



Defending the Right to Learn:

How Canada Can Support Afghan Women & Girls

Virtual Panel: March 29 | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm EST

"I believe that an educated woman will educate the family, and educated families will make an informed and educated society."
- Latifa from Bamyan, Afghanistan



Meet the Panelists:

Latifa, from Bamyan, Afghanistan

As a young woman who was fortunate to have had university education, Latifa feels it is her duty to empower other women and girls through education. She started her career as a teacher and has worked with government ministries as well as local and international NGOs on literacy programs for uneducated women, developing curricula and conducting environmental education for schools, and building capacity of farmers on agricultural technology.

Murwarid, Canadian Women for Women in Afghanistan

An Afghan-Canadian, Murwarid has over two decades of experience working with various national and international organizations including the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan. In her current role at the CW4Wafghan, she is responsible for program management and supports public engagement. Her expertise includes policy development, program design and management with a focus on gender equality, human rights, and women's empowerment. She is a leader and advocate for women's rights and the recipient of the CW4Wafghan Champion for Education Award in 2015.

Qudsia, from Wardak, Afghanistan

Passionate for social justice and women's rights, Qudsia has taught in Kabul and has conducted numerous awareness sessions about the importance of girls' and women's education. Qudsia and her family belong to the Hazara ethnic group, fled Afghanistan in 2022, and are now living in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. Aside from advocating for the rights of women and suppressed ethnicities, she works as a community mobilizer for a local NGO and teaches Afghan refugees in Pakistan.

Sosan, from Nangarhar, Afghanistan

Sosan completed her bachelor's degree in Business Management. Her hopes of pursuing a master's degree were dashed due to the ban on higher education for women in Afghanistan. She taught in a private school and is currently working as a project officer for a girls' education program in Afghanistan. She is passionate about empowering girls through education so they can be independent and be able to pursue their dreams.

Zainab, Community World Service Asia

Zainab has rich experience in humanitarian work, governance, organizational growth and enhancement, working with CWSA in the last 22 years as well as with other humanitarian institutions. She has worked both in Afghanistan and Pakistan on emergencies and development projects, which includes managing programs for Afghans, including refugees. She is part of the CWSA management team responding to the post-August 2021 emergency crisis that continues to this day on both sides of the border.