



# The Afghan Women's Mission

A Project of SEE

Afghanistan is a country torn apart by decades of war. Afghan civilians face intense poverty, severe drought, landmine infestation and more. For more than 20 years Afghanistan has also produced the world's largest refugee group ever, at times as high as 6.2 million persons. Currently numbering 2.6 million, Afghan refugees are still the largest displaced population in the world. According to Amnesty International, "all parties to the civil war in Afghanistan have targeted individual civilians and the civilian population in general, as a means of advancing their own political and military objectives." This is why so many have fled to Pakistan, Iran, and elsewhere. Over one million civilians have been killed as a result of the fighting in Afghanistan, but those that survive face unending hardships. Afghan refugees experience poverty, lack of rights, discrimination, and harassment. Facilities in the refugee villages remain primitive and life is often harsh with a chronic lack of food, medical care and other basic necessities.



"In terms of sharing the protection costs of Afghan refugees, the international community appears to be moving towards a complete abdication of its obligations."  
- Amnesty International

Unfortunately, AI notes, "The end of flight does not mean the end of danger." In Pakistan, armed Afghans who roam the border regions target refugees for intimidation, harassment, or even assassination. They often single out educated Afghan women, particularly those working for the education and welfare of Afghan women and children refugees."

## Healing to Empower

**The Afghan Women's Mission was founded in January 2000 to address the desperate health care, education, and empowerment needs of the Afghan refugees, primarily women and children.**

**The objectives of the Afghan Women's mission fall into three categories:**



- 1. Health Care:** establish and operate free hospitals serving primarily Afghan women and children refugees
- 2. Education and Empowerment:** support schools and other programs for Afghan refugees to alleviate emotional suffering and decrease illiteracy and joblessness; and to empower Afghan refugees to build sustainable livelihoods.
- 3. Awareness:** conduct campaigns to increase public awareness on human rights and related issues in Afghanistan and Afghan refugee camps.

As in all wars, the main victims are women and children. Maternal mortality rates among Afghans are among the highest in the world. One fourth of Afghan children do not survive their fifth birthday. Literacy rates are also extremely low, barely above 4% for women. Afghanistan has the lowest UN gender development ranking in the world.

Afghan refugees in Pakistan have barely any access to health care. The Afghan Women's Mission is currently raising funds to establish Malalai hospital in Pakistan dedicated to serving Afghan refugees. The AWM is a grassroots organization which relies on people like you to help make such projects a reality.

**Please consider making a donation today.**

The Afghan Women's Mission is a project of Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs (SEE). **Make checks payable to SEE/Afghan Women's Mission** and mail them to Afghan Women's Mission, 260 S. Lake Avenue, PMB 165, Pasadena, CA 91101, USA. Your donation is tax deductible to the extent of the law. Visit us on the web for more information at <http://afghanwomensmission.org> or send us email at [info@afghanwomensmission.org](mailto:info@afghanwomensmission.org)