

Good evening

Hello to all the friends and professionals present

I am Fawzia Amini, the head of the Appeal court for Violence Against Women in Kabul Province. I would like to begin by thanking the IBA, the Government of the United Kingdom and the UKAWJA. They worked day and night to save us judges, women rights activists, lawyers and truly great people of our country. We were brought to this beautiful and safe country and we were called here from death and suffering, it is truly unforgettable.

I have told the story of my coming to the previous meetings and I want to tell you today about the pain and problems of the women and children of the country that have happened recently. Today, everyone knows that Afghanistan has become a secretary of terror and a place where human beings do not matter there. The Taliban do not allow women, especially the educated, to work at all. They are not allowed to travel, girls' schools have been closed again and the hopes of all young girls have been dashed. They do not have the hope of a prosperous life, they suffer and cry.

Their parents are also educated, but today they have no duty and have been fired from their jobs, especially female judges. They have often been forced to leave their homes. They have been wandering into relatives' houses for months. They have no clothes or food to eat. Their bank accounts have been frozen. Illegal house-to-house raids are ongoing. Women are killed in different ways. My friends say that in different parts of the city we see beheaded or headless bodies and we do not know who they are. Health services and other jobs are completely gone, especially in the provinces. Our judges are all in a state of panic. We hid and moved. Our clothes were so stingy and colourless that we could not recognize each other, and we only thought about saving our lives to see if I or my daughters would survive or not. We had lost everything.

The IBA transferred us really well from the provinces to Greece and after a temporary stay there we were transferred here. The transfer process was very difficult, but the result was excellent.