



# AFGHANISTAN: PROTECT WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

STOP VIOLENCE  
AGAINST WOMEN

**AMNESTY**  
INTERNATIONAL





Dear President Karzai,

Following the 2001 US-led intervention, the Afghan government pledged to advance women's rights. Women human rights defenders play a vital role in protecting women's rights and advancing gender equality in Afghanistan. Sadly, many come under attack and even face death for the work they do.

I urge the Afghan government to ensure that they are able to carry out their work in government-controlled areas without fear of violence, intimidation, persecution or punishment, and to:

- Ensure that women human rights defenders receive an effective remedy in the event of violation of their rights and are protected by law and in practice.
- Promote awareness among police and other officials of the role and work of women human rights defenders and provide appropriate training to police and other state officials.
- Work with the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) to extend protection to women human rights defenders throughout the country, particularly in conflict-affected areas.

Yours sincerely,

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Attach post  
stamp

**President Hamid Karzai  
Gul Khana Palace  
Presidential Palace  
Kabul  
Afghanistan**

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*Image: Afghan women's rights activists demonstrate against the controversial law for Afghanistan which regulates the personal affairs of minority Shia community, 15 April 2009. © Pajhwok Afghan News Amnesty International, International Secretariat, Peter Benenson House, 1 Easton Street, London WC1X 0DW, United Kingdom. [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org)*