

# An Examination of Master Plan Ethnicity in Urban Areas

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## Abstract

This study examines the government's approach to segregation through urban planning and the history of master planning in Kabul. The first of five master plans was created. The city of ethnic division was exacerbated by the civil war. The Pashtun, Tajik, and ethnic groups that live in three distinct zones make up the majority of the city's ethnic diversity. Starting with the initial master plan for Kabul in the continuing through the current urban design framework for Kabul, the urban planning literature and master plans for the city are examined. The authoritarian planning of the first three master plans was based on technical rather than communicative rationales. However, the city's ethnic segregation was abstractly addressed in the fourth master plan, which was developed through citizen involvement. In terms of participatory planning, the fifth master plan, the urban design framework, was a step backward by unequally distributing the future economic zones, administrative hubs, and facilities hubs it also ignored the city's ethnic segmentation. The city's ethnic segregation has been ignored in previous master plans the city approach to segregation through urban planning is not outlined in detail. The term divided city refers to a variety of phenomena in which cities are geographically separated according to ethnicity, race, income, and age. Social and ethnic segregation in western cities, civil war in Beirut, political division in Berlin, and intense inter communal conflict and violence as a result of ethnic or nationalist fractures all occur in an alarming number of cities.

**Keywords:** Ethnic segregation • Administrative hubs • Ethnicity

## Introduction

Deep intergroup conflict permeates urban arenas like Jerusalem, Belfast, Johannesburg, Nicosia, Algiers, Sarajevo, New Delhi, Beirut, Hong Kong, and Brussels. Cities serve as the focal point of unresolved nationalistic and ethnic conflict in some instances, such as Jerusalem and Belfast. These cities can become a battlefield for ethnic groups who call themselves homeland and claim the city as their own. Ethnic groups vying for an equal or proportionate share of power challenge the legitimacy of a city's political structures and decision-making guidelines. Such a pivotal city has the potential to be a significant and distinct obstacle to the success of the larger regional and national peace process. Segregation appears to be caused by disadvantage, preferences, social networks, and discrimination. The activities of individuals from minority bunches are confined by segregation and bias by the larger part bunch. Discrimination persists in everyday life, despite the fact that the majority of nations prohibit discrimination in the housing and employment markets and the public acceptance of minorities has increased. Race, religion, national origin, or any combination of these characteristics that contribute to a sense of peoplehood can distinguish or define an ethnic group. The group's members interactions with members of other collectivise within a social system also define the group. The concept, on the other hand, does not apply to the sense of community that is brought about by having a similar socioeconomic situation. It's possible that the group functions as a social unit because it has an internal concept of peoplehood or because other groups see them as distinct entities.

## Description

The ethnic group may develop as a result of moving to the city. Interest

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groups that compete with other groups for public resources are known as ethnic groupings. People feel threatened when there is conflict the threat could come in the form of assimilation or physical violence, which would take away one's cultural identity. As a consequence of this, there is frequently a pressing requirement for internal coherence in order to safeguard the cultural history of the group, and the aggregation is viewed as constantly acting in some way defensive. In overly segregated cities, minorities are typically isolated, and their segregation is linked to issues with education, employment, poverty, safety, and health care. Consequently, minority spatial segregation is frequently regarded as undesirable. Additionally, ethnically and religiously segregated settlements are easy targets for terrorist attacks in Afghanistan and other countries affected by terrorism. Terrorist groups, for instance, have targeted Kabul city's Shia minority district. Segregation as a process is as old as the history of urbanization but the most significant and influential sources on urban segregation (whether discussed in terms of ethnic, racial, cultural, or economic terms) originate in the United States of America. There are insufficient studies on urban segregation in Kabul city, and the study of urban segregation in Afghanistan has not gained traction. The country of Afghanistan is multicultural. Barth says that an ethnic group meets the following four criteria: It is defined by its own and others' definitions, shares fundamental cultural values, creates a space for social interaction, and reproduces biologically. 90% of the population of Afghanistan is made up of the four major ethnic groups. Estimating the size of an ethnic group in Afghanistan is extremely challenging due to the fluid nature of the concept of Afghan ethnicity. Seventy-five to eighty percent of Afghans are Sunnis, the majority of whom are of turbo Mongol descent make up the second majority, with Sunnis and Ismailia making up some minorities [1,2].

To create inclusive and sustainable cities, the ethnic urban landscape will present a challenge to urban planners and government policymakers here the majority of the population is connected to central province. The people have always preferred to settle in Kabul's western part. Due to its proximity to Parowan and other Tajik majority provinces, the Tajik people have preferred to settle in the north of Kabul; Due to its proximity to the Pashtun settlement provinces, it is Pashtun to the south and east of Kabul. The new Kabul master plan was developed in by the government of Afghanistan with assistance from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in response to the city's growing population. The development of a brand-new metropolitan city master plan for Kabul and connecting various parts of the city with a ring road have been the primary focuses of the plan. The city's traditional planning was

significantly altered by the master plan, which promoted citizen participation and social centrality. Notwithstanding, the arrangement has zeroed in less on the isolation of Kabul city. Without a detailed plan, it is planned to connect the new Kabul city and the current ethnic settlement equally to create an ethnically diverse new city. The Kabul municipality was unable to put it into action due to a lack of institutional authority, political will, and the required urban regulation [3-5].

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## Conclusion

The city's segregation was ignored by urban design framework (KUDF), which was a comprehensive plan for the city. Regarding public participation, the plan is a step backwards from the plan framework destroys homes and communities by ignoring the existing built environment around the corridors. The future asset arranging isn't viewed as disseminated similarly across the city for every ethnic settlement the city will become more segregated, facilities will be distributed unevenly, and the city of Kabul's interethnic conflict will get worse. The country's urban planners and policymakers should reevaluate their approach. The crucial factor of the city's ethnic segregation and how the government should deal with it were left out of the previous master plans. There is neither a straightforward strategy nor an urban policy for dividing up Kabul. The city will become more polarized as a result, which is dangerous for a sustainable future. Ethnicity has always been a contentious issue for Afghan citizens, so urban planners should prioritize ethnic inclusion. A city where various nationalities can connect with one another every day through a superior plan is required. More exploration is expected on Afghanistan's ethnic isolation; Due to the complexity of residential segmentation, the study must be continued at the regional and neighbourhood levels.

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## Conflict of interest

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

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