



Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission

Annual Report

1392



Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission

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Table of Contents

Message Of Dr. Sima Samar, Chairperson Of The AIHRC	B
Introduction	1
About the AIHRC	3
The Main Achievements Made by the AIHRC, Since the Beginning of its Establishment till Date (1381-1392)	8
Detailed Report on the Implementation of Strategic Objectives in 1392	13
Strategic Objective 1: Leadership	13
Strategic Objective 2: Training	21
Strategic Objective 3: Empowerment	28
Strategic Objective 4: Advocacy	32
Strategic Objective 5- Monitoring And Assessment	36
Conclusion	47
AIHRC Financial Report for the Year 1392	49

Message of Dr. Sima Samar, Chairperson of the AIHRC

The AIHRC after a year of hard work in the area of ensuring and realization of human rights in the country will publish its annual report. This report will review the largest and most prominent activities performed, and the achievements obtained by the AIHRC, and on the other hand it represents a clear and realistic picture of the general human rights situation in the country, and highlights the level at which Afghan citizens have access to their human rights.



During 1392, the AIHRC continued its work and activities under the Constitution and the Law on Structure, Duties and Mandates of the AIHRC to implement its important and fundamental programs aiming at insuring and realization of human rights in the country, which resulted in obtaining of concrete, practical and remarkable achievements. All the activities and functions of the AIHRC have been carried out in line with the five-year strategic objectives: leadership, human rights education, empowerment, advocacy, and monitoring and investigation.

At the end of the last year of its Four-year Strategic Plan, The AIHRC has succeeded to outline its Five-year Strategic Plan by using the experiences of the past, and by gaining benefit from the good advices presented by 868 people (200 females and 668 males) from 34 provinces of the country. This plan will establish and determine the working framework, vision, mission, objectives and activities of the AIHRC for the next five years.

Although, the AIHRC has had a notable achievements over the past year in the area of monitoring, protection and promotion of human rights in the country, but during the implementation of its duties and mandates it has also faced with numerous challenges and problems specially prevailing insecurity which has resulted in increase in civilian casualties. Due to such challenges and obstacles in the country, the AIHRC, in many cases was forced to stop or limit its program activities in the areas under coverage.

Poverty, the persistence of violence against women and children, lack of attention by the relevant bodies to effectively handle these cases, corruption, weak rule of law, and resorting to traditional and customary mechanisms, weakness of government in some areas of the country and continuing of the culture of impunity, increasing illegal armed groups are the other challenges and problems that on the one hand has created serious obstacles

on the way of activities of the AIHRC, and on the other hand has faced the promotion of human rights in the country with serious problems and challenges.

The AIHRC as the only national human rights institution in the country, while appreciating the works and activities done by its staff, extends its thanks and acknowledgements to all partner organizations specially international community who has provided the AIHRC with remarkable support and contribution in funding of the AIHRC's programs , and to all the Afghan citizens for their continuous cooperation, and once again stress on our commitments toward monitoring, protection and promotion of human rights and assure the people in the country that despite the existing challenges and serious obstacles, we are more determined than before to continue and perform our activities and legal mandate, and will not spare any attempts in this regard.

We hope that the efforts and activities of the AIHRC bring Afghan society closer to a just, democratic and developed society where human rights are respected, observed and protected, and the rights of every individual in the country is protected.

Dr. Sima Samar
The Chairperson of the AIHRC

Introduction

Since its establishment, the AIHRC has prepared and published its report annually. The purpose of publishing and distributing regular annual reports has been to observe the principles of transparency and accountability, respect Afghan citizens' rights of access to information, promote human rights, and inform the Afghan citizens of the works, functions and achievements of the AIHRC.

These reports overview the functions performed and the achievements obtained by the AIHRC within one year. The AIHRC's one-year activity along with its concrete and practical results are documented in these reports in a very simple and understandable language and published presented to the readers, in the meantime, these reports are also dealing with the general human rights situation and level of people's access to their human rights.

Since all the activities, functions and programs of the AIHRC are implemented based on the strategic objectives outlined in the Strategic Plan of the AIHRC, the present report covers the activities implemented in the following five strategic objectives. 1. Leadership, 2. Human Rights Education, 3. Empowerment, 4. Advocacy, 5. Monitoring and Evaluation

This report has reviewed the activities included in the five above mentioned objectives and has studied the relevant re-

sults in detail, and have been set under each objective individually. Initially, each objective is statistically and quantitatively reviewed, and in most cases the statistics and figures have been compared to that of the last year. Then the practical consequences of activities, outcomes and corresponding indicators have been identified and thoroughly analyzed. In the meantime, the report findings are objectively documented with illustrations and examples.

The monthly reports received from the different offices of the AIHRC are the main source of the present report. The monthly reports cover all the activities carried out on a regular basis by the AIHRC's staff and departments, submitted to the HQ under a single format. According to the work plan of the AIHRC all regional and provincial offices, including different units of the HQ submit their monthly reports to the Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Unit. The reports are categorized modified and analyzed by the said Unit and then prepared into four months and annual reports to be published out.

The four-month reports is another source for the annual report, as its name suggests, the four-month report is a collection of monthly reports received from all offices and program units of the AIHRC within four months. As usual, each year the AIHRC prepare and publish three four-month reports of its activities, achievements and practi-

cal results of its operations for public, civil society organizations, donors and government organs.

Thematic and research reports are other sources that the findings and information of which are included in this report and in particular it is used to analyze and evaluate the findings of the report. The special report of AIHRC's Offices and Units that cover a particular issue and an acute case of human rights is also a source for the present report. The AIHRC has a strong Database rich in various areas of human rights.

Accurate and updated information are inserted into the Database in a daily basis from all around the AIHRC's Offices. These data are used for further enrichment of the

AIHRC's annual report, and its findings are included in this report. It is worth mentioning, that the Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting Unit of the AIHRC has access to reliable and efficient information receiving through its continuous monitoring and evaluation mission, or asking for them directly from its regional and provincial offices, in order to complete the information. These data are also included in this report as one of the main sources. The AIHRC hopes the present report could play a good role in enlightening the public on the functions of the AIHRC and the general situation of human rights in the country. And be another big step towards the development and promotion of human rights in the country.

About the AIHRC

The AIHRC as a national human rights institution, was established and started its work on 16.03.1381 in accordance with the Presidential Decree and the provisions of the Bonn Agreement, and after the adoption of the Constitution and enshrining of Article 58 in it in 1382, the AIHRC found a strong legal base, and with the adoption of the Law on Structure, duties and mandate of the AIHRC in 1384, the basis for its action, objectives, mandates, duties and structure were defined.

As it has been acknowledged in the preamble of the Constitution, “in the past, injustice, shortcomings and numerous troubles have been imposed on our country”. Human rights and fundamental freedoms of citizens have been repeatedly violated, and no investigation and prosecution have taken place. Therefore, it was necessary that an official organ should be anticipated in the Constitution to ensure the human rights of citizens in the country. Recognizing this important point, Loygerga of Constitution, specified Article 58 of the Constitution for the establishment of the AIHRC. Based on this Article, “To monitor respect for human rights in Afghanistan as well as to foster and protect it, the State shall establish the Independent Human Rights Commission of Afghanistan. Every individual shall complain to this Commission about the violation of personal human rights. The Commission shall refer human rights viola-

tions of individuals to legal authorities and assist them in defense of their rights. Organization and method of operation of the Commission shall be regulated by law.”¹

In 1384, the Law on the Structure, Duties and Mandates of the AIHRC based on Article 58 of the Constitution was approved by the President and the basis of action, structure and mandated of the AIHRC was defined. Based on Article two of this Law, “the AIHRC is established in the framework of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and operates independently. The AIHRC carry out its activities and duties under the provision of the Constitution and other effective laws of the country.

Monitoring the observance of human rights, promotion and protection of human rights, monitoring the situation and people’s access to human rights and freedoms, investigation of violations and abuses of human rights, and taking measures in order to improve the human rights situation in the country, are the five goals of the AIHRC.

Article 21 of the Law on Structure, Duties and Mandates of the AIHRC has defined and formalized the main duties and mandates of the AIHRC within 35 paragraphs. Pursuant to paragraph 27 and 28 of this Article and Article 32 of this Law, preparation and publication of the annual report are the

1. The Afghan Constitution, Article 58, http://www.aihrc.org.af/2010_eng/Eng_pages/about/afghan_constituion.pdf (English text)

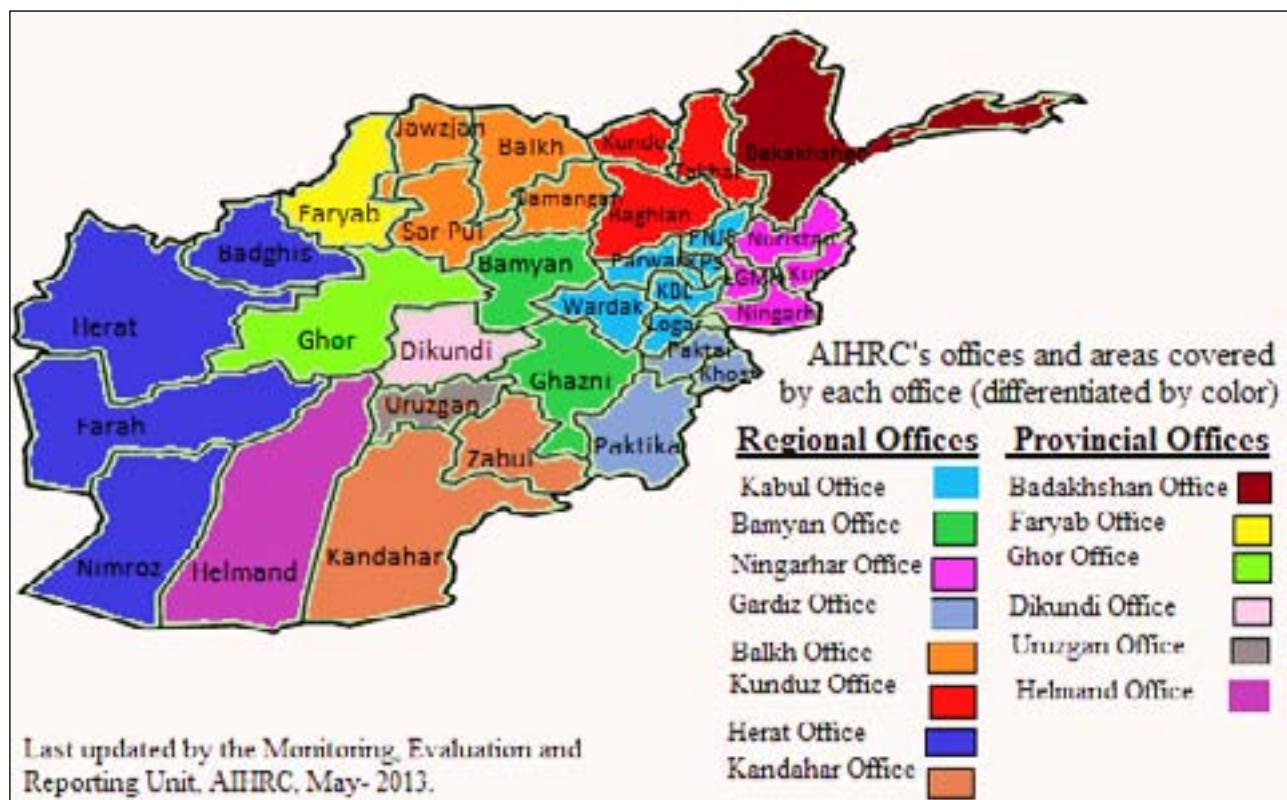
works and performance of the AIHRC, and reporting on the human rights situation is the duty and mandates of the AIHRC.¹

The Structure of the AIHRC

The AIHRC is led by nine Commissioners, including men and women, with the service terms of five years who are appointed by the President.² The Chairperson of the AIHRC is appointed by the President from among the members. Each member of the AIHRC is called the Commissioner.³ Likewise, the AIHRC has a vice chairperson who will be elected from among its members.

seven members.⁵ In 1392, 4 of the Commissioners were discharged by the President, and on Jawza 25 new Commissioners were appointed. According to the Commissioner's approval, Mr. Hamidi was elected as Vice Chairperson.

To carry out the administrative affairs and other Executive affairs, the AIHRC has a Secretariat headed by the Executive Director of the AIHRC. The Executive Director and the Secretariat carry out their duties in accordance with the procedural provisions of the AIHRC's Law and the Procedures de-



And the power and authority of the Vice President of the AIHRC are determined by the Chairperson of the AIHRC.⁴ In 1392 the AIHRC carried out its responsibilities with

5. Members of the AIHRC in 1391, the board of leadership: Dr. Sima Samar, Chairperson of the AIHRC, Mr. Ahmad Fahim Hakim, deputy, Dr. Soraya Sobhrang, Women's Rights Commissioner, Mr. Farid Hamidi, Commissioner of monitoring and investigation unit, Mr. Ahmad Zia Langari, Commissioner of the rights of persons with Disabilities, Mr. Nader Naderi, Commissioner of transitional Justice Maulvi Ghulam Mohammad Gharib, Commissioner and board member of monthly Magazine and Abdul Karim Azizi, the Commissioner for Human rights education.

1. Ibid. Article 21 and 32
 2. Ibid. Article(7)
 3. Ibid. Article(8)
 4. Ibid, Article (9)

veloped and approved by the AIHRC.¹

Pursuant to Article 18 of the Law on the Structure, Duties and Mandates of the AIHRC and in order to better implement the objectives set by the AIHRC, the AIHRC has established a central office in Kabul, eight regional offices and 6 provincial offices all over the country, including regional offices in Jalalabad, Kandahar, Bamiyan, Kabul, Herat, Mazari Sharif, Kunduz, Gardez, and provincial offices of Badakhshan, Daikundi, Faryab, Helmand, Uruzgan and Ghor.

Areas under the coverage of the AIHRC 's regional and provincial offices are shown in different colors in the previous page(4).

It should be noted that in 1392 the AIHRC has taken practical action for the construction of its offices, including the project contract of its Kabul Office that till the end of the year, 30% of its construction work will be done. The Jalalabad office building also came into operation. Offices in Balkh, Ghor, Badakhshan Daikundi have been designed. In addition, the memorial tower of

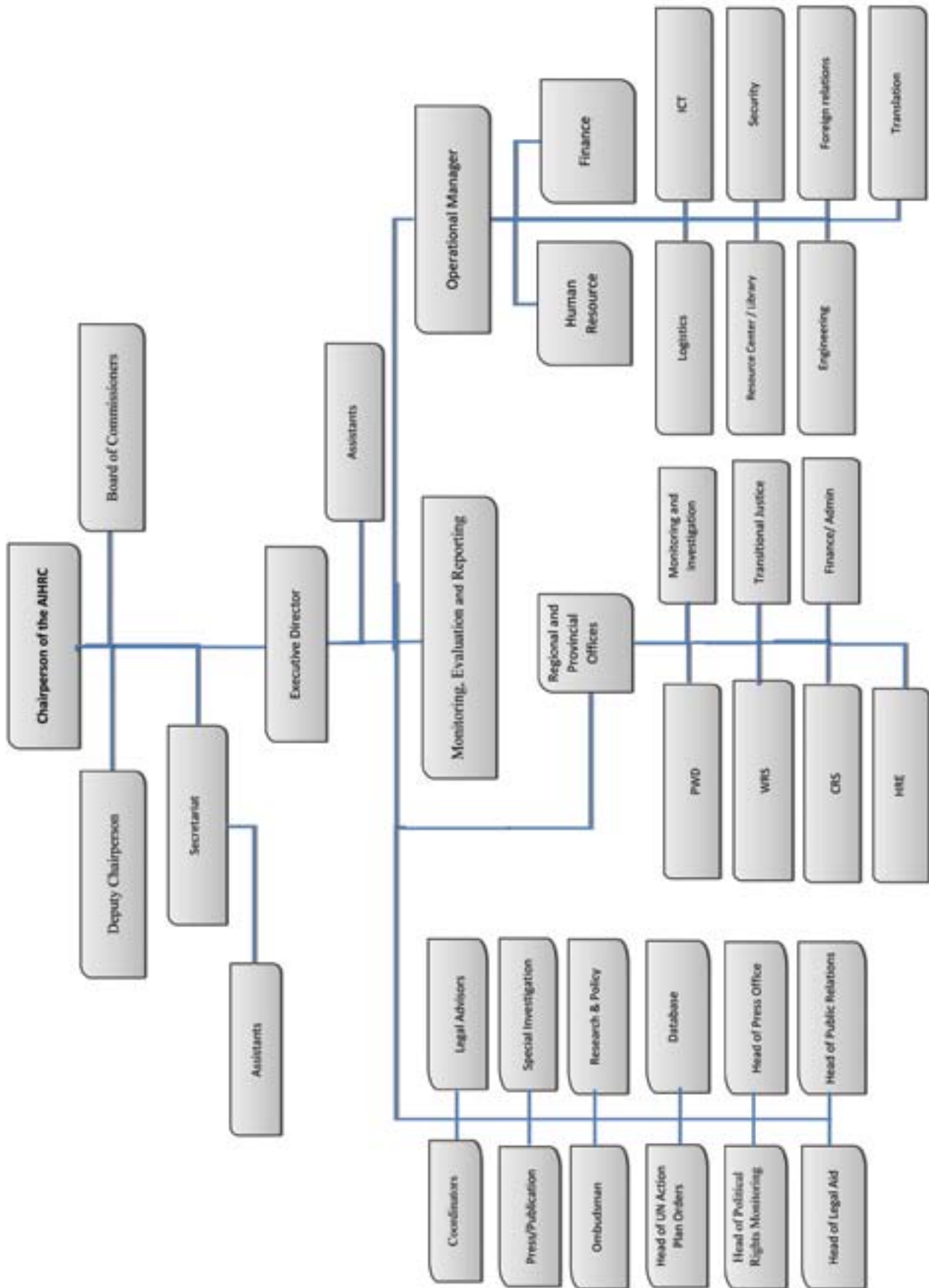
Poli-Charkhi victims have been designed. Likewise, several maps are designed to ensure the security of AIHRC's staff in Kabul.

In order to carry out its programs and activities the AIHRC has established the following units which are currently functional: Human Rights Education, Monitoring and Investigation, Police Ombudsman, Persons with Disabilities, Women's Rights, Child Rights, Transitional Justice, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting, Research and Special Monitoring (monitoring the observance of International Humanitarian Law by parties to armed conflict) and press unit.

A number of supporting units have also been established to help program units: Translation, Legal consultancy, Database, ICT, Human Resources and Financial Units.

In the following chart the AIHRC's structure and the relation between different units are specified

1. Ministry of Justice, the Law on Structure, Duties and Mandates of the AIHRC. Series No of official Gazette, 855, publication date: 1389 article 19



The AIHRC's Cooperation and Coordination with other National and International Partners

The AIHRC has cooperation and good relation with different government bodies, civil society organizations, religious scholars, the media and international organizations, in order to perform its duties and mandates under the Constitution, the Laws on Structure, Duties and Mandates of the AIHRC, Strategic Plan and its Action Plan.

The AIHRC performances depend on the growing level of cooperation of different government organs such as Police, Prosecutors, Courts, National Security, Parliament and other government agencies, and the AIHRC, has always asked for their increased relationship and cooperation.

The AIHRC has a close working relationship with civil society organizations and has strived to enhance their capacity. In this regard, the AIHRC has taken some joint actions with them. The AIHRC has continued its cooperation with international organizations active in the area of human rights, such as UNAMA, UNDP, Open Society Institute and other institutions

The AIHRC in the International level is a credible member of the Association of Asia - Pacific Forum (APF). The Asia - Pacific Forum is one the four networks of (ICC). This Forum is a regional organization composed of 15 National Human Rights Institutions from the countries in the region. National human rights institutions that are established in accordance with the Paris Principles and operate accordingly, are accepted as a member of the Asia - Pacific Forum. The AIHRC also with receiving the creditable grade of "A" achieved the full membership of this institution in October

2007.¹

The AIHRC has the membership of the International Committee of National Human Rights Institutions (ICC). This committee was established in 1993 with the purpose to coordinate the activities of national human rights institutions. The said Committee was established as a legal entity under Swiss law.² This Committee, with 16-members are composed of four regional networks (Africa, America, Asia - Pacific and Europe) and has a board of annual meetings, accrediting committee and a secretariat

The Committee on Accreditation of (ICC) presents recommendations on the protection and promotion of human rights and evaluate the conformity of the works by national human rights institutions with the Paris Principles. Committee on Accreditation (ICC), confirmed the credible grade of "A" for the AIHRC in November 2008, after a special investigation was carried out.³

It is worth noting that in the four regional areas, 103 national human rights institutions are functional, out of which 69 institutions are rated "A", 24 national organization holds "B" and 10 national human rights institutions have "C".⁴

1. <http://www.asiapacificforum.net/members/members/full-members>

2. <http://www.ohchr.org/en/countries/nhri/pages/nhrimain.aspx>

3. http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/NHRI/Chart_Status_NIs.pdf

4. *ibid* ()

The Main Achievements Made by the AIHRC, Since the Beginning of its Establishment till Date (1381-1392)

The AIHRC as a national human rights institution, since its establishment has performed effective activities in the country based on the Law on Structure, Duties and Mandates of the AIHRC in order to monitor the observance of human rights, promote and protect human rights, monitor the situation of Afghan citizens' access to human rights, follow up and address cases of human rights violation and to take measures to improve and promote human rights in the country. The AIHRC has established 14 satellite and provincial offices in different provinces to lay the ground for further realization of the aforesaid objectives and to have more access to different regions of the country.

The present document is a summary of the main activities carried out by the AIHRC since the time of its establishment till date (1381-1392). A brief explanation of the aforesaid activities is outlined in the first part of the report, and the achievements table that summarizes the results of these activities is explained in the second part of the report. It should be noted that the annual reports and some of the AIHRC's thematic reports¹ that have been published in the recent years constitute the main source of information used in the present report.

1. <http://www.aihrc.org.af/home/annual-reports>

✓ **More than 500000 People (half a million) Received Human Rights Education, Women Account for 44 % of them**

Institutionalization of human rights values in the society is one of the main demands of the AIHRC based on which the AIHRC has implemented different programs and plans throughout the last 12 years.

According to the working plan of the AIHRC, raising the awareness of different groups of the society of human rights standards and of the duties and mandates of the AIHRC was one of the most important objectives that part of this objective has been achieved through conduction of workshops, training sessions, academic seminars, general events, teaching human rights in universities and teacher training centers, follow up and assessment sessions and special women and children training programs.

A large group of people, more than half a million, have participated in the AIHRC's training programs, people from different groups and strata of society over the past 12 years, including students of universities, university and school lecturers, religious scholars, police, staff of various government agencies and national and international institutions, wardens, prisoners, staff of health centers, housewives and worker women, judges, attorneys, journalists, and

influential and elders of tribes and etc.

These training programs cover important human rights issues. The endeavors of the AIHRC's staff to attract women in different regions of the country helped women to welcome these programs as well, whereas women account for 44 % of the participants in these programs. One of the most important practical impacts as a result of conduction of these programs is the change in the participants' perceptions of human rights concepts and likewise of the mandates of the AIHRC; this has resulted in an increase in the people's reference to the AIHRC and other relevant institutions demanding for their human rights from these organs. Another impact of such activity is that the judicial organs and institutions have become accountable for their actions, and people demand for justice. This activity is considered as a big step towards realization of human rights concepts in the Afghan society that the AIHRC has successfully carried it out over the past 12 years.

The AIHRC, since its establishment has had a close cooperation with civil society organizations in human rights education and advocacy; a number of civil society organizations support the conduction of human rights awareness raising programs and the AIHRC entrusts conduction of some workshops and training programs to them. In this way, numerous persons indirectly get benefited from the AIHRC's training programs.

✓ **163229 Minute Radio Programs and 49330 Minute Television Programs Were Aired.**

The AIHRC by airing 163229 minute different trainings and consultative programs via various radio stations in all over the

country has on one hand, increased people's awareness of human rights issues and concepts and on the other hand has further familiarized them with the AIHRC and its mandates.

Likewise, the AIHRC since its establishment has been able to improve the quality of human rights education by airing 49330 minute training programs through different television networks across the country and could raise the awareness of a large number of people about human rights issues and concepts and could realize the training objectives more than ever.

These programs include documentaries, short films, and spots (human rights short messages) promoting and disseminating human rights values in the society. With the contribution of expert teachers in the area of human rights issues, and by using updated training methods, human rights issues have been taught or beneficial consultations and analysis have been presented concerning human rights and important events.

✓ **3933998 Copies of Human Rights Magazine, Leaflets and Printed Training Publications Were Printed and Distributed.**

To promote human rights values and to further emphasize on important human rights concepts the AIHRC has since the beginning of its activities taken measures to publish human rights magazines every month and disseminates articles and reports on human rights and important events of the day in the country. The magazines have been distributed by the satellite and provincial offices in all over the country.

The articles and news along with their

analysis are printed in these magazines in Dari and Pashto languages. The magazines are prepared and distributed in braille font as well, so that the visually impaired persons can also use them. Important human rights instruments including international human rights covenants and internal relevant human rights laws and etc. are printed as well and have been made available to the people. The AIHRC could so far publish and distribute 3933998 copies of the AIHRC's magazines including important human rights instruments, training leaflets and its other publications across the country.

Likewise, the AIHRC in addition to the publication of magazines and important human rights instruments publishes some articles and analytic reports through recognized magazines and newspapers of the country.

For this purpose some agreements have been signed with a number of media based on which issues related to human rights have been published in a daily basis.

✓ **27372 Cases of Human Rights Violation Were Registered with and Addressed by the AIHRC.**

Over the past 12 years the AIHRC has received, registered, addressed and followed up around 27327 complaints out of which 16456 of them considered as human rights violation.

The AIHRC has rendered necessary legal advices to the victims of human rights violation who have registered their complaints with the AIHRC or their complaints have been received through media or during the AIHRC's monitoring missions and their complaints have been documented

and addressed by the AIHRC and cases of human rights violation have been followed up by referring them to the relevant legal sources.

✓ **29947 Cases of Violence against Women Were Registered with and Address by the AIHRC.**

The women Rights Unit is one of the main units of the AIHRC that addresses the complaints received concerning women's rights, and supports the rights of victims of violence against women through legal ways. This unit has registered 29947 cases of violence against women and has given necessary legal advices to the complainants and has referred their complaints to the relevant references and has addressed them.

Legal assistance was also given by the AIHRC when needed, and the cases of human rights violation have been followed up by the AIHRC's monitoring and investigation unit. The aforementioned statistics relate to the cases which have been received by the AIHRC over the past 12 years. Each case contains different types of violence. Actually, during these years 29947 women could register their complaints about gender-based violence with the AIHRC.

However, a large number of cases of violence remain hidden and the victims do not find the opportunity to refer to the AIHRC and other relevant institutions. Yet the mentioned statistics have had an ascending trend every year.

✓ **The Detention Facilities Were Visited and Monitored 15859 Times.**

The AIHRC has conducted effective and regular monitoring missions to the detention facilities by the relevant experts and

specialists to monitor the observance of the rights of prisoners in these quarters and to improve the maintenance and follow up conditions of the complaints in the detention facilities .

During these monitoring missions, the legal and living situation of the prisoners is inspected. The AIHRC since 1381 till the end of 1392 could visit and monitor men and women detention facilities and children correction centers 14532 times.

Likewise the findings of monitoring from the detention facilities and children correction centers have been reflected through monitoring, thematic and annual reports, and special recommendations and suggestions have been presented to the relevant organs. The recommendations and suggestions outlined in the reports are very clear and distinct, and can easily be implemented by the relevant authorities.

✓ **5451 Illegally Imprisoned Persons Were Released as a Result of the AIHRC's Legal Support, Advocacy and Intervention.**

Over the past 12 years, as a result of effective and regular monitoring missions conducted by the AIHRC's professional staff all over the country, the legal situation of the detainees has been carefully inspected, and legal actions have been taken regarding the release of those who were illegally imprisoned.

As a result of these monitoring missions conducted since the establishment of the AIHRC till the end of 1392, 5651 people men, women and children who had illegally been kept in the detention facilities have been released.

✓ **50 Private Prisons Closed up by the AIHRC's Legal Intervention.**

The existence of private prisons was a major human rights problem in the first years of the AIHRC's activities. However, given the illegality of such prisons and existence of deficiencies in them, the AIHRC tried to detect and register such prisons and close them up. Luckily the AIHRC could detect and close up 50 private prisons through legal interventions.

✓ **92 Mass Grave of War Victims Were Identified and Preliminary Investigations Were Conducted by the AIHRC**

Mass graves are one of the legacies of war years have been detected and registered in different regions of the country in the recent years. The AIHRC has had an important role in the identification and maintenance of the mass graves and has tried to protect them from any interference till the time a comprehensive investigation is made, the identity of the victims is identified and their historic period is determined. However, the AIHRC based on its legal mandates and the available facilities has conducted preliminary investigations in this regard.

✓ **63 Research, Thematic, and Monitoring Reports Were Prepared and Published by the AIHRC.**

The AIHRC as a reliable source and reference of documented and research information and data in the area of human rights issues and cases of human rights violation in the country has continuously studied the important issues of the day and has conducted field researches in this area by forming a team that consists of expert persons in preparing research, thematic and monitoring reports.

The findings of research and monitoring programs of the AIHRC have been published in the form of research, thematic and monitoring reports. 63 research, thematic, and monitoring reports on the human rights situation in Afghanistan, including 4 research and national consultation on the acute and important human rights issues have been published over the past 12 years.

1- National Consultation on War Crimes and Causes of Human Rights Violation in the Last Three Decades

2- National Inquiry on Honor Killing and Rape

3- National Inquiry on the Phenomenon of Bacha Bazi

4- National Inquiry on Traffic Accidents and Targeted Killings

The AIHRC's reports contain accurate and documented information and data on the human rights situation and the explicit recommendations and suggestions to the relevant governmental and non-governmental institutions. In addition to the aforementioned reports, the AIHRC has published annual reports on its activities, performances, achievements and the results of its activities every year.

Detailed Report on the Implementation of Strategic Objectives in 1392

Strategic Objective 1: Leadership

The AIHRC as national human rights leads the human rights movements in the society. To achieve this objective, the AIHRC has outlined a number of activities in its Action Plan of 1392; most of them are mentioned in the following:

1, 1 Drawing the Attention of National and International Institutions to the Human Rights Issues in Afghanistan

The AIHRC's board of leadership like the previous years has attained remarkable achievements in 1392 by participating in national and international meetings and presentations of beneficial consultation to amend and modify laws violate human rights or to defend laws protecting human rights.

The human rights stakeholders in national and international institutions and networks also have relied on the expertise, information and findings of the AIHRC in an increasing manner; the AIHRC is invited as observers in the reporting and decision-making meetings of other departments as well.

The AIHRC chairperson Dr. Sima Samar and Commissioner Langari participated in the ICC meetings and the meetings of Asia-Pacific Forum members held in Geneva and the conference on UN human rights mechanisms held in Bangkok, and in addition to drawing the attention of the aforesaid institutions to human rights issues in

Afghanistan and sharing of the AIHRC's experiences, the role of national human rights institutions during conflicts was recommended for annual APF meeting agenda and a report was presented on how to prepare shadow reports concerning the implementation of human rights conventions and the universal periodic review.

The representative of the AIHRC attended the preliminary UPR meeting on the implementation of Human Rights Council's Recommendations. The meeting was attended by 35 representatives from the UN state parties held in Geneva. After the Afghanistan's first UPR was assessed and analyzed in the meeting, the representatives of the AIHRC explained the progresses made by the government and also inefficiencies and challenges that hindered the implementation of the recommendations, after the Afghanistan's first UPR was assessed and analyzed.

The other most important step taken by the AIHRC in this regard is conduction of the "national consultation conference on development of human rights regional mechanism in the south Asia zone" that was held with the presence of a large number of civil society members, governmental officials and the representatives of national and international institutions from SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) countries like India, Pakistan and

Nepal.

Finally, they agreed that in addition to cooperation among SAARC Member States in the field of protection and improvement of human rights, a human rights mechanism should be established to deal with the human rights problems such as trafficking in human, immigrants and labor immigrants, violence against women and children and people with disability, violation of human rights stemming from drug trafficking, the environment and corruption.

1,2 Presentation of Recommendations and Consultations on the Policies and Human Rights Issues to the Government

The AIHRC's staff in 183 meetings conducted with the governmental institutions, members of the parliament and the judicial power has made necessary recommendations and consultations in order to improve the state policies in the areas concerning human rights of the citizens.

Effective efforts have been made to draw further cooperation of the government to realize the Afghan citizens' rights and ensure security for the voters in the last elections, the internally displaced people, vulnerable persons and other victims of cases of human rights violation.

For further investigation on human rights issues, meetings was arranged with foreign institutions in some provinces and regions.

Including the meetings with the Britain and Australia ambassadors, consultants of American and Australian PRT in Orozgan, UNAMA human rights representative in Kandahar, UNAMA strengthening the rule of law, the representative of the ICRC in Gar-

dez, Netherland's legal advisor and Oxfam representative in Konduz and the representatives of UNHCR and UNICEF in Herat.

Issues like protective measures for vulnerable groups, joint work to ensure the rule of law, challenges concerning detention facilities, prisoners, the issue of addiction and trafficking of a herbaceous plant called "Elrang", cases with unknown destiny and the overall situation of human rights have been discussed in these meetings and specific recommendations were presented by the AIHRC's staffs.

For example, the regional office in Bamyan highlighted the case of increase in taking AKHZE MASOOLANA (amount of money) from both parties to the dispute by the police. As a result the Bamyan police headquarter sent an official letter to its entire district police headquarters asking them to stop doing that.

Some of the other recommendations presented at these meetings are as follows:

- Prevent settlement of cases of violence against women by unofficial and extra-judicial organs
- Serious follow up and attention by the relevant organs on the cases of torture by the officials
- Establishment of the Commission on Eliminations of Violence against Women and establishment of safe shelter in Orozgan province.
- Establishment of Environment Protection Committee in Gardez City

1,3 Monitoring the Elections Process

By establishing a unit in 1392 the AIHRC has comprehensively monitored the politi-

cal rights, entire presidential and provincial councils elections process; registration of the citizens to take voting cards, registration of presidential and provincial councils elections candidates, election campaigns of the candidates and announcement of the elections result and has reflected the existing challenges and problems in its reports to draw the attention of the Independent Election Commission and monitoring institutions to the issue.¹

Distance of the election registration centers especially for women, impartiality of government staff during electoral campaigns and the use of governmental equipment and facilities in favor of certain candidates have been the most important challenges and problems observed in the elections process.

In 1292, the AIHRC held a number of conferences including the conference on “women’s rights to political participation in elections”, “human rights and elections”, and “women and provincial councils elections” and invited the candidates to these conferences to introduce their plans and programs and determine the status of human rights in their programs.

Conduction of such seminars could further highlight the presence and role of women in the elections, enhanced the capacity of state and civil society organizations in pro-



Photo 1: Conference on women’s right to political participation in elections, Kabul.

tection and promotion of women’s right to political participation in the elections, furthermore, the effectiveness of the AIHRC as the facilitator of such programs in the elections increased.

1,4 Conduction of National Inquiry on Bacha Bazi

Protection of children’s rights and giving awareness in this regard constitute the main duties of the AIHRC. In 1392 the AIHRC according to its Action Plan and with regard to the wide spread of Bacha Bazi in the society and recognizing the importance of a research and scrutiny about the factors involved in this regard, the AIHRC conducted a national inquiry on the causes of Bacha Bazi and ways to fight this phenomenon.

To protect the victims of this phenomenon, identify the factors and motivations that increase this act in the society and to find the legal gaps regarding Bacha Bazi in the penal code are the most important objectives of the AIHRC through conduction of this inquiry.

¹ <http://www.aihrc.org.af/home/daily-reports/2640>



Photo 2: public hearing meeting - National Inquiry on Bacha Bazi

According to the AIHRC, social disorders as a result of a 3 decade war in Afghanistan and lack of rule of law in the country provided a opportunity for some powerful political and economic figures spread this awful act and as a result the degree of obscenity of this act decreased in the society and on the other hand caused irreparable harms to the child victims' body and soul. Therefore, the AIHRC by calling on the governmental and social institutions to cooperate in conduction of this national inquiry, set out to take the preliminary steps and conduct a study in this regard.

The AIHRC could collect beneficial information in this area in 70 focus group meetings attended by 700 people and 14 public hearing meetings in 14 provinces with the participation of 750 participants.

By conduction of focus group meetings and public hearing assemblies the AIRHC could attract the attention of people and authorities to this phenomenon and make them aware of its dire consequences. Therefore,

this program revealed its results very soon, for example, the people and a number of religious scholars have practically prevented some Bacha Bazi show in several marriage parties as a result of awareness



Photo 3: Focus group meeting, Kapisa Province

raising programs, focus group meetings and public hearing assemblies. Baghlan religious scholars have also denounced Bacha Bazi and talked to the people of the obscenity of Bacha Bazi in Islam in their speeches in mosques, and the Takhar religious scholars by issuing a resolution have condemned this phenomenon and asked for the pun-

ishment of the perpetrators of this act according to Sharia and have delivered speeches against Bacha Bazi in mosques and likewise have prevented several Bacha Bazi shows in Takhar province.

The impacts of these programs in the police organs made the directorate of national security and the criminal department of provincial police headquarters to ban selling of CDs of Bacha Bazi shows in Kondoz city. Takhar police headquarter has arrested 30 people engaged in the conduction of Bacha Bazi shows in the wedding parties and private parties held in the months of Aqrab and Qaws. Civil Society activists and the university teachers also have started campaigning against this phenomenon.

1,5 Dissemination of Statements, Press Releases and Conferences

The AIHRC based on its action plan has dealt with the important human rights issues and the daily events throughout 1392 and by issuing press statements and releases drew the attention of national and international institutions, government and people to the important human rights issues.

In an overview throughout 1392 the AIHRC has discussed and scrutinized the important issues such as elections, the right to political participation of the citizens, mainly that of women in the elections, concerns about the stopping of distribution of voting card, encouraging people to take part in the elections, and rise in the statistics of committing suicide, increase in civil casualties during conflicts between government and the opposition groups, the rise in violence



Photo 4: Radio round table discussion attended by members of civil society organizations, social organizations, Media and the people of Daikundi

against women, sexual assaults, women illegal trial and early marriages, and the situation of detention centers and police custodies, through the holding of press conferences, press releases and statements, roundtables, interviews, different training programs and dissemination of statements in newspapers, magazines and catalogues across the country.

The AIHRC has laid the ground for the amendment, abolition or ratification of the laws in favor of human rights by lobbying with and presenting consultations to the



Photo 5: distribution of the Commission's publications in Orozgan

concerning authorities and has condemned the suicide attacks, killing and injuring civilians and children in the strongest possible terms and called on the government

that by punishing the perpetrators of such crimes proved the ground for ensuring of security in the society. And has expressed its concerns about the rise in violence against women in 1392 and asked the government to take necessary measures to tackle this important issue. The degree of these activities is as follows:

- 37 press conferences on important topics and events of the day

- 725 round tables and interviews in 29623 minutes radio and television programs

- 622 press releases on important topics and events of the day

The above programs have been published through audiovisual and print media at the national and international level in addition to the AIHRC's website and publications, and have been analyzed by people

and authorities and have had a remarkable impact in the promotion of human rights and the enhancement of people's awareness on the situation of human rights. The Daikundi office has received 2 acknowledgements from civil society institutions for the effective activities carried out in this area.

Some of the practical results and outcomes of this activity are pointed out as follows:

▪ The AIHRC's reports and press releases have been relied upon by many Media under coverage. This has been impressive in terms of familiarization with the AIHRC's functions and influence on policies to protect and promote human rights. This has led to the consolidation and strengthening of the AIHRC's credibility as a key source for protection and promotion of human rights in the country.

▪ After the issuance of the AIHRC's press release concerning the closure of Bamyan-Kabul road by Taliban and thus increase in the prices of foodstuff and medicine in Bamyan, the government dispatched the national army to the spot and ensured the security of that road.

302 ▪ statements supporting human rights and the stand of the AIHRC have been released by state authorities, religious scholars and civil society organizations throughout 1392. By enhancing public awareness of human rights and inspiring the mass conscience on human rights violation incidents through issuing press releases and human rights reports, the AIHRC could pave the way for social and governmental institutions to react against human rights violation.

▪ This indicates that the AIHRC's media activities have been very effective and has caused cases of human rights violation be seriously followed up, and the perpetrators are condemned with further sensitivity by the authorities and people. In addition to that, publication of reports and press releases also turned the human rights issues to hot topics on media, thus respect for human rights and sympathy with the victims of human rights violation in the society is promoted.

1,6 Public Awareness of the Role, Importance and Result of the Work of the AIHRC

The provincial and satellite offices of the AIHRC by publishing and distributing of 306350 publications and training materials, in addition to elucidation of human rights concepts,

have highlighted the role, mandates and work results of the AIRHC for the people.

For this purpose 306350 copies of the AIHRC’s publication and training materials have been distributed to governmental and non-governmental organs, civil society institutions, and cultural and academic institutions in different provinces and districts of the country. Likewise 10000 copies of the 1392 calendar containing all the national and international events, especially human rights events have been printed and sent to provincial and satellite offices. The Commission has prepared and distributed a magazine in braille font to raise the awareness of the visually impaired persons in Kabul, Herat and Mazar.

In 1392, the AIHRC helped a very large number of internet users and those who are interested in these issues by enhancing its internet communications and publication of training materials and human rights news and reports on the AIHRC’s website and other social networks like Facebook,

twitter and google plus. The statistics show that the essays, reports, and the AIHRC’s posts and twits have been warmly welcomed by the users;

The AIHRC’s website was viewed by 139817 people in this year. Enhancement of the media and other activities carried out by the AIHRC resulted in further reference of the people to the AIHRC.

Throughout 1392, 43234 people (14254 women and 28980 men) have referred to the AIHRC’s offices. The following table explains the degree of and reasons why people refer to the AIHRC:

	Total	Women	Men
Visit and seeking guidance and consultation	18935	5141	13794
Complaint registration	18042	7280	10762
Visit the AIHRC’s library	6257	1833	4424
Total	43234	14254	28980



1,7 Monitoring the Media

Since the media play an important role in enlightening the public opinion and making



Photo 6: Monthly publication of the AIHRC's press releases and news through showcases, Badakhshan

them aware of human rights, the AIHRC by monitoring the media assesses the status of the AIHRC in the media and its practi-

cal work results, and outlines the relevant findings in its programs.

Based on this, throughout 1392 a total of 137 media within the country were monitored continuously in which the name of the AIHRC has been mentioned for 555 times, 211 times the remarks made by the AIHRC's board of leadership have been relied upon, and the activities of the AIHRC like report, press conferences, monitoring activities and etc. have been reflected in news reports of the media under coverage.

Likewise, there was a 25 % increase in the media coverage level of human rights issues compared with the last year. This indicates that the human rights issues are so important for the researchers, authors and the media. The AIHRC's activities have been reflected in the media 41 % more than that in the last year.

The number of media monitored in 1392	The number of times the AIHRC's name is repeated	The number of reliance made upon the remarks by the board of leadership	Level at which the AIHRC's activities is reflected
137	555	211	839

Strategic Objective 2: Training

Human rights education and promotion of public awareness of human rights concepts and values is one of the five main objectives of the AIHRC. For this reason, in 1392, the AIHRC included in its Action Plan some activities for public education to protect and promote human rights in the society. The AIHRC's main achievements in this regard are pointed out as follows:

2,1 Holding Education and Awareness-raising Programs

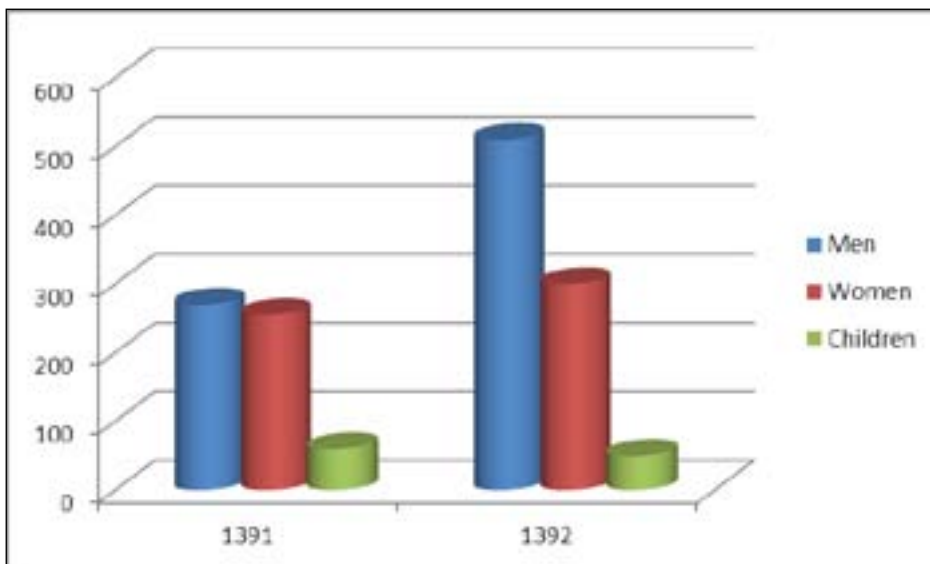
Increased awareness of 84275 people (31619 women, 48239 men and 4417 children) of human rights issues and concepts is a big achievement made by the AIHRC in 1392. This achievement was made through the holding of training workshops, awareness-raising sessions, evaluation session, 10- day courses, public gatherings related to hu-

man rights, workshops on human rights and Islam, teaching of human rights concepts at universities, teacher training collages and child to child training programs. The number of beneficiaries of these training and awareness-raising programs conducted by the AIHRC in 1392 has increased 54 %



Photo 7: training workshop for the Police- Kandahar

compared to that in 1391. This increase is clearly depicted in the following chart.



This chapter reviews each of the educational activities and the achievements made by the AIHRC in this regard.

2,2 Holding of Training Workshops and Sessions:

Through holding of 386 training workshops, 671 awareness-raising sessions and 43



Photo8: workshop on legal prohibitions of violence against women -Daikundi

evaluation sessions in different places under the coverage of its regional and provincial offices, the AIHRC realized its human rights training objective through increased awareness of 48509 people of human right issues and concepts. People from various social groups and strata such as police, staff of governmental and non-governmental institutions, leaders of media, journalists, lecturers of universities and higher education institutions, school teachers, students, worker women and housewives as well as general public participated in these programs.

Another outcome of these programs is increased public referral to the AIHRC for advocacy, registration of their complaints or seeking legal advices in the area of human rights abuses which was discussed in detail in chapter one.

The outcomes of such activities can be pointed out as follows:

- In Konduz province, 4 cases of human rights violations were identified by 4 participants of these training programs. After a precise evaluation of the cases, the



AIHRC protected these victims.

- In Bamian province, more girls referred to the AIHRC's office, because their rights to marriage were denied by their families. Similarly, the level of girls' attendance to schools and higher education institutions in Bamian province has increased and there was no complaint about violation of the rights to education in 1392.

Comparison of statistics shows that the level of holding training workshops and sessions in 1392 has increased by 9.12 % and the number of trained individuals has increased 31 % compared to the year 1391.

Holding of Training Courses: Another effective activity of the AIHRC during the last year was holding of 10 courses (10-day course) resulted in training of expert and qualified people in the preparation and publication of reports and essays on human rights topics. These courses were participated by 256 journalists from various media, university students, educators and activist of civil society. The participants upon completion of the courses made a commitment to highlight the mandates and activities of the AIHRC by preparing and publishing essays and reports and they promised to make all out efforts for the realization of human rights objectives, implementation and institutionalization of human rights laws and concepts in our society. Another result achieved through such activities is capacity building in the preparation of professional essays on human rights topics. According to the participants, before attending these courses they did not know the difference in

the meaning of certain terminologies such as suspects, accused and criminals as well as the authorities of the attorney's office and courts. They used these terminologies interchangeably in their reports. Participation in these courses helped them to understand the difference between the meaning of the said terminologies, authorities and responsibilities of attorneys and courts.

2,3 Celebration of National and International Human Rights Events

Celebration of national and international events means honoring those events which have brought changes and development in the history of humanity and have affected the societies. In addition to marking of national and international days during the year 1392, the AIHRC has dealt with the issues and challenges faced by the vulnerable groups in the society such as women



Photo 9: International PWD day celebration, SpinBoldak District, Kandahar Province.

and children, and made advocacy for the restoration of their violated rights.

Similarly, through celebration of such events, the AIHRC could raise awareness of 28564 persons (8169 women, 20395 men)



Photo 10: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATED IN THE PRESENCE OF 10 RELIGIOUS SCHOLARS- OROZGAN

about human rights issues.

International Women's Day, International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women, International Day of Peace, Ratification of Universal Declaration of Human Rights, National War Victims' Day, Universal Children's Day, International White Cane Day, International Day of Persons with Disability, Adherence Day of Afghanistan to the Conventions of the Rights of Persons with Disability, Anniversary of Destruction of Buddha Statue, Anniversary of Establishment of the AIHRC were the events marked by the AIHRC through holding of public gatherings, exhibitions, setting up billboards at city level and other events during the year 1392 to commemorate these events.

2,4 Conducting of Child to Child Training Programs:

Training of child trainers is another training program of the AIHRC. During the year 1392 a total of 4417 children , including boys and girls received training on their rights. In the first stage, children receive sufficient training and then each of them transfers their acquired knowledge to oth-

er 30 children.

2,5 Training Programs on Human Rights and Islam:

Misunderstandings and wrong perceptions about human rights concepts exist, especially in remote areas of our country. In some areas they consider human rights concepts in conflict to the teachings of the sacred religion of Islam, which is one of the main reasons for violation of human rights in these areas. The only way to resolve this problem is through holding of

training programs on human rights and Islam for religious Ulama, and making them aware about human rights concepts and remove ambiguities and misunderstandings from their minds. It is obvious that due to their influence in the society, promotions of awareness about human rights concepts among the Ulama is very helpful for the promotion and strengthening of human rights in the society.

For this reason, 11 training workshops were held in 1392 and 312 religious Ulama received training on human rights and Islam. Participants of these workshops received training on various human rights issues, human rights from the viewpoints of Islam, information about the AIHRC, Univer-



PHOTO 11: CHILID TO CHILID TRAINING PROGRAM



Photo 12: Training program for Religious Leaders Related to Human Rights and Islam.

sal Declaration of Human Rights, the common aspects between the sacred religion of Islam and human rights. These programs were so effective that the participants demanded for expansion of such training workshops. For example, after participation in the workshops held in Jalalabad and Maimana the tribal elders and Ulama expressed their gratitude and demanded for holding of such programs for various strata, especially for tribal elders and Ulama in remote parts of our country.

2,6 Transfer of Training Workshops to Civil Institutions:

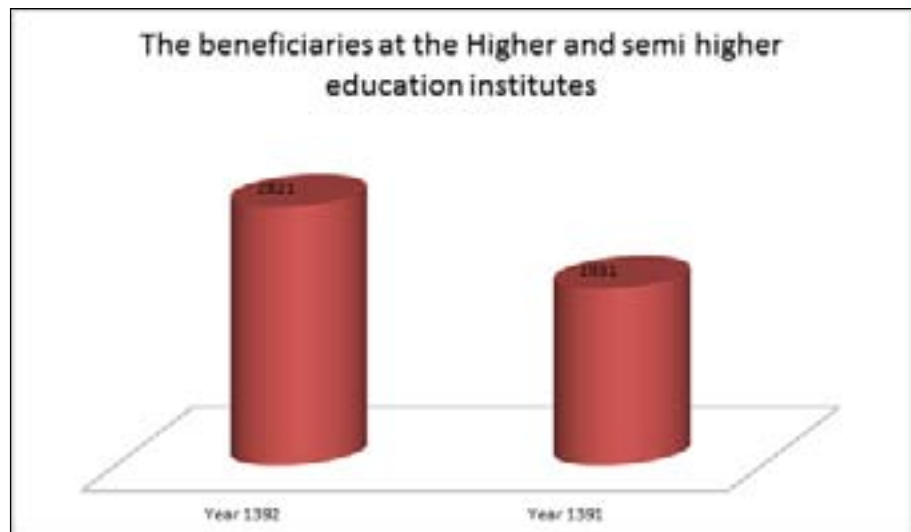
To maintain its relations with civil society institutions, especially with human rights protection institutions, the AIHRC endeavors to coordinate their activities towards institutionalization of human rights values in the society. To achieve this goal, in 1392, the AIHRC handed over 40 human rights training workshops to these institutions. A total of 1244 persons received human rights training through these workshops. The process of handing over of these workshops take place in such a way that first the independent

and effective institutions in the society are identified by the AIHRC's offices and then memorandum of understandings are signed with them. In the framework of these memorandums of understandings, the approved institutions conduct human rights training workshops with financial support by the AIHRC. A Human Right Training Unit of the AIHRC monitors the process of implementation of these workshops. This activity builds up the capacity of civil society institutions and also improves the quality of human rights training.

2,7 Provision of Resource, Expertise and Human Rights Education for Higher and Semi-higher Education Institutions

According to its action plan, the AIHRC signed 42 memorandums of understanding with higher and semi-higher education institutions all over the country to teach human rights as a subject for 2821 students (1140 women and 1681 men) in these institutions. This number shows 46 % increase compared to the last year. The following chart shows comparative figures of these two years.

Beneficiaries at higher and semi-higher education institutions



In 1392, the AIHRC implemented other training programs too, which were very effective in promotion of public awareness. These programs are:

2,8 Equipping Libraries and Resource Centers of the Commission and Establishment of Human Rights Information Centers at Public Libraries

In 1392 a total of 5297 persons (1815 women and 3482 men) visited the AIHRC's resource centers. This figure shows that the AIHRC's offices serve as reliable and trustworthy data and information centers for the public, especially for university students, researchers and women.



Photo 13: Human Rights Information Center, Urozgan Province University.

For this reason, through the establishment of 26 new resource centers and equipping of the other resource centers, the AIHRC has prepared the ground for its visitors to benefit from magazines, human

rights information sources, books, reports and other human rights documents such as conventions, international covenants, national laws and its own publications. Similarly, the AIHRC has prepared and purchased 22303 titles of books during this year and has put them at the disposal of researchers, students, lecturers, judges, religious scholars, writers, intellectuals, journalists and libraries. As a result of this activity the number of students visiting the resource centers of the AIHRC has increased and many university students choose human rights topics for their monographs.

2,9 Expansion of Media Coverage, Production and Broadcasting of Radio and Television Educational Programs

In 1392, the AIHRC increased its training programs through signing agreements with 197 audio, video and printing media. During this year, 28267 minutes audio training program and 11542 minutes video training program were produced and broadcast through various media. These programs, which included messages,



press releases, children's speaking, spots, serials and short films, emphasized more on important issues and challenges such as elections, history of human rights, the relations between human rights and democracy, freedom of speech, prevention of discrimination between male and female children, non-disclosure of suspected persons, the right to expression of views and choice for children and other important human rights concepts. Similarly, a total of 240000 copies of Human Rights Monthly Magazines, 66350 important human rights documents and reports and 175 pages of human rights professional essays were printed and issued.

In addition, the AIHRC held 12 sessions with media leaders during this year and delivered professional training to them in the preparation of human rights programs.

The main outcomes of these activities are the presence of state authorities and officials at roundtable discussions and interviews on human rights issues, and promotion of public awareness in this regard. This process can elevate state accountability towards human rights issues in the society.

In general, training activities conducted by the AIHRC has been highly effective. Given the findings obtained there is a clear behavioral and attitudinal difference between the areas under coverage of training activities and the areas outside the scope of AIHRC activities regarding observance and

protection of human rights. For example, the findings by Daikundi provincial office show that implementation of educational programs in this province had an important role in the decrease of social problems in the areas under coverage of these training activities and a big positive change can be witnessed, while in insecure areas such as Kijran district which is out of the

reach of the AIHRC's training activities, human rights condition, especially for women is very critical. Social problems such as forced marriage, child marriage, violence against women and abuse of women's rights are very common and considered as an accepted tradition. Consent of women in marriage is considered unimportant. Women in Kijran district have no permission to participate in cultural activities and be present in the society. Traditional views contrary to the basic rights of women remain unabated in Kijran district. For this reason no women were introduced as a candidate in this district, while in the areas under coverage of the Commission's activities at least 5 women from each district were introduced as candidates to the provincial councils. Another effect of the AIHRC's training activities was turning of an eye-catching number of religious Ulama and preachers to supporters of human rights in Badakhshan province. They disseminate and promote human rights through mosques.

Strategic Objective 3: Empowerment

Strengthening of the AIHRC capacity and empowerment of the state, civil society and people are one of the main strategic objectives of the AIHRC for the promotion and protection of human rights. Based on its action plan, the AIHRC conducted effective and fruitful activities in 1392 for the realization of this objective. The main achievements in this area can be pointed out as follows:

3,1 Increased Effectiveness to Organize its Programs and Resources:

In 1392, by holding consultative sessions and training workshops for its staff, the AIHRC could review and amend its Action Plan. In these consultative sessions which were attended by managers of regional and provincial offices as well as unit officers at the HQ, the Action Plan was reviewed, modified according to the needs of the new working year and approved.

3,2 Staff Composition

The staff composition of the AIHRC in terms of gender, ethnicity, religion, language and disability is kept in a good proportion and they are employed based on the principle of meritocracy and capability in various units of the AIHRC.

The AIHRC continued its human rights activities in 1392 with the help of 610 employees out of which 21 percent are women. During this year a total of 25 employees resigned, while 61 persons, including 11 women were employed in various units of

the AIHRC. The employment process was competitive and very transparent. First, the required posts were announced through the AIHRC's website and job announcement site of ACBAR. Of course, vulnerable persons such as women and persons with disability were given priority in this process. After 2 months probationary period and getting familiar with the AIHRC's programs he/she officially becomes an employee.

Ethnic, religious, language, gender and disability diversities of the participants are taken into consideration in staff employment, but emphasize has been made on efficiency and merits as the main criteria for employment. At the same time, efforts have been made to maintain ethnic, religious and other diversities balance in staff composition. Similarly, priority has been given to employment of vulnerable persons and people with disability.

3,3 Promotion of Expertise and Work Experience of the Staff through Capacity Building and Training Programs

In 1392, the AIHRC sent 48 staff members to foreign countries and 106 others to different cities in the country to participate in training programs and professional training workshops to build up their capacities. In addition, the ground was paved for other staff members to attend internal professional workshops. Similarly, through the holding of capacity building workshops, the

AIHRC promoted the working and professional capacities of 341 staff members in the areas of research techniques, complaints management, training of human rights trainers and report writing. The AIHRC also organized field trips to various provinces to design and outline the new strategic plan and took effective measures to organize its programs and resources for



Photo 14: Wrokshop on working with Database.

the next 5 years. During these working trips to 8 zones (Mazar-e-Sharif, Herrat, Kundoz, Jalalabad, Bamian, Kandahar and Kabul), 9 consultative workshops attended by 868 people (200 women and 668 men) were held. Representative of various strata and groups from 34 provinces of our country attended these workshops and they presented useful consultations to the AIHRC on preparation of the new strategic plan, human rights priorities in their respective provinces and important activities to be conducted by the AIHRC. All findings, recommendations, priorities and consultations presented by the participants were unified and analyzed to be considered in the new strategic plan of the AIHRC. Staff participation in the workshops for “capacity building of trainers” and “Research Techniques and Complaints Management” elevated the working capacity of staff and they became familiar with effective training methods and learned new and practical methods of investigation as well as management of complaints. Training of the staff in the area of reporting strengthened the system of reporting more than ever.

The workshop on Report Writing was at-

tended by 183 persons (38 women and 145 men) and the staff learned about effective report writing methods and result based report writing. They became familiar with new formats and database of the Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Unit. The principle of transparency in the performances and functions of the AIHRC, the ability to protect data, and the functionality to review the six-month and annual results of the AIHRC’s performances are some advantages of the new system.

In 1392, the regional and provincial offices prepared the ground for 26 staff members to visit other offices of the AIHRC and share their knowledge and experiences. During this program which lasted 4 to 5 days, these staff got familiar with each other’s working procedure, exchanged experience and identified their strong and weak points and ultimately improved the quality of their working programs.

3,4 Performing an Assessment of the Implementation of the Annual Action Plan

Undoubtedly, the AIHRC’s success in the realization of its human rights objectives is



Photo 15: AIHRC Annual Conference Herat Regional Office.

directly related to the performance of its staff. Therefore, evaluation of staff performance is very important, because evaluation and assessment of the offices and staff members as well as identifying the level of staff effectiveness and efficiency determines the AIHRC's distance to the achievements of the targeted objectives on the basis of which new and more suitable ways for better implementation of activities as well as work productivity of staff can be considered in future action plans.

In 1392, by strengthening the systems and structure of performance management, the AIHRC could carry out the process of monitoring, evaluation and reporting of the AIHRC's activity in 1391 with better quality. Ultimately, the outcomes were presented at an annual conference held by the AIHRC in Herat city.

This conference was held in Herat on 13-15 of Jawza and participated by 65 people, including the AIHRC's leadership, coordina-

tors, unit officers from the central office, heads of 14 regional and provincial offices, program officers, program staff of Herat office and a number of civil society activists and human rights defenders from different cities of Afghanistan.

During this conference, findings and annual evaluation results of the year 1391 of all regional and provincial offices which were conducted carefully and precisely was presented. Strengthening of staff impetus, review of the Action Plan, methods and procedures of carrying out activities and removal of the defects from the result of this evaluation are counted as the outcomes of this evaluation.

Increasing of the staff efficiency for the better implementation of the Action Plan is another outcome of this annual conference in Herat. The Action Plan of 1392, after a group work and discussion and insertion of necessary corrections and amendments was approved in this conference.

3,5 Capacity Building of the State and Civil Society in the Areas of Human Rights Protection, Monitoring and Promotion

Through consolidation of relations with the state and civil society organs, the AIHRC has consistently supported them in the areas of human rights realization in the society. In 1392, the AIHRC cooperated with the civil society institutions in implementing of 25 human rights development projects in the country. This cooperation was made in the following ways:

1. Putting materials such as the Law on Elimination of Violence against Women, The rights of the suspect and accused persons and other human rights materials at the disposal of state organs and civil society institutions
2. Rendering training and technical sup-

port to civil society institutions and human rights sections of the state organs

3. Holding sessions to discuss the important issues and challenges from the viewpoints of human rights

4. Presenting recommendations to executive state organs for prevention of human rights violations in the society

Carrying out such activities had good practical results. For example, after carrying out this activity in Badakhshan province, the demand of civil society institutions increased for launching joint programs. Similarly, the representatives of this office are more frequently invited to media roundtable discussions. At the same time, attendance of governmental and non-governmental institutions' staff in roundtable discussions increased and improved.

Strategic Objective 4: Advocacy

4,1 Participation and Role of the AIHRC in Drafting and Revision of Laws Related to Human Rights

In 1392, the AIHRC reacted against the implementation of policies violating human rights and viewed that lack of implementation of human rights international conventions by the government is due to existing problems in the state judicial system and demanded for its modification. To achieve this goal, the AIHRC actively participated in the state and judicial sessions during this year and carried out effective activities for drafting and amendment of the laws related to human rights. In this area, the AIHRC made the following outstanding achievements:

- Obtaining Commitment from the related organs to implement the Law on the Rights and Privileges of Persons with Disability
- Making efforts to attract the state bud-

get for the protection of human rights

- Making a revision of the Criminal Procedure Code and bringing amendments to this law in the sessions with civil society institutions

Running of the Above Mentioned Activities by the AIHRC Had the Following Effective Practical Results:

- One of the most important achievements made by the AIHRC during this reporting period was amendment of article 26 of the criminal law. The AIHRC together with other civil society institutions suggested for the amendment or annulment of paragraph 4, article 26 of this law. Ultimately, after serious efforts and effective meetings with Presidential office this law was amended and testimony of relatives became officially acceptable. This was a big achievement for protecting the rights of victimized women and children.

- The AIHRC also made effective efforts for amendment of the Law on Custody of Children. According to this law the guardian could decide about the marriage of the child under guardianship, which prepared the ground for abuse of children and violation of their rights. As a result of advocacy by the AIHRC this law was amended and this authority on marriage of children was taken from the guardian.



Photo 16: Meetings with Head of Governmental Departments, Farkhar-Takhar Province.

- Advocacy was made about paragraph 3, article 67 of the new Law on Structure and Authorities of Courts. According to this law the authority to settle the criminal cases related to children in conflict with the law was given to the city courts in the center of provinces and to primary courts in the districts. This article caused delay in settlement of children’s criminal cases as well as a violation of their right to judicial proceedings. This problem was settled through advocacy with the Supreme Court and establishment of Children Special Courts in all provinces based on resolution number 1217 dated 12/09/1392 of the Supreme Court, and these problems were solved.

4,2 Expansion and Strengthening of the AIHRC Participation in National, Regional and International Associations and Networks to Proceed with Human Rights Priorities

Expectations of the AIHRC, including ratification of human rights conventions and consistency of the national laws with human rights international conventions and



Photo 17: sessions with a SPN network in Ghor province

in general, the implementation of human rights goals in the society entail interaction with other national and international networks and institutions. For this reason, the AIHRC participated in 340 sessions of

advocacy committees in 1392 which were also attended by state officials, representatives of national and international organizations to advocate for the rights of vulnerable persons, especially women, children and persons with disability who are victims of violence. In addition, the AIHRC through membership in 89 advocacy committees and networks emphasized on establishment and consolidation of advocacy committees and pointed out some important human rights challenges in the country and presented the ways out of these problems.

One of the important effects of such activities by the AIHRC is formation of spontaneous movements in different cities which mostly occur in the form of advocacy meetings in closed surroundings, rather than protesting demonstrations on the streets. For example, gathering of university students expressing their protest against a decision taken by the Ministry of Higher Education on enrollment of new students to the university on the base of population quota of each province, which was also re-

jected through a statement by the Parliament, the AIHRC, civil society institutions, and UNAMA calling for a ban on the implementation of this plan.

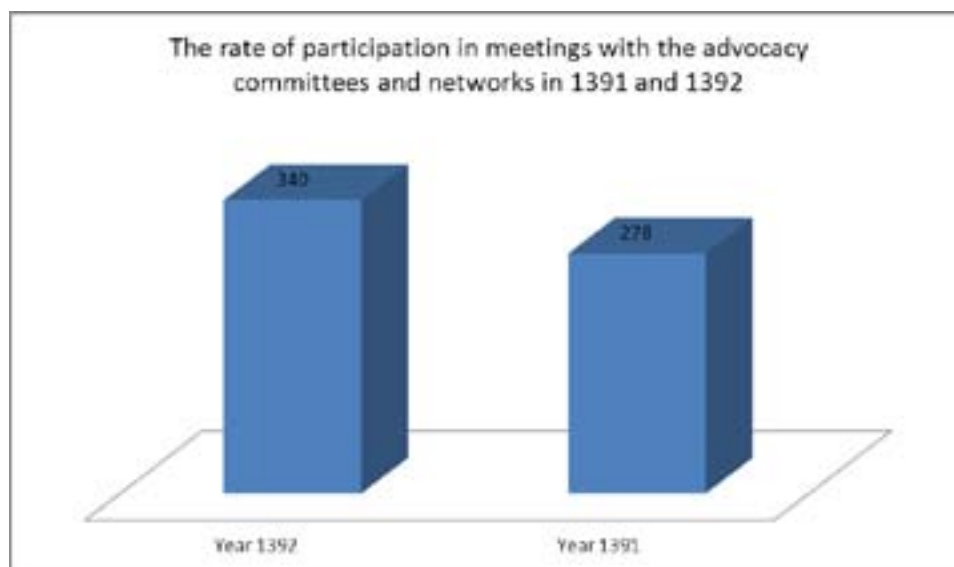
In addition to the above men-

tioned activities, after the establishment of the High Commission for Fight against Kidnapping and Trafficking in human in 1392, the AIHRC as the secretariat of that com-

mission created a database which received and recorded reports by the commission's members. Similarly, through designing of an action plan for the year 1393 and organizing of job description, the AIHRC followed up the ratification process of the optional protocol to the UN Convention against Trans-national Organized Crimes till its ratification by the Council of Ministers and Parliament.

In general, the activities of the AIHRC in this regard have increased 22 % compared to the last year, which shows further commitment and responsibility of the AIHRC's staff towards human rights in the society. The following graph shows the level of participation of the Commission's staff in these sessions in comparison to the year 1391.

Level participation in the session with advocacy committees and networks in 1391 and 1392



Similarly, in 1392, the AIHRC took a commendable part in preparation and compilation of the Universal Periodic Report (UPR) of the state of Afghanistan to the UN which represents the implementation of 96 recommendations of the UNO.

4,3 Advocacy with the State Officials and Authorities as well as Media on the Rights of Vulnerable Persons

In 1392, the AIHRC held 90 advocacy sessions with various institutions such as justice and judicial organs, police, attorney's office, courts, Ministry of Justice, defense lawyers, prison departments, children correction centers, Women Affairs Department, Afghan Women Network, Coordination Center for the Rule of Law at UNAMA, representatives of the civil society and media. During these sessions the best ways of advocacy were reviewed and some published recommendations in the AIHRC's reports were highlighted and advocacy was made for vulnerable persons. Some challenges related to vulnerable persons such as addiction of children which needs urgent advocacy and follow up, employment of persons with disability was presented by the AIHRC and suggested for advocacy

in this regard. Advocacy for the victims of violence against women was also suggested in these sessions and it was noted that women victims of violence are to be protected through the establishment of safe shelters in different part of the country including in Helmand province.

In addition to holding of such meetings, the AIHRC advocated for the violated rights of victims in separate meetings with the heads of the legal departments, security police offices, Chief of the Family Court, Chairperson of the Women Department,



PHOTO 18: ADVOCACY WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT ENTITIES- KABUL

defense lawyers and other related officials to protect the rights of victims. After registering the cases of human rights violations, the AIHRC followed them up through judicial institutions or after rendering legal consultations they were introduced to related judicial centers.

Advocacy by the AIHRC in 1392 in the areas of human rights violations and protection of affected persons had acceptable outcomes as follows:

- Due to various problems, a number of schools were closed in Paktia province. As a result of advocacy by the AIHRC they were reopened.

- To promote their capacity, a number of teachers with disability were introduced to teachers training college in Konduz province.

- A number of vulnerable women and without caretakers were identified in the center of Chegh Cheran province and work opportunity was prepared for them.

- For 7 detainees, the ground was prepared to attend school in Herat

province.

- Some kilns located near the hospital in the center of Daikundi province which caused pollution in that place were transferred to remote areas.

- As a result of advocacy for children who were physically punished at school in Kabul, the school was fined a sum of one hundred thousand Afs.

- Based on a written instruction by the Attorney Chairman of the Appeal Court and article nine of the Law on Judicial Proceeding of Children in Conflict with Law the responsibly of interrogation from children in conflict with the law was given to the Special Attorney for Children.

- As a result of written and verbal complaints to the provincial office of Bada-khshan province, three high ranking local authorities (Security Commander of Shohada district, District Governors of Yamgan and Wakhan districts) were shifted from their posts.



Photo 19: Distribution of Medicines and firewood at Women Detention Center, Bamiyan Province.

Strategic Objective 5: Monitoring and Assessment

The AIHRC as one of the main institution in the area of protection and promotion of human rights and with respect to its strategic objectives has continuously and seriously monitored the implementation of human rights laws and assessed instances of human rights violation occurring in the country as its main duty. By publishing the instances in its research and thematic reports, the AIHRC has recommended to the government authorities and other related organs effective

measures for the prevention of human rights violation. In addition, by creating and fostering a sense of accountability in the government

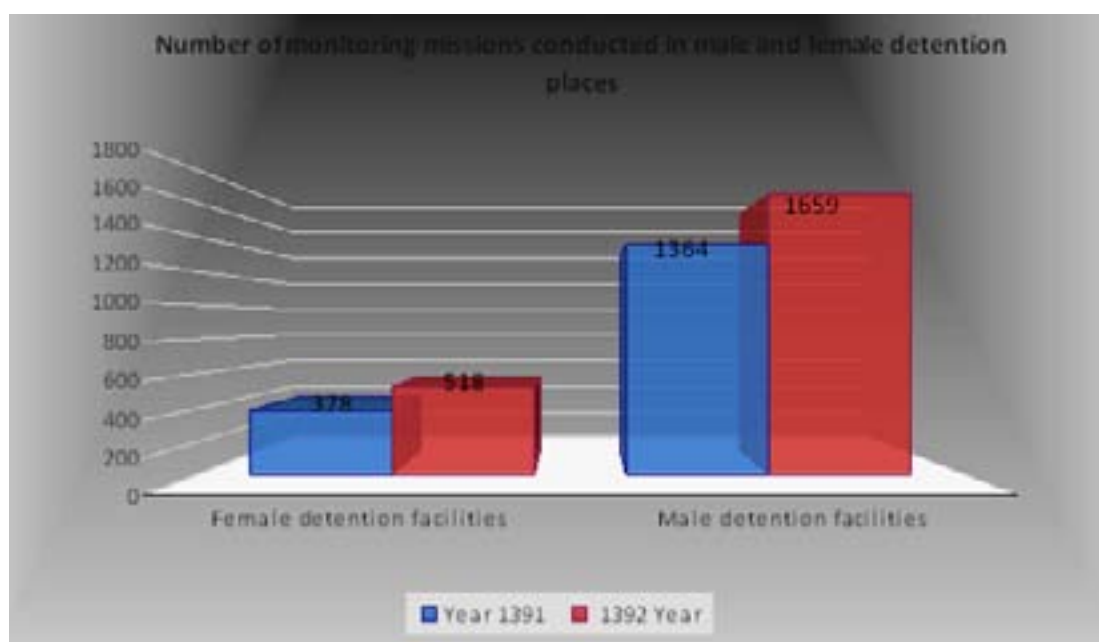
the AIHRC has helped the government to become more transparent in its structure and practices. This way, some actions were also taken in 1392, which are briefly presented as follows:

5,1 Regular monitoring of prisons, police custodies, detention centers,

children correction centers, women's shelters and justice and judicial organs in order to assess the human rights observance and protection.

Having carried out 2567 monitoring missions in 1392, the AIHRC visited detention facilities (2177 times) (1659 visits to men and 518 visits to women places of detention).

The chart below shows the 1392 statistics compared with the ones in 1391.



During the visits, the inmates were interviewed and their problems such as living condition, how they were treated by the authorities and whether or not their cases were duly processed. Such problems were advocated for and, when needed, legal consultations were provided to them. Efforts were made to help them have access

to a fair trial. During these monitoring, it was tried to help them have access to their basic rights. The following are some of the problems and challenges that have become known:

- In Badghis, Nimroz and Farah provinces, shortage of forensic specialists to determine the age of the suspect and the accused is a major problem. This is very important for the ones who have not reached their legal ages; when their actual ages are not known, their right would be violated by the verdicts issued unfairly. And they would not have a good future.
- In Parwan and Kapisa provinces, there are no standard buildings as prisons, detention centers and child correction centers. The inmates are not separated based on their ages, their profiles and the intensity of the crimes they have committed. There are no sports facilities and proper areas for sports and healthy recreations. The due process of their cases is also hampered.

As a result of the monitoring carried out, the recommendations and the efforts made by the AIHRC, some positive changes



PICTURE 20: THE USE OF SHACKLES TO PREVENT FROM PRISONERS ESCAPE

have taken place in these centers to improve the condition of the juvenile delinquents and that of the prisoners. In total, the AIHRC's monitors have presented 129 recommendations for the children correction centers and 154 recommendations for the detention places to the authorities of the centers; that were accepted and implemented.

The following are some of the samples:

- In Khost and Paktia provinces, the male and the female prisons were repaired.
- In Daikundi Province, a well for potable water was dug inside the prison. The problem of transporting detainees from districts to province centers was solved by providing the prison authority with a police ranger. The male and the female prisoners were availed of the opportunity to have vocational studies.
- A sewage system was made in Farah Province Prison.
- The prisoners in Farah, Nimroz and Badkhis prisons were permitted to have visitors.

Some other major problems related to places of detention were shared with the authorities. The problems were:

Lack of fuel for the cold seasons, lack of enough and standard rooms, battering and torturing some of the prisoners at the time of arrest, use of shackles for the suspects, lack of standard buildings for the children correction centers and lack of proper programs for the children after their release.

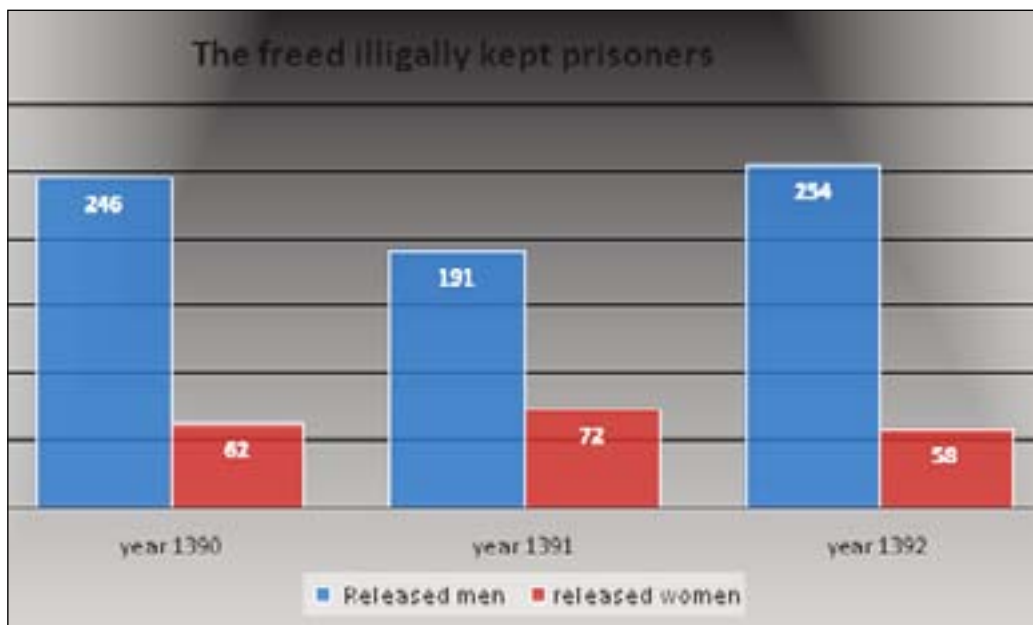
According to the AIHRC's moni-

tors, 118 cases of torture, instances of human rights violation, have been registered - all requiring serious attention. Furthermore, it was also becoming known that a major issue faced by the people depriving them of their freedom was lack of defense lawyers. Most of the prisoners, because of fear or economic weakness, cannot afford defense lawyers, thus, they are not able to defend their rights in the courts and attorneys' offices. This way their cases are kept pending for a long time.

5,2 Release of Those who were Illegally Arrested, Detained or Imprisoned

One of AIHRC's biggest achievements is the freedom of individuals who are illegally arrested, detained or imprisoned. In 1392, the AIHRC could free 312 individuals (58 women and 254 men) as a result of its constant effective monitoring and advocacy. In addition, it could also free 127 illegally kept children (24 girls and 103 boys) in the same year.

The chart below shows the comparative statistics of those released after being illegally detained in the past 3 years:



5,3 Monitoring the Children Correction Center

The AIHRC paid 811 visits to the children correction center and orphanages in order to assess the children's living condition based on human rights standards. Freeing 127 illegally kept children as juvenile delinquents are a major achievement obtained as a result of the monitoring made by the AIHRC during the year.

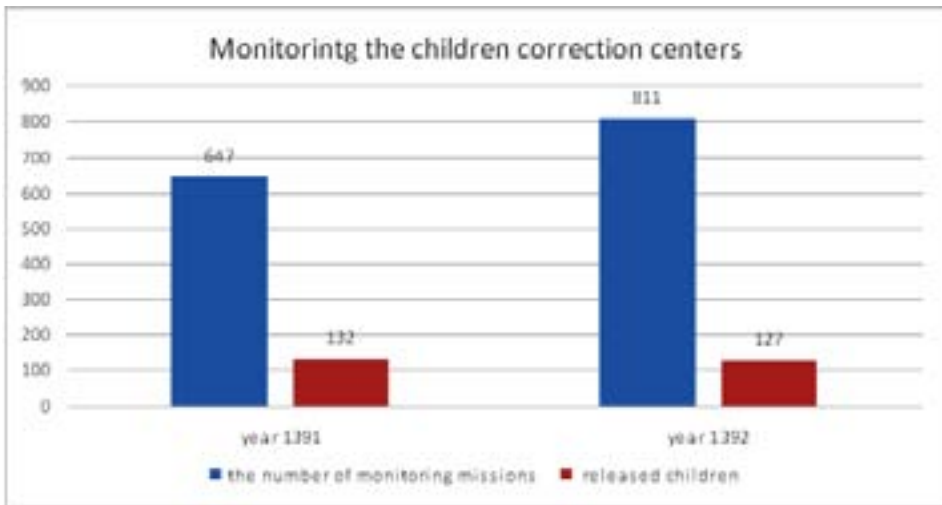


PICTURE 21: GAWHARSHAD BEGUM NURSERY

Having effectively registered and addressed the cases pertaining to violation of children's human rights, the AIHRC's officials identified the children who were illegally kept in the correction center, provided them with legal assistance and took measures to free them. As a result, 127 children were freed.

The following chart shows the comparative statistics of the monitoring and the number of children released in 1391 and 1392.

The following chart shows the comparative statistics of the monitoring and the number of children released in 1391 and 1392.



improved.

- Herat: A number juvenile delinquents were registered at school.

Even though keeping children in these centers, compared to the past, has improved, there still exist problems and shortcomings and the

condition to keep children is not favorable. In some of the centers, up to 16 children are being kept in small rooms. The authorities, by not taking responsibility, have created a number of problems.

As a result of the effective monitoring of the children correction center by the AIHRC, some changes and improvement occurred that made the children's situation better. The following are some of the improvements:

- Badakhshan: A trainer was employed, the educational and vocational programs were improved and the children's quarters were separated from those of the adult in detention centers or the children transferred to the children correction center.
- Daikundi: A separate center fully equipped with toilets and bathrooms was established exclusively for the female juvenile, a well for potable water was dug and a solar system was purchased in order to light up the rooms.
- Kunduz: Generators are used at the time when the electricity is weak for air condition.
- Mazar-e-Sharif: The problem connected to the toilets was solved and the feeding problem of the children was tackled.
- Ghor: A female teacher for the female juvenile in the CCC was employed,
- Uruzgan: Food menu at the CCC was



Picture 22: Establishing tailoring workshop in ACCC

5,4 Monitoring the Situation of Children along the Borderlines

In 1392, the AIHRC monitors visited Islam Qala and Milak borders in Herat and Torkham border in Nangarhar Province to assess the situation of children who had been deported. The monitors held interviews with 4670 children, including 566 girls and 4104 boys; 226 of the boys were laborers. These illegal trips cause numerous problems and irreparable losses for children. The reason for their displacement, they say, lies in the

fact that the heads of their families are jobless. In addition, due to being deprived of the right to education and health, they are compelled to do harsh labor. Below are some of the major problems the children quoted when interviewed:

- The children had to walk the impassable and dangerous routes in 7 to 21 days or travel by vehicles.
- While having to pay big sums of money to the human traffickers during these journeys, the children had also to face insults and threats.
- A number of these children, when arrested in Iran, were subjected to battering, insulting and swear words. Some even stated that their money had been taken by the police in Iran on the pretext of being an accomplice to the traffickers.
- While being deprived of proper food and facilities at the camps, the children were forced to do harsh labor such as unloading cement and iron works carrier trucks.
- The children who could not afford the money to get passed to the other side of the border were being beaten up; they had to beg other Afghan inside the camp to pay the travel money.
- One other terrible outcome due to these kinds of travels for children is that they are likely to be arrested by the bandits in Iran. After kidnapping children in 1392, these bandits demanded high ransom from the children's relatives. A number of these children became mentally or even physically disabled amidst the ordeal.
- When demanding for their wages, some of the children have been tricked by

their Iranian employers after getting work from them for 6 months or even one year. The employers contacted the police behind the children's back and introduced them as accomplices to the drug traffickers. Without receiving their wages, they had been handed over to the police.

The children who illegally traveled to Iran in 1392 are generally deprived of their rights to movement, security of person, education, living alongside with their parents, proper food, health and even life.

In 1392, 99 cases of children who had been subjected to violence in Iran or deprived of their rights were followed up; with the cooperation of the Children Protection Action Network (CPAN), it was tried to address their problems. 8 cases belonging to 2 boys and 6 girls were solved.

5,5 Monitoring Women's Shelters

In 1392, women's shelters in various provinces of the country were visited 313 times, which shows 82% increase compared to 1391. The living condition of the women being kept in these centers and the kind of treatments they were receiving were assessed. A major problem that the women pointed out was the way they were being treated by the authorities at the centers and the ones from the justice and judicial organs. For instance, the women at Haka Protective Center in Kabul complained against the insults and humiliation by the employees of the justice and judicial organs. That is why legal consultations and assistance have been provided for the women when needed. Meanwhile, the referable cases have been attended to. The Commission has also offered constructive recommendations; the authorities have appreciated 47 of such recommendations. Some

have even been implemented. In Herat, for example, it was recommended that vocational and literacy courses be established and that children be given more than three meals a day. In general, serious and consistent monitoring by the AIHC has resulted in improvement of women's condition in these centers. Below are some samples:

- In Jalalabad, the living condition and officials' conduct have improved; the women's cases are being followed up faster.
- In Badakhshan, the women have been provided with employment opportunities; they can earn through beading.
- In Bamyān, the budget to run the women's shelter has been extended by UN WOMEN.

5,6 Monitoring the Situation of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Through its regional and provincial offices, the AIHRC carried out 405 monitoring reports across the country in 1392 interviewing 8727 individuals directly (4039 women and 4688 men). The major problems people mentioned were as follow:

Lack of security, presence of irresponsible armed individuals, the ever increase of drug addiction among the children and the youth, especially in the villages, poverty and unemployment, lack of proper and enough medicine in the health centers and clinics, lack of female teachers in girls' schools, the far distance of schools, shortage of teaching materials, limited access



Picture 23: Lack of people's access to potable water in Balkh.

to the right to education, impassibility of the routes, the air pollution in cities, the loss of pastures and jungles due to poverty, unemployment and people's cultural poverty, internal displacement from one province to another, illegal travels to the neighboring countries, illegal appropriation of land and properties by the powerful, children's lack of access to vaccination and lack of electricity and potable water

Some of the people were facing agricultural problems due to drought; the economic, educational and health related problems made them experience difficulties.

During these monitoring, the situation of living environment in various areas has been studied, and in this connection, fruitful measures have been taken. In Herat,



Picture24: The rate children's access to educational services

for example, based on an agreement made with the Directorate of Living Environment pledged to carry out some of the wastes from the clinics and hospital as well as the one from construction, and solving of the problem of fuel for the break baking kilns and demolishing of garbage in the city were also part of the deal. Likewise, in Gardez as based on the meddling by the Monitoring and Investigation Unit with regards to the realization of social and economic rights a 50-meter long concrete bridge was constructed on the Nader Sha Kot River.

5,7 Monitoring the situation of the internally displaced and the returnees

In 1392, the AIHRC's officials interviewed 485 internally displaced and 1475 returnees. The main factors that caused the displacement were mentioned to be insecurity, unemployment, drought, lack of houses or shelter, opportunities for education, etc. The returnees stated that the conflict and insecurity inside the country as well as unemployment and poverty have been the main cause of their migration.

5,8 Monitoring the Health Centers

In order to assess the level of people's access to health services and their rights to health, monitoring the health centers is another mandate of the AIHRC. In 1392, the AIHRC conducted 4762 monitoring missions in the health centers across the country assessing the medication process and the situation of doctors and medicine. The result revealed the following problems that have jeopardized the people's lives:

- Shortage of medicines and specialized doctors in a number of clinics, especially in Behsood Part II
- Lack of potable water and hygienic

washrooms in Badakhshan

- Lack of electricity in Ghor Clinic
- Shortage of beds for sick children in Daikundi Hospital

However, notable improvements have taken place as a result of the monitoring and advocacy made by the AIHRC,.

5,9 Monitoring the Public Demonstrations and Gatherings

Following its monitoring programs to assess the rate of human rights realization in 1392, the AIHRC monitored the public demonstrations 33 times, gatherings and strikes as follows:

- Demonstration by the civil society activists in support of election-1392
- Public demonstration demanding the trial and punishment of the perpetrators of Afshar tragedy
- The demonstration by the employees of Samangan Province Public Council demanding for their salary - not paid during the public awareness campaign for the election
- The demonstration in Daman District of Kandahar Province regarding the transference of the garbage dump from the residential locality to a remote and non-residential area
- The demonstration by the people of Samangan Province against the governor.
- The gathering of journalists and civil activists on account of increasing violence against journalists across the country
- The protest by a number of engineers against the killing of a few engineers and

employees of the Directorate of Rural Development

- The demonstration held by the youth, the people, the civil society institutions, political activists and supporters of the clean and safe environment in the western part of the country to voice their opposition against hunting animals by the Arabs in Herat By publishing press statements and constant monitoring, the AIHRC has always tried to express its support for these types of civil, legal and peaceful demonstrations, strikes and gatherings.

In 1392, the AIHRC by conducting 330 monitoring missions in areas under coverage supporting the people's civil and political rights across the country and presented recommendations to the government in this regard.

5, 10 Monitoring the Casualties due to the Armed Conflict in the Country

Afghanistan is one of the countries where the rate of casualties due to the domestic armed conflict and the suicidal attacks is worrisome.

For this purpose the AIHRC based on its mandates investigates the casualties caused by the armed conflict and publishes the relevant reports.

Owing to the domestic conflict and the suicidal attacks by the anti-government elements in 1392, 1899 people lost their lives and 3433 others sustained injuries. The total number of the casualties in that year reached 5332.

The continuation of civilian casualties in this year clear evidence for the fact that



Picture 25: 10 Children shepherds injured in Faryab Province.

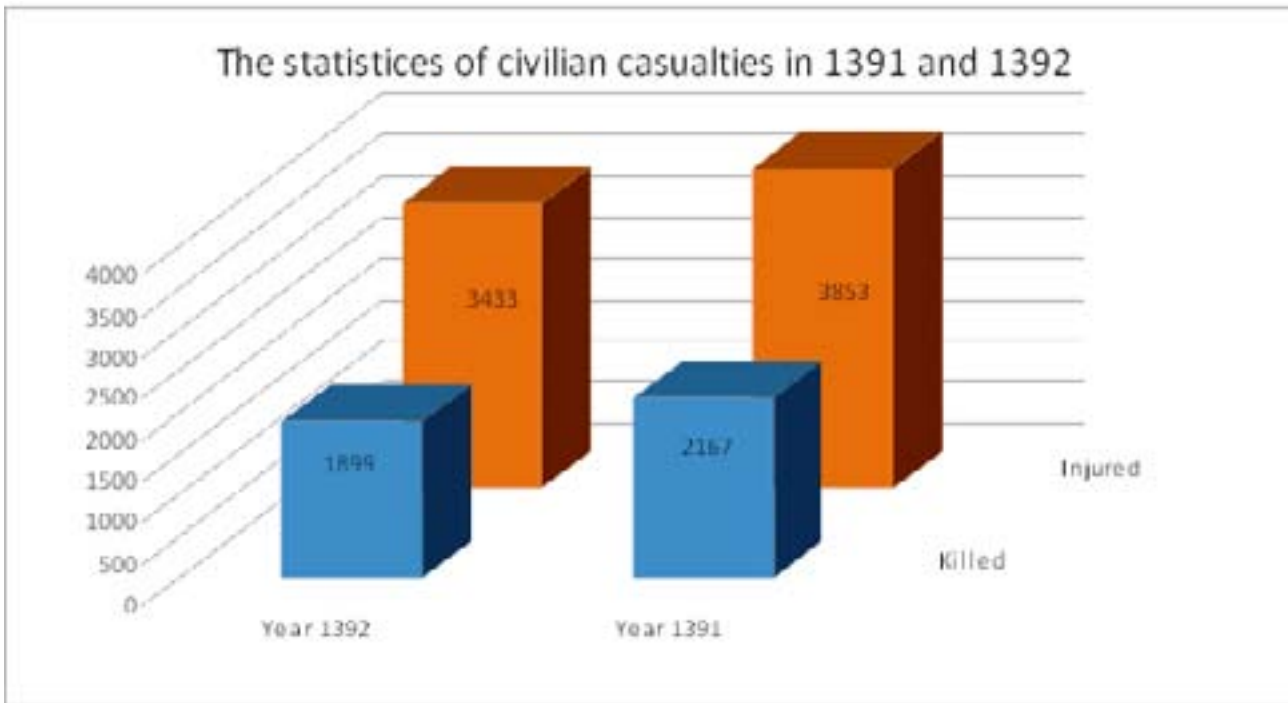
the anti-government elements still continue to fight against the government causing deaths and injuries to the civilians.

In fact, the people's right to life is not important to them. At these events, the AIHRC issues statements and suggests practical solution and recommendations to decrease the intensity of the attacks and prevent such casualties.

Luckily, the AIHRC's effort this year were not in vain.; the figures for the casualties, compared with the ones from the previous year, shows a 13% decrease (that is a 12.2% decrease in the number of the injured and 14% decrease in the number of deaths.) unfortunately, women and children are also included.

The insecure situation has affected the civilian lives. Apart from causing fear, the people's living situation is also faced with numerous problems.

The following graph compares the civilian casualties in 1392 and in 1391

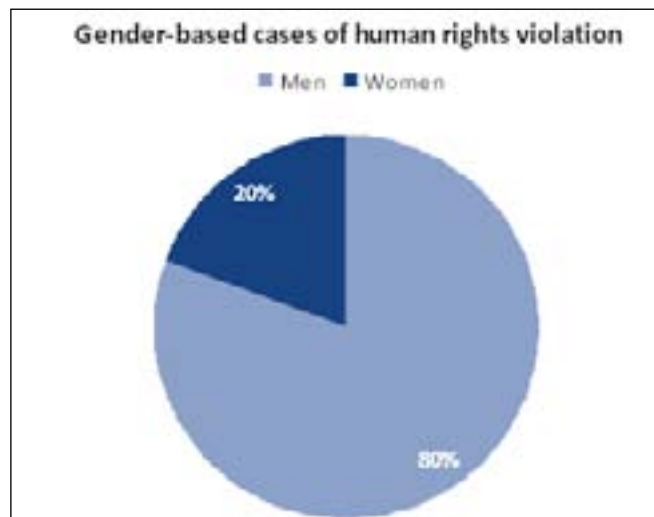


The AIHRC’s findings in 1392 on civilian casualties reveal that the pro-government forces are responsible for 5.1% of the casualties, the anti-government forces are responsible for 86% of the casualties, the Pakistani forces are responsible for 0.4% of the casualties and the unspecified forces are responsible for 8.5% of the casualties. When the figures are compared with the ones in 1391, it becomes clear that the AIHRC’s efforts in protecting the civilians amidst the domestic armed conflict have been fruitful; the rate of casualties caused by the government forces has decreased to 0.7%.

5,11 Cases of Human Rights Violation

In order to register their cases of human rights violation and receive legal advices a great number of people refer to the AIHRC as a national human rights institution trusted in the area of human rights protection. The AIHRC registered 3132 complaints in 1392. 1055 of the cases were identified as instances of human rights violation. 849 of

the victims were men and 206 of them were women. The graph below shows instances of human rights violation happened to both men and women.



Listed below are the rights that were violated in various areas of the country in 1392. They have been followed up by the AIHRC.

The right to life, the right human dignity, the right to freedom and security of person, the rights of the detainees, the right to due process, the right to marriage and making

family, the right to employment, the right to property, the right to adequate housing, the right to health, the right to education, the right to an adequate standard of living, the right to freedom of movement and the right to political participation and social, cultural and associational activities. Most of the violated rights constitute the ones to do with due process and few of them are the ones to do with political participation and social, cultural and syndicate activities. The graph below shows various cases of human rights violation:



documenting, introducing to health centers, meeting the government officials and meddling, the AIHRC's officials have effectively followed up 2116 of the cases (98%).

Out of the total cases of human rights violation, 334 were solved in 1392 as a result of the effective follow up and interference by the AIHRC's officials.

The graph below shows the comparative figures of human rights violation in 1392 and 1391.

5,12 Cases of Violence against Women

In 1392, the AIHRC registered 2159 cases of violence against women.

These cases included various forms of physical, sexual, economic, verbal and psychological violence. These cases that indicate 6611 types of violence have either been referred to the AIHRC by the complainants or have been registered by the monitors while monitoring the hospitals. Through taking legal measures, referring to the legal organs, availing legal assistances, docu-

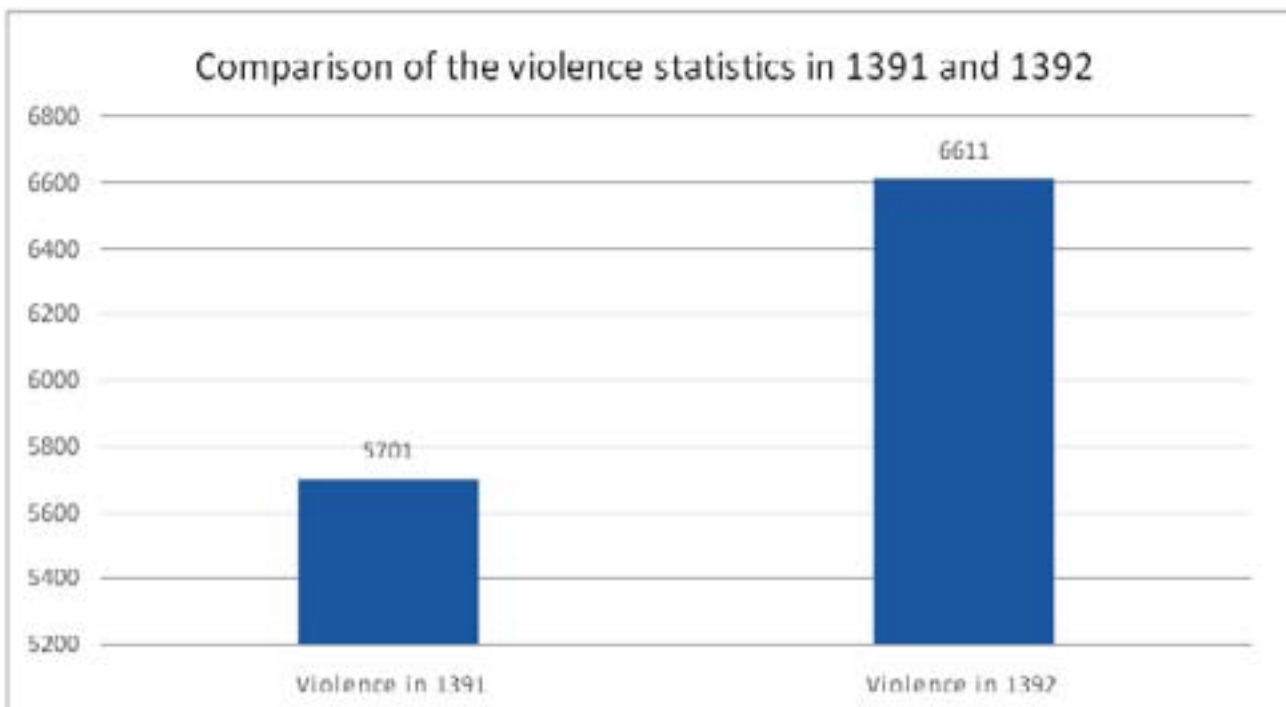
The 1392 statistics on violence, compared with the ones (5701 cases) from 1391, re-



veal an increase in the level of violence against women. The major reasons for the increase are said to be the weakness in the rule of law, the women’s lack of access to courts and fair justice or the widespread corruption in the judicial system.

The graph below shows the comparative statistics of violence occurred in two years.

The increase in the number of complaints represents the level of trust the people have in the AIHRC and its effective presence across the country. This is a significant achievement for the AIHRC. The number of cases solved has also been increased, indicating the enhancement in the capacity of the AIHRC in following up, documenting and solving cases of violence against women.



Conclusion:

The AIHRC's report in 1392, describes the most important activities and achievements of the AIHRC in 1392 which have not been obtained without experiencing hardship. Fighting off the difficulties and dealing with the challenges are valuable experiences that the AIHRC has acquired this year. Here is a list of challenges and experiences acquired during the last year.

The AIHRC had notable successes in connection with the promotion and strengthening of human rights in the country in 1392. These successes, however, have been accompanied by numerous challenges and problems, the most important of which has been insecurity in some parts of the country where AIHRC's access to carry out human rights activities has been restricted. Despite the tireless efforts of the police forces this year, many areas of the country have not been accessible to the AIHRC's officials, which have caused the AIHRC not to completely implement its action plan.

Other serious problems that affected the implementation of the activities in 1392 were the corruption prevalent in the government organs and organizations, the weakness in the rule of law and the government's ineffective practices to implement the law. The existence of a strong government is considered to be a prerequisite to human rights realization. Last year, the above mentioned problems not only hindered the AIHRC's activities, but sometime

also posed as threats to human rights protection. For instance, in some of the provinces of the country, where there were no court and attorneys' offices, the irresponsible armed elements and anti-government forces solved people's legal and criminal cases in a non-official manner. This created major obstacles for the implementation of AIHRC's human right activities, and preventing the AIHRC to protect the citizens' human rights in those areas.

Lack of financial support from the government is another challenge that will affect the AIHRC's human rights programs to be carried out in the future.

Existence of weakness in the local cultures as well as the lack of human rights culture in the society also poses challenges and prevent acceptance of the basics of human rights values. As a result, the human rights activities may not be that effective in some areas. At times, unaware individuals create impediments and disruption in the human rights programs.

Despite the volatile political situation prevalent in the country in 1392, the AIHRC offered extensive educational programs in order to enhance public awareness of human rights among Afghan citizens, especially the women and prevent political abuse of human rights by some political groups.

The landslide in Badakhshan Province was one of the tragic incidents that happened

this year, killing and injuring a large number of people. After expressing its condolences to the relatives of the victims, the AIHRC tried to avail the opportunity and help the people to get access to their basic human rights.

The AIHRC, this year by supporting and having the leadership of human rights movements in the country played a considerable role in achieving a justice-oriented society and established of peace and security in the country.

Despite the AIHRC's widespread and tireless efforts protecting and promoting human rights in the country in 1392, the following problems still continue to exist:

Gender-based discrimination, endemic violence against women and children, armed conflict across the country leading to increasing of civilian casualties, suicide attacks that cause death and injuries to innocent individuals, deprivation of the right to life and finally lack of access to basic rights including the rights to health, education and employment.

This situation has caused the AIHRC to outline its Action Plan for 1393 and implement it even more seriously than the past, while keeping the current human rights situation in the country in mind.

Undoubtedly, without the support of the partner organizations and institutions working for human rights, the AIHRC would have never been able to successfully implement its action plan last year. One of such institution was the Afghan police who made every effort to provide security for the AIHRC's officials.

The AIHRC is also grateful for:

- The Ministry of Women's Affairs for its cooperation and support of the AIHRC's programs
- The Ministry of Finance for its financial support of the AIHRC
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs for helping the AIHRC's officials to participate in the international seminars and conferences
- The civil society institutions for their support of the AIHRC in strengthening and promoting human rights objectives in the society

The AIHRC is also grateful to Canada, Denmark, Finland, Norway, New Zealand, Britain, Holland, Australia, Switzerland and the UNISEF for their overall support of the AIHRC in implementing its action plan and promoting human rights culture in the country.

AIHRC Financial Report for the Year 1392

The AIHRC total Core Budget was USD 11,994,915/- for the implementation of action plan for the Year 1392. The following table shows the summary of the financial report for the year 1392 that is prepared every four months by the finance department including the funds received and expenditures made in accordance with the objectives envisaged in the strategic Plan.

Table A

Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission Core Fund Financial Activities For the Period from Hamal 01 to Hoot 29, 1392							
Activity ID	Total Budget for Year 1392	EXPENDITURES REPORT			Total Expenditures for the Year 1392	Remaining Balance	
		Period 1	Period 2	Period 3			
		Hamal 01 to Saratani 31	Asad 01 to Aqrab 30	Qaws 01 to Hoot 29			
101	<i>Leadership</i>	1,070,134	152,705	235,329	321,876	709,910	360,224
102	<i>Education</i>	2,217,177	354,873	463,478	606,895	1,425,246	791,931
103	<i>Empowerment</i>	928,999	175,941	258,530	381,130	815,601	113,398
104	<i>Advocacy</i>	943,845	141,935	218,539	284,990	645,464	298,381
105	<i>Monitoring & Investigation</i>	1,703,703	160,097	249,209	320,926	730,232	973,471
106	<i>Management Cost</i>	4,132,597	1,001,554	1,313,369	1,500,128	3,815,051	317,546
107	<i>Governance cost</i>	408,291	82,191	322,441	257,315	661,947	(253,656)
108	<i>Construction New Building</i>	590,169	40,491	94,068	47,953	182,512	407,657
Total:		11,994,915	2,109,787	3,154,963	3,721,213	8,985,963	3,008,952

As mentioned in table A, AIHRC Utilized USD 2,109,787/- in first period which was 17.59 % of the total budget. In second period the Utilization of Budget is more than first period and AIHRC utilized USD 3,154,963/- which was 26.30% of the total budget. In the last period AIHRC utilized with amount of USD 3,721,213/- which was 31.02% of total budget.

Moreover, AIHRC utilized USD 8,985,963/- which was 74.91% of the total budgeted amount for the year 1392.

The bellow chart shows the percentage of expenditures that made for the Year 1392 based on the Strategic Goals (Leadership, Education, Empowerment, Advocacy and Monitoring) plus Management, Governance and Construction.

Chart of Expenses based on the AIHRC Goals for the Year 1392

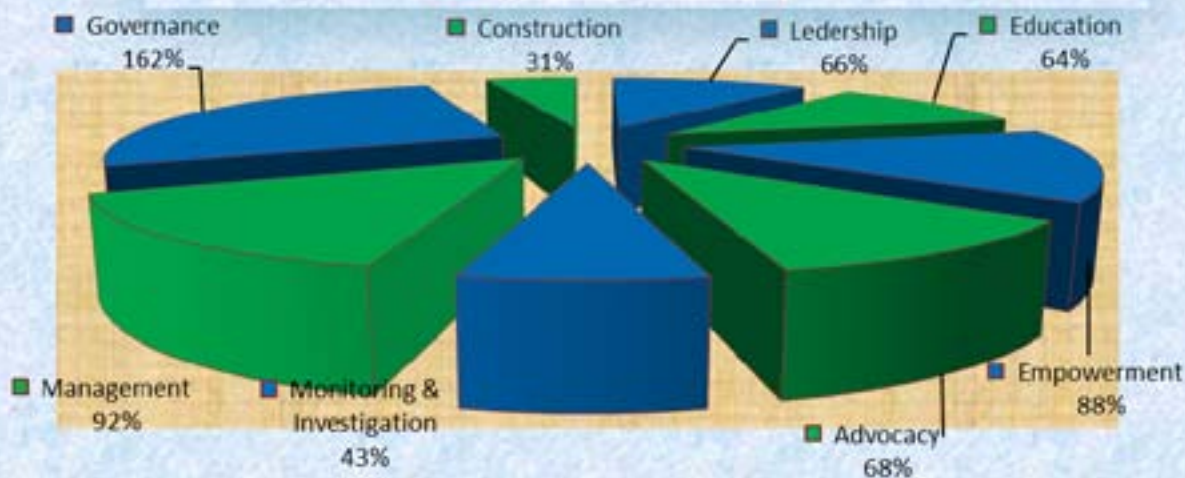


Table B shows the Funding Status of AIHRC's Core Action Plan for the year 1392. In the below mentioned table, Column of total Funds received for the year 1392 contains the Closing Balances carried forward from the year 1391.

Therefore, the remaining balance from the year 1391 was USD 4,141,509/- and AIHRC received an amount of USD 5,551,121/- from its reputed donors during the year 1392

Table B

Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission							
Core Donors Funding Status							
For the Period from Hamal 01 to Hoot 29, 1392							
Donors	Total Fund Available for the Year 1392	EXPENDITURES REPORT			Total Funds Contribution Against Expenditures	Remaining Balance	
		Period 1 Hamal 01 to Saratan 31	Period 2 Asad 01 to Aqrab 30	Period 3 Qaws 01 to Hoot 29			
401002 CANADA	2,527,216	876,543	996,854	653,819	2,527,216	-	
401003 Denmark	1,780,882	-	915,832	865,050	1,780,882	-	
401004 Finland	609,283	59,683	-	549,600	609,283	-	
401005 Norway	1,253,857	491,367	112,770	649,720	1,253,857	-	
401006 New-Zealand	414,882	327,659	87,223	-	414,882	-	
401007 United Kingdom	760,300	-	380,150	127,581	507,731	252,569	
401011 SDC- Switzerland	719,974	-	-	265,876	265,876	454,098	
401014 Netherland	1,624,690	352,989	662,134	609,567	1,624,690	-	
405000 AIHRC Income	1,546	1,546	-	-	1,546	-	
Total:	9,692,630	2,109,787	3,154,963	3,721,213	8,985,963	706,667	

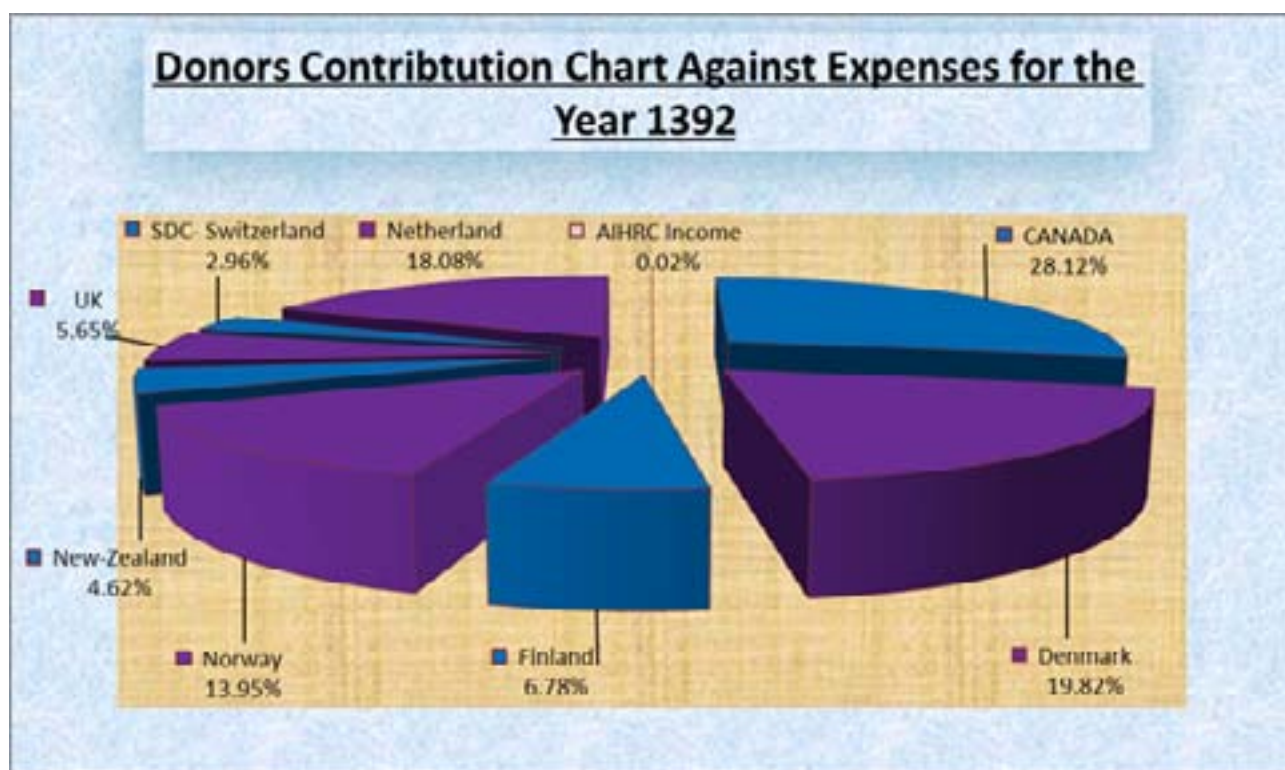
The fund provided by Canada was an amount of USD 2,527,216/- for the year 1392, which was 26.07 % of the total fund received for the year 1392. Furthermore, Denmark (18.37 %), Finland (6.29 %), Norway (12.94%), New Zealand (4.28%), United Kingdom (7.84%), SDC (7.43%) and Netherlands (16.76%) for the year 1392.

AIHRC has utilized the respected donor contributions for the implementation of planed activities for the year 1392 as below.

An amount of USD 2,527,216/- was utilized by AIHRC from CANADA Fund which was 28.12% of total contribution for the expenditures. Furthermore, fund contribution for expenditures, Denmark (19.82%), Finland (6.78%), Norway (13.95%), New Zealand (4.62%), United Kingdom (5.65%), SDC (2.96%) and Netherlands (18.08%) for the year 1392.

The above percentages are based on the total available fund for the year 1392, which also include the carried forward balances from the year 1391.

The bellow chart shows the percentage of Donors contribution that covered the expenditures for the Year 1392



AIHRC has received other donor’s contributions during the year 2013 (See Table C). Such Fund was utilized to achieve the objectives which has link to the main activities, but not a part of action plan’s budget. AIHRC treated such other grants as separate projects for the specific line item.

Furthermore, SCS-N already provided fund for “Capacity Building of Child Rights Unit of AIHRC” and “International Conference on Violence against Children Exploitation and

Abuse” in 2008. Therefore, AIHRC has no expense against remaining balance during the Year 2013 and will expense this amount in the year 2014.

UNICEF has provided fund for its two projects “Child Rights Field Monitoring” & “Border Based Child Rights Monitoring” for the year 2013.

Table C

Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission Other Donors Funding Status For the Period from March 20, 2013 to March 20, 2014						
Donor		Funds Received during Year 1391	Total Funds Contribution in Expenditures	Amount Refunded/Adjusted	Remaining Balance	VARIANCE %
402003	<i>SCS-N</i>	1,036	-	-	1,036	100%
402009	<i>UNICEF</i>	222,943	299,881		(76,938)	-35%
402014	<i>Open Society</i>	1,584		1,584	-	0%
402016	<i>German Embassy (Women Rights and Bonne Conference)</i>	-			-	
402019	<i>Canada, Denmark, SDC and German Embassy (Tokyo Conference)</i>	3,844		3,844	(0)	0%
Total:		229,407	299,881	5,428	(75,902)	-33%

Table D shows the Fund charged as Expenditures per-location & Activity wise during the Year 1392.

Table D

Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission
Expenditures Detail for All Offices & Activities
For the Period from Hamal 01 to Hoot 29, 1392

OFFICES	ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR 1392								TOTAL
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
	Leadership	Education	Empowerment	Advocacy	Monitoring & Investigation	Management	Governance	Construction	
1 Head Office	225,482	437,066	288,174	179,997	188,360	960,970	661,947	153,483	3,095,479
2 Kabul Regional Office	66,147	108,849	65,480	76,568	70,258	259,275			646,577
3 Mazari Regional Office	53,573	93,389	58,129	47,804	56,550	247,983			557,425
4 Herat Regional Office	56,711	113,767	69,667	53,422	68,797	277,374			639,739
5 Kandahar Regional Office	38,621	68,566	43,953	34,619	36,262	281,895		9,045	512,961
6 Jalalabad Regional Office	39,996	92,895	38,767	38,763	48,289	250,685		6,834	516,209
7 Gander Regional Office	42,957	93,342	43,245	42,793	54,337	287,551			564,225
8 Bamiyan Regional Office	33,179	92,296	36,012	31,092	43,055	253,210		4,150	494,993
9 Kunar Regional Office	43,858	94,967	49,652	41,209	47,878	308,449			586,014
10 Badakshan Provincial Office	22,507	39,631	22,828	19,059	22,431	148,595			275,050
11 Mazarinara Provincial Office	24,162	44,440	26,718	22,815	25,878	118,093			264,106
12 Daxkundi Provincial Office	22,862	52,165	27,996	20,547	30,390	139,877			294,257
13 Ghore Provincial Office	12,815	34,904	13,173	12,306	12,590	128,990		9,000	223,777
14 Helmand Provincial Office	13,241	32,603	11,545	11,388	12,310	89,431			170,517
15 Uruzgan Provincial Office	13,798	26,346	16,265	12,686	12,868	62,670			144,634
Total Expense	709,910	1,423,243	815,602	645,465	730,233	3,815,049	661,947	182,512	8,985,962