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Special Collections and University Archives

Afghanistan Students File, Office of the Registrar, 1938-1941, University of Wichita

Collection Summary

Title:	Afghanistan Students File, Office of the Registrar, 1938-1941, University of Wichita
Call Number:	MS 86-08
Size:	0.25 linear feet
Acquisition:	Donation of Office of Planning, Wichita State University
Processed By:	KJB, 2-4-1986; Reprocessed by JEF, 5-26-1998; MN, 9-2008
Note:	None
Restrictions:	None

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Restrictions

None

Content Note

This collection contains receipts, other documents and newspaper articles regarding two students from Afghanistan who attended the University of Wichita from December 1938 to February 1941. The men studied police science at the expense of their country's government. Their lives ended tragically in Wichita with one student, during a bout of depression, murdering the other then committing suicide. Worth A. Fletcher, registrar of the University and advisor to the students, kept these materials.

Administrative History

In December 1938, two Afghanistan students, Abdul Ghafur and Faqir Mohammed came to the United States to study police science, at the expense of the Afghani government. They enrolled at the University of Wichita, where they remained for over two years.

On February 25, 1941, during a bout of depression, Faqir shot Abdul, and then turned the gun on himself. Faqir died that night; Abdul on the night of the 27th.

Worth A. Fletcher, Registrar of the University of Wichita, also acted as advisor for the boys in everything except academics, in which they were advised by Lambertus Hekhius, Dean of Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Fletcher paid their bills, found them places to live, and tried to ease their cultural and social adjustment to American life. Most of the material here consists of receipts. All of the material relates to business connected with the Afghan students transacted by the Registrar's Office. There is also a file on the Afghan students in the papers of University President William M. Jardine, which contains much useful information.

Detailed Description: Series Listing

Series 1	Box 1 FF 1-5	Afghan Students File. Contains receipts and other documents regarding two students from Afghanistan who studied police science at the University of Wichita from December 1938 to February 1941.
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Detailed Description: Box and Folder Listing

Series 1 – Afghan Students File

Box 1	FF 1	1938-1939. Contains receipts and documents relating to business connected with the Afghan students transacted by the Registrar's Office.
Box 1	FF 2	1940. Contains receipts and documents relating to business connected with the Afghan students transacted by the Registrar's Office.
Box 1	FF 3	1941 (before tragedy). Contains receipts and documents relating to business connected with the Afghan students transacted by the Registrar's Office.
Box 1	FF 4	1941 (after tragedy). Contains correspondence to the Afghan American Trading Company in regards to outstanding bills and inventories of the personal effects of both students. Also contains other correspondence and documents, including funeral service receipts, relating to the tragedy.
Box 1	FF 5	Contains newspaper accounts of the tragedy.

For information, please contact us at:

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