



A Statement

"Marking the Taliban's three years of Second Takeover of Afghanistan 15th August"

8th August 2024

August 15, 2021, marks the Taliban's takeover in Afghanistan and the fall of the republican government. This date is a stark reminder of the beginning of yet another dark chapter in the country's history. Over the past three years, the people of Afghanistan have endured numerous crises across various sectors, including widespread violations of human rights and women's rights, escalating poverty, mass migration, and a deepening economic crisis.

Various international organizations, including the United Nations, have reported a significant increase in human rights violations, poverty, and unemployment compared to the period under the republican government. Afghan women's rights in particular have been severely infringed upon in every aspect of life civil, cultural, economic, social, and political. The current situation is dire and demands urgent attention and action from the global community.

Regrettably, the international community, particularly the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), has failed to take clear and practical steps to hold the Taliban accountable.

The past three years have exposed the international community's lack of genuine commitment to the people of Afghanistan, both in terms of human rights and moral obligations. This failure is exemplified by the exclusion of Afghan women from meaningful participation in the Doha conferences, as well as the omission of Taliban opposition voices. Such actions have further undermined the rights and well-being of the Afghan people.

The decision to exclude women representatives, civil society, political and social elites and scholars from the third Doha meeting, coupled with the simultaneous removal of human rights issues from the agenda, demonstrates a concerning alignment with the Taliban government's preferences. This apparent diplomatic concession raises serious questions about the international community's commitment to promoting and protecting the rights of the Afghan people. During the third Doha conference, Taliban representatives engaged in dialogue and diplomatic meetings. Notably, a United Nations representative held a special meeting with the Taliban representatives, which seemed to elevate the Taliban's diplomatic standing on the international stage.

However, the international community's limited support did little to prevent the Taliban's harsh violations of human rights. The systematic exclusion of Afghan women and girls from education, employment, and public life has worsened the situation. Despite expressing regret and concern over these violations, the

international community must take practical steps to fulfill its responsibility and commitment to addressing these issues.

A thousand days of girls and women being barred from studying, educating, and working is an irreparable loss that cannot be compensated for in years. Afghanistan is currently the only country in the world where girls and women are deprived of their fundamental rights, including freedom of movement and freedom of speech rights protected under both Islamic law (Sharia) and international laws.

The justice and judicial systems, essential in upholding justice and implementing the rule of law, are also in severe crisis in Afghanistan. The Taliban's judicial system systematically violates human rights across the country. Women who engage in protests and activism are being detained and imprisoned by the Taliban, where they face torture, sexual, physical, and psychological abuse. Moreover, their families, when attempting to speak out against these injustices, are also threatened and subjected to coercive measures. This perpetuates a cycle of fear and intimidation, stifling dissent and maintaining the Taliban's oppressive control.

Additionally, the Taliban further violate the rights of female activists and protesters by forcing them to falsely confess to crimes and remain silent about their experiences within prison walls. This manipulation and suppression of their voices perpetuates a culture of fear and concealment, making it difficult to expose the human rights violations occurring within these detention centers.

Breadwinning women are barred from work and have lost their sources of income. As a result, many women are forced into begging or even engaging in immoral activities to support their families. Additionally, children are increasingly compelled to work, further exacerbating the cycle of poverty.

Afghanistan is now one of the countries with the highest number of illegal immigrants. Afghan citizens are fleeing from Taliban rule, risking their lives in hopes of a better future. Since the Taliban's takeover, eight million Afghans have fled the country, with most living in neighboring countries under very difficult conditions.

Our Main Demands:

- We, the women and girls of Afghanistan, stand united in our struggle for the restoration of our rights and freedoms. We urge the international community, particularly the United Nations, to provide unwavering and unequivocal support in defending the rights of Afghan women.
- We implore the global community, especially the UN, to act with sincerity and integrity in their actions and commitments towards the people of Afghanistan. It is crucial that their efforts genuinely contribute to the betterment of our nation and its citizens, especially Afghan girls and women.
- We urge the UN, EU, OIC, and all Islamic countries to stand firmly on their international moral obligations. They must offer sincere support for the immediate restoration of all rights for Afghan women and girls, including the right to education, employment, and access to justice.
- We also call upon DFA to refrain from exploiting the issue of women's rights as a political bargaining chip. They should not insult Islamic and Afghan traditional values for political gain. We demand they honor their international commitments made during the Doha meetings and other conferences on human rights and women's rights. Instead, they should remain firm on their international commitments and remove all obstacles hindering Afghan women and girls from exercising their

rights freely and pursuing their aspirations, contributing meaningfully to the process of building a prosperous nation.