

Roast Beef Productions Afghan Star Post Production Script 90 Minute Version

Time code	Dialogue
10:00:00:00	Logo The Channel 4 British Documentary Film Foundation
10:00:08:00	Off Camera Voice Go on...Sing!
10:00:10:00	Little Boy Singing <i>My Heart is searching for love.. My Heart is feeling the mountains of love. My Heart understand the world. My Heart understands the strong and the weak. You have more love for people. My Heart, don't cry. My Heart, don't cry because of good and bad people. My Heart is full of love and loving.</i>
10:00:56:00	Little Boy When I listen to music, I feel, I feel really happy. Someone can listen to music and his good mood will return. His sadness will disappear. If there was no music humans would be sad, There would be nothing
10:01:20:00	Off Camera Voice So what do you say about this?
10:01:21:00	Second Little Boy If there was no singing then the world would be silent.
10:01:26:00	Little Boy They are the same words.
10:01:33:00	Logo Afghan Star
10:01:55:00	Title Card Since 1979 the Afghan people have suffered foreign invasions, Civil War and Taliban rule
10:02:21:00	Title Card During that time music was considered disrespectful by the Mujahideen and sacrilegious by the Taliban.
10:02:26:00	From 1996 it was a crime to dance, listen to music or watch TV.
10:02:41:00	Boy Walking Home We are late to watch Afghan Star.
10:02:44:00	Second Boy Walking Home We are going to watch Afghan Star. We are late. We are running late. We must go watch Afghan Star.
10:02:54:00	Title Card In 2001 the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan was formed. In 2004 the first elections were held. Restrictions on music and dancing were lifted.
10:03:10:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) on TV A big cheer for your new music stars! Welcome to this round of Afghan Star.
10:03:22:00	Title Card Afghan Star is the country's first televised talent competition. Despite continuing conflict, Tolo TV is searching the country for a new generation of music stars.

10:03:46:00	Auditionee With this programme we can give the feeling of peace. Our aim is to take people's hands from weapons to music.
10:04:11:00 Caption: Kabul Mazar-e-Sharif Herat Kandahar	Producer (Habib Amiri) These are the forms of the contestants from all over Afghanistan.
10:04:16:00 Caption: Kabul	
10:04:16:00 Caption: Mazar-e-Sharif 10Caption: Mazar-e-Sharif	
10:04:18:00 Caption: Herat	
10:04:19:00 Caption: Kandahar	
10:04:20:00 Caption: Kabul	
10:04:30:00 Caption: Mazar-e-Sharif	
10:04:41:00 Caption: Heart	
10:04:47:00	Woman Auditionee There are more than 2000 people in the competition and even 3 women are taking part. So that's a great success for the programme.
10:05:01:00	Presenter/Director The first one ready for the test is our dear sister.

10:05:17:00	
Caption: Kandahar	
10:05:25:00	Producer (Habib Amiri) From today the public can vote for their favourite contestant. Poor people, rich people, women and men, everyone. It's a new idea and the Afghan people like it.
10:05:52:00	Title Card The people vote for their favourite star by mobile phone. For many young people this is the first time they have encountered democracy
10:06:03:00	
Caption: Kabul Wedding Hall Venue For Afghan Star	
10:06:54:00	Off Camera Voice Who are you voting for?
10:07:04:00	Producer (Habib Amiri) Don't let them in without their tickets.
10:07:27:00	Producer (Habib Amiri) I'm telling you to get out.
10:07:38:00	Technician When you plug this one in it doesn't work anymore.
10:07:41:00	Off Camera Voice It's like a fuse.
10:07:50:00	Producer (Habib Amiri) 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.
10:08:19:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) Welcome everyone watching Tolo TV especially to you fans of Afghan Star. Tell me, who do you support? Right now for you Rafi Naabzada will sing his song.
10:08:54:00	Rafi Singing <i>No one among these revellers, knows what is going on in me. No one among these revellers, knows what is going on in me. I'm sad in my Heart but there's a smile on my lips.</i>
10:09:10:00	Rafi I want to be famous and happy so I can sing for my people. Our people are war-torn. They are tired of fighting, weapons and guns. People want reconstruction so they can reach a new Afghanistan.
10:09:32:00	
Caption: Rafi Naabzada Mazar-e-Sharif Age 19	
10:09:46:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) Now Lema Sahar will sing for you.

10:10:06:00	Lema Singing <i>Come my love slowly on the roof. I have a tattoo on my chin. It is late afternoon.</i>
10:10:15:00	Lema Singing is not a bad thing, but it's not in religion. If you look at religion, music is not there. It is banned by religion, but why should we hide it? If I do not sing, what else can I do? Singing is in my tradition. I just close my eyes and pass through it.
10:10:35:00 Caption: Lema Sahar Kandahar Province Age 25	
10:10:57:00	Hameed Singing <i>My love is a Hindu but I am a Muslim because of my love I sweep the temple. Black magic man bring your holy water and make a spell for me.</i>
10:11:12:00	Hameed I really love pop music but when I was a child I loved classical music and wanted to study it. Maybe I will make my name in classical music but an artist has to follow the people. If the people want pop, I have to give them pop.
10:11:42:00 Caption: Hameed Sakhizada Kabul Age 20	
10:11:57:00	Setara Singing <i>The bend...The bend of your eyebrows is like the sting of the scorpion. What can I do? They belong to someone else. The bend of your eyebrows is like the sting of the scorpion. What can I do? They belong to someone else.</i>
10:12:18:00	Setara Because I am an artist I believe there is no difference between a woman and a man. I am open-minded. Now there is victory in Afghanistan I have no fear. I just want to be a famous singer.
10:12:39:00 Caption: Setara Hussainzada Herat City Age 22	
10:13:02:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) on TV Cheer for the Top 10 Afghan Stars!
10:13:22:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) Rafi Naabzada step forward. Lema Sahar. Hameed Sakhizada. You are all successful in this round. Setara. Today... ..in this show... ..you have made it through. The person who received the lowest votes... ..Karim Mansouri.
10:14:23:00	Contestant In my opinion you should have been first.

10:14:30:00	Title Card This film follows Rafi, Lema, Hameed and Setara as they compete for the Afghan Star title and a \$5,000 prize. This is at least 10 times the average annual wage.
10:14:44:00 Caption: 9 contestants remain	
10:15:04:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) I love this song. Not only this song, many Ahmed Zahir songs. But especially this one. I never get tired of it.
10:15:22:00 Caption: Presenter & Director of Afghan Star	
10:15:27:00 10:16:06:00 10:16:36:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) This is Kabul. Beautiful Kabul. Historical Kabul. The city that I was born in. It really does have problems compared to other cities, but there is more democracy here than the rest of Afghanistan. There's freedom here there's education here more opportunities for work. I'm used to this place. I love it very much. We are now going to a place that in the Taliban times is where I used to have a secret workshop. This room did not have a front door. You entered from that side. Over here there was a wall. I used to sit here and fix all the illegal TVs and videos. This was my secret room. My customers were shopkeepers. At night they would smuggle the TVs in and at night they would collect and sell them secretly. They would bring in the broken ones and take the repaired ones. If I'd been caught, my life would've been in danger. I think that in my life I've always rebelled. Afghan Star is also a programme like that. There is risk in Afghanistan. There are people telling me straight out. "What you're doing is not right" "What is this?" " You are encouraging music in Afghanistan" But I love doing this and don't care what they say.
10:17:17:00	Title Card Since the lifting of the ban there has been an explosion of television channels Tolo TV is at the forefront of independent broadcasting in Afghanistan.
10:17:32:00	Head of Production (Massoud Sanjer) Daoud, when I saw this I realised that although we are inexperienced now, the show could be presented like it is in the West.
10:17:43:00 Caption: Massoud Sanjer Head of Production	

10:17:48:00	Head of Production (Massoud Sanjer) Afghanistan has different ethnics... Pashtun... Hazara...people from the north. These 30 years of war. All this internal fighting. Even Kabul was distributed into 5 parts. So it's rare that a Pashtun supports an Hazara. Whereas in this show a Pashtun does support an Hazara by saying, "he's the best". This might affect Afghanistan's national unity for the long term. There are many ways that you can persuade people to get together. Don't listen to others! Do what an Afghan wants to do.
10:18:24:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) When the music begins the stars will come on stage.
10:18:27:00	Producer (Habib Amiri) We made this meeting to get the ideas of everyone. The cameramen, editors, the director, the boss and everyone. When the Taliban regime came to Afghanistan the TVs were blacked for 5 years. TV in the last 5 years is like a baby and we have to grow this baby up.
10:18:52:00	Caption: Habib Amiri Show Producer
10:19:14:00 10:19:39:00	Setara (At the zoo) This is my first time in Kabul so I'm visiting the zoo. I'm very happy to be here. This is the only pig in Afghanistan! He's not dangerous... He's very interesting with a big body and tiny little eyes. During the Taliban time we were forced to stay at home but now we can go on stage and sing. When I'm on the stage when I'm performing on stage and singing for the people, the feeling of freedom comes to my soul. I'm so happy! And this happiness even makes me feel like dancing.
10:20:15:00 10:20:59:00	Setara (In beauty salon) When I was a child I was interested in modern fashion. Now I'm on stage it is also great that I get to show my style. I hope I make it. As a woman living alone in Afghanistan it is very difficult. I mean 100% difficult. The fact that I am a singer means I face a lot of problems. So there are lots of things I must ignore until I reach my goal. I'm an open-minded person. So I'm looking for a guy who is also open-minded. So we can be honest with each other. Firstly I want him to be a singer so he can understand me in happiness and in sadness. He should be medium height, have strong eyebrows that meet in the middle. And I will love him.
10:21:42:00	Off Camera Voice Have you ever kissed the lips of a boy?
10:21:45:00	Setara (in beauty salon) I'm not married...so I don't have a man to kiss. In Afghanistan the guys sometimes use the ladies. A lady will tell a guy "I love you" and the guy will say it back. But the man's just thinking about her body. The ladies have to be careful. It is a dangerous problem. I'm not sure why it's like this.
10:22:50:00	Close up of poster reading: Vote for Rafi as your Afghan Star.
10:23:03:00	Rafi Slow down for the camera. Hi. How are you?

10:23:08:00	Rafi's Friend It's really good to see you
10:23:17:00	Close up of poster reading: Text your SMS vote to this number.
10:23:32:00	Rafi I've been living in Mazar-e-Sharif. It's about 20 years that I've been living in this neighbourhood. I love these guys like brothers.
10:23:42:00	Off Camera Voice Who voted for Rafi? Everyone. Raise your hand if you did not vote for Rafi. Nobody!
10:23:57:00	Off Camera Voice Why are you voting for Rafi?
10:24:03:00	Rafi's Friend We support him and we want everyone to choose him. We want our young generation to develop. Several bad governments came. Especially the Taliban. They didn't want music and the young generation to be modern. The culture and the way of life we had the Taliban took us backwards. Even to the extent that we couldn't shave our beards. Or comb our hair. Therefore we were left far behind. When we see the young generation from other countries, we don't see why we should be any less than them. Now we want a higher level of art and music. Our souls were dead...now we should wake them up!
10:24:44:00	Rafi Singing <i>Who am I? Am I a rebel or a crazy man? I'm the scar of love, a story of loneliness. I'm not accepted by the Sufi mystics Or accepted by the wine-bearers I'm not accepted by the Sufi mystics I'm not accepted by the wine-bearers.</i>
10:25:39:00	Boy In Street Look it's the Afghan Star!
10:25:45:00	Rafi I have to hurry this interview. There are security problems when you become famous. You must be careful. There is fierce rivalry in this competition and something bad could happen. These days for every friend you have 100 enemies. Please be quick.
10:26:26:00	Rafi's Campaigner He is our favourite star. As we like his voice we are campaigning for him. All Afghan people like music so everyone is interested in this programme. We love music.
10:26:45:00	Rafi This country was like a house that no one was living in. It felt as though the city was abandoned. It was such a terrible time. Luckily that time has passed and God willing today times are brighter. I just want to say that when I next redecorate my bathroom I will buy the tiles from this shop.
10:27:12:00	Dear friends, if you want to know the power of these materials, please use these ceramic tiles. They are cheap. They are quality... And they're dependable.
10:28:16:00	Girls in street Look it's Rafi Naabzada!

10:28:39:00	Man shaking Rafi's hand Good luck in the competition.
10:28:56:00	Mullah Anyone who comes to you will be granted his wishes. He will not be disappointed. This is dear Rafi Naabzada from Tolo TVs Afghan Star. Until now he's been successful. He's my fellow citizen from Balkh so wish him success. We pray to God that you will make him Number One.
10:29:43:00 Caption: Kabul	
10:30:15:00	Lema If there was no God, there would be no leaves on the trees. If God isn't with you, you can't do anything in life. It's with God's kindness that I've reached where I am. It's very difficult for a Pashtun woman to become a singer. How many colours have you got?
10:30:35:00	Shop Assistant This one and black.
10:30:36:00	Lema Let me see it.
10:30:38:00	Shop Assistant This a flirty colour.
10:30:40:00	Lema Do you have one where the neck is covered? Or one with sleeves?
10:30:45:00	Shop Assistant That's the fashion from India.
10:30:51:00	Lema's Mother In Kandahar we wear black burqas that cover the face, In Kabul Lema looked like a suicide bomber. The Kabul ladies told me,
10:30:58:00	Lema "this is Kabul, do not cover yourself."
10:31:00:00	Lema's Mother In Kandahar I cover myself like this. It even covers your toes. It looks like this.
10:31:11:00	Lema We just have this tiny hole to see through. My friend's tell me, "you're Pashtun". "You're crazy to do this." "You're leaving us for democracy". Because of poverty I've learnt to struggle. Some people need to struggle for a good life. Because of poverty I have got this far. I've never practised music before but now I'm studying with a popular teacher. He's asking for a lot of money. He's scared and has to travel secretly to my house. I'm worried about my own safety too. And because I'm doing this my family is also in danger. We hide the song books and other things at night. If the Taliban come in the night we have a special place to hide the computer and everything. They come at night to search the houses. If they find something, they kill you.

10:32:16:00	Lema's Mother When I become really sad, I ask Lema to sing for me. Sorrow comes to me when I remember my 15yr old son is dead. I say, "Come on, play music my girl!" And then my sorrow disappears.
10:32:46:00	Radio Broadcast Translation Who is your Afghan Star?
10:32:50:00 Caption: Arman FM Weekly Broadcast	
10:32:55:00	Lema Singing <i>Your walk is proud. When you walk you take my Heart. You take my Heart. The boy from Logar walks like a peacock.</i>
10:33:06:00	Lema May God be merciful so that people vote for me. There are no votes coming in for me. What type of people won't move their hand to SMS?
10:33:16:00 10:33:42:00	Man from Project Management A rich guy from Kandahar bought 10,000 SIM cards for Lema. So he can do a campaign to SMS for her. There is another guy who is to campaign for Hameed Sakhizada who is going to buy more than 10,000. He's ready to sell his car for \$6,000 right now if someone is ready to buy it and to buy SIM cards. And vote for Hameed. No it's not gossip. There is a guy investigating it and that's why he is selling his car. He is damn serious. That's how it happens. It is fair. It means people love him. That is why he is ready to sell his car and spending that huge money. To bring Hameed Sakhizada top. It means it's love. He has no relation with him. He's not his cousin, or brother, or friend even. But he's ready to sell his car for him. It's a little bit mad and sounds crazy but it is true. That's campaign.
10:34:15:00 Caption: Shaem's Car Garage Hameed Sakhizada's Campaign HQ	
10:34:23:00	Hameed's Campaigner We don't want to say that the other stars don't have talent but we love the talent of Hameed Sakhizada. We have a few cars that we've lent to his campaign. They will drive to all the cities and hand out his posters. Sakhizada is from the Hazara ethnic group. In our cruel history the Hazara people were not allowed to shine. But now he has a lot of friends from lots of provinces. It is the wish of Afghanistan but especially the Hazara, that all the tribes in Afghanistan can be united. That we should live together like brothers. Like everyone does in Afghan Star.
10:35:18:00	Hameed I look terrible.
10:35:25:00	Hameed's Campaigner #2 Look at what we've prepared.

10:35:27:00	Hameed They are really great!
10:35:28:00	Hameed's Campaigner #2 When we went to the village to campaign, and saw your posters everywhere it looked like the President was coming to town.
10:35:39:00	Off Camera Voice "Music is our unity" Is this more exciting than parliamentary voting?
10:35:45:00	Hameed's Campaigner Yes. Afghan Star is more exciting. It captures the love of the people. There is no pressure on them to go and vote. So the people trust their favourite candidate.
10:36:01:00	Hameed's Friend I drove 15 hours in the car just to come and help.
10:36:06:00	Hameed's Campaigners #3 These are Hameed Sakhizada's posters. These are some that we've prepared so far.
10:36:14:00	Hameed's Friend The more the better! I love his songs. I'm in love with his voice. I want 100% that he will be the Afghan Star.
10:36:36:00	Friend in Cafe I'm Hazara. I'm from Maidan Wardak.
10:36:42:00	Hameed There are different ethnic groups in Afghanistan. Different people, different tribes. Different nations. Like Tajik, Pashtun, Pashahi. And they are all voting for me!
10:36:53:00	Off Camera Voice In the past nobody accepted each other. They were fighting each other.
10:36:59:00	Hameed The situation is similar today but at least now we are living under one flag and we should all be called Afghans. I have the character to be a politician. To bring peace and harmony to benefit all the people of Afghanistan.
10:37:38:00 Caption: Khan Family Number One Fan of Afghan Star	
10:38:15:00	Little Girl on Phone Hello. I want to vote for Setara. She's a good singer and she's singing really well. She sings a good song. Goodbye.
10:38:30:00	Little Girl Playing with Dolls This is Rafi. This is Lema Sahar and this is Setara. But Lema doesn't wear these sexy clothes. And now Setara.
10:39:02:00	Girl #1 Sitting on Bed Compared to the others Rafi is better.
10:39:06:00	Girl #2 Sitting on Bed Really.

10:39:24:00	
Caption: Show Day 7 Contestants Remain	
10:39:53:00	Man talking to Lema When you go on stage stand with confidence. Don't fidget and move from foot to foot. Be confident!
10:40:08:00	Lema Yes. Hello.
10:40:16:00	Off Camera Voice Who do you think will be voted out today?
10:40:19:00	
Caption: Tahir Shaqi Contestant	
10:40:23:00	Tahir Shaqi I think Setara. She has a nice voice but her actions on stage aren't favoured by the Afghan people. Dancing may be liked overseas but Afghans don't approve. And look at Lema. She respects her culture on stage. She has got this far and is very dear to the public.
10:40:50:00	Setara My Heart is going thump, thump, thump. I'm saying that I might be out. That is why I feel a little bit nervous. Although the weather is cold my body is shaking from fear.
10:41:04:00	Off Camera Voice Do you think Afghanistan is ready to accept your open mind?
10:41:13:00	Setara Some people approve of me and some people refuse. Those who accept me, they accept me. But the people who do not...I will make them!
10:41:25:00	Lema I don't feel anything. I just want to sing.
10:41:30:00	Off Camera Voice But don't you feel a little afraid of being out?
10:41:33:00	Lema Of course I feel that way a little. There are 2000 people waiting for me. I have one pair of eyes, they have 2000. These eyes are judging my song.
10:41:44:00	Off Camera Voice Lema?
10:41:44:00	Lema What?
10:41:46:00	Off Camera Voice Are you still have secret lessons down in Kandahar?
10:41:49:00	Lema In Kandahar everything is secret.

10:42:23:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) Hameed Sakhizada please come forward. You three have made it through. Is Rafi Naabzada still a star? You two are successful. Is Lema still in the show? Lema Sahar... ..you are... ..going through to the next round! Setara dear.
10:43:09:00	People Backstage Watching TV It's him! It's him!
10:43:13:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) Khalid was here in the beginning... ..he still is now. Now the musicians will play Setara's final song.
10:43:57:00	People Backstage Watching TV Oh my God. Why are you dancing?
10:44:16:00	Setara Singing <i>You are my Heart and the light of my eyes. You are my heart and the light of my eyes. Give me a time when are you going to be my guest? You are my heart and light of my eyes. You are my heart and light of my eyes.</i>
10:44:42:00	Tahir Shaqi She did a very bad thing. Even if she wanted first place, she should not do that.
10:44:48:00	Rafi Setara's dance was not necessary. It is not allowed at all. This is an Islamic society. We live in an Islamic country. In my opinion, it was not a good thing. I know she did this because of her emotions but it will not have a good end.
10:45:15:00	Lema What dance on stage? Do you think Afghan people should do such a thing? I wouldn't do it. Even if they paid me thousands. Or said "dance and you'll win". I wouldn't do it. I wouldn't do it for them.
10:45:52:00	Setara Don't take my picture. Go away. Don't film me. I don't like what you are doing
10:46:05:00	Tahir Shaqi Her life is in danger. In her last song she uncovered her hair and she danced a lot. She will pay a big price.
10:46:18:00	Setara Goodbye.
10:47:00:00	Setara in Car It's like they've never seen a person before. The feelings I had on stage made me act in this way. I always act according to my emotions. I wanted to lift the heaviness from my Heart. Music is the language of emotion. I can show my inner feeling through my voice and my actions. I thought because I am leaving I wanted to do this so they would remember me. So after a period of time, Setara will appear on stage again and she will perform concerts all around the world.
10:48:24:00	Off Camera Voice When they say "Setara", put her picture right there

10:48:32:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) It's not important for me. They are just characters to me that I can create a better culture with... .. move people from the gun to music. We want that dark thinking made brighter. Our people should accept it for God's sake! They watch Shabnum Soraya on cable TV, they watch Maniya, they watch Shakira, they watch Jennifer Lopez, their dancing, their strange clothes...it's around the world.
10:49:06:00	Of course every country has their own culture. I'm not saying she should become like Jennifer Lopez. Or remove her clothes. But when an Afghan girl comes on, OH!She's on TV! AN Afghan girl! They are amazed. We should at least get this far.
10:49:24:00	
Caption: 1890's Kabul	
10:49:27:00	Off Camera Voice The Afghanistan that people around the world see is not the true face of the country. Over here there used to be a very beautiful culture. We had everything. We had art, we had tradition, music, movies.
10:49:52:00	
Caption: 1890's Student Concert Kabul University	
10:50:19:00	
Caption: Khan Family Number One Fans	
10:50:25:00	Off Camera Voice They are great pictures.
10:50:30:00	Off Camera Voice #2 How beautiful.
10:50:38:00	Father of Khan Family The Culture in Kabul was very beautiful. The situation was good and beautiful. The people of Kabul were open-minded. They were liberal at that time. People could live how they wanted. Everyone had a secure life at that time.
10:50:59:00	Mother of Khan Family At university... ..girls and... ..boys were together.
10:51:07:00	Title Card One week after Setara's eviction Ismail Khan, former warlord and ex-governor of Herat, appeared on TV
10:51:17:00	
Caption: Herat Western Afghanistan	

10:51:26:00	<p>Ismail Khan</p> <p>I believe that if the Mujahideen were united, if the Mujahideen struggled, if the Mujahideen used their knowledge and if the Mujahideen used their voice. If they spoke with their clear voice and told the truth this insult and degradation would not have happened. A young girl of Herat would not go as a dancer in the name of “Afghan Star”. She would never have gone! In this region every stone has felt the blood of Martyrs. But today a few people want to make us suffer. They have to know that they are foolish to think that they can harm our people.</p>
10:52:32:00	<p>Man #1 commentating on Setara</p> <p>The people said she can go on Afghan Star and sing but she shouldn’t dance on the stage. Everyone can sing... ..but no one should go that far.</p>
10:52:49:00	<p>Man #2 commentating on Setara</p> <p>Some people think that Setara is a loose woman, because of those actions.</p>
10:52:55:00	<p>Man #3 commentating on Setara</p> <p>A lady shouldn’t be liberal like Setara especially if she is from Herat. A cultured city.</p>
10:53:03:00	<p>Man #1 commentating on Setara</p> <p>I think they will do something bad.</p>
10:53:07:00	<p>Man #4 commentating on Setara</p> <p>She moved on stage. I cannot watch it. She should sing by Islamic rules. She’s so loose. She doesn’t do good things.</p>
10:53:20:00	<p>Man #5 commentating on Setara</p> <p>She’s a flirtatious girl. She brought shame to the Herati people. She deserves to be killed.</p>
10:53:33:00	
Caption: Kabul	
10:53:46:00	<p>Off Camera Voice</p> <p>Do you think going back to Herat is dangerous for you?</p>
10:53:50:00	<p>Setara</p> <p>100% dangerous. About an hour and half ago my sister called from Herat. She said “Setara, in Herat” “people are saying you’ve been killed”.</p> <p>I find I enjoy it when I can sing. But I always feel afraid. I feel really lonely now. If I was with my Father and Mother I would be happy. I should be there with them. But for now I’m alone.</p> <p>This is the dress I wore on stage when I performed my song with a beautiful dance and a very beautiful voice. This is the dress of freedom. We had a lot of hardships during the time of the Taliban, we went to secret schools, every second was dangerous.</p> <p>We thought that if the Taliban caught us we would not be left alive. So it’s not new for me to be afraid. I haven’t done anything, I only sung a song and moved a little even that brought these problems. If I were to sing about my experiences or give political interviews I’d be gone within a week.</p> <p>This is my path. I will continue until the end.</p>
10:54:20:00	
10:55:08:00	

10:55:39:00	Title Card 3 weeks before the final show The Ullema Council of Islamic Scholars hold a meeting. The Council is a government- backed organisation set up to advise on Islamic issues.
10:55:52:00	Man from The Ullema Council of Islamic Scholars The foreigners are telling us we must broadcast under freedom of speech. We have to continuously fight against the enemies of Islam.
10:56:09:00 Caption: Fazl Hadi Shinwari Head of Council	
10:56:14:00	Fazl Hadi Shinwari My message for those that like Afghan Star is each government is based on rules of law and this government has Islamic rules. This country has been invaded and we sacrificed much. The rules must be according to morality and Sharia law. If this immorality continues with men and women openly together this will cause the Islamic people to rise up and wars would start again! If it continues like that society will collapse. The lives of our martyrs would be wasted. We just want Islamic broadcasts. We don't care if it's Tolo or whatever. The Islamic Council is laying this rule. It is our duty to preach the Sharia law. If they accept it, it's OK for us but if they do not act upon it at least we've done our duty.
10:57:20:00	Close up of Letter Header Ministry of Information and Culture
10:57:23:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) They are a group of scholars from the Islamic Council who have a strong opinion against us. They say that a few of the programmes we have aired, and Afghan Star was especially names, that these programmes are misleading the people and are against Sharia law. "You are inviting people to take part in it", "It corrupts their minds", "It is not Islamic!" I don't think we are doing anything wrong. In Afghanistan there was music in the past, music in the present and music in the future.
10:58:08:00	Title Card Rafi, Hameed and Lema have made the top 3. Each is from a different ethnic group. The international media are now interested in Afghan Star
10:59:25:00	Lema Thank you so much for supporting me.
10:59:29:00	Lema Supporter Her courage and confidence is the most important thing. I don't care about her voice or her choice of songs. Her courage and confidence is most important.
10:59:39:00	Man talking about Lema Lema knows that the Pashtun people will support her. It's in their blood and their nature. Whenever they step into a ring of fight, they win! It's the same for her, she's Pashtun too. Pashtun people don't care if she's good or bad. "She's Pashtun, let's support her!"

10:59:57:00	<p>Lema The whole universe is talking about me. What position will I get? When will I be out? What song will I be singing? The people tell me that they don't want to watch the night that Lema will be out. You should know that our own Taliban are now voting for me. Believe it! There are Taliban SMS-ing votes for me. The Taliban related to the Pashtun people. I'm Pashtun, so they are supporting me.</p>
11:00:55:00	<p>Boy in Shop Watching Afghan Star Hameed.</p>
11:01:08:00	<p>Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) In the name of merciful God, and you people, the supporters, the makes of our Stars, Hello. Welcome the three remaining Afghan Stars to the stage!</p>
11:01:40:00	<p>Lema This is a proud place to be that I've got this far. I thank all Afghan people. I am very proud to have got here.</p>
11:01:55:00	<p>Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) Sakhizada please stand forward. Hameed Sakhizada... ..has made it this far and will continue to perform. So the person who goes out in 3rd place... on Afghan Star... is...Lema Sahar.</p>
11:03:04:00	<p>Man in Shop Watching Afghan Star For the poor Afghan people Afghan Star is better than politics. All of the bad strategies in politics bring misery for our people. So for this reason, most people like pop programmes and music they like it.</p>
11:03:27:00	<p>Hameed Singing <i>I went to the top of the mountain and I shouted look at my beautiful woman walking. The secret of my heart is coming. When I saw her I remembered to pray to the lion of men look at my beautiful woman walking. The secret of my heart is coming.</i></p>
11:03:46:00	<p>Man talking to Lema Lema. Go on cry.</p>
11:03:49:00	<p>Lema No. I won't. If someone held a knife to my throat, I wouldn't cry!</p>
11:03:57:00	<p>Rafi Singing <i>The spring has come and I will sacrifice myself for you. Looking at my beautiful woman walking. The secret of my heart is coming. Her eyebrows are like a bow, shooting a look that kills me. Look at my beautiful woman walking. The secret of my heart is coming. I'm sure our promises of love, you will keep. Look at my beautiful woman walking. The secret of my heart is coming.</i></p>
11:05:00:00	<p>Hameed and Rafi Singing <i>Look at my beautiful woman walking. The secret of my heart is coming. Listen to the sounds of my aching heart, when she's far, it explodes with pain. Listen to the sound of my aching heart, when she's far, it explodes with pain. Look at my beautiful woman walking. The secret of my heart is coming.</i></p>
11:05:28:00	
<p>Caption: Kabul News Broadcast</p>	

11:05:28:00	<p>Off Camera Voice</p> <p>The Taliban spokesman has said that foreign forces are using mobile telephones to track and attack the Taliban forces. The Taliban has given 3 days to telephone companies to stop the network in the Taliban strongholds at night. Otherwise they will attack the telephone centres and masts. There are 6 million people in Afghanistan using mobile phones.</p>
11:06:09:00	<p>Presenter (Daoud Sediqi)</p> <p>You know this will have a negative affect on Afghan Star. The Afghan Star voting system works on SMS. The telephone is the heart of the programme and if it's taken... .. the programme will die.</p>
11:07:12:00	<p>Right now we live in a city with a government. We are working within government rules. We want to revive our culture under these rules. As long as the government is alive, I am alive. Are the Taliban going to become powerful and change it all? They have no affect on our morale. I'm not scared of the Taliban. Don't talk about them. They're not important.</p>
11:07:35:00	<p>Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) Driving Around in Car</p> <p>Every regime that comes, our lives change. A new regime would come and our lives would change again. I've seen it in war, in peace. I've seen its beauty and its cruelty. The first movie theatre I went to is right there in front of your eyes.</p>
11:08:01:00	<p>Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) In Cinema</p> <p>There was a hallway down there. There was a fight between two Mujahadeen groups when this place was destroyed. This street was kind of frontline separating the two sides. I was about 13 then. This big red rocket came and hit the cinema. It all burnt down. I could not believe that this city and its beauty would be ruined.</p>
11:08:46:00	<p>Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) Driving around in Car</p> <p>Hi Amir. How are you? Setara has experienced some kind of difficulty. The house owner has told her she can't stay there anymore. They are saying she is going through some kind of difficulty. She called us and said that she's got problems. Please call her.</p>
11:09:13:00	<p>Title Card</p> <p>Setara is evicted from her Kabul apartment. Despite death threats, Setara returns to her family home in Herat.</p>
11:09:35:00	<p>Captain of Plane</p> <p>This is your captain... ..soon we will be landing in Herat.</p>
11:09:41:00	<p>Setara's Father</p> <p>We don't want to interfere. She said, "I want to be a singer". So I told her she could do it if she wanted to.</p>
11:09:52:00	<p>Setara's Mother</p> <p>We had graffiti painted on our door saying, "Setara has gone to Afghan Star" "She has become bad" " She is a whore!"</p>
11:10:02:00	<p>Setara</p> <p>Perhaps I should cover my face.</p>
11:10:05:00	<p>Off Camera Voice</p> <p>If Setara comes back to Herat as you know it's not safe here in Herat. Maybe she'll get stopped on the way from the airport. Or maybe she'll get shot by someone with a gun. Or stabbed by someone with a knife. It's not safe in Herat now. Leaving the house will not be safe for her. We are not happy with her coming here. I think Setara should stay in Kabul.</p>

11:10:38:00	Setara Hello. Are you fine?
11:10:44:00	Voice on Phone We heard you've been killed.
11:10:47:00 11:11:24:00	Setara No. It's not true. No. I'm not dead. Bye. Take the next left.
11:11:52:00	Setara's Sister Setara's come
11:12:07:00	Setara My sister don't cry.
11:12:14:00	Off Camera Voice Take her inside the house.
11:12:31:00	Setara Oh mother. I haven't seen you for months.
11:12:41:00	Setara's Mother I'm so happy you've been successful in this programme.
11:12:48:00	Setara My teacher said he'd compose my songs and write my music. Everyone is helping me.
11:12:59:00	Setara's Mother We have no sorrows but we do miss you when you are away.
11:13:06:00	Setara's Sister How can our own people disturb our family like this? As long as you're a good girl, we'll be proud of you.
11:13:16:00	Off Camera Voice One Mullah was talking about music. One Scholar even said that music can take us to heaven.
11:13:42:00 Caption: 2 Contestants Remain	
11:14:11:00	Translation of Shop Sign "TV Repair Shop"
11:14:13:00	Man Working in Shop We thank Afghan Star as our work is in more demand. The majority of the people want to see this programme and that's why their televisions are going wrong. They bring them here and we repair them. The more they watch, the more problems there are for us to fix.
11:14:37:00	Little Boy Working in Shop Please give me the battery I'll give you another one to you. I need it. People come here to get their batteries charged.

11:14:51:00	Second Little Boy Working in Shop They need them to watch TV programmes at night. To turn on their lights, to light the house, listen to music and charge their cars. We don't have a TV but sometimes we have a TV in the shop. So for one or two hours we can watch it. We only saw one minute of the singing. The TV had to go back.
11:15:45:00	Hameed's Campaigner in Car Dear people of Kabul... ..this is the final episode of Afghan Star! Your vote can decide their fate. Vote quickly! Time is running out! We thank you for your help and support so far. Your vote will take him to the mountain of success. Come put your hands together to support the young artist. Make Hameed Sakhizada the Afghan Star!
11:16:39:00	Translation of Poster Hameed Sakhizada
11:16:40:00	Little Boy What a big nose you have!
11:16:43:00	Man talking about Hameed He says he is from the whole of Afghanistan and we love him because of this.
11:16:47:00	Man talking about Afghan Star Ask me a question. Shut up you lot! We love both of them. One brother, one heart, one mind.
11:16:58:00	Man on horse I vote for Hameed Sakhizada!
11:17:05:00	Man talking about Afghan Star If I vote for both of them, it's a waste. If I vote for one, the other is upset.
11:17:24:00	Little Boy Asking For Poster Please give one to me!
11:17:28:00	Man Handing Out Poster As you can see these small children are fans of Rafi.
11:17:40:00	Man Talking About Afghan Star We support Rafi.
11:17:42:00	Off Camera Voice Rafi Naabzada
11:17:44:00	Man #2 Talking About Afghan Star Even the sheep have got stomach ache because of Rafi. Rafi's got them in trouble. Don't do that. Take the sheep home.
11:18:19:00	Rafi You have do my make-up better than Hameed's.
11:18:23:00	Rafi's Make-Up Artist That was my plan, to make you better than him.
11:18:27:00	Rafi I have no idea who will win the decision belongs to the people.
11:18:35:00	Off Camera Voice If you win would you become a politician?

11:18:38:00	Rafi I do have an interest in politics but I'm afraid politics can get you killed. I would like my music to be my politics. This is what I'm good at.
11:19:22:00	Hameed Rafi if you want to sing traditional Hazara songs you have to study the classical style for 10 years. It's not easy.
11:19:29:00	Rafi That's just lion's pussy! People just want a good voice.
11:19:35:00	Hameed Oh really? What voice are you talking about? You don't have a voice, but you have beauty.
11:19:43:00 Caption: Intercontinental Hotel, Kabul Venue for the Final	
11:20:18:00	Mother of Khan Family The Taliban would shoot you for wearing that.
11:21:38:00	Woman At Final of Afghan Star Everyone is waiting to see who will win. Young, poor, farmer, politician, minister...Everybody is waiting for that. I'm trying not to wear the veil. But when we sing the national anthem we must wear it. But most of the time, I will try not to.
11:22:00:00	Off Camera Voice You all look amazing but where are your headscarves?
11:22:12:00	Mother of Khan Family No veil! No Burqa!
11:22:26:00	Off Camera Voice Welcome to the stage...Daoud Sediqi.
11:22:51:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) Who do you think will be the Afghan Star? No...We're not going to announce it yet. First Hameed Sakhizada will sing for you.
11:23:19:00	Hameed Singing <i>If you are from Bamyan or Kandahar. We are one brother. We are all one brother. If you are from Kabul, Balkh or Takher. We are one brother. We are all one brother. If you are from Wardak, Nimroz, Oruzgan, Qalalot and Kunerhar. We are all one brother. We are all one brother. We are all one brother.</i>
11:24:07:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) Thank you Hameed Sakhizada. Round of applause for Hameed Sakhizada. OK. Now Rafi will sing for this final show.
11:24:44:00	Rafi Singing <i>May the length of my existence be as short as her faithfulness. My glass of wine is now empty it will break by the weight of this life. My glass of wine is now empty it will break by the weight of this life. It will break by the weight of this life. It will break by the weight of this life.</i>

11:25:16:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) Now we will announce the Afghan Star. Thank you very much everyone. You are welcome. Should we announce the result? Who is the Afghan Star?
11:25:38:00	Mother of Khan Family Rafi!
11:25:41:00	Father of Khan Family Hameed
11:25:48:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) So let's find out who has won.
11:25:56:00	Man announcing result These two artists both have beautiful voices but the person who the people have voted for...the person who's won the title... is... Rafi dear...
11:26:38:00	Presenter (Daoud Sediqi) Afghan Star. Long live Afghanistan!
11:26:47:00	Title Card 11 million Afghans, a third of the country, watched the final of Afghan Star
11:26:57:00	Title Card Rafi and Hameed are now household names and are planning tours abroad.
11:27:06:00	Title Card Since the final Setara has returned safely to Kabul to record an Album
11:27:16:00	Title Card Lema has received death threats from the Taliban in Kandahar. She is now under the protection of the city's governor.
11:27:28:00	Title Card The Ullema Council has persuaded the government to ban dancing on television
11:27:32:00	Title Card Despite increased government pressure Tolo TV continues with Afghan Star
11:27:40:00	Credit Role Produced and Directed By Havana Marking Camera & Sound Phil Stebbing Editor Ash Jenkins Executive Producers Martin Herring Mike Lerner Jahid Mohseni Assistant Editor Samir Nasim Production Manager Janet Knipe

Production Accountant

Rodney Brooks

Translators

Safiya Frista Said

Wais Mohammed

Gulalai Daqi

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Nasim Karimi

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Mumtaz

Areef Mohammed

Qais Bakhshi

Akmal Khaliq

Zaki Khaliqi

Production Team Kabul

Nasim Karimi

Amir Shamil

Habib Amiri

Sekander Saleh

Reza Sher Mohamed

Mumtaz The Driver

Areef Mohammed

Colourist

Andy Lee

Sound Dubbing

Scott Wilkinson

Post Production

On Sight

Fitzrovia

Original Music Score

Simon Russell

With thanks to

CBA-DFID

Broadcast Media Scheme

11:28:01:00	Logo The Channel Four British Documentary Film Foundation
11:28:05:00	Caption: Production Distributed by C4I Distribution ©Redstart Media/ Roast Beef Productions/ Aria Productions 2008

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