



A Call for:

PROTECTION OF RIGHTS OF AFGHAN WOMEN

The imposed war has inflicted tremendous calamities on our people, the brunt of which is being endured by the women of Afghanistan.

Peace is a prerequisite for the survival of our society and a fundamental aspiration of the people, including the women.

The bloodstained tragedy of Afghanistan is an effect and product of the intervention and invasion of the rival international powers and the permanent members of the UN Security Council, whose legal and moral responsibility against Afghanistan and its people is brighter the sun.

Therefore, taking into consideration the universally accepted principle of “moral obligation”, the international community - and the United States of America in the first place , need to respect the great sacrifices of our people during the past four decades, including the eighteen years of their broad military presence under the name of defense of the rights and freedom, and refrain from hastily reducing the legitimate demands of the Afghan women and men in the peace process, to the level of an election project inside America.

While deciding on peace in Afghanistan, it is very essential for Mr. Trump to keep in mind an invaluable quote of one of his predecessors, Abraham Lincoln: “no issue is resolved, unless it is justly resolved”.

Therefore, while emphasizing on the truth that:

The people, including the women of Afghanistan do not beg their peace and rights from the American and its allies. The rights of the Afghan women are not something gifted by the 18-year presence of America, as is uttered by some American and European propagandists. Rather, the history is witness to the fact that:

The movement of the Afghan women and its protecting states were overthrown by the British colonialism, American and their allies in the beginning and the end of the past century.

Likewise, the incentive for the oil and gas giants of Unocal and Bidas to support the Taliban, and the role of America in this game, are more notorious than the infidelity of the devil.

This is true that the Afghan society is a patriarchal society. However, admitting this fact can in no way negate the sanctity of women and their historical presence in the defense of the homeland and the struggle for their rights. Thousand years ago, the women of this land have composed poetry, and have made epics in safeguarding the country. Therefore, to confine the personality of woman to *Burqa* and *Chador* is the idea of those who are willing to protract this heinous phenomenon of the British imperialism and disrespect the *Chador* of the Afghan woman and mother and its dignified position in the history of Afghanistan.

Hence, defending the rights of the Afghan woman is neither any imitation of the West, and nor is it any premature and luxurious ambition. Its major aspects can be specified as following:

- Do not negate what the Afghan women have fought for in the course of the history, that have been enshrined as the women's rights in the Afghan constitutions during the past hundred years, starting from the first constitution and the formation of the national state under the leadership of King Amanullah, all the successive six constitutions, including chapter 2 of the current constitution.
- Esteem the women's rights that have been defined more than forty years ago and during the first republic of the Late Mohammad Daud by the civil and penal codes.

All the above-mentioned constitutions and the two great civil and penal codes have been in full consonance with our historical and national values, and in fact, were the most Islamic legislative documents and legal instruments of the Islamic world.

- Demand of the Afghan women from America and Mr. Trump:
This demand, in case it does not harm the election interests and the geo-political expediencies of the global covenants, is quite simple and humane: by turning your back to the Statue of Liberty, do not violate the UN Charter and the International Covenants which are mandatory for your government.

The rightfulness of peace and respecting the right of national sovereignty provided for in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the accepted criteria of the international law are the borderline between the law of jungle and the civilized world, and its violation shall register the American government as an occupier in the memory of history.

- The Afghan women heartily welcome the speech of H.E. the UN Secretary General in which he called for an immediate start of direct talks between the Taliban and the

Afghan government along the progress in negotiations of America and the Taliban, and reiterated on any agreement to respect the rights of women “and to ensure the purposeful participation of women in all stages of the peace process”. In accordance with the provisions of constitution and the international obligations “the participation of women is the prerequisite of the implementation of a true and a lasting peace which requires an effective mechanism, and this institution is the current government of Afghanistan. Any attempt aiming at sidelining the government and devitalization of the armed forces can cause the repetition of the tragedy of the 90s, and the materialization of the hostile designs of the adversary country of Pakistan.

- No doubt that a true and sustainable peace can only be achieved in the light of the principle of domination and rule of law, and the principle of respect to the vote of the people and the democratic system. And this, shall not be compromised in the secret bargainings with the Taliban.

The Afghan Lawyers’ Association in Europe sincerely calls upon all supporters of people’s rights, champions of women’s rights, civil societies and personalities supporting the rightfulness and real peace to rally around this humane call of the Association, and join us in collecting confirmation and signature, and contribute to the protection of women’s rights and a true and sustainable peace.

With regards,

The Leadership Delegation of the Association

Mir Abdul Wahid Sadat, President of the Association.