

No more war.
Peace now.
Barbara Reid

Dear Afghan People,
I'm German, and I like you to know that your lives matter to me and my friends! We want to assure you that the U.S. war in Afghanistan and our country's and other countries' governments' participation in that war in Afghanistan is UNACCEPTABLE to us and we want it TO END.
We know that your people suffer a lot. We are especially worried and concerned about the landmines on your territory that endlessly injure and kill innocent children, men and women.
However, we also like you to consider giving your Afghan women the human rights they deserve as much as the Afghan men. Men and women are equal.
We hope for peace and sovereignty for your beautiful country and your people. Please gain some comfort from this message.
Calling out for PEACE in Afghanistan!
Susanne Matz

Dear People of Afghanistan,
I am deeply ashamed of the murderous, heartless, imperialistic and destructive policies of my government. I passionately work for and wish for an end to the Afghanistan war, with its indiscriminate killing and genocidal use of poisonous weaponry, including depleted uranium. The US has no business making wars on innocent people in the interest of global power plays. The militaristic US has become the world's greatest bully and the world's worst villain and the world's greatest cause of human suffering. I am so sorry, and I will do what I can to end these devastating policies.
Sincerely,
Marilyn Hoff
New Mexico
USA

I am an 86 year old grandmother and I grieve over the killing of Afghan people in this long war. I hope my country will stop the war now and continue its relationship with Afghanistan through material aid, schools, roads and agriculture, etc. War is not the answer.
Ruth Upshall, Florida USA

You have endured so much, too much, and we are so terribly sorry. This was MUST end soon. We're doing everything we can on this end.....we are suffering for all of you. May 2011 be the end to the killing.....there is so much more to your lives. We send love, strength, and healing to you.
Nancy Farrell, Tacoma, WA

Dear Afghanistan,
My brothers & sisters in Veterans For Peace and I will be doing all we can to bring our war in your country to an end. Many have been arrested for chaining themselves to the White House fence. If our president calls for all of us to do the same, I will do so too.
Last year, I got a member of our House Armed Services Committee to acknowledge the existence of plans for a trans-Afghan pipeline, as noted by Deborah Dupre in Examiner.com. See her piece "DU "New Agent Orange Hidden Agenda."
That is probably the real reason we're using 100,000 US troops to "go after" the 80 or so Al Qaida actually left in your country. We've reached out to troops and their families from our most deployed Army division, having many of them agree that our troops shouldn't be there, doing the dirty work for BP & ExxonMobil.

See Nick Mottern's articles "Less Than Citizens (Part One) The People of Fort Drum" and "Killing & Dying in the New Great Game", in TRUTHOUT.

In these ways, we hope to expose the truth about this war, like Daniel Ellsberg did in the "Pentagon Papers" to help end public support for another war. When we've finally made them bring our troops home, we will push for the rebuilding of your country.

Roland Van Deusen

Dear people of Afghanistan,
I'm for ending our war in your country. May you have peace instead.

Mary Ellen McDonald, OP

Dear people of Afghanistan, I believe that I can safely say that a majority of Americans do not want to wage war against you. We want peace and we know that you are suffering terribly after so many years of war, death, poverty and illness. Please let us know what we can do to help, because we believe that this would make more sense than killing your people. You and your children deserve to have peace and there are many of us who want to help you. We hope that you too can look forward to a happier New Year!

Please respond.

Thank you!

Ilse Hadda

Dear Young People and all others in Afghanistan,

I wish to send you my heartfelt support for your efforts to end the terrible destruction that my country has brought on your country for these many years. I am not good with cell phones so I am not going to call. I hope that this message will get to you promptly. I will go to the White House in Washington on January 15, 2011, to again ask for an end to the terrorism of war in your country.

I know that the people of Afghanistan cannot bring their country together unless they are left in peace. Occupation is very far from liberation. I am wishing you great success in the new year. I promise to do all that I can from where I am to end war we are waging in your country. Although we claim to be a democracy, sadly the United States citizens are often powerless to influence our leaders. We also have problems with corruption like you do. But we must work for peace even against the great power of greed and hypocrisy.

With all best wishes for a coming year of peace.

Sincerely,

Dorie Southern

People of Afghanistan,

Please know that many Americans find the war in your country unacceptable. We have protested and complained to our government to no avail. Our government has become a Corporatist / Fascist government that represents big corporations and does not care what our people think.

More Americans marched in protest against the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan before they started than marched against Viet Nam the entire duration of that war. Our government ignores the people and corporations control our news media. Corporations have bought our politicians and corporations control our media. Our government can be defined as Corporatism, NOT democracy.

Corporatism is Fascism.

Fascism, is a radical and authoritarian nationalist political ideology. Fascists seek to organize a nation according to corporatist perspectives, values, and systems, including the political system and the economy. Scholars generally consider fascism to be on the far right of the conventional left-right political spectrum. Fascists believe that a nation is an organic community that requires strong

leadership, singular collective identity, and the will and ability to commit violence and wage war in order to keep the nation strong. They claim that culture is created by the collective national society and its state, that cultural ideas are what give individuals identity, and thus they reject individualism. Viewing the nation as an integrated collective community, they see pluralism as a dysfunctional aspect of society, and justify a totalitarian state as a means to represent the nation in its entirety. Fascists reject and resist the autonomy of cultural or ethnic groups who are not considered part of the fascists' nation and who refuse to assimilate or are unable to be assimilated. They consider attempts to create such autonomy as an affront and a threat to the nation. Fascist governments forbid and suppress opposition to the fascist state and the fascist movement. They identify violence and war as actions that create national regeneration, spirit and vitality.

Source: <http://www.wordweboonline.com/search.pl?ww=5&w=facist>

We are powerless to influence our own government today, they only do what benefits the corporations. Individuals are punished and treated with suspicion by our government's officials if we speak out against government policies. Some have been jailed for speaking out.

I wish we could promise you we would stop the war, we will TRY to stop the war. The people do not believe the stated purposes of the war and realize that we cannot change your government into a democracy as America is no longer a democracy itself.

We are sorry when we hear about the death and destruction in your country. We apologize for the damages being done in our name. We know that our government should be helping you build roads and schools but the money for these projects keeps being stolen by crooked politicians and corrupt military and officials.

We hope to get our troops out soon and hope this is a better year for your country and your families.

Please don't hate our people, we are much like you, we are powerless against the corporations.

Your friend,

John Coleman

I do believe, as do MANY others, that there is a peaceful way to live together. I know more people want to create it than clearly want war. Creativity wins over destruction. I care about you.

Marla O'Connell

"Nonviolence is the weapon of the strong." Gandhi

"Sharing our prosperity is the best weapon against terrorism." Desmond Tutu

Dear people,

I am so glad you have an organisation to work for peace within your country! I join protests here in Munich, Germany and support anti-militaristic groups and information centers, sign petitions to the German and U.S. politicians and march (or dance) in demonstrations. But it all seems so far away, and so ineffective, because the wars go on. I hope you feel in some way our support. But I am convinced that real change will come from within.

When I was a little girl, I saw burning planes falling from the sky in Honolulu, Hawaii. Since then I have not seen anything like war, and I have lived a happy life with children and grandchildren and music and garden and teaching dance. Everybody could live like that. There is no good reason for war. There is no good war.

And there are a lot of bad reasons! In my political group, ATTAC (this name may sound aggressive to you! It is an abbreviation of a French title which means: Association for taxing financial transactions for the benefit of the citizens) , we try to educate people about the economic basis of war and poverty and injustice. That is a long ways away from protecting you from the war and destruction you are experiencing in Afghanistan. I hope it helps in some small way!

I greet you with the profound wish, that you may be freed from "our" aggression (whatever else it calls itself) and strong to build your own country in your own way. I think cooperation is the only way to a peaceful and good life. May it abound in your activity!

with sorrow, love and hope,

Sue Duerr

We U.S. veterans know the "bought and paid for" U.S. government is after Afghani resources on behalf of their corporate clients, and are doing everything we can to stop this madness.
Congratulation for your courageous stand on behalf of the Afghani people!
John Niles, U.S.M.C., 1959-1964

Dear Afghan friends,

As the New Year starts, we join hands with you. We shall do everything we can this year to learn how to reverse the American war-approach to your country. This terrible and misguided policy is all the more painful to us in that we are right now in Vietnam, in Ho Chi Minh City, and we just saw the history of horror and terror of the American aggression on Vietnam 40-50 years ago. In peace,

Henry and Barbara Pillsbury

Dear People of Afghanistan:

We write with hopeful hearts that the killing will stop in your country that the American forces have so violently attacked for so long. We Americans oppose strongly this invasion of your country, and millions of us have demonstrated our opposition by standing in the streets to protest it.

We tell our government to remove our young men and women in uniform from your streets, and to stop the killing of your precious people. We have great hope they will begin to listen to our pleas.

Meanwhile we continue to protest, and to pray for the people of Afghanistan to have peace and self-determination, and to be blessed with good fortune. May God in her mercy watch over you and protect you from those who would harm you.

In peace,

Thomas and Anne Abowd

Toledo, Ohio

I am an American citizen who wants this war/occupation to end. Your people are as important to the world and to God as mine.

I am doing what I can to end the conflict, and hope this will happen in the coming year. Please know I pray for you and your families every day, and for peace.

Marliss Rogers

As an American and veteran of the Vietnam war, I support your efforts to end war and bring about peace. Your country deserves like all countries to live with peace and prosperity without the threat of violence or abuse.

My best wishes to you,

Webb Nichols

We at Theater Three are constantly working to end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and to prevent the spread of violence and to ameliorate the grief of these wars.

We send our warm greetings to our Afghan brothers and sisters and our wishes for a New Year of peace in your nation and ours, at very long last. We won't stop working for peace until peace has come.

Karen Malpede & George Bartenieff

Theater Three Collaborative, Inc.

<http://www.theaterthreecollaborative.org>

Dear Friends in Afghanistan,

I am praying and working for the peace that you need so badly in your land. I know that war is not the answer. We need to lay down our arms and pay attention to the real needs of the people - food, clothing, shelter, education, healthcare, etc. I pray that 2011 will see a new resolve from people around the world to work harder for peace for all peoples.

Sister Jackie Doepker

Sisters of St. Francis

Tiffin, Ohio

www.tiffinfranciscans.org

STOP THE KILLING IN AFGHANISTAN - a peace proponent in Florida, U.S.A

Nancy Richards

Sending all of you hope and support for a coming year of Peace in Afghanistan from the Cape Cod Branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. This organization has been working for world-wide peace and freedom since its inception in 1915 opposing World War I. We support your non-violent movement for an end to the war in Afghanistan and aid to your people to prevail and rebuild.

Lynn Hiller for Cape Cod WILPF

Around the world people want peace. The governments want power and control. As Noam Chomsky said recently, "Governments do not care about people, the goal of government is to protect their policies." So when we in the United States hear that the government is fighting for National Security, know that they do not mean the people. We, the people must rely on our selves. And join with others around the world in support.

TZ

I am a member of VFR and support their aims and objectives. The war in Afghanistan has been counterproductive all the way, from its inception.

Stop the war now.

Arthur Johnson

As a member of the Board of Directors of Brooklyn For Peace I assure all our friends, comrades and neighbors in Afghanistan that the 4,000 members of our organization are dedicated to bringing into being peaceful and respectful relations between our people's. At the beginning of a new decade, we will celebrate the cultural differences within our nations and between our nations. We will continue our common determination to help humanity evolve towards a recognition of our individuality and at the same time our interdependence, so that we preserve our home, planet earth, for our great grandchildren.

I send my personal greetings and those of my family, friends and colleagues.

Susan Metz

Prospect Heights, Brooklyn, New York

War is totally unacceptable in the modern age. Instead of bombs we need to provide health care, progress, infrastructure, schools, training, culture, information, technology.

Bombs destroy lives and the environment. We cannot allow this to happen any longer under no circumstances. I sympathize with the Afghan people. I am so sorry!

I have always been against this war, never saw the slightest good in it, in the contrary saw useless waste and destruction, breeding of new generations of terrorists because of despair...

Those are the fruits of war: war destroys valuable resources and with it the livelihood of generations to come. This war is also destructive for America's youth and economy.

Marianne A. Kinzer

Sending a message of hope for peace from America.

Diane Timko

It is such a joy to see a recent group photo of you, growing taller. The last time we saw your group photo was in November, 2009, when you handed U.S. Ambassador Karl Eikenberry an Afghan Youth Peace Vigil photo with peace message "Reconciliation of Civil Hearts."

It pains us that the war in Afghanistan continues into the 10th year. Casualties of war are not limited to adults. Innocence of childhood is stolen by anxiety, pain, violence and destitution. It happened to you, and also happens to children like the 12-year-old Isaac Eisch whose father was deployed to Afghanistan. Last September when his father was ready to head back to Afghanistan, Isaac asked him, "Why can't we just, like, end the war?" (Reported in today's New York Times)

We admire you for your courage and your persistent actions for building peace, especially at such a young age. We are continuing our weekly peace vigils into the 9th year to encourage more people to join the peace movement to end the war. Enclosed are two flyers "Afghan Youth Peace Vigils" (11/28/09) and "Let Peace Begin with Me" (12/26/10), which we made to hand out at our peace vigils.

Thanks to Kathy Kelly, Mike Ferner, and other peace activists for building bridges of peace between the Afghanistan people and us. Your journey in Afghanistan is the most precious gift to all of us.

Have a healthy and productive New Year! Let us continue working together to make the world more peaceful and just in the New Year!

Peace,

Nancy Tsou

Coordinator of the Rockland Coalition for Peace and Justice

www.rocklandaction.org

Dear Afghan people,

My main wish for this new year is that the US government will stop the wars he is in. That he will let your people take their destiny in hand without interfering. I want to let you know that the U.S. government's war is unacceptable to me and that I am trying to persuade people of my country to end it. I wish you peace.

Yves Limalair

what am I supposed to do tonight? I want to join the event.

Elaine Brower

Good morning,

Thank you for your efforts. There are many in the NATO nations trying to stop the war machine. You have allies.

Peace to you all, to us all.

Floyd Rudmin

Kingston, Ontario, Canada

Thank you for your good work for peace.

Please know that my family and friends have our hearts and hopes with you -- and are working to change US policies.

A Happier New Year!

Mary MacArthur
West Hurley, NY, USA

Dear Peacemakers: Our city, Corvallis, Oregon, USA, population 54,000, strongly opposes continuation of the war in Afghanistan. Polls show that more than 60% of our people want the war stopped now. A letter was published in this mornings paper from one of our most respected medical doctors, David Grube, who strongly opposes the war. The longest continuous daily vigil in the USA against the war takes place in Corvallis.

Robert L. Stebbins, member, Veterans for Peace.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me. Then let it spread to you. Then let it spread to the people of Afghanistan.

To an average 7-year old, there is nothing but war that is in their life.

Stop the war. Bring them home.

Sincerely,

Laura Fausone

Vice President

The Peace Coalition of Brevard

Dear Afghan people, I promise to concentrate my activism to ending the US occupation in Afghanistan and turn our countries efforts to rebuilding your infrastructures and schools. We here in the United States are saddened by the impact of our military on your country and it's people. Know that the American people do not approve of our military aggression in your country.

Sincerely,

Ginger Gouviea

Waldport, Oregon, USA

Stop this war! It was a bad idea ten years ago. It's a worse idea now.

Judith Pomeroy

sent you my skype id and tried to add my info to the google...

Ymani Simmons

We are working to stop these senseless wars.

Barbara Greenhut

I am so sorry for what my country has done to your country.

Many Americans are doing what we can to END THE WAR.

Let us all hope that this will be accomplished very soon.

If only we had sent teachers and doctors to help Afghanistan instead of soldiers and weapons!

When will the peoples of the world recognize that War is Not The Solution?

Let us hope this happens in our lifetime, so there can be hope for a better future for all our children and grandchildren.

Cynthia Howard AIA,

Architect & Preservation Planner

Biddeford Pool USA

Aother American against the war.
You're in my prayers.

Becca Books

The families in the US want the same things that the families in Iraq, Iran or Afganistan want - PEACE. What is the value obtained from all the fighting? It causes untold human casualties and hardships, destroys homes and buildings that have taken years to build and diverts resources from humanitarian uses.

All of us are tired of war.

Peace is a lot more fun!

Bob Donaldson

Dear Afghani people

We are greatly saddened and enraged by our governments ongoing war and occupation of your country. We will continue to work for an end to the war and for reparations for the terrible harm we have brought to you in this new year.

Sincerely,

Alice Sturm Sutter

DEar Friends and Powers that be:

Please end the war in Afghanistan. It is draining our blood and our money and making enemies in the countries that are involved. Stopping the war is the only answer.

Isabel Denham, Yarmouth, Maine

Dear Afghan People,

Although I do not understand very well the circumstances and the vested interests that keep you under the U.S. government's intervention, I as a simple human being reaching to a whole other world of human beings care for you, I do care for human rights, and I expect that whoever have the power to withdraw U.S.'s troops and armament from your soil, that whoever once had the power to intervene in your lives and soil your houses and linen and clothing, to bereave you of your loved ones, and provoke your righteous outrage, that that devious and evil forces now go backward and be neutralized by the caring and the love of all those of us who seemingly claim in a desert for the respect of your human, civil and political rights. I hope that the self-righteous ones retire from your territories, that you be freed of all oppresion and that the only God that unites shines upon your homes forever.

Lovingly, Marisol

My family never agreed with America's war in Afghanistan or any war for that matter. We are doing everything we can to support the end of this war as well as *all* wars.

We have made sure that our teenage sons know the truth about war so they cannot be recruited for illegal wars.

We are teaching PEACE to our students.

I apologize for my country.

May 2011 see the end of this war!

With all sincerity,

Rebecca Limpalair

I support your call for peace and do not support US led war in your country and the persecution of your people.

Joan Macdonald

It's time to stop this mindless war.
Thadeus Dziekonski, Hamburg, NY.

You are my brother and my sister, we are together walking this planet, lets extend a hand to each other, put down our weapons and live with peace, in peace.
I LOVE YOU!
Mimi Herden

My heart breaks every time I hear of deaths in Afghanastan, both US soldiers and Afghans. It is not worth the violence and loss of life. We must learn to honor differences and all human life; we must listen to one another and create, as Jeremy Rifkin says, and empathic civilization. Education is the key. Learning from one another can open the doors to peace. Please end this war.; bring all US troops home. We need a sustainable planet, free from war and greed that tries to learn from one another. We need leadership that is willing to take the hard stance of NO to war!
Sue Schreiber, OP
Detroit, Michigan
USA

We, American women, pray for peace and an end to all war. We beg that not another mother's son or daughter may die, we pray with you today, God grant you strength and courage. Blessings, DO
Donna Olson

Hi Everyone,
I would like to tell the youth of Afghanistan that you are not forgotten here in Canada and we pray for you regularly.
You are inspiring and courageous and God has a miraculous plan for your lives.
Praying for His blessing upon you in the New Year,
Theresa Ommert & family

Peace,
Vicki Impoco
Satellite Beach Florida United States

Hi Everyone,
I hope that the war will end soon. The war is illegal and immoral.
I hope that all Afghans, all Americans, and all people will have a happy and peaceful New Year.
Peace,
Bob Marcus
[Peace and Justice Online](http://peaceandjusticeonline.org)
peaceandjusticeonline.org

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we would stop the war in Afghanistan. The money and energy spent of killing people could be spent to make the people of that country safer, healthier, better educated and housed.

Why can't we stop this war? There has to be a better way than the same old method of having a war.

Jonelle Preisser

We are joining with many others in opposing the invasion and ongoing occupation of Afghanistan. We are sorry for the terrible suffering we have caused the people in this illegal and immoral occupation. We are trying to get the U.S. to get its troops out of the country and getting in those who without arms will be helping the people with education, health and other basic necessities. Thank you.

Don Timmerman

Roberta Thurstin

1120 N 21

Milwaukee WI 53233

in the coming year. And we hope our government will pull out our troops and send in aid, especially for education.

I and my friends and family will continue to work for peace in your country and every country.

Sincerely,

Laura Cartwright Hardy

Little Rock, Arkansas, U.S.A.

Lets stop the ruthless war in Afghanistan. Route to peace is not war but dialogue, understanding and accommodation.

Iqbal Chaudhry

Dear Afghan Youth,

We people of the world are deeply saddened by your suffering and a war which surely must end.

My son is a U.S. Marine recently returned from duty in Helmand Province. We pray for your survival.

Sincerely,

Richard Treptow

Stop the war, stop the killing, put down your sword...

Peace & all good...

Tim Hall

At the end of World War I an armistice (truce) was called and soldiers not more than a 100 yards from each other laid down their weapons and the silence on the battlefield was "the voice of God" speaking to mankind. In 2011 on the 11th hour of the 11th day on the 11th month bells will ring out across the world for remembrance of all who have suffered from war and for hope that the world will find it's way out of this killing mindset that has plagued us for far too long. Join us by ringing bells and remembering on November 11th, o 11/11/11 at 11:00am. Peace out,

Dave Logsdon

Veterans for Peace, Minneapolis

The war in Afghanistan is insanity. We should withdraw all foreign troops now and take half the sum we spend on warfare and use it for health, education, food, housing, and infrastructure, whatever Afghanistan needs to become a thriving, peaceful nation.

Beverly Elkan

Dear People of Afghanistan -

I just want to let you know that there are many people in the United States who want our war against you to end - people who never wanted it to start in the first place. War is never a long-term solution to a problem and, as far as I can see, there never was a problem. The people of Afghanistan were not responsible for flying planes into the World Trade Center on Sept. 11th. We want nothing but peace and happiness for you. We are ashamed of our government - under both Bush and Obama. We apologize for them.

Peace,

Susan Lamont

Santa Rosa, California

Salam, my brothers and sisters.

I send you love and wish for peace in Afghanistan - S A L A M!

Love from London, England

Nathalie de Broglio

Dear Afghanistan,

The American Government does not speak for or represent all Americans.

I denounce this war which has blown your country apart.

I pray for the war's end, and for your people to find peace, prosperity and joy as the land heals and flourishes.

Blessings to you all.

JoAnne

My dear Brothers and Sisters,

Please believe that many of we Americans do not want the war to continue and we will constantly pray for peace!

Holder, Sister CarolAnn

Thank you for your video. We wish the rulers of America and all those who believe in violence, could hear and heed your words of peace and understanding. May 2011 be the year when love lifts kites and hearts around the world and opens eyes and hearts in the seats of power.

Allah be with you always,

Paul and Katja Rehm

To 'Dear Afghanistan'..... and Youth Peace Volunteers;

I stand with you to resist this war. It is unacceptable to you and I am working to end it.

Your lives and your families lives matter as much as mine and my family!

I am joining in with a massive refusal to accept this war any longer, and want the troops to leave and let you live your own lives.

Elizabeth Mitchell

Canada.

Please seek an immediate withdrawal of all forces, including NATO forces, from Afghanistan. Create a Marshall-type plan for the country instead. We will have an ally forever!

Linda Hale

Glen Ellen, CA 95442

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Afghanistan:

I am doing everything in my power to end the U.S led war and occupation of your country. Peace and mutual aid is the only answer to the problems that face human kind not the death and destruction that is presently being rained upon your land.

Sincerely,

Linda Ray

I sincerely hope and wish to see that some positive peace progress is made in the new year with the war in Afghanistan. Unfortunately we are all equally as powerless against our government's choices. The current level of democracy and freedom among our own society is despicable, I don't understand why we're parading around like the flagships of such words when hypocrisy and the defense of hypocrisy are our governments' most exercised abilities.

On the good side, hope hasn't been abandoned and there are still a good few fighting for a stop to all the seemingly endless wrong in the world. All the best and keep up the peace process!

Max Munsie

I am against war ! My family and friends are against war ! We want it to end in Afghanistan and all over the world. Killing and wounding is wrong. I want anyone who reads this to know that I shall do everything in my power to end what is happening in your country.

Kowalski Barbara

Dear people of Aghanistan, I am so sorry for the killing that has happened with my tax money and by the hands of my countries soldiers. I do not believe in war or that violence can solve anything at all. I want to help but I am so sorry that the things I have done did not end this war. I teach people non violence skills and I work for peace as an educator. I pray for you and for peace with every breath I take, and I want you to know even though you do not see me, there are millions of Americans like me, who pray for your safety, health, and recovery from this war and work every day to try to get people to understand we must end war and end the agony and pain of war and violence for children and families. It is nothing compared to what you are doing by reaching out despite all the violence and pain around you, YOU are an inspiration.

I want global nuclear disarmament so there would be resources to share, all the money that goes into nuclear weapons could go to meeting human needs the world around, and the world would learn we do not need weapons or violence, violence begets violence, love begets love. What a victory it will be for us when the war in Afghanistan ends and we can learn more about the tools of satyagraha (nonviolence) together, from each other.

I hope I can come to Afghanistan someday and somehow make amends and give you a hug and my apologies and cry with you in person. I am so sorry, a violent world like you have there to live in is not at all the world I want you or anyone to have. Thank you for all you are doing to create a better life in Afghanistan, anyway you can, and please know I am thinking and praying and acting as best as I can here to create an end to this and all war.

Love,

Linda M. Richards

May 2011 be a year in which you have not occupying forces in your country and in which you have the freedom to formulate your own government and society in ways that are true to your heritage and history.

In peace and solidarity,
Thalia Syracopoulos
Seattle, WA

End the occupation of Afghanistan and bring the troops home now.
I am a Realist. I believe what is real. I do not subjugate my belief or my behavior to the imaginary
decrees of imaginary beings.
Bob Alft

Dear Afghanistan,
It is a national travesty that America has so little regard for what they call collateral damage in the
imperialist war adventures we are currently involved with in Afghanistan. It sickens so many of us
that our government is wasting money, lives, and what may have been known as prestige -on wars in
our name. May our Creator watch over you as much as all of us on the planet. We pray for peace
and forgiveness in the coming year 2011, and pledge to do everything we can to persuade the war
powers to stop the violence. We are deeply sorry for all the harm that has come to the innocent
people of earth who's lives have been disrupted or shattered by our criminally motivated war making.
Sincerely,
David Daniels

Dear Afghanistan
My country has been at war with your country for ten years. This war is senseless, and has created
only casualties and suffering. I think the only solution is for our troops to leave your country as soon
as possible, and for us only to enter again with peace and cooperation and understanding in order to
help the people that have suffered.
I am ashamed of the way my country has behaved.
Karolina

Dear Afghanistan,
This year, I hope that the violence in your country can come to an end. I hope that the United States
will stop fighting with guns and begin to fight for something new: for poverty relief and education and
understanding. Afghanistan, I'll be praying for you this new year.
May God bless you and keep you safe,
Lucy Hackett
Cincinnati, OH
United States of America

Dear Afghani people,
This day and every day I wish that my government would end the violence and suffering our wars
bring to you and other people in distant lands. May the New Year bring peace to all. **Mattie Rudinow**
I resolve to work toward more peace in my life and to bring peace and justice to the people of
Afghanistan.
KS
traveling in Florida, USA

Dear Hakim, the Afghan Youth Peace Volunteers, Kathy Kelly, Mike Ferner, Ann Wright, and all my
friends in Afghanistan,

Although it was very difficult to hear you on the phone just now, we DID make a connection and I know that you heard my message of love and support. Peace activists in the U.S. are trying very hard to stop the war in your country, and connecting with people like you gives us hope. May the new year bring us a new beginning of love, peace and friendship.

Your friend in peace,

Leah Bolger

National Vice-President, Veterans For Peace

Organized locally

Recognized nationally.

Exposing the true costs of war since 1985.

www.veteransforpeace.org

Dear Afghanistan Friends,

We support your efforts and your strong desire to end the foreign military actions and occupation in your country. We hope that before long all countries will work together to meet Afghanistan's true needs : good water, schools, good roads, and wider opportunities for all the people - and freedom from a corrupt government.

Greg Mortenson (East Asian Institute) should provide an example of how to reach these goals.

Sincerely,

Sam and Ruth Neff

I will be working with our local peace group to plan a visit to our congressman and taking him the book STONES INTO SCHOOLS. We will ask him to end the military action and use some

of the money spent on war to enable the Afghan people to build schools and health clinics

Peace in the New Year

E Cassidy

In behalf of Peaceable Assembly in Nashville, Tennessee, USA , I want to express our support for the withdrawal of all U.S. and other foreign military forces from Afghanistan, for negotiations among all Afghan groups and parties for a peaceful resolution of all political and social issues, and for full economic reparations to Afghanistan from the NATO countries for all damage done to Afghans during this war. Fraternally,

Karl Meyer

Dear Afghanistan,

It is time for peace. We can create a peaceful world if we work hard and truly desire peace.

I hope that the war in Afghanistan will end and that peace will come.

Sincerely,

Bruce Magnuson

Minneapolis, Minnesota

USA

hello--

i'm sending an email b/c Shane Claibourne suggested I do so.

I pray you have a blessed New Year--we have about 4 more hours on the East coast of the US before the New Year officially begins.

“Over the margins of life comes a whisper, a faint call, a premonition of richer living which we know we are passing by. We have hints that there is a way of life vastly richer and deeper than all this hurried

existence, a life of unhurried serenity and peace and power. If only we could slip over into that Center!
If only we could find the Silence which is the source of sound!"

~ Thomas Kelly

"If you are seeking after God,

You may be sure of this:

God is seeking after you more."

~ John of the Cross

"Being unable to cure death, wretchedness and ignorance, men have decided, in order to be happy, not to think about such things... Despite these afflictions man wants to be happy, only wants to be happy, and cannot help wanting to be happy. But how shall he go about it? The best thing would be to make himself immortal, but as he cannot do that, he has decided to stop himself thinking about it."

~ Pascal Pensees #133-134

God bless you

Doug McFall

I am thinking of you and wondering what you are doing right now. Wishing you peace and wishing a joy to manifest. Peace to you in Afghanistan and always. Loving you. We are all one in Christ. You are my family. Blessings for a year of peace. Peace peace peace and joy much muc much true joy. Always hugs kisses. Peace.

Tarn eyl :)

Dear people, especially the youth of Afghanistan, we want you to know that we stand with you and support you in your efforts to stop war inside your country.

As Americans, as members of Veterans for Peace, we deplore what our military has done to your country and many of its people, especially the women and children.

We have tried and will continue to demand that our elected representatives end the violence, including drone strikes and midnight raids into people's homes. Over 60% of U.S. citizens say, in polls, that the US should leave Afghanistan. We agree, but we also believe that our country (government) must provide reparations as well as food, health care, and developmental assistance to help rebuild. "Food not bombs, books not bombs, and health care not drone missile strikes" is what we seek.

It is our wish, our hope, that in this new year, 2011, our military and our president and our Congress, will re-think their positions which mean continued violence, destruction and war. Afghan Youth Peace Volunteers do not be discouraged as there are more and more Americans who see the folly of this conflict and the immoral actions of our government.

We also thank Kathy Kelly [begin_of_the_skype_highlighting](#) [end_of_the_skype_highlighting](#) and Mike Ferner of Veterans for Peace for their efforts as well.

They say "war is not the answer," and we totally agree. Be assured that we and other members of New Hampshire Veterans for Peace are speaking out and working hard to end this war and all war. Thank you for speaking out and for acting as true peacemakers. Justice is on your side and one day, soon we hope, you and your supporters will prevail. Have courage. Be strong. As Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "the moral arc of the universe is long, but it bends toward justice."

Will & Wendy Thomas

New Hampshire (USA) Veterans for Peace

Auburn, NH

I add my voice to that of others who understand that continuing the war in Afghanistan is a tragedy for the people of that country and for the people of the United States because it diverts our treasure and our attention from solving problems of the environment and the economy.

L.J.

End this War
Elliot Markson

This is the longest war we've been in and there's no end in sight.
Unless we just end it.
Give the Afghan people the economic and physical support they need and withdraw our troops.
Blessings on us all.
Lilith Rogers

Please, end the war now. War is not and has never been the answer. Peace now! Let 2011 ring in a new era of understanding that we are all one.
Carol Hall

Dear Friends,
May 2011 bring an end to all US empire building, and a great peace to Afghanistan!
Pat Chaffee

I don't know how we'll get there, but I'll keep looking for ways. I can see that we have to move beyond our governments, the US govt. in particular is too influenced by corporations. I have been active in what seemed to be the more peace loving political party here, but they have been a disappointment. Movements like yours and Wikileaks give me hope. There are many Americans who oppose the war in your country and our military misadventures elsewhere, but the news reporters ignore us. I'm glad you created this other way to connect.
Nicole Masika
"usic is lots of sound waves coming toward us in a completely chaotic manner and somehow our brain receives that as something beautiful" Matthew Bellamy

Stop the murder. Sned Obama to fight and see how long he lasts.
Rich Zubaty

As AFP & WW 2 Marine at Iwo Jima. I know this killing will end by diplomatic action.. I say let it end now and spare the lives of all who would otherwise die until diplomacy takes hold.
Tom Sullivan, VFP

Afghanistan's people need food not bombs, health care not warfare and courage for peace, not war.
We left Viet Nam, it is working.
We are still in Korea, what a mess.
Let us get out of Afghanistan.
Maggie Huntington
Flagstaff, AZ USA

This war is killing us, too!

Ben Boyce

Afghanis:

I pray for peace in your country and the immediate withdrawal of American combat units. I pledge to do whatever I can to change American policy. God grant us the grace to end this war.

Bill Duroe

Dear Afghan Friends

I am sorry that America can not understand that a secular empire can never outlast a religiously-grounded culture.

Pace e bene

Lorin Peters

Dear people of Afghanistan,

As Americans, my family is outraged and ashamed by the war being waged against you by our government. We marched and protested against the wars in Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine, and your country. Please know that the majority of Americans are AGAINST these aggressions.

We will try to bring about an end to these crimes against humanity committed by a ruthless elite pretending to represent us.

The Withington Family

May the killing by evil twisted invaders of people of your nation be recognised ever more widely all around the world to stop this unnecessary carnage

Washington has lost the way as humanity is the proper order, not armaments

My Blessings

Damien

To the people of Afghanistan,

I am an American citizen who sides with not country but with humanity, and despite actions taken by supposed representatives of the American people, I write you to tell you that these cruel acts of violence are not, will they ever be a reflection how I feel nor how the vast majority of Americans feel towards the brothers and sisters of Afghanistan. Unfortunately our voices that speak out against this injustice are kept hidden in the media and are muffled by the bombs that are dropped, but hopefully this letter will help lift up our voices of love and compassion and will hopefully be heard over the rumble of fear and hatred that is callously spread through these terrible acts of aggression. I wish the brothers and sisters of Afghanistan a Happy New Year, one that is filled with peace and love and no more war.

Justin Koenig

I share your desire to see an end to war and violence. They solve nothing. I am a citizen of the greatest purveyor of violence in the world today, the United States. This is a cause for grief not pride. Our addiction to militarism has bankrupted us both morally and financially. We are the weakest and most destructive nation on earth. I can say that our leaders have failed us, that we have been lied to and manipulated but that doesn't absolve anyone of responsibility. I do not see enemies, only one humanity,

one life. Please accept my best wishes for the new year and my sincere hope that we all open our eyes, reject our fears and work hard to stop the violence done in our names. Blessings to you, in love and resistance. We are one family after all. –

Richard Csontos

This is a brief message of protest and hope. I protest the continuing war in Afghanistan as wasteful of human life, and I hope for a peaceful future for both Afghans and for an American people weary of pointless wars.

Thank you.

Steve Bastasch

I cannot believe the pure stupidity of our country! The Muslims have been fighting & killing one another over a thousand year and we are idiotic to think we can create a freedom loving country out of any of them. They are not going to stop no matter if we leave tomorrow or twenty years from now. We are supposed to be a Christian nation (for the most part. I wonder what part of "thou shall not kill" don't we understand!

Ray Patrick

I am an 83-year-old grandma; I have 4 grandchildren, all girls. So I send a message to all the young girls and boys of Afghanistan, of Gaza, and especially to the children suffering under seige and war: We must give you peace. I hope 2011 brings a stop to the killings, bombings, strife, human suffering and human loss. We need peace, nourishment, fun, harmony and love.

Corinne Willinger, New York City, U.S..

On this first day of 2011, it is my wish that war will cease everywhere on earth, especially Afghanistan. War never accomplishes anything, but destruction. The U.S. and the U.K. should withdraw all combat troops. A NATO or U.N. security force might remain to protect the people, but there is nothing to be gained and nothing to "win" by foreign combat forces in Afghanistan.

Osama bin Laden and Al Qaida should be pursued as the criminals that they are, but there is no reason to be fighting in Afghanistan. The Taliban is a regional issue that must be resolved internally.

This American wishes a peace filled New Year to all the Afghan people.

DeNell Benner

On this New Year, my hopes for peace and self-determination in Afghanistan. U.S. intervention must end. Only Afghan people themselves, in struggle for real democracy and rights for women, working people, and people of all ethnicities, can build their own future independent of West and East.

Christopher Hobson, Ph. D.

New York, New York, USA

My New Year's wish you is the news of peace breaking out in Afghanistan. I hope you can have a Happy New Year

PEACE AND LOVE TO ALL THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANSTAN

Gail Malone

Dear members of the Afghan Youth Peace Volunteers,

I am sending this email to be in solidarity with you as you speak out pleading for an end to war!

MLK, Jr. said that "at the center of non-violence stands the principle of love." I know that you have taken his words to heart.

I am printing out your photos to remind me of your pain and suffering and of your courage and strength. I will think of you and carry you in my heart each day throughout the New Year.

Peace, love and hope,

Jane Cadarette

USA

Stop the killing in Afghanistan

I am sitting in an International Youth Hostel in Minneapolis Minnesota. I am saddened and outraged by what my country, the USA is doing in the world with its wars of occupation. I stand with the Youth of Afghanistan in saying to the US and NATO and the UN, "Stop the killing in Afghanistan. Do it now!" May Afghanistan have Peace in the New Year.

richard j fischer

Dear Friends in Afghanistan,

I write tonight from Tacoma, WA, USA to tell you you are so often in my thoughts...and in my emails as I write to my Congressional "representatives"* to tell them I believe America is doing more harm than good in Afghanistan, Palestine, Iraq and wherever else we put war profiteering ahead of the needs of the people.

(*Congressional "representatives" -- that's a joke, because they mostly represent the big arms dealers and other corporations that harm ordinary people in their quest for money).

So on the eve of this New Year, I say prayers for all people to have their rights, their freedom, security, to be respected, for wars to end, and for us to live on this planet by The Golden Rule .That is, not doing to others anything we would not want done to ourselves!

All best,

Linda Frank, Tacoma, WA, USA

Dear Afghanistan Brothers and Sisters, including Taliban. I have no enemies in Afghanistan. I deeply apologize that the United States government thinks that some of you are enemies and that some of my fellow citizens agree to the point that they volunteer to kill you in a senseless, illegal and immoral military occupation. They do not represent me and I despise what they do represent. They have brought nothing but death and destruction with the occupation of your country and have made it impossible for you to live in peace. It should be no consolation to any of us that we are destroying the United States in the process, because we have the capacity to do good instead of evil. I can only hope that my government will soon come to its senses or will be forced to do so and abandon its imperialist policies.

With love and compassion,

Ted Rademaker, Claremont, California

Dear Afghanistan,

It is with the warmest of wishes for the new year of 2011 that I write to you from Portsmouth, New Hampshire, U.S.A.

As a peace activist, I can tell you that I am now, and have been ever since the United States began its occupation of Afghanistan, vehemently in favor of the U.S. ending immediately the war in your country. It is, of course, imperative that we end the ongoing killing of innocent Afghan civilians, young and old, as well as that of those in the military and service organizations such as the United Nation. We must focus on the renewal of Afghanistan and not its destruction and devastation

I want you to know that there are many, many others in our country who also feel as I do that we must end the war, send the troops home and begin a program of rebuilding as well as working on providing health care, education and financial and physical assistance in many other areas in which the need is the most urgent..

My congratulations to you for all you are doing to make the international community aware of the overwhelming desire on the part of the public to put an immediate end to this war in your country. Many thanks for your courage and determination.

Lee Roberts

Stop the Killing in Afghanistan. It seems to me to be CRITICAL to the people of Afghanistan let alone our own country being involved in something we're only making worse. I can only hope that somehow someone or enough someones can bring attention to this nightmare occupation of your country. I am so sorry for how this has impacted your country and how so many still support our presence is an abominable idea to me. I want so badly for it to STOP. Sincerely,

L MacKay

There is no quicker way to destroy America then to condemn it to this path of continuous war which President Obama and the congress have chosen.

We must work for peace and never give up on that mission ,not just as veterans, but also as citizens of this planet

Charles, Tom

Dear people of Afghanistan,

I hope the end of all wars so you can live in peace and be happy.

Anna Louise

While the US may be the world's single super power in military terms, it faces another super power: the voices of war-weary millions who detest violence and killing. In Afghanistan, in the United States, and among the populations of countries whose governments have joined the NATO coalition, millions of people are calling for an end to war in Afghanistan.

On New Year's Day, 01/01/11, people around the world are invited to raise their voices, through Facebook, Twitter, Free Conference calls, Skype, and blogs at several websites in a massive refusal to accept this war any longer. Let your New Year's resolution be to stand for the people and end wars by sending a digital or spoken peacemaking message to people in Afghanistan. By amassing millions of messages calling for peace, we can create yet another indication that ordinary people within and beyond Afghanistan have had enough of war.

Afghanistan's people need food not bombs, health care not warfare and courage for peace, not war.

In the words of Abdulai, an Afghan teenager whose father was killed by the Taliban, the "Dear Afghanistan" campaign offers an alternative to the Obama administration's most recent review of the war. Abdulai's experiences of impoverishment, bereavement, and discrimination highlight realities that Afghans face every day. The U.S. government's December review paid no attention to these conditions.

You can let Afghan people know that their lives matter as much as yours. Assure them that the U.S. government's war is unacceptable to you and that you are working to end it.

We can catch courage from one another, sparking a New Year's momentum to put an end to war.

Elizabeth Cheong

My heart goes out to the Afghani population that has been victimized by U.S. and NATO weapons and aggression. I am actively pursuing an end to this needless, expensive and destructive war. It is not only

making Afghanistan an ever more dangerous place, it is, I am convinced, not making Americans like me any safer--and perhaps less safe.

I will continue to strive for and end to the war on Afghanistan and support diplomacy. May we achieve both in the new year.

All my best,

Ron Zucker

Dear youth of Afghanistan.

Our wishes are with you for a peace-filled year ahead. Blessings be upon you.

Charlie Jackson

Texans for Peace

love and light surround Afghanistan this year

Health peace prosperity happiness and humor

to all in country and in the world.

Dr. Brian

I support peace in Afghanistan by the withdrawal of foreign troops and the direction of more foreign aid to the activities and needs of women and children

Malalai Joya wants the foreign troops out as she believes that their presence adds weight to the Taliban's claims against foreign occupation, and garners support for them.

Suraya Pakzad believes foreign troops should stay as otherwise the violence to women would be even greater than it is at present.

There is no simple answer to the continuing destruction of life and livelihood in Afghanistan.

But I believe it must be an answer found by the Afghan people, without the intervention of foreign troops - US, Australian or others.

If we want to support the cause for peace, democracy and equality in Afghanistan then we foreigners should bend ALL our efforts to stopping the trade of arms into Afghanistan, supporting the education and independent livelihoods for women and girls, peaceful economic pursuits for all families (not just the corrupt warlords siphoning off the money from NGO-lords), and understanding of everyone's basic human rights for everyone in the country.

Chilla Bulbeck,

Professor emerita and visiting research fellow, School of Social Sciences

The University of Adelaide, AUSTRALIA

Honorary visiting fellow, University of Western Australia

co-secretary Support Association for the Women of Afghanistan-WA (SAWA-WA)

<http://www.sawa-australia.org/>

Yes, Please stop the killing. Stop the war.

Americans are hated enough !!

William W.D. Read

Please forgive us as a people for our inability to stop the atrocities of our government. You are a strong, resilient people who are entitled to self-determination. I Had the distinct honor of meeting **Malalai Joya** when she was in the US and I honor her courage and her clear articulation of the needs of her people. It is clear to me that most people have been duped into thinking that we are somehow liberating the women of Afghanistan, nothing could be farther from the truth.

I stand with Malalai and all the women of Afghanistan and all the men who support the liberation of the women in your country.

May we find a way to peace! Sending my deep respect and profound concern for of your well-being .

Yours in truth,

Magick

Dear people of Afghanistan,

My family and I have all of you very much on our minds as we end another year of war in your country with no end in the immediate future. We just want you to know that there are many of us here in the United States of America who do not support this war and who are working to end it all as soon as possible. Our government never speaks for us when it initiates or continues war against other countries.

To offer our apology to you who have lost so many lives and seen so much devastation seems inappropriate. It is so much too little, too late. We can only let you know we believe in you as people to people no matter what our government position.

Peace to each of you and to each of those who think war is the answer.

Nancy Coyle

Crawfordsville, IN

USA

I have appreciated Kathy Kelly since her work in Iraq during the Gulf War 1999+ and support her call for an end to the war in Afganistan (and the ongoing killing in Pakistan). I have petitioned the US Government to end all war spending, bring health care to our returning soldiers and to all our people, to stop supporting corrupt governments and listen to the ordinary people of the world who want to live in peace and justice.

Blessed are the peacemakers!

Greetings especially to the women and children of Afganistan.

Jennie Orvino

Santa Rosa, California USA

I'm writing to you from Texas in the U.S. I am working towards peace and an end to these wars. Please know there are millions like me. We are with you in spirit.

Peace and love to you from my heart.

Best regards,

Kathy McConaghie

We never were in Afghanistan for the reasons (propaganda) stated by the U.S. Government. It was never about "getting" Osama bin Laden -- it was/is about wealth -- oil, natural gas from the Caspian Sea, and all the natural minerals in Afghanistan, itself.

We have never honored our alleged commitments to Afghanistan to this very day -- it was but a hoax on "everyone."

END our perpetration of ill-intent on a people, who have hardly known any peace whatsoever -- for so very long.

I pray that we LEAVE AFGHANISTAN and, in doing so, try to help repair an already down-trodden country, by making whatever amends we may do, i.e., help to them in rebuilding all that they have lost because of our "infiltration" and aggressions into their sovereign country. We have done nothing to estop the Taliban, nor have we gotten Osama bin Laden (our original intent?) -- our presence in Afghanistan has been/is but another hoax on the American people and the world, in general!

Sincerely,

B. E. Murphy

Park Forest, Illinois

Hello to all the Afghan people!

My wish is to stop the terrible and unnecessary violence and suffering that the U.S. military has been causing in your country. I apologize.

I wish you peace and prosperity. You deserve to be happy and secure.

Marilyn Madrone

Sebastopol, California

After many years of working, thinking, hoping, praying for peace....amidst raising six beautiful children....I am now weary and sick and tired of listening to those who bring us into War, keep us in WAR, kill our young and take the future away from millions of children WORLDWIDE.....STOP THIS WAR NOW!! END THIS WAR! MAKE THE US GET OUT! KICK US OUT! END WAR TODAY!!!

THANK YOU

SINCERELY,

M WROTH

Dear friends in and for Afghanistan,

The time has come. The time has come for the bombs and the killing to stop in Afghanistan. Time for welfare for Afghans not warfare.

Slowly, too slowly, NATO and U.S. governments are realising the error and futility of their ways and have begun pulling out their soldiers. But it is much too slow. Sadly some countries (regretfully Australia is one) linger behind, propping up the warfare, getting Australian soldiers and Afghan civilians maimed and traumatised in the process. Wave after wave of Afghan civilians are forced to make the agonising decision to leave their homes and attempt the difficult passage to another country, seeking refuge or asylum - a journey not all of them may safely complete, as we saw in the recent Christmas Island tragedy.

Your lives mean a great deal to us and we are working to put an end to your war.

Críostóir Ó Riain (Melbourne, Australia)

dear Afghanistan,

I'm writing to you from Bellingham, Washington, USA. I detest violence and abhor killing. Today I'm joining the millions of people who are calling for an end to war in your ravaged country. You are not alone; you are not hated or feared; we will continue to do all that we can to bring this war to an end.
peace,

carolyn

More effective is to provide solidarity and support the good people of any country. Rather than spend billions on war, provide food, water, medical needs and education to the peoples. There will be mutual rewards for us and them, therefore no necessity for international conflicts and terrorism from abroad will die with nothing to feed it.

Carrie Ruel

Dear Afghanistan Youth Peace Volunteers, Please know that many of us in the United States share your desire for peace! My prayers are with you, and I promise you my continued action to protest the continuation of this war. May Peace prevail in Earth!

Love and prayers,

Doretta Cornell, RDC

I stand in solidarity with those who wish to bring US troops home from Afghanistan and to use the remarkable US wealth and power to build a world built on non-violent conflict resolution and social justice for all.

We seek not just the absence of war but the abolition of the causes of war.

With my most sincere wishes for a peaceful new year,

Mark S. Bauer, MD

Kathy--Thanks for doing organizing this. The depth of sorrow and shame is so profound that I have no idea what to say, so I just starting saying something--you can edit out anything you like.

Mary

Dear People of Afghanistan,

Please know that there are people here who care deeply and have worked hard to try to stop the executive orders and U.S. military of our country, the United States, from acting aggressively toward your country. This may be of little consolation and it may not seem like much, but please just know that there is a great depth of sorrow and much empathy among many people here who are always thinking of you, our brothers and sisters in Afghanistan, our fellow human beings on this planet. We mourn the loss of life and destruction of your country. Our hearts go out to you. We are sickened by what has been done and denounce it being done in our name. When we look at our children we cannot feel joy thinking of your children and how difficult it must be for you to try to raise them and protect them in the conditions that have been created. We cannot be happy knowing that our country is causing such pain to yours.

Across our country, thousands have not believed the lies and have objected to the military madness in many ways. We have been working for years in what ways we can. We organized, marched, picketed, vigiled, leafleted, wrote, petitioned, pleaded people in power (as far as we can get access). We begged, shouted, screamed and cried. We created our own news media. We tried to educate more people--those who are lied to and kept in the dark by the propaganda put out by our government and its servant, the mass media.

The war machine is a huge horrible machine that grinds everything up in its path, even here. Although we know our situation cannot compare to yours--the people here are made to pay for the sins of our government, which does not represent us but corporations which profit from war and want to steal the resources of other countries, as well as our own commons. As the U.S. finances wars abroad for the profit of greedy multi-national corporations, people here are losing their homes; our infrastructure is decaying; bridges and roads are in disrepair; our schools and public services are taken away from us and privatized; there are more hungry people; people cannot afford healthcare because it is too expensive and thousands die for lack of it, though we have medical systems and medicines that could help them. Some people lose their jobs and some work two or three jobs or more to try to feed their families. Many are too exhausted to be able to participate in public life, much less seek out information beyond what they are fed by our government and mass media. Wealth has been transferred to fewer and fewer hands. The people here are not bad--powerful institutions work to keep them isolated and ignorant.

Still there are some people who have the energy and resources--or find them from what little they have--to object to war. People have left jobs and positions because they disagree with our country's war machine. Those who speak out are restricted to certain spaces. Sometimes they are arrested (when they go beyond these spaces). People have been imprisoned or threatened with imprisonment for objecting to war and injustice or trying to reach out beyond our borders to fellow human beings. Peace and justice activists are spied on and lists are kept of them.

But in 2011, as in prior years, we will not give up the struggle. We hope some day this horrible situation will be over, reparations can be made to your country (though we know that nothing can truly undo or compensate for the damage caused), and we can all have peace in our lives. Till that day, we will not stop talking, walking, writing, calling, petitioning, picketing, whatever we can to try to stop the war machine. We appreciate hearing about you and some of the people in your country from Kathy Kelly, Ann Wright, People for Peaceful Tomorrows. You can see some photos and stories of what we

in the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul do on the web site of Women Against Military Madness:
www.worldwidewamm.org

Your sister in peace,

Mary Beaudoin (I know there are many who feel as I do.)

Dear Friends,

I join Veterans for Peace in their call for Peace Now!

In solidarity,

Bill Steiner

Hello people in Afghanistan. I apologize for the behavior of the government of the nation in which I live (the United States). I honestly never voted for that government and never supported its bombing of Afghanistan. I do pay taxes to it, though, so I feel somewhat responsible for having helped pay for such bloodshed and destruction.

I remember the day that the U.S. started bombing your land. It was the same day that I received a \$300 'tax rebate' check from the Bush administration. This underscored for me that the money was 'blood money.' I therefore donated the money to the Green Party instead of keeping it myself. I tried to find ways to express my disagreement with the violence of the U.S. government. The hardware store was selling giant signs that said "Proud to be an American." I asked if they had any "Ashamed to be an American" signs with pictures of bombs falling on corpses.

In the early days of the bombing, comments like that universally drew open disapproval from everyone nearby. If looks could kill, I would have been dead several times over back then. The feeling in the country was that the Sept 11 attacks on the World Trade Center justified anything the government decided to do in supposed retaliation. That mood gradually changed. After a while, you could make comments against the bombing of Afghanistan and the invasion and occupation of Iraq and at least a few people would make grateful eye contact with you. After a longer while, others would make similar comments and you could get into whole conversations about how the government of our country was out of control, having simultaneously attacked other countries and unlawfully curtailed our constitutional rights to do anything about that.

It's pretty common now for Americans to disapprove of the U.S. government's acts of violence. I believe it is still the majority position to disapprove of its current wars. However, it is also still difficult to know what to do about it. We are completely stymied in our supposed democracy by what is known as the 'two-party system.' The very people who do care about stopping war will turn around and vote for Democrats who in turn vote for war appropriations, the Patriot Act, torture and everything they say they oppose. I have spent a lot of my life trying to change people's thinking about this and persuade them to vote for candidates who actually oppose the government's violence instead of participating in it.

That is what I still work on: trying to persuade the American people to install a democracy here instead of pretending to install one in other countries where U.S. corporations want oil or oil pipeline rights. I wish people like me were having more success with that, but we are not -- yet.

I want you to know that I think about you often. I wish and I pray that there were something else I could do to stop this nation's violence against you. It motivates me when I am near despair -- we can't stop trying, because people there are dying.

I don't know what else to say. I want peace. I wish more people did. I wish more of the people who think they want peace would actually vote for peace instead of sticking their heads in the sand and supporting the status quo.

Blessings to you.

Cat

Brethren,

What a gift to be able to speak with you directly this evening.

Peace be with you.

We think of you and your struggles often and pledge to continue to wage peace in every way we can.

May the coming year bring a new wave of progress for all our people in peace and brotherhood.
God bless us all.
Salam

Richard Sroczynsk

End the war.
Stop the killing in Afghanistan.
thmathews

The Afghan consider us invaders, they want to take care of themselves and request our presence in their country end.
Let us honor that request. They request aid for schools and infrastructure. Let us do that as part of our foreign policy plan. Let us adhere to the UN rules and stop our illegal occupation of Afghanistan. Let our soldiers come home and help us in America. We need their skills to build our own infrastructure and strengthen our borders.
Thank You,
Mary Jean Illardo

Dear Afghanistan,
My wish for 2011 is that the American government makes a decision to stop the fighting in your country. I want my country to provide nonmilitary assistance such as the Peace Corps brought to your country starting in 1962. Some of my friends lived among you and taught foods, nutrition, farming, and care of the land. This could happen again, I think. My father was an employee of United States Agency for International Development in other parts of the world and I am proud of his work.
Peace Salaam,
Jean Penrose Sundborg
Seattle Washington

To those who will receive this:
I do not have access to Skype, so I am writing to let you know some of us have not forgotten you in this time of war.
I wish all the people of Afghanistan peace and justice, especially the children.
Know that there are some Americans, like me, who are trying to stop the war so that there may be peace in your beautiful country.
With much love,
Happy New Year!
Jeff Neff

This is the year to make an actuality of the Christmas message, "Peace on Earth, Goodwill toward Men." It is time to honor this age old saying and bring this world into a new age, a golden age, where peace and prosperity rule all the lands, all the kingdoms. I raise my voice, as an American citizen and more so as a global citizen, that violence and war solve no problems. I stand in solidarity with the PEOPLE of Afganistan and all other war torn lands and say, "NO MORE OF STUPID WAR!" My heart goes out to all of you. If this email can bring about peace and healing for you hearts and for your homeland, then the human spirit will have triumphed over the evils that beset this world.
Kay Howe

Let us begin 2011 with the intent to stop the senseless killing and impossible war in Afghanistan.
Peace to all,

Barbara Handler

You, the Afghanistan's people need food not bombs, health care not warfare. You have courage for peace, not war. In the words of Abdulai, an Afghan teenager whose father was killed by the Taliban, the "Dear Afghanistan" campaign offers an alternative to the Obama administration's most recent review of the war. Abdulai's experiences of impoverishment, bereavement, and discrimination highlight realities that Afghans face every day.

The US government's December review paid no attention to these conditions.

You; Afghan people must know that your lives matter as much as mine or any other American. I believe that the U.S. government's war is unacceptable to you and me and I am working to end it. I am a U.S citizen who immigrated from The U.K, a WW11 combat veteran who has experienced war and knows how you are suffering.

Respectively,

Geoff Spenceley

We support the the people of Afghanistan in their efforts to end the occupation of their country by US and NATO forces. We stand in solidarity with those working for peace and nonviolence in Afghanistan; we are opposed to the imperial aggression of our government whose actions are not in the best interests of the Afghan people or of world peace. We believe the people of Afghanistan should decide their own fate, and that it certainly should not be decided in Washington by Obama or any other outside force. We hope your courage and determination leads to a worldwide solidarity movement to end the war in Afghanistan in the new year, one that can not be ignored by the world's powers.

John & Carla Vincent

Burlingame, CA USA

To the brave and peace-loving people of Afghanistan,

I believe that the people of the United States are good people who are mislead into supporting bad things. They don't understand the amount of suffering that this war is causing and they are not made wiser by our news media.

In the coming year I pledge to work more effectively to help people in the United States to see that the war in Afghanistan is wrong. If we want to help we should ask the Afghan people what they want instead of always imposing our solutions on people.

I know that there are thousands of people here who are willing to work even harder than we have in the past to see that the Afghan people are assisted in arriving at their own conclusion. I am only repeating what General David Shoup said in his speech at Pierce College in California in 1966.

Peace and courage,

Bill Distler, December 31, 2010

There will be no victory. Staying only to fight is so counterproductive--on every front!

There's not enough money for our folks and programs here in this country! The people in Afghanistan are ready for education, food, peace.

We're all ready for peace. Let's get on with it. Stop this war now!

Peace for the New Year. Peace for 2011.

Celeste Rossmiller

Dear sisters and brothers,

I write to you as your sister in the United States of America. Please know that I and many of my fellow citizens send you peace and love in this coming year. I do not support the terrible, killing

actions of my government. I know that war is not an answer to conflict. I share your grief for the loss and maiming of your loved ones. The loss of my father in WWII is with me still in my seventieth year. We are the human family. May we struggle together for a world of cooperation and respect,
G. Pacifica

My neighborhood is against the war. We know that our government's war does not represent us. We write to all our representatives to end the war now.
Sincerely,
Katy

To the people of Afghanistan: Many Americans never supported the war in Afghanistan (or in Iraq), and now more than ever we want it to end – for the sake of the Afghan people and the American people and all people. War is a crime. In various ways, we who oppose the war in Afghanistan struggle to make our voices heard in this country. Let us hope and pray that the war will end in 2011 and as soon as possible.

Elizabeth Burr

Even though it does seem that way there are millions of us who do care about you and love you very much.
Don and Betty Rea. Albany ,Oregon

Dear Hakim, Ali & young people on the call,
Thank you so much for talking with me on the "Dear Afghanistan" conference call. You asked some very important questions and conveyed some very important messages, which I will pass on to others here in the US. I appreciate your very clear communication, and I especially thank you for making it possible for us to have had the conversation.
My gratitude goes out to the call coordinators, too, for making the conference call process work smoothly.
Some years ago, in 2002 or 2003, I was privileged to receive a gift of art work from children in the ASCHIANA program in Kabul, which I still treasure. I'm attaching photos of two of the pictures they sent. I think they portray a message that's in keeping with the spirit of Dear Afghanistan.
We here in the US need to do all we can to bring the violence of war to an end as soon as possible, and I assure you that many of us are working toward that goal. Thank you for the inspiration you've given me to move forward with this work, and for energizing me in that effort.
My new year's wish for you is that together we'll find an end to war in 2011.
In peace,
Arla

May 2011 be the year of Peace!!! We will never win the war in Afghanistan. we need to bring peace through education and support services to show them another way. Let's extend the efforts like what the author of "Three cups of tea" is doing. Peace is possible if enough people have the intention and work for it. Peace will never be accomplished through war. Please stop the war efforts and continue peace efforts now.
JeanAnn Vander Heyden

I abhor the war that the U.S. and its allies are waging in your country. I pray that it will end soon. Peace will come.

I support the work that the youth peace volunteers are doing in Afghanistan.

Don Hughes

Syracuse, NY, USA

We love you, our sisters and brothers in Afganistan and stand with you in opposing the war that tears your world and our hearts apart.

Edward Juillard. Chicago. USA

I am writing to express my hope and prayer that 2011 will bring a conclusion to the hostilities in Afghanistan. I am an American strongly opposed to this war effort and deeply saddened by the continued violence that our country has visited upon yours. May guns be replaced with words and bombs with diplomatic efforts and dialogue. May all those who have lost loved ones find comfort, all those who are hungry be fed, and all those who have experienced fear and conflict find peace and joy. I extend my profound apology for all the harm that this war has done. I pledge to continue my efforts to create a more peaceful world.

Laura Bernstein

On behalf of all our Australian members, I am sending a message of hope, goodwill and love to everyone in Afghanistan.

We call for a peaceful resolution to the occupation, desecration and killing in your beautiful land so that all people in your country can focus on tasks that will build your lives and community again.

That would be the best New Year wish for us

PEACE in 2011.

Ruth Russell

WILPF - Australia.

Hello!,

My name is Cathy and I pray that you are having a wonderful New Year's day! If theres anything you would like me to pray with you about, I would love to know!

Please know that you have a family in Christ in New Jersey right now and we all would like to hear from you soon. God Bless you greatly :)

Cathy

Dear Friends,

Please accept my message of respect, friendship and hope for peace. You all could be my children and grandchildren and I am very sad for all the undeserved suffering that the war has brought to you, to your families and to your whole country.

There are many people like me who were against this unjust war from the very beginning. Now, nine years and three months later, there are many more people that understand how disastrous it is. In the New Year we will work harder than ever to make our government stop the war.

Reading about you and your message of peace, I am deeply touched by your generosity and goodwill. I am trying to imagine your faces, your eyes, your smiles, and I bless you many times in my heart and send you all my love.

In friendship and solidarity,

Peace,

Boryana Tacconi

USA, Massachusetts

Dear Afghan people,

We the people in the U. S. know that your lives matter as much as ours. Please be assured that the U. S. government's war killing hundreds of thousands of civilians and impoverishing the whole nation is totally unacceptable to us. We pledge to work on demanding our government to stop the killing in your country. It's time for peace, healing and reconstruction.

May peace be with you in the coming 2011.

Jane Sun

Dear Afghanistan,

I think about you every day. I am only one small person, but one of millions who want peace for your people. When we all work together, it will happen. We won't give up.

Love,

Gina

Dear Afghanistan,

Not all Americans support the war in Afghanistan. There are many of us who would like to see the US withdraw and let Afghanistan decide for themselves how to run their country. We do not support US intervention and are saddened when the US pokes its nose where it is unwanted.

We want to see good things happen and wish that the US could support you as you would like to be supported. It saddens me when the US makes decisions for other countries and then just jumps in and takes over.

This is not a good policy and is detrimental to positive relationships in the world. Although I in no way condone the 9-11 bombing, I can understand why there are those who are unhappy with the US and target us. Corporate US is not globally friendly and turns us into the UGLY AMERICAN wherever they go.

Please realize that there are responsible and caring Americans who want the best for you and want you to plan your own future. There are many Americans who feel that the war effort is inappropriate and that we should not step in where we are not wanted.

Peace and love from one American Citizen,

Kate Burton, NBCTeacher-Librarian

Fort Vancouver High School

Dear People of Afghanistan, my brothers and sisters,

What is the value of a human life? Is each of us not a temple of the Creator of all things? We must have imagination, vision, for a world without war. For me, this vision is one of meeting each other as members of the same family, for that is who we are: one family. I greet you then, as my kin, my tribe—the world-tribe. I embrace you, offer you my love and my prayer. Killing you is not an option. Embracing you is my only necessity.

Clare Morris, Ph.D. Santa Rosa, California, U.S.A.

Dear people in Afghanistan,

I want to wish you a better year 2011 with steps forward in a world of peace, freedom and health.

There are people around the world who are with you in hope of a better political system. But I just like most of the German people don't think that wappens can help to change your situation. We want to support peaceful development of Afghanistan.

best wishes to all of you from Germany

Karin Breitenfeldt

Lohme/Rügen

STOP THE KILLING IN AFGHANISTAN!!!

PAX,

C E Krause

Desert PDA Chapter Founder and Co-Leader

Desert MoveOn Council Coordinator

INTER-RELIGIOUS SHAREABLE VALUES -- PEACE EDUCATION PRINCIPLES

FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES

1. "I am somebody..."

2. "We are all one"

3. "We are different"

4. "We need each other"

5. "We organize ourselves"

6. "We need nature"

7. "I am spiritual and moral"

8. "I am a whole person"

9. "I can contribute"

10. "I can destroy"

11. "I am responsible"

12. "I [can] change"

Blessings and peace in the coming year -- and the years to come ...

Ray Foss, West Virginia, USA

CORE VALUES

Equality / Identity

Unity

Diversity

Interdependence

Organizational / Institutional

Ecology / Environment

Spirituality / Morality

Holistic: knowing & doing & seeing

either, (build up) Constructive

or ... (tear down) Destructive

Response-ability

Potential / Provisional / Temporal; Change-ability

Afghanistan's people need food not bombs, health care not warfare and courage for peace, not war.

Mary L.

Happy New Year to you, dear friends in Afghanistan, from San Francisco, California. it is not yet 2011 here, you are already a half a day into the new year.

I hope with all my heart that in this new year we will find a way together to end this terrible war. You are our brothers and sisters as we are yours. Beyond war a new world is possible. Again this year, as for the last nine new years, I pledge to work diligently for peace from within the US and I pledge to do whatever I am able to support you in Afghanistan.

I am deeply sorry for the pain and suffering that you have endured.

peace

Sincerely,

Siri Margerin

how can i talk to an afghan kid?

Thepinkswan

We in these United States of America have had enough of war! We stand with the Afghanistan people in saying enough! No more bombs, no more killing, no more exposing our children to the horrors of war. Imagine how good could be spread around if we could dedicate the money spent on armaments and personnel to properly feed, house and educate our children instead. In this New Year as a mother, grandmother and citizen of the World I stand for Peace and Good will to all. This is a call to end all conflict and suffering related to war.

Carol Ross

Million of people the world over are suffering from the wars that rich people wage for resources and for control of resources. And they are sick and tired of their suffering. They not only yearn for peace and pray for peace. They are joining hands to create a force which will demand, will force the suicidal idiots organizing these wars to STOP ! !!!

I offer my support and my prayers to your efforts !! Thank you !

Richard Riemer

Hi Everyone in Kabul,

I just arrived home in Hawaii, two hours ago, just a few minutes before the fireworks erupted at midnight on New Year's Eve.

What a wonderful experience being with you all in Kabul on our quest for peace in Afghanistan.

I will be at President Obama's vacation home later this morning with signs for an end to US wars and peace around the world.

Your friend,

Ann Wright

"Dissent: Voices of Conscience" www.voicesofconscience.com

I am writing as a mother, wife and Grandmother. My husband and I are praying and working for peace in Afghanistan and for a time when war is unacceptable in the world. We know that the people of Afghanistan as a whole want peace and we are hoping that the nations of the world begin to work for a time of peace and justice for all men.

Thanks for all you do for peace.

Paula Snider

Stop the Killing in Afghanistan. Nonviolence is the only solution, not war.

Diane Cihangir

Paris, France

Please stop the killing. In Afghanistan. and all around the world. let's try a new way. a way advocated by Jesus Christ, Mohatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., Philip Berrigan, Dorothy Day and so many others.

love and peace, for all, especially the children of the world

bud courtney

new york catholic worker

Christian Peacemaker Teams on team in Iraq right now

Wishing you sincerely the end of the war and a future of Peace and Freedom for Afghanistan

Isabella Horn,

Activist of Fucina per la Nonviolenza, Florentine section of Movimento Nonviolento Italiano

Stop the killing in Afghanistan

Tapani Lausti

Málaga, Spain

Stop the Killing in Afghanistan
Christine Fitzwater,
Málaga, Spain

STOP THE KILLING IN AFGHANISTAN!! (and everyone else the U.S. has invaded)
Mo Therese Hannah, Ph.D.
Latham, NY
USA

Peace to all the people of your country, and may all your dreams come true.
Irena Holmes

Dear Afghanistan,
On this first day of a new year, this is my prayer for you- That your people will know peace to the end of their days. On rising in the morning there is the peace of the sunrise, the gentle waking of children, the slow warm smell of breakfast cooking as everyone dresses, hugs each other close one last time before starting out for school, for work, for the market, All day long there are smiles shared among friends and strangers as everyone goes about the day's business of building, sharing, growing, learning. There will be peace under the spreading trees that grow bigger every day beside waters that flow clean and fresh, as all your people pause for a noontime meal, sharing food and laughter. There will be peace all afternoon as the day's work draws to its finish and a growing happiness that soon it will be time to go home. The sunset leads you back to family and the warmth of the hearth where everyone shares the day's bounty of discovery, of accomplishment, of fun. And when the darkness comes, it lies like a blanket of safety and love over each one of you.
Peace to you, my brothers and sisters.
Loren Crawford
Louisville, KY

I would do to others as I ask them do to me. Please know I hope with you that peace comes to Afghanistan in this new year! In non violence may we relate as brothers and sisters!
AvaDale Johnson in St.Paul, MN.

To anybody reading this,

The American involvement in Afghanistan has gone on for over nine years. The killing continues, and we are no closer to a just conclusion of the war than we were back in 2001. The U.S. is not solely responsible for the endless carnage. The Taliban has a part in this too, as do those Afghans that support President Karzai.

Why does this war continue? As far as America is concerned, I am convinced it is because we simply don't know what else to do. We have become so used to solving problems with violence or the threat of violence that we are helpless at the task of ending a war. If we can't win with our overpowering military might, we have no other ideas. .

I am personally concerned with war. I don't know anybody that lives in Afghanistan. However, our son, Hans, is in the U.S. Army and he will be deployed overseas in the summer. Most likely he will be going to Afghanistan. In that case, he will be deeply involved with this war, and by extension so will I. I don't want Hans to be hurt over there, but also I don't want Hans to be the cause of more suffering for the people of Afghanistan. I do not understand why God wants our son to go there. Perhaps there is purpose for our son in Afghanistan that I cannot perceive or understand. I hope that somehow Hans will be a force for good when he is sent there. That is my prayer.

Francis Pauc
Oak Creek, WI USA

We want you to know that we are deeply disheartened by all that is happening to you and all the people of Afghanistan.

We will work hard in the new year to support peaceful solutions toward ending the war.

We stand with you,

Frank and Eileen

Dear People of Afghanistan:

We write to assure you that most Americans want to bring the troops home, and stop the assault against your country. We despise war, and have repeatedly told our government we oppose the invasion of your country and the killing of innocent civilians .

Brave and courageous Americans like Mike Ferner and Daniel Elsberg have been arrested in such protests, others stand out in the cold every weekend with signs that say STOP THE WAR in Afghanistan; letters are written to the White House, and many calls are made.

We will continue to demand that our President will stop this illegal invasion of your land and bring hope and peace through restoring the massive damage we have caused by building schools instead. We pray to God every day that we can all live in peace and abolish war forever.

In peace,

Thomas and Anne Abowd
Toledo, Ohio

I Demand that We Bring US Troops Home! & That There Be No More War in Afghanistan!

Joan W. Drake

Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, Washington, DC

The majority of people in the U.S. oppose the war. We should be helping rebuild Afghanistan.

Sincerely,

Larry Siegel

Dear friends,

I was part of every demonstration I could reach for peace and against the afghan war! War is a crime against humanity, it's useless for solving problems, only a very true struggle for justice, democracy and social progress can do it! I'm with you in your call for sustaining peace; NATO/US troops have to quit, no doubts about it! I hope you'll find a way to find new nonviolent path to end the war and religious conservatism!

best regards

Matteo

Florence

Italy

Dear Afghanistan,i pray for an end to U.S. and foreign occupation of your land.May you have peace soon .This U.S. citizen does not support our war on your country or it's neighbors. peace in the New Year

Kurt Gubrud

LOVING PEACE is possible in place of hateful violence . . . let us all believe and work to bring about an Afghanistan - indeed a World - of wholeness and reverence for all creation!

Kateri Schrems

Dear People of Afghanistan. I am sorry for what the US military/corporate industry has done and is doing to your beautiful country. We need to live with less here in the US so that the rest of the world can live with enough. As Christians we have failed completely to obey Jesus and God. I am ashamed and would like my country to REPENT, that is find the correct way. We can do it with lots of encouragement for and with each other.

Thank you,

Martha Hennessy

HELLO OUR FRIENDS IN AFGANISTAN,
WE ARE TWO OF THE MANY AMERICANS WHO LIKE YOU HATE WAR ANYWHERE
ANYTIME ANYPLACE IN OUR WORLD.
WE CONTINUALLY ADDRESS OUR GOVERNMENT TO STOP THE BOMBS AND BULLETS
AND SEND BREAD AND PEACE TO ALL OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS INT AFGANISTAN,
PAKISTAN, IRAN,PALESTINE.
WE WISH YOU PEACE TODAY AND ALWAYS.
MARSHA AND DON HEIDKAMP

in this new year, i continue to pray that our leaders will come to their hearts and senses and begin to repair the damage we have done to your country and the rest of the world. i pray that more citizens in the us will stand up for what they know is right and good. i pray for your well being and for our souls. i pray for peace and good will on this planet and beyond.
in peace and social justice.

ellen allen

gainesville, florida

Dear Afghanistan people,

I support a good life for all of you. I wish the war can be resolved so that you can live in peace with your families.

Christine S

Dear People of Afghanistan,

No More War!! This is my peacemaking message to the people of Afghanistan:

Afghanistan's people need food, health care and schools, not bombs and warfare. The world needs courage for peace, not war. The Afghanistan people matter - your happiness matters, your security and well-being matter. This war is unacceptable, and I pledge to continue to work to end it.

May 2011 see peace and opportunity for Afghanistan and an end to war-mongering and hate among all those who think that war is the solution to the problem, instead of the problem itself!

Sincerely,

Kelly Epstein

Spring, Texas

To all people of Afghanistan,

My heart and mind screams that what my government is doing in your country is a horrible wrong. I work as a gardener at a high school, and I explain to everybody who will listen that they must make efforts to stop this injustice. Most of my country's people do not want the occupation and war to continue. We are growing in numbers and power.

It is a crime that my government uses some of the wages I earn to support the occupation of your country. Please be aware that I am actively opposing this action of my government and that the people who believe in peace in the U.S. will prevail.

Sincerely,

Bill Palmisano

Dear Afghanistan,

I am an average American. I am mother, wife, sister, daughter. I am no different from an average citizen of Afghanistan. I feel sadness and grief when I hear about what is happening to the citizens of American and Afghanistan because of this war. Today and every day marks a New Year, a new beginning, what we can do, say, or think to bring peace, harmony, and understanding with all life, and this treasure from God, our earth.

Please accept my wish and prayer for an alternative to war by action of this letter. I send my love to you, Abdulai and your countrymen and women.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Miller

To be sure, well wishing is nice and needed and it let's us all know that there are many who have values of compassion and community world-wide. Our value is living our lives without fear or threats of the use of force. Daily life can be difficult enough. Working at our calling to produce goods and services that our fellow men, women and children either need or that will serve our recreational needs for our experience of our lives.

What is needed at a country by country and world-wide level is an on-going institution of non-violence as the Dalai Lama has proposed. When a concept such as non-violence is given the structure of being an institution it goes beyond personalities. It becomes a force to counter other forces of greed for money and lust for power (which some may say are the same thing by different names) and helps put some balance into the purposes of human beings. Without a balance we are at the mercy of the forces of greed, anger, revenge, lust for power and corruption at all levels.

We need to constantly talk about non-violence. Show that no matter how much those in control try to shut our voices down, we are the sane ones. Share the purpose and methods of non-violence. Share non-violence as a value of our humanity, as a statement of our compassion for one another regardless of color, race, religion, nationality or any of the other ways we are told divide us. We must continually feel the happiness which comes from person to person connections and not let the media or governmental propaganda persuade us that we should constantly fear something or someone. To paraphrase Franklin D. Roosevelt, "There are only two things to fear -- 1) fear itself, and 2) those who tell us we should be very afraid."

TZ

Stop the war in Afghanistan!! The Afghan people need food not bombs. Peace not war.

Ron Dafler

When I hear of another US drone attack or of the slaughter of innocents in Afghanistan, I die a little.

I am sick to death of American empire, American hypocrisy, and the notion of 'American exceptionalism' kept alive by our fundamentalist so-called 'Christians' that enables them to believe that killing is doing 'Gods work'.

I am doing all I can to stop this occupation and the abuses that attend it.

My Allah bless you all.
Wesley Bradford
Los Alamos, NM, USA
1 January 2011

Dear People of Afghanistan:

I am ashamed and outraged by the continuing war that the United States is conducting in your country. I have been working with others here in the United States for a total US military withdrawal from Afghanistan and an end to the idea of United States "victory" in your country and your part of the world.

May true peace come to your lives in 2011. It is a miracle that many of us here pray for and work for.
Nick Mottern, Hastings on Hudson, New York, USA.

I want to add my voice to the suffering people of Afghanistan. The war must stop. The US government does not speak for me in delaying the end of the war. It is the innocent who are suffering. We must find peaceful means to settle our conflicts so that all creation can live in peace. Our energies must go toward finding ways to spread the wealth that exists on this planet. We must look out for the good of all!

Lois Kennel

PLEASE!! Stop the killing in Afghanistan!!!

Dennis Clancy

I'm sending my prayers for peace to your country with my renewed new year commitment to work for non-violence and justice....

Judith Gough

Dear Afghanistan,

I pray for peace to be felt in your country. There are many of us working toward our country to wake up to the need for respect and love for all your people.

Deborah Hilt

Monona, Wisconsin, USA

Dear Afghan Youth Volunteers,

On this first day of 2011, I want to tell you that there are many people here in the south suburbs of Chicago thinking of you and working to end the war in your country.

Like you, we believe that reaching out in peace and friendship is far better than acting in hateful and violent ways. We believe that you deserve good lives and that war is not making your lives better. We are so impressed that all of you chose to walk the path of peace even while your lives are so difficult. You have courage and wisdom that many adults do not have. Your leadership is a gift to us all.

We will continue to try to end the war in Afghanistan and to bring peace to your lives. We hope that you can feel our friendship across the many miles that lie between us. Our wish is for a year filled with compassion and the courage to change.

Your friends,

Jodi Libretti

Jeremy (age 10), Justin (age 8), and Julian (age 7) Libretti-River

We need peace now! We are all tired of war: killing and displacing people- kids -homes - we need to stop! Start the new year with peace- violence needs to be done now!

Linda Daniels

Veterans For Peace, Iowa #161 is in solidarity with You!

Gil Landolt

I hope that your lives will be better and safer in the next year. People everywhere are working to end the suffering that war and greed are creating. In this way we are all together.

Best wishes,

Naomi Brussel

Dear Afghanistan,

I am joining those who are praying for peace in our world and especially in your land. Our hearts are moved by all that you are living through. We are joining in trying to build the will to stop the violence in what ever way we can.

Alice Marie Giordano

I am writing to join my voice with those of millions who want the war and the killing in Afghanistan to stop. There is no reason to destroy a country to stop "terrorism" when what is needed is aid, support, encouragement to a long-suffering land whose people need no more violence and interference. It is no good to use violent methods to try to solve problems (terrorist attacks on poor, innocent superpower USA) whose cause is unrelated to the vast majority of poor Afghan people who bear the brunt of the invasion, occupation and attacks. Stop the violence, go home NATO and think about fairness and negotiations. Give peace a try- give peace a chance.

Rosemary Spiota in S-W France

Just a short message to let you know of my longing for peace not just in your country but in All countries. Peace can never be accomplished through violence. One contradicts the other. Only Love for our fellow humans can bring peace. When we cease seeing people as enemies just because they are different or live somewhere else, but instead think of them as just as important as our family then peace can come. My prayers are with you.

Kev

Thank you Dear Friends for this opportunity to ask for peace.

Let this become the year that the voice for peace is one - regardless of race, creed or politic.

I stand with you today and everyday for peace in your land and on earth.

Please keep me up to date on your efforts.

With Love and Hope for a new day,

Dena Eakles

www.echovalleyhope.org

www.echovalleyfarmwisconsin.com

Thanks to all who are raising their voices in opposition to this war. My heart bleeds together with all who suffer the loss of loved ones, homes, schools and workplaces. I grieve, too, for the soldiers from all sides who are trained to forget the sacredness of human life and of the earth.

Nancy in New Hampshire, USA

Dear friends,

I think of you often.

I demand an end to the war waged by my USA countrymen and women in Afghanistan and around the world.

I implore all who engage in violent acts to RESIST, and rather to resolve all conflicts with nonviolence courageously and with hope.

As a person of Roman Catholic faith, I commit myself to the Way of Jesus, trusting that only through acts of justice, through love, do we achieve lasting peace.

Salaam, Shalom, Peace in this new year - 2011!

Bill Mackinson, age 57

United States of America

Dear Afghanistan,

We cry "Peace, peace" but there is no peace. People of good will want no more war. While we pray for peace, we will also lobby and where possible vote for peaceful measures.

Helen Brinich

Stop the War in Afghanistan --Give people and peace a chance. Bring All soldiers home to their families. Their children need their parents at home not in Afghanistan. Put all the war criminals on trial ... their crime against humanity is a lot worse than drug trades.

Yoshiko

Let 2011 be the beginning of peace every where!

Len and Sally Tardani

USA

Hello!

I am writing to say that I am appalled at the war being waged in your country by the United States and its allies, unfortunately including Canada, and know that the people it really hurts the most are the civilian population of your country.

I cannot do very much as an individual, but try to support any organization that is attempting to stop the war and promote peace.

I pray to the one God of us all to help change the future.

Grania Scott, Prince Edward Island, Canada

Dear Afghani youth,

This war in nine years too long! We must bring our troops home immediately.

We compliment you on your peace-making efforts & encourage you to keep up the good work.

Afghanistan shall live!

Linda Greene & Paul Smith
7487 N. John Young Rd.
Unionville, IN 47468
U.S.A.

War is not the answer!

Jim Broatch
Veteran for Peace
Milford, Connecticut

Dear Afghan Youth Peace Volunteers:

I won't be calling today, but I do want to add at least my written "voice" to the chorus of "Bring home the troops! And spend all that money on education, health care, and new initiatives to fight povertyworldwide." I refuse to accept that we can afford this war, yet to have to choose among social service programs because we can't afford them all. I have chosen to join, and lead, a "third" party in the United States with a strong stance, not only in opposition to the wars in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq, but to all war.

I work for an organization that sponsors about a dozen schools in Pakistan, and is looking to expand. I am not making a pitch for support for this organization here, just sharing what I have learned from the people who work with our schools: Terrorist organizations win people over only when they are the only organizations that provide the means of survival. The people of Afghanistan and Pakistan have the same hopes and dreams that we have, here in the United States, and that you hunger for the education to make it possible to make those dreams come true. If we provided everyone the education that offers the opportunity to make those dreams come true, we could remove all reason for the terrorism.

Jessica Weinberg
from Northwest Ohio Peace Coalition
& Northwest Ohio Green Party

Dear Afghani people,

As a member of CODEPINK LONG ISLAND, Women for Peace, Suffolk Peace Network, Long Island Alliance for Peaceful Alternatives, I will continue to lobby, petition, protest, and write poetry for PEACE.

At 76 years of age,
I have learned to
turn my rage
into peace within,
And even to be glad
that I can still work
for peace.

But, Oh!
How sad is my heart
When I think of your people
And what my nation has caused.
So I cannot, I will not, pause
in my efforts toward
an end
to these
illegal, immoral, cruel,
devastating
WARS!

Charlotte Koons

Friends: I read your article on Common dreams. This response is to add my voice to call on the U.S. Government, President Obama and our military leaders to start negotiations and the nonviolent alternatives which will lead to a fast military withdrawal from your country and give appropriate aid to repair the damage we have done. To provide food, potable drinkable water and appropriate sewage disposal.

Rich Van Dellen

Rochester, MN

USA

And keeping you in my heart and prayers. Not a day goes by I don't feel the weight of what is happening to you in Afghanistan. So far from here you seem, yet your pain is always with me. Do not think we are all happy and light hearted, for this is not the case. Many Americans bear the constant burden of the endless warfare our government wages. I asked my mother, now 88, if she had any regrets looking back on her long life. "Only one, really," she said.

"I had thought mankind would evolve beyond war in my lifetime, and it is clear this is not the case. It is sad to see all this senseless violence continuing throughout the ages. I know I will die and war will still go on."

Thank you for your work to end the violence in your country. Thank you for your bravery and courage. I promise I will continue to carry and spread the seeds of peace as well, for the rest of my days. With gratitude,

Caliope

Stop the war that no one wants.

Stop the killing of innocent people.

Stop invading other countries.

Joan Newton

Please add my voice to all the others, today and every day,

We do not support this war!

Thank you for your leadership to raise awareness and mobilize worldwide public opinion,

Please forgive us for the suffering we have caused,

May we succeed in shifting US policy and priorities toward peace,

and in 2011 find new ways forward,

Joan Weaver, Stonington, Maine, USA

To the people of Afghanistan:

Please know that a majority of us here at home in America, and the numbers are growing every day, no longer have a favorable view of our soldiers being deployed in your country. Also please be aware that we are doing all we can to bring our sons and daughters, our husbands and wives, our friends and neighbors, home as quickly as we can convince our misguided leaders of the extreme error of their ways.

May this new year bring peace to your country and let no one in the world forget that ... it is your country ... and it should be in your hands to deal with your fate as best you can.

Your very sincerely,

Johnny Schuler

We need to end the war in Afghanistan immediately, bring all troops home, and help rebuild the country.

Peace,

Nate Goldschlag
Arlington, MA

We are working as hard as we know how to stop the killing in your country. We abhor the drone strikes that kill innocent people.

We have no business trying to run your affairs.

We wish you Peace and Prosperity in the New Year!

Jean Gordon

To the Afghan youth, people and peace seekers from around the world,

Thank you for giving us an opportunity to participate in this peace initiative. Our hearts are saddened by and we do not support war.

We wish safety and peace for you and your families.

It is our dream the day will come when our country no longer wages war around the world, but instead offers the Afghan peoples and all nations help in building schools and hospitals, ensuring adequate food and clean water for all peoples; a day when we sell tractors instead of tanks, well drilling equipment instead of missiles, and send books instead of guns, and hospital equipment instead of bombs.

This is our dream, we pray for your safety, we will continue to work for peace.

Peace and Safety to you,

Sandra & Stanley

Hello,

It's New Year's Day about noon - wishing you a happy new year. I hope to call in later from a party of peace and justice folks partying in Roslindale.

Metrowest Peace Action Chair

Carol Coakley

We just want to say how much we want peace in our world. It is love and understanding that will make us all more secure. We will be working for more peace in the New Year 2011!

Peace and love from

Kathy and Eli in Lexington,, VA

Dear Afghanistan -- I wish for your country peace, soon. Our peace group thinks of the Afghan people and wishes a safe and happy life, with education available for all girls and boys, and no more war!

Blessings,

Rebecca Dare

I send my blessings and my love to all the people of Afghanistan. I feel great shame that my country seems so intent on destroying your land and you, its beautiful, resilient people. Please know in your hearts that there are millions of people here in the United States who feel as I do. We will do all we can to let our government know that what it is doing is not being done for us, the people!

Peggy Love

Stop the Killing in Afghanistan

Mark Gratis

Our hearts break when we see the devastation in your country and the loss of lives to your loved ones. We in the United States want the war to end and to see peace in the world. Our prayers are sent to end war in the world and live in peace with all of mankind

Priscilla Kaczuk

Stop the killing
Enough!

Jane H. Gruen

Peace,
Catherine

"Gandhi is the other person. I believe Gandhi is the only person who knew about real democracy — not democracy as the right to go and buy what you want, but democracy as the responsibility to be accountable to everyone around you. Democracy begins with freedom from hunger, freedom from unemployment, freedom from fear, and freedom from hatred. To me, those are the real freedoms on the basis of which good human societies are based."

— Vandana Shiva

In peace

Sherri

My wish for 2011 is *to stop the killing in Afghanistan!*

Peace from the Netherlands.

Janine

Dear Afghanistan,

Just a message of solidarity with the people of Afghanistan and people throughout the world:

I have been against the war since Bush first proposed the invasion.

I am doing all I can to stop this war--and all war (I was recently arrested at the White House in Washington DC for demanding that Obama stop the war).

In solidarity and for world peace,

Kim Carlyle

Barnardsville, NC USA

Member of Veterans For Peace

Editor of the War Crimes Times

WAR CRIMES TIMES: <http://www.WarCrimesTimes.org/>

A publication of Veterans For Peace

Exposing the true costs of war; Seeking prosecution of war criminals.

No pressure, no diamonds.-- Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881)

Dear Afghanistan

I am writing to urge an end to the killing and the expenditures for ammunition, armaments and assorted killing machines including U. S., UN, NATO and other nations armed military personnel. Keep members of the military there if they have skills which can be used in rebuilding schools, water and sewage systems, roads, power generation equipment and distribution grids, fire protection facilities and personnel and communications plus any useful elements not covered in this list. Please prune of military budgets, Hire needed specialists, teachers and advisers from the ranks of the unemployed in the U. S. to obtain this humane and laudable goal.

We need to severely prune the military budget, making our armed forces into a defensive service rather than an offensive one. It would be much better for Afghanistan to be a friend of our nation instead of an enemy.

Bob Monahan

WW II Navy veteran

Please let us see an end to this war. To all War.

Stop the killing in Afghanistan.

Cynthia R Hall

Happy New Year!

Renewing our commitment to Peace!

May we all have the "presence of mind"

to "DANCE with GRACE" in Love,

Compassion, Joy, Mercy and Peace."

Just talked briefly with Afghan Youth

for Peace and Kathy Kelly in Afghanistan...

Peace is on its way...and You All are part of the DANCE!

In Gratitude and Hope,

Cetta

It is with a heavy heart that I daily read reports from your country which make no humane sense at all. The presence of foreign military forces in your country is illegal and an affront to all who believe in the rule of law and the right to self-determination.

I wish I could say that my/our efforts to stop the occupation have had success -- realistically, they have not. Many of us continue our non-violent resistance to our very violent application of foreign policy and I believe our numbers are growing. I understand that there is a growing group of non-violent resisters in your country as well. This may be the only way to a peaceful existence as our numbers reach a critical mass.

Herbert J. Hoffman

WAGE PEACE
Sondra

Afghan people need peace, food and health care, not war. Please stop the war.
Jeni Fabian

As a Canadian, I am sick to death of Canadian soldiers (and those of other nations), as well as innocent Afghans dying in this futile "war". It will never end. Damn it, do we never learn anything at all from history? Apparently our "leaders" don't. End it now!

John Mark Robertson
Belleville, Ontario
Canada

I am writing this because I feel so strongly that the US war in Afghanistan is unacceptable and far, far, beyond any response that can claim to be civilized and just.
I am shocked at the stupid, selfish, dishonest and brutal policies of my government.
I am so sympathetic to the people of Afghanistan as they bear the brunt of these policies, and I resolve to do what I can to put an end to them.
In peace and brother and sisterhood,
Fred Runkel, Twisp, Washington, USA

Dear Afghanistan:

As an 85 year old veteran of WWII, I urge President Obama to remember those who really worked to put him in office. We had had enough of Bush and company and expected him to end the aimless war in Afghanistan and bring home the troops. It is time that he realize that the military brass will always want to continue the war so they are not tagged as losers. But in the eyes of the world and most Americans we are already the losers.. It is about time that a president heed Eisenhower's advice and tell the military/industrial complex where to go.

I think the education of our young people is far more important to the security and prosperity of the US than endless and meaningless wars. It is a national disgrace that our public school systems are switching to poverty budgets while we squander billions on killing other humans.

Mr. President: Be bold and give yourself and the American people a New Years gift. End the war in Afghanistan.

Burk Ketcham
Tacoma, Washington

Dear People of Afghanistan,

May peace prevail in this new year. My prayers and thoughts are with you always. I am sorry for what my government is doing to promote violence in this unstable world. Our children deserve a better future.

Lynne Greenwald
Tacoma, WA

I will continue to support your liberation from the American and other troops that occupy your country. I will continue to support your struggle against them, and join you in opposing the policies of my own government.

Peace,

David Green

Urbana, IL

Dear Afghan people, dear Afghan Youth, dear friends,
our New Year`s greetings are flying to you from German peace people.
We detested that cruel war on Afghanistan which is going into
the tenth Year from the beginning!
We urgently demand to our German government
to stop sending troops to your country
and to stop the war and killing of innocent Afghan people!
We know, Afghans are not those criminals who caused the crime of 9/11,
which was said as official reason for the war.
You are the victims of US and NATO and European greed of gaz and oil
and the wish to rule the whole world.

Peace to Afghanistan!

We will continue to work for that.

Leonore and Wolfgang Schröder

Castrop-Rauxel

Germany

As a USA citizen (non-military person), I stand in solidarity with the
Veterans For Peace (VFP) group to end this harm-filled war !!!
War is a racket! A Racket for the wealthy class of America.....soldiers are the victims of our
"imperialist culture". During 2011 I plan to stand in solidarity also for Justice with peace for Arab
Palestinians in the Holy Land!! God respects all the children of the World!

Duane Kamrath

Dear Afghanistan,

Afghanistan's people need food not bombs, health care not warfare and courage for peace, not
war. Please stop the killing. I pray for peace.

Lucianne Siers, OP

I'm glad lots of people are connected and want to connect.

Unfortunately I can stay longer on the pc.

If it possible give all the afghani friends connected our best wishes for a joyfull 2011 without war and
violence from the Rete di Lilliput nodo di Cremona - Italy.

Let's keep in touch

Guido Vaudetto

Referente Rete di Lilliput nodo di Cremona - Italy

It is long past time to end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Bob and Joy Johnson

The war in your country fought by my government is a terrible thing and I would love to see it stop. We are all so good at rolling up our sleeves to help one another in times of strife. Let's do this in Afghanistan with LOVE and UNDERSTANDING.
Respectfully yours,
Stephen Gorry

Dear fellow citizens of Afghanistan: I am so sorry and ashamed that my country is destroying your country and killing your citizens. I, along with my other Veterans for Peace members, will do everything we can to stop the US from waging war in your country. Please know that there are some of us here in the US that oppose our governments violence and killing of your people.
May you be strong and persistent as we will be to remove the occupiers. Peace and goodwill,
Dan Gilman
Veterans for Peace
Seattle, WA.

Dear Afghanistan,
Please know that I and many other United States citizens do not support this war our country has waged on your nation. I hold your people in my heart and daily pray for an end to the senseless killing and harm done to so many. I pledge to work for an end to war during the year ahead.
Peace and prayers,
Dixie Webb

This war should never have happened, for more reasons than I can easily produce. Like any war, it benefits industry, destroys people, and is not "winnable."
Given its economic benefits to a few powers, it will endure for a while, but must end, as anything that falls of its own weight. May it be soon.
Pat Spicer, Glen Ellen, CA

January 1, 2011
To my brothers and sisters in Afghanistan,
At the start of this new year I am resolved to redouble my efforts toward the removal of US armed forces from Afghanistan, and begin a new era of cooperation in the development of sustainable agriculture and economic activity to the benefit of, and under the direction of the people of Afghanistan. Although my heart is heavy with the understanding of the death and destruction caused in Afghanistan by US forces, I am encouraged by the steadfast determination of the Afghan people to chart your own destiny.
May the blessings of peace reach the people of Afghanistan as many of us in the US work to turn our country from the manufacture of weapons toward productive civilian purposes world wide.
Very best wishes,
John Heuer
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Let's shift the world from a war mentality to a peace mentality where love and not profit, is what moves us and connects us.
In peace, love and support,
Lisa M.

To the people of Afghanistan:

Best wishes for peace and safe, hopeful lives. I am against all wars and will continue to try to influence my government to stop the war in your country. Our local Friday morning peace vigil walks with a banner which says "We walk with all who suffer because of war." We are all part of the human family on earth and should help and care for each other, appreciate our shared values and respect our differences. May this new year bring peace to all of us.

Sibylle Barlow

Concord, Massachusetts

Stop the war, and occupation of Afghanistan. Help the people to find a peaceful existence instead of bombing them. Bring our troops home.

Sarah and Ben Thacher

East Dennis, MA

Dear Afghanistan,

Let's have Peace in the New Year! Too many people have lost their lives, their families, their homes, their livelihood. After nine years of war, it's obvious our leaders will not end this senseless war, so the people must. Soldiers on both sides must lay down their arms and shake hands with each other, sing songs together, eat food together, play soccer together. It's time for a happy, peaceful New Year! SO LET US DECLARE PEACE TOGETHER RIGHT NOW!

Your friend,

June Schumacher

New Years Greetings,

I am a Vietnam Veteran, a member of Veterans For Peace Chapter #950, and a Biblical pacifist.

As a tax payer of the United States of America, I demand that the war against and the occupation of Afghanistan stop immediately. This war is killing 32 Afghani civilians for every US military person that is killed.

I demand that the money that is now being spent killing people in Afghanistan be used to meet the food, shelter and medical needs of of the Afghan people whom the US has wounded or made refugees as a result of the war against Afghanistan.

The presence of our country's military in Afghanistan is only fueling the insurgency, not making our own country or anyone else safer.

Peace Always,

Larry Egly

Killeen, TX

Please stop the killing in Afghanistan!

Betty J. Palsa, President

Dunlop Industries, Inc.

I too am tired of war. I am praying for peace, justice, and freedom in your country and in the whole world.

Carol Gavareski

I support building schools, medical training and other humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan. I support Dr. Kharoti's efforts at building schools in Afghanistan:

I do not support the current US war policy. Americans need to let Barack know we are behind him in leading us through conscience rather than Pentagon intimidation.

A big thank-you to Noam Chomsky for his assistance in this write-in campaign.

Bev Questad, Ph.D.

Peace and Social Justice Reporter

ijm

Dear Friends in Afghanistan,

We will continue our work against our government's war in Afghanistan, and hope that the departure of all U.S. forces will give strength to progressive and democratic movements inside your country.

In peace and solidarity,

Joanne Landy

Co-Director

Campaign for Peace and Democracy

New York, NY, USA

To the Afghan Youth Peace Volunteers and other citizens of Afghanistan
with apologies and a prayer from one small American voice.

we know life and history

are no respecters of persons -

Good and bad intermingle

in as crazy-quilt pattern that defies comprehension.

We know there is nothing to do but to go on.

Today, in this house of worship and learning

we are gather in these troubled times.

We take encouragement from those who have gone before

and lived courageously in just times as these

We take courage from those who take on the problems of our age

And live with the ultimate hope, despite the discouragement every day seems to heap upon us

It is good to be together in troubled times, as in good times

We know there is nothing to do but to go on.

When the injured have been treated:

when the dead have been buried;

when the rubble is clear away;

when the anger has been vented;

when the horror has been processed;

the work of the world begins:

to heal the sick, to comfort the afflicted, to rebuild the cities:

To restore our zest for living and loving;

to seek justice and peace in an imperfect world"

Peace,

Glenn

Peace for all in 2011.

Shalom,

Joan MacDonnell

Dear Afghans: YES!!! We want peace and an end to this war. Too many lives have been lost or torn apart by this nonsensical war that has raged on and on. Let us all hope and pray for peace. Blessings

Joyce Steckler

You are important to me. You need food, healthcare, and schools rather than war. I oppose any further U.S. occupation. To this end I will work on your behalf.

Margaret Hinton

Dear Afghanistan,

My New Year's Wish is for our collective voice to be heard by President Barack Obama, by any legislators or justices who have an ounce of morality left, who have not been totally bought by the legalized bribery of lobbyists. We must end war in Afghanistan. End American imperialism around the world and our totalitarianism at home.

While my sympathy and apology goes out to the Afghan people, I believe they must find their own way and that is best done without us.

The current government is no more than a puppet of U.S. militarism and corporate greed. They deserve to fall.

The U.S. needs leadership in the worst way. I like to believe President Obama could provide that. So far he has not. We must create a clamor he cannot ignore.

Happy New Year and Good Luck . . . to us all.

Walt Nygard

Former Cpl., U.S.M.C.

VP, Chapter 21, VFP

Salaam, from all of us at Riverbend Commons, a community of six people living in Corona, CA (Southern California). We are glad to wish you a Happy New Year.

Our closest neighbors, the Sadaats, are refugees from Afghanistan. We love them dearly. They fled Afghanistan back during the Russian invasion. And because of the deep love that we enjoy between us, when we hear the news of what is happening where you live, our hearts break for you. But we also see a strength in the Sadaats and a gift for joy and generosity. They are our closest experience of your country. So, we imagine you all with those same wonderful qualities.

Of course, we understand that many things happening all around you, and to you, may sometimes make it difficult to feel or display such admirable qualities all the time. But we believe that in the deepest part of your humanity stirs the beauty of all that binds us together. It is here, we believe, that we share the Kingdom of God--a place where the wars of this world cannot disturb the His peace.

So, though we write this to you from a pretty little street in Southern California--where the only sounds we hear are children playing outside, dogs barking, and the birds that haven't flown to warmer weather still in the trees--we are with you, too, beneath the sounds of war and the fear, in that deep place we share together with you in the presence of God.

We wish you a year of growing peace and hope.

Shalom,

Drew, Nancy, Ashely, Aaron, Roger, and Kelly.

Afghanistan's people need food, not bombs, health care not welfare and courage for peace, NOT war.
STOP THE KILLING!!

Working for PEACE.

Joan E. Williams

A member of the Brevard, NC Quaker Meeting

Dear Young Afghans,
We in Indiana, USA, agree that we need to end this war in your country as soon as possible. Your lives are as important and as precious as ours are here.
We wish you and your families all a very healthy, safe and happy New Year.
The Fillenwarth Family

Peace on earth, good will to all" and that includes the Middle East.
H. M. Sawadsky
"The path is discovered by walking it."

This could be the best year ever for millions - those effected by the war directly and indirectly - stop the war now. Bring peace to the hearts that have been full of fear and have been broken. Do the right thing.
Sharon Leary, USA

Dear afghan Youth Peace Volunteers,
We spoke briefly on a Skype call December 19th, and I felt your comittment to for peace and admire your work for peace in a very difficult situation. I am a member of the Granny Peace Brigade in New York City. Sharing stories and singing together during the conversation sealed our pledge to work to end war, to listen carefully to the words of the Afghan Youth Peace Volunteers, and provide support and action as you work for peace. Together we can make a change - war is not the answer; peace is the way.
A Granny for Peace sending you all good wishes for a path to peace in 2011.
Barbara Harris
Granny Peace Brigade NY / Code Pink NYC

I plead to and pray that both our governments stop the killing, stop the warring, stop adding to the misery that already exists in both our countries. My neighbor's dear son is in your country right now and everyday they fear they will have him home in a box. You and your families have endured so much and I am sorry.
Sincerely,
Katie McNeil

natick ma vigil happy new year
C Coakley

Dear friends,
We are so, so happy to have talked with you -- and cannot believe we actually were hearing your wonderful voices!! Salaam!! Peace! Happy voices! Thank you so muchfor talking with us . . . it was the best way to start a new year that will be filled with peace and communication.
We are Lisle (mother, grandmother, age 54), Louise (aunt, age 58), Judy (mother, grandmother, age 64), Ellie (teenager! age 16), Angelique (teenager! age 16), and Alicia (age 21). Next time, we really hope to have Skype so we can see you. We were pretending to be with you in reality, as we talked and sipped tea and shared some treats -- I hope some day we really will be with you face to face.
Thank you very much again, and much peace, support, strength, courage. Your witness is remarkable, and we all were crying for your brave spirits and with joy to be talking to you!
our love, prayers, and hope,
Lisle, Judy, Louise, Alicia, Angelique, and Ellie

(PS. We will be in contact via e-mail, and we will have more and more friends here to become friends with you, as you suggested.)

Here are words of a song I had hoped to sing to you -- but our phones here were a little garbled, so maybe next time (if Kathy is with you, I believe she will know this tune):

Peace I ask of thee, oh river,
Peace, peace, peace.
When I learn to live serenely,
Cares will cease.
From the hills I gather courage,
Visions of the day to be;
Strength to lead and faith to follow,
All are given unto me.
Peace I ask of thee, oh river,
Peace, peace, peace.

Lisle (mother, grandmother, age 54), Louise (aunt, age 58), Judy (mother, grandmother, age 64), Ellie (teenager! age 16), Angelique (teenager! age 16), and Alicia (age 21)

I am not able to get involved with the phone call today, but I am working for peace year round here in Asheville NC. I follow your updates via email and Facebook.

I hope my country stops the bombing and war making everywhere. It is horrible that this continues year after year..... life is so short, we should realize it is precious!!

peace and best wished to you all,

Susan Oehler

Asheville NC

In a few words, I want to add my voice to the many many people in the US that decry this war, and all attempts by our government to extend our domination to other countries. I will continue to do what I can to stand up for peace for all the peoples in the world, REAL peace, NOT the fake peace that comes at the end of a gun. I urge you, on your side of the world, to raise your voices peacefully in opposition to the occupation, as we try to do the same in our country.

Our thoughts and hopes are with you, and our sincere apology for what you are enduring. May it end soon.

Suzanne Barksdale

Dear People of Afghanistan,

I am a citizen of the United States. However, I am totally opposed to the United States Troops in your country. The suffering that the United States Military has caused the people of Afghanistan is far beyond anything I can imagine. I'm so sorry for the death and destruction that the United States military and the military from other countries has done to your country.

Please know that there are many other citizens of the United States that feel the same as I do.

Some of these people have even gone to prison because they so totally disagree with this war. What our rich country should be doing is sending you food and helping you build hospitals and schools. Doing these things is what would really bring about a lasting peace.

Sincerely,

Robert Beaumier

"In my mind there is no occasion for war" - George Fox an early Quaker.

willgifford

Friends,

Thank you for all your efforts to assist US citizens in understanding the situation from the perspective of the citizens of Afghanistan. May we all experience peace during this new year.

In Peace,

Karen Krause

I am with the the peaceful people of Afghanistan. I refuse to participate in the violence. I will join with Veteran's For Peace in 2011 to stop my government's brutal and senseless occupation of your great country. Afghanistan is a sovereign nation and you, the people of Afghanistan, know the best direction for your country. The truly courageous fight for peace, justice, and equality without ever raising a weapon.

Your's In Peace,

Mike Madden

St. Paul, Minnesota

United States of America

Today, we Catholics and many others are praying for Peace to come to Afghanistan and especially for the people of Afghanistan who have suffered dealy. I join my prayers for all of you.

Fr. Jim Hoffman OFM

Dear people of Afghanistan,

We join with all the people around the world who want the U.S. to get out of Afghanistan and stop the killing. We want you to know that we are working to stop the war and to bring peace to our world.

Bob and Marian Wright

Dear People of Afghanistan,

I'm sorry for the things my government is doing to you. The drones, the bombings, and other really bad stuff that I'm sure I am unaware of. Many, in fact, most do not currently support the war. Please also accept my apologies for their mindless previous support. I am also sorry that my countrymen and women's opinions often changed because of the cost of the war and how it is affecting the American military, rather than being able to put themselves in your shoes.

Wishing you better things in the year ahead, though sad I don't know how to help, I am most sincerely,

Lori Connor, Deer Isle, Maine, USA

To the People of Afghanistan --

We the People in the US want our troops to leave your country so that you can create Peace --

Peace from the people of US to the people of Afghanistan --

In peace and friendship --

Sheila Ryan

Dear young people of Afghanistan,

We join with you in your desire for peace and an end to the war that our government has perpetrated upon the people of Afghanistan. On December 28, 2010, members of many local churches came

together for a Candlelight Service for the Children of Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan and Other Child

Victims of War in Minneapolis, Minnesota. We prayed that our government would hear the voice of reason and end these wars which can only bring more pain and suffering.

We know that if there is ever to be peace, the people must demand it. We will continue our efforts here in Minnesota to bring an end to war and will support efforts to improve the wellbeing of all the world's citizens.

We pray for your good work.

Our love and best wishes,

Marie and John Braun

Minneapolis, MN

612-522-1861

I, along with many other people of faith here in the United States of America, urge our leaders to quickly end the war in Afghanistan.

Rosemary Boutt

I will leave it others to assess Afghan public opinion on continued U.S.-led military operations, but I have worked in Kabul for the better part of the last two years and the most widely cited argument I hear from Afghans who favor continued U.S. military involvement is that "we" are better than the Taliban. Faint praise; time to go. Meanwhile I have yet to encounter one Afghan who supported Pres. Hamid Karzai, the West's hand-picked leader. It's time to go.

T. Seamus O'Sullivan, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Social Sciences

The American University of Afghanistan

<http://www.auaf.edu.af>

Stop the killing in Afghanistan Now!

Barb Williams

I am writing with the hope that peace becomes our number one focus. Please end this war!

kmorrissey-burch

Dear People of Afghanistan

I am sorry for the actions of my government.

As an American, I cannot imagine your reality and do not pretend to. I cannot imagine the suffering your country is enduring because of America's war. I cannot deny responsibility for the American government's actions in Afghanistan.

I can only say that I, along with many other but not enough Americans, are working hard to oppose those actions. I can only say that I am sorry for the destruction and suffering in Afghanistan wrought by the American empire. I can only say that I commit to changing America's war culture and war machine.

I can only say that I commit to peace.

Luke Wilcox

Iraqi and American Reconciliation Project

<http://reconciliationproject.org>

End the war now!
Barb Williams

Dear Afghan friends:

I want you to know that i have personally protested the US invasion and continued bombing of your people and countryside.

One way i have been able to feel connected to you is by supporting Greg Mortensen's efforts to build schools and the other way has been to join with other Quakers who have been knitting and crocheting together to make blankets for you. We send them to you through the American Friends Service Committee process.

I hope that someday soon you will be free of the terrors of constant warfare.

With hope for a better future,

Mary Igoe Meyers

1 January 2011

Let's end war!

Meyer, Jody

You are not forgotten. You are loved, and there are many of us who are working and praying for peace in your nation (and in every other nation). You have my support to call for an end to war in Afghanistan and a beginning to treating you with the dignity you deserve as people created and loved by a giving, merciful God. This is my prayer for you in 2011.

Adrienne Caughfield

Dear Afghani People,

My hope and prayer for the New Year is that our war in your country will end, and that we will treat each other as human beings again with the dignity and respect every human being needs and deserves.

With love,

Therese Walrath

In accord with many others I begin this New Year with a call for peace in Afghanistan and an end to the killing there.

Thank you.

Kevin Gallagher

To the people of Afghanistan:

Please know that a majority of us here at home in America, and the numbers are growing every day, no longer have a favorable view of our soldiers being deployed in your country. Also please be aware that we are doing all we can to bring our sons and daughters, our husbands and wives, our friends and neighbors, home as quickly as we can convince our misguided leaders of the extreme error of their ways.

May this new year bring peace to your country and let no one in the world forget that ... **it is your country** ... and it should be in your hands to deal with your fate as best you can.

Your very sincerely,
Mark Schuler

My husband and I, members of Veterans For Peace, NJ Chapter, and Military Families Speak Out, work for peace everyday. Sometimes I get very discouraged and overwhelmed by the sadness all around and then I remember the Dalai Lama saying "Never give up, no matter what is going on, never give up, develop the heart, be compassionate not just to your friends but to everyone, work for peace in your heart and in the world. Work for peace and I say again never give up, no matter what is happening, no matter what is going on around you, never give up." And so we work together. Thank you.

Nancy and Walt Nygard

Dear friends,
I work for the end to the U.S. occupation of Afghanistan, and of Iraq.
My heart is with you in your suffering.
Praying for peace in the new year.
with loving thoughts,
Carolyn Scarr

Dear Afghanistan People,
Please know that your lives are as important as ours are. Like us, there are billions of people in the USA who want this war to end. The war is unacceptable to us and we promise to do all we can to let our government know that we are working hard to end it.
Sincerely,
Barbara Corcoran

Hello Friends,

I was very happy to have spoken with you today, on the conference call and on Skype. Thank you for all you are doing to end this terrible war. As I had mentioned, your work and your voices help us to be more effective here in the United States, in our efforts to end the war.

Douglas asked me to email you the info for my website. I am very happy to do let you know about the site.

Here, below, is the most recent post from my website, [Peace and Justice Online](#).

The site's URL is peaceandjusticeonline.org

If you wish, you can enter an email address on the site, and you will **automatically receive updates** by email.

You can also "friend" the site's Facebook page, at facebook.com/peaceandjusticeonline

The site addresses a number of peace and justice topics. There will be another post about the war in Afghanistan tomorrow.

Thanks again for conducting the "Calls for Peace."

Peace,
Bob Marcus

The first tower fell at the foot of the second. Causing a small earthquake. Rattling the second tower, testing every joint in the joint. Every joint proved sound. 25 minutes later, for no reason, the second tower liquified, exactly as the first tower had.

Why?

And then there is WTC #7. Which was reported down early. Which require either precognition or foreknowledge.

So, who told the Media? And why don't we know?

Thermite is not a natural material. When you find thermite, you have evidence. Of demolition.

The defining feature of the United States is that its' Constitution limits the powers delegated to Government to a specific few. 99% of the People are made free by this means. The other 1% are controlled by it. It doesn't follow that the 1% LIKE it.

The truth, however, has come out. And it is a weapon. grasp it. Use it.

Frosted Flake

President Obama,

Stop killing the Afghanistan people

Barb Williams

To all Afghanistanis:

With these words of love and care I regain my humanity. My words of love are for all the people of Afghanistan who I know are my sisters and brothers. How can I not love you all? How can I not care for you all? Until the US government leaves your beautiful country, know here is one citizen of this country who cares deeply for your welfare. My life matters to me. Your lives matter just as much to me. Together we are one. Soon and for always.

love,

Patricia Hendricks

STOP THE KILLING

STOP THE WAR

Paul Didisheim

To my Bothers and Sisters in Afghanistan,

I greet you with best wishes for the New Year. It is my prayer for a quick end to violence in your country, especially that violence visited upon you by my own nation. I will continue to work for an end to the US/NATO war on your nation and will continue to work nonviolently for peace with justice. As a Christian, I choose to follow the Jesus who lived and preached a life and message of nonviolence and an end to the oppression of empire. As a fellow human, my heart reaches out to you in your time of suffering, loss, and violence. I will continue to urge my own governmental leaders to cut off all funding for the US Military operations in the Middle East and SW Asia but also to remember our nation's responsibility to pay for a rebuilding of your infrastructure damaged and destroyed in this war.

Please know that the peace and reconciliation mission of my friends Kathy Kelly and Brian Terrell have my complete support.

In peace, hope, and nonviolent resistance,

Steve Clemens

Minneapolis, MN

www.mennonista.blogspot.com

Dear Afghanistan,

Somewhere , some how we Americans have lost sight of our Christianity...Jesus taught unconditional love for our neighbors, enemies and all who are different from us. We have forgot this

wonderful message with our need to always dominate and win. Deep down we are a good people who are a bit lost on this path of life. I hope that soon Americans eyes will be opened to a new and much clearer vision of the Gospel that God has given us. I would love to see the day when we all may stand together and have true and meaningful dialogue, in such a way that we may learn from each other and be open to others ideas.

This is my hope Afghanistan....no war, but a wonderful peace within our hearts and our lives. No animosity but true understanding.

Blessings to all...activist and resident alike.

Mary Anne Oetjens

Stop the Killing in Afghanistan! Most Americans are wanting peace and helping Afghanistan to have schools and health clinic and food. Thank you for doing all you can.

Joan Groce

A message of my hope for Afghanistanis in the new year: may all the parties who are using your country for their own selfish purposes at last discover their wickedness and folly. May they withdraw themselves and their violence from your mountains and deserts. May you have peace.

Art Dorland

Dear folks in Afghanistan, Know that you are not alone in the struggle for peace. We keep you in our hearts and in our prayers. Conflicts will not be resolved through violence - ever. So to my brothers and sisters in Afghanistan, because you suffer, we suffer as well. We will continue to work and pray for peace in Afghanistan and around the world. Blessings be upon you.

Carolyn Bujak, New Jersey, USA

I am so sorry for what my government has done to you over the past nine years (and continues even now). I hereby commit to take a more active role opposing our war in Afghanistan in 2011. We must abolish the concept of war.

PEACE!

Fred J Ganoe

Dear Afghanistan,

My heart is with your people and I pledge to do all in my power to help end the centuries of war, occupation and oppression in Afghanistan.

I visited the land of the Pashtun only once long ago (1976) but already your people were suffering from the machinations of powerful and well armed countries. Britain drew the Durand line, cutting off a large portion of your own people and bringing them under harsh British oppression in what they called Frontier Territories. Later it was the Pakistani generals who brutally put down attempts at village development and a measure of autonomy In the Frontier Territories. The United State then fostered rebellion in northern Afghanistan and drew in the Soviet Union, seeking to protect its borders. Then came the titanic struggle as the U.S. supported rebels like the Saudi Osama Bin Ladin and poured weapons and millions of dollars into Pakistan to wage a proxy war against the Russian empire.

In the end the Soviet Union, drained of resources by the war, disintegrated, and now the U.S., the world's sole super power, has waged ten years of war in both Afghanistan and the Frontier Territories. Abdul Ghaffir Khan, the Badsha Khan, is my own hero and his prayer is mine as well:

I have one great desire.

I want to rescue these gentle, brave, patriotic people from the tyranny of the foreigners who have disgraced and dishonored them.

I want to create for them a world of freedom, where they can live in peace, where they can laugh and be happy.

I want to kiss the ground where their ruined homes once stood, before they were destroyed by savage strangers.

I want to take a broom and sweep the alleys and the lanes, and I want to clean their houses with my own hands.

I want to wash away the stains of blood from their garments, I want to show the world how beautiful they are, these people from the hills, and then I want to proclaim: "Show me, if you can, any gentler, more courteous, more cultured people than these."

Of course I am far from the inward development of Badshah Khan or other spiritual giants like Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Siddhartha Gautama, Jesus of Nazareth or others through the centuries who have walked in the ways of non-violence, truthfulness, enabling agape and identification with, and enabling of, the poorest. But I believe this Afghani, little known in the west, worked true miracles in his time and has shown us the way to transform hearts and take practical steps toward human rights and human security for us all.

in peace, **Carol Reilley Urner**

Whittier, California

USA

Stop the Killing in Afghanistan.

Camillo "Mac" Bica, Coordinator

Veterans For Peace, Long Island

Commack, NY 11725

<http://www.vfpli.com>

"I am tired and sick of war. Its glory is all moonshine. It is only those who have neither fired a shot nor heard the shrieks and groans of the wounded who cry aloud for blood, more vengeance, more desolation. War is hell."

—William Tecumseh Sherman

Dear People of Afghanistan,

I stand in solidarity with you this New Year's to say the war should end, as you wish.

Dee Halzack

Lowell Massachusetts USA

We and many of our friends are actively working to change American policies of war and occupation worldwide, and to live our lives in solidarity with the people of Afghanistan. Peace, in the New Year, both the western one and the Islamic one!

Hannah Johns

Dear Afghanistan,

Many more--in the U.S. and the much wider world--believe that Peace is possible, everywhere, now; we must stand together to speak out against those who continue to wage war for their own self-serving and destructive ends and shout, "Enough! Stop this madness! The world cries for Peace." As one, we will prevail!

I salute your courage in this important effort. Thank you for helping to make Peace possible.

Your companion in waging Peace,

Margaret Webster

USA

Dear Friends:

The new year, and the new decade begins, and around the world people continue to suffer the calamities of war and to struggle for the basic necessities of life. I am ashamed of my government's hypocrisy and its intervention in Afghanistan (and elsewhere). I have to believe that an ever-increasing number of Americans will speak out against the war and join in solidarity with you and others as you stand up for peace. I am awed by the courage of the Afghan Youth, and although I can only do so from a distance, I stand with you in your call for peace and for greater understanding of what your country has suffered. May this event mark the beginning of greater dialogue—and especially the beginning of the end to war.

Peace,

Cynthia Ingham

Hello,

There is not a day that goes by that I do not think about the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The immense crimes we (the US and allied forces) are committing against mostly women and children, humanity, and the environment. It is so easy to feel powerless and become apathetic, but we must continue to speak truth otherwise we are accomplices in this evil. We must all work to end these wars.

Thanks,

Katrina Bisheimer

Your country and all the people living in Afghanistan have been suffering from violence for far too many years. I am hoping that the war being wage on your soil will come to an end soon.

My heart and prayers are with you. With love and in peace,

Tess Hagemann Santa Rosa, California.

Hi dear Friends,

First let me express my gratitude for the wonderful opportunity we had today for an international exchange of information/views about ending the occupation of Afghanistan and bringing about peace. I hope that you in Afghanistan and call organizers in the U.S. are enjoying a well-deserved rest now!

In our conversation, our friends in Kabul expressed interest in receiving some information per email about activities in Germany and particularly the upcoming Afghanistan conference in Berlin the end of January, to which several Afghan guests have been invited.

Could you please let me know to which email address I should send this information?

With best wishes for a happy and much more peaceful new year!

Elsa

Dear people of Afghanistan

I want you to know that I opposed my country attacking yours from the very beginning in 2001. I am sad about all of the hurt and destruction we have caused you. Some friends and I have had a street corner vigil for seven years opposing our country's occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan. Sixty three percent of the American people now oppose the US occupation of your country. Unfortunately, our politicians do not pay any attention to us.

Annaloy Nickum

Dear People of Afghanistan, I consider all people to be precious children of God. I want all God's precious children to have all the blessings for which God created us. I'm sorry that Afghanistan has suffered war. I pray for an end to the suffering of Afghan people and for true peace, security and fulfilling lives for everyone.

Mary Kelley

Davie, Florida

United States of America

Fellow human beings

It is stop the killing in Afghanistan.

It is time to stop waging war with the powerless, on the powerless, for the powerful.

It is time to stop all war.

Let there be peace everywhere.

Will Newman II

Canby, Oregon, United States of America

Let there be peace and let it start with me.

Sín justicia no hay paz

I am writing to say that the U.S. government's war against Afghanistan is not acceptable to me and I am speaking out and doing what I can to try to stop it. Afghanistan's people need food not bombs, health care not warfare and courage for peace, not war.

Pam Nath

"To love. To be loved. To never forget your own insignificance. To never get used to the unspeakable violence and the vulgar disparity of life around you. To seek joy in the saddest places. To pursue beauty to its lair. To never simplify what is complicated or complicate what is simple. To respect strength, never power. Above all, to watch. To try and understand. To never look away. And never, never, to forget." Arundhati Roy

I have an open letter to the people of Afghanistan in my blog at

<http://thepeaceadvocate.blogspot.com/2011/01/dear-afghanistan-ii.html>

Happy New Year of Peace!

Anne G. Woodhead

Dear Afghanistan,

I wish the senseless killing and destruction would stop. The war has been and continues to be completely counter-productive and wasteful -- destroying lives and society generally, while requiring vast amounts of funds that could be used in far more positive and much-needed ways.

It's madness and it must end as soon as possible. Time, energy, money all need to be directed at improving the lives of those living in Afghanistan, not at harming and weakening them while simply increasing hatred towards the US and the West.

Let's hope our leaders can see how clear it really is that this war must stop.

peace,

Anna Farkas

Dear People of Afghanistan,

I write to you to let you know that I am calling on my government demanding peace and justice for the people of Afghanistan. Surely, the needs for food not bombs, health care not warfare and courage for peace, not war are pressing and legitimate. The Afghan people's needs are every bit as important as those of people in any other area of the world, including the US.

Daily experiences of impoverishment, bereavement, and discrimination highlight realities that Afghans face every day. The U.S. government's December review paid no attention to these conditions and as such was completing inadequate and deceptive.

Please know that I and many others are working diligently to call on the US government to stop the killing in Afghanistan.

Peace and justice to you,

Deborah Regal Coller

Friends in Afghanistan:

Peace and blessings in the year ahead. In response to your Call for Peace, I offer several of my favorite quotations on Peace.

Salaam, Shalom, Peace

Forest Shomer

Port Townsend, WA, USA

Stop the killing in Afghanistan

May the Blessings Be,

Mary O'Brien

"Be the change you want to see in the world", Mahatma Gandhi

I add my voice to people worldwide who want an end to death and destruction for the people of Afghanistan.

I pledge to work toward that end by protesting my government's policy of continuing the war in spite of the overwhelming opposition of my country men and women.

Kaye Exo

Portland Oregon 97211

Dear Afghanistan,

I want you to know that the war sponsored by the United States government is unacceptable to me. I value your life, the lives of your children, your mothers, your fathers, your sisters, your brothers, your cousins, your friends, your grandparents, your aunts, your uncles. We are all humans living on this beautiful earth. We all deserve to live with peace in our hearts, and peace in our land. Our governments should not be given the power to dictate who will live and who will die. We must all unite in peace and for peace.

Blessings and peace on 1/1/11,

Debra Kahn

Chevy Chase, Maryland USA

We have caused enough destruction and devastation. I'm embarrassed and ashamed of my countries lack of awareness, concern and guilt. I hope this new year brings the end to this mistake of a war.

Shannon Nyuntwai

Stand up to your leaders-either Taliban or Government- and let them know that there is a better way to live, than under the heel of either one of those groups. Do what you can-with prudence- to change the

situation from confrontation to a mutual search for a way that will be better than war.
Most U.S. citizens are out of patience with you all. We are close to leaving you to settle this mess with your swords without any more of our blood or money.
Tempus fugit,
Robert Mackin

Hello people of Afghanistan,
I've wanted to visit your beautiful country since 1978!
I am a teacher in New York. You have my support in every way. What can I do??
elish sari

I am personally against the war in Afghanistan and nearly all the people I have spoken to are in agreement. The money spent on this war should be used to reconstruct any damage caused by the U.S., build schools, health facilities etc.
Patricia Alessandrini

Dear brothers and sisters in Afghanistan,
Here are my wishes and prayers for you, every day:
That the spirit of health, peace and good-will is born in you and that it gains more life every day.
That you carry this spirit around within you all the time no matter what, and encourage it in others.
That you learn to watch for how it spreads to others in your life.
And that you have the joy of watching the world around you change - till all you see is health, well-being, peace and happiness.
This is true power.
This I want for you with all my heart!
I am working for peace in your part of the world by encouraging people in our country to envision a totally peaceful Afghanistan and Pakistan.
I am influencing leaders of our Peace Movement to start asking their followers: "what would a peaceful Afghanistan look like? what would it feel like? what would it sound, taste and smell like? how would harmony be expressed?" Concentrate on this all the time.
I would like you to do the same on your end.
Only then will we be able to replace guns and military ways with love, music, food, education and prosperity in your country.
Much love to you!
Barbara Castro
Chico, California

Greetings,
I would like to let the Afghan people know that their lives matter as much as my own.
The U.S. government's war is unacceptable to me and that I am currently working to end it.
Sincerely,
Elizabeth D. Mayers

Dear friends,
You are the reason I get up and do what I do every day. You are – and so am I and so is everyone else – because we are all bound up in this struggle together. My dream for 2011 is that the work that we are doing together paves the way for your voices to be heard, your courage to be felt, your needs be met, and your hope to light the way to an end to this war and all wars. I cannot imagine how difficult it must be to hold onto your courage and your hope, but please do not give up. I promise not to give

up working for the peace and justice that everyone deserves and I know so many who never will either.

In solidarity and peace,

Karen Light

Have a great evening !!!

Dennis Hoover

Thank you for organizing this.

1. wish it could have been for more than ONE day !
or, at least the beginning of the time it is January 1st
all over the world, until the time it is still January 1st
(11:59pm) in the last place in the world.
even better, the next 2 or 3 days...
so many folks i hurriedly sent the email to,
may not even check their email until after 4pm PST today -
when this ends
2. i couldn't get any content on the kids' website mentioned.
maybe a follow up email could give us an update on this
project - showing the earth and what some folks said from
different parts of it.

most sincerely,

mary bernier

Interfaith Peace Coalition

I support you. I want an end to this war that should never have been.

US out of Afghanistan now!!!!

Jeannine Coleman

Easley, SC

Thank you to the brave Afghan people there. You represent the best of humanity. Thank you to all those who participated and organized this call.

Mary L.

Peace

J.P. MacFadyen

People of Afghanistan

May this year see peace in your country with the removal of all foreign armies and the end of the current war.

Pamela L. Bradford

Agree, USA is only continuing wars and presence in most foreign countries in order to benefit war profiteers and wealthy businesses/corporations. USA needs to get out of these countries and stop foreign aid which is used against us. Although the rich keep making money, USA is deeply in debt on

the backs/blood of its average citizens who benefit NOTHING and stand to lose everything from these wars.

Doro McKenzie

Last night I brought in the New Year at mass at Sacred Heart Church in Camden. We prayed for Peace and we join with you in praying for peace in Afganistan. Pace Sempre,

Jackie A

Hello~

Let us stop the war in Afghanistan. Let us stop all war everywhere. Hatred and killing has achieved nothing.

STOP THE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN.

Gloria Morotti

I am Jill Mackie, a strong woman, who has been blessed with 2 children and 2 grandchildren.. I have lived in many places, learned to adjust to the ups and downs of life.. War is not the answer. I will keep working to send the clear message to world leaders that WE ARE ALL ONE.. War costs more than keeping PEACE.

You all are in my heart..Love ,

Jill Mackie

Another American for stopping the killing in Afghanistan.

Bill Peltz

Albany NY

We want to join people around the world in raising our voices in a massive refusal to accept this war any longer.

(Drs.) C. G. & L. S. Estabrook

Champaign USA

Dear, dear young men and women of Afghanistan,

My crushed heart reaches across to yours, young people who have felt the brutal force of United States imperialism.

Those in other countries suffer so that our lives in this country can be comfortable.

We live here as if things are normal when others suffer and are tortured in our cities.

We in the United States have a lot of learning and attitude adjustment ahead.

Please understand many in the United States know the truth.

We will do all we can to teach about what is happening to you in Afghanistan.

We commit to save your lives, and to finally bring peace to your homes.

It is commendable and honorable that you are trying to end pain there by seeking peaceful dialogue.

We all should try to live strong but gentle, to stay unilaterally non-violent.

This is what is ultimately necessary to end violence, to end the cycle of revenge.

Please keep your wits about you.

Grow wise, generous, and compassionate as you develop as good men and women, respected leaders.

I will always support your resistance, your defending your families, whatever form that takes.

May we all be blessed with more peace, more international solidarity this new year.

May we continue to connect with each other in appreciation and global family love.

Love always,
April Hurley, MD
A family physician in Santa Rosa, California

Fifty years ago, former U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower said that someday the call for the end of all war will "become so universal and so insistent that no man, no government anywhere, can withstand it."

Recently, former Microsoft CEO Bill Gates said that, "If you believe that all men are created equal, then a child's death in some other country is no less tragic than in the United States."

We believe that all people are created equal. It is stated and implied in our Constitution. And so, we the American people must believe that the death of anyone in Afghanistan as a result of war is a tragedy.

The lives of every man, woman, and child in Afghanistan are as valuable as each of our lives.

President Eisenhower knew first-hand the horrors of war. He was Supreme Allied Commander during World War II. We are insistent, if not yet universal that every life in Afghanistan is valuable and each death is a tragedy. Stop this war! Give the Afghan people food, medicine, education. Give them life, give them hope.

Gerald Murray
Santa Rosa, CA, USA

Stop the killing in Afghanistan.
Dixie

Dear People of Afghanistan,

I am so sorry that my government is responsible for terrible violence against peace-loving, innocent Afghan people. I know you are caught in the middle of terrible corruption, violence and extremism on all sides, including from my government. There are many Americans who are working passionately for peace, demanding that the US end their part in the violence and withdraw US troops from your entire region.

Please know that we think of you with compassion and respect, and feel so terrible that our government continues to pursue this path.

We will not give up on working for peace in Afghanistan.

With prayers for a new year of peace, health and prosperity for all,

Emily Alma

How stupid and insane it is to inflict brutality and violence when we could be cooperating to discover the companionship and creativity we could have together. May the eyes and doors open to common sense and surprise that we have never imagined.

Rosemary H. Hayes

Let's hear it for peace everywhere in this new year. All troops out of their foreign countries. Stop shooting and spending our monies on these criminal adventures.

Bluma Goldstein

Dear Afghanistan,

I promise to work for peace in the world and to stop the killing in Afghanistan. Afghanistan needs doctors, hospitals, schools, clean water, and the tools to produce food. We need to be friends, not enemies. Bombs and guns do not provide these essentials.

Hank Kliewer

Wishing you peace now and always

Best

Kasia Siemaszko

Stop the war and devastation in Afghanistan.
Find the path to peace , NOW, January 1, 2011.
Stop ALL War!

Caroleberling

Dear Friends in Afghanistan,

We in the US are continuing to work for peace in Afghanistan which means putting pressure on our government to withdraw our troops and stop the occupation of your country. So many people and so many groups around the world are working hard for peace for all people. You are not alone.

Kallyn Krash

New York City

Dear Afghanistan,

How can I express how ashamed I am of my government for attacking you when you never attacked us. George W. Bush lied about you just as he lied about Saddam Hussein. Your government did not "harbor terrorists," the alleged crime by which Bush justified invading your country, which had just restored order in its boundaries after the chaos left by the Soviet occupation. Indeed, Mullah Omar offered to turn Osama Bin Laden over to a third neutral country for a trial by an Islamic court, a proceeding that accords with our constitutional law which states that "everyone shall be entitled to a fair and public hearing by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal established by law." (Art. 14.1, U.N. Covenant on Civil and Political Rights) Guantanamo was not that; an Islamic court would have been. But Bush said "no," and the US attacked.

How can I tell you how sorry I am that my government attacked your innocent country and reduced it to anarchy again. How can I tell you how much I admire your people who retain their dignity and their tradition of hospitality in spite of the horror of war inflicted upon you by my country.

How can I tell you how much I hope that the people of the United States and all the NATO countries will oppose their governments' unjust war and will force their governments to obey the will of the people and make peace--as the people of the US did in the unjust Vietnam War.

How can I tell you how much I hope that you will have peace and security in your country in this new year. May God help you peacefully to negotiate an end of the war so that you may live with your family in the blessings that God sends to all who follow his holy straight path.

Peace and blessings,

Ellen Rosser

President, The Friendship and Peace Society

If knowing that I would if I could withdraw our troops NOW - today - has any impact at all, I want the message disseminated - loud and clear. New Year's Day I hope will be the start of a more peaceful "entry" into Afghanistan and the world!... arms of any sort "grounded" or buried. Take care of and enjoy this fabulous world that is ours. Marion from New York

marion Bernstein

I hope to see the war in Afghanistan end soon. It has caused many deaths and much alienation. It is illegal war for world control and greed; it must be stopped.

allie

It is my prayer that we recognize the importance of every human being regardless of race, sex, age, religion, etc. As evolved humans, WE need to end all wars. Wars that only hurt and kill our brothers and sisters. May we understand how we are all connected to all of which is living. It is with that understanding that senseless wars will end. May we reach that clarity soon. Tomorrow couldn't be soon enough.

May we walk together in peace, love, and light.

Your brother,

Mike Brooks

Dear Friends in Afghanistan,

We are sincerely sorry for all the destruction & killing that our invading of Afghanistan has caused. We know that you want peace as well as we do. We do not believe that violence brings peace. We do not want any more war any place in the world. War never again. Please forgive us and we promise to do all that we can to end this senseless war. Thanks for you great patience and love. Gratefully,

David Corcoran

My hope for the New Year this year and every year is for Peace. Peace within me, around me, and for everyone. I choose to stand for Peace always and pray for peace in Afghanistan and everywhere! With Peace the possibilities are endless.

Love and Peace,

Sarah Brooks

Stop bleeding Americans for a war we cannot win, a war that has no understandable purpose or meaning, a war that dumps money into a land that cannot be helped by war.

Spend the bloody war money on reducing the deficit and investing in America.

Daunna Minnich

Bloomington, Indiana

Everybody should be talking about the occupations of Afghanistan and Iraq daily since while we're engaged in this dysfunctional behavior, how can ANYTHING really be fixed in our crippled nation? If a child molester pays off his credit card debt, fixes the sprinkler system for his front lawn, and joins a gym to lose some weight, if he's still molesting children, his life is irretrievably broken no matter what other aspects of it he tries to fix.

Sincerely,

Jeff Syrop

<http://www.zenhell.com>

This war must end. We choose life.

Noreen and Gaston Cadieux

I wanted to write this letter to let you folks in Afganistan know that me and my family are very much against the things the U.S. are doing to you.

In fact we are so much against this unholy war that we have relocated to Costa Rica so that we would not have any part in this.

Please know that many of my friends are also against the war and I just hope there are enough of us to make it stop soon.

Pura Vida and Peace,

Robbie Neumann

Dear Afghanistan

The war in Afghanistan is NOT IN OUR NAME.

May the war end now and may there be peace and justice in all lands.

Sincerely,

Cat Bell

Richard Ivanhoe

Dear Afghanistan,

I stand committed to end the war in Afghanistan and will continue to work for an end to the unjust violence and occupation of the U.S. forces. I do so as a person of faith and conscience. I am shamed by the action of my government which hypocritically works against the very principles upon which the U.S. claims to stand for in the world.

The problem here so often is that people do not know the truth. Thanks to Afghan Youth Peace Volunteers for sharing the truth as you see it. I will try to pass your story on to people I know.

In solidarity,

Larry Howe-Kerr

Pueblo West, CO

Well, I'll start with this, war is a bad thing, flat out. But what makes me happy is that people like you are trying to stop it, I'm not saying we should go all out in a full riot I'm just saying that what you're heading for is a good idea. The war kills other people and I'm not saying just the soldiers but also innocent people. I'm a 13 year old kid so it really pushes me forward to think other teenagers are taking such a big step to end war. So two big thumbs up for you guys.

Have a Happy New Year!

Ethan Brooks

I write to the people of Afghanistan to share my deep sense of concern and sadness about the presence of U.S. military in your country and the destruction my country has caused over the last eight years.

This war and the violence that it brings to every aspect of your lives is wrong, illegal and immoral and I will do everything I can to end it. I have been arrested in Washington DC while protesting the war and I will continue my resistance to U.S. military presence in your country.

I am ashamed of the terror..the death...the maiming that my country has caused in your country. As a citizen of the U.S. I would ask your forgiveness.

Words feel empty in the light of this great wrong.

And I say to my country: "STOP THE KILLING."

Ann Tiffany

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Afghanistan,

I am among the growing number of U.S. citizens who do not support our continuing war in your country. I grieve with you, especially because of the many civilian deaths.

May 2011 be the year that you realize peace in your land without foreign troops.

Sincerely,

Florence Steichen

Minnesota, USA

May this year of 2011 be the year for peace in your country and throughout the world. We live on one earth and are one people. I pray that us human beings wake up and create peace in our world. War is no solution for anyone. It only creates more heart break and violence. May all of us who have hope in our hearts to create a peaceful and just world stand together.

with love and peace in my heart,

Karin Grosscup, USA

You have my prayerful support for a genuine peace and an end to the senseless violence in your good country.

Tony Gallagher

Dear Afghanistan,

To stand firmly for hope, for ending war; to believe that there can be peace on earth: this makes it a reality. I am with you. The world is waiting to hear your message, and to stand with you too. Thank you infinitely for your strength.

Meg Novick

A message from the State of Michigan in the USA

Please stop the killing in Afghanistan and get out troops out of there.

The people there and in Iraq need food, not bombs, health care and not warfare and courage for peace.

TODAY IS WORLD DAY OF PEACE AND WE HAD A HOLY HOUR FOR PEACE LAST NIGHT WHERE I LIVE.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE!

Carol Louise Hiller

Dear Afghan people,

Your lives matter as much to me as my own. The U.S. government's war is unacceptable to me and that I am working to end it.

Sincerely,

marcia crosbie

We pray and hope for the end of the war in Afghanistan. We need to stop the killing and build a better world.

B Nilenders

Dear Afghanistan,

Please, please know that there are many of us in the US who work for an end to war in Afghanistan. I know we are all children of the divine and I can only say peace to you and wish you courage. We are trying hard to speak truth to those with the power to make decisions and we will continue to do so in 2011.

Sue Welna

Stop the U.S. Military Occupation of Afghanistan:
Withdraw all American troops immediately from Afghanistan.

Jim Willgruber Veterans For Peace # 31

Dear Ones,

We are raising our voices in opposition to our war policy here in the USA. Be safe.

David Givers

Dear Afghan Sisters and Brothers,

So many of us here in the US value you. We are horrified at the violence our government is doing to you. Writing this to you makes me resolved to be stronger in resisting our government's war-making with non-violent power. I wish you health, freedom, respect, justice and peace now and in every moment, more and more as the year grows.

Please let us know how you are doing and how we can best help you!

Love,

Janet

Dear Afghanistan, What should we fear terror or politicians?

When the integrity of a government is jeopardized by the decay from within. The greed, corruption and self interest of unscrupulous political leaders. When the congressmen abandon the people they were to represent and become puppets for political gain [Dick Cheney] sold Hellburton war material to the U.S. and charged double the price.

Again, what should we fear?

I am "another mother for peace".

Sharifa Hotchkiss

STOP THE KILLING IN AFGHANISTAN!!

Kathy Manley

May the U.S. withdraw all troops from Afganistan and Iraq immediately and send adequate funds for war reparations to Afganistan and Iraq. These have been immoral and uncalled for wars from their beginnings.

Send the troops home now!

Meaveen O'Connor

Solidarity and blessings of peace for the New Year!

Jim Albertini

Malu 'Aina Center for Non-violent Education & Action

www.malu-aina.org

Dear Afghanistan,

How I ache for your beloved country. Wars from 1979 to '89, and from 2001 to the present. Rather than "saving" countries, war debilitates them, by loss of lives, by creating internal refugees and causing others to flee the country altogether while the infrastructure for the country to function properly is damaged again and again. I honour the brave women and so admire the young girls who risk so much to obtain an education so that they can eventually contribute their awareness to the development of Afghanistan. Through peace we can find happiness and even prosper. May PEACE return to Afghanistan.

Deep regards,

Judy Blyth, Perth, Western Australia

Post Script: I do hope that my message will still be accepted - My server, iinet was out-of action from 23 December to TODAY, January 2... so I have been unable to send this message until NOW. Judy

Dear People of Afghanistan,

If it helps you to know, my husband and I protested three different times in three different locations against the retaliatory war in Afghanistan when the USA was about to go to war in the spring of 2003. We are ashamed that this great country took revenge on a whole country for the dastardly deeds of a few individuals. We are sure that this war and the war in Iraq have served only to increase hatred against this country and destruction in yours.

Sincerely,

Carol Bayens

Dear friends in Afghanistan,

I am a citizen of the United States who strongly opposes my government's brutal war-fighting in your country.

I do not believe that war solves problems; it only makes things worse, creates more more killing, more destruction, more suffering. For that reason, I am an advocate of active nonviolence of the kind employed by Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, and your own Abdul Ghaffar Khan.

One of the ways that my wife and I protest war, including the U.S. War in Afghanistan, is by refusing to send our tax money to the U.S. federal government. Instead, we send that money to groups helping the poor and homeless here in the U.S. and also to victims of U.S. war-making in other countries. As a result we have been jailed and have had our home taken from us by our government. But these actions have caused very little harm to us compared to the great harm our government is causing to thousands of people in your country. We work and pray for NO MORE WAR, NO MORE KILLING! May peace prevail.

In loving solidarity,

Randy Kehler

Colrain, MA 01340

Our government's war on Afghanistan is not our people's war. We want it to end immediately and are so sorry that our country has caused such devastation and heartbreak in your country.

Doug Bjork

Dear Afghanistan Youth,

Your lives matter as much as ours. The US government's war is unacceptable to me and many others here. I will do what I can to end it.

Mary Matsuda Gruenewald
Seattle, Washington USA

Dear Friends,

This is just to let you know that many of us in the United States do not approve of the war our country is waging in Afghanistan. We are working to change our government's policies and to stop the war. We send greetings of friendship in this New Year.

Sincerely,

Eloise M. Cranke

I would like to say how sorry I am that your country has been at war on your land for so many years. I know you long for peace as much as we do. We don't believe war is an answer to any problem. It only causes destruction and hate. Both sides in war are told reasons to fight that often are not true. God forgive those who chose to send young men and women to die for their profit and hopes of power. The soldiers that are sent to war are fearful and only want to return to their families and live in peace. I believe this is true on both sides. God is never pleased when someone kills another human! We must stop the madness NOW!

Each of us must be committed to NO KILLING, NO GUNS, and showing LOVE and FORGIVENESS to all humans, no matter where they are from. My hope is that the U.S. will leave your country and that you can forgive the harm we have done. Jesus taught forgiveness, compassion, love, peace. I believe this is what God wants from us now, even with this terrible war still going on.

We MUST forgive!

Mrs. J.Robledo, California, U.S.A.

End the war against the people of Afghanistan. Stop the killing. Troops out now.

Greetings to our brothers and sisters in Afghanistan,

We think of you and pray for you. We are engaged in many activities to end the criminal war against the people of Afghanistan.

For example, every week since Sept. 11, 2001, the 8th Day Center has conducted an hour-long peace vigil at the U.S. federal building in Chicago, Illinois. During these nine years, we have distributed over 250,000 leaflets against war and the violation of human rights. Previous leaflets may be found at

<http://www.8thdaycenter.org/resources/leaflets.html>

Love and peace,

Fr. Bob Bossie, SCJ

8th Day Center for Justice

<http://www.8thdaycenter.org>

Hello all,

Let me add my voice in the dwindling hours of the first day of 2011 to those who cry for an end to troops and bombs in Afghanistan. No more war.

Dianne Ashley

Dear Afghanistan:

As we enter a new year I beg those who have the authority and power to do it to **END THE WAR IN AFGHANISTAN**. I cannot believe that the lives which have been lost are worth the continuing war. I have supported Greg Mortenson's Central Asia Institute in their on-going push to build schools in Afghanistan. The work gets lost in the fighting and destruction that war bring.

Please try to work with the Taliban and other groups to get a diplomatic end to the war. Work together to make Afghanistan a place where children can grow up and be free to use all of their talents to make our world a better place.

I pray that this can be at least started in 2011 so that by 2012 there may be peace.

Sincerely,

Mary Lex Smith, SCL, Kansas in the United States.

Wishing for an end to the war.

Mary Ellen Norpel

GIVE PEACE A CHANCE

Margaret Sullivan

To our brothers & sisters in Afghanistan:

On this first day of the New Year, 2011, we send you warm greetings of peace and friendship. We want you to know that we are opposed to the occupation of your country by military forces from our country, and we express our deep sorrow for the death and destruction that they have caused.

We will continue to work for peace by protesting to our elected government officials, and by informing and educating our fellow citizens about the injustice being committed in your country.

With our best wishes,

Lou and Joan Truskoff, Seattle, WA, USA

As Internationalist -as all we are- we demand our rights based of International Law!

NATO-wars are illegal, cruel, against human progress and humanity.

We-the people- are with our hearts and intellects against the enemies of people, as NATO is...

Elke Zwinge-Makamizile, Berlin/Germany

“Dear Afghanistan:” A New Year’s Call for Peace

In Frankston Australia, I and my family of 4 generations call for an end to war in Afghanistan, and an end to war everywhere.

We demand an end to the lies that leaders speak: lies that 'war brings peace', lies that 'fear brings wisdom', lies that 'hate brings security' and lies that 'dead children bring health, happiness and a better world.'

We demand they stop the killing - disarm - set up human rights committees in every community, giving women and children a voice.

The war making of Australia's Government is unacceptable to my family.

We will continue to vote against it and work against it.

Peace and Freedom in this year, 2011!

Hellen Cooke and Family in Australia

Stop the killing in Afghanistan!!

This is a totally unacceptable war and i am doing all i can to oppose it.

pia pagotto

Australia

Hello friends and allies in Afghanistan --

Thinking of you yesterday, and again today as the work continues to end the war on

Afghanistan. Thank you for all you are doing. I hold you in my heart, here in frozen Madison, Wisconsin.

Janet Parker

Los seres humanos no nacen para siempre el día en que sus madres los alumbran, sino que la vida los obliga otra vez y muchas veces a parirse a sí mismos.

Human beings are not born once and for all on the day their mothers give birth to them, but life obliges them over and over again to give birth to themselves.

-Gabriel Garcia Marquez

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Afghanistan,

As this new year begins, know that we are in solidarity. We keep you in our hearts and pray for you daily. I personally pledge to continue to work for an end to the war.

Mary Beth

Dear people,

In the United States we are often told that "life is not fair," but truly the people of Afghanistan have had way more than their share of hard times in the last fifty years. And now the United States says it is helping Afghanistan but that's hard to believe when your citizens are being hit by bullets and bombs. I am very ashamed at what my country is doing and only hope that you are finding ways to make your lives rich and full in spite of the situation, whether it be difficult or horrible. There are many of us here in America trying to stop our nation's imperialism, but so far not enough to make a noticeable difference. We will continue our struggle and pray that the violence ends.

Alhamdulillah.

Sincerely,

Betty Hauser

Olympia, Washington

USA

Please, let this year -- 2011 -- be the year we finally stop the killing. This endless war is doing tremendous destruction to our economy, to our reputation around the world, to our US troops, and most of all to the Afghani people.

Nancy Dwyer

Valley Stream, NY

Greetings friends!

It was wonderful speaking with you yesterday once again. I cannot tell you how encouraging it is. I feel we must all try (we especially in the USA) much, much harder to bring the voices of your brave volunteers to more Americans. I am thinking of various possibilities. One thought that came to me was if our peace group (North Country Peace Group) might bring a video of all of you to our representative in Congress. We have gone to him before pleading for an end to the war, but this time we would come bearing the faces and the voices of the boys and who ever might participate. Not only this, but we on Long Island in New York are connected with many other peace/justice groups and perhaps they could do the same with their Congressional representatives and all of us could come together to visit our two U.S. senators. I think there is great power in hearing and seeing the people of Afghan. I would bring the video to my church and other community groups - not just to the "converted" in the peace/justice community but to people who go about their lives without even thinking of the war.

I see there are a few videos posted. My question: If we were to do this, would it be perfectly safe for the boys and others who would be in the video? Forgive me, I have become so distrustful of my government and I know very little about how free/open conditions are in your country.

Once I hear your thoughts on this I will bring this to my local peace group, and from there to other groups that are committed to ending this war and have been since it began so very many years ago. The Afghan people are not our enemies!!!! This must end!!!!

With hope for peace in the new year,

Susan from USA East Coast New York

To the people of Afghanistan:

Please know that a majority of us here at home in America, and the numbers are growing every day, no longer have a favorable view of our soldiers being deployed in your country. Also please be aware that we are doing all we can to bring our sons and daughters, our husbands and wives, our friends and neighbors, home as quickly as we can convince our misguided leaders of the extreme error of their ways.

May this new year bring peace to your country and let no one in the world forget that ... **it is your country** ... and it should be in your hands to deal with your fate as best you can.

Your very sincerely,

Johnny Schuler

I am writing to let you know that your lives are tied to ours, and that peace in your country is our deepest wish for you this New Year. We believe the use of force by US and Canadian troops is unacceptable in Afghanistan and everywhere in the world. We believe that peace can and will grow in Afghanistan as it is given space. We have let our government know that the war is unacceptable and we will continue to work toward ending the use of force by Canadians in Afghanistan.

Sincerely,

Madeleine Enns and Carl Epp

am a day late...feel the same - want no mo violence!!!!

kate lundy

I wish to add my support to all of you in Afghanistan. I'm glad you are doing this "call for peace" action. May peace be with us this year. I stand on a corner in Tiffin, OH most Fridays with a sign saying, "Fruit Trees and Seeds, Not Bullets." May our government listen to the people who know what is best for Afghanistan.

Jean Cossey

I just heard on C-span today, from Ms. Bennis, that a woman leader in Afganistan says that if the Americans left there would be 1/3 less obsticals to peace in her country.

The least we can do is stop waging war on people half a world away who are not able to protect themselves from our high tech weapons.

Every person is as valuable as the person you love the most.

Barrie Mason, Santa Rosa CA

pray that this new Year will see and end to the military occupation of Afghanistan and a renewed effort to aid the Afghan people as they desire.

Connie Frisbee Houde

www.globalvillagephotographer.com

Dear friends in Afghanistan,

I am deeply saddened and angered every time I hear of a bomb being dropped by my country on the children, women and men of your country. As a father, I can imagine no greater suffering than my daughter being killed by violence, yet I know that the people of your country suffer this on a regular basis, and I imagine that stirs anger in the hearts of all those who are related to the victims.

In the name of children in Afganistan and everywhere, we must find a way to resolve conflicts and disagreements in a way that does no harm to children and other human beings. I believe the vast majority of people of the United States would support such alternatives if they were presented to them. I will continue to speak out against this and other wars because the cost to living beings is immoral and unacceptable.

Peace and Love in 2011,

John Friedrich

Please stop the war and send foreign troops home. Bombs and guns do not win "hearts and minds" but food, clothing, pure water, medical care, etc, do win!

Warren Lee Smith

I so desperately want this war to end and for my country to send real help - schools, medicine, food.

Wendy Goodwin

The spark that leads to awakening is the courage to question everything and anything - and nothing is out of bounds. Because anything out of bounds means something is not open to be looked at. If we're not open to look at everything then in that area we'll remain asleep. We should question in such a way that we are no longer preoccupied with finding the answer.- Adyashanti

Dear Afghanistan,

Your people matter as much as mine and other U.S. citizens. I want to be doing what I can to end the war in Afghanistan and to urge the U.S. government and other NATO member countries to put a large percentage of the money and resources they are now devoting to war fighting instead into health care, sustainable food production and education for the Afghan people. Such an alternative expenditure of resources (swords to plowshears) will engender peace and stability like no military incursion and invasion can ever hope to. Military occupation increases resentment and animosity.

Wendell Wiebe-Powell

Elkhart, IN

Dear Friends,

Please accept my deepest sympathy for the suffering the U.S. imposed war has caused you, your family and your communities. And also my apologies for not finding a way to convince my government to end our part in the war.

My friends and I do vigil weekly calling for an end to our nation's role in the wars in Iraq and in Afghanistan, and we do communicate our wishes to our President and legislators that our soldiers be brought home and that no more billions of our budget go for funding wars.

My heart aches for the pains that families are suffering in your country because of war and I join with you in calling out for Peace.

Sincerely,

Cecile Meyer

DeKalb IL

End US Invasion and Occupation of Afghanistan

I am opposed to the US invasion and occupation of Afghanistan, and ask that we withdraw all our troops, close our military bases, and provide health care, emergency clothing as required, housing, and reparations to the people of Afghanistan.

Thank you.

Greg Foisie

Dear People of Afghanistan: I cannot tell you how angry and sorry I am at what my country has done over nearly ten years to your homeland, Afghanistan.

You know better than I that Mr. Obama is no better than Mr. Bush; they both lie through their teeth.

Both also are war criminals and mass murderers.

They are no more interested in bringing you peace, freedom and social justice than they were in Iraq.

There, it was and is for the oil and in your country, for minerals and geo-strategic positioning to conduct their hegemonic, oligarchical, plutocratic, capitalistic wars.

If we ever could meet and talk...just as ordinary people...we would have much in common and much to share.

I hope that day comes soon.

I am not a religious person so I do not pray but I do hope the day will come when the Ugly Americans leave Iraq, leave Afghanistan and come home to take care of our own problems instead of causing new ones in your beloved Motherland.

With love and all best wishes,

Will Shapira (Sha-PIE-rah)

Roseville MN

The origin of this is on the Veterans for Peace website. Ws

Dear People of Afghanistan:

I don't know what to say or how to start. Some of us are so ashamed and focused on and sorry for all the destruction our country has caused in the world. We keep trying to think of what we can do to change the situation but year after year, as we protest (see my attached photos), we've not been successful in changing the militaristic direction of the American empire. The problem is that we are in the minority of those who care. It's probably hard for you to understand how this could happen as the wars are so unjustified and so wrong.

But we no longer have real freedom here except the freedom to shop. As our "Father of the Constitution James Madison warned: "No country can maintain its civil liberties in the midst of continual war." So those who dissent from official US policies are losing their freedom to inform others and be informed.

As you might know, the people in other countries seem far away and of little significance to our daily lives in the U.S.

Since 9-11, we here in the U.S. have also been subject to nonstop, powerful propaganda that manipulates people's emotions. Our main media outlets have constantly pressed people's emotional buttons: fear, hate, greed, false pride and blind loyalty bringing out the worst in human nature. Also after the disastrous Vietnam War, our country's military industrial (war profiteer) complex realized it would be much easier to get the country to go to war and stay at war if there was no mandatory military service and if they told the American people they did not have to pay the trillions of dollars that it costs to wage war. As foolish as this sounds, most people here in the U.S. don't understand that they must eventually pay for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and that their country is on the verge of going bankrupt and citizens losing their social security and other benefits by waging these terrible wars. The "all volunteer" and US mercenary force that is sent to Iraq and Afghanistan is being paid relatively high amounts of money so they can hardly complain as that would be hypocritical for them to be taking this big money and at the same time betraying the source of that money by saying their employer is wrong. So I apologize for the fact that so many Americans don't seem to care as much as they should about the wars and war atrocities like illegal drone massacres and illegal use of torture that are being conducted in their names. But it's like past times in history when whole populations, i.e. the "good Germans", have become complicit and it's due to an *evil system* rather than due to the American people themselves.

I'm so happy that Kathy Kelly, Mike Ferner and Ann Wright were able to spend time in your country and get to know you as well as set up this opportunity for more of us to communicate. If there were better lines of communication between the American and Afghan peoples, perhaps we could overcome the power of the politicians. Perhaps we could generate sufficient power and voices here in the U.S. to actually make our politicians and military leaders listen to us, mere civilian people. Please give us any ideas that you may have as to what we can do or continue to do that might end the wars and occupation and help people in your country.

Coleen Rowley and family (on behalf of the weekly peace vigils held in Eagan and Burnsville, Minnesota, these last several years)

JoAnn,

I am copying and challenging the *Coleen Rowley and the Rowley Clan* to objectively respond to my below comments regarding the above 3 statements:

- 1). Has our country not done an extraordinary amount of good around the world?
- 2) In your opinion, was there every a justified war in all of history? Specifically, as one example, should no one have stopped Hitler (i.e. entered into war against Hitler/Germany under the circumstances at the time)?
- 3) I believe it is an undeniable fact that the U.S. citizens respond more generously to global disasters than any other population in the world, so how does this square with #3 above?

Paul

Dear Friends in Afghanistan, Every day we pray for peace and every day we hope for an end to this horrible war. We, the ordinary people of America, want you to have all the joy and happiness that you so richly deserve. We want this war to stop. We care about you and we are working for peace over here. So don't give up hope. We truly are with you and really really want your suffering to cease. Love and prayers,

Eleanor MacLellan Pax Christi U.S.A.

We stand with you working, praying, hoping for an end to this war.

Marlene Candell, JustFaith, Berkeley, CA.

Prosperous new year

I am not sure why but it has been really hard to get a response from you on this situation! my guess is that my mail is not being sent out, i shot support an email to see if there is a problem, hope they can get it fixed. I did not get a response from you; can you tell me if you got my email? You do not seem like the type of person that would blow someone off. I would like to get better acquainted also; well I pray that you get this one and that we can hopefully get something started if were right for each other,thanks

Gladys Oti

Dear Afghanistan! Please believe that most Americans are praying for an end to the violence that besets your dear country. We hope you hear the cries of the many mothers in USA who also weep with you and your families. We believe that when enough of us join in this prayer, it will happen. God is good.

Judy Schindler, Hector, MN

I know I'm a bit late in sending this message, but I wanted to participate as well, even though it is a couple of days after the New Year.

I totally agree that the people in your nation need food not bombs, health care not warfare and courage for peace, not war. I read about Abdulai, an Afghan teenager whose father was killed by the Taliban, and his exeriences of impoverishment, bereavement, and discrimination which highlight the realities millions of Afghans face every day.

I am an American living in Australia and I know that the U.S. government's December review paid no attention to these conditions. I am truly apologetic to you for what the American administration is ignoring. I know that the "Dear Afghanistan" campaign offers an alternative and want you to know that YOUR lives matter as much as those of American and Australian soldiers. I strongly believe that my government's war they are sponsoring is unacceptable and will continue to do whatever I can to make public protest to that effect and to work to end this strife and carnage.

Cheers to your creative campaign! I hope millions around the world participated.

Chaplain Clair Hochstetler

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory, Australia

<http://chaplainclair.blogspot.com>

We can bomb the world to pieces but we cannot bomb the world into PEACE!

Pearl P

Please find a positive way to end the war.

Peter M Skaife teaches group leaders and mental health/spiritual care professionals how they can help people journey into new territory.

Heroic Living is a Spiritual Care Provider for organizations. Our mission is to provide tools, resources and support to people who want to reduce the amount of spiritual violence in the world.

It's probably not so simple for the Afghan people that fighting would end if Coalition forces would withdraw

Dan Maloney

Maloney & Associates

Evanston, Illinois

I stand with you in the desire for, prayers for and commitment to work for peace in your nation and throughout the world.

Blessings,

Albert Kirk

Dear People of Afghanistan:

Please know that there are people in the United States who want to help you, not destroy you.

Our hearts ache along with yours when we hear of the deaths and injuries borne by your people, and we fervently wish that hostilities will end soon.

We also hope a responsible civil government will come to you, clearing the way for your people to regain your lives and know lasting peace.

Kate Carlyle

New Lenox, Illinois

USA

Let's stop this war, get US troops OUT and let people be in charge of their own homelands!

I know nothing, except what everyone knows -

if there when Grace dances, I should dance! W. H. Auden

Diana Oleskevich CSJA

Justice Coordinator

Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and Associates

St. Louis Province

I SUPPORT AN AFGANISTAN FREE FROM FOREIGN INTERVENTION ...BE IT ENGLAND,
RUSSIA OR THE UNITED STATES

R.SCAGLIOTTI

What can I do to help?

I would like to know someone in Afghanistan.

Ideally someone who could speak English, but someone who was learning English would be fine too, and someone who doesn't know any English would also be ok, except I dont know how that would work.

Martin Gugino

Amherst NY

Dearest one,

My name Wisdom Kalla from Ghana. I want to in trust my late father's wealth (Three Million Seven Hundred Thousand dollars \$3.700.000.00) in your care to enable me come over to your country to live in peace .Due to my condition and other circumstances which I will explain to you when I hear from you.I will be looking forward to hear from you, for more details.

Wisdom Kalla

Dear People of Afghanistan;

We as a world are sick of the wars, the killing, the destruction of other peoples' countries. We as a people hurt when we see the devastation, hear the cries, we understand the anger. As an individual, I am calling my Congressman, Senators, the White House. I am writing letters, visiting their offices, rallying against the war. With our voices raised, I pray that these wars will cease and we can truly become a World at Peace.

Jean Chovan
Rochester, MN
USA

Dear Folks,

Most of us here wish for a cease fire and NATO withdrawal from Afghanistan. We want to stop the killing and allow Afghans to settle their own future with the various factions/warlords negotiating together.

Thanks for YOUR work to help Afghans to resist foreign domination and to establish themselves as a nation. We will encourage our legislators to facilitate this process.

Sincerely,

Rev. David Nelson
Mansfield Center, CT
U.S.A.