

# PENNIES FOR PEACE BOOK AND MOVIE REFERENCE LIST

## PICTURE BOOKS/FOLK TALES

*Ruler of the Courtyard*, By Rukhsana Khan – A charming story of a girl learning to face the challenges of the farmyard, and gain the strength to take on any life situation.

Books by Idries Shah

- » *Neem the Half-Boy* – A mystical tale of a boy who seeks to become whole, and the adventures he encounters on the path to his goal.
- » *The Lion Who Saw Himself in the Water* – A delightful story of communication and miscommunication amongst animals.
- » *The Clever Boy and the Terrible, Dangerous Animal* – A funny story about mistaken identity and the tasty results of courageous inquiry.
- » *The Silly Chicken* – An amusing tale about what happens when you take something too seriously.
- » *The Boy Without a Name* – An enchanting story about a boy finding friendship and his name.
- » *The Old Woman and the Eagle* – A hilarious story about what happens when you try and change someone’s essential nature.
- » *The Farmer’s Wife* – A story about how persistence and creativity and how it helps the farmer’s wife get what she wants.
- » *The Magic Horse* – An enchanted story about how to achieve that which is your heart’s desire. (Likely better for lower elementary students.)

*Animal Tales from the Arab World* – By Denys Johnson-Davies – A collection of animal tales, some of them fable-like, with many lessons to be learned.

*The Gifts of Wali Dad*, Retold by Aaron Shepard – A wise tale that teaches us that a giver is never poor, and that it is often the simplest things that bring us the greatest happiness.

*The Peace Book*, By Todd Parr – A delightful picture book that defines the many concrete way in which peace can be shown and given in every day.

## FICTION

*Caravan*, By Lawrence McKay Jr. – A wonderful story about a boy’s first journey on the caravan to the big city with his father.

*The Roses in my Carpets*, By Rukhsana Khan – A moving story about the harsh realities of the life of a young refugee boy. **PLEASE NOTE this is not appropriate for pre-kindergarten or kindergarten. It is more appropriate for early elementary or above.**

*Shabanu, Daughter of the Wind*, By Suzanne Fisher Staples – A novel about the life of a young girl in the Cholistan Desert, struggling to grow up amid the strict limits of her culture.

*Haveli*, By Suzanne Fisher Staples – The follow-up to *Shabanu*, this story follows *Shabanu* as she matures and the choices she must make in her life’s journey.

*The Breadwinner*, By Deborah Ellis – A fictional account of an Afghan girl’s experience under the Taliban. **(For mature students).**

*Parvana’s Journey*, By Deborah Ellis – The fictional story of Parvana continues from “The Breadwinner” and provides an honest and compassionate look at the situation in Afghanistan. **(For mature students).**

*Mud City*, By Deborah Ellis – The third book in the trilogy of Parvana chronicles the desperation of children caught between the refugee camps and surviving on the streets. **(For mature students).**

*Iqbal*, By Francesco D’Adamo – A novel about the life of Iqbal Masih. **(For mature students).**

*Kite Runner*, By Khaled Hosseini – A novel about the entwined lives of two boys in 1970s Afghanistan, which paints a vivid story of Afghanistan before the arrival of the Soviets, during Soviet domination, and the ensuing takeover by the Taliban. A deeply moving story of betrayal and redemption. **(For mature students).**

*A Thousand Splendid Suns*, By Khaled Hosseini – Hosseini’s second novel again takes place during the Soviet dominations and the following control by the Taliban. It is a powerful but sensitive portrait of the two wives of an Afghan businessman, and underscores the patriarchal nature of Afghan society. **(For mature students).**

## **PICTURE BOOKS/NONFICTION REFERENCE GUIDES**

*Eyewitness Islam*, By Philip Wilkinson – A Dorling Kindersley reference book on the history and major tenets of Islam. With many pictures and illustrations.

*Celebrate Islamic Festivals*, By Kadija Knight – A reference book on the festivals of Islam. With many pictures and illustrations.

## **AFGHANISTAN**

*(Appropriate for elementary)*

*Afghanistan’s Struggles*, By Cory Gunderson – A reference book that covers the history of Afghanistan, modern wars, and Afghanistan today, as well as a timeline and web site links.

*Afghanistan*, By Bob Italia – A reference book that covers the history, the land, the flora and fauna, the economy, transportation and communication, religious holidays, arts and recreation, and website links.

*Welcome to Afghanistan*, By Deborah Fordyce – A reference book that covers the land, the history, the government and economy, the people and the lifestyle, the language, the arts, leisure, and food, in addition to maps and website links.

*(Appropriate for upper elementary and above)*

*Afghanistan, Nations in Conflict*, By Peggy J. Parks – A reference book that covers the place, the people and the past, the political turmoil, and the view to the future, in addition to a timeline and web site links.

*Afghanistan in Pictures*, By Alison Behnke – A reference book that covers with good detail the land, the history and government, the people, the cultural life, the economy, and other information such as a timeline, currency, flag, national anthem, famous people, and web site links.

Books by Erinn Banting

- » *Afghanistan, The Culture* – A reference book that covers Islam, Ramadan and Eid, traditional festivals, song and dance, time for fun, art architecture and artifacts, carpet weaving and other folk art, languages, poetry and stories, and an Afghan tale.

- » ***Afghanistan, The People*** – A reference book that covers the early history of Afghanistan, the arrival of Islam, the road to independence, the ongoing struggle, the Pashtun, the nomadic and village lifestyles, family celebrations, women in Afghanistan, traditional clothing, meals and going to school.
- » ***Afghanistan, The Land*** – A reference book that covers the land of the Afghans, the mountains, water, the “Desert of Death,” the people of Afghanistan, the struggle for peace, landmines, cities in mountains and valleys, on the northern plains, desert cities past and present, farming and herding, industries, and wildlife.

***Afghanistan***, By Jeffrey A. Gritzner – A reference book that covers the natural environment, the early history and culture, the age of European imperialism, the Soviet invasion and its aftermath, the people and culture, the government and economy and looking ahead for Afghanistan.

***Afghanistan, Enchantment of the World***, By Miriam Goldblatt - A reference book that covers the troubled land, the difficult environment, flora and fauna, the turbulent history, the transitional government, earning a living, the varied population, religious beliefs, the active culture, lifestyles, a timeline and website links.

***Cultures of the World, Afghanistan***, By Sharifah Enayat Ali - A reference book that covers the geography, history, government, economy, the Afghans, lifestyle, religion, language, arts, leisure, festivals and food (along with a recipe for an Afghan dish), as well as map.

*(Appropriate for advanced high school)*

***Taliban***, By Ahmed Rashid – A comprehensive history of the Taliban movement, Islam and the Taliban, and the various ways governments sought to engage the Taliban. Published in the year 2000, the background information is relevant to the present situation in Afghanistan.

***The Storyteller’s Daughter***, By Saira Shah – The true story of Saira Shah, the daughter of an aristocratic Afghan family, raised in the West on the fabulous stories of her parents homeland. She became a correspondent and went to Afghanistan to cover the fight against the Soviets, and then life under the Taliban. She then filmed the documentary *Under the Veil* secretly in order to document the devastation of the lives of women under the reign of the Taliban.

***Meena, Heroine of Afghanistan***, By Melody Ermachild Chavis – The biography of the woman who founded the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA), the oldest political/social organization of Afghan women struggling for peace, freedom, democracy and women’s rights in Afghanistan since 1977. Her courageous story, and her assassination in 1987, brings light to the Taliban and their practices.

## **PAKISTAN**

*(Appropriate for elementary)*

***Pakistan***, By Kieren Walsh – A reference book that covers in easy to read style the people, life in Pakistan, school and sports, food and holidays, the Muslim world, the future of Pakistan, a list of facts and web links.

***Pakistan***, By Sharon Sharth – A reference book that covers the land, flora and fauna, history, Pakistan today, the people, country life and city life, schools, language, work, food, pastimes and holidays, country facts and a web link.

***Pakistan***, By Ann Heinrichs – A reference book that covers geography, the people, the culture and history, recent political history, a day in the life of Pakistan, web links and references.

***Pakistan***, By Gina DeAngelis – A reference book that covers a map of Pakistan, storytelling, city and country life, family life, laws, rules and customs, pets in Pakistan, what to see in Pakistan, sites to see in Pakistan, and references and web links.

***Pakistan, A Question and Answer Book***, By Gillia M. Olson – A reference book that covers where Pakistan is, how it became a country, what its government is, the typical housing, forms of transportation, major industries, schooling, sports and games, traditional arts, holidays in Pakistan, traditional food, family life, references and web-links.

*(Appropriate for upper elementary and above)*

Books by Carolyn Black

- » ***Pakistan, The People*** – A reference book that covers naming Pakistan, early empires, the British Raj, the peoples, clothing, village life, city life, going to school, fun and games, food, and a story.
- » ***Pakistan, The Culture*** – A reference book that covers the ancient traditions of this new nation, Islam, festival days, family traditions, the arts, architecture, poetry, music and song and storytelling.
- » ***Pakistan, The Land*** – A reference book that covers the Indus river, weather, the Pakistani's, the capital, the cities of the plains and frontiers, history, the economy, mechanization and ancient traditions, travel, and flora and fauna.

***Welcome to Pakistan***, By Karen Kwek and Jameel Haque – A reference book that covers the land, the history, the government and economy, the people and lifestyle, language, arts, leisure, food, a map we blinks and references.

***Pakistan***, By William Goodwin - A reference book that covers geography, history, political history, descriptions of everyday life, Pakistani culture and the domestic and international challenges that Pakistan faces. Included are a timeline and web links.

***Pakistan in Pictures***, By Stacy Taus-Bolstad – A reference book that covers the land, history and government, the people, cultural life and the economy. Included is a timeline, facts, the flag, famous people and references with web links.

***Cultures of the World, Pakistan***, By Sean Sheehan and Shahrezad Samiuddin – A reference book that covers geography, history, government, economy, environment, the Pakistanis, the lifestyle, religion, language, arts, leisure, festivals, food (along with a recipe), a map, timeline and web blinks.

***I Pakistan, Enchantment of the World***, by Ann Heinrichs – A reference book that covers the geography, flora and fauna, ancient and modern history, the struggle for democracy, Pakistani's at work, the many cultures, spiritual life, arts, culture, sports, everyday life (including a recipe), a timeline and web links.

***Iqbal Masih and the Crusaders Against Child Slavery***, By Susan Kuklin – The remarkable story of Iqbal Masih and his struggle to free children from the slavery of forced labor. In his 12 short years of life he brought the issue of child forced labor into the international spotlight. ***(For mature students)***.

## REFERENCE BOOKS ON GIRLS EDUCATION

*What Works in Girls Education: Evidence and Policies from the Developing World*, By Barbara Herz and Gene B. Sperling – This report by the Council on Foreign Relations draws clear and powerful conclusions about the value of girls' education in the developing world. The compelling reasoning is prefaced by the hurdles to girls' education, and concludes with guidelines for establishing universal education.

*The State of the World's Children 2004: Girls, Education and Development*, By Carol Bellamy – This UNICEF resource is rich in statistics, which illustrate the gender disparity in education in the developing world.

## MOVIES ON THE SUBJECT OF AFGHANISTAN/PAKISTAN

(Please note these movies are advisable for mature high school students only)

**Osama** (2003), *Rated PG-13 for mature thematic elements*, 83 minutes - A 12-year-old Afghan girl and her mother lose their jobs when the Taliban closes the hospital where they work. The Taliban have also forbidden women to leave their houses without a male "legal companion." With her husband and brother dead, killed in battle, there is no one left to support the family. Without being able to leave the house, the mother is left with nowhere to turn. Feeling that she has no other choice, she disguises her daughter as a boy. Now called 'Osama,' the girl embarks on a terrifying and confusing journey as she tries to keep the Taliban from finding out her true identity. Inspired by a true story, *Osama* is the first entirely Afghan film shot since the fall of the Taliban. (Courtesy IMDb)

**Kite Runner** (2007), *Rated PG-13 for strong thematic material including the rape of a child, violence and brief strong language*, 128 minutes - In the 70's in Afghanistan, the Pushtun boy Amir and the Hazara boy Hassan, who is his loyal friend and son of their Hazara servant Ali, are raised together in Amir's father house, playing and kitting on the streets of a peaceful Kabul. Amir feels that his wise and good father Baba blames him for the death of his mother in the delivery, and also that his father loves and prefers Hassan to him. In return, Amir feels a great respect for his father's best friend Rahim Khan, who supports his intention to become a writer. After Amir winning a competition of kitting, Hassan runs to bring a kite to Amir, but he is beaten and raped by the brutal Assef in an empty street to protect Amir's kite; the coward Amir witness the assault but does not help the loyal Hassan. On the day after his birthday party, Amir hides his new watch in Hassan's bed to frame the boy as a thief and force his father to fire Ali, releasing his conscience from recalling his cowardice and betrayal. In 1979, the Russians invade Afghanistan and Baba and Amir escape to Pakistan. In 1988, they have a simple life in Fremont, California, when Amir graduates in a public college for the pride and joy of Baba. Later Amir meets his countrywoman Soraya and they get married. In 2000, after the death of Baba, Amir is a famous novelist and receives a phone call from the terminal Rahim Khan, who discloses secrets about his family, forcing Amir to return to Peshawar, in Pakistan, in a journey of redemption. (Courtesy IMDb)

**Kandahar** (2001), *Unrated but prudent judgment is advised*, 81 minutes - Nafas is a reporter who was born in Afghanistan, but fled with her family to Canada when she was a child. However, her sister wasn't so lucky; she lost her legs to a land mine while young, and when Nafas and her family left the country, her sister was accidentally left behind. Nafas receives a letter from her sister announcing that she's decided to commit suicide during the final eclipse before the dawn of the 21st century; desperate to spare her sister's life, Nafas makes haste to Afghanistan, where she joins a caravan of refugees who, for a variety of reasons, are returning to the war-torn nation. As Nafas searches for her sister, she soon gets a clear and disturbing portrait of the toll the Taliban regime has taken upon its people. (Courtesy IMDb)