GLOSSARY

Abu Hanifeh-al-Numan-ibn-Thabit-ibn-Zuta Founder of Han'afi school of thought in Islam.

Adolat (Justice) Radical Islamic group in the Fergana Valley. A precursor of the IMU.

Aksakais (From Turkic white bearded old man) An elected village elder as well as any respected old man.

Al-Qaeda (The Base) Global terrorist network headed by Osama bin Laden.

Al-Wadah The newspaper which was brought out by IRP.

An-Nabhani, Sheikh Taqiuddin Filastyni (the Palestinian) Founder of the HT.

Basmachi A Turkic term that means “bandit” used by Soviets to describe both the revolt and Islamic Mujahideen who opposed the Communist system in Central Asia after 1917.

Beys A rich man, major landowner, livestock owner or money lender in Central Asia, before the October Revolution.


Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) A post-independence Commonwealth that in 2001 consisted of Armenian, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan.

Dekhkans Peasants

Dostum, Gen. Rashid Leader of the anti-Taliban United Front (also called the Northern Alliance) after the assassination of Ahmad Shah Masood and a leader of the Uzbek minority in the northern Afghanistan.

Erk (Freedom) Opposition party in Uzbekistan. A splinter group of Birlik, Erk was founded in 1990 and banned in 1992; it subsequently established the Independent Human Rights Organisation of Uzbekistan.

Hadith The body of traditions about the sayings and acts of the Prophet Muhammad that delineate proper Muslim behaviour and from along with the Koran, the basis for Sharia (Islamic law).

Haj The annual pilgrimage to Mecca, a religious rite every Muslim is required to perform at least once.

Hejab Head scarf that covers the hair and neck.

Hekmatyar, Gulbuddin Afghanistan warlord who founded the Hizb-i-Islami.

H'immatzada, Muhammad Sharif Leader of the military wing of the IRP.

Hindustani, Muhammad Rustamov Deobandi Muslim leader of an underground Islamic movement in Tajikistan during the Soviet era.

Hizb-i-Islami (Party of Islam) Most extreme party of Afghan Mujahideens formed to resist the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan; founded by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

Hizb-i-Islami-Turkistan (Islamic Party of Turkistan) reputed name change of the IMU, signifying a new mission to bring Islamic revolution to the whole of Central Asia and Xinjiang Province.

Hizb-ut-Tahrir al-Islami (HT; Party of Islamic Liberation) Fundamentalist Islamic movement that seeks, through non-violent means, to restore the caliphate and institute Sharia throughout the Muslim world.
Ibrahim, Veli First Secretary of Tatar Communist Party; executed in Crimea by Soviet authorities.

Ikhwan-ul-Muslimeen (Muslim Brotherhood) Group established in the 1930s in Egypt that advocated that colonies seek independence from their colonisers try to form Islamic states.

Imam Prayer leader at a mosque who has also acquired some religious learning and has respect and support of the community.

Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) Pakistan’s secret service.

Islam Lashkarlry (Fighters for Islam) Radical Islamic group in the Fergana Valley.

Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU) Militant Islamic group founded in 1999 by Tohrir Yuldeshev and Juma Namangani that has declared a jihad against the government of Uzbekistan.

Islamic Renaissance Party (IRP) Islamic political organisation founded in the Soviet Union in 1990, with independent branches in the Central Asian republics. The IRP is the only legal party in Tajikistan.

Jamiat-i-Islami (Islamic Party) Largest religious party in Pakistan.

Jamiat-i-Ulema Islami (JUI; Islamic Ulema Party) Pakistani organisation that supports the IMU and the Taliban.

Jihad The way an individual can become a better Muslim and be service to society; can also be a call to holy war against non-Muslims.

Jima Public consensus.

Kalym Bride price.

Khilafat (Caliphate) The Islamic state established by the successors to The Prophet Muhammad that in the early Islamic period after His death united all Muslim lands under a single Caliph (Khalifa), literally “successor to The Prophet”.

Kulaks Russian rich peasant bourgeois who became rich by predatory exploitation, loan sharking and speculation.

Kurultay Congress of Muslims of Central Asia.

Laden, Osama bin Exiled Saudi Arabian militant, head of Al-Qaeda.

Lali Badakhshan Party of the Pamiri Tajiks who sought greater autonomy during the Tajik civil war.

Lashkar-i-Jhangvi Extremist Pakistani anti-Shia group.

Madrassa School where students study Islamic subjects, Islamic law, and the Koran.

Masood, Ahmad Shah, Defence Minister of Afghanistan until the Taliban takeover; leader of the anti-Taliban forces (the United Front) after 1997; assassinated in September 2001.

Mujahideen Fighter who undertakes jihad for Islam.

Mullah Traditional Islamic prayer leader at a mosque.

Nabiev, Rakhmon, President of Tajikistan, 1991-92; although Tajikistan now has a coalition government, the United Nations still recognises Nabiev as President.

Nahzar-i-Islami (Islamic Knowledge) Illegal Tajik Islamic educational organisation, founded by Sayed Abdullah Nuri.

Namangani, Juma Founder and military leader of the IMU.

NGO Nongovernmental Organisation.
Nomenklatura Ruling Soviet Communist elite.

Nuri, Sayed Abdullah Founder of Nahzar-i-Islami and founding member and leader of a Sufi order.

Pir Title given to the head of a Sufi order.

Quatra-ibn-Muslim the Arab invader who was responsible for the successful infiltration of Islam into Central Asia.

Qyias Analogy.

Ra'uy Private opinion.

Rabbani, Burhanuddin President of Afghanistan, 1992-96.

Shanghai Five Group of five countries (China, Russia, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan) that share common borders and are pledged to meet at summit level annually. In 2000 renamed the Shanghai Forum, with Uzbekistan added as a country with observer status. In 2001, renamed Shanghai Cooperation Organisation; Uzbekistan was made a member, and various other countries were given observer status.

Sharia The Islamic legal, system and code based on the Koran and the hadith of the Prophet Muhammad.

Shia Islam The sect of Islam found mainly in Iran and other Arab countries.

Shura Religious (Islamic) or political council.

Shura-i-Islam Counter-revolutionary organisation who led Basmachi revolt.

Shura-i-Ulema Counter-revolutionary organisation who led Basmachi revolt.

Sipahi-i-Sahaba Extremist Pakistani anti-Shia group.

Solih, Muhammad (pseudonym of Salay Madaminov) Poet and exiled leader of Erk.

Sufi Islam Islamic mysticism or the practioner of mysticism.

Sunni Islam The majority sect of Islam.

Tariqa A Sufi religious order.

Tauba (Repentance) Radical Islamic group in the Fergana Valley.

Turajonzada, Akbar Grand Mufi (Qazi) of Tajikistan’s Muslims during the last year of Soviet period; IRP leader (expelled 1998); member of the coalition government of Tajikistan since 1998.

Ulema Body of scholars of Islamic theology.

Umma Islamic world community.

United Tajik Opposition (UTO) Coalition of the IRP and the nationalist Tajik parties during the Tajikistan civil war.

Volost An administrative and territorial unit in Russian from 11th through the 20th century

Wahhabi Extremist sect of Islam that originated in Saudi Arabia.

Yashmiak Veil.

Yuldeshev, Tohrir Abdouhalilovitch Founding member and leader of the IMU.

Zaloom, Sheikh Abdul Qadeem Leader and prolific author of the HT.

Zia ul Haq, Muhammad President of Pakistan, 1978-88.

Ziyoyev, Mirzo Minister in the Tajikistan government; friend of IMU leader Juma Namangani.