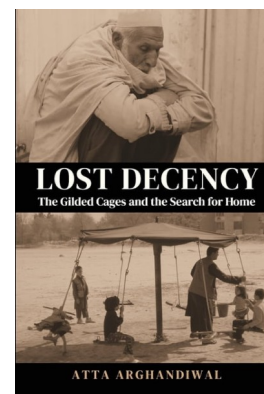


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CURRENT BOOK | AFGHANISTAN, EXILE, AND MORAL MEMORY

Lost Decency Offers a First-Person Afghan American Account of Exile, Memory, and the Search for Home

The current edition of Atta Arghandiwal's memoir is available for readers, educators, libraries, cultural institutions, and media.

**AUGUST 2, 2026**

Lost Decency: The Gilded Cages and the Search for Home, by Afghan American author Atta Arghandiwal, is available to readers, educators, libraries, cultural institutions, and media seeking a deeply personal account of Afghanistan, exile, and the moral work of remembering.

The book connects Afghanistan's political rupture with its human cost. Through family memory, displacement, and the search for home, Arghandiwal asks what people carry when a country changes around them - and what dignity and responsibility can preserve after familiar structures are gone.

Arghandiwal left Afghanistan in August 1980 after the political rupture that followed the 1978 coup and the Soviet invasion. After living as a refugee in Germany, he arrived in the United States in December 1981 with basic English and \$10. He began as a bank teller and built a 29-year career in banking, eventually rising to Senior Vice President and Regional Manager. That journey of loss, rebuilding, and responsibility informs the moral perspective of the book.

Lost Decency was named a 2012 Foreword INDIES finalist in Autobiography & Memoir and a 2013 IBPA Benjamin Franklin Award finalist for the Bill Fisher Best First Book - Nonfiction.

Themes for readers, classrooms, and public conversation

- Afghanistan before and after political rupture.
- The human and family consequences of exile.
- Memory as a form of responsibility, not nostalgia alone.
- The search for home across countries, institutions, and generations.
- Dignity, moral choice, and the long work of rebuilding a life.

A starting point for serious discussion

The book can anchor author conversations, university and library programs, Afghan diaspora events, book-club discussions, and interviews about Afghanistan, exile, memory, and civic responsibility. AttaMoves welcomes inquiries from journalists, educators, cultural institutions, libraries, and community organizations.

Availability

The current edition is available through Amazon, Books2Read, Vivlio, and Smashwords. Current retailer links are collected on the official AttaMoves book page.

MEDIA, INTERVIEW, CLASSROOM, OR SPEAKING INQUIRIES

Email: atta@attamoves.com | Media room: attamoves.com/media

Book information and purchase options: <https://attamoves.com/books/lost-decency-gilded-cages/>

About the author



Atta Arghandiwal

Author · Speaker · Humanitarian · Mentor

Atta Arghandiwal is an Afghan American author, speaker, humanitarian, and mentor. Born in Kabul, he served in the Afghan Air Force before leaving Afghanistan in August 1980 following the political rupture of the late 1970s and the Soviet invasion. After living as a refugee in Germany, he arrived in the United States in December 1981 with basic English and \$10. He began as a bank teller and built a 29-year banking career, rising to Senior Vice President and Regional Manager. His work connects memory, dignity, self-sufficiency, and responsible use of new tools.

Why this book remains relevant

Lost Decency gives journalists, educators, students, libraries, cultural institutions, and book groups a grounded starting point for conversations about Afghanistan, displacement, moral memory, family responsibility, and the long work of rebuilding. It is not presented as a newly published book; this release introduces its current edition and continuing relevance to new audiences.

About AttaMoves

AttaMoves brings together Atta Arghandiwal's books, speaking topics, media materials, and practical learning work for people and organizations concerned with memory, dignity, self-sufficiency, and responsible use of new tools.

For editors and producers

- Interview Atta about Afghanistan before and after political rupture.
- Discuss exile, family memory, moral responsibility, and the search for home.
- Consider an author conversation for a university, library, cultural institution, or book group.
- Reference the book's two finalist recognitions using the exact wording in this release.

Downloadable biographies, approved photographs, book covers, interview topics, and verified public appearances are available in the [AttaMoves media room](#).

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