



MASSOUD & RESISTANCE

Future of Afghanistan, and Global
Security Threat Under Taliban Control

Conference on the legacy of Ahmad Shah Massoud, the perils of international engagement with the Taliban, and assessing the global terrorism threat and its implications for Australia

FRIDAY
SEP, 20

TIME
6PM

Parramatta Town Hall,
182 Church St,
Parramatta NSW 2150



23RD ANNIVERSARY

Of Ahmad Shah Massoud's Assassination

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From 15 August 2021, after re-taking power in Afghanistan, the Taliban have maintained a language of force and terror against their political opponents and the diverse linguistic, sectarian and ethnic communities of Afghanistan.

The Taliban argues that after almost five decades of conflict in Afghanistan they have brought “security” to the country, albeit, by force. Almost immediately, they started extrajudicial persecution, summary execution of particular ethnic groups, banned Secondary and Tertiary education for girls.

To discuss the status que in Afghanistan and its implications on diaspora in Australia, we are holding a conference in Sydney on the occasion of the 23rd anniversary of Ahmad Shah Massoud's assassination.

The conference on Massoud & Resistance aims to bring together global experts, policy makers, diaspora activists, and stakeholders to commemorate Afghanistan's National Hero, Ahmad Shah Massoud, discuss his legacy of resistance to international terrorism, and address pressing issues facing Afghanistan today.

The conference will provide a platform for dialogue, knowledge-sharing, and collaboration to promote peace, human rights, and a framework for Afghanistan.



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Topics of Discussion

1. Commemoration of Afghanistan National Hero:

Honoring the legacy and contributions of Afghanistan's National Hero through discussions, tributes, and reflections on his enduring impact on the nation and its people.

2. Massoud's Legacy of Resistance to International Terrorism:

Exploring Massoud's principled stand against international terrorism and his strategies for combating extremist ideologies to inspire present and future generations.

3. Ongoing Human Rights Abuses in Afghanistan:

Addressing critical human rights issues in Afghanistan, including challenges related to girls' education, freedom of expression, dire economic conditions, and targeted extra-

judicial persecution of young Tajiks.

4. Refugee Crisis:

Examining the humanitarian impact of the refugee crisis in Afghanistan and exploring solutions to support displaced populations and promote sustainable repatriation and resettlement in Australia.

5. Diaspora Engagement:

Highlighting the role of diaspora in contributing to the development and peace-building efforts in Afghanistan and fostering greater engagement and collaboration.

6. Threat of Violent Extremism:

Assessing the threat of violent extremism in Australia, particularly the influence of Taliban on youth and local communities and identifying strategies to counter radicalization and promote inclusive and tolerant societies.



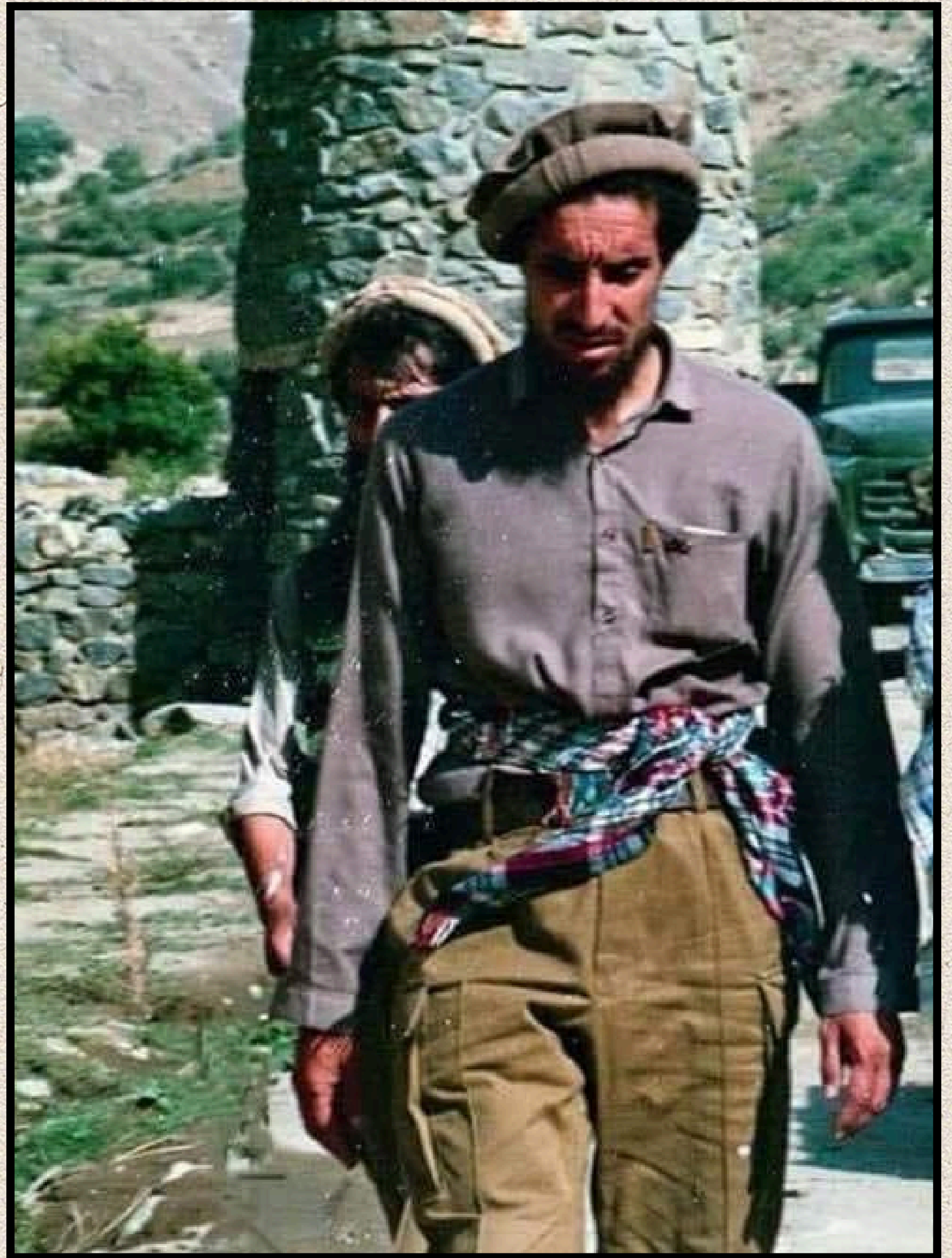
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Objectives

- To commemorate Afghanistan National Hero and celebrate his legacy of resistance to international terrorism.
- To raise awareness about ongoing human rights abuses in Afghanistan and advocate for positive change.
- To foster dialogue on addressing the refugee crisis and supporting displaced populations.
- To enhance diaspora engagement and collaboration for the development of Afghanistan.
- To discuss strategies to counter the threat of violent extremism and promote peace.





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Australian Impact

In the absence of a clear and credible roadmap that outlines the conditions necessary for peace and stability in Afghanistan, there has been considerable confusion among Western governments and international organizations, including the UN, which currently engages with the de facto authorities on behalf of the international community. With the recent appointment of the UN Special Envoy on Afghanistan, it has become imperative to engage with both armed and civil resistance movements. This roadmap for a political settlement can serve as a guide for Afghanistan's stakeholders in shaping the country's future peace by involving Afghan civil society and other resistance groups.

Furthermore, there is an urgent need to establish a credible mechanism for achieving a political settlement in Afghanistan. While numerous political factions have proposed various roadmaps, many resemble little more than wish lists. Ahmad Shah Massoud, however, drawing on his experience in resisting the Soviet Union in the 1980s and confronting the Taliban and its terrorist allies like Al-Qaida in the 1990s, proposed a practical roadmap for a political settlement to end the conflict in Afghanistan. His vision aimed to bring stability to the "heart of Asia," where Afghanistan is situated, recognizing that instability in Afghanistan has far-reaching impacts on South, Central, West, and East Asia. Our conference is open to policymakers, government officials, academics, civil society organizations, humanitarian agencies, journalists, activists, youth representatives, and members of Afghanistan's diaspora.



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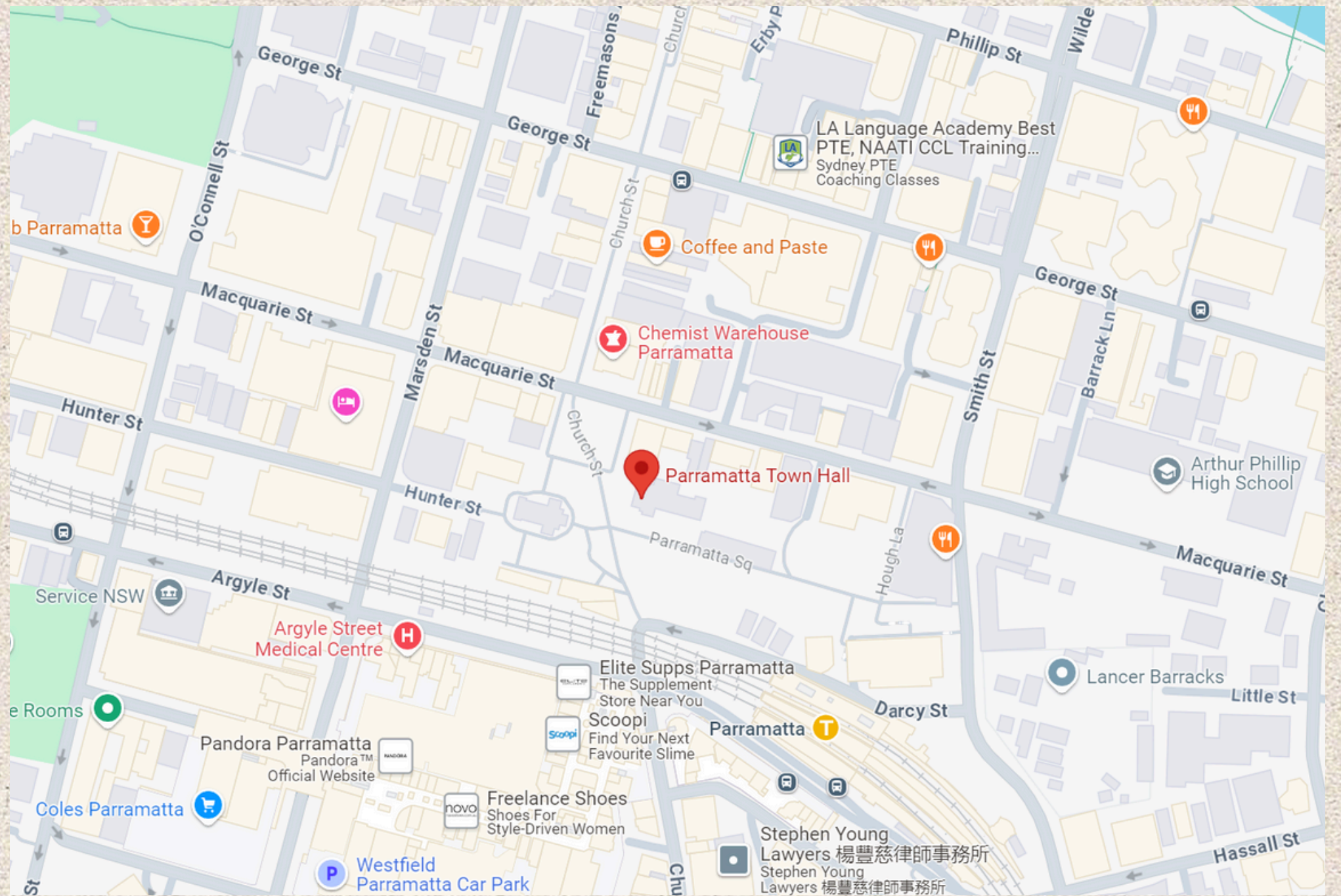
DIRECTIONS

Venue

**Parramatta
Town Hall**

**182 Church St,
Parramatta
NSW 2150.**

For more details
on parking and
transport, see
below:



Carparks

- **Parramatta Square Car Park - Paid**
- **Parramatta Westfield - 3 Hours Free**
A 5 minute walk from the station
- **Parramatta Station (Public Transport)**
A 3 minute walk from the station

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