



Partial Events Calendar: 2003

- **Jun 21 - 22** ***INTER-AFGHAN YOUTH SUMMIT*** Stanford University, CA
Participation grows each year, and this year, over 50 Afghan youth from across the US participated in the two day summit that included workshops and special guests including keynote speaker, Hekmat Karzai, First Secretary of the Afghan Embassy in Washington DC, who discussed the role of young Afghans in the reconstruction process. AC also presented the *Most Active Young Afghan Award* to Ms. Khaleda Atta, President of the Society of Afghan Professionals, whose tireless work and commitment to the Afghan community has rightfully won her the recognition of her peers. Although founded by AC, this year's event was hosted by the Society of Afghan Professionals. AC staff was on hand to participate and help run the event.
- **Aug 17** ***AFGHAN HERITAGE DAY*** SUNY Old Westbury College, L.I.
Over 2000 Afghans joined to celebrate their heritage at this annual outdoor cultural picnic organized by AC. The day's activities began with a welcome march where attendees were greeted by children from Whitestone School wearing traditional Afghan clothing. Throughout the day, the crowd was kept entertained by the traditional adult and children's Attans, as well as the ever popular fashion show. DJ's kept the energy level high with upbeat Afghan sounds and live music. Vendors were on hand selling everything from chandeliers, Afghan jewelry and clothing to hot kabob dishes and traditional ice cream (*jalah*). In attendance were NY State Assembly Member Barry S Grodenchik, Nassau County District Attorney Mr. James Clarke, and Mr. Jorge Mendizabal from NYC Office of Immigrant Affairs.
- **Sep 8** ***COLUMBIA PANEL ON ACTIVISM*** Columbia Univ, NY
Rameen Moshref of Afghan Communicator spoke on this panel organized by the Asian American clubs of Columbia University about the need to form an alliance to coordinate joint efforts toward a common goal. Other panelists included Glenn Magpantay, Staff Attorney at the Asian-American Legal Defense & Education Fund, and New York Immigration Commissioner Sayu Bhojwani.
- **Sep 18** ***A DIALOGUE WITH MUSLIM LEADERS*** New York, NY
Afghan Communicator's Rameen Moshref and Wida Amir took part in Big Brother, Big Sister's Centennial Celebration Lecture Series titled, *Helping Muslim Youth and Stopping Bias through Mentoring*. Rameen Moshref underlined the importance of empowering the Muslim community, while Wida Amir stressed the need for young people to receive help and guidance.
- **Oct 4- 5** ***SOCIETY OF AFGHAN ENGINEERS CONFERENCE*** Hoboken, NJ
Afghan Communicator participated in this conference sponsored by the Stevens Institute of Technology and the Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the UN. Titled *International Planning Conference for the Empowerment of Afghan Professionals*, the conference attracted many Afghan government officials including the Ministers of Public Works, Education, and Communications, as well as the Chancellor of Kabul University. Topics at hand included the need to mobilize Afghan professionals to assist in the reconstruction efforts.
- **Oct 17 - 18** ***UTAH UNIVERSITY CONFERENCE*** Utah
Rameen Moshref of Afghan Communicator presented his paper on "Afghans Abroad: Generational and Ideological Divide" at Utah University's *Contemporary Affairs and Future Prospects* conference on the Middle East and Central Asia. Rameen also chaired a panel on *Contemporary Issues in Afghanistan* which included notables such as Dr. Wali Ahmadi, professor at University of California-Berkeley and Hekmat Karzai of the Afghan Embassy in Washington DC. Afghan Communicator also presented a film, *Nameh Shab* (Name of Night) documenting the return of a group of Afghans from the US to help in the reconstruction.