HEROES OR TRAITORS?

- The US Allies left behind in Afghanistan

We invited Sayed Jalai Shajjan, born 1983 in Laghman-Province of Afghanistan, anthropologist and developmentexpert to tell us about the recent history as well as his review on the current situation in Afghanistan, particularly by giving us insight to his research. He recently returned from Kabul where he conducted six months of ethnographic fieldwork for his M.A. thesis in Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Tübingen. Thereby he investigated the situation of US Allies who supported the US military against the Insurgent in the form of local interpreters. Sayad Jalal found that the Allies are left behind in Afghanistan now, and most of them face an imminent threat of being killed as a result of their service to the US Government. He conducted around 25 interviews with Interpreters in Afghanistan in both national languages (Persian and Pashto) as well as US soldiers.

Sayed Jalal Shajjan

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