



Women living under muslim laws
النساء في ظل قوانين المسلمين
Femmes sous lois musulmanes
Transnational Feminist Solidarity Network

Education is a human right accepted by all states regardless of their political structure, race, religion, and state of their economy. Observing human rights, particularly the education rights of children and women, is not optional. States can not opt out of them under any circumstances, particularly using a religion whose genesis starts by requiring its followers to read and continue to educate themselves from birth to death. Not a single Muslim-majority country except the Taliban has used state apparatus to ban education for girls and close university doors on women. The Taliban have denied education for girls beyond sixth grade and closed the university doors on women holding their education and human rights as hostages under the guise of sudo-religion to pressure the international community to recognize their government.

Even access to education for young girls is threatened by their wider gender apartheid policies. Girls in fourth to sixth grade, in the Ghanzi province, must cover their faces to and from school or face expulsion. Having agreed with the significance of education as a right for all, and embedded it in the foundational conventions of the UN, the international community now has an obligation to condemn the Taliban strategy of depriving women of education and removing them from all aspects of public life. Such a policy condemns a nation, for generations, to a cycle of poverty and suffering. The International community must call and take action for the full, equal, and meaningful incorporation of girls and women of Afghanistan in educational processes and remove all obstacles to their equal participation in the nation's public life.

The international community must exert real pressure on them to drop these policies by:

- Removing the privileges such as travelling internationally;
- Removing and limiting their sources of financial support;
- Establishing relations with the democratic forces of Afghanistan, particularly women's groups inside and outside of the countries;
- Inviting Muslim majority-states to publicly and strongly condemn the Taliban's treatment of women;
- Inviting prominent religious leaders and Islamic civil society organizations using prominent platforms to denounce the Taliban misusing religion for their political goals;
- The UN, UNESCO, and the wider international community must publically iterate that the use of religion to limit human rights for women and girls is considered an insidious form of war against women and must be stopped.

●

Women Living Under Muslim Laws

24 Jan 2023