

Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit (AREU) warmly welcomes its new Director "Dr. Orzala Ashraf Nemat."

Dr. Orzala Ashraf Nemat, an internationally known Afghan activist and scholar is an expert in political ethnography, holding a Ph.D. in Development Studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and MSc in Development Planning from the University College London (UCL). Dr. Nemat experienced how it is to be a war refugee for fourteen years in Pakistan. However, she chose to rise above the situation by putting the focus on developing her career, at the same time, she assisted and helped the marginalized members of the society through educational programs, building schools, protection of female victims of violence and peacebuilding for children. Dr. Nemat founded an organisation, led and worked with various grassroots, national and international organizations in over 17 years of her professional life. She served on various development organizations' governance boards and attended numerous international and national conferences representing voices from Afghanistan and the Afghan women. She was selected as a Young Global Leader at the World Forum in 2009, Yale Greenberg World Fellow in 2008 and is a recipient of the Isabel Ferror Award for Women's Education and the Amnesty International Award for Humanitarian Aid to Children and Women. Upon completion of her studies and after teaching international development courses at SOAS, Dr. Nemat returned to Kabul working as the president's advisor on sub-national governance.

She has this clear direction of AREU on her leadership,

"My vision for AREU is to be known as an independent, impartial and professional research institution in Afghanistan and the region which does evidence-based research, relevant to policy reform process through its dialogues, publications, and dissemination of information."

AREU is currently considered as a top ten think tanks of Central Asia. Dr. Nemat aims to take the organization to higher plains that would translate into making AREU to be recognized globally for its scholarly research work upholding a standard of excellence that is relevant to the policy reform process.

Together with the dedicated and professional team of scholars and professional researchers, she aims to bridge existing gaps that both the academic and policy research support each other.

About AREU:

The Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit (AREU) is an independent research organization based in Kabul. AREU's mission is to inform and influence policy and practice through conducting high-quality, policy-relevant research and actively disseminating the results, and to promote a culture of research and learning. To achieve its mission AREU engages with policymakers, civil society, researchers, and students to promote their use of AREU's research and its library, to strengthen their research capacity, and to create opportunities for analysis, reflection, and debate. AREU was established in 2002 by the assistance community working in Afghanistan.

For more information, please contact:

The Afghanistan Research and Evaluation Unit (AREU)

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