

BAHIR SHAH

Batsman



Name	Bahir Shah
DOB	21/02/2000
Nationality	Afghan
Player Status	Available
Playing Role	Batter
Batting Style	RH Top Order Bat
Bowling Style	RA Off Spin
Entry Route	

Bahir Shah is, quite simply, a run scoring machine. An incredible prospect with a domestic record that pits him among the true greats of the game.

At the point of writing (26/07/23), the Afghan boasts the eighth-highest first-class batting average in history (minimum of 40 innings), behind the likes of legends including Donald Bradman (95.14), Vijay Merchant (71.64), and George Headley (69.86).

Shah, who averages 63.88 in his 57 innings to date, has notched up 9 centuries amongst his 2,811 runs to date. Add 2 further centuries (815 runs at 38.80) in List A cricket, and you can see why Shah was rewarded with an Afghanistan Test call-up against Bangladesh in June 2023.

The run machine, who has already featured for Afghanistan at U19 (2017/18), U23, and A team (2019) level, only scored 7 in the first-innings on debut, but clearly looks set for a long career at international level.

The right-hander originally burst onto the Afghanistan domestic scene in October 2017, striking 256* on his first-class debut for Speen Ghar Region. He would go on to top the Ahmad Shah Abdali 4-Day Tournament run charts that year, hitting 1,096 runs at 121.77 including scores of 111, 116, 104, and a record-breaking 303* - the first Afghan to score a triple century.

A few months later (Jan 2018) and he would average 36 for his country at the ICC Under-19 World Cup, before another dominant first-class tournament (2018/19) hitting 600 runs at 100 with 2 further centuries.

By his standards, his 2019/20 red ball campaign was mediocre, yet he still averaged mid-40s, but he made up for it in the Ghazi Amanullah Khan Regional One Day Tournament (List A), striking 2 hundreds to average 79.

Unfortunately for Shah, COVID struck to prevent any significant cricket in 2020/21 but he returned to domestic cricket in 2021/22 where he continued to shine, hitting 3 half-centuries in 6 first-class innings with an average just shy of 50. He has then backed up with a further 250 runs at 41.66 in 2022/23, with the majority of these runs coming in one incredible innings (182).

The Afghan record-breaker is now seeking further opportunities and has targeted a season in England to continue his development and push towards Franchise honours.

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