ocean as a corridor of transportation.

At one time, the region known as the "Afghanistan" is a communication point in the core of the global economy, a major example of which is the Silk Road, which is used as the main means of commercial relations between the East and the West. Therefore, Afghanistan, due to its strategic location as a transit route between the Indian subcontinent, Central Asia and the Gulf, is of geopolitical and economic importance and has a natural advantage in facilitating trade and energy transfer from Central Asia, which has high energy reserves (Kakal, 2016).

After the collapse of the Taliban Government in 2001, Afghanistan opened up to international trade and has signed numbers of agreements on trade, transit, transport and investment with several countries and regional organizations.

For example, one of these agreements, which will provide new opportunities and will solve the trade problems of Afghanistan in a way, and for the first time in history, has brought Afghanistan to the sea and expelled it from the landlocked is Chabahar Port.

Since the transfer of commercial property from the Karachi port has always been detrimental to Afghan businessmen because of the hostile policies of the Pakistani state, this dependence was largely ended by the opening of the Chabahar port. The Chabahar port located in Sistan and Baluchestan province of Iran, due to its strategic location, is the closest route for Central Asian countries and Afghanistan to free-flowing waters. Chabahar is a good opportunity for Afghanistan to develop economically for easy and affordable maintenance of foreign markets and the supply of domestic products for the growth of domestic production. The Chabahar port will help domestic exporters transfer their products in less time, as well as lower transit costs, to the Chabahar free trade zone.

One of the major problems for Afghan exporters from the Karachi port was that their products, in particular horticultural products, such as fresh fruit, before reaching the port of Karachi and the untimely stoppage of merchants, caused the collapse of this non-traded Afghan business district. It was denied, while the transit distance from Charbahar to Zarang port is 711 km, whereas the distance from port of Karachi to Jalal-Abad is more than 1,000 km.

Experience has shown that the Pakistani government has been using the aggressive policies against the Afghan government to use this transit route to pressurize the Afghan government and it has tried to use its commercial policy to exert political pressure impose on the government of Afghanistan. As a matter of fact, he urged the Afghan government to go out of this deadlock in transit of goods, an alternative to transferring its goods, so that it would not be forced to accept Pakistan's political expectations for the openness of the transit route of the port of Karachi. The use of the Chabahar port as a transit route for Afghanistan will be much more reliable and less risky than the port of Karachi, which will increase Afghanistan's exports.

Under the agreement reached between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Afghanistan, the Iranian government released a 250-acre land plots in Chabahar's commercial port on a fifty (50) years lease to the Afghan government. This port area has been leased for Afghan exporters and businessmen to create and establish infrastructure, Factories and warehouses for transferring their business property to the Chabahar port. The Afghan businessmen and exporters would either be able to produce their own products in that port or, by storing the products from the agriculture and horticulture sector in cold stores, to timely produce their products under the name and the title of their manufacturing companies to the global market. This suggests that the above facilities would significantly increase the export volume of Afghanistan. As Afghanistan's products transported from Pakistan are repackaged in Pakistan, it is being offered to international markets, not Afghanistan. (Kakal, 2016).

Despite being landlocked, Afghanistan has the potential to use its unique geographical position as a 'land bridge' linking Central and South Asia, whilst making use of its substantial natural resources. A successful regional framework can deliver on the region's trade, transport, and transit potential and provide specific benefits such as:

- Economies of scale to increase local supply capacity and improve access to markets;

- Integrated or harmonized treatment of trans-boundary issues such as trade, trade facilitation, regulatory frameworks and policies, and regional infrastructure; and

- Management of shared natural resources.

Regional integration is a key part of managing a successful transition in Afghanistan; it promotes increased trade and connectivity within the region, creates links across the region to external markets and also enables broader integration with large regional markets and the global economy (ESCAP, 2016).

Afghanistan usually trades with its neighbors; Pakistan was its major trade partner during last years. The aggregate trade between the two countries peaked at \$2.7 billion during 2014-2015. Afghan traders have used Pakistan as a route to access the gigantic Indian market. However, in the past few years, due to a turbulent political relationship between the South Asian neighbors, Pakistan has imposed several superfluous regulatory barriers to trade and shut down the Chaman and Torkham borders on multiple occasions. Such policies plummeted Pakistan's trade relationship with Afghanistan reducing the bilateral trade to \$500 million and impeded Afghan traders' access to the Indian market. Thus, it was imperative for the Afghan government to diversify its trading partners and abrogate Pakistan's intrusive impact on trade with India. (Majidyar, 2018).

India receives nearly half of Afghan exports, followed by Pakistan, United Arab Emirates, Iran and china. The main supplier of goods to Afghanistan is china followed by Iran, Pakistan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. The poor state of its infrastructure, a legal and business framework which is still under development and continued insecurity act as de facto trade barriers. Nonetheless, at the end of 2015, Afghanistan's application to join the WTO was approved by its member states. Furthermore, the IMF and Afghanistan have been working to establish economic policies to improve the country's trade balance since 2010 (European Union, 2019).

The Afghanistan government goal is to change Afghanistan to an exporter country; hence to achieve its goal, the Afghan government took some actions to develop trade with world, Central Asia and Iran which was so successful by

- · Launching eight air corridor with different countries and Europe
- · Opening Lapis Lazuli trade route through Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey to Europe
- · Inaugurating of Lapis Lazuli railway between Afghanistan and Turkmenistan
- · Opening of Chabahar port and
- · Opening of new railway linking China to Afghanistan via Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan

In June 2017, the Afghan government launched the first air corridor to India. Following the success of the first air corridor project; the Afghan government expanded it at an impressive rate to several other countries, framing it as "National Air Corridor Program" (Majidyar, 2018).

# 3.1 Export

Afghanistan traditionally exports items with low value, such as dry and fresh fruits, cereals, pulses, non-alcoholic beverages, medical plants, hand-woven carpets, rugs, wool, silk, cotton, leather, felt, coal, precious and semi-precious stone.

According to Afghan authorities, their exports increased significantly from \$137.3 million in 2000 to \$885 million in 2018 (Table 5) and expected to be increased to \$1.5 and \$2 billion in 2019 and 2020 respectively.

Exports in Afghanistan increased to \$885 Million in 2018 from \$700 Million in 2017which show a growth of 26.43% also exports in Afghanistan reached an average of \$411 Million between 2000 and 2018, reaching an all-time high of \$885 Million in 2018 and a record low of \$68 Million in 2001.

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According to European Commission, 2018, Afghanistan top five export partners with its share in % are given in the table 2.

Partners	Share in %
India	41.6
Pakistan	26.9
United Arab Emirates	16
Iran	3.1
China	3.0

Table 2. The Main Export Partners of Afghanistan

Source: European Union, 2018

The main exports of Afghanistan in 2016 were agricultural products 73.3% of total export, fuels and mining products 1.1%, manufacturing 6.6% and others is 19% (European Union, 2018).

As it has discussed before that Afghanistan mostly export agricultural products specially fresh and dry fruit here is top five agricultural export of Afghanistan with its quantity in ton and share of export in % (Table 3).

Products	Value (\$million)	Quantity (Ton)	Share of export (%)
Raison	69.1	68912.39	7.89
Fig	67.8	9601.80	7.75
Grape	63.7	200591.64	7.28
Pistachio	35.7	2940.82	4.08
Almond	33.5	12870.79	3.83

3.2 Imports

Afghanistan's main imports are food, textile, machinery and petroleum products. The main import partners with its shares in % includes table 4 (European Union, 2019).

Table 4. The Main Import Partners of Af
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Partners	Share in %
China	24.8
Iran	18.5
Pakistan	14.6
Kazakistan	9.7
Uzbekistan	7.2

Source: European Union, 2019

Imports in Afghanistan increased from \$7384.2 million to \$7406.6 million in 2018 but decreased to \$6534.1 million in 2016. While in fiscal year 2000 the imports in Afghanistan amounted to \$1176 million, whereas in 2012 the country recorded the highest ever level of \$9096 million (Table 5).

Years	Export (M \$)	Export % Of GDP	Export Changes (%)	İmport (M \$)	İmport % Of GDP	İmport Changes (%)	Share of trade on GDP (%)	Trade balance	Ratio of export/ import
2000	137.30	3.89	-	1176.00	33.30	-	-	-1038.70	11.68
2001	68.00	2.72	-50.47	1696.00	67.84	44.22	-	-1628.00	4.01
2002	100.00	2.29	47.06	2452.00	56.11	44.58	-	-2352.00	4.08
2003	144.00	3.16	44.00	2101.00	46.18	-14.31	49.34	-1957.00	6.85
2004	305.00	5.92	111.81	2177.00	42.27	3.62	48.19	-1872.00	14.01
2005	384.00	6.22	25.90	2470.70	40.04	13.49	46.27	-2086.70	15.54
2006	416.00	6.00	8.33	2744.20	39.60	11.07	45.60	-2328.20	15.16
2007	454.00	5.30	9.13	3022.00	35.30	10.12	40.61	-2568.00	15.02
2008	540.10	5.24	18.96	3019.90	29.32	-0.07	34.56	-2479.80	17.88
2009	403.40	3.34	-25.31	3336.40	27.64	10.48	30.98	-2933.00	12.09
2010	388.50	2.53	-3.69	5154.30	33.62	54.49	36.16	-4765.80	7.54
2011	375.90	2.10	-3.24	6515.00	36.42	26.40	38.52	-6139.10	5.77
2012	428.90	2.11	14.10	9096.00	44.83	39.62	46.94	-8667.10	4.72
2013	515.00	2.55	20.07	8554.40	42.41	-5.95	44.96	-8039.40	6.02
2014	570.50	2.77	10.78	7729.20	37.48	-9.65	40.25	-7158.70	7.38
2015	571.40	2.85	0.16	7722.90	38.50	-0.08	41.35	-7151.50	7.40
2016	596.50	3.07	4.39	6534.10	33.63	-15.39	36.70	-5937.60	9.13
2017	700.00	3.46	17.35	7384.2	36.48	13.01	40.59	-6684.20	9.48
2018	885.00	4.57	26.43	7406.59	38.26	0.30	42.83	-6521.59	11.95

# Table 5. Afghanistan Trade Status

Sources: 1-Country Economy, 2018

2-NSIA, 2019

The share of trade in GDP fell gradually over the period 2003-2018, only to pick up in 2012 by rising to 46.94% also show a little high in 2018 by 42.83% (Table 5).

# Table 6. The Major Agricultural İmports Of Afghanitan in 2018

Products	Value (\$million )	Quantity (Ton)
wheat flour	764.5	2273029.6
rice	109.3	181318.3

Source: NSIA, 2019

Here are some important agricultural products with its production in Afghanistan.

# Table 7. Production of Some Important Agricultural Products in 2018

Products	Production (ton)
Wheat	4280776
Rice	338420
Almond	27291
Saffron	10.7
Maize	134225
Grape	923831
Pomegranet	164805
1 child grantet	101000

Source: NSIA, 2019

### 4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

From the above findings and explanation, it can be concluded that the agriculture plays an important role in the economic development of Afghanistan (Table 7). Agriculture has good potential for growth and is highly relevant to poverty reduction and job creation both on-farm and off-farm. Afghanistan has a long tradition in horticulture and livestock production, including for export. But the last three decades of conflict have brought massive destruction in production infrastructure and the country's agricultural productivity. Hence, maximizing growth in agriculture will require investing more in the expansion of irrigated land; improving the conveyance of irrigation water and the on-farm management of this water; and developing services for generating knowledge and disseminating technology. Simulations with an economy wide model show that by raising productivity in agriculture, Afghanistan could raise its GDP growth rate to 5.8 percent annually, on average, over the next ten years. An improved investment climate, predicated on improvements in security that would boost the potential for both mining and agriculture, could raise average GDP growth in this period to 6.7 percent. (Bassam, 2016)

1. In order to allow Afghanistan to escape from political regional affiliation and facilitate healthy economic development through opportunities in the region and to optimize its use of its crossroads in the region, comprehensive research should be carried out and favorable environments should be fined

2. The establishment of the Chabahar Port is a new opportunity to help Afghanistan to facilitate trade and transit and to leave Pakistani transit affiliation.

3. Afghanistan will continue to enjoy a good position in facilitating the trade and transit of the region in the future. As the United Arab Emirates became a global trade center during the decade of 1989-1999, Afghanistan would also become a regional trade center.

4. The big challenge for Afghanistan in recent years was the lack of access to sea, which would largely exclude trade and transit trade in the region from Afghanistan. But the Chabahar port will benefit Afghanistan from all the benefits of a maritime country (Kakal, 2016).

Afghanistan can make better use of opportunities in the region and realizing the potential for regional trade and integration requires action on (ESCAP, 2016):

- · Joining regional cooperation agencies,
- · Improving trade policies
- $\cdot$  Facilitating trade and transit
- · Investing in infrastructure and connectivity
- · Creating the right regional business environment
- Strengthening regional economic cooperation

Eanagurating of air trade corridor, chabahar port, lapis lazuli route, Afghanistan China and Afghanitan Turkmenistan rail way in these recent years is a big hope for imroving of trade between Afghanistan, region and europe also being the base for achieving of national goal changing of Afghanistan to a exporter country.

Establishing trade corridors such as lapis lazuli trade route, Chabahar port, air trade corridors, railway and transit will bring lots of benefits for Afghanistan, Which in turn will bring significant changes in the growth and development of Afghanistan economy and trade.

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