



Future Generations **Afghanistan**

Progress Report for March – April 2007
The Afghan Academy/L'academie afghane
Mohammad Hashim, Site Director

Project Introduction

The women of Afghanistan after years of economic and social oppression are ready to change their lives and communities. The Afghan Academy in the Jaghori District of Ghazni has been a catalyst for this change. The Afghan Academy, with the support of the *Embassy of France* and *Afghans4Tomorrow*, aims to give its students a sense of worth through education and vocational skills, while also providing them with community empowerment and planning skills. In turn, these women continue the cycle of female empowerment by sharing the knowledge they acquire with the communities they represent.



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Activities:

For the duration of 3 months 23 female student were admitted into the academy program. During the months of March 2007 through April 2007, these 23 women, ranging from the ages of 15 to 24, took part in the broad cross-section of theoretical and practical teaching. The classes were held 6 days a week from 2pm until 5pm. The daily activities were overseen by the academy's supervisor, Rokshan. The first hour of class was dedicated to literacy and literacy teaching methods, taught by Ustad Arrisa. The second hour of class was dedicated to health, hygiene and basic midwife training, taught by Ustad Sakina. In the third hour of class the students learned how to make quality crafts and jarred preserves for income generation purposes, taught by Ustad Safia.



Testing Methods:

The students took part in intense oral quizzes every 2 days at the beginning of the classes, insuring that students retained information and understood the importance of preparedness and accuracy. Oral quizzes were advantageous because students were able to correct and critique each other, creating a competitive and interactive learning environment. Written exams were held twice during the three months program. The first written exam was administered mid-way through the program. The Second written exam served as a final exam at the end of the three months. All students in the program passed the final exam with high scores, graduating with the ability to pass the knowledge they gained to other women in the community.

Materials Provided and Distributed:

All students in the program were provided with the materials necessary for success during and after the program. The women were given books, pens, pencils, paper, and learning material to ensure educational success. As a part of the health initiative women were given soap, disinfectant, bandages, chlorine, as well as basic materials for child birth assistance. The women were also given jars and food products for jarring, cloth and sewing materials for craft making to help them start generating income.



Results:

Future Generations is proud to say all students passed the three month course with flying colors. The women in the program have all returned to their communities with not only the skills and knowledge they have acquired, but the confidence and tools to make a much larger impact. These women are now in their own communities passing the gift of education and earning power to other women in their local area. The strength and power in the form of knowledge, which has been given to the students of The Afghan Academy, has created an infectious cycle of positive growth and change for the Jaghori people. We at Future Generations Afghanistan would like to take this opportunity to thank the Embassy of France-Afghanistan, as well as Afghans4Tomorrow for their vital support. Without your gracious assistance this assistance would not have been possible. We thank you.