

## Obvious enmity with education; Taliban barring Afghan girls from attending school

### Abdurraziq Ekhtiarbig

She sits in a corner and watching TV with his father, mother and sisters in the house. Among the news of Nowruz (Afghan new year), She hears news that she has been waiting to hear for seven months. "The public schools will Start tomorrow, Wednesday". Nazanin get happy as much as life seems to have given her a new chance to breathe again.

Nazanin Hussaini is a tenth grade student. She and all her classmates have been counting down the minutes to sit in their classrooms again for seven months; But it seems that she and thousands of other girls in Afghanistan have been enchanted; A spell that is not going to break soon.

Schools were set to open nationwide after months of restrictions since the Taliban seized power in August.

Thousands of girls, including Nazanin, prepared themselves for their schools on Wednesday morning March 23, with a hundred enthusiasm and hope; But less than an hour after the school bell rang, the Taliban ordered girls above the sixth grade to leave until further notice; Because educational conditions have not been provided for them yet.

This matter exploded like a bomb among female students, killing their dreams and aspirations. The girls, who had gone to school with a smile and joy, are now returning home with tears in their eyes.

Aziz Ahmad Ryan, said that "Schools for women from the sixth grade above are closed until further notice."

Ryan said a plan would be formulated "in accordance with Islamic law and Afghan culture and traditions, as well as the ruling of the Islamic Emirate."

Nazanin says that it's about a month that she is getting ready to go to school; But when She arrived in school, at the school gate she meets some Taliban soldiers with mocking, they say, "Go home and doing home works. What are you doing at school?" with all this, she didn't care and enter to school.

After Nazanin and all her classmates reach to tenth grade, the school principal, who is a member of Taliban, enters the class and instructs the soldiers to expel girls above the sixth grade.

Nazanin now thinks that she has no future in this country. "No citizen has a future here; Because people live under the government of a group that does not care about citizenship rights." She Said;

Sahar Amiri is an 11th grade student at Suriya High School. Sahar, like other female students, is depressed and frustrated by the Taliban's decision to close girls' schools. She describes his preparations for the first day of school: "We had prepared a lot for school, we had prepared clothes and materials. We went to school with lots of hopes yesterday; Because it was the first day of school, we went to school with great motivation." She added: "I woke up in the morning and got my clothes ready, saying goodbye to my parents with a sweet smile."

According to her, after going to school, she chooses a chair for herself and, in coordination with her classmates, cleans their class; But after two hours, their teachers said that they had to leave the school until further notice.

Sahar said: because the students refused to leave the school, the Taliban forcibly expelled them from the school. "When I see at my school uniforms, I'm really disappointed, I'm sorry that our country is in such a situation."

Girls' schools remain closed as the Taliban have repeatedly promised that all male and female students will be allowed to attend school in the new school year. The Taliban's decision to lock the doors of girls' schools is now facing strong reactions.

U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres in a statement, "I deeply regret today's announcement by Taliban authorities in Afghanistan that girls' education from the sixth grade has been suspended until further notice. I urge the Taliban de facto authorities to open schools for all students without any further delay."

US diplomats said closing schools undermined confidence in Taliban commitments and assurances.

The U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Ian McCary tweeted that he was "deeply troubled" by the policy reversal.

As well, Canadian Foreign Minister Melini Jolie and EU foreign policy chief Joseph Borrell have condemned the Taliban ban on girl's schools. According to them, the Taliban's decision deprives girls of a better life and prevents them from moving to a prosperous Afghanistan.

Potzel Markus, Germany's ambassador to Afghanistan, also said the move was in stark contrast to previous statements by Taliban officials. He stressed that this order is not just a blow to girls who want to go to school and university; Rather, it is in conflict with the international conventions to which Afghanistan has acceded.

**Photo: Hamid Karzai and Abdullah Abdullah:**

In Afghanistan, Hamid Karzai, former president, Abdullah Abdullah, chairman of the former government's reconciliation council has criticized the Education Ministry's decision to not allow girls to attend school after grade six, and called on the Islamic Emirate to provide education to all students.

Former president Hamid Karzai said it is deplorable that girls' schools remain closed, and he called on the Islamic Emirate to not help the agenda of those who want a "needy" and "subordinate" Afghanistan. All girls' schools should be opened, former president Hamid Karzai said.

Abdullah Abdullah, former HCNR chairman, said on his Twitter that access to education is a fundamental Islamic and civil right. He urged the Islamic Emirate to reopen all girls' schools across the country.

"Education and access to education is a fundamental Islamic and civic right of all our compatriots. School doors should be open to all girls and boys at the beginning of the academic year," Abdullah Abdullah said.

At the same time, a number of families are ashamed of not being able to send their daughters to school. The father of a female students wrote on his Facebook page: "All my life I fought for the comfort, tranquility and education of all children; But today, the tears of my daughter, who is a seventh grade student, made me very ashamed."

"Dear Guzel, I'm ashamed of you, I have no choice but to sit next to you and cry for you," a mother posted a video of her daughter crying.

However, it is not yet clear when the Taliban leadership will come up with a plan for girls 'uniforms to reopen girls' schools.