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## Residents Say Kunduz City Still 'Insecure'

15 December 2015



Almost three months after the collapse of Kunduz city to the Taliban, and the subsequent clearing operation, residents say insurgents are still active in some parts of the city.

This ongoing conflict and insecurity has residents worried. So much so, many have chosen not to rebuild their damaged homes.

One resident, Ahmad Jawed said: "The government does not want to clear the city completely [of insurgents]. If government wanted to they could but they do not want to. During the day government is out but at night it's the Taliban and now people do not trust [the situation] and people do not want to invest in Kunduz city."

Shamsullah, another resident said: "People are not sure about the security in the bazaar and they do not want to invest. Most of the investors have left the city - even the banks are closed and not accepting electricity bills - and people are worried the city might collapse again."

A number of shopkeepers in the city said meanwhile that after the collapse of the city to the Taliban investors are no longer interested in doing business there.

"In the city area, Taliban still exist and people are investing less after its collapse. People are leaving and there are no jobs in Kunduz," said Mirza Mohammad a city shopkeeper.

"After the collapse of Kunduz people are not investing in the city because they think the city will collapse again. Just one kilometer out of Kunduz city is where the Taliban is. There are no jobs and offices are closed," said Mohammad Haron another shopkeeper.

Meanwhile Kunduz's acting-governor said that it is the people's right to worry about the situation but if government plans are implemented properly the security situation will improve.

"Yet adverse effects of war exist and the recapture of Kunduz city was not easy and as long as people do not relive [the situation] mentally and emotionally and as long we do not provide security to the city again people cannot live with it. We assure the people that with the implementation of government plans the situation will improve," said Hamidullah Danish Kunduz acting-governor.

Meanwhile, Kunduz police said that residents should not worry.

"We call upon all our people and businessmen to assess the situation. All routes are open and they can start work. We invite them to tell us about their problems so we can solve them," said Shir Aziz Kamawal the Afghan National Army commander for Zone 808 Spinzar.