

<b>Members of Research Group</b>		
<b>No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Kind of work in project</b>
1	Hangama Anwai	Editor
2	Abdul Hamid Razaq	Researcher
3	Anisa Safi	Interviewer and data collector
4	Maliha Mir	Interviewer and data collector
5	Bik Mohammad	Interviewer
6	Sima	Interviewer
7	Razia Hasani	Interviewer
8	Mohammad Hassan	Interviewer
9	Abdul Samad	Interviewer
10	Shahla	Interviewer
11	Samir Ahmad	Interviewer
12	Khatera	Interviewer
13	Kamela	Interviewer
14	Sayed Hafizulla	Interviewer
15	Abdul Wahed	Interviewer
16	Mahbooba	Interviewer
17	Habiba	Interviewer
18	Reza	Interviewer
19	Ghulam Hazrat Shinwari	Interviewer
20	Nikzari Shinwari	Interviewer

**In the Name of Allah**

## **Part One Introduction**

### **Introduction and Report summary**

Research on economic independence of women in Afghanistan is the title of report that you have at your hands. In this report, we have tried to consider the role of women in economy and women independence in benefiting from economic resources.

In general, in afghan traditional society women are called as consumers. Families, especially the poor ones are counted their daughters as the family economic burden and they are given in marriage in early age, but sons are considered economic power and food suppliers and hence better feeding opportunities are provided to them. The number of boys attending schools is much more than girls, because it is thought that the attending schools by girls will not bring income to the family and contrary to it if boys make successes in acquiring knowledge and skill they can economically help family. If the choice regarding attending school by boys and girls is to be made in family, preference is usually given to boys.

Based on the prevailing perception, women not only play any role in the family economy, but are considered as consumers. Moreover, it is also common that as the men are alimony providers, therefore, they are entitled to take decisions in family. Men can decide what is to be done and what is not. Although women traditionally organize daily expenses of family, but in reality they don't have key role in taking main household decisions.

Many women working outside don't have power in decisions making as to the ways of expending their income. On the other side, the role and economic value of unemployed women are not recognized. In order to discharge their basic needs, these women always ask several times their husbands, fathers and brothers for money.

The report on Economic Independence of Women in Afghanistan is prepared on the basis of abovementioned arguments and its objective is to shed light on the women key role in the society economy and the importance of economic independence of women for the elimination of violence against them. The report proves that women are not only economic burden but in contrary play more important role comparing to the role that men plays in family economy. Moreover, the report has tried to identify and outline the successful experience of women in the economic life and high light the different role played by women in improving economy of the family and society.

By undertaking this research, Women and Children Legal Research Foundation (WCLRF) has reached important results which will open ways for identifying and submitting constructive recommendations .We hope that the publication and dissemination of this report will contribute to the perspective of improvement the economic role of women, enhancement of women awareness on the role of economy towards protection of their fundamental rights and the promotion of families' and society awareness on women economic role.

### **Research methods**

The information and data needed for this report are collected through questionnaires and interviews. Questionnaires and interviews are designed and prepared with due attentions by the responsible researchers of the project and are implied after being tested during pilot stage in practice.

This research has been carried out through the following stages:

### **A-Stage of interviewers' recruitment**

Taking into account the sensitivity of the topic, number of people being familiar with different areas of our research was recruited as interviewers. In order to realize the research importance, acquire knowledge and skill of information collection and filling in the questionnaires, interviewers received proper training after which, they were sent to the assigned areas to identify the cases and complete information in the relevant locations.



### **B-Stage of information collection**

For the purpose information collection on specified issues questionnaires were designed and after the pilot stage were revised for second time. With the use of these questionnaires, maximum needed information was collected.

To prepare wider ground for information collection, questionnaires contained two kinds of questions open and closed (see Samples of Questionnaires in annex No.1)

### **C-Analysis and consideration of information**

Collected information was analyzed carefully and main findings were identified on the bases of which draft report was prepared.

### **Data community ( of surveyed areas)**

Data community of research is consisting of all individuals through which the results of research are to be generalized. As this research is conducted on economic independence of women, therefore the data community for this research constitutes all afghan women.

But as the opportunities in terms of time and place were not completely available for us, the method of sampling based on the geographical division was applied for information collection.

In sampling, the locations were divided on the bases of geographical coverage each localities are presented by one province. The surveyed provinces are as follow:

1. Herat
2. Miadan
3. Kabul and its environs
4. Balkh
5. Juzjan
6. Parwan
7. Badakhshan
8. Kandahar
9. Nangrahar

As the sampling of the research is done from among different ethnicities and geographical areas, therefore, we can claim that the result of this research can be generalized countrywide in Afghanistan. (See. Map of surveyed localities in Annex No.3)

### **Principles and rule**

In general, during research it is tried to follow a set of accepted principles and rules to ensure the standard of results and the method of research:

1. Efforts were made to get original, first hand and strict information
2. Collection of information and analyzing of information in no case reflect the researcher's points of view.
3. The research is exonerated of all kind of discrimination
4. Security of the interviewees was of the preferences
5. Identity secrecy of the victims and interviewee was kept into account.

### **Research difficulties**

It is obvious that any kind of social research has its own difficulties. But research on such topics as economic independence of women has specific difficulties. There are a small number of women exercising these rights in our country. As a whole, during research the following difficulties were faced which slow down the course of information collection:

1. Absence of interest of families for giving interviews
2. Absence of enough security in some areas.

### **Number of interviewee**

In this research 2890 persons were interviewed as follow:

1.	Ordinary people	1350
2.	Women working outside in the official offices	450
3.	unemployed rural women having no official job	450
4.	working women without payment	450
5.	Business women	100
6.	Religious scholars	90

## Part Two

### General concepts of women economic independence

#### 1- What is economy?

Economy is a sum of structures and relations which facilitate the distribution and allocation of financial and material resources and bring together individuals and groups through utilizing and exchanging of resources including goods, services and money. Economy which study responding to needs like shelters, food and health contains samples through which the income and wealth is distributed, payment are arranged and organized.

#### 2- Definitions of economy:

1. Family management
2. Confined activities carries out by one person and family for provision of opportunities
3. The way by which we spend our time; our share in the accomplishment of this work and that of what is the value of our time and share
4. Good administration and management of world and people
5. The method of encountering with money and the arrangement of money exchange
6. The system enables us to share and use the resources.

It is still accepted that the abovementioned definitions are the manner and perception of more people from economy. Based on the popular perception that the term of economy is directly related with the word of money, therefore any kind of transactions without money is not fallen under this definition of economy. It means that much activity performed by women without money income, are not of economic value. It also means that as men are making more money, they have the responsibility and control of economy and consequently it is accepted that they should take all decisions in terms of economy.

On our opinion, economy belongs to all people wherever they live in the world. We believe that every one of us is entitled in making use of natural resources and opportunities. As such, we play our role in the world which belongs to all of us. For this purpose, we all have rights to get informed about economic activities. Also we all have rights to express our opinions in this regard and take participation in the economic life of country.

For continuation of life and livelihood, human being need for food, clothes and shelter. As the means of life are not given ready and already prepared, hence people have to work for discharging their life needs.

So, the science studying material needs provision in society, is called economics. Economics concerns two basic phenomena of endless but increasing needs on one hand, and limited but decreasing resources on the other hand. Consequently, economics is a science of utilizing of limited opportunities for satisfaction of wide range of human needs.

Pal Sam Olson, a famous economist says:” that economics is the study of selection of suitable ways assisting people and society in production of rare resources that can be used for different purposes; production of different goods and their distribution among individuals and social groups for use at present and future.

Economics undertakes analysis of the producer’s approaches regarding the selection of different production factors and studies the determination of their prices in the market. In order to satisfy consumers’ demand, producers try to manufacture the needed goods and to supply the market with them.

It is well known that our country overcame prolonged years of war and destruction. There is urgent need for rehabilitation and reconstruction which require the work and efforts of each and every one in country. Reconstruction of the country affects the modality and way of life of every afghan including men and women.

Life of the people of Afghanistan has been damaged and affected badly as a result of war. The status of health, shelter and education required serious attention, especially for afghan women. To ensure the growth and development of country and to improve social and economic conditions, Afghanistan needs urgent assistance and attention of international community.

Majority of Afghans are living in unbearable and difficult conditions. The heavy burden of such disastrous and misfortune is on the women shoulders. Although, the civil and political rights of women are recognized in the constitution, the thinking ways of part of the people belonged to the old and backward conditions in society, is the barrier in the realization of rights of all women in country. The experience of last several years shows that in spite of turning of women to the field of economic activities and their active participation in economic and social affairs, the basic role of women in economy is still seen doubtful and uncertain and as a result the economic independence of women is treated as uncommon and un realistic business in many part of the country.

## **2- What does economy means for women?**

Millions of women all over the world are facing violence and deprivation in the field of access to their basic rights including receiving inheritance, property and their utilization. Such kinds of violation are usually discriminatory and in some cases even deadly affect the women status. Most of the women after being deprived of the right to inheritance and property are encountering with poverty and economic inability and are struggling to provide their basic family need.

*Marlene Wiring* is a lecturer, writer and a consultant in the field of development in Canada. Although Mrs. Marlene is recognized as an inspiring specialist for people especially for those women who are feeling that the existing economic system made many lives exception, but unfortunately, her thoughts never affects seriously the Canadian economic policies.

Marlene says: *“when the economy covers only the activities involving the financial transactions, productive and nonproductive labor of many women are not taken into consideration and are left out of the attention. Baby delivery, performing maternal function, cleaning up of the house, preparation of the meals for the family members, milking cows, animal husbandry, guests care, all these are not counting as part of the economical assets and never open way for itself in the labor systems of countries. In other words, due to the accepted traditional perception of the economy, the labor of about half of the society is not considered and fully ignored.”*

At the same time, Marlene criticizes the traditional and marginal economy because she thinks it is impossible to attach value to the society safely and easily within this framework.

If we look into the economic position of women in Afghanistan it become clear that although women have key role in the economic development in Afghanistan, but their role is never taken into consideration nor recognized

## **3- What is the purpose of economic independence of women?**

Concretely speaking, the purpose of economic independence of women is to enable women in accessing to economic possibilities as well as independence in the use of their income. As such, women will have capacity of making economic resources, in other words, capacity of obtaining of economic income will be of decisive role in expenditure.

Importance of economic independence of women in this regard, is concerned not only its economic aspect but also our stand in this regard that the women having economic independence will have more suitable

position in benefiting from the human rights than those ones deprived of this kind of rights. They are also in the better position as to the decision making in family and less subjected to violence. When they face violence and oppression, they are in the better protective position.

## Session Three

### Sources for maintaining women economy In Islamic Shari a, domestic law and international principles

Before we review the findings of research in general, it would be useful to have a look into the supplying sources of women economy in Islam and in the enacted laws of Afghanistan. This topic will enable us in understanding of the existing rights and privileges in these two sources in regard with women economy and also show that there are clear provisions in Islam regarding equal rights between men and women. This applies to the economic rights of women as well.

During the coming three topics, the main sources and fundamental rights of women from Islamic point of view and on the basis of civil laws of Afghanistan are discussed. In addition, we are going to shed lights on the stipulated economic rights of women in the international principles and standards relating to the protection of women economic rights, to which Afghanistan is a signatory party:

#### 1- Economic rights of women in Islam

For the securing women economy, Islam has put sources at women disposal, by using of which they can be entitled in complete exercising of their financial independence. Thus, these sources are considered as below:

##### **A-Employment of women in Islam**

Sharia (Islamic religious laws) texts in addition to the history of Islam, proves the fact that employment of women is recognized as permitted act. In such a manner, women were busy by livestock, trade, agriculture and public services in Mohammad (PBUH) time. Mohammad (PBUH) had chosen his wife from among the women running commercial affairs. For this reason, to state that Shari'ai is basically against women employment and in favor of women house staying, cannot be compatible with Mohammadian Sunna (traditions) and Islamic Sharia. In this connection, some narrations and Hadiths (record of saying and customs of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) are reoffered to as testimony which are subject to reconsideration from rational an historical point of view. One of such Hadith says:" Women are advised to stay at home and undertake weaving, because it is the best occupation for them."<sup>1</sup> or another Hadith in this connection being reoffered to says:" endless merits are for those women being busy at home."<sup>2</sup>

##### **B-Inheritance**

Contrary to the time of ignorance, Islamic Sharia considers women eligible for inheritance clarifies and explains inheritance rights in different cases according to the degree and relationship. The inheritance is one of the main economic sources not only for women but for all Muslims as a whole and is arranged in a particular set of norms and principles. Here, we are mentioning the main circumstances of holly Quran about inheritance rights of women wit its deference.

##### **Inheritance right of Daughter**

Translation:" God (thus) direct you as regards your Children's (inheritance); to that of two females, if only daughters, two or more, their share are two-thirds of the inheritance; if only one, her share is a half."<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Mohammad Hakim Pur, Women rights in the light of sunnah and research of scholars(in Persian) Tehran 2002.p214

<sup>2</sup> Ibid

<sup>3</sup> Holy Quran, Surrah Al Nisa, verse 11

### **Inheritance right of Sister**

Translation:” If the man or women whose inheritance is in question, has left neither ascendants nor descendents, but has left a brother or sister, each one of the two gets a sixth; but if ore than two, they share in a third;...”<sup>4</sup>

### **Inheritance right of Mother**

Translation:” For parents, a sixth share of the inheritance to each, if the divorced left children; if no children and the parents are the only hairs, the mother has a third”.<sup>5</sup>

### **Inheritance right of Wife**

Translation: “In what ye leave, their share3 is a fourth, if ye leave no child; but if ye leave a child, they get an eight.”

### **C-Right to dower**

For the purpose of economic supplies of women after marriage, the right to dower is foreseen in Islam. This right covers the property or sum of money which is directly related to women. In receiving and access to its utilization, there are special instructions.

It is written in Quran in this regard:

Translation - “And give the women (on mirage) their dowers as a free gift...”<sup>6</sup>

The dower is offering on the following conditions:

1. The dower must belong to woman herself, none else including parents is not allowed to its ownership
2. The dower is to be given by husband to wife with honor, respect and sincerity.

### **D-Alimony**

Ensuring of budget of material expenses after marriage, from the Islamic point of view is the responsibility of man. Alimony includes food, clothes, accommodation and other necessary needs. Man is obliged for its preparation and woman has no obligation and responsibility in discharging the family life expenses even though she has her own property and possessions and the man is destitute of it. The holly Quran says in this regard: Translation-“**Divorced mothers shall nurse their infants two full years, if the father so wishes. The father shall provide the mother's food and clothing equitably.**”<sup>7</sup>

Also, if woman wish to pay for the family expenses from her own property, it depends on her own will and intention. If a woman possesses property, it belongs to her; her husband has no right on its ownership. Thus man has no right to exploit a woman and compelled her working outside and possesses her work income.

## **2- Economic rights of women in the laws of Afghanistan**

As Afghanistan is an Islamic state and its laws are influenced by the Islamic system; regarding economic rights of women, the civil laws of Afghanistan stipulate the same provisions mentioned in wholly Quran and determine its limits.

<sup>4</sup> Holy Quran, Surrah AL Nisa, verse 12

<sup>5</sup> Ibid

<sup>6</sup> Ibid. Verse 4

<sup>7</sup> .Holly Quran, Sorrah Al Bqra, Verse 233

But in addition to Constitution of Afghanistan and other legal documents that Afghanistan has worked out during the last several years, also outline the general framework securing the access of women to economy. We mention only these provisions and article here:

## **Civil Laws of Afghanistan**

### **Inheritance:**

**Article 2001** of Civil Laws stipulates:

“Causes of inheritance are marriage or blood relationship.”

Two things became the causes of inheritance; one is marriage another relationship which we pointed out the clauses explaining the inheritance share of women.

### **Article 2007**

- (1) For the husband, when without children, or male offspring, even though it be descendants further down, half the matrimony is given; and when children, or male children exist, even though of descending order, the husband receive one fourth of the patrimony.
- (2) Wife, even though conditionally divorced, when the husband dies prior to the expiration o the divorce period, or wives, when lacking children, or male offspring even though of descending order, shall receive one fourth of the patrimony, and in case children or male offspring, even though of descending order, exist shall be entitled to one eight of the patrimony.
- (3) When a person divorces his wife while suffering from fatal diseases, the divorcee is entitled to wife share provided she did not consent to the divorce, and the husband died before the expiration of the divorce period (three months).

### **Article 2008**

Daughters in accordance with the provision of article 2008 of this law shall be entitled to inheritance as follows:

- (1) One daughter shall be entitled to half of the patrimony; two or more shall be entitled to two thirds,
- (2) Daughters of son, when there is no daughter; no daughter of son of ascend ding order, shall be entitled to inheritance prescribed in above section. Daughters of son, one or more, in case of existence of daughters; daughter or daughter of son of ascending order, are entitled to one of the patrimony.

### **Article 2009**

Sisters in accordance with the provisions of articles 2009 and 2020 of this law shall be entitled to inheritance as follows:

- (1) One sister receive half and two or more shall receive two thirds of the patrimony,
- (2) In case of non-existence of sister, half sisters the father side shall rive the portion prescribed in the above mention section, and in case one sister does exist, she receive one sixth of the patrimony, regardless of the fact there is one or more half sister on the father side.

### **Article 2010**

Mother when having children, or son’s children even though in descending order, or while two or more brothers or sisters, or half brothers or sisters on the part of father or the mother, is entitled to one sixth of patrimony, and in other circumstances is entitled to one third of the whole f the patrimony except when gets together with one of the spouses and the father in which case she will be entitled to the remaining one-third of the patrimony after the portion of husband that the wife is given.

Grandmother refers to the mother of one of the parents that of the grandfather in ascending order. Grandmother, be one or more, shall be entitled to one sixth of the patrimony, and share it equally.

### **A-Daughter portion in inheritance**

According to article 2008 Civil Laws<sup>8</sup> inheritance share of daughter is as if a deceased leaves a daughter , she receives half of patrimony, if two or more than two are left, they receive two third of patrimony. Also if a deceased leaves a daughter or grandchild daughter or more than that on the son part, all heirs are entitled to two third of patrimony in order that daughter receive four sixth and two sixth belong to grand child or grandchildren.

### **B- Sister portion in inheritance**

Sister portion in inheritance is specified in article 2009 of Civil Laws<sup>9</sup> as follows: if a sister is left from a deceased, she is entitled to two third of patrimony provided she has no child. In addition to that, if the deceased has no sister father sister (paternal aunt) receives the same portion of patrimony as that of his sister. If the deceased has sister, then his father sister receives one sixth of the patrimony.

### **C-Mother portion in inheritance**

Article 2010 contains the followings in this regard <sup>10</sup>:

Mother I the existence of children or grand child on the son part, or in the case having two or more brothers or sisters, is entitled to one sixth of patrimony, otherwise is entitle to two third of all patrimony with the exception if the husband or father is alive, in such case the remaining one third of patrimony is to be given to her if the portion of the husband is already given to him.

(2) Grand mother is referring to mother of one of the parents. Even though the relationship is in ascending order, and the grandmother be one or more, the patrimony share is one six which is to be divided equally among them.

### **Dower**

Dower is a quantity of property or sum of money which a man gives to women during marriage.

According to article 100:-“property, whose ownership is transferable, may be determined as dower.”

On this basis, a husband having no property at his disposal or unable in its possessing in the future, can not determine dower of his wife.

The dower is considered the property of woman and none including husband or his family can posses it. In this way, article 110 of the law stated as follows:

“The dower shall be considered the property of wife. She can exercise any ownership power over her dower.”

In the same way, father or paternal benefactors of wife are not allowed to partly or completely make use of their daughter under any pretext. Article 113 of Civil Laws stipulate in this regard as:

“Father can not give partly or completely his daughter dower as gift.”

In addition to it, no one can compel by force wife to denote her dower to husband.

Regarding it, article 114 of Civil Laws says:

“The wife can not be forced place all or part of her dower at the disposal of husband or any other person.”

---

<sup>8</sup> For more information see : Civil Laws of Afghanistan(Kabul: Ministry of Justice,1976) article 2008

<sup>9</sup> Ibid. Article 2009

<sup>10</sup> Ibid. Article 2010

### **Alimony**

In the legal system of Afghanistan, securing of family expenses is the responsibility of husband. Husband is obliged to pay for wife alimony. Of course, in case of having children, he also provides their expenses. According to article 117 of Civil Laws:

**“With the conclusion of a true and binding marriage it become for the husband to alimony to his wife even though she might live in the residence of her relatives...”**

Also, article 118 of the Laws determines the size of the alimony in the following way:

**“The wife alimony includes food, clothes, residence and proper health care as per the ability of husband.”** For this reason the wife shall not ask alimony more than the ability of her husband.

If the husband does not pay for the wife alimony, she can take further steps as per Article 119, which say:

**“In the case husband refrain from paying alimony or his shortcoming in this regard be proved, the authorized court shall compel the husband in securing of alimony.”** As such, the wife can apply to the relevant court so that the husband fulfills his obligation in this connection.

More than that, even in abnormal situation the husband should pay for the wife alimony. If the alimony is not paid for a certain period, the husband is considered indebted to his wife and she can ask for the indebted alimony in any time.

According to article 120:

**“Imprisonment of husband shall not discharge his responsibility to provide alimony to the wife though he may not afford it”**

In order the wife does not face difficulties, even in case of divorce the Civil Laws predict provisions which not discharge husband for wife alimony. Article 126 of this law explains that:

**“Divorcee is entitled to alimony from date of divorce to the end of the divorce period (three months or until the infant is born, if she is pregnant.”**

According to the Shari’a provisions, after the passage of divorce period, a woman can marry another man; as such the new husband is responsible for her alimony so that she not remain in troubles.

### **3- Economic rights of women in international proceedings**

Afghanistan as a member of United Nations has certain commitments for the implementation of provisions based on documents and agreements in ensuring of human rights. These proceedings recognize women rights in some cases in general and in other cases explain economic rights of women in particular and also determine the obligations of state parties in this regard. Here we mention the main of them.

#### **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

Article 22: “Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international cooperation and accordance with organization and resources of each state.”

#### **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights**

Each State Party to the present Covenant detracts to respect and to ensure to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction – the rights recognized in this Covenant, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, languages, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.”

#### **International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**

The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to ensure the equal rights of men and women to the enjoyment of all economic, social and cultural rights set forth in the present Covenant.”

**International Convention of Elimination of all form of Discrimination against Women**

Article 3:” State Parties shall take in all fields, in particular in the political, social, economic and cultural fields, all appropriate measures, including legislation to ensure the full development and advancement of women, for the purpose of guaranteeing them the exercise and enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms on a basis of equality with men.”

**London agreement about Afghanistan**

“With the assistance of international community, the government of Afghanistan will promote high level and continuous economic development to decrease hunger, poverty and unemployment. The government enhances the role and potential capability of private sector parallel to governmental, nongovernmental unbeneficial ones, controls the drug industries, ensure economic stability, rehabilitates and enhance the human, social and physical resources of the country so that to lay down a sound basis for new generation of leaders and qualified professionals, strengthen civil society and complete settlement of returnees, internally displaced people and former combatants.

Public investment of national strategy of development is based on six elements of economic and social development:

1. Infrastructure and natural sources
2. Education
3. Health
4. Agriculture and rural development
5. Social security
6. Economic sovereignty and private sector development.

In each one of these field, the aim is to reach achievements in ensuring balanced economic development to decrease poverty, increase employment and formation of private establishments, creation of opportunities in the region and the welfare of all Afghans.”

## Part Four

### History of women employment

Study of women employment history reveals the complex relationship between work at home and market. In most countries there was no difference between work at home and market; the economic production was not concentrated in factories, offices and other centers and more people worked in factories or in areas closed to it. There was no news about the gender separation as to productive and nonproductive activities. Although, some occupations were counted as male and some other female, but all works were done for the family sustainability. After industrial revolution in nineteenth century, payable labor was changed from house to factory. Men, women and even children (at least from worker class) went out for work. Production and consumption were separated; productive labor took distance from nonproductive (housekeeping). With the passage of time, men were devoted to the former and women to the last one. Women were left aside from employment and it was considered "naturally" for women, especially for married ones to stay at home and take care of children<sup>11</sup>. What caused worries in nineteenth century were not the necessity of women employment, but an appearance of women worker in general and was confronted with hostile attitudes. Therefore, worker women, especially married, mothers were considered as natural, unmoral and passive parent. At the same time they were accused implicitly of taking out work from men. Thus, world was divided into two parts in terms of labor division, housekeeping and public field in 1780.

Men were to be engaged in public affairs and politics to make income and maintain their families. Women being materially dependent on husbands support were to stay at home and take care of their husbands and children.

Although, many of single and even married women of working class were compelled to work, but by the end of nineteenth century all they have accepted the principle of house wives status and they did not expect to get job till the end of lifetime. Married women believed that their main commitment is family sustainability and only referred to work when the maintaining of family required that. According to the figures in 1851 only 25% of married women had work and this figure decreased to 10% in 1901. At the same time, poverty compelled many women to go to labor market and according to the statistics the employment of women from 1890-1940 was 10%. 40% of women worked during married period<sup>12</sup>. In all likelihood, the data from the census about the women employment indicates less than the real percentage in this regard. Another reason is that if a man had enough income for supporting his wife and children, he enjoyed better position and possibly some of them were not interested in registration of their wives occupation in the census forms. Anyhow, the women participation in labor market was considerable because many single women worked and in some years of nine century their number constituted 1/4 of all women. In 1871, totally 31% of women had 10 years employment record. And in 1931 this balance for women over 14 years reached 34%<sup>13</sup>.

With the end of nineteenth century discrimination in women labor, confined them within the limited field of inferior and low income occupation. Many of women left work after marriage. Employed women comparing with men, were younger. Men Trade Unions, prevented women from working in areas with high level

<sup>11</sup> .Most of the feminists of 20 century accepted it and the matter was about the right to selection between employment and marriage.

<sup>12</sup> .Ibid. p175

<sup>13</sup> .In 1871 the end of the school was 10 years age and in 1931 it was 14 years.

income and struggled for getting family wages for men i.e. wages for supporting unemployed wife and children. Women even did not receive the equal wages for the similar work with men. For example, the equal payment for men and women teachers was not implemented till 1962. The government also had a role in creation of discrimination in employment and in preference of men for this occupation. Limitation laws have been adopted for so called support of women also put them aside from some occupations; working hours were stricter and determined a specified period for women work. Men usually considered employed especially married women as threat to their employment as the alimony providers of family and argued as far as the income labor number is limited and that if women also start to work, some families' would remained without income.

It was also thought that women generally caused decrease in wages, because they accept working for low payment than that of men. Therefore, it was concluded that women should be kept aside of income work or confined them to the inferior occupations with lowest payment. The Trade Unions were under men's control and supported their wages and status and women were prevented from joining Trade Unions and frightened to do so. In any case, the Trade Unions also were not interested to speak for women interests. It must be mentioned that although these laws had been adopted for the support of women, they also defended men's interests in competition with women on the equal basis for ensuring the equal participation in employment. Regarding it, their struggle for the access to education and getting permeation of engagement in medical profession can be mentioned as an example. On the other side, women formed their own Trade Unions and begun working and struggling against improper working conditions. Gradually, men and governmental Trade Unions succeeded in creating of separated labor market and with the end of nineteen century the principle of family life had been commonly accepted among the men and women.

In spite the fact that many women worked during First World War, they had accepted that the end of war should give working priority to men. Many employers, of them governmental banks had put in practice the rules of prohibition of marriage according to which women in case of marriage were to leave the work. These rules about married women have been observed till the time of adoption of educational Laws in 1944. The number of employed women, especially married increased after World War Two.

### **Official employment history of women in Afghanistan**

Official employment history of women in our country is very young and has come through ups and downs. The women employment history takes start from the Amir Amanullah Khan government. It has to be pointed out that with the assistance of his wife; Amir Amanullah Khan prepared educational pre-conditions and possibilities for women;

built schools for women in 1928 and started special publication under the title of "Arshade Naswan"(Women guidance). It published very interesting and readable materials for the women awareness."<sup>14</sup>

The formation of "Anjamane Hemayae Naswan"(Women support Association) guided by 12 educated women and other are all indication of women activities in this century."<sup>15</sup>

### **Number of employed women and men in Afghanistan**

The number of employed women in governmental offices comparing with men number was very little. In the below table their number is indicated in percentage. It must be mentioned that this information is taken from the Central Statistics Office Yearbook and only the figures are indicated in it and there is no indication about other variables regarding the age and education.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>14</sup> .Din Mohammad Jawed. Woman in the history of Afghanistan.(Kabul,unknown,2001)p.84

<sup>15</sup> .Ibid

<sup>16</sup> .Statistic Year Book No.24,2002, p.28

<b>KIND OF EMPLOYMENT</b>	<b>NUMBER OF EMPLOYED MEN</b>	<b>NUBER OF EMPLOYED WOMEN</b>
Governmental Officials	75%	25%
Service Personnel	89.23%	10.77%
Teachers	73%	27%

## Part five

### Research findings

This part indicates the main findings of the report. These findings as was mentioned before, is the result of interviews, studies and considerations which can be summarized as below:

#### 1- Kind of economic activities of women

In this report, we tried first of all to prepare a list of economic activities women are busy by. It is clear that the forms and kind of women activities in cities and in rural are not the same and differ from each other; even though their responsibilities before families placed them in the similar position with men, but taking into consideration living conditions and the opportunities, they have different occupations. Women are working in rural areas and cities in and outside home.

#### Household work

Household arrangement by activities which is based on acquired gender stamp since men take responsibility for are responsible for the in-house expect women engagement at inequality leads the husband productive forces. In the 85% of women mentioned that then 12 hours, while other 15% more than 14 hours a day.



women is the field of labor division and prolonged years. As the outside affairs, women affair and that men home. Such gender posses their wives prepared report, about they are working more said they are working

This indicates that women are spending much time in household affairs and they have less time for resting and amusement.

But much difficulty is arises from it for women. First of all, they don't have income and their work is hidden from the public vision; secondly, such perception is appeared in their thoughts that they are created for household work; thirdly, they count themselves relying on men support and as such the way of thinking about outside working and self sufficiency are vanished with them.

#### Work in Governmental and nongovernmental offices

Taking into account the present political situation, more women are engaged in economic and social activities than before. Women employment in governmental and nongovernmental offices plays important role in the family organization, community economic conditions of available figures the women from quantitative point of views comparing with other sectors. In Afghanistan are usually busy in second place in governmental



improvement of in general. On the basis activities in this field has second place other words, women in private sector and in the affairs.

The income size earned by this very significant for their families

category of women is because in addition to

their wages expend in their families, they have to expend their extra time in household affairs. Usually these women work eight hours outside and should allocate extra 6 hours to domestic affairs.

So that our research prove this statement, with the exception of teachers, about more than 80% of employed women work 8 hours in official offices and at the same percentage they should allocate from 4-6 hours extra to take care of domestic affairs.

### Work in Private industries

In the field of private work, women with whom interviews have been conducted, belong to the below mentioned occupations:

- Tailor
- Carpet weaving
- Handicrafts
- Farmer
- Cattle breeder
- Hair-dressing
- Bakery
- Other occupations

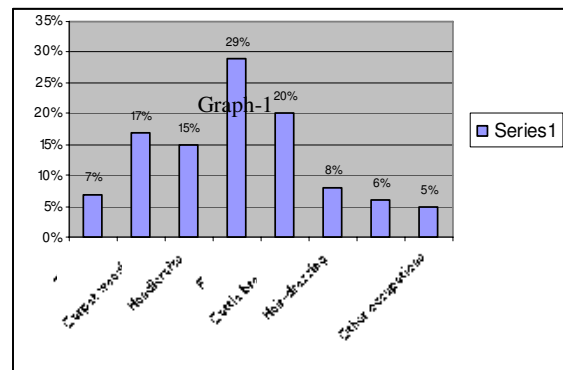


The diagram shows that the highest women farmer, the second place is breeders and the third position is for carpet weavers. In other words, more women are engaged in agriculture, cattle breeder and carpet weaving, while their small number is bust by bakery and hair dressing.

figures are given to occupied by cattle

### Work in the field of business

Contrary to the perception that trade is male occupation, fortunately today more number of women turns to trade in Afghanistan. The work of this group of women was disarranged before, while now with the establishment of Counsel of Women Traders its work acquired certain coordination.



This counsel has been established by the initiatives of several business women with the assistance of UNIFEM in October 2003. It could organize several workshops for the enhancement of women capacity building in trade. Moreover, the counsel also rendered assistance to

the number of private women employers. Accordingly these women need more resources and opportunities for their capacity building. Nevertheless, they succeeded in changing of women economic role from marginal position. In interviews have been conducted with these women, it was said that they are in need of running business with good income and more working hours. Besides, they should travel to different areas in and outside the country.



The main difficulties this group face, first of all are financial, because for beginning of successful business there is need for investment and more

money to which majority of women have no access.

For 27% of business women the interviews have been taken from, the financial decisions in trade issues are taken by men and they alone don't have the rights to take decisions in this regard.

In general, all women busy by trade and have been interviewed for the report said, they need for capacity building; they need for example planning, familiarization with business knowledge etc for which they don't have enough possibilities at their disposal.

67% of women traders consider self-sufficiency as the reason for their engagement in business.

32% of them think their families helped in this regard, while 35% were discouraged by their families in running business.

Moreover, it must be said that the trade is more likely a city business and women in villages and rural areas don't have access to it.

## **2-Barriers and difficulties**

Women both inside and outside home are facing difficulties during working. But it is clear these difficulties more women confronted with are outside home. One of the greatest problem that keep women far from working environment and duty continuation is the absence of institutions and centers for taking care and attention of their children. This problem turned into crisis for women living in villages and rural areas and for those who are the responsible person for taking care of their children. The absence of such centers forced women in many cases to leave their jobs. Regarding it, 38% of women have been interviewed for this report, said that the reason of not working is the absence of opportunities for taking care of their children.

Unpleasant customs and traditions are other factors disturbing women in working environment. Many women wishing to work outside home should convince and explain their families for getting their permission for working outside home. It is mandatory for women to abide by time limits and not spend more time in working place than the officially determined working hours, because it is against the customs being outside of home for long time.

Domestic responsibility of which was mentioned before, also are creating enough difficulties. A woman returning from job should address all expectations towards her: should take care of children, prepare meals, and wash clothes, welcome guests. All these responsibilities caused fatigue of women and not allow them to have rest. Continuous tiredness and work prevent women to take care of needed measures for their capacity building. As a result the outcome and quality of their work become lower than that of men and give up the first hand presence in working environment. The below mentioned several examples in this connection are brought to your attention:

A lady from Herat:

**“Five years ago, graduated from the faculty of economics started working in one of the governmental offices. I have four children, but there is no one to take care of my children. My two youngest children are in kindergarten and the two other are in school. When they are going and coming back home, I am always thinking that something not occurs to them. So how one can work in such conditions.”**

A lady from Kabul:

**“After graduation from school, I work in one of non governmental organization in Kabul. I have two children, one is nursing and when I sent him to kindergarten he became sick. In this case, I have to**

**leave my job or to pay to a wet nurse for taking care of my child. So, how I can work under such conditions.”**

Thus, the women who are busy in rural areas and mostly are busy in cattle breeding, agriculture, carpet weaving and other spheres, are also facing with many difficulties.

A lady from Juzjan said the following in this regard:

**“During carpet weaving I am giving sleeping pills to my child so that he does not disturb me in designing the carpet.”**

In the same manner another woman from Kapisia explained her problem as:

**“As I have no one for taking care of my children, inevitable while going to cultivation field, I am fastening my child on my back.”**

### **3- Income level**

In general the size of income which woman are getting for recognized economic activities; is different. Fortunately, there is no difference in working governmental and NGOs offices in terms of gender in Afghanistan. But it deserves attention that because of the difficulties mentioned before; women are deprived access to the high level positions which are of more financial advantages and at the same proportion they are getting less income than men. For example the higher number of employed women in cities has the lower positions as secretary or other subordinate posts.

A lady from Mazar-e-Sharif gave the explanation in this regard:

**“I had no opportunities for higher education, my family life and household affairs were the main obstacles for it. Therefore as our family economic position was too weak I started working in the governmental office in the capacity of administrator with monthly income of 2700 afghani.”**

A woman from Kabul:

**“I have higher education with good capacities but cannot work more than the official working hours. I was suggested several times grade one and two but as far as working on these positions required more time, I rejected it although I wanted it.”**

However, women in villages despite of all difficulties they tolerate, mainly have very low income. Such status from one side is related with market dullness in rural areas and from the other side with the women income. As was mentioned earlier, its reasons are similar to those operating about women in cities being deprived of access to the higher level income. These employed women in addition to their jobs which were mentioned about above, should take the responsibility of domestic affairs as well. In such case the main pressure of the work is imposed upon them because they should be busy with the household work on one hand, and perform the job responsibilities on the other. Regarding it a lady from Kabul said:

**“In spite of being graduated from the faculty, working outside is not easy for me because I have much work to do at home as well. Performing at one time two jobs is too difficult for me.”**

Another problem that a number of women have is that they to perform two works simultaneously that is to be busy by domestic affairs, cattle breeding, agriculture and so on to assist men. In one of the questioner from Parwan we read as below:

**“In addition to household affairs, every early morning I have to go to the cultivation field to collect and bring fodder for cows and sheep.”**

#### 4- Ways of income expending

Another issue has been revealed during the preparation of the report is related to the way of income expenditure. Based on its importance this issue has in the economic independence of women this issue would be discussed separately. Here in short we briefly mention that the way of income expanding is one of the main problems for women. In spite of tolerance of all difficulties and obstacles, they continue working without having main role in the income expenditure.

#### 5- Role of women independent economy in the equality of rights

A woman from Kabul:

**“I am 27 years old and holding BA. I have three children, my husband is working in governmental office...During Taliban regime I did not work and was to ask my husband for money. When I got sick I could reach the physician with too much difficulty and even was not able to go same where, because it causes expenses for me. Now working in international NGO I can discharge all my needs and even help others. I can express my opinions, treat myself and my children and even go for rest on Friday.”**

A woman from Juzjan:

**“When I was relying on my husband support and did not have money, I had no right at home even I could not participate in the education of children, when I wanted to go some where I had to ask several time for permission. But when my father died and got inheritance according to his will from brothers the behavior of all family members changed towards me. Now I am able to meet my relatives without problems, or to invite them home, I can take care of my health .More than that, when my daughter newly reached the youngster age and my husband wanted to give her in marriage, I interfered into the matter and said that she is small and now is not her marriage time.”**

A woman from Kandahar:

**“I am 25 years old and working in international NGO. I have three sisters and two brothers. Two my sisters were jobless and my father gave them in marriage without their consent but I resist to him in this regard and said I will marry my desirable man and am engaged with a young boy whom I like.”**

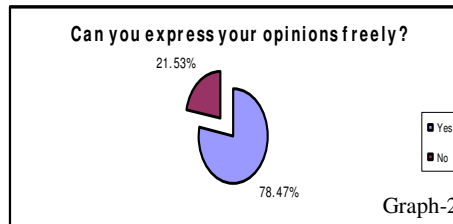
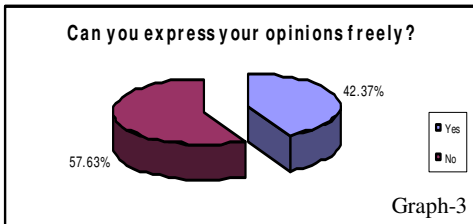
Access to economy as is seen in the above mentioned examples helps women in their struggle for the access in ensuring of equal rights. Moreover, independent access to economy enables women to invest more for their capacity building; to ensure their children education. Participation of women as life partner in the discharging of the expenses of family puts them in the equal place with men. In addition, women activities in ensuring of economic resources, pulls them into more work and social contacts. It helps, from one side, in the enhancement of their awareness about women capacities and on the other side, women presence in the society will remove the sensitivity against women public presence taking shape during war time. Also, women by taking participation in working environment promote their skills and capacities and in turn it will ensure qualitative and strong presence of women in political and social life in country.

In the same way, in many cases of violence against women, we see that victims of violence among women to a large number are those women who are not enjoying economic independence and that majority of them as far as are dependent on their husbands support, they inevitably tolerate all kind of violence, otherwise there will not be any resources for life continuation for them. As women in both at parents’ residence and husband home are mainly treated as consumers having no necessary economic capabilities, they would be subjected to violence in both places. While women being victims at husband home, the doors of their parents’ home also will remain closed.

Below, we are referring to some figures and information about the access of women to human rights which are presented in comparative way between women having economic independence and those having no economic independence and economic capabilities:

### 1- The right to freedom of expression

Women without Economic Independence      Women with Economic Independence



Now, in order to better clarify the role of economic independence in the ensuring of rights specially the right to freedom of expression, it is better to refer to the opinions of both women categories in this respect:

#### A: Opinions of women having economic independence:

A woman from Kabul:

**“I am working in one of international NGOs and receive 20000 afghani. At home, my opinions are realized about 75 %.”**

A woman from Kabul:

**“My father was money exchange trader, before death he gave me inheritance and I bought an estate for that money. Now, whatever I intend to do at home, they are realized.”**

#### B: Opinions of women without economic independence

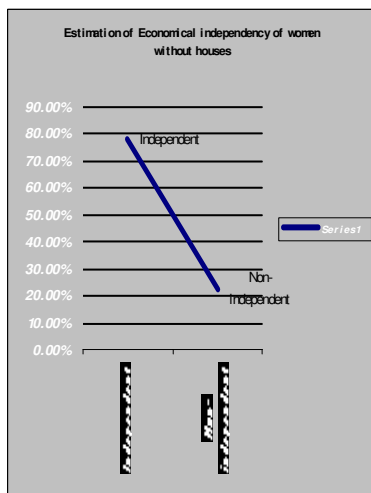
A woman from Parwan:

**“None is listening to me because I have no jobs and did not get inheritance from father.”**

### 2- Political Rights

The equal enjoining of political rights by men and women is stipulated in laws and conventions especially it is clearly included in the treaties on women political rights which in part states as follow:

**“Women should take equal participation with men in all electoral process without any discrimination and should be granted equal right to voting.”**



But the present research indicates that economic independence of women plays an important role in ensuring the equal access of women to political rights with men. Researches showed that those women enjoying economic independence actively participate in politics, nominate themselves in elections or have established political parties. But women without economic independence don't nominate themselves for National Assembly or stop their political activities.

Because as all know nomination as candidate for the President post and National Assembly and formation of political parties require expenditure for conducting campaign, publication of posters, interviews, meetings and rallies, distribution of brochures and other. For this reason, women deprived of economic independence can't effectively enjoy this right

while others having economic independence with good financial resources enjoy this right in better way by nominating themselves as candidates for the abovementioned posts.

### 3- Right to housing

This right is included in section 35 article 5 of International Treaty on elimination of all kind of discrimination against women. The article explains the equal enjoyment of this right between men and women.

The available figures indicate that the enjoining of this right is not of the same level for all categories of women i.e. women having property like land, house and estate enjoy economic independence.

The table indicates that the majority of those women who possesses house are enjoying economic independence, because it makes them withstanding against violence and economic pressure and shelter unavailability.

Furthermore, having residence and shelter is important in present conditions and is considered as constant capital form which good profit is expected. Therefore, the women ownership on this kind of property is not only positive step but also helps very much them in enjoining other rights. Based on the contained information of this report, 7.88% of women are enjoining this right.

For more clarification of the topic, we are referring to the quotations with this respect:

A woman from Kabul:

**“I am 35 years of age after 5 year continuous hard work could buy a plot of land from my own money and constructed a house and as such solved the housing problem. Now, I am felling that my husband behavior towards me has been changed completely and he attaches importance to my opinions and listen to me not only in family affairs but even in the issues not relating to me.”**

A woman from Badakhshan;

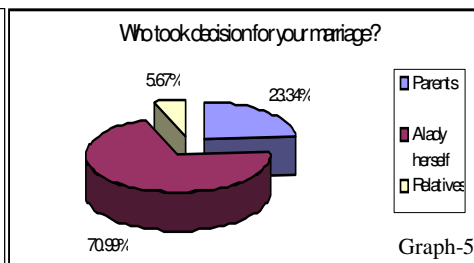
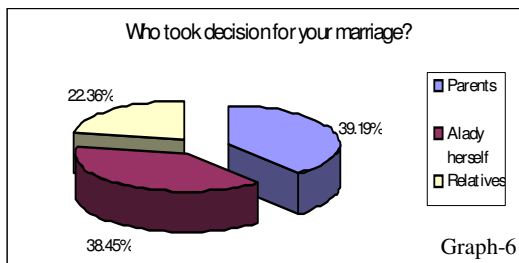
**“A lady of 38 years old got a plot of land as inheritance from father. She herself explained: having fraternal land I deserve good position among other brides in the family.”**

### 4- Right to marriage

This right has been stated in article 16 of the Universal declaration of Human Rights as follow:

**“Marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses. The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and state.”**

It is worthy mentioning that enjoying this right is not equal among all women. The following tables clarify



it. The Table indicates the level of enjoying this right by economic independent women. The Table says that considerable number of girls enjoying economic independence marry by their consent, while

for 29% of them others' opinions is mandatory.

Another Table indicates enjoying the right to marriage by girls having no economic independence. For more explanation we are referring to the quotation of some women in this regard.

“I am 34 years old and working in the office of foreign NGO. I got married with one of our colleague who is good person. Although my family suggested others, but my consent was the mandatory condition.

“I am a young girl of 26 years age and working in governmental office. My parents took decisions several times to give me in marriage, but I rejected because I am able to ensure my life needs well. For this reason, my parent always consults with me in the decision making. Recently, based on my consent I was engaged with a man of 35 years age and I am really feeling lucky.”

“I am woman 30 years old and living outside the country. In order to get married, I returned to country to marry a man and I did the same. I paid all wedding expense from my own account and have good life today.”

### 5- Right to sanitation

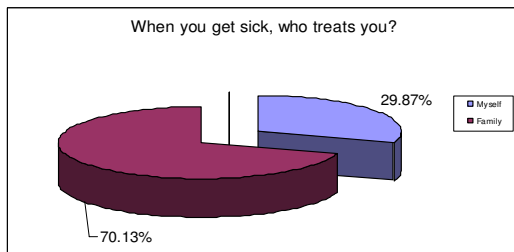
The right of access to medical services for all is stated in most national and international laws.

Man and woman are entitled to enjoy this right without any discrimination. This right is mentioned in article 25 of Universal Declaration of Human Rights which says:

**“Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services...”**



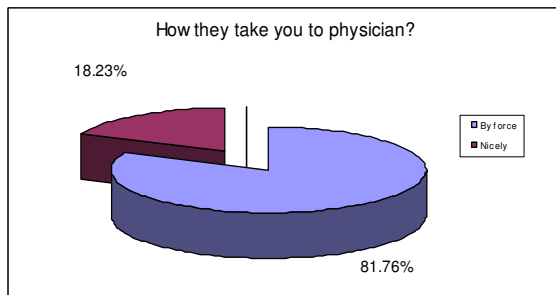
As the enjoying of this right is closely related to the health and safety, therefore it is not the same in all people especially women. Because those women having economic independence when are sick they themselves go to a physician and undertake treatment.



At the same time, women without economic independence when are sick to go to the physician for undertaking treatment they have to be accompanied by a man, and that after several days of illness.

Also the below table show how the family treats the sick woman during illness:

The table indicates women without economic independence and the family is taking care of her health, during treatment the family is ill-treating her and forces her to go to the physician.



It has to be mentioned that this matter is closely related with economy and self-sufficiency, because increase in the prices of medical services and its provision to public includes expenses for physician fee, medicine recipe, hospitalization and so on. Consequently, women with economic independence comparing to those without it, have better chance for enjoying this right.

## 6- In-house economic role of women (work without payment)

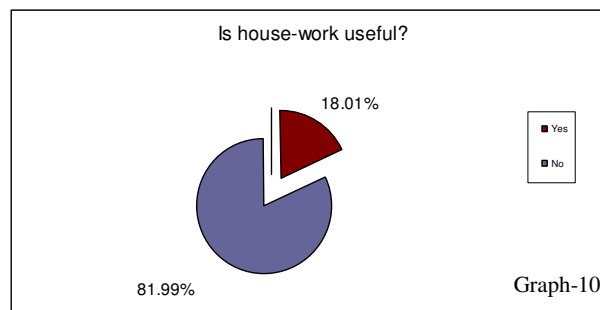
- 1-Work is what to be done - work is troubles not amusement and time passing
- 2-Work is whatever happens between 9:00 in the morning till 5:00 in the afternoon
- 3-Work is considered as such when you got payment for it
- 4-Work is whatever takes place outside home

The above mentioned is the opinion of people about work But most of these opinions is not coinciding with the reality of women life. Their work is not planed according to schedule during day time and they are working mostly continuously without break. At the same time work of men is done during specified hours and working outside home prepare ground for them to come into contacts with other members of society. In many cases, working outside is accompanied with entertainment. It can't be said about women; many women perform many works simultaneously some of which are very exhausted; even though some work like playing with children, gardening and other could be enjoyable but there are other activities which women have to perform at home without any payment and enjoyment.

Generally, women work without payment can be divided into three parts: work at home, care of children and assist members of family.

As far as the material value of the labor of these women has never been evaluated, therefore during discussion on economy, men main players of economy, are source of family income, respect and they always have decisions.

When they are coming home women have to prepare the ease. It is obvious that the economic resource of family in the afghan society. But women don't have any role in it? Does the woman being busy by domestic affairs from the early morning up to the evening play any role in the family economy? This report argues that housewives play much more important role in the household which in turn plays role in the country economy.



are mostly counted as For the reason that men always are treated with the final say in taking

they should rest and means of their rest and main pressure of is on the men shoulders

In addition to it, during the conducted sampling 81.99% of people considered housekeeping work unprofitable and valueless and only 18.01% said it is useful for family economy. It is showed in the following chart.

Here we listed the main activities of women during a day with the approximate economic value:

No	Activities	Time/Hours In 24 hours	Economic value In Afghani
1	<b>Preparation of breakfast</b>	1 hour a day	250 Afghani
2	<b>Cleaning of house</b>	2 hours a day	250 Afghani
3	<b>Preparation of lunch</b>	1 hour a day	500 Afghani
4	<b>Kitchen sink</b>	30 minutes a day	250 Afghani
5	<b>Taking care of children</b>	3 hours a day	250 Afghani
6	<b>Preparation for supper</b>	1 hour a day	1000 Afghani
7	<b>Clothes washing</b>	3-4 hours a week	1000 Afghani
8	<b>Ironing</b>	2-3 hours a day	300 Afghani
9	<b>Purchase of needed fruit</b>	2 hours a day	100 Afghani
10	<b>Total</b>	17.30	3900 Afghani

The above list shows that housewives are working during all day without break and their work is of economic value as well. For example if for the household management a house keeper be recruited, more than the accepted sum of money is to be paid for domestic affairs which is saved by the useful and continuous work of women. It is clear that the household affairs and housekeeping is a devastated work. But as the economic value of this work is not taken into consideration, therefore, housekeeping affairs enjoy less value.

Furthermore, the above list with the evaluation of economic value of women work during day at home shows much is the economic participation of women in the household affairs.

And so, another issue that the shows is that women in Afghanistan without taking into consideration their status as being employed unemployed, afford accommodation; they have significant role in the family economy. Those being employed are busy by performing their duty during working hours at office, but after returning home they have to address all family affairs and as such their economic role is much more than that of men.

What is of importance is that regardless of the position being employed or unemployed, they never express tiredness and unwillingness to undertake housekeeping affair. In spite of obstacles and damages, work without payment is acceptable for many women. They argue that engagement in domestic affairs prepare ground for them directly take participation in the education of their children and under such conditions they receive instead praise from family members which is more satisfactory than payment in money.

## 7. Woman: producer or consumer

Almost majority of people in our country count women as consumers and expenders and believe that the role of women in economy is too little. Such perception is continuing even now when the women number joining profitable occupations is increased. It should be added that those who think women are consumers, they mainly emphasize as far as women always are busy by housekeeping, and therefore, they are consumers. But our research proves that they are producers, because:

- 1- Majority of women in villages and rural areas work together with their family men and have role in production
- 2- Considerable percentage of women in villages and rural areas directly or indirectly help their family men in their work
- 3- As the housekeeping work of women has no payment, it is left from the public vision and its role in the welfare of family and society is not perceptible. As our research proves that the domestic work of women which is kept aside from the public vision, has important role in the ensuring of family economy.

## 8- Our stories (experience of successful women in business and economy)

1. **“I am a girl of 19 years age and am busy by carpet weaving in a village of Juzjan province. I got enough skill in carpet weaving because my mother helped me and my father sells the product. Before, there were many problems as no one bought our carpets at good price and we got less profit. But now the status of the product in the market became better and I got familiar with marketing of the goods and able to make good income.”**

2. **“I am 28 years old girl, living and have grown up in Kabul. I made M.A in business. Using my professional knowledge, I could transfer capital of 50000 afghani into a big trade and training company.”**

3. **“I am 33 years old woman and living in one of the Kabul city district. I was interested in business affairs and my husband being businessman helped me very much. Before, I had problems for capital but now I independently manage the work of a Company.”**

## 9- Negative effects of economic dependence on women

As the figures indicate there are a small number of women that have equal payments or income with men. But in terms of expending and discharging the needs can not benefit from it as the men in the family. Such status directs a set of disaffects to them from different points some of which we mention here as below:

Only 15.35% interviewed women for this report said that their income and men in the family is equal. It puts the women in the vulnerable position and as mentioned before, economic insecurity women puts women in a sensitive place and give up the status of self-sufficiency. Thus, in the absence access of economic capabilities of, women for discharging their needs mostly depend on men. The below mentioned tells us what difficulties face this group of woman when removing their needs:

“N” A woman from Kabul:

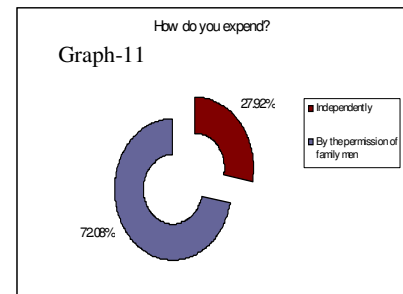
**“I and my husband are working in the same office because our specialty during study in university was the same and also getting same salary. But I am accountable before my husband because I can't expand money as he does.”**

And a girl from Juzjan:

**“My father tasks me and my brother equally and we have to weave carpet. But I can’t expend as my brother does while my brother buys new items everyday.”**

But as was mentioned in the beginning, even those women who have the equal income with men don’t have the same power in expending and decisions making in practice. Many women having material income, said just as soon they get income, it belongs to men in the family and thus he takes decisions how to expend the money.

An opinion poll among 1400 people shows that 40% think that a woman should expend money by the permission of her husband and for this reason we see that 72% of the interviewed women by us expend their income by the permission of husband, father or brother.



A woman from Kabul:

**“I am working as a teacher and my monthly income is about 2700 Afghani. I always work 5 hours a day and when receive salary I am giving it to my husband because he has the right of expending. While going for shopping, I pay attention not to expend too much because I have to account before my husband.”**

A girl from Herat:

**“I am working as officer in one of the governmental offices and my monthly income is about 2500 Afghani. I am working 8 hours a day. When I buy some thing I am worrying too much because I am accountable for the expenditure before my brother.”**

A woman from Kabul:

**“When I go to ask my husband for a part of my salary , I really fell myself weak because my husband doesn’t give me money for my expenses and even while giving he speaks to me unpleasant things that disappoints me.”**

A girl from Badakhshan:

**“When I want to buy something for myself, I can’t dare to ask my father for money. Because my father asks many questions what I need the money for. But when my brother asks him for money, he gives money to him without asking what he needs money for.”**

Whereas, during the preparation of this report we rarely met people accountable for expending money before their wives.

A man from Kabul:

**“I am graduated from Kabul University and my monthly income is about 15000 Afghani. Up to now, I even did not allow my wife once to ask me about my salary or expending.”**

Another man from Kabul:

**“I work in international NGO and my income is about 30000 Afghani. After expending, I don’t consider necessary to account before my wife.”**

During the research we have faced with women whose income is spent by their husband for amusement and rest and as such their wife and children remain without material resources for discharging their needs. We interviewed women who weave carpet for long hours and even the time that they have to spent with their children they gave it to earn income, but in the return their income is spent by their addicted husbands.

Here, we bring to your attention the most shocking story from a woman:

**“I am 35 years old and 15 years from marriage. I have four children and working in governmental office. Economic status of our family was below normal level. For matching of these problems we were in need of some amount of money to invest on a small business and improve our financial situation. By consultation with each other, I started working in a short term project with an NGO. The project was for six months and the payment I receive on this account was enough for such a investment. Based on our decision, I gave money to my husband to use them for the agreed program. So he went to one of the frontier provinces for purchasing of some items. He returned after four months together with his new wife. The money I have given to him, were spent for her new marriage. Now he is living with his second wife and don’t pay attention to me and my children and I am trying to ensure the life of my children by the assistance of a small salary I have.”**

## 10- Causes of women economic inequality in Afghanistan

Based on findings of this report, the lack of women economic independence is derived from different factors, the main of which are mentioned below:

1-As men are traditionally recognized as head of household in our society, therefore, factor of economic independence questions women position from different view points. The existing customs and traditions in society and our families not easily provide permission and conditions of outside working for women.

This is clearly shown in the below chart:

The chart shows that 58% of women consider that the main reason of not working is the lack of permission from their families while only 26% of women said that the insecurity problem and 16% of them think difficulties related to the protection and care of their children are the reason of not working.



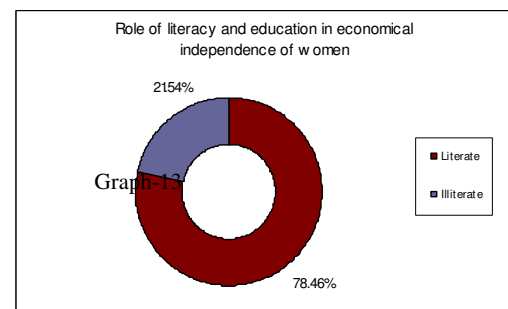
In the absence of opportunities of outside working, the possibilities of getting payment and access to the economic resources become restricted for women. Consequently, women undertook other activities like needle work, tailoring, dairy and other which required more time and energy with less income from economic point of view. As a result, women are placed in more weak position in terms of economy.

As a result, women are placed in more weak position in terms of economy.

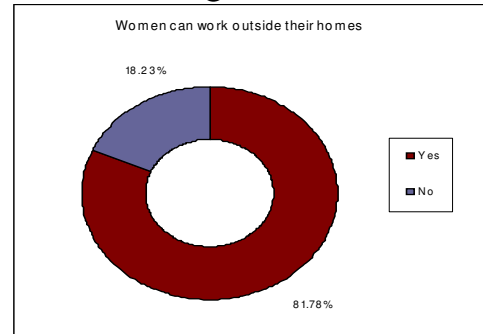
A restriction of opportunities in access of girls to higher and vocational education is one of the main reasons of their weak economic capabilities. An early marriage, poverty of families, discrimination in benefiting the existing opportunities equally by girl children and boy children in majority of families divests capacity building from women and deprives them of favorable opportunities in access to material possibilities. Whereas, based on the figures of this research a small number of literate women is deprived of economic capabilities.

The above table shows that 78.46% of literate women whom the interviews have been taken from are of professions and economic capabilities and only 21.54% of them are deprived of it.

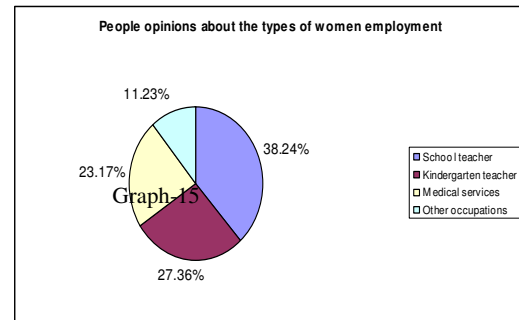
4. In addition, the restriction of profession selection for women is also considered as the reasons of economic incapability of women in our country. Widely making employment as a gender issue, in other words, labor



division on the basis of gender issue and the perception that women should perform such activities that do not contradicting their housekeeping affairs, also restrict working ground for women. Although majority of the interviewees that is 81% are not against women work, but as we see in the next table that they mostly prefer women to be teacher in schools or kindergartens. In general, women with children should look for work of short time duration. Besides, being of less income and tiresome, these occupations further less opportunities for women promotion and the restricted selection of employment impels to unemployment.



As we see in the above chart about 65% of the interviewees were for women being teachers, 23% of them support the idea of women to be physicians and very small percentage suggests other occupations.

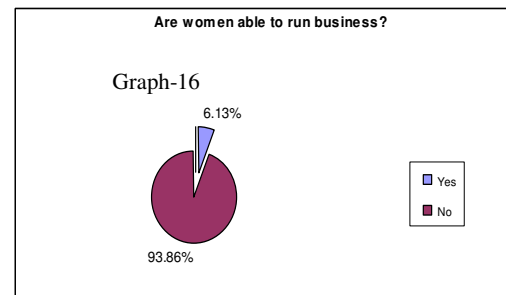


One another example about the restriction on women employment originated from the people thoughts and perception and it is related to area of trade and business. Although, from the Islamic history point of view we always refer to women engagement in the area of business but the ordinary people think that doing business is not appropriate for women.

5. Following the reasons mentioned before, one of the other main reasons of economic incapability of women is the change in their life style after marriage. Many of the employed women either leave the job or they are prohibited from working. Interviews conducted with these women during the preparation of this report reflect this reality:

A woman from Herat:

**“...I am an engineer and my age is 35 years. I have been working for 6 years and my monthly income was 5000 Afghani (100\$), but my husband does not allow me to work because as he said a woman should not be an engineer. Now I don’t want to ask my husband for money and as such live in isolation from all my relatives.”**

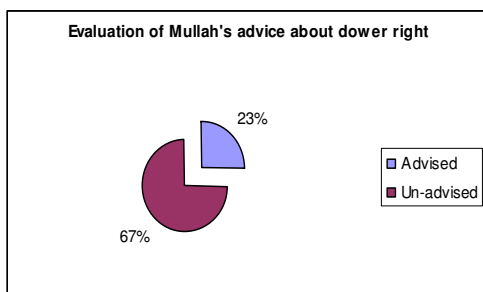


A woman from Kabul:

**“I am a physician and my age is 38 years. I had 10000 (200\$) Afghani monthly incomes but after the death of my husband, I was to take care of my children and for this reason could not work in the night shift and leave the job. Now I have too many economic problems and live with the assistance of my relatives from abroad.”**

A woman from Kabul:

**“I am veterinary of 30 years age. I had worked for one month for 2500 Afghani (50\$) income. My father doesn’t let me to go to clinic...he said girls should not perform this job I would like you to become a teacher. Now, I am not willing to ask my father for money. So I am facing with too much economic difficulty.”**



6. No realization of the Islamic rights regarding women economic provisions in family and as a general in our society,

places women in a sensible position. As it was discussed in details early, women according to Islamic provisions enjoy inheritance right, dower and alimony. But in practice and according to the results of this report, these rights are not easy accessible for every woman in Afghanistan.

#### A: Enjoyment of dower

Based on the given information in the below table, the benefiting balance of dower by women reaches 17% while 83% of women are deprived of this right.

Of course, there are different reasons of inaccessibility of women to dower which include in part the unawareness of women from this right and disregard of families from giving up of this right to women.

A woman from Kandahar says in this connection:

**“God forbid so that I take dower because thanks to God I am not divorced.”**

A woman from Kabul explains her opinion:

**“There elapsed 5 years since my marriage and my dower is about one million Afghani (20000 \$). If I asked for it my husband gets angry over me and the family atmosphere become displease. Otherwise, as I have no income work and in order to remove my needs I have to ask my husband for money from time to time. If I got my dower I would not face such problems.”**

A woman from Jalalabad adds in this respect:

**“I am 29 years old and 12 years elapsed since my marriage. My dower was determined 500000 Afghani (1000 \$) but there is no tradition of taking dower.”**

Of course, it should not be forgotten that the role of religious scholars in the introduction of this right for women and the obligation of men and families regarding the bestowing of this right is very essential. The philosophy of dower determination for women which is clearly indicated in the Islamic provisions should be conveyed to the people through religious scholars. It is the main responsibility of the religious scholars in the ensuring of economic independence of women. The report explains that only 32% of mullahs have been giving instruction to the people in this regard.

#### B. Access of women to inheritance right

This report discloses that despite the clear and decisive indications of Qura'n about the importance of enjoyment of inheritance right by women in Afghanistan, women rarely benefit from it. This is indicated in the following table:

The table shows that 72% of women don't enjoy inheritance right while only 28.52% of them are able to take the advantage of the right.

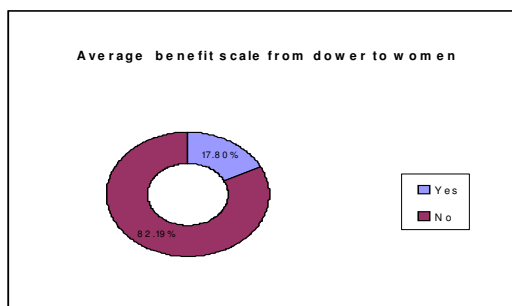
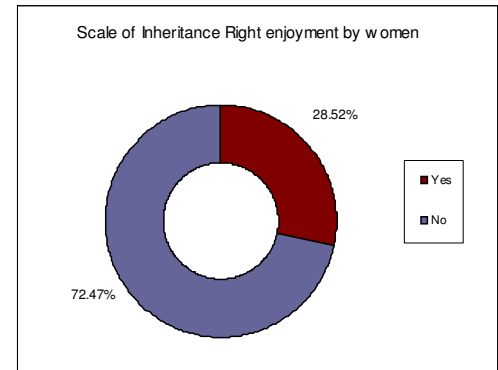
In this connection, disregard of the family in giving the inheritance to their daughters and the unawareness of the women and girls from their rights are considered as the main reasons of women deprivation from inheritance right. At the same time, there is no clear mechanism that can be of help for women in this regard.

A woman from Badakhshan says in this regard:

**“We are tow sisters and two brothers. Our (sisters) economic position is not good but brothers' is good because they posses all our father property. But when we claim on inheritance, our brothers get angry.”**

A woman from Maidan pointed out that:

**“We are three sisters and three brothers. Economic position**



**of our parent was good and we were given much property as inheritance. But after their death when we ask for our inheritance right they told us that we got married and have no other right upon them.”**

Finally a woman from Juzjan, noted in this connection:

**“We are two brothers and two sisters. Despite that our economic position is not good, but taking inheritance from paternal home by girl is no accepted tradition and the people look at her with contempt.**

7. Deprivation of more women of property right because of reasons mentioned already, can also confront women with difficulties. Although, fortunately there are no legal and religious (Islamic) obstacles in this respect, but indeed women in very limited cases are the owner of property and estate. On one side, it is because of the no access of won to inheritance right, dower and income and on the other, rejection of property ownership by women.

Many people think that there is no need for women to have a registered property by their name and also when you put a question before them that if they know a women having registered property by their name the answer in about 80% is negative. It is also shown in the above table.

For more clarity, we refer to the opinion of several women in this regard:

A woman from Herat:

**“I have got a small villa by inheritance from father, but my husband to register it by his name in legal documentation because women don’t need for property and their alimony is their husband responsibility.”**

A woman from Kandahar:

**“According to my father will, all property was given to brothers and I was told that I don’t need for estate and they would give me ornament.”**

## Part six

### Conclusion and Suggestions

#### Conclusion

Access and benefiting of women without interference of other in the material resources, giving and enjoyment of this right is not only their natural right, but it helps them in acquiring and other rights; it helps them to live independently without relying on the other support, to be useful in the enhancement of family and country economy and in the result be treated as an active social and economic element. Their voice be recognized and heard in the capacity of an independent human being.

Islam has clear and concrete provisions for the ensuring of economic resources of women and has encouraged women in all walk of life so that to take active participation in the economic affairs.

Domestic affairs of women which seem to be less valuable, indeed has essential economic value and its absence will cause strong economic damage for their families.

Laws of Afghanistan don't contained relative guarantee for the economic development of women and not offer any protections measures for poor families.

Women work more than men during 24 hours, but receive less privilege than that of men.

Different custom and traditions existing in Afghanistan take out the proper opportunities for economic development and growth of women and on the other hand limit their employment.

#### Recommendation

1. As far as the education is regarded as the key element in the economic development; and the main factor of economic backwardness of women is their limited access to education, therefore it is suggested:
  - A. Providing equal conditions for access of girls/women through building and increase numbers of schools in the accessible areas for them
  - B. The government should offer alternative livestock program and economic assistance for their families and thus encouraging the families to send their daughters to schools
  - C. The government should prevents an early marriage hindering access of girls in education and consequently hindering access in their economic access trough elaborating of rational policies.
2. The government should plan national mechanisms, procedures and structure at Very high governmental level with the presentation of enough opportunities so that these structure and institutions perform the following functions for the purpose of economic ability of women:
  - A. To convince government about the importance of women presence at all level of governmental policy making
  - B. Systematically evaluate the economic status of women and their role in the economy of country
  - C. Plan policies and programs through which discrimination against women in all fields especially in regards of their employment and work could be eliminated.
3. For the strengthening and empowering economic independence of women,

Government should take concrete and special measures as positive discrimination, determination of women quota in all issue relating to employment and likewise as temporary steps; thus ensuring the role and equal participation of women in the affairs relating to economy and employment.

4. On the basis of the experience and findings of our research it is proved that the Main problem of women in economy is the ignorance of their role in economy; therefore, the government should consider the establishment of institutions of women right protection and other structure in respect of policy and procedures, develop and implements them so that to identify and inform people about the following circumstances:
  - A. Women economic ability
  - B. Develop data collection mechanism about women employment in governmental offices and private sector
  - C. Presence of women in market and trade
  - D. Role of gender equality in development
  - E. Economic value of women activities
5. Government should prepare proper paid employment opportunities for women
6. Enhancement of women awareness from supportive economic resources is very important. Women should receive information regarding their economic rights in Islam, Laws of Afghanistan and that what are the international standards in this regard and how they can access them for this purpose, the government and interested NGOs for ensuring women rights should direct attention of women to these opportunities through organizing and planning of public awareness activities.



---

a. Women not working outside, what are they busy with at homes?

---

b. What income do they make for family?

---

7. Are their (sister, brother or husband) in your family?

Yes

No

If yes

a. They can expend equally

b. Son or husband can expend more

c. Sister or wife has the right to expend

d. Sister or wife expends less

8. How many persons are married in your family?

---

a. Do their wives practically benefited from their dower?

Yes

b. How much was their dower?

No

Reasons:

---

9. Do daughters in your family benefited from their right of inheritance?

---

Yes

No

Reasons:

---

10. Is there anyone in your family, who runs a business?

No

Yes

Please tell about one of their reminiscence and working story.

---

11. Do you know a woman who has land, house or estate and has benefited from it?

No

Yes

a. Name the kind of property under their ownership?

b. How they utilize the property?

c. In what level is their ownership status?

**Women and Children Legal Research  
Foundation  
Economical Independence Research Project  
Questionnaire for  
Religious Scholars and Mullahs  
Questionnaire No.2**

Address of Interviewee:  
Province of Interviewee:  
District/City:

Interview date:  
Interviewer:  
Interview time:

1. From Islamic point of view through what sources can women benefited to reach economic independence?

2. What are the obstacles and difficulties by your opinion, preventing women to enjoy this right?

3. According Islamic Sharia, can women work outside their homes?

No

Yes

What occupations can they engage in?

4. Can women engage in business?

5. Can women possesses their own property and utilizes it?

6. Please explain comparatively the property rights of women during ignorance era (before Islam) and the rights given by Islam.

**Ignorance Era**

1. Inheritance right

---

1. Inheritance right

---

2. Alimony

---

2. Alimony

---

3. Dower

---

3. Dower

---

4. Right to work

---

4. Right to work

---

7. What are the women participation scale in house expenses?  
 Working women. Women not working.

8. How much can a woman give as a present from her property?
- 

9. Approximately, how often do you discuss economical independence of women in a mosque within a year?





Once a month

Once a season

Once a year

Never

10. Beside alimony, inheritance and dower, what are other resources that can help women to attain economical independency?
- 

11. What are your suggestions for those women who have no economical independency in Afghanistan?
-

**Women and Children Legal Research  
Foundation  
Economical Independence Research Project  
Questionnaire for  
Employed women  
Questionnaire No.3**

Address of Interviewee:  
Province of Interviewee:  
District/City:

Interview date:  
Interviewer:  
Interview time:  
Marital Status:

3- How old are you?

4- Tell us about your marriage?

a. How old were you at that time? \_\_\_\_\_

b. Were you married by your consent?

Yes

No

c. Who took decision for your marriage? \_\_\_\_\_

d. How many wives your husband has now? \_\_\_\_\_

5- What is your education level?

Graduation

Masters

Baccalaureate

Illiterate

6- What is your occupation? \_\_\_\_\_

7- What is your salary scale or monthly income? \_\_\_\_\_

a. Monthly income salary of your husband: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Monthly income salary of your father: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Have you received your dower?

Yes

If No, why: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Have you received inheritance from your father's family?

Yes

If No, then why: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Do you have money or estate?

No

Yes

a. Does your husband know?  a. Does your father or brother know?

b. Your husband doesn't know?  b. Your father or brother doesn't know?

9. What do you do with your salaries?

a. I take it by myself

Are you allowed to expend it?

Yes

No

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

b. I give it to my husband

Does he allow you to expend it?

If yes, how much \_\_\_\_\_

No

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

c. I give to my father or paternal family?

Are you allowed to expend it?

If yes, how much \_\_\_\_\_

No

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Did you vote for your favorite candidate during presidential and Parliamentary elections?

Yes

– Did you take decision by yourself

– Your husband told you whom to vote

– Father or brother told you whom to vote

No, Why? \_\_\_\_\_

11. Is there anybody in your family having equivalent salary to you?

Brother

Husband

Nobody

a. Can you expend as much as he does?

b. Can you expend half of his expenditure?

What effect has such situation on your life?

c. You expend too less.

What effect has such situation on your life? \_\_\_\_\_

d. You expend nothing.

What effect has such situation on your life? \_\_\_\_\_

e. What is the reason, you can't expend such amount of money as they do?

12. When you need something how do you act?

You take decision for its preparation by yourself

**Singles:**

a. Do you take permission from your father

b. Do you take permission from your brother

c. Do you take permission from both of them

**Married:**

You take decision for its preparation by yourself

a. Do you take permission from your husband

b. Do you take permission from the husband's family

c. Do you take permission from both of them

13. Can you lend somebody from your property?

14. Can you buy or present something from your property to somebody?

15. Can you have entertainment when you are bored?

Yes

No

16. How much is your opinion considered valuable in decisions taken at home?

100%      75%      50%      25%      0%

17. How are you referred to doctor when you are sick?

a. Alone

b. Accompanied by husband \_\_\_\_\_ How they deal you

c. Along with father or brother \_\_\_\_\_ How they deal you

18. Can you openly describe your opinion in your family?

No

Yes

How often is it practiced?

Mostly

- Sometime
- Rarely
- Never

19. To what extent your opinions considered in your children discipline?

100%      75%      50%      25%      0%

20. Please tell us a remembering story of your expenses in your life?

---

21. Who takes decision when you have to buy an expensive thing needed for your home?

- By yourself
- Husband
- Father or brother
- Or any other way

**Women and Children Legal Research  
Foundation  
Economical Independence Research Project  
Questionnaire for  
Jobless women  
Questionnaire No.4**

Marital Status

Address of Interviewee:

Province of Interviewee:

District/City:

Interview date:

Interviewer:

Interview time:

- 1- How old are you?
- 2- Give us some information about your marriage?
  - a. How old were you at that time?
  - b. Were you married by your consent?
    - Yes
    - No
  - c. Who took decision in the marriage?
  - d. How many wives have your husband now?
- 3- What is your education level?
  - Graduation
  - Masters
  - Baccalaureate
  - Illiterate
- 4- Do you like to work?
  - No
  - Yes
- 5- The factors and persons stopping your work?
  - Father or brother
  - Husband
  - Husband's family
  - Being faraway
  - Insecurity
  - Prevalent custom in the environment
  - and or...
- 6- What is the monthly income scale or salary of your husband (your father)?
- 7- Have you received your dower?
  - Yes

What was the amount of that?

- No, what was the reason: \_\_\_\_\_
- 8- Have you inherited from your father's family?
- Yes
- If No, why: \_\_\_\_\_
- 9- Do you have your own personal money or property?
- No
- Yes
- a. Does your husband know?  a. Does your father or brother know?
- b. Your husband doesn't know?  b. Your father or brother doesn't know?
- 10- What does your husband do when he gets money or his salary?
1. Keeps it with himself
2. Gives it to you
- a. Do you expend freely
- b. Do you give an account of your expenses to your husband
- c. Only guards it
- 11- Did you vote for your favorite candidate during presidential and Parliamentary elections?
- Yes
- Did you take decision by yourself
- Your husband told you whom to vote
- Father or brother told you whom to vote
- No, Why? \_\_\_\_\_
- 12- Whose idea was given importance in selection of place of residence?
- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| Married    | Singles   |
| a. Husband | a. All members of the family                                    |
| b. Wife    | b. Only head of the family                                      |
| c. Both    | c. Was your idea included in selection of<br>Place of residence |
- 13- How do you get something when you need it?
- Married
- Do you find it by yourself
- Does your husband find it
- a. He finds angrily
- b. He finds nicely
- Singles
- Do you find it by yourself
- Does head of family finds it
- a. Finds angrily
- b. Finds nicely
- 14- Do you have entertainment when you got bored?

Yes

No

15- How much is your opinion considered valuable in decisions taken at home?

100%                      75%                      50%                      25%                      0%

16- How are you referred to doctor when you are sick?

Married

Singles

A. Alone

A. Alone

B. Accompanied by husband

B. Accompanies by the head of  
Family, father or brother

How are you behaved?

How are you behaved?

Reluctantly

Reluctantly

Nicely

Nicely

17- To what extent your opinions considered in your children discipline?

100%                      75%                      50%                      25%                      0%

18- What do you do at home usually?

a. What benefit or income do these works brings you?

b. What benefit or income do these works bring to your family?

19- Can you freely express your opinion in the family?

No

Yes

To what extent it is brought in practice?

Mostly

Sometime

Rarely

Never

20- Please describe an interesting reminiscence about your expenses?

21- Who take decision in buying expensive things needed for home?

Only you

Husband

Father or brother

Or others...

**Women and Children Legal Research Foundation  
Economical Independence Research Project  
Questionnaire for  
Employed villager women  
(Cattle breeder, Peasant, Baker, Carpet weaver, handicrafts  
Questionnaire No.4**

Marital Status:      Single                       Married

Address of Interviewee:

Province of Interviewee:

District/City:

Interview date:

Interviewer:

Interview time:

1. How old are you?

2. Are you literate?

No

Yes – to what level \_\_\_\_\_

Which year did you get marry? \_\_\_\_\_

Who was decision-maker in your marriage? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What does your husband do? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What does your father do? \_\_\_\_\_

5. How many more wives your husband has? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What else do you do moreover the chores? \_\_\_\_\_

a. What benefit does this work bring to you? \_\_\_\_\_

b. Who uses this benefit

1. Myself

2. Husband

3. Father

1. Have you received your dower?

Yes

No

Because of \_\_\_\_\_

Have you received inheritance from your father's family?

- Yes  
 No  
 Because of

2. Did you vote for your favorite candidate during presidential and Parliamentary elections?

- Yes  
 Did you take decision by yourself?  
 Your husband told you whom to vote  
 Father or brother told you whom to vote  
 No  
 Why? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Who works more, you or your brother?

- I work more  
 My brother works more  
 We work equally  
 a. Who can expend more or meet their needs  
 Me  
 Brother  
 Both

4. Who works more, you or your husband?

- I work more  
 My husband works more  
 We work equally  
 a. Who can expend more or meet their needs  
 Me  
 Husband  
 Both

6. How do you act when you need something?

- You take decision by yourself to find it?

Singles:

- Do you take permission from your father  
 Do you take permission from your brother

- Do you take permission from both of them  
 Do you decide to find it by yourself  
 Do you take permission from husband

Do you take permission from husband's family

Do you take permission from both of them

7. Can you lend somebody from your property?

---

8. Can you buy or present something from your property to somebody?

---

9. Can you have entertainment when you are bored?

Yes

No

10. How much is your opinion considered valuable in decisions taken at home?

100%                      75%                      50%                      25%                      0%

11. How are you referred to doctor when you are sick?

b. Alone

c. Accompanied by husband

How are you dealt?

---

d. Along with father or brother

How are you dealt?

---

12. Can you openly describe your opinion in your family?

No

Yes

How often is it practiced?

Mostly

Sometime

Rarely

Never

13. To what extent your opinions considered in your children discipline?

100%                      75%                      50%                      25%                      0%

14. Please tell us a remembering story of your expenses in your life?

---

**Women and Children Legal Research Foundation  
Economical Independence Research Project  
Questionnaire for  
Traders' women  
Questionnaire No.5**

Marital Status:      Single               Married

Address of Interviewee:  
Province of Interviewee:  
District/City:

Interview date:  
Interviewer:  
Interview time:

1. How old are you?  
2. What is the level of your education?  
Illiterate    Baccalaureate    Graduation    Masters    Most higher

3. What is the number of your father's family members?

4. Number of sons

5. Husband's profession

6. Father's profession

7. What opportunities and possibilities caused you to be a trader?

8. Have you faced any problem or obstacles in your way?

No

Yes

a. Please name them \_\_\_\_\_

9. What are the obstacles before you?

10. What is your monthly income?

11. How do you expend from your income?

Independently

By the view of husband

By the view of father or brother

12. How many people are doing business in your family?

a: How many males and females are they?

---

b: How they expends?

Equally

Sons expend more

Daughters expend more

13. Have you received your dower?

Yes

No

Because of: \_\_\_\_\_

14. Have you received inheritance from your father's family?

---

15. Please tell us a remembering story of yourself in the field of trade?

---

16. How economic independence of women would help in their equivalency of rights?

---

**Annex No. (2)**

1. Aboot, Pamela and Macrwalas, Sociology of Women, translated by Maneeja Najm Iraqi, Tehran
2. Jawed, Din Mohammad, Women in the history of Afghanistan ( Kabul: unknown, 1381)
3. Hakimpur, Mohammad, Women rights in disparity to tradition and modernity: Tehran Naghma naw andesh, 1382
4. Statistical year-book, 24<sup>th</sup> Edition, Sonbola 1382
5. Civil Law, Ministry of Justice, Government Press, 1355
6. Holy Quran, Tafseer-e-Kabuli, Maulana Mohammad Hassan Dewbandi, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition, 1382
7. Special collection of documents on Human Rights, Kabul: Human Rights Commission, b c

Annex No. (3)

