

Nov 5, 2009

Beyond the Burqa

Women's Empowerment in Afghanistan

Photo: Rafaela Persson

We are pleased to invite you to a one day conference on November 5, 2009 in Stockholm to discuss and learn more about women's position, life conditions and human rights in Afghanistan. Our Swedish and Afghan guests and experts will discuss and illuminate new perspectives on the work for women's human rights in Afghanistan. Uncomfortable questions are being asked and issues that have been ignored in the Swedish public debate are our focus. By combining expertise with lived experiences, the conference seeks to answer questions such as:

- Is it possible to see Islam as a tool for development?
- How does the conflict affect women's lives?
- What can be done to change gendered traditions and social restrictions on women's lives?

Preliminary Speakers:

Farid Hassanzadah | Human Rights and Gender Deputy Coordinator | SCA
Dr Kamela Sair | Mother and Child Health Care Technical Officer | SCA
Ann Wilkens | President of SCA
Dr Jonas Svensson | Växjö University
Lena Ag | Secretary General | Women to Women Empowerment Proj (Kvinna till Kvinna)
Gender Equality Team | SIDA
Torbjörn Pettersson | Secretary General SCA
Birgitta Ohlsson | MP | The Liberal Party
Hans Linde | MP | The Left Party

Organizers | SCA & UI

Venue | Drottning Kristinas Väg 37, Stockholm
Date & time | Thursday 5th of November 2009, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm
Language | English
Registration fee | 200 SEK, 100 SEK (students and members of SCA and UI)
Registration | Last day to register is 30 October at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs's website: www.ui.se/default.aspx?lecture_id=715

The registration fee includes coffee/tea and sandwich lunch. During lunch we will view the documentary *Twenty-Five Per Cent*, a portrait of six women MPs in Afghanistan by film maker Diana Saqib.



Swedish Committee for Afghanistan



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