

**PLEASE READ AND DISTRIBUTE SEEKING HELP FOR AFGHAN ROTARY FAMILY**  
**Please contact Galia Rana Nooristani <[rana.galia@gmail.com](mailto:rana.galia@gmail.com)> if you can help**

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Letter from Castro Valley Rotary Exchange Student, Galia Rana Nooristani:

I'm writing this email on behalf of my mother (name withheld): Afghanistan election commissioner, former Commissioner of Afghanistan independent human rights commission, and former head of Afghan independent election commission.

Please help my mother!

As you might be keeping up with the news in Afghanistan, the country collapsed to the hands of Taliban, and are fully controlled by them now. Along with that the dreams and hopes of people, women and children died. As the situation is very unpredictable, I am sure of one thing and that is my family who have all worked in one or other to Support America in supporting peace, human Rights, women and children rights. They fear torturing, Death due to their contribution and I am desperate to get my family out of the country, Taliban is currently searching door to door to find the people who previously worked with US, Canada and other international organizations.

My Mother (name withheld) is not only commissioner of an very important commission in Afghanistan but she is also the human and women right activist, she always raised the voice of women around Afghanistan. The Taliban is seriously threatening my mom and the rest of my family in Kabul.

[https://www.thestar.com/news/insight/2011/08/08/afghan\\_politician\\_makes\\_peace\\_with\\_those\\_who\\_want\\_her\\_dead.html](https://www.thestar.com/news/insight/2011/08/08/afghan_politician_makes_peace_with_those_who_want_her_dead.html)

My mother was on a trip with her colleagues outside the country invited by UN, while Kabul was captured by the Taliban and the rest of my family is somewhere in Kabul hideout. My family literally has nothing left to survive, the banks, airport, and everything are closed. My family has been indirectly receiving threats by the Taliban if they are found they will be brutally killed. Just one night before, my 23 year old brother had to leave our house before the Taliban came and take it as a guest house for their fighters.

My little sister (name withheld), who has never seen a Taliban physically, tried to escape alone, she made it to the airport, but was unaware of the chaos in the airport.

My teenage sister who is in a state of shock and never experienced such a brutal situation is helpless right now. She was told, the Taliban has a list of Afghan people who have worked or somehow associated with Americans, (These Afghan will be hanged to death right after American fully evacuated Kabul).

My youngest sister is thinking of burning herself if the Taliban forcefully take her as spoils of war.

Short Biography of my mother:

My Mother (name withheld) worked as a project coordinator for WFP during the Taliban regime 1996. Her job responsibility was to provide aid and work responsibility for women, she was one of the supervisors for UN-Habitat project in Afghanistan in 1997 their main work was opening and operating bread making bakeries, sewing clothes and blankets making projects for refugees (all the workers for women and young girls) , later in 1998 she joined the save the children org, she was working in the clinics providing medical help to the Malnutrition kids. She was the only breadwinner of the family. since my dad was in Kandahar prison (sarpoza prison) with the Taliban that time. They captured him because he was working for the government. The Taliban were also after my mom, but they couldn't succeed to find her, I remember when I was a little girl I witnessed that my mom was changing her location so that the Taliban wouldn't find her. we could barely see her, me and my other siblings were in different houses with our aunts and my mom's friends.

All I want to say is that I witnessed how bravely my mom was in a survival situation. She was still working for international organizations helping other women and winning bread for her kids.

Later when Taliban regime collapsed she was even more active, she worked for media, she worked for Kabul Rotary Club which later she become the president of Kabul Rotary Club, she was receiving help from other Rotarians in California USA m they provided home schools for young girls, they used to get cloths containers from USA and they used to distributed on poor and vulnerable people. My mother still carries a bullet in her leg from a Taliban attack, they shot her four times during her successful campaign.

Later in 2011 she became commissioner of human rights during the Karzai regime, a year before that she was introduced from civil society to the peace council she became the member of peace council, in 2013 she became executive director of integrity watch Afghanistan. her last job till two days ago was commissioner of independent election of Afghanistan.

Two days ago, when Kabul was taken by the Taliban, the hardships that my mother faced during the Taliban in 1996 to take care of us, the sacrifices she made in the last 20 years came to my mind like a short film. my heart sank and fear overwhelmed me.

All I had in my mind was to find a way to help my mom and my family to get out of that danger zone. I know it might be too late, perhaps too early the chaos in Afghanistan confusing. but I'm not losing hope, I kindly and humbly ask you to help my family to get out of the danger zone. My mom is currently in Istanbul, Turkey, with nothing in hand worried and desperate to see her kids left in Kabul, wondering what will happen to them. As I said, our house was taken by the Taliban two days ago.

Please help!

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