

This is the story of an Afghan mother, forced to leave behind her homeland and culture for the sake of her children's future. For thirty years, she has lived far from her country, enduring the pain of separation and the humiliation of being treated as an outsider in a foreign land.

With a trembling voice and tears in her eyes, she speaks of her deep longing to return to Afghanistan. But why can't she go back? Because schools in her homeland are closed to girls. She says, "I have two daughters. I cannot sacrifice their future. I am forced to stay here, in a place where I am humiliated, where they say, 'Afghani, go back to your country!'"

How can a mother, whose heart beats for her homeland, be made to choose between her children's future and her love for her country? How can anyone endure life in a place where their identity is used against them, where they are judged and demeaned every day simply for being who they are?

This is the plight of thousands of Afghans in exile—bearing not only the pain of separation from their homeland but also the crushing weight of constant discrimination. And yet, this mother stands strong. Why? Because she holds onto hope. Hope for a day when her country will once again be safe and free for her children.

Let us be the voice for this mother and countless others like her. Let us advocate for peace to return to Afghanistan, for schools to reopen, and for a future where no Afghan is forced to abandon their beloved homeland.

Home is where our hearts belong, but sometimes, the love for our children's future pulls us far away from it.