

Unknown friend,

I'm writing just to tell you how sad I am for Afghan women.

I'm a western girl living in a country where each woman keeps her own identity.

In Europe we've got the right to live an ordinary life, to study, to travelto choose.

And then we are not simply wives, mothers or sisters: we have the right to think freely and we play an active part in society. As a matter of fact, women have conquered their role and can show their face and their beauty as well as their intelligence.

I am so sorry that, in Afghanistan the most elementary rights are denied by an absurd play of power that has crashed women's personalities..

You are in the hands of ruthless, rude and cruel husbands who hold complete sway over you and who can decide on your future. I wonder what shape the future may have in your mind: you would like to study or to work like any other person but, at the moment, you are kept among the walls of your own houses and forced not to have dreams or ambitions.

The burqa covers your bodies and your faces as well as your lives but, in spite of this, I'm sure one day you'll manage to get rid of that heavy dress with the courage western women don't know and, probably, don't have.

I wish you'll discover what love, respect and freedom are like and you'll live a real life.

With love,

Elisa Capobianco III B/L