



NECDO NEWS LETTER

Let's light a candle instead of cursing the Darkness

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Our Vision

We envision a peaceful & prosperous Afghanistan by mobilizing communities through empowerment, capacity building and polishing leadership potential of women and youths in order to have a just society with skilled, professional human resource potential.

Our Objectives

1. To mobilize & raise awareness among Afghans to eliminate differences and work for long term Peace
2. To empowerment women, men, & youths with leadership potential through research, networking and advocacy for elimination of violence against women.
3. To Empower Afghan women and children (including widows, orphans, and disabled) through vocational, capacity building trainings and arrangement of small self-supported projects leading towards self-reliance.
4. To conduct advocacy initiatives on EAW with special focus on sexual harassment & child marriage.

Core Programs:

1. **Peace Building Initiative Program**
2. **Advocacy on Elimination of Violence Against Women (Sexual Harassment & Child Marriage)**
3. **Educational activities (formal & informal education, libraries...)**
4. **Capacity building (Short term & long term)**
5. **Research**
6. **Media**

Delegitimizing Oppressive Discourse Training for Afghan Women

Women's Rights Activist on Women's Rights in Islamic Legal

Framework

Maryam "Aria" graduate of Islamic law faculty from Kabul University shared her opinion regarding to this subject as such: The course of topics this program is providing us is really interesting and useful those are taught by distinguished foreign and indoor professors. And what is taught in this program is like a guidance and light. It dependence on us that how we are going to use it to reach successful. She added after acquiring this training I will be an effective element for the society especially for women whose rights have always been violated. She said our community needs female leaders especially now since women do not have any rule in the society because of that they need leaders from their own gender to help them solve their problems. And a woman leader should have the following characteristics.

1. Higher education
2. Being aware of the situation of organization that she has the
3. Being kind
4. Stringency
5. Self-confidence
6. Responsible
7. Influential

Ms. Maryam added I want to be a good leader in the future because the skills that are taught in this training for us will give me the ability to be a good leader. Of course I am not claiming that I can be a leader right now, but I want to inbreed and extend this ability in myself.



Who we are?

Noor Educational and Capacity Development Organization (NECDO) is a non-governmental, impartial and non-political organization, registered with Ministry of Economy in 2002 with INO.95. NECDO was established in January 2001 by a group of volunteers to help and support needy Afghan women, youth, and children when the Afghan nation was passing through time-tested moments of its history in Peshawar Afghan Refugee Camps. The destructive civil war resulted in material and spiritual losses for the nation. NECDO started its activities with little means, but greatness of purpose, which was based on humanitarian and development assistance. We believe that unity, faith, proper mobilization of youth & empowerment of Afghan communities can reduce the miseries of the Afghan nation. During our social activities in camps, we realized the need for education, capacity building and income generation projects in order to help our nation with sustainable development; especially educating Afghan women, youth, and children were the priorities set forth; with the believe that it is better to light a candle rather than curse the darkness we initiated several projects and implemented them successfully.

Mobilizing Afghan Men to Protect Women Rights Democracy and Peace

During month of October 2016 NECDO were contacted two workshops in Badakhshan. The participants were students, civil society activists, women right activists, local leaders, government employees from gender department, scholars, NGO employees, and other men and women from different areas. These four workshops were held in directorate of women affairs of Badakhshan. The participates were very active and hardworking, they were very successful during the workshops and they were much interested learning what was taught in the workshops. They were very thankful and pleasant from NECDO for contacting such programs because Badakhshan is a remote area and they lack such programs. Most of the participates were very active so they were selected as CWG (community working groups) members.

The training agenda are the following:

1. Violence against women in Afghanistan
2. Short review of EVAW law
3. Five core rights of women in Islam
4. Muslim women's responsibilities in family
5. Gender
6. Evaluation



NECDO Photo Gallery

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Role of Ulama in Sustainable Peace (Conference Report)

Summary of the Event:

The role of Ulama in sustainable people conference has been successfully held on 24th Sept of 2016 by the leadership of Fazel Ghani Kakar the Managing Director of NECDO and participation of Ulama, civil society activist, employees of Ministry of Hajj and pilgrimage, employees of ministry of information and culture, and some brothers and sisters from different areas at ministry of information and culture hall. The aim of this conference was to convey the message of peace, unity and equality to the people of Afghanistan.

Brief Report of Event:

Subsequently, Mr. Fazel Karim "Saraji" general director of mosques at Hajj and pilgrimage said: war is Allah's anguish and peace is the biggest blessing of Allah. Peace causes happiness and comfort in the midst of all the people. This is the responsibility of all the scholars to invite all the people to the peace and in fact it's their responsibility toward the lord to be fulfilled. They should convey a message of peace to the whole of society and the people towards peace. Also, he said that the neighboring Muslim countries should also cooperate and effort to bring peace in the country.

General Mohammad Yusuf Hemat about creating such peace efforts said: "peace is weal and happiness". He also said that we are all Muslims and Afghans then why we are fighting with each other. Also he added the intervention of other countries is causing war and misery between us, until we (all Afghans) are not united we can never have a peaceful and secure country.

Mr. Tadjudin Anshory the Ambassador of Indonesia after appreciating his invitation to this conference he expressed his opinion as such " peace means prosperity and happiness, and peace means bliss. Peace means acceptance of each other's idea. Peace and security means being safe from dangers. Every individual should feel themselves secure and protected and all things should be done without obstacle" This is called peace. What is peace? And why do we need peace? When there is peace people can deal with their works and children can go to schools and next generation will not be divested from education right and they will take advantage of education and they will be able to live in a blessing and relaxed atmosphere. He also added though in Indonesia there is 4 religions and 300 nations, they all live peacefully and in a brotherhood environment. For the establishment of peace and security our country relies on these five points.

1. Reliance on Allah SWT.
2. Feeling of responsibility and justice.
3. The unity among the people.
4. Democracy which is based on understanding.
5. Unity among all Indonesian nations.

He mentioned those 5 points for Afghan people in order to use them to have peace in country.

Mr. Oriya: expressed his opinion on bringing peace as such: War is not the way to happiness and peace, but it is the way to ruin and damage. He has also added that for bringing peace we have to negotiate and discuss with insurgents rather than fighting with them. And for bringing peace we need plans so we can have peaceful environment with true meaning.

Conclusion:

All the participants considered peace as the way to end the war and they said that peace is the way to the happiness and bliss. For bringing peace the whole Afghans should be untied and show their efforts.

WILPF IS DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE OUR NEWEST NATIONAL GROUP: WILPF AFGHANISTAN

The group, which has become WILPF AFGHANISTAN GROUP, for the first time brings together a number of women, men and youth to work for the inclusion of Afghan women in peace building programs and give them an active role.

In 2001, Afghanistan witnessed positive developments towards women's rights, participation and development. However, due to low capacity and limited number of organizations working for women in Afghanistan, the current situation for women is still very bad.

Over recent years WILPF has been flourishing in the Middle East [2] with WILPF Afghanistan's entry into the WILPF family coming at a time of great expansion and success for WILPF in the area.

We caught up with WILPF Afghanistan Group's President JAMILA AFGHANI.

WHAT WAS THE MAIN REASON TO BECOME PART OF THE WILPF FAMILY?

Afghanistan has gone through many decades of war and has been the conflict zone for many years. Women have always been victims of this war and conflict and have suffered both physically and mentally, they are in Dire need of peace and freedom, because it is the peace and freedom which may heal the wounds of these years of conflict.

IN WHAT WAYS DO YOU BELIEVE THAT WILPF AFGHANISTAN GROUP WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN ADDRESSING THE ROOT CAUSES OF VIOLENCE IN COMMUNITIES AROUND THE COUNTRY?

Women have always been treated as a second gender and they do not have any role in the society and peace making up to now. However, they are new hopes for the future, the presence of partial democracy and support of the international community to empower women is paving the way for more roles of women in the tomorrow Afghanistan where WILPF Afghanistan will have its strong presence through contribution and expand of women's role in peace process._

WHAT DIFFICULTIES HAVE YOU FACED UP UNTIL NOW, AND WHAT CHALLENGES DO YOU BELIEVE THAT WILPF AFGHANISTAN GROUP WILL EXPERIENCE IN THE FUTURE?

One of the biggest challenges that Afghan people in general face is the insecurity and the traditional and cultural barriers that prevent women from being involved in the peace process and social activist in the Society. However, we the group of WILPF Afghanistan strongly believe that our struggle will bring positive changes in the mindset of the people and will overturn the behavior.

WHAT ARE WILPF AFGHANISTAN GROUP'S MAIN AIMS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR, AND WHAT DO YOU HOPE TO ACHIEVE?

Our main aim is to work for Afghanistan as peace makers and give women role in the development, freedom and prosperity in order to be able to become active and constructive member of the global movement for peace And freedom.



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