



NAME: Qandi Amaki

COUNTRY: Afghanistan

AGE: 40

BUSINESS: Balkh Women Craft Association

Bio information

Qandi Amaki is a tremendous PEACE THROUGH BUSINESS example of success and one of the Institute's first graduates. Owner of Balkh Women Craft Association, she is an entrepreneur who sells handmade artisan goods. Amaki is also the founder of the Balkh Women's Business Association, which unities more than 650 independent business owners who practice trades such as tailoring, carpet weaving, and crafting.

She is fulfilling her agreement to "pay it forward" by training more than 234 women to prepare business plans and start micro businesses. Amaki also opened a women's library which includes business-related books, introduced education and workshops resources to women business owners who would like to study abroad, has planned and organized a trip to India for 20 business women who will participate in promoting Afghan businesses, and has established a 20 shop Retail Market with the Government of Women's Affairs in Balkh Province.

Amaki recently gave birth to a child whom she and her husband named "Peace."

Business information

After graduating from PEACE THROUGH BUSINESS in 2007, Amaki expanded her own business by opening two more shops. She recently purchased six commercial sewing machines capable of running without electricity, which is suitable for Afghan working conditions since electricity is often times not reliable. This recent investment requires two employees per machine and extends her clothing line to include jackets and hats. Amaki is working on exporting her goods to the United States and has now personally developed 14 business plans for other companies in Afghanistan.