

# AFGHAN YOUTH VOICES 2025

**PUBLISHED BY:**  
AFGHAN YOUTH COALITION  
**PUBLICATION DATE:**  
FEBRUARY 16, 2026

**AYC**

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The views expressed in this publication reflect the perspectives of the individual contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position of Afghan Youth Coalition. Contributions were submitted voluntarily in response to an open call for youth reflections.

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# 1. OVERVIEW

Between September and October 2025, Afghan Youth Coalition launched an open digital call inviting Afghan youth to submit short written reflections about their generation, their responsibilities, and the future of Afghanistan.

Over the course of the initiative, 32 individual contributions were received and published.

Submissions were shared voluntarily through social media platforms and were formatted into standardized digital voice cards.

This initiative was designed as an open expression platform. It was not a survey, structured consultation, or research study.

# 2. PARTICIPATION SNAPSHOT

The 32 published contributions included:

- Submissions in Dari, Pashto, and English
- Contributions from youth inside Afghanistan and from the diaspora
- Both young women and young men
- Students and early-career professionals

Participation occurred over a limited time period and was based on voluntary self-selection. The initiative does not claim statistical representation of Afghan youth.

The following contributors participated voluntarily in Afghan Youth Voices 2025.



### 3. WHAT PARTICIPANTS SAID

Although submissions were independent and not guided by a questionnaire, several themes appeared repeatedly.

Education was the most frequently referenced topic. Many contributors described education as the primary path toward national development and long-term stability.

Responsibility of youth was another recurring theme. Several participants emphasized that young people should take active roles in improving their communities rather than waiting for change from others.

Resilience and perseverance appeared across many reflections. Contributors acknowledged challenges while expressing determination to remain hopeful.

Some submissions addressed equal opportunity, particularly the importance of ensuring access to education and participation for young women.

The reflections were diverse in tone and style, ranging from short motivational statements to longer personal messages.

### 4. NATURE AND LIMITATIONS

The Afghan Youth Voices initiative was a pilot digital engagement activity.

It relied on voluntary participation and did not use structured questionnaires or demographic data collection tools.

The contributions reflect personal views of individual participants and should not be interpreted as representative findings.

### 5. SELECTED REFLECTIONS

#### 1. S. Nasser Hossaini Student and Human Rights Activist Germany

- **Original Text (Dari)**

به دخترانی نگاه کنید که در سکوت شب با کتاب هایشان می جنگند، به پسرانی که در مهاجرت کار می کنند اما امیدشان را از دست نمی دهند، به هر جوانی که حتی وقتی همه چیز علیه اوست، هنوز می ایستد. اینها همان شعله هایی هستند که می توانند تاریکی را روشن کنند.

- **English Translation**

*“Look at the girls who continue studying in silence at night. Look at the boys who work in migration yet do not lose hope. Look at every young person who still stands, even when everything is against them. These are the sparks that can bring light to the darkness.”*

## **2. Dr. Sajidullah Afghanmal** **Writer and Social Commentator** **Afghanistan**

- **Original Text (Pashto)**

د افغانستان ځوانان نه يوازې د ټولني راتلونکي دي، بلکې د نن ورځې فعال او اغېزمن ځواک هم دي. ځوانان بايد په سياسي او ټولنيزو چارو کې ونډه واخلي، خپل نظر څرگند کړي او د خپل وطن د حقونو دفاع وکړي.

ځوانان کولی شي د پوهاوي له لارې بدلون رامنځته کړي، د خلکو ترمنځ يووالی پياوړی کړي او د پرمختګ لپاره هڅه وکړي. هغوی د ټولني د اصلاح، عدالت او روښانه راتلونکي لپاره مهم رول لري او بايد له خپل مسؤليت څخه غافل پاتې نه شي.

- **English Translation**

*“Afghan youth are not only the future of society, but also an active and influential force of today. Young people must participate in political and social affairs, express their views, and defend the rights of their country.*

*Through awareness and engagement, youth can create change, strengthen unity among people, and strive for progress.*

*They play a vital role in promoting reform, justice, and a brighter future, and they must not remain unaware of their responsibility.”*

## **3. Shukrya Zaryab** **Writer and Activist** **Afghanistan**

- **Original Text (English)**

*“Despite all the challenges and difficulties faced by the youth of Afghanistan, we continue to move forward with hope, strength, and unwavering determination. Especially Afghan girls, who despite facing inequality and numerous restrictions, keep striving with patience, resilience, and faith in the future to pursue education, growth, and to make their voices heard.*

*I believe that every small step we take toward learning, personal development, and serving others brings us closer to a brighter and more peaceful future for our country. Our resilience is our greatest strength, and together, we can build a hopeful, equal, and flourishing tomorrow for Afghanistan.”*

## **6. INSTITUTIONAL NOTE**

This pilot initiative demonstrated that young people are willing to participate in open digital engagement when provided with a visible and respectful platform.

The experience provides a foundation for future engagement models that may include clearer thematic focus, structured questions, and documented methodology.

## **7. CONCLUSION**

Afghan Youth Voices 2025 represents an initial step toward documenting youth reflections through open digital engagement. While limited in scope and not designed as a research study, the initiative demonstrates that young people are willing to share thoughtful perspectives when provided with a respectful and visible platform.

The experience offers a practical foundation for future engagement models that may include clearer thematic focus, structured submission formats, and documented methodology. This pilot reflects a starting point for more systematic documentation of youth perspectives in the future.

## **8. CITATION**

If referencing this publication, please cite as:

Afghan Youth Coalition (2025). Afghan Youth Voices 2025: A Pilot Digital Reflection Initiative.