

Security - A Critical Question On The Worker's Mind

Comments taken from recent correspondence with various workers in country.

What do you do when your work is threatened by kidnappings and death threats?

"There have been many kidnapping attempts and death threats that are making us rethink our status - do we stay or move to a more secure location."

What do you do when you sense your being watched each day as you leave for work at the NGO?

"Only by changing our schedules each day can we reduce the probability of planned and timed attacks."

What do you do when your children need a regular schedule going to and from school?

"We have decided to home school our children to protect them from potential danger."

What do you do when your Afghan or Pakistani co-workers are kidnapped and put into forced religious indoctrination in the majority faith or killed for their involvement with foreign organizations?

"We lost yet another Afghan staff member this past month in a brutal attack. We are grieving for the men and women we admire and love who do not know our Hope."

Families are evaluating the security of their children and themselves.

"It is one thing to consider staying as single person or as a couple, it is a very different thing to think of what can happen to our children."

Organizations are reevaluating their responsibility to their employees.

"Security issues have caused us to move our administrative staff to a neighboring country. We believe we can operate with less exposure to our expat and national work staff by operating from outside the country."

Is there any other perspective regarding the impact of violence and extremism on the workers or on their efforts?

"Despite the seemingly bad news we are secretly rejoicing. The trend worldwide has been that when extremists exert themselves they unwittingly herald the end of their power. We note with joy the unexpected growth of the church in both Algeria and Yemen following a time of oppression. Could the spread of the Talibanization on our side of the border do the same? Twice in the last week we have heard public statements that alert us to the possibility of remarkable changes in the wind. Women who have witnessed the violent strong-arm tactics of the Islamists have been reported in the Newspapers as saying "If this is Islam, then I will become a Christian."

PAN NEWSLETTER

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Conference

July 27 & 28

Retreat Center in KY

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- PAN Conference Information

PAN Conference – Register Today at www.pashtuns.org

PAN this year will be joining with CCA (Concerned Christians for Afghanistan) in a week of focus on Afghanistan. In this time of uncertainty and security challenges in Afghanistan, you won't want to miss this update and look to the future. Connect with the website for more information www.pashtuns.org.

”Beauty for Ashes”

Isaiah 61:3

Dates and Times:

Monday 7/27 (arrive 12-4pm - check in time 4:00pm)

Wednesday 7/29 (check out time 11:00am)

To help reduce costs we limited the conference to two nights stay (therefore the Monday afternoon start). For those staying through the Concerned Christian for Afghanistan Conference please visit www.ccafghan.org

Location:

CONFIDENTIAL

For those needing a ride from and return to the airport, please note in your comments on the Registration Form

Costs:

(Including 2 nights lodging, All meals and snacks, and conference materials)

Occupants	Total Costs
1) Single room	\$270/person
2) Double room	\$220/person
3) Married room	\$200/person
4) Children over 10	\$100/person
5) Children under 10	Free

Early Registration (before 6/1/09) Deduct \$25/person

Schedule*

Monday:

12-4pm	Arrive and visit grounds
4:00	Registration and Check in
6:00	Dinner
7:30	Session 1
8:30	Networking

Tuesday:

7-7:30	Prayer
7:45	Breakfast
8:45	Devotional Message (field worker)
9:00	Session 2
10:30	Session 3
12:00	Lunch
1:30	Session 4
3:00	Free time and Networking
6:00	Dinner
7:30	Session 5
8:30	Film and Networking

Wednesday:

7-7:30	Prayer
7:45	Breakfast
8:45	Devotional Message (field worker)
9:00	Session 6
11:00am	Check Out time

* **Schedule** (subject to change) **Topics**

- Hear from Long Term and Short Term workers about the changes in the work and security issues affecting their work and movement within the countries of Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- Hear about Opportunities to Minister with those working among the Pashtuns.
- Hear How Your Church Can Catch and Maintain a Vision for Reaching an Unreached People Group.
- Network with those Organizations, Churches, and Individuals working directly in this Effort.