

**Refugee Review Tribunal  
AUSTRALIA**

**RRT RESEARCH RESPONSE**

**Research Response Number:** AFG23635  
**Country:** Afghanistan  
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Keywords: Afghanistan – Shinia - Ghuga Echa - Echa - Jangali - Nawour Toghai – Sheertab – Bashee

This response was prepared by the Country Research Section of the Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT) after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the RRT within time constraints. This response is not, and does not purport to be, conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum.

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**Questions**

1. If possible, please locate on a map Shinia.
2. Locate on a map Echa.
3. Locate on a map Ghuga Echa.
4. What are the sub-villages of Echa?
5. In particular, is there any record of Ghuga Echa, Manka, Kharpro or Naowr Thay?
6. Do we have any information on the number of houses in the Echa area?
7. Is there a stream or river running near Shinia?
8. Is there a stream or river running near Echa?
9. If so, does it have a name?
10. What mountains are near Shinia?
11. What mountains are near Echa?
12. Question deleted. (Applicant Specific)
13. How far is Jangali from Shinia/Echa?
14. How far is Nawour Toghai (or Nawr Toogha) from Echa?
15. Is it possible to locate Sheertab on a map?
16. Is it possible to locate Bashee on a map?

**RESPONSE**

1. If possible, please locate on a map Shinia.

It appears that Shinia means Shina in the Jaghuri District in the Province of Ghazni in Afghanistan. It is marked in yellow on the maps attached ('Jaghuri District – Ghazni Province – Afghanistan' 2004, AIMS, aims.org website, January <http://www.aims.org.af/maps/district/ghazni/jaghuri.pdf> - Accessed 20 June 2005 – Attachment 1; and 'Afghanistan Ghazni Province Landcover Map' 2002, AIMS website, April <http://www.aims.org.af/services/sectoral/agriculture/landcover/Ghazni.pdf> - Accessed 23 June 2005 – Attachment 3). It is located at Latitude 33.1450 and Longitude 67.2908 with Altitude of 3,069 meters. Approximate population for 7 km radius from this point stands at 3,519 (Falling Rain Genomics, Inc (undated), 'Shinah, Afghanistan Page', fallingrain.com website

<http://www.fallingrain.com/world/AF/8/Shinah.html> - Accessed 27 June 2005 – Attachment 2). No reference has been found to Shinia in the Jaghuri District of the Province of Ghazni or in the adjacent Daychopan district of the Province of Zabul in a search through the sources consulted.

## **2. Locate on a map Echa.**

No reference has been found to Echa on the maps of the Province of Ghazni or the Province of Zabul ('Jaghuri District – Ghazni Province – Afghanistan' 2004, AIMS, aims.org website, January <http://www.aims.org.af/maps/district/ghazni/jaghuri.pdf> - Accessed 20 June 2005 – Attachment 1; 'Afghanistan Ghazni Province Landcover Map' 2002, AIMS website, April <http://www.aims.org.af/services/sectoral/agriculture/landcover/Ghazni.pdf> - Accessed 23 June 2005 – Attachment 3; and 'Afghanistan Zabul Province Landcover Map' 2002, AIMS website, April. <http://www.aims.org.af/services/sectoral/agriculture/landcover/Zabul.pdf> - Accessed 20 June 2005 – Attachment 4; and 'Daychopan District – Zabul Province - Afghanistan' 2004, AIMS, aims.org website, January <http://www.aims.org.af/maps/district/zabul/daychopan.pdf> - Accessed 20 June 2005 – Attachment 5).

The only reference found was in a DIMIA document, *Jaghuri District Profile* (2001). Echa is listed as one of 'Main Towns/Villages' in the Jaghuri district without any comments on its location (DIMIA Onshore Protection 2001, *Jaghuri District Profile*, 24 January. In 2001, DIMIA compiled the document of various villages and towns in Jaghour. The information in the profile was drawn from Onshore Protection interviews with Hazara refugee applicants – Attachment 6).

## **3. Locate on a map Ghuga Echa.**

### **4. What are the sub-villages of Echa?**

### **5. In particular, is there any record of Ghuga Echa, Manka, Kharpro or Naowr Thay?**

### **6. Do we have any information on the number of houses in the Echa area?**

### **8. Is there a stream or river running near Echa?**

### **9. If so, does it have a name?**

### **11. What mountains are near Echa?**

### **13. How far is Jangali from Shinia/Echa?**

### **14. How far is Nawour Toghai (or Nawr Toogha) from Echa?**

No reference has been located to Ghuga Echa, Manka, Kharpro or Naowr Thay in a search through the sources consulted. However, it was found that Ghugha is a village in the Daychopan district of the Zabul Province ('Daychopan District – Zabul Province - Afghanistan' 2004, AIMS, aims.org website, January <http://www.aims.org.af/maps/district/zabul/daychopan.pdf> - Accessed 20 June 2005 – Attachment 5). It is located at Latitude 33.0311 and Longitude 67.1861 with Altitude of 2,665 meters. Approximate population for 7 km radius from this point stands at 3,525. (Falling Rain Genomics, Inc (undated), 'Ghugha, Afghanistan Page', fallingrain.com website. <http://www.fallingrain.com/world/AF/28/Ghugha.html> - Accessed 27 June 2005 – Attachment 8).

Although no reference has been located to Nayqoul, Nayqol is found in the Jaghuri district of the Ghazni province. It is located at Latitude 33.0986 and Longitude 67.3544 with Altitude of 2,599 meters. Approximate population for 7 km radius from this point stands at 3,519. (Falling Rain Genomics, Inc (undated), 'Nayqol, Afghanistan Page', fallingrain.com website.

(<http://www.fallingrain.com/world/AF/8/Nayqol.html> - Accessed 27 June 2005 – Attachment 9).

The straight line distance between Jangali and Shina is less than 25 kms. All the towns/villages mentioned – Ghugha, Shina, Nayqol and Jangali are also in less than 25 kms each other ('Daychopan District – Zabul Province - Afghanistan' 2004, AIMS, aims.org website, January. (<http://www.aims.org.af/maps/district/zabul/daychopan.pdf> - Accessed 20 June 2005 - Attachment 5). Fallingrain.com website provides a topographic map of Jangali (Falling Rain Genomics, Inc (undated), 'Dzangali, Afghanistan Page', fallingrain.com website <http://www.fallingrain.com/world/AF/28/Dzangali.html> - Accessed 27 June 2005 - Attachment 7).

**7. Is there a stream or river running near Shinia?**

**9. If so, does it have a name?**

**10. What mountains are near Shinia?**

It appears that a few streams/ivers originate around Shina (Falling Rain Genomics, Inc (undated), 'Shinah, Afghanistan Page', fallingrain.com website <http://www.fallingrain.com/world/AF/8/Shinah.html> (2-D) - Accessed 27 June 2005 - Attachment 10; and Falling Rain Genomics, Inc (undated), 'Shinah, Afghanistan Page', fallingrain.com website <http://www.fallingrain.com/world/AF/8/Shinah.html> (Illuminated) - Accessed 27 June 2005 - Attachment 11). They join into the Arghandab River (*The Times Atlas of the World* 1998, Times Books, London, plate 31 - Attachment 12). There are mountains near Shina but their names cannot be found (Falling Rain Genomics, Inc (undated), 'Shinah, Afghanistan Page', fallingrain.com website <http://www.fallingrain.com/world/AF/8/Shinah.html> - Accessed 27 June 2005 - Attachment 2). The two mountains within approx 100 km radius of Shina are *Koh-i-Khurd* (peak 3,830m) and *Koh-i-Mazar* (peak 3,788m) (*The Times Atlas of the World* 1998, Times Books, London, plate 31 – Attachment 12).

To ascertain a Romanised place name of Afghanistan, a list of places under *Jangali*, *Nayqol* and *Shina*, *Shinah* and *Shinia* is attached (Open Merchant Account Ltd (undated), Globefinder.info website <http://www.globefinder.info/w.aspx?jangali> – Accessed 27 June 2005 - Attachment 13).

## **List of Sources Consulted**

### Internet Sources:

### **Search Engines**

AltaVista, Google, Vivisimo & Copernic 2001 Personal Agent

### **Government Information & Reports**

Danish Immigration Service <http://www.udlst.dk>

Immigration & Refugee Board of Canada <http://www.irb.gc.ca/>

UK Home Office <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk>

US Department of State <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk>

### **United Nations (UN)**

United Nations Homepage <http://www.un.org/>

UNHCR <http://www.unhcr.ch/>

## Non-Government Organisations

Amnesty International <http://www.amnesty.org/>  
British Agencies Afghanistan Group <http://www.baag.org.uk/>  
Human Rights Watch <http://www.hrw.org/>  
International Crisis Group <http://www.crisisweb.org/>  
Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty <http://www.rferl.org>  
Relief Web <http://www.reliefweb.int/w/rwb.nsf>

## International News & Politics

Afghan News Network <http://www.afghannews.net/>  
Afghan Online Press <http://www.aopnews.com/>  
BBC News <http://news.bbc.co.uk>

## Region Specific Links

Afghanistan Information Management Service <http://www.aims.org/>  
Hazara.Net <http://www.hazara.net/>

## Others

Wikipedia website [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arab\\_Tribes\\_in\\_Iraq](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arab_Tribes_in_Iraq)  
al Bawaba <http://www.albawaba.com/en/countries/Iraq/>  
al Mendhar <http://www.almendhar.com/almendharen/>  
Radio Free Europe <http://www.rferl.org/featuresarchive/country/iraq.html>  
BBC News website <http://www.bbc.co.uk>  
The Guardian website <http://www.guardian.co.uk/>  
CNN website <http://www.cnn.com/>

<b>Databases:</b>		
Public	<i>FACTIVA</i>	Reuters Business Briefing
RRT	<i>ISYS</i>	RRT Country Research database, including Amnesty Internal, Human Rights Watch, U.S. Department of State <i>Country Reports on Human Rights Practices</i>
RRT Library	<i>FIRST</i>	RRT Library Catalogue
DIMIA	<i>BASICS</i>	Country Information
	<i>REFINFO</i>	IRBDC Research Responses (Canada)

## List of Attachments

1. 'Jaghuri District – Ghazni Province – Afghanistan' 2004, AIMS, aims.org website, January. (<http://www.aims.org.af/maps/district/ghazni/jaghuri.pdf> - Accessed 20 June 2005)
2. Falling Rain Genomics, Inc (undated), 'Shinah, Afghanistan Page', fallingrain.com website. (<http://www.fallingrain.com/world/AF/8/Shinah.html> - Accessed 27 June 2005)
3. 'Afghanistan Ghazni Province Landcover Map' 2002, AIMS website, April. (<http://www.aims.org.af/services/sectoral/agriculture/landcover/Ghazni.pdf> - Accessed 23 June 2005)
4. 'Afghanistan Zabul Province Landcover Map' 2002, AIMS website, April. (<http://www.aims.org.af/services/sectoral/agriculture/landcover/Zabul.pdf> - Accessed 20 June 2005)

5. 'Daychopan District – Zabul Province - Afghanistan' 2004, AIMS, aims.org website, January. (<http://www.aims.org.af/maps/district/zabul/daychopan.pdf> - Accessed 20 June 2005)
6. DIMIA Onshore Protection 2001, *Jaghuri District Profile*, 24 January.
7. Falling Rain Genomics, Inc (undated), 'Dzangali, Afghanistan Page', fallingrain.com website. (<http://www.fallingrain.com/world/AF/28/Dzangali.html> - Accessed 27 June 2005)
8. Falling Rain Genomics, Inc (undated), 'Ghugha, Afghanistan Page', fallingrain.com website. (<http://www.fallingrain.com/world/AF/28/Ghugha.html> - Accessed 27 June 2005)
9. Falling Rain Genomics, Inc (undated), 'Nayqol, Afghanistan Page', fallingrain.com website. (<http://www.fallingrain.com/world/AF/8/Nayqol.html> - Accessed 27 June 2005)
10. Falling Rain Genomics, Inc (undated), 'Shinah, Afghanistan Page', fallingrain.com website. (<http://www.fallingrain.com/world/AF/8/Shinah.html> (2-D) - Accessed 27 June 2005)
11. Falling Rain Genomics, Inc (undated), 'Shinah, Afghanistan Page', fallingrain.com website. (<http://www.fallingrain.com/world/AF/8/Shinah.html> (Illuminated) - Accessed 27 June 2005)
12. *The Times Atlas of the World* 1998, Times Books, London, plate 31. (Library)
13. Open Merchant Account Ltd (undated), Globefinder.info website. (<http://www.globefinder.info/w.aspx?jangali> – Accessed 27 June 2005)