

Library Project (Know-Books)

Firmly believing that education is the key to tolerance and mutual understanding, AC initiated the Know-Book Project, the aim of which is to provide local NY libraries with objective materials on Islam and Afghanistan. Afghan Communicator targets public libraries to help them build their collection of books, magazines, video and audio about Afghanistan and Islam. Authors or publishers who wish to donate their books in exchange for a review in our publications should contact our office for more information.

Conferences



Afghan Communicator participates and organizes conferences, panels, teach ins, town hall meetings and film

screenings throughout the year, locally, nationally or internationally. We welcome speaking engagement requests in your neighborhood, organization, or place of business.

Afghan Events List

To organize information relevant to the community, Afghan Communicator e-mails a comprehensive weekly events list packed with information on upcoming events, book releases, job postings, and other announcements concerning the Afghan community. The list is sent to over 10,000 e-mails. This list is not a discussion list. Subscribers only get one email per week from AC. To directly subscribe, send a blank e-mail to: AfghanEvents-subscribe@yahoo.com

Donations

Because we are a small organization and dependent on grants and contributions to further our cause, we welcome cash or in-kind tax-deductible donations. When making a contribution, please indicate your intended support for either a specific area or general effort.



Executive Director Rameen M. Javid (left) meeting NYC Mayor Michael Bloomberg

A SHORT LIST OF OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

2003

- Jun 21 INTER-AFGHAN YOUTH SUMMIT, CA
- Aug 17 AFGHAN HERITAGE DAY, NY
- Sep 8 PANEL AT COLUMBIA UNIV, NY
- Sep 18 DIALOGUE WITH MUSLIM LEADERS, NY
- Oct 4 SOC OF AFGHAN ENGINEERS CONF, NJ
- Oct 17 UTAH UNIV CONFERENCE, Utah

2004

- Feb 8 TOWN HALL, NY
- Mar 8 AFGHAN WOMEN'S FUNDRAISER, NY
- Apr KABUL OFFICE GRAND OPENING, Kabul
- Jun - Aug AFGHAN GIRLS SOCCER CAMP, USA
- Sum 04 8 CITY VOTER REGISTRATION, USA
- Aug 14 AFGHAN HERITAGE DAY, NY
- Sep 25 MOSQUE OUTREACH, NY
- Oct. INTER AFGHAN YOUTH SUMMIT, Canada
- Oct 23 CANDIDATES FORUM, NY

2005

- Jan 21 EID CELEBRATION, NY
- Mar 20 NAW RUZ MARCH, NY
- Apr - Jun 7 CITY ART & FILM FESTIVAL, US & Canada
- Aug 14 AFGHAN HERITAGE DAY, NY
- Aug 21 AFGHAN JASHEN, Los Angeles
- Sep 12 - 22 9th INT'L BIENNIAL CONFERENCE, Turkey



Afghan Women's Day Benefit on March 8, 2004. L to R, R M Javid of AC; Councilman John Liu; Commissioner Sayu Bhojwani; Kathy Gannon of NY Times; Sonia Cole of Afghanistan Foundation; Katrin Fakiri of PARWAZ Micro Credit; and Nadima Sahar from Initiative To Educate Afghan Women

Who We Are?

Afghan Communicator is a New York based not-for-profit (501c3) organization. AC is ran by young Afghan professionals, and for the past three years it is the most active Afghan organization in North America.

What Are Our Objectives?

To educate about Afghanistan and Islam; to promote Afghan art and culture; to encourage the young generation to be active community participants; to be the voice of Afghan-Americans; to empower the Afghan Community with knowledge, experience and skills to be an active community; to link various Afghan communities; to serve as a model organization.

What Is AC's Philosophy?

AC strives to work with other Afghan organizations and build their capacity. AC aims at the foundation of a problem. Instead of monetary contributions to individuals, AC teaches them skills so they solve their own problems. Instead of cursing the darkness we light a candle.

What Do We Do In The USA?

AC has a variety of activities such as education, promotion of art & culture, community development, young professional leadership, advocacy and community empowerment.

How Are We Helping Afghanistan?

Serving as a conduit for small aide going to Afghanistan, we eliminate the need for an on-the-ground person—as AC office serves that role for any donor in North America. Through Karyaby publication we are providing tools for Afghans to help themselves instead of being dependent on aide.

What Is AC's Capacity?

- Office in New York and Kabul
- Guesthouse in Kabul
- 5 Staff and 4 Board members
- The most active Afghan organization in North America since 2002
- Email reach 10,000; mail reach 2,000

For a complete list of our 2003, 2004 & 2005 accomplishments, please contact our office



Serving The Afghan Community

The Most Active Afghan Organization in North America

Art by Tavfiq Rahmani



Afghan Art & Film Festival 2005

Afghan Communicator

41-36 College Point Blvd. Suite 2A

Flushing, NY 11355

Tel: (718) 445-6438

Fax: (718) 762-5575

contact@afghancommunicator.com

AfghanCommunicator.com

HISTORY

Afghan Communicator (AC) was founded in August of 1997 by a group of young Afghan professionals. Following the tragic events of September 11, 2001 we proactively sought to represent the Afghan community and greatly increase outreach. AC organizes a number of cultural, educational and humanitarian projects and events throughout the year.

MISSION STATEMENT

Afghan Communicator (AC) is a community based, grass-root (501c3) organization dedicated to education, advocacy, community & professional development, youth leadership, art and culture. AC's main focus is the Afghan community and the Muslim communities in New York. We also serve the larger community in New York and the broader Afghan community.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Nadia Hashimi - Brooklyn, NY
- Kabir Amir - New York, NY
- Parniyan Cagatay - Fort Lee, NJ
- Fred Yasin - Queens, NY



AC sponsored 8 girls from Afghanistan to participate in a soccer camp and the International Children's Games in Cleveland, Ohio in 2004

STAFF

- Rameen Moshref Javid Executive Director
- Fahima Ahad Public Relations Coordinator
- Wida Amir Events Coordinator
- Khadija Hashimi Treasurer
- Ayman Shairzay Art Director

PROGRAMS



Photo by: Asma Zaka, 2004

A scene from our annual Afghan Heritage Day, celebrated every August

Afghan Heritage Day

This outdoor cultural picnic is held each year in August in New York. It is a cultural celebration for over 25,000 Afghans in NY, and over 60,000 Afghans in the Northeastern US. We invite community leaders, elected officials, state officials, celebrities, non-profit organizations as well as vendors to add flavor to these festivities.

Afghan Art & Film Festival

For the first time in North America, Afghan Communicator organized a seven city tour of Afghan Art & Film Festival April—June 2005. Following the festival, AC led a 5-person Afghan artists from Afghanistan and the US to take part in the Istanbul Biennial Conference on Sep. 2005. For more details see <http://aff.afghancommunicator.com>

Kabul Office

AC's Kabul office became operational as of April 2004.

The Kabul office serves as a conduit for distributing small aide coming from the West directly to charities of donors' choice. For example, you are a donor in North America with no contacts in Afghanistan and want to send money to buy necessary supplies for a middle school (or other charitable institutions) in Afghanistan. Contact AC and we will identify a school of your specification, if you do not have one in mind, and buy the necessary materials and deliver it to the school. In return for 5% commission, we will send you pictures and/or video tape of the delivery as a confirmation and progress.

Kabul Guesthouse

To supplement the Kabul office expenses, AC is running a low budget guesthouse for a very nominal fee for travelers inside Afghanistan. All proceeds goes to charitable efforts in Afghanistan. Our capacity is 4 persons maximum.

Karyaby: Job Journal

Karyaby is a Kabul based independent, non-political, non-partisan, bi-weekly publication founded by Afghan Communicator in December 2004. Karyaby is Afghanistan's first classified publication. The aim of this publication is to assist the reconstruction of Afghanistan by providing means for thousands of disarming militia, graduating students, Afghans expatriates, and internally displaced people to find better jobs in Afghanistan.

Dari (Persian) Class

Afghan Communicator offers Dari language classes in NY in to anyone interested in Afghan language and culture. Our students vary from young Afghans who cannot read or write Dari to non-Afghans who wish to learn a new language or brush up on their language skills.

Community Bulletin

This bi-monthly, English/Dari newsletter contains information about the community and benefits for the Afghan community. In addition to its circulation in the Afghan community, this publication is also read by many elected officials, non-profits, academic institutions, businesses and foreign embassies. To receive the Bulletin at home or office,

please call or email us. Please indicate if you wish to receive the Bulletin electronically or by mail.



Inter Afghan Youth Summit VII, 2004, Toronto. For the first time IAYS has become an international event.

Inter Afghan Youth Summit (IAYS)

Created by Afghan Communicator in 1999, this event is a gathering of active, young, Afghan professionals from all over the US, Canada, Europe and Asia to discuss issues concerning the Afghan community. Since 1997, it has been held in New York, California, Virginia and Toronto. In 2003, AC created the *Most Active Young Afghan Award* at the IAYS, intended to encourage leadership and participation in the community.

AC Magazine

To provide a more balanced information about Afghanistan and Islam, a group of young Afghans decided to create a magazine that is both academic and informative in August 1997. AC Magazine has published over 12 issues since then and is now only available online.

Internships

We are offering internships to young people attending high school, college or graduates. The internships aim to provide solid work experience in a professional environment.

Community Development

Afghan Communicator collaborates with other service-based organizations in order to offer the Afghan community different services. These services include voter registration, immigration consultation translation services, health benefits, real estate consulting, peer and family counseling, etc.