JALALABAD – Sixty-three Afghan refugees, mostly women and children, were released from captivity in the eastern province of Nangarhar on Sunday, officials said.

The refugees, who were held by local Taliban commanders in the district of Shabqadar, were handed over to the Afghan government by the Taliban.

The release comes amid growing efforts by the Afghan government to improve its relations with the Taliban, who control much of the country.

The Afghan government has been working to secure the release of thousands of detainees held by the Taliban, as part of efforts to reach a peace deal with the insurgents.

The release of the refugees is a positive step towards improving the relationship between the Afghan government and the Taliban.

Meanwhile, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has called for the release of all detained refugees.

UNHCR has been urging the Taliban to release all detained refugees, including women and children, as part of efforts to improve the situation of refugees in Afghanistan.

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