

Medal for Selflessness (aka "Self-Sufficiency Medal"), 1982- 1992.

Brass, silver plating (the cogwheel edge), red lacquer. Medallion is 38.7 mm wide. The artwork was obviously inspired by Soviet labor awards, with familiar tractor, hydroelectric dam and power lines superimposed on mountainous native terrain.

In excellent condition. Still has all of its original red lacquer in the red star; the fragile silver finish on the cogwheel is clearly visible. There are many tiny dings to the medallion, but they are practically unnoticeable to the naked eye; the raised details of the artwork are nicely preserved and crisp. The ribbon is a replacement, a generic type often used by Afghan award recipients on all kinds of medals.

This medal is sometimes incorrectly referred to as Self- Sufficiency Medal. Awarded for outstanding contribution to development of national economy, education, health care and arts.

/See *State Awards of Afghanistan* p. 49/

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