

Speakers' CVs

MP Dr Fatima Aziz

Dr Fatima Aziz represents Kunduz province and is currently serving her second term as a member of the Wolesi Jira (House of Representatives). In 2005, Dr Aziz ran for parliamentary elections in Kunduz province and was re elected in 2010. Dr Aziz's campaigns particularly focus on women's rights and she is currently a member of the Economic Affairs Commission of Wolesi Jirga.

Dr. Aziz received her M.B.B.S Degree from the Faculty of Medicine of Kabul University in Afghanistan. She served for two years in Wazir Akbar Khan Hospital and Malalai Eternity Hospital and for twelve years in Kunduz Provincial Hospital and Kunduz UN office.

MP Ms Fawzia Koofi

Fawzia Koofi is a parliamentary lawmaker, accomplished author and an outspoken advocate for the rights of women and children, democracy and moderate Islam.

Ms Koofi started her political career in 2001 when she began to promote "Back To School," a campaign targeted at supporting Afghan women's right to education. By 2002 she took employment as a Child Protection Officer with UNICEF, and in 2005 she was elected as a parliamentary representative for Badakhshan province, her native region in the rural mountains of northern Afghanistan.

Ms Koofi published her book 'Letters to My Daughter' a biographical book about her experiences during the Afghanistan war and the effects of these events on the lives of women. Currently, Ms Koofi is running for president in the 2014 Afghan elections.

MP Aziza Jalis

MP Ms. Aziza Jalis represents the Sari Pul Province in the Wolesi Jirga, the lower house of the Afghan Parliament. After completing her bachelor's degree in literature at Kabul University, Ms. Aziza worked as a high school teacher for several years before being elected as the director of the Department of Women's Affairs in Sari Pul in 2002. During her time there, Ms. Aziza worked to empower women and was recognized for her efforts with the 2008 Award of Best Director of the Department of Women's affairs.

Female leader Afifa Azim

Ms. Azim is the General Director and co-founder of the Afghan Women's Network. Ms. Azim studied at the Kabul Institute of Teacher Training in Pakistan and has worked as a trainer, coordinator and facilitator for 15 years with Save the Children Sweden and the Government of Pakistan. Currently she is a board member of NAHID, an organization working for the enhancement of women and children's rights in Afghanistan and a member of Global Network Women Peace builders. Her passion on the subjects of women's rights and empowerment is further complemented in her extended membership with the Gender Advisory Group for the Afghan Women's Ministry from 2004 to 2006.

Female leader Shukria Hassani

Shukria Hassani is the representative of the Regional Gender, Conflict and Development platform based in Kabul. The Regional Gender, Conflict Development platform was established in 2009 as a network of women's organisations from the five neighboring countries± Afghanistan, Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Iran and India. The platform works as a cohesive unit to gain support from the international community, policy makers and non political groups who take a special interest in women's issues in defense, development and diplomacy.